



Ezra-Habonim, the Niles Township Jewish Congregation

4500 Dempster Street, Skokie, IL 60076 • 847-675-4141 • FAX 847-675-0327 • www.ehnt.org

January/February 2024

Tevet/Shevat/Adar 5784



From the Rabbi's Desk

Dear Friends,

As we enter 2024, some suggestions:

1. Spend less time alone. Find a community at EHNT.
2. Watch less TV. Attend meaningful services –Koleinu! Shabbat Ruach! Shabbat morning! – at EHNT.
3. Eat something! Enjoy onegs on Friday nights and kiddush lunches on Saturdays at EHNT.
4. Stretch your mind. Check out the many classes and programs at EHNT.
5. Get in touch with your tradition. Celebrate holidays at EHNT.
6. Honor your loved ones: Say kaddish at our daily minyan or on Shabbat at EHNT.
7. Don't be so serious: Come to the Purim shpiel at EHNT.

There's so much going on here! Try it! Make EHNT a part of your life in 2024.

Peace and Strength!

Rabbi Jeffrey Weill

Mazel Tov to...

...Jamie & Mitchell Pawlan on the marriage of their son Joey Pawlan to Dana Nathan on November 11th.

...Deanna Shoss as she was honored with the 2023 Best Indie Book Award for Grandparenting/Family Relationships, *Where Two Worlds Meet*.



...Marsha & Rich Newman for sponsoring the Kiddush luncheon on November 18th, in honor of their 56th wedding anniversary.

...Robin Cember for sponsoring the Kiddush luncheon on December 23rd in memory of Michael Cember.

Welcome!

Welcome to our...

New Members:

Steven Dayan

Barry Dolins

Norman & Yona Gelfand

Jeanne Kitzmann

Zachary Kram

Michael Sandalow

Joann Stearns

New Friend:

Robin Richman

CANTOR'S NOTE



Happy New Year – Again!

Having recently celebrated the secular New Year of 2024, I thought it might be interesting to look at the New Year celebrations in the Jewish calendar. You'll note that I said "celebrations" in the plural, as there are several "New Years" we can celebrate each year as Jews.

Of course, the best known of the New Years is Rosh Hashanah, which occurs on the first day of *Tishri*, the seventh month of the Jewish year. Surprisingly, the Torah makes very brief mention of Rosh Hashanah (*"In the seventh month on the first day of the month, you shall observe complete rest, a sacred occasion commemorated with loud blasts"*, Lev. 23:32). Although the Torah refers to the holiday *Yom Teruah* (The Day of Sounding the Shofar) and *Yom HaZikaron* (The Day of Remembrance), it is unclear what the holiday originally celebrated. During Talmudic times it was given the name Rosh Hashanah, and eventually became associated with the creation of the world. (Some scholars speculate that the origins of Rosh Hashanah lie in ancient divine coronation festivals. No wonder that "God as King" is a central motif for Rosh Hashanah.)

The second Jewish New Year occurs on the first day of the first month, *Nissan* --- the month in which Passover occurs. While Pesach celebrates the Exodus of the Israelites from Egypt, and the renewal and hope of a nation, another name for the holiday is *hag ha-aviv*, of "the holiday of spring". Thus, the holiday which celebrates the renewal of an oppressed nation comes during the time of the earth's annual renewal -- a time of renewal of vegetation and a re-awakening of life after the bleakness of winter.

Then there is *Tu B'Sh'vat*, the "New Year of the Trees"? Why, one may ask, do the trees need a New Year? *Tu B'Shvat*'s original function marked the end of the fruit yield tax year, the date used to determine the amount of seasonal yield to be tithed (*Shevat* 15 is beginning to sound a bit like April 15, isn't it?). Gradually, the holiday came to be associated with the land and its produce in other ways. Today, our vital connection with *Eretz Yisrael* is reaffirmed by celebrating the season of new life in Israel and planting trees through JNF. *Tu B'Sh'vat* also reminds us of our concern with the environment and our obligation to treat God's creation with dignity and respect. Reuse and recycle!

Less well known are *Nisan 1* and *Elul 1*. *Nisan 1* is the New Year for Kings, the date used in Biblical times to determine how many years a king has ruled – like our Inauguration Day. And *Elul 1* is the New Year for tithing animals, another Biblical tax deadline, so to speak. In biblical times, tithes were taxes. Each year, landowners, orchard keepers and owners of sheep and goats paid a tenth of the increase in their fields and produce to the state. Leviticus 27 requires that a portion of the annual increase be paid as tithes to sustain the religious and national institutions of the nation.

Eventually, an important change in the purpose and structure of tithes was made in recognition of a developing social need. Partly in recognition that King Solomon's immense national building programs placed an economic burden on the people, it was determined that every three years, all tithes would be retained by the local communities, rather than be sent to Jerusalem. These collections were used to assist the poor and the underprivileged in the local communities – the first social welfare program.

Happy New Years!
Cantor Daniel Gale



Cantor Daniel Gale in
Some Enchanted Evening
[Video Link for Sale](#)

If you missed the concert, you still have an opportunity to view it by buying a link.
\$40 per link - Call 847-675-4141
or email office@ehnt.org

Message from Shelley Sutker-Dermer, EHNTJC President

Happy New Year to you and your families!

I want to thank those of you who attended our congregational annual meeting in December. Manny Schenk, Financial Secretary, presented a detailed report on the synagogue's financial situation and Ed Cohen, Immediate Past-President, explained the history of the agreement that our congregation entered into with Gershon Bassman in 2018. The first five years of the agreement have concluded. We are now in our sixth year, which will end in December 2024.



