



# the shofar

February 2020 ✧ Shevat-Adar 5780 ✧ Vol. 53, No 6



## Shabbat Services

Saturday, February 1

10:00 AM Shabbat Morning Service

10:00 AM Weiler Bar Mitzvah

Friday, February 7

7:30 PM Erev Shabbat Service

Saturday, February 8

10:00 AM ShabbASANA

10:00 AM Shabbat Morning Service  
with Chadeish Yameinu (out)

Friday, February 14

7:30 PM Erev Shabbat Service

Saturday, February 15

10:00 AM Shabbat Morning Service  
with Chadeish Yameinu

Friday, February 21

7:30 PM Woman of Valor Erev  
Shabbat Service

Saturday, February 22

10:00 AM Protti Bat Mitzvah

Friday, February 28

5:45 PM Beth El Bim Bam

7:30 PM Rock Shabbat

Saturday, February 29

10:00 AM Adult B'nai Mitzvah  
Service

## Gail Michaelis-Ow

### 2020 Candy Coonerty Woman of Valor

On Friday, February 21, Gail Michaelis-Ow will be honored with the 2020 Candy Coonerty Woman of Valor Award. The award, started 20 years ago to memorialize Candy's legacy, honors a Jewish woman who serves both the Jewish community and the community at large. We honor Gail for her exemplary love of family, her leadership in the Jewish community, and her pioneering and ongoing commitment to social justice.



*Gail with Simcha Preschool children*

UC Santa Cruz attracted Gail to Santa Cruz in 1970. After college and nursing school, she was a community educator for Planned Parenthood of Santa Cruz County. She then attended a nurse practitioner program at UCSF, returning to Santa Cruz in 1976 to open its first family planning clinic. She has been serving low income patients in Santa Cruz and Watsonville for over 40 years.

*Continued on page 4.*

## Mazel Tov to our Adult B'not Mitzvah Class

Claire Sanders, Olivia Stagnaro, Susan Freeman, Suzanne Silvergate, Sara Rigler, Shelly Nadelman-Douglass, Karin Babbitt.

A few of our B'not Mitzvahs reflect about what this means to them. Read their thoughts on page 12.

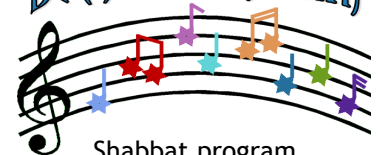
## Rock Shabbat

Friday, February 28  
7:30 PM

*Musical, spiritual,  
uplifting—for the  
whole family!*



## Beth El Bim Bam



Shabbat program  
for families  
with children of all ages.  
February 28

5:45 PM · Vegetarian potluck  
Shabbat singing dinner  
6:30 PM · Fabulous engaging  
Shabbat activities for all ages  
–Child friendly hands-on Jewish  
activities  
–PJ Our Way (ages 9-11)  
activities

RSVP to [sclarkson@tbeaptos.org](mailto:sclarkson@tbeaptos.org) to  
save your place at dinner.

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Temple Beth El is a Reform congregation serving the Jewish community  
in the greater Santa Cruz area.

Passionate about peace and justice • Creative about prayer • Joyful about tradition

# Spirituality/SRFY/Film Festival

THOUGHTS FROM RABBI PAULA



Rabbi Paula

I still remember bringing coins to religious school every week so I could put them in the Tzedakah box at the beginning of each class. As we passed it around the classroom we

could hear the clink of coins as we slipped them into the little slot. At the end of the year we would vote on where we wanted to contribute our money. This is how I learned, from a young age, about the important role Tzedakah plays in Jewish life.

And so, I first want to thank all of you who contributed to our end of year Chanukah appeal. I am moved by your generosity. Since we are still in the beginning of our year, I want to take the time to appreciate the many members who have donated funds for our bimah remodel, increased their annual dues commitment, enriched our educational programs through generous support, and have already signed on as sponsors of our May concert with Ivan Rosenblum and our annual Jewish Film Festival. These are all incredibly important efforts that will continue throughout the year.

And, as we move into our 30th year in our building, I am sure that many of you have noticed how our infrastructure is aging. We all appreciate how the

Brotherhood and Sisterhood have helped replace appliances in our kitchen. There are many more projects that also need our attention. *Our building fund is overstretched and rapidly dwindling. For most of the past, new members were encouraged to make a building fund donation equivalent to a year's dues. Now that our dues are voluntary, building fund pledges are no longer required. But we still need your help keeping the building fund robust and our building safe and comfortable.*

*If you spend even a little bit of time at TBE you have probably realized that our bathrooms are particularly in need of upgrades. This vital renovation is not a glamorous giving opportunity. None of us wants our family name on the bathroom. But our congregation would gratefully receive and acknowledge any contributions you might be in a position to make toward this project.*

*Anne Frank of blessed memory wrote in her diary that "no one has ever become poor from giving." Thank you again for your generosity that maintains Temple Beth El as a vibrant, inclusive, and welcoming Jewish community.*

—Rabbi Paula Marcus

## Women's Rosh Hodesh Group

Each month we come together at the New Moon to deepen our understanding of our own spirituality and relationship with Judaism as women—through literature, scripture, art, and music. We create sacred space, midrash, song, and study, as we make friends and strengthen our identity as Jewish women, and take a moment to fill our hearts, minds, and souls. Please visit us at <https://groups.io/g/RoshHodesh>.

