



the shofar

Special Edition Shelter-in-Place

Although in-person services, activities, events, Simcha Preschool, and Temple School are dependent on the shelter-in-place status, TBE will continue offering a myriad of opportunities for connection, learning, prayer and inspiration with your wonderful Jewish community. We are offering this Special Edition Shelter-in-Place Shofar to update you and we will keep you informed by email and on the TBE website.

We are an amazing community and are going to continue to bring you everything you love about TBE!

Avodah Sh'b'lev

In a Zoom session with a student and his mother, we were discussing what he might want to say about his Torah portion. He is working on the *Rosh Chodesh* (New Moon) section of the Torah, which is from the Book of Leviticus. It's all about the sacrifices... animal body parts, fine flour, special oil. Not exactly the most dramatic part of the Torah. So I asked him what he thinks the sacrifices were all about and since they're no longer offered, what can we do now to replace them. Without knowing what the rabbinic sages teach about this question, he said he thinks that now we pray instead. Smart kid.

The book of *Vayikra*-Leviticus is filled with details about the sacrifices, which in Hebrew are called *Korbanot*. The root of the word means, literally, "to draw near." Our ancestors used these sacrifices as a means for drawing close to God.

Many of us are probably relieved that the days of animal sacrifice are

clearly over. After the destruction of the Temple in Jerusalem, the rabbis replaced the ritual of the sacrifices, which was called *avodah*—work—because it took a lot of physical work to do the sacrifices, with *avodah sh'b'lev* the work of the heart—prayer. Devastation led to a radical shift in Jewish practice two thousand years ago, but Judaism continued. So it is right now.

As I understand it, right now we are called upon to participate in *avodah sh'b'lev* in new ways. This frightening time will push us into new paths for prayer, social justice actions, doing acts of compassion for others (and allowing others to do them for us), staying connected to family and friends in new ways—all works of the heart, *avodah sh'b'lev*. Yet we will continue to stay connected with each other and make a difference in the world. Let's keep our hearts open to new ways of serving each other and God.

—Rabbi Paula Marcus

Shabbat Services



You will have opportunities for worship and to say Kaddish virtually.

We will be sending those links regularly.

Mitzvah Day

Mitzvah Day is April 19th. We anticipate that we still will not be able to gather together at that time, but please do a take the opportunity that day to do a mitzvah. Pick up trash at the beach, check on an elderly neighbor or relative, donate to a charity. Then please let us know what you did and send us a picture if you can!

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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

THOUGHTS FROM RABBI PAULA



Rabbi Paula

In Each and Every Generation...

I loved helping my mother set the Seder table. My father would pick my grandparents up at the bus stop, my grandmother schlepping matzah ball soup, gefilte fish, and kugel, all the way from the Bronx. We'd unpack the food, warm it up and wait for the holiday meal. My grandfather would read through the *Haggadah* in Hebrew and I'd watch my brothers kick each other under the table until one of them drank too much Manishevitz and wound up going up to his bed to "sleep it off." When the *New Union Haggadah* came out in 1974, we were so excited to find meaningful English and beautiful artwork that brought the Passover story to life. Instead of listening to the traditional Hebrew for what felt like hours, we were finally able to feel the impact of this important story. The text was written in gender-inclusive contemporary language and all of us enjoyed being active participants in the Seder ritual.

This was the first time I truly understood the mitzvah of Passover. In each and every generation, a person is obligated to regard one's self as though they actually left Egypt. As it says: "You shall tell your child on that day, 'It is because of this that G-d took me out of Egypt.'" (Exodus 13:8). This *Haggadah* sparked conversation. Instead of an evening that was mostly focused on my grandmother's delicious Passover food, the discussion about the true meaning of Passover sparked my imagination and my understanding of Jewish history. I can remember talking about how my grandmother and her family experienced their own exodus from Hungary. I remember asking my grandfather what he could recall about leaving Vilna.

These, and other personal stories of hope and liberation are what we are called to experience at the Seder table. There are at least a million different

Haggadot that can help us personalize our home Seder. I know that many TBE members have put together their own. I encourage all of us to craft our own Passover Seder that will help us experience the Exodus as if we are personally leaving oppression behind.

Along with a variety of women's *Haggadot*, The *New American Haggadah*, and a *Haggadah* edited by the Velveteen Rabbi, here are some new *Haggadot* I will be looking at this year:

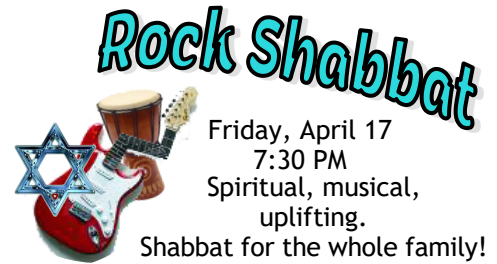
The Passover Haggadah: An Ancient Story for Modern Times by Alana Newhouse—FROM REVIEWS: Both proudly traditional and blazingly modern, it is a perfect blueprint for remembering the past, living in our present, and imagining the future.

The Promise of the Land: A Passover Haggadah by Ellen Bernstein—FROM REVIEWS: This Passover, celebrate both our freedom and the role of nature in the Seder and in our lives. This *Haggadah* seeks to reveal the Seder's ecological dimensions and awaken its environmental meaning.