As a congregation we have to make some difficult decisions about our future by June 2024. Ed Cohen and Dennis Feinberg are representing our congregation in the discussions with Mr. Bassman about executing our option to remain in the building for year seven and beyond. At this point the terms of the agreement still need to be negotiated. We will have a meeting in the spring, when we know all the options, to decide what to do going forward.

As you may know, Solomon Schechter Day School will no longer be renting space in our building after this school year, since their leaders were unable to come to an agreement for the 2024-2025 school year with Mr. Bassman. EHNTJC was not involved in these negotiations. The Early Childhood Center will be moving to Schechter's Northbrook campus next year. We have enjoyed our partnership and wish the program well in its new location.

As many of you know, I am prohibited from fundraising in my professional capacity. I therefore rely heavily on the synagogue's past presidents, the Ways & Means committee, the Board of Trustees, and others to help meet our fundraising goals.

I am honored to have been re-elected president and I hope you will join me and the rest of the 2024 slate at a Shabbat dinner followed by the installation of the new board on Jan. 19.

Thank you to all of you for your support and commitment to our beloved synagogue.

Shelley Sutker-Dermer, President

Ken Dermer, the "first gentleman," has some exciting news:

It's coming! Our 15th annual Purim Shpiel, "Ghosts of Purim," will be performed at EHNTJC on Saturdays, March 9 & 16 at 8 p.m. and Sundays, March 10 & 17 at 1:30 pm. There also will be a virtual performance available for home viewing after March 21. You can help make the shpiel a success by becoming a sponsor and buying tickets. You can make it a BIG success by asking businesses, friends and family to be sponsors and buy tickets. Sponsorships are due by Feb. 19. Fliers have been mailed and emailed to you. Please contact the office if you have questions or need more fliers. Thank you for your support!



Shabbat Dinner & Installation of the 2024 Board of
Trustees

January 19, 2023 at 6:00 PM
More details forthcoming...

Ghosts of Purim

A MUSICAL PARODY

2024/5784

Live Performances

Saturday, March 9th 8:00 PM CST & Sunday, March 10th 1:30 PM CST

Saturday, March 16th 8:00 PM CST & Sunday, March 17th 1:30 PM CST

Tickets Available at www.ehnt.org/GHOSTS

Open to the Entire Community! Share with your Family and Friends/Post on Facebook!

Tickets - \$25 each in advance - \$30 each at the door

Shpiel Sponsor
(Due by Feb 19th to be
included in the program)

Ghost of Esther	\$10,000 (Whatever you want!)
Abraham Lincoln	\$ 5,000 (Just Ask)
Patrick Swayze	\$ 2,500 (Includes 16 VIP tickets & full page)
Tony Bennett	\$ 1,000 (Includes 10 VIP tickets & full page)
King David	\$ 540 (Includes 6 VIP tickets & 1/2 page)
Shoeless Joe	\$ 360 (Includes 4 Regular tickets & 1/3 page)
Casper	\$ 180 (Includes 2 Regular tickets 1/4 page)
Romeo	\$ 99 (Includes 1 Regular ticket & one line)

Name(s): _____

Address: _____ Phone: _____

Email(s) (Required): _____

(List guest's names & emails on back/Include dates and times)

I will attend in-person:

____ Saturday, March 9th 8:00 PM ____ Sunday, March 10th 1:30PM

____ Saturday, March 16th 8:00 PM ____ Sunday, March 17th 1:30 PM

Virtual Performance Available AFTER March 21st ____ (\$25 per household)

____ # of tickets at \$25 Sponsor \$ _____

(Sponsor payment due by February 19th to be included in the show program)

Total enclosed \$ _____

____ Enclosed is my check payable to EHNTJC # _____

____ Credit card Visa/MasterCard (Note: A 3% convenience fee is added to all credit card charges.)

Account # _____ Exp. Date _____ 3 Digit Code _____

Authorized Signature _____



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Ezra-Habonim, the Niles Township Jewish Congregation
SISTERHOOD CORNER—January, 2024

Judy Arkin, Editor (kjarkin99@comcast.net)

Judy Frank, Co-President (judy@tcscorp.com) and Diane Rosenfeld, Co-President (raynesd@aol.com)

From the President's Desk...

As we prepare to leave behind the year 2023 and look forward to entering 2024, we invite you to join some travel opportunities in the spring with Women's League and the Central Great Lakes Region (CGLR)!

Learn about the Jewish fight for Civil Rights and the leaders who helped shape the movement. How did it help create fundamental changes in this country? Join Women's League as we learn about the brave freedom fighters and tour significant civil rights sites in Georgia and Alabama. This unique opportunity will take place from March 11-13, 2024.

Grab your sunglasses and join others from the CGLR for our spring conference which will take place in Cincinnati, Ohio from April 7-9. "Beyond the Eclipse" will feature unique workshops such as exploring the power within the duet of music and prayer. Learn how to craft beautiful Shabbat candles and delve into the Jewish traditions surrounding the moon! Examine the many facets of domestic violence. The above are just some of the activities that will be held there. Please contact either of us for more information on either or both of the above.

We look forward to having you all join us for our winter programs which will be held only on Zoom. Our January Zoom will be presented by Helene Herman, a well-known lecturer for lifelong learning programs in universities throughout Florida. This presentation will be "The Ancient and Modern Kingdom of Morocco, a 'Mecca' for Jews". On February 7th, local author Susan Van Dusen will join us (on Zoom) for a conversation on her newest book—*Poisoned Passover*.

We wish you all a wonderful beginning to 2024, filled with good health, much happiness and enriching experiences.

L'Shalom, Judy Frank and Diane Rosenfeld

News and Notes...

Be a media mogul! A \$5 contribution makes you a sponsor of our Sisterhood Bulletin.