Rosh Hodesh Adar will be Thursday, February 27, at 6:45 PM. As we approach the joyous holiday of Purim, let us think of ways we can be brave, like Esther, in challenging those who would do harm. All women are welcome.

## SRFY Youth Group Purim Fundraiser

Running the Children's Purim Carnival games and prizes is a fundraiser for SRFY. If you are interested in sponsoring a game or donating an item for the raffle, please contact Jennifer Kanter at [kanterjennifer1@gmail.com](mailto:kanterjennifer1@gmail.com). The carnival will be on Sunday, March 8, 10:30 AM–12:30 PM.



SRFY at GLOW, December 2019

## The 2020 Santa Cruz Jewish Film Festival Needs Your Support



Another exciting program is in the works so mark your calendar for April 25–April 30. Come to opening night on Saturday, April 25, to enjoy a delicious reception catered by Zena and a raffle of baskets filled with goodies. **Please consider being a Film Festival sponsor or donor. Donations start at just \$18. Click anywhere on the TBE website Film Festival slide for more information and to donate. We need your generous support to make it happen.** Contact Marcia Meyer at [marmey26@comcast.net](mailto:marmey26@comcast.net) to be a Film Festival sponsor or to sponsor or co-sponsor a film.

# Synagogue News

A NOTE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Mark Your Calendar for

**Sunday, May 3, at 3:00 PM**

## A Musical Concert

in our Sanctuary

**Become a sponsor**

***For this fabulous cultural event!***

I want to thank our generous sponsors for supporting Ivan Rosenblum and his quartet, who are putting on a benefit concert as our MAJOR fundraiser this year. The concert will be a lively mix of classical, popular, and Jewish music, and will tell "snapshots" of women's lives throughout history.

THANK YOU TO THE FOLLOWING SPONSORS WHO HAVE DONATED TO THIS EVENT:

Jacqueline Davidow  
Margaret Gordon  
Amy and David Harrington  
Rabbi Richard Litvak  
Rabbi Paula Marcus  
Martha C. Miller  
Gail Michaelis-Ow and George Ow  
Marlene Pitkow and Mark Kalow  
Joan Osborne  
Roland and Patricia Rebele  
Jeff and Deborah Roisman  
Jacob Sidman and Kris Sidman-Gale  
Marjorie Simon

Thanks to our sponsors, we have \$3,500 toward our \$10,000 goal. Please contact me at [amy@tbeaptos.org](mailto:amy@tbeaptos.org) or [mgordon@ucsc.edu](mailto:mgordon@ucsc.edu) if you would like to sponsor or have any questions.

A wine and chocolate reception will follow the concert. If you would like to bake or buy a scrumptious chocolate decadent dessert, please sign up. Melissa Sunberg will be sending out a notice soon. Thank you!

Thanks to all of our members who participated in our Chanukah appeal, we were able to raise \$10,000 for our community and we are so grateful.

It is a pleasure to see how generous our community is, and it makes my job as president very rewarding and fulfilling.

*-With gratitude for a New Year filled with good health, love and music! Amy Harrington, TBE President*

## TBE Green Team



Along with its other environmental initiatives (see the January 2020 Shofar), TBE's Green Team has proposed a preliminary plan to install two level-2 electric vehicle charging stations at the top end of the temple parking lot for use by temple members and staff. At the end of October, TBE submitted a conditional grant application to California's Electric Vehicle Incentive Program (CALEVIP) to help fund that installation, subject to approval by the TBE board. If you drive an EV or plug-in hybrid vehicle to TBE and are interested in this effort, or if you want more information about the Green Team, please contact Bob and Michele Kibrick at [kibrick@cruzio.com](mailto:kibrick@cruzio.com).

You are invited to join us at the next meeting of the TBE Green Team on February 18, 7:00 PM, at TBE.



## Sisterhood Gift Shop

SUNDAYS

9:30 AM to 12:00 Noon  
closed February 16  
President's Day weekend

WEDNESDAYS

2:30 to 6:00 PM

Or call Shirley at (831) 685-2710, or Ruth at (831) 476-1154.



## In The Temple Family



### NEW MEMBER

Barbara Feldthouse



### MAY THEIR MEMORIES BE FOR A BLESSING

Joseph Engelman, son of Jim Engelman and Claire Witherspoon, grandfather to Sam and Naomi

Ziva Mitnick, daughter of Sarah and Josh Mitnick, sister of Noah and Tamar

Murray Spilman, father of Dan Spilman, father-in-law of Cynthia Spilman, and grandfather of Ellie Spilman

### David Kibrick, EA

(831) 824-4306

[info@santacruz-ea.com](mailto:info@santacruz-ea.com)

<https://www.santacruz-ea.com/>

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### MARCH 2020 SHOFAR DEADLINES

Articles are due February 3. Advertising deadline is February 5. Email text or advertising questions to [mstein@tbeaptos.org](mailto:mstein@tbeaptos.org) or call (831) 460-1389. The Shofar is published September-June by Temple Beth El Jewish Community Center, 3055 Porter Gulch Road, Aptos, CA 95003. Phone (831) 479-3444, fax (831) 475-7246. A TBE membership benefit. Non-member subscription rate is \$40/year. Vol. 53, No. 6. Marcia Stein, Editor/Publisher.