Please mail your contributions to:

Judy Arkin c/o EHNTJC Sisterhood
4500 Dempster Street • Skokie, IL 60076

Our Media Moguls this month are:

Esther Berman,

Joan Cook

(in honor of grandson

Andrew Russell Kaplan's birthday),

Carol Friedlander

(in honor of the birth of great-grandson

Jordan Nathan Kripke),

Fran Givertz

(in honor of my family and friends),

Miriam Goldberger,

Mickey Gordon

*(in honor of my children, grandchildren
and great-grandchildren),*

Bobbie Levin, Dori Marks,

Esther Manewith

(in honor of our grandchildren),

Ada Rabinowitz and Judi Stein

DATES TO REMEMBER...

by Judy Arkin - Programming V.P.

Wednesday, January 10th at 1:00 p.m. (ZOOM)

Helene Herman presents

"The Ancient and Modern Kingdom of Morocco –
a 'Mecca' for Jews".

Wednesday, January 31st at 10:30 a.m. (ZOOM)

(DATE CHANGE) Sisterhood Book Club

Wednesday, February 7th at 1:00 p.m. (ZOOM)

Susan Van Dusen will discuss her newest book—
Poisoned Passover.....see enclosed flyer

**A BIG WELCOME to our new
Sisterhood Member:
Belle Holman**

Our Sisterhood is an affiliate of



WE WISH new YOU A HAPPY



*You can't be brave if you've only had
wonderful things happen to you...
Mary Tyler Moore*

Good and Welfare...

- **Condolences** to Bobbie Levin on the passing of her husband, Dr. Stuart Levin.
- **Condolences** to Jackie Lauwasser on the passing of her son-in-law, Josh Little.

Sisterhood Judaica Gift Shop

by Ada Rabinowitz - Ways & Means V.P.

Please check out the gift shop with
our new merchandise
including interesting sweatshirts and
jean jackets for the cold winter months.

Call Judy Frank at (847)530-4572
with any questions.

*Remember, supporting our Sisterhood
supports our Synagogue.*

**Our next BOOK CLUB will be on
Wednesday, January 31st
at 10:30 a.m. on ZOOM to discuss
"Signal Fires"
by Dani Shapiro**

Returning to the form that launched her career,
the author writes a riveting, deeply felt novel
that examines the ties that bind families
together – and the secrets that can break
them apart. This work of haunting beauty
should provide us with an opportunity for an
engaging discussion!

Our third book club discussion will give us a
Sephardi perspective on the immigrant
experience. Join us on **ZOOM on March 20th
at 10:30 a.m.** when we will discuss
"Kantika: A Novel" by Elizabeth Graver.

Kantika—"song" in Ladino—is a remarkable,
lyrical work that conjures and embellishes the
journey of the author's grandmother Rebecca
from Istanbul to Barcelona, Havana to New
York. It is a beautiful work of historical fiction
that tells the epic tale of a modern Sephardic
family with sensitivity and cultural responsibility.
Exploring identity, place and exile, it recovers a
vanishing history, animates a rich range of
characters, and is an inspiring mediation on the
tenacity of women.

Carol Gottlieb and Dolly Zavell
Book Club Chairs

Education Corner:

"Tu B'Shvat and Our World"

by Dr. Susan Boldrey

On Pesach, we ask, "Why is this night different
from all other nights?" This year – 2023 / 5784 – we are
reflecting upon why **THIS** Tu B'Shvat is different from
all other Tu B'Shvats...Sadly, we know the answers;
they are like daggers in our hearts and in our land.
After all, Tu B'Shvat is the Jewish new year for trees.

We've learned that we, like trees, are nurtured
by our deep roots as far back as Sarah and Abraham.
We reach up to heavens; we stand firmly on the
ground; we produce fruits...Israel's rainy season begins
with Sukkot. It takes four months of rain to saturate the
soil and nurture trees to produce fruits. In Genesis, we
know that G-d planted fruit-bearing trees before any
other creations. In the Talmud, we learn that parents
used to plant trees when babies were born: a cedar for
girls and a pine for boys. These trees represented
hope for their children to plant roots, grow and blossom.

Tu B'Shvat is January 24-25, 2024 which
corresponds to the 15th day of Shvat. Knowing that the
national tree of Israel is the olive tree, we add to Tu
B'Shvat's celebration seven species: wheat, barley,
grapes, figs, pomegranates, dates and olive oil. Jews
can celebrate with a "seder" to capitalize upon the
impact of trees in Judaism. Tu B'Shvat's message for
us and for future generations remains an echo of my
father's comment that planting trees is an act of faith.
He said, "I won't see the fruits, but I plant trees for the
future generations." Each tree that bears fruit offers us
shade and offers a niche for birds, insects and more.
Each tree or grove of trees is the result of someone
who thought of us and of the future. These thoughts
join together with the natural reseeding of trees around
the world. *"Etz Chaim!"*

This year, as the long days of war color our
thoughts and hopes, Tu B'Shvat's preparation and
harvests are different. Young and not-so-young
people, who aren't on the front lines or in a Magen
David Adom rescue service, have begun harvesting
thousands of fruits and vegetables since "Black
Shabbat" on October 7, 2023. Since Simchas Torah
5784, we've seen them on farms, in fields, and in barns
milking cows. In a sense, celebrating the earth is
exactly what Tu B'Shvat is all about! This has become
an environmental holiday: an ecological awareness
day.

Planting trees in Israel has been a major
campaign of the Jewish National Fund (JNF) since
1901. More than 260,000,000 trees have been planted
in Israel. Many of us remember the blue JNF box in
which we donated our hopeful coins. We all hoped to
actually see our trees in Eretz Medinat Yisrael some
day! We still cling to that hope: *"Ha Tikvah" v' Shalom.*

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THE *Sisterhood*
of EZRA-HABONIM, THE NILES TOWNSHIP JEWISH CONGREGATION

an affiliate of



WOMEN'S LEAGUE
FOR CONSERVATIVE JUDAISM

PLEASE JOIN US
ON WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 7TH AT 1:00 P.M. (ON ZOOM)
WITH LOCAL AUTHOR

Susan Van Dusen

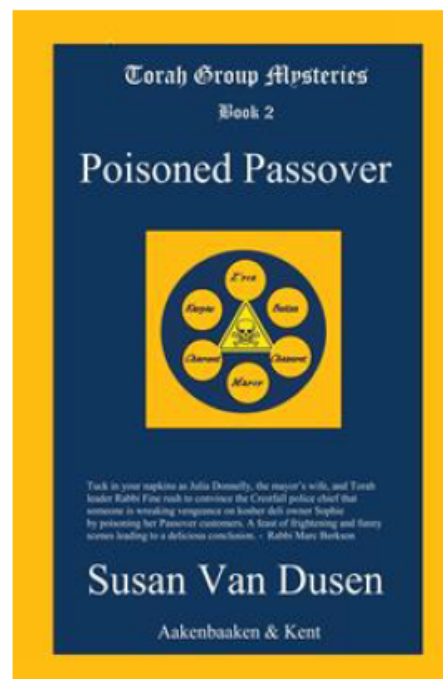
for a conversation on her newest novel -

Poisoned Passover

the second book in a series of mysteries
based on a Torah study group.

*Who's poisoning Passover guests in Crestfall, Illinois?
When Julia Donnelly brought chopped liver over to her
friend Devorah's seder, she had no idea it would result
in mass poisoning, murder and a connection to past
arson. Julia Donnelly and Rabbi Fine are in a race
against death and antisemitism as they scramble
to find the culprits.*

This book is available on Amazon and Barnes & Noble.



No cost to participate, but donations to offset program costs are always appreciated...

PLEASE CLIP FORM BELOW AND RETURN BY FEBRUARY 1st



POISONED PASSOVER ♦ February 7th, 2024

Name: _____ E-mail: _____

_____ I would like to support Sisterhood programming with a donation of \$_____

Return to: EHNTJC SISTERHOOD ♦ 4500 Dempster Street ♦ Skokie, IL 60076

Judy Frank ♦ Sisterhood Co-President ♦ (847)677-4950 ♦ judy@tcscorp.com
Diane Rosenfeld ♦ Sisterhood Co-President ♦ (708)751-5651 ♦ raynesd@aol.com
Judy Arkin ♦ Programming V.P. ♦ (847)763-1996 ♦ kjarkin99@comcast.net

The EHNTJC Men's Club
(and other sponsoring synagogues)
Presents an Eight-Part Zoom Series...



What Jews Think ***Part Three***

“Ideas of God in Jewish Mysticism”
led by Dr. Eitan Fishbane
Thursday, January 4, 2024 - 7:30 PM CST via Zoom

Dr. Eitan Fishbane, Jewish Theological Seminary

In this session, we will explore the varied, fascinating, and inspiring ways in which Jewish mystical thinkers and practitioners have understood and described the nature and character of Divinity. Drawing on lyrical and symbolism-infused texts from the Kabbalah of 13th century Spain (especially that of the Zohar), the Kabbalah of 16th century Tzfat, to that of the spiritual masters of modern eastern European Hasidism, we will study such ideas as: the Ein-Sof (No End or Infinity); the sefirot as the inner luminous dimensions of God's self, the emanations of a river of heavenly divine light and breath; God as the ultimate fountain of pure compassion/Rahamim; the monistic and pantheistic — the radically immanent — vision of God as the interconnected life force of all Being.

Dr. Eitan Fishbane is Professor of Jewish Thought at The Jewish Theological Seminary (JTS), where he has taught for 17 years. Among Professor Fishbane's published books are: *The Art of Mystical Narrative: A Poetics of the Zohar* (Oxford University Press, 2018); *As Light Before Dawn: The Inner World of a Medieval Kabbalist* (Stanford University Press, 2009); and, most recently, *Embers of Pilgrimage* (Panui Poetry Series, 2021). Fishbane received his Ph.D. and B.A., *summa cum laude*, from Brandeis University.

RSVP to bill@ehnt.org or 847-675-4141
Reservation is required to receive a Zoom link.
The program is free of charge and open to all!

Donations to offset program costs are always appreciated!

*This program is co-sponsored by participating members of a
consortium of Jewish organizations, nationwide.*



The EHNTJC Men's Club

(and other sponsoring synagogues)

Presents

"Funny Girls: Part 2"



Hosted by Irv Slifkin & Laurence Lerman

Thursday, January 18, 2024 at 7:30 PM CST via Zoom

It was clear from the outset that we could only cover so many laugh-worthy ladies in our first edition, so here's another collection of uproarious Jewish women for you to nibble on! We've got it all covered here, from movie stars like Oscar winners Goldie Hawn and Judy Holliday to TV favorites like Fran Drescher and Golden Girls Bea Arthur and Estelle Getty. We also make room for standup sisters Rita Rudner and Elayne Boosler to raunchy mirth makers like Sophie Tucker and Rusty Warren. All this and the titter-worthy talents of Sarah Jessica Parker, Lainie Kazan and more!

Irv Slifkin has had a lifelong love for movies and popular culture. A native Philadelphian, Irv teaches film and journalism classes at Temple University and Rowan College. He is the author of the books *Filmadelphia: A Celebration of a City's Movies* and *Groovy Movies: Far-Out Films of the Psychedelic Era*. In addition to writing for such publications as the Philadelphia Inquirer, Entertainment Weekly, The Hollywood Reporter, Chicago Tribune and Los Angeles Times, Irv has lectured on film and popular culture, in person and on Zoom, for libraries, organizations and Jewish institutions throughout NJ and PA.