# Synagogue News



GET TO KNOW

## Sharon Papo

This month we have the pleasure of getting to know

Sharon Papo: wife, mom of two small children, and executive director of the Diversity Center (our county's LGBTQ community center), Sharon was already well on her way to being a leader by the time she came to UCSC as a student in 1997. Sharon was active in her Judaism through summer camps, serving as the B'nai Brith president of her region in high school, as well as Hillel, and working for the Hebrew Free Loan Association in college. Her appreciation for inclusivity and programs such as Out in Our Faith brought her to Temple Beth El shortly thereafter. It was actually Rabbi Paula who married Sharon and Amber in 2005, before same-sex marriage was legal.

Sharon and her family are active in many Young Families Project events like Mazel Tots, the kids loved attending Simcha Preschool, and their very favorite is Rock Shabbat which Sharon describes as "feeding my spirit" and a "joyful way to experience Judaism." She also appreciates that it is a time and place that is welcoming to a whole family.

The Union for Reform Judaism (URJ) has tapped Sharon for a position on a newly established task force to examine opportunities toward the creation of more diverse and equitable lay leadership structure among congregations in order to ensure that the Reform Movement grows in its mission to remove barriers for previously marginalized communities based on such factors as socio-economic status, gender, ethnicity, disability, and sexuality. This seems to be a perfect fit for someone who states she, "stands for joy and wholeness for myself and others." We are honored to have one of our own recognized at this level for such important work. Mazal Tov to Sharon and the URJ!

## Gail Michaelis-Ow Woman of Valor

*Continued from the cover.*

Gail credits her teen leadership experiences in her Glendale synagogue and in the National Federation of Temple Youth (NFTY) for awakening her commitment to tikkun olam. Not surprisingly, when Rabbi Rick first met her in 1977, he asked Gail to lead the youth group. She declined, but joined the temple!

When sons Benjamin and Andrew attended Simcha preschool, her involvement grew. Soon she joined the temple board as chair of the membership committee—a role she has held, off and on, to the present. In the 1980's, Gail was an advocate and fundraiser for the "new" temple building and then became congregational vice president and finally president.

In the community, Gail served on the UCSC Foundation board for over a decade. She worked with the Women's Educational Success program at Cabrillo College and chaired the Battered Woman's Assistance group from 1990 until recently. In January of 2017, with her son Andrew, she helped found *Indivisible Santa Cruz*, to promote political activism that is in sync with her Jewish values.

Gail currently serves as chair of the temple's *Gesher V' Keshet* program, welcoming new members and, on the *Chai* event committee, celebrating long-time members. She is also an inspiring force gathering sponsors for Rock Shabbat.

When not working or playing with her five grandchildren, Gail loves to run, swim, do yoga, read, and garden.

## Library Highlight: A Book Group of One's Own

Book groups may not be your thing. Maybe sitting around in a circle hearing others expound on a book you didn't want to read in the first place may not be your idea of fun. But you enjoy reading and want to find stimulating books.

Why not form a book group of one—just you and the temple library. We've already done the work for you, screening and selecting the latest, best and most-interesting fiction and non-fiction. There they are, shelved and ready for you to pick your next read.

Start with a theme that both suits and challenges you. How about memoirs? 2019 was a great year for engaging, literate life stories:

Ayelet Tsabari's · *The Art of Leaving*

Boris Fishman's · *Savage Feast*

Alice Shalvi's · *Never A Native*

Sarah Hurwitz's · *Here All Along*

Dani Shapiro's · *Inheritance*

Or you can give over the year to explore fiction—the latest releases or the classics of Yiddish literature. Or why not delve into the works of a single author, say A.B. Yehoshua or Sholem? We have riveting historical accounts and insightful guides to great works of Judaism. With a book group of one, it's your choice.

The temple library is available for browsing, study, and borrowing, anytime the room is not otherwise engaged. Temple members may borrow books for 30 days, renewable using the self-service check-out station near the door. For questions or suggestions, contact us at [librarytbe@gmail.com](mailto:librarytbe@gmail.com).

## the Shofar CLASSIFIEDS

### HOUSE SITTER AVAILABLE

Enjoy stress-free travels knowing your home is in good hands, for short-term or long-term periods. Excellent local references.

### HOUSING WANTED

Seeking ground-level, detached 1-bedroom home with reliable cell and internet service.

Lisa Meredith—call or text (831) 588-2992, email [lisafreelancer@yahoo.com](mailto:lisafreelancer@yahoo.com).

# Donor Recognition/Contributions *December 1-30*

## Donor Spotlight:

### Jasmine Berke and Scott Roseman



This month we recognize and thank Jasmine Berke and Scott Roseman who have been members and generous supporters since 1993! They actually joined Temple Beth El separately, and met through a chavurah. It has been a love-match ever since.

Jasmine and Scott feel it is important to give generously when you can, especially for programs such as scholarships for children for Temple School, Camperships and other assistance for young families and seniors. Jasmine believes it is important to level the playing field and relieve economic inequalities when possible so that all children and families are truly welcome.