Laurence Lerman saw Alfred Hitchcock's *North by Northwest* when he was 13 years old and that's all it took. He has worked with MGM, Sony, Music Box Films, Cohen Media, Sterling Productions and Kino International, where he helped launch the home entertainment division. He has been writing about film and video for 30+ years for such outlets as Variety, Entertainment Weekly, The Morning Call, and Video Business Magazine, where he served as a Senior Editor for 15 years. He is the co-founder and editor-in-chief of DiscDish.com, a popular Blu-ray and DVD website offering reviews, news and interviews.

RSVP to bill@ehnt.org or 847-675-4141

Reservation is required to receive a Zoom link.

The program is free of charge and open to all!

Donations to offset program costs are always appreciated!

This program is co-sponsored by participating members of a consortium of Jewish organizations, nationwide.



Ezra-Habonim, the Niles Township
Jewish Congregation
Presents

A Two Day Virtual Tour of ITALY – Venice & Rome

With Jewish Highlights

Led by Tour Guide Linda Garofano

Sundays, Jan. 28 & Feb. 4, 2024

4:00 PM to 6:00 PM CST



Picture yourself in Italy without leaving the comfort of home...



Cost: \$54 for both days
per Household

OR consider being an Angel for \$100,
\$180 or \$360

To register, go to www.ehnt.org or fill out the
form below and send it with your check or
credit card to:

EHNTJC

4500 Dempster Street

Skokie, IL 60076.

For information call (847) 675-4141.

Virtual Tour of Italy – RSVP by January 23rd

___ \$54 per Household OR Angel (includes the link) ___ \$100, ___ \$180, ___ \$360

I cannot attend the tour but wish to make a donation of \$___

Name: _____

Email (required for zoom link): _____

Phone #: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ Zip: _____

___ Enclosed is my check (made payable to EHNTJC)

___ Visa/MasterCard (3% tax-deductible convenience fee will be added)

Credit Card # _____ Exp: _____ CVV _____

Signature: _____

Two Day Itinerary for EHNTJC Virtual Tour of Italy: Venice & Rome
Sundays, January 28th & February 4th from 4:00 PM to 6:00 PM CST

Day 1: Sunday, January 28th - Venice, Italy

Venice is the only place where it is worth getting lost. It is hard to find another spot on earth as unique as Venice and the Venetian Lagoon. It is not simply a place to visit, it is a state of mind. No surprise that for centuries this city attracted, merchants, travelers, intellectuals and artists that got lost around the tiny alleys while looking at the canals. This virtual tour and discover Venice and the Venetians, from the main sights to some hidden gems mostly known to locals. Linda will guide you through the canals and across bridges into the heart of the long and glorious history of Venice. As relaxed as you would be on a gondola you will be able to experience the colors and the flavors of the many corners of this unique city.

Day 2: Sunday, February 4th - Rome, Italy

Join one of Italy's finest Tour Directors, Linda, on a stroll through Rome where you will experience a few of Rome's favorite sights:

- Spanish Steps
- Trevi fountain
- Pantheon
- Piazza Navona

And more

Escape to the Eternal City and let your mind go where your heart wants to be. See you in Rome. Ciao!

Linda Garofano - Hi! My name is Linda and I am from Italy! I live in Rome but I am originally from beautiful Southern Italy. For me, working as a guide is the perfect way of expressing my passion and curiosity for different cultures. I started my EF story as a student with EF Language Travel. Later, I started working in the Rome office for Language Travel until I met the folks from Educational Tours...and it was love at first sight! I love theatre, writing (mostly about food and wine), cooking, fashion and I have a true passion for art and Archaeology. I am a professional interpreter for English and French and a Rome local guide. However, being a Tour Director remains the best way to express my personality! I simply love seeing the world through the eyes of those I tour with and sharing my knowledge with them. Whether you're interested in Italy, Greece, England or France, I love the world and I am looking forward to exploring it with you!

No passports needed!

Looking forward to sharing this experience with you!



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4500 Dempster Street, Skokie, IL 60076 • 847-675-4141 • www.ehnt.org

**Ways & Means –
Ada Rabinowitz, Incoming Chairman**

We are starting the year with an exciting 2 day Virtual Tour of Venice and Rome. We will see Jewish sites as well as the highlights of these two unique cities. ***Picture yourself in Italy without leaving the comfort of your home.*** Mark your calendars now. We will present these tours on Zoom on Sundays, Jan. 28 and Feb. 4, 2024 at 4:00 PM. Linda Garofano, our talented experienced guide, will lead us on this extraordinary trip. Flyer is in this bulletin.

I am thrilled to announce that the **Purim Shpiel** will be presented in March for your pleasure. ***Ghosts of Purim, A Musical Parody*** will be performed live in-person only on

- Saturday, March 9th 8:00 PM
- Sunday, March 10th 1:30 PM
- Saturday, March 16th 8:00 PM
- Sunday, March 17th 1:30 PM

*Virtual performance on Zoom will be available **after** March 21st.*

This will be a spectacular show! So plan to join us at one of the performances. **You will not want to miss this very special event!**

The Ways and Means committee will be planning more events that will delight you. Stay tuned. **Thank you for your support.** We are grateful!

Flyers for both programs are in this bulletin!

Tree of Life



Share Your Joy or Honor a Loved One
Dedicate a leaf on the
Tree of Life sculpture
in the synagogue lobby.

Call Bill Gerber in the office.