As for Scott's philosophy of tzedakah, he explains, "I give from my heart. I care deeply about our Jewish community and our larger Reform Jewish Movement that stands for the kind of Judaism that speaks to me, one that is centered on tikkun olam, and on connecting to our Torah, our history, and our people in a contemporary and meaningful way." Scott and Jasmine choose to give at a high level because it ensures "that our local Jewish community has a place to call home and a place where our future generations can find *their* Jewish home."

Scott has also contributed countless volunteer hours serving on the board of directors for 13 years, including two years as president. Jasmine has spent 15 years volunteering as a member of our Chevra Kadisha team caring for our beloved dead. It is said that the mitzvot performed by the burial team is considered to be of the ultimate kindness, for it is one that can never be repaid. Their Chavurah also sponsors a Rock Shabbat every year—one of Jasmine and Scott's absolute favorite TBE activities.

We are truly grateful to Jasmine and Scott for their numerous and long-lived contributions to our community. Todah Rabah!

#### AIDEN LO TZEDAKAH

David and Marion Brodkey  
Shani Ginsburg and David Gazak  
Lenore Hindin  
Bonnie and Loren Morr  
Sylvia Prysant  
Ivan Rosenblum and Mary Fran Archer

#### BUILDING FUND

A gift

Lenny Pagorelsky and Michaeline Kiss  
Debra Feldstein and Kenneth Chizinsky  
Mark and Jane Silberstein  
Erica and Erikn Sowder  
Melissa and Cary Sunberg  
In memory of Joseph Engelman  
David and Cyn Baskin

#### CAMP KAYETZ FUND

In memory of Joseph Engelman  
Rabbi Richard and Nancy Litvak

#### CANDY COONERTY WOMEN OF VALOR FUND

In honor of Gail Michaelis-Ow—this year's Woman of Valor  
Murray and Sheila Baumgarten  
Rabbi Richard and Nancy Litvak

#### CARING COMMITTEE FUND

In honor of dressing the Torah  
Gilda Zelin

#### CEMETERY FUND

In honor of Herbert Werner, father of Sara Walsh, and grandfather of Brendan and Lilah Walsh  
Sara Walsh  
In memory of Ted and Minna Strauss  
Ed and Norma Sacks

#### CHANUKAH APPEAL

Mark and Judy Brenis  
David and Shelley Sonnenberg  
Carl and Karla Sanders  
Priva and Michael Tarbet  
Michael and Jackie Tuttle  
Lois Steinberg  
Barbara Schatan and Richard Linzer  
Melissa and Cary Sunberg  
Phillip Posner and Louise Drummond  
Judi Sherman and Rachel Bickert  
Sharon Papo and Amber Weiss  
Rebecca and Scott Rubin  
David and Muriel Rosenthal  
George Ow and Gail Michaelis-Ow

Margaret Gordon  
Janet Gellman and Nancy de la Pena  
Marian Zeidler  
Adam and Katrina Lippman  
John and Merry Oppenheimer  
Melody Randel and Susan Kerr  
Joel and Holly Rudnick  
Cindy Rubin and Brian Rosenthal  
Michael Cahn  
Ellen Ortiz  
Leonard and Geri Wolff  
Harry and Orsolya Salzberg  
Lenore Hindin  
Mordecai Mitnick  
Carolyn and Curt Coleman  
David Gazek and Shani Ginsburg  
Bettina Aptheker and Kate Miller  
Daniel Orange and Bonnie Holmer-Orange

Bonnie and Loren Morr  
Naomi Bayer  
Hila and Jack Michaelson  
Morgan and Kathleen Magid  
Paul and Carol Berman  
Nita Lamedola  
Alison Gold  
Estelle Levine  
Barbara Carey  
Amy and David Harrington  
Billie Harris  
Shira Coleman  
Kyle Holder  
Julia Cornblatt  
Susan and Paul Karz  
Deborah and Allen Korenstein  
Sandy Davie  
Victoria Finder  
Don Gartner and Donelle Ehritt  
Laura Giges and Jon Edelbaum  
Richard Josephson and Loretta Rao  
Ariel and Stephen Gray  
In loving memory of Connie Caldwell  
Melody Randel and Susan Kerr  
In memory of my wife, Lucienne  
Daniel Seftel

#### CHOIR FUND

In honor of the birth of Kyle Vernon Tracy  
Rabbi Richard and Nancy Litvak  
In loving memory of Michael Shikora  
The Surf Pony Fund at Community Foundation Santa Cruz County  
In memory of Connie Caldwell  
Robert and Michele Kibrick  
In memory of Alan Miller  
Marilyn Rigler

# Contributions *December 1-30*

## ENDOWMENT FUND

In memory of Scott Roseman's mother  
Rabbi Richard and Nancy Litvak

## FILM FESTIVAL FUND

In memory of Joby Shinoff  
Paul and Carol Berman

## GARDEN AND PARK FUND

In memory of Lucienne Seftel  
Rabbi Richard and Nancy Litvak

## GENERAL MEMBERSHIP SERVICES FUND

A gift  
Miranda Allen-Brower  
Matthew Clausen and Naomi Igra  
Jen and Shai Vered  
Shlomo and Miriam Vilozny  
Marni and Larry Williams  
Thanking you; with much appreciation  
for Rabbi Lori's presence in the  
Saturday morning services  
Shlomo and Miriam Vilozny  
In honor of Arianna's naming  
Susan Beck and Sigrid Snitzer  
In honor of the naming of Ruth Titus  
Paul and Martha Jacobson  
In loving memory of my father, Gerald  
Giges  
Laura Giges and Jon Edelbaum  
In loving memory of grandma Belle  
Laura Giges and Jon Edelbaum  
In memory of Lucienne Seftel  
Murray and Sheila Baumgarten  
In memory of Marilyn Roseman, Scott's  
mother, Jasmine's mother-in-law, and  
grandmother to their children and  
grandchildren  
Carolyn and Curt Coleman

In memory of Marilyn Roseman  
Murray and Sheila Baumgarten

## GORDON BAR/BAT MITZVAH FUND

In loving memory of my mother,  
Jeanette Siegel  
Michael Scott and Ellen O'Brian

## HIGH HOLY DAYS 2019

Benjamin Kohn and Kim Goldman

## JANET ROTHCHILD ROCK SHABBAT

FUND  
A gift  
Margie Kern-Marshall  
Sarah and Eric Sanders  
Carol Skolnick  
In memory of Janet Rothchild  
Judith Fried and Robert Scowcroft

## ONEG FUND

In memory of Melton Wughalter  
Gail Levine and Emily Wughalter

## PIANO FUND

In memory of Alan Miller  
Murray and Sheila Baumgarten

## RABBI LITVAK SENIOR YOUTH GROUP

FUND  
In memory of Mark Rosenberg's  
mother  
Rabbi Richard and Nancy Litvak  
In memory of Irving Ginsburg, Shani  
Ginsburg's father  
Rabbi Richard and Nancy Litvak

## RABBI MARCUS DISCRETIONARY FUND

A gift  
Diana Rothman  
In loving memory of Jack Mandel  
Linda Mandel

In memory of Joseph Engelman  
James Engelman and Claire  
Witherspoon

## RABBI WEISS-PENZIAS DISCRETIONARY FUND

A gift  
Diana Rothman  
Desiree and Jesse Hunt  
In honor of Ruth Titus  
Elana and Alexander Titus  
In honor of my beloved mother, Sylvia  
Rubinson  
Sandra Linzer and George Botwinick

## SECURITY DONATION

Barbara Carey  
Julian Dahan and Jessica Guild  
Joan Tanzer and Gerald Frank

## SOCIAL ACTION FUND

A gift  
Lloyd Benjamin and Martha Posey  
In honor of Temple Beth El  
Cynthia Lewis

## TEMPLE SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIPS FUND

A gift  
Susan Beck and Sigrid Snitzer  
Wishing Mazel Tov to Elana and  
Alexander Titus in honor of Ruth  
Alinda Valentine Titus' naming  
ceremony  
Carol Skolnick

## TREE OF LIFE LEAF

In memory of Judith and Leonard  
Levine, alive in our hearts always  
Paia Levine

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# Young Families and Youth

## Tu B'Shevat FieldTrip

Sunday, February 9, 9:45–11:45 AM

at Henry Cowell State Park  
near Felton on Highway 9  
(weather permitting)



In honor of Tu B'Shevat, we will celebrate the "Jewish New Year for the Trees" by exploring the traditional, spiritual, and ecological importance of the trees at the park. We will meet at the Book Store and Environmental Center in the parking lot at 9:45 AM. As with all of our all-school holiday celebrations, we encourage family members to attend.

**WHAT TO BRING:** warm clothes, rain boots, waste-free snacks to share, something to drink, a magnifying glass and flashlight (see details below). In honor of Tu B'Shevat let's decrease our use of disposable items. Each child should carry his/her own water bottle or maybe a thermos of hot cocoa or tea.

Mornings are often quite cold and wet among the redwoods and we are going to be walking and sitting outside for two hours, so dress your kids in warm layers. Dressing warmly can make the difference between having a fun day or a miserable one.

**IN CASE OF RAIN:** If it is pouring rain, we will move the event to the temple. If this happens, we will confirm by sending you an email at 8:30 AM that day. In case of questionable weather please check your email after 8:30 AM to find out where we will be.

## Simcha Preschool

In January, we were pleased to welcome TBE member Heidi Winig as our facilitator for *Babies, Boundaries, and Bodies*. She helped families learn how to be "an askable parent" when it comes to sensitive life issues.

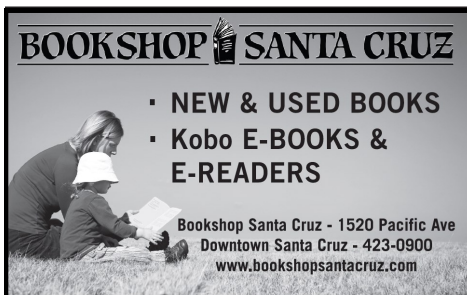
Our Pre-K class focused on kindness during January. The children shared about what kindness means to them and how they can be kind to others. They started using kindness beads during circle to continue the conversation.

Our preschoolers continue their painting explorations, trying out water colors on different types of paper. The toddlers will soon be transplanting plants from their play yard to their new garden boxes built by preschooler Maggie's older brother, Jacob.