Do you have a business you would like to
advertise in our Bulletin?
Contact Jeanette Sigler for more information at
847-675-4141.

HERE'S A GREAT WAY TO HELP THE SYNAGOGUE AND IT'S SO EASY!!

If you shop at Jewel, purchase our \$100 Jewel gift cards. You get full value and the synagogue gets money back for each card sold.

Jewel gift cards can be acquired from Jeanette Sigler in the synagogue office.



SAVE THE DATE! Rockin' BINGO!

February 3, 2024

7:00 PM

More information forthcoming...

Havdalah
הַבְּדִלָּה

Rockin' BINGO
רוקינג בינגו

Karaoke
קאראוקה

EHNTJC offers heartfelt condolences to...

Jack (Jackie) Lauwasser on the loss of his son-in-law, Joshua Joseph Little.

Bobbie Levin on the loss of her husband, Stuart Levin.

Alex (Judi) Stein on the loss of his mother, Joanne Stein.

Norman (Rosalie) Persky on the loss of his brother, Bernie Persky.

May G-d comfort them among the mourners of Zion and Jerusalem.

In Loving Memory

If you wish to honor the memory of a dear one, a memorial plaque would be a most fitting, traditional and dignified remembrance.

Each memorial plaque, bearing the name and *yahrzeit* date, is mounted in the Memorial Alcove in our chapel. On the day of the *yahrzeit*, your loved one's name is listed on a tablet in the chapel alcove.

For more information or to order a plaque, contact Bill Gerber in the synagogue office.

The following memorial plaques have recently been dedicated in the chapel:

Michael Alan Cember
by Robin Cember

Max Dolins
by Barry Dolins

Emanuel Hochberg
Myrna Hochberg
by Burton Hochberg

Our great funds to donate to:

BELLA BRIEF FUND – This fund is used by our Rabbi to schedule programs and guest speakers for the congregation.

BIMA FUND – This fund provides financial support for our clergy, daveners, layning and accompanists.

CANTOR'S MUSIC FUND – This fund is designated for the Cantor's use to benefit the congregation's musical programs.

VIVIAN CHANNON SOCIAL ACTION/TZEDAKAH FUND – This fund is used for social action and/or tzedakah projects for people in need and disasters in the world.

CONGREGATION FUND – This fund is used by the congregation for general operating expenses.

GEMILITH CHESED – LOTTE GRUEN FUND – This fund *confidentially* assists needy members of the congregation. Funds are awarded by a committee.

HERMAN GREENBAUM CAMP RAMAH FUND – This fund assists needy members of the congregation to attend Camp Ramah. The scholarships are awarded by a committee.

HILLMAN LIBRARY FUND – This fund is used to purchase books and materials for the congregation's library.

GERALD MELTON SIMCHA FUND – This fund provides support of our *Onegs* and receptions – donations can commemorate a special event or *simcha*.

PRAYER BOOK FUND – This fund is used to purchase prayer books and Chumashim. Bookplates are inscribed and placed in the front of purchased books. (\$25 minimum donation)

RABBI EMERITUS FUND – This fund is designated for the Rabbi Emeritus' use at his discretion to promote the synagogue, for education or charitable organizations.

RABBI'S SPECIAL FUND – This fund is designated for the Rabbi's use at his discretion to promote the synagogue, for education or charitable organizations.

STEVE & MARGRIT REICH RELIGIOUS SCHOOL FUND – This fund provides confidential support to families who need scholarships for their children to attend our Religious School. It also helps the school to underwrite needed projects.

RELIGIOUS SCHOOL EDUCATION FUND – This fund is used for the Religious School as needed with the approval of the Religious Education Committee.

RUBIN/LEVETON CAMP SCHOLARSHIP FUND – This fund assists children of the congregation to attend Jewish-oriented summer camps (other than Camp Ramah). The scholarships are awarded by a committee.

AVRAHM STAMPFER FUND – This fund assists member children who will be going on sponsored trips to Israel. Scholarships are awarded by a committee.

TALCOTT/LEVIN YOUTH ACTIVITIES FUND – This fund is used for youth activities and programs with the approval of the Youth Activities Committee.

Let's Celebrate!!

January Birthdays

Faye Bearman	Sam Goldfarb	Norman Persky
Ed Bettenhausen	Norman Grossman	James Rabinowitz
Linda Berkowitz	Anelyn Jablo	Jeffrey Reich
Katherine Black	Joshua Jensen	Jessica Reich
Elaine Bogetz	Dorette Klein	Sherry Rontal
Susan Boldrey	Elaine Koffman	Henry Rosenbaum
Bruce Claver	Shelley Korey	Ralph Ruebner
Iris Dalin	Bobbie Levin	Mary Schenk
Miriam Davidson	Annabel Levine	Bonnie Stesin
Paula DeBofsky	Dan Newbart	Phillip Warren
Debbie Dragon	Henry Novoselsky	Laurie Wasserman
Beth Farber	Kathleen Parker	
Zahava Fenig	Steven Parker	
Norman Gelfand		
Bill Gerber		

February Birthdays

Sylva Dachman	Elena Batman Levin	Jeanette Sigler
Steven Dayan	Alan Levy	Pye Squire
Grace Dickler	Shirley Lubowich	Uri Toch
Ian Erdos	Bob Manewith	Jill Todres
Judy Frank	Jeff Michaelson	Sherry Warso
Daniel Gale	Michael Reich	Betsy Weill
David Gordon	Malcolm Rich	Steven Wiseman
Harriet Jacobs	Jerry Salzberg	Sharon Wiseman
Jeanne Kitzmann	Shaunna Schlag	Dolly Zavell
Mackenzie Kramer	Rachel Schwab	

January Anniversaries

Zahava & Steve Davidson
Tamara Glassburg & James Sanders
Rose-Lynn & Randy Jaffe
Jackie & Jack Lauwasser

February Anniversaries

Ellen & Marvin Bero
Andy & David Reich
Valerie & Jeffrey Reich

Have a Simcha?