This month we will be closed on Monday, February 10, for a professional development day for teachers, and on Monday, February 17, in observance of President's Day.

Thank you for the recent donation to Simcha Preschool from Bruce and Deborah Shulman, as well as Angela Surkis. Your generosity means so much to our wonderful, play-based preschool program!

—Best, Lisa Mendez, Director



## Mazel Tots

Sunday, February 9  
9:45 to 11:15 AM  
at Temple Beth El



Join in fun Tu B'Shevat-themed activities for children five years and under with their families. Members and non-members welcome. Free. Please bring a healthy snack.

## Beth El Baby Bunch

Monday, February 24, 11:00 AM–12:30 PM



Quality social time with parents and babies birth to age 3, here in the TBE coffee lounge. Questions? Contact Sarah at [sclarkson@tbeaptos.org](mailto:sclarkson@tbeaptos.org).

## Temple School, Hebrew High & Young Families Program Calendar

**Sunday, February 9**

TS Grades K-6, Mazel Tots

**Wednesday, February 5**

TS grades 4–6, KEF, Hebrew, 7th Grade & Hebrew High with 6:30 Pizza

**Sunday, February 9**

TS grades K–6, Tu B'Shevat Field Trip (weather permitting)

**Wednesday, February 12**

TS grades 4–6, KEF, Hebrew, 7th Grade & Hebrew High with 6:30 Pizza

**Sunday, February 16**

NO TEMPLE SCHOOL

**Wednesday, February 19**

TS grades 4–6, KEF, Hebrew, 7th Grade & Hebrew High with 6:30 Pizza

**Sunday, February 23**

TS Grades K-6, 4th Grade Parent Participation

**Wednesday, February 26**

TS grades 4–6, KEF, Hebrew, 7th Grade & Hebrew High with 6:30 Pizza

**Friday, February 28**

Beth El Bim Bam, Rock Shabbat

# General News

## *Nachas*

Kyle Holder has a new grandson, born on December 14, to her daughter Shira and Michael Wagner of Long Beach New York.

## News from the Social Action Committee

Thanks to so many generous gift card and cash donations from members of our congregation during the Chanukah season, TBE sent approximately \$1250 to the following three organizations for their work with migrants at the border: Jewish Family Services of San Diego, The Pedagogical Institute of Los Angeles' Nest Tijuana Project, and Arizona Jews for Justice.

## How Can I Help?! Arizona Voter Registration

by Wilma Gold



Just like many of you, we see ourselves in a community where we have a voice and can exercise that voice by voting. When I visited with Eddie last month in Phoenix, the staff person at Arizona Jews for Justice, I asked, "What can we do from Santa Cruz to support your efforts to empower citizens and help new immigrants?" His answer was, "Help us register voters!" Arizona is a state where there are too many people who are not registered, and their voices are therefore not heard. Arizona Jews for Justice is mounting a large voter registration campaign in January and February. Their focus is the Indigenous people's reservations as well as neighborhoods where there is low voter registration.

February 14-16 is the time Eddie and the community can use our help. We will leave here on February 13, spend the night on the road, and arrive the next morning. We leave Arizona Sunday night and arrive back home Monday. Gus is willing to drive the temple van which means that 14 of us can go together. Some of you might want to join the effort but would rather fly to Phoenix. We could meet you there. Eddie will take care of all of the arrangements and transportation while in Arizona.

I hope there are others who feel you can devote the days to join in this important effort to encourage others to make their voices heard! Contact me, Wilma Gold, at 831-345-2742, to join the effort or if you have questions.

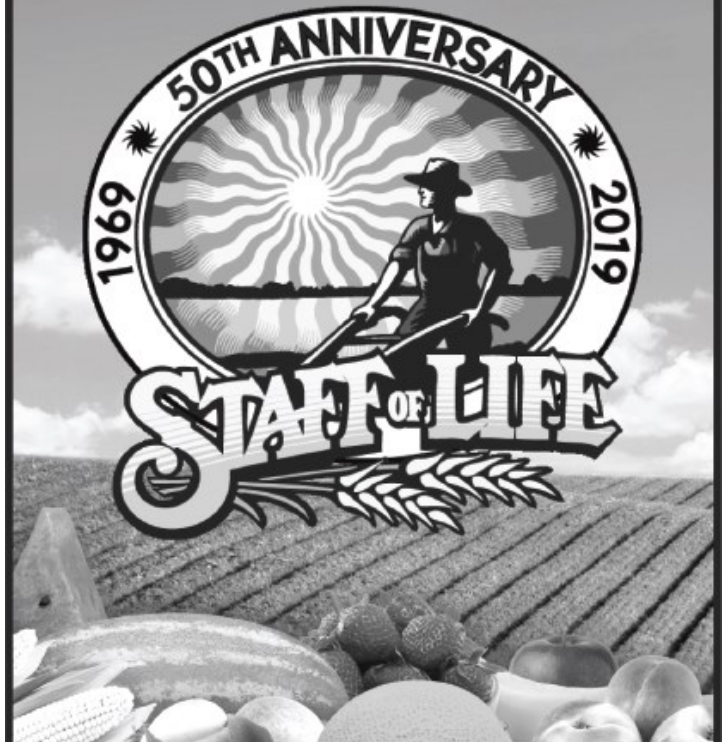
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# General News/Activities & Events

## TEMPLE BETH EL BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2019–20

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### *Calling all Temple Beth El members to pitch-in with the MAZON Project, Temple Beth El's longest-running social action program!*

Participation in the Temple Beth El MAZON Project brings love and spiritual sustenance both to the givers and receivers via the mystical power of home-cooked food. Please sign-up! Use the link on the TBE website—go to the Social Action menu, then Activities, then MAZON.

Thank you very much to our compassionate congregants who have generously provided dinner to the Santa Cruz Homeless Shelter, every Sunday since 1988! Our spectacular January volunteers were: Meryl Selman, Juliana White, Penny Chesluk, Margaret Brose, Martha Jacobson, Marc and Nancy Yellin (2), Shira Coleman (3X!), Leah Sugarman (2X), Rebecca Fresco, Diana Rothman, Ziesel Saunders, and Rose Ashford with Chavurah Shem Tov (5X!).



### **Scholar-in-Residence Shabbaton Erev Shabbat Service**

Friday, March 6, 7:30 PM

### **Scholar-in-Residence Havdallah and Story Telling**

Saturday, March 7, 7:00 PM

### **Purim Carnival and Celebration**

Sunday, March 8, 9:45 AM

### **Megillah Reading and Purim Party**

Monday, March 9, 7:00 PM

### **Rock Shabbat Service**

Sunday, March 20, 7:30 PM

### **Passover Preparation and Family Fun**

Sunday, March 22, 1:00 PM

### **An Israeli and Palestinian/Jordanian Tell Their Stories**

Tuesday, March 31, 7:00 PM

Temple Beth El Jewish Community Center and Chadeish Yameinu - Jewish Renewal of Santa Cruz  
PRESENT

## *Judaism and the Mysteries of Life, Death and the World Beyond*

A SCHOLAR-IN-RESIDENCE SHABBATON  
WITH REB SIMCHA RAPHAEL

Friday and Saturday, March 6 and 7



### **Joseph's Bones and the Jewish Tradition of Memory**

Friday, March 6, 7:30 PM, Erev Shabbat Services/Dvar Torah at TBE

### **Afterlife Journey of the Soul in Kabbalah**

Saturday, March 7, 10:30 AM, Shabbat Services/Noon Lunch N' Learn at Chadeish Yameinu, 740 Front Street, Suite 170, Santa Cruz

### **Tales of the World Beyond: Stories of Ancient Ancestors, Wandering Spirits and Reincarnating Souls**

Saturday, March 7, 7:00 PM, Havdalah/Story-Telling at Benito & Azzaro Pacific Gardens Chapel, 1050 Cayuga Street, Santa Cruz

CO-SPONSORSHIP FROM BENITO & AZZARO PACIFIC GARDENS CHAPEL

For more information click on the event slide on the TBE home page.

## **Death Café**

February 24, 7:00–8:30 PM,  
at Chadeish Yameinu

740 Front Street, Suite 170, Santa Cruz

This is an open-ended opportunity to talk about death in a relaxed, non-judgmental environment. We provide tea and cookies.



# Activities & Events

## Understanding Online Anti-Semitism

with Michael Greenstone

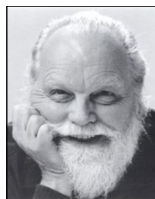
Tuesday, February 4, 7:00–9:00 PM

In the past several years, there has been a dramatic rise in Anti-Semitism online. This talk will help shed light on where this is coming from, why Anti-Semitism is rising, how it spreads, and how it is used as a tool for social unrest. Michael Greenstone is co-founder and technology director at the Network Contagion Research Institute (ncri.io) an institute whose mission it is to measure, identify, understand and combat hate online. The NCRI is a consortium of academic researchers and technologists that acts as a neutral third party partnering with social media platforms, media, and government.

## Senior Connections

February 10

*Lou Harrison: The Making of a Local Musical Legend and a Man Ahead of His Time.* A discussion with UCSC Professor of Music (Emerita), Leta Miller



February 24

Jill Wolfson: *Experiences Teaching Writing to Inmates at Juvenile Hall*

Free and Open to the General Public!  
Come at 1:30 to nosh & schmooze.  
Program begins at 2:00.

## Esther's Story: Facing Hate with Courage

with Jehon Grist,

Senior Educator, Lehrhaus Judaica

Thursday, February 27, 7:00–8:30 PM

Esther's story is exciting, romantic and disturbing. Set in the lavish court of the Persian king 2,400 years ago, this tale takes readers through the dramatic ups and downs of our heroine. It also provides an early example of the anti-Semitism that has threatened the Jewish people ever since. But is there actual history in this story? And why did many ancient Jews and Christians oppose its addition to the biblical canon? This session will delve into these and other questions as we discover one of the most controversial and popular books of the Bible.

## Campus Tour

February 28, 9:30 am

Art & Play in the Pre & K!