Call the office if you would like to make a donation to the **Gerald Melton Simcha Fund**. Donations can commemorate a special event or simcha.

Ezra-Habonim. the Niles Township Jewish Congregation

CANTOR'S MUSIC FUND

Shelley Sutker-Dermer & Ken Dermer

V. CHANNON SOCIAL ACTION/TZEDAKAH FUND

Caroline Glasser Bleier & Dan Bleier

EHNTJC Sisterhood

Linda & Elliott Lenoff

CONGREGATION FUND

Judy Arkin

Barbara Barnett

Harriet Berland

Norma & Howard Berlin

Elaine Blaustein

Bette Blumenthal and Family

Marsha Brody

Maureen Chaikin

Roz Cherry

Lillian & Ed Cohen

Joan Cook

Vivian Coretz

Sandi Cowen

Nina Cunningham

Steven Davidson

Irving Davis

Salomon Dayan

Grace & Phil Dickler

Joyce & David Dlugie

Felice Eckhouse & Stephen Hutnick

EHNTJC Sisterhood

Eileen & Art Eisenberg

Luanne & Corwin Eng

Alan Farkas

Judy & Howard Frank

Adrienne & Irwin Friedman

Adie Fuchs

Frances Givertz

Joy Gorodess

Luisita Graff

Danielle Grauer

Fran Green

Ronia Gross

Davida & Norman Grossman

Judy & Alan Harris

Mary Hayden

Burton Hochberg

IN MEMORY OF

Marilyn Dermer

IN MEMORY OF

Stuart Levin

Joanne Stein

Joanne Stein

IN MEMORY OF

Joanne Stein

Stuart Levin

Stuart Levin

Sheldon Baum

Stuart Levin

Harold Horowitz

Thomas Blumenthal

Bernie Persky

Stuart Levin

Stuart Levin

Bernie Persky

Stuart Levin

Josh Little

Aaron Cook

Magda Schloss

Al Riederman

Cynthia Sax

Mary Schraeger

Stuart Levin

Betty Strickler

Sidney Strickler

Mildred Davidson

Jack Davis

Esther Davis

Donna Davis

Lucille Davis

Susan Davis

Stuart Levin

Bernie Persky

Josh Little

Stuart Levin

Audrey Alvarado

Melvyn De Matoff

Stuart Levin

Stuart Levin

Jerry Gross

Tamar Farkas

Joanne Stein

Stuart Levin

Sam Friedman

Ron Salsburg

Izzie Givertz

Andriana Fotinos

Stuart Levin

Bob Frank

Stuart Levin

Sheldon Minow

beloved father, Ephraim Dallal

beloved sister, Clementine Shoag

Gerry and Abraham Neer

Mildred and Morris Beckerman

Sarah Simon

Melvin Glick

Stuart Levin

Joseph Harris

Stuart Levin

Dorothy Hochberg

CONGREGATION FUND

Elisabeth Howard

Geri Jankelovitz

Esther & Hanan Javetz

Jeff Kaiser

Judy & Art Klowden

Gayle Landy

Penny Leshin

Bobbie & Stuart z'l Levin

Alan Levy

Paulette Levy

Jeffrey Lisowski

Shirley Lubowich

Esther & Bob Manewith

Dori Marks

Linda & Andrew Mendelson

Ken Meyers

Gary Minkus

Rabbi Yocheved Mintz

Marsha & Rich Newman

Joan Olson

Sarah & Charles Orlove

Rosalie & Norm Persky

Vilia Petrutule and Armond

Carla & Alan Price

Saralee & Manny Price

Sarah & Seymour Rabens

Ada & Beryl Rabinowitz

Debbie & Stewart Reich

Deborah & Michael Reinstein

Renée Repkin

Deborah Rheinstrom

Lorelei Rosenthal

Pauline Kuznitsky Roth

Evie & Ralph Ruebner

IN MEMORY OF cont'd.