February 12, 9:30 am

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# February 2020

## Temple Beth El Jewish Community Center • Shevat–Adar 5780

All events are subject to change. Please check the Temple website. [www.tbeaptos.org](http://www.tbeaptos.org) or call the office at 831-479-3444 to verify information.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						<b>1</b> Shabbat Morning Service with Rabbi Lori (Bo) 10:00am Weiler Bar Mitzvah 10:00am
<b>2</b> Mazel Tots 9:45am Temple School Grades K–6 9:45am Adult B'nai Mitzvah Class 12:30pm	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> Pilates Class 10:00am Mah Jong 12:00pm Caregiver Support Group 7:00pm Jewish Meditation 7:00pm Understanding Online Anti-Semitism 7:00pm	<b>5</b> Women's Writing Group 10:15am Chair Yoga 12:30pm Temple School Grades 4–6, KEF and Hebrew 4:00pm 7th Grade & Hebrew High 6:30pm Craft Group 7:00pm White Fragility Book Group 7:00pm	<b>6</b> Pilates Class 10:00am Lunch & Learn 12:00pm Library Staffed 3:00pm Women's Song Circle 7:00pm (out)	<b>7</b> Erev Shabbat Service 7:30pm  5:22pm	<b>8</b> ShabbASANA Yoga 10:00am Shabbat Service with CY (Beshalach) 10:00am (out) Young Adult Havdallah 6:00pm
<b>9</b> Temple School Grades K–6 Tu B'Shevat Family Hike at Henry Cowell (weather permitting) 9:45am Adult B'nai Mitzvah Class 12:30pm	<b>10</b> Senior Connections 1:30pm	<b>11</b> Pilates Class 10:00am Mah Jong 12:00pm Jewish Meditation 7:00pm	<b>12</b> Women's Writing Group 10:15am Chair Yoga 12:30pm Temple School Grades 4–6, KEF and Hebrew 4:00pm 7th Grade & Hebrew High 6:30pm Craft Group 7:00pm	<b>13</b> Pilates Class 10:00am Lunch & Learn 12:00pm Library Staffed 3:00pm White Fragility Book Group 7:00pm	<b>14</b> Erev Shabbat Service 7:30pm  5:29pm	<b>15</b> Shabbat Morning Service with CY (Yitro) 10:00am
<b>16</b> Adult B'nai Mitzvah Class 12:30pm  No Temple School	<b>17</b> Women's Song Circle 7:00pm (out)  President's Day Temple Office Closed Simcha Closed	<b>18</b> Pilates Class 10:00am Mah Jong 12:00pm Caregiver Support Group 7:00pm Jewish Meditation 7:00pm Green Team Meeting 7:00pm	<b>19</b> Women's Writing Group 10:15am Chair Yoga 12:30pm Temple School Grades 4–6, KEF and Hebrew 4:00pm 7th Grade & Hebrew High 6:30pm Craft Group 7:00pm	<b>20</b> Pilates Class 10:00am Lunch & Learn 12:00pm Library Staffed 3:00pm White Fragility Book Group 7:00pm	<b>21</b> Woman of Valor Erev Shabbat Service 7:30pm  5:37pm	<b>22</b> Protti Bat Mitzvah 10:00am
<b>23</b> Temple School Grades K–6 and Fourth Grade Parent Participation 9:45am Adult B'nai Mitzvah Class 12:30pm	<b>24</b> Beth El Baby Bunch 11:00am Senior Connections 1:30pm Death Café 7:00pm (out)	<b>25</b> Pilates Class 10:00am Mah Jong 12:00pm Jewish Meditation 7:00pm General Board Meeting 7:00pm	<b>26</b> Women's Writing Group 10:15am Chair Yoga 12:30pm Temple School Grades 4–6, KEF and Hebrew 4:00pm 7th Grade & Hebrew High 6:30pm Craft Group 7:00pm	<b>27</b> Pilates Class 10:00am Lunch & Learn 12:00pm Library Staffed 3:00pm White Fragility Book Group 7:00pm Rosh Hodesh Adar 6:45pm Esther's Story: Facing Hate with Courage–Salon 7:00pm	<b>28</b> Beth El Bim Bam 5:45pm Rock Shabbat Service 7:30pm  5:44pm	<b>29</b> Adult B'nai Mitzvah Service (Terumah) 10:00am

*The following are thoughts  
from a few of our  
Adult B'not Mitzvahs:*

**Claire Sanders**

Converting to Judaism is, for me, coming home. It's something that I have considered since I was 19. Sarah, my daughter-in-law, and Aidan, my grandson, were born Jewish. My son Eric, converted. Now I am joining my family and the tribe.

**Sara Rigler**

I decided to participate in the B'nei (B'not) Mitzvah with others to expand my Jewish learning and to make deeper connections with Judaism and the Temple Beth El community.

**Susan Freeman**

When I was a girl, it was not possible in my Reform synagogue, to be called to the bimah as a Bat Mitzvah, though I longed for that. Preparing for this B'not Mitzvah has renewed my passion for the teachings of Judaism, for study, for questioning and spiritual connection, giving me great joy and gratitude for the gift of a new beginning: to celebrate Jewish life as an active member of a welcoming, loving congregation.



The MAZON volunteers who received special recognition for exceptional contributions a few months ago. From L to R: Leora Fromm, Shira Coleman, Rose Ashford, Gaby Litsky, Martha Jacobson, Chris Goldstein, Zena Krakowsky, Robin Belkin, Wilma Gold, Nancy and Marc Yellin, Catherine and Bob Cooper, and Susan Karz.