Nina Klein

Stuart Levin

Asia Yavetz

Menachem Shachar

Beatrice Kaiser

Audrey Kaiser

Stuart Levin

beloved son, Keith E. Landy

beloved father, Benjamin Jordan

beloved father, Harry Witt

Alex Meisinger

Ronald Sardena

Bernard Levy

Ruby Levy

Julian Levy

Stuart Levin

beloved son, Ken Lubowich

Rose Lubowich

E. Morris Lubowich

Carl Faingold

Carole Faingold

Charles Bankendorf

Solomon Bankendorf

Rose Altfeld Manewith

Manuel Gross

Stuart Levin

Sarah Levitan

Joanne Stein

Alma Kaufman

Elsie Minkus

Stuart Levin

Esther Probisky

Jack Probisky

Bernie Persky

Josh Little

Jerold Fogel

Stuart Levin

Bernie Persky

Josh Little

Marty Lubowich

Bernie Persky

Stuart Levin

Stuart Levin

Meyer Pusstelnik

Bernie Persky

Joanne Stein

Stuart Levin

Josh Little

Bernie Persky

Marvin Glick

Kurt Baer

Joanne Stein

Aenne Metzger

Stuart Levin

Josh Little

Ruth Lesh

Hilda Reich

Stuart Levin

beloved father, Harold B. Pozner

Dr. Allan H. Repkin

beloved father, Sampson Myers

beloved father-in-law, Meyer Rheinstrom

Stuart Levin

beloved brother, Marvin Kuznitsky

Joanne Stein

Alice Fink

Ezra-Habonim. the Niles Township Jewish Congregation

CONGREGATION FUND

Ruth Ruffer	Julius Helfenbein
Arona & George Sarfatty	Esther Hankin
	Ethel Rath Sarfatty
Francine & Steve Schulman	Stuart Levin
	Josh Little
Barbara Schwartz	Charles Schwartz
	Irving Schwartz
	Joanne Stein
Dr. Stan & Claire Shulman	beloved mother, Clara Tarschis
	beloved mother, Clara Zaner
	Dr. Stuart Levin
Phyllis Marder Simon	Stuart Levin
Esther Siver & Janet Terry	Keith Kreinik
Cheryl & Larry Sklar	Joanne Stein
	Stuart Levin
The Solot Family	Stuart Levin
Arlene & Richard Steele	Stuart Levin
Joanne Stein z'l	Matilda Bloom Holzman
Earl & Renee Strum	Abe and Ida Strum
	Pearl Block
Adrienne Tanner	Joanne Stein
	Stuart Levin
Marcia Templer	Ruth Levy
Andrea Toback	Perry Toback
	Sophie Toback
	Jack Susman
Cynthia & Neal Toback	Perry Toback
Ellen & Alan Toban	Bernie Persky
Veronika Urban	Alfred Glück
Ilene Wallerstein	Ida Wolberg
Laurie & Larry Wasserman	Stuart Levin
Shelley Wax and Brian Hamer	Martin Hamer
Rabbi Victor Weissberg and Family	Stuart Levin
Dolly & Bob Zavell	Josh Little

CONGREGATION FUND

Barbara Barnett	general donation
Bette Blumenthal	general donation
Felice Eckhouse & Stephen Hutnick	Fred Eckhouse's 65 th birthday
Frances Givertz	Marsha and Rich Newman's
	56 th wedding anniversary
Ronia Gross	"Giving Tuesday" in honor of Rabbi Weill
Bobbie & Stuart z'l Levin	Ada Rabinowitz's birthday
Shirley Lubowich	Jeanette Block's 99 th birthday
	"Giving Tuesday"
Susan & Edward Nadler	general donation
Marsha & Rich Newman	Jackie Lauwasser's 70 th birthday
	Bonnie and Dennis Feinberg's 55 th wedding anniversary
	Phyllis and Shel Post's 60 th wedding anniversary
	Judy Klowden's 80 th milestone
Lori & David Prosnitz	general donation
Sarah & Seymour Rabens	"Giving Tuesday"
Ada & Beryl Rabinowitz	Marsha and Rich Newman's
	56 th wedding anniversary
Debbie & Stewart Reich	Bonnie and Dennis Feinberg's
	55 th wedding anniversary
	the marriage of Joey Pawlan and Dana Nathan
Jerry Salzberg	Wayne Shapiro reading the haftorah
Barbara Schwartz	a speedy recovery to Karen Nagel
	a speedy recovery to Sue Gardner
Deanna Shoss	Bonnie and Dennis Feinberg being honored
	by EHNTJC for their dedication and service
Dr. Stan & Claire Shulman	Richard & Marsha Newman
	and Family
Jeanette Smith	the marriage of Jerry Salzberg
	and Elisabeth Howard

CONGREGATION FUND

Scott Werth & Jenny DeMain	the marriage of Jerry Salzberg
	and Elisabeth Howard
Dolly & Bob Zavell	Marsha and Rich Newman's
	56 th wedding anniversary

GEMILUTH CHESED—LOTTE GRUEN FUND IN MEMORY OF

Bill and Joel Gerber	Bernie Persky
	Joanne Stein
	Stuart Levin
	Josh Little
Evie & Ralph Ruebner	dear father, Maurice Ruebner
	dear father, Harbert Prauer
	dear uncle, Eugene Katz
	Stuart Levin
Susie Sernoe	Josh Little
Ruth Siegel	Frank Gerber
	Jerry Gross

GEMILUTH CHESED—LOTTE GRUEN FUND IN HONOR OF

Bill Gerber	Marsha and Rich Newman's
	56 th wedding anniversary

GERALD MELTON SIMCHA FUND

IN HONOR OF

Shelley Sutker-Dermer & Ken Dermer	our clergy and staff
Bill Gerber	Joel Marks' 80 th birthday
	Bonnie and Dennis Feinberg's 55 th wedding anniversary
	Sarah and Seymour Rabens' 65 th wedding anniversary
	Laurie and Larry Wasserman's 55 th wedding anniversary
Bill and Joel Gerber	Jackie Lauwasser's 70 th birthday

PRAYER BOOK FUND

IN MEMORY OF

Marsha & Rich Newman	Joanne Stein
	Stuart Levin

RABBI'S SPECIAL FUND

IN MEMORY OF

Carol & Howard Bartman	Josh Little
Shelley Sutker-Dermer & Ken Dermer	Marilyn Dermer
	Joanne Stein
Mr. & Mrs. Allen Liebnick	Bernie Persky
Dolly & Bob Zavell	Stuart Levin

RABBI'S SPECIAL FUND

IN HONOR OF

Steve Dayan	with thanks to Rabbi Weill for officiating
	at my son's naming ceremony
Shirley Lubowich	Rabbi Jeffrey Weill
Elaine Weill	general donation

AVRAHAM STAMPFER ISRAEL FUND

IN MEMORY OF

Veronika & George Urban	Joanne Stein
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Affiliated with: The United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism and
the Jewish Reconstructionist Federation

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Website: www.ehnt.org

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Neil Brief
Daniel Gale
Shelley Sutker-Dermer
Jeanette Sigler

Rabbi
Rabbi Emeritus
Cantor
President
Executive Director