Human Rights Haggadah by Shlomo Levin—FROM REVIEWS: The *Human Rights Haggadah* helps you use the Seder to discuss and learn about human rights. The *Haggadah* contains: • From the Rabbis boxes, which illustrate how human rights ideas are discussed by the rabbis. • From the Universal Declaration of Human Rights boxes, which explain what human rights laws are today. • Dialogue boxes, which outline the reasoning behind these various viewpoints for you to explore at the Seder. This *Haggadah* makes Passover relevant to the most pressing political and religious dilemmas we face today.

This year, due to precautions concerning COVID-19, many will gather around the Seder table in our own homes. Rabbi Shifra and I will be inviting all of you to a virtual community table for an innovative Passover Seder, so stay tuned.

—Rabbi Paula Marcus



Friday, April 17
7:30 PM
Spiritual, musical,
uplifting.

Shabbat for the whole family!

On-line!

Look for information in an upcoming email.

Clarification

Dear Friends,

I'm writing to thank you for all of your generous support. I know that our community will be enriched by the addition of Cantor Alisa Fineman to our clergy team. She will begin working full time at Temple Beth El on July 1.

I want to clarify that **at this time, I am not planning on taking a leave of absence.** I am grateful to have the ability to participate in the life of our congregation as I am able to, given Aryeh's health. Aryeh is still in treatment and I am still working. I feel incredibly blessed to be part of this caring and supportive community.

With gratitude, Rabbi Paula

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Synagogue News



Rabbi Shifra

I hope that you are physically and emotionally well despite these anxiety promoting times. I want to remind you that you can still reach me by phone or e-mail, even though I am working

from home, and I encourage you, as always, to contact me if I can be of assistance to you.

TEMPLE SCHOOL

In keeping with the national effort to flatten the curve of the coronavirus pandemic, Temple School has moved to distance learning. Although I am sad that our classes will not be gathering in person, this gives us an opportunity to engage some outstanding online Jewish educational tools. I am so grateful to our fabulous Congregational Learning Coordinator Sarah Clarkson for making such great lemonade out of these lemons by facilitating a wonderful partnership between Temple School and Shalom Learning. Shalom Learning is at the cutting edge of online learning experiences to supplement classroom learning. Our students are participating in a self-paced interactive Hebrew program, and are attending Judaica classes with experienced distance teachers via Zoom calls. I encourage you to look up Shalom Learning to learn more. In addition, I am personally excited to be offering Zoom classes for our seventh grade and Hebrew High School students.

ADULT LEARNING

All adults are invited to my "Judaism As A Spiritual Journey" class which has moved to distance learning. We will be discussing an excellent lecture at Harvard by my teacher, Rabbi Dr. Arthur Green. If you would like to join in the discussion, please read the book of Genesis and then, please watch the first 45 minutes of this video: <https://bit.ly/38YlmW3>, pausing it periodically to take notes. I would even encourage you to watch it twice. Please write down your questions, list any places where Rabbi Green may have lost you, and send them to me.

ROCK SHABBAT

We hope that you joined us on Friday March 20, for an online re-broadcast of a very special Rock Shabbat featuring our newest member, Cantor Alisa Feinman along with the entire Rock Shabbat Band. Rabbi Paula and I have pre-recorded a new d'var torah addressing the COVID 19. As usual, this Shabbat service included inspiring Jewish music and a Friday night service including the Mourner's Kaddish. In addition, Rabbi Paula provided an opportunity for people to come together with her via Zoom to recite Kaddish.

As many journeys do, Jewish life in Santa Cruz has taken a turn to an unexpected path. We are hoping that there will be some silver linings to all of this, including many ways to stay connected, help, and inspire each other; and find comfort and inspiration from Judaism. Please stay healthy and wash your hands.

—Blessings, Rabbi Shifra

Our Rabbis have created an innovative virtual Seder for you to attend. You will receive a link to it in an upcoming email!

Simcha Preschool

While Simcha Preschool is closed due to the virus, we are creating heartfelt story and song-time videos for Simcha families and posting them to our private Simcha 2019/2020 Facebook group. So far, Teacher Caitlin, along with Director Lisa, have shared stories, smiles, and songs with families to help uplift spirits and foster a sense of connection via email, the Remind app, and our FB group. We've been sharing updates, support, and resources for fun activities that can be done at home; as well as online learning websites. We've let our families know that we're able to support them remotely and are here for emotional support, as needed.

—Lisa Mendez, Director

In The Temple Family

MAY THEIR MEMORIES BE FOR A BLESSING



Karen Weill, sister-in-law of Julie Lorraine, Barry Marks and Estalee Weill, and aunt of Ellison and Laurel

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Synagogue News

A NOTE FROM THE PRESIDENT



Amy Harrington

Dear Congregants,
I am constantly awed by our community and the support we have for TBE. When we decided as a board to bring on a cantor so that Rabbi Paula could have more time to spend with

her beloved this year, we were able to raise the money we needed in one week! We have a congregation of open and generous hearts, which makes my job as President of the Board so rewarding. It is also challenging because, as in life, there are so many joys and sorrows, and we experience them all in our community together—which is comforting.

Today, March 18, I am writing in response to the coronavirus. **The TBE leadership is working** hard with the URJ and our Senior Management team to set up the temple so we can continue to be in touch with our community through Zoom and other video conferencing services. Many of our classes will be online, our services will be streamed, and we will be able to say Kaddish together. As I said in the

Sisterhood Gift Shop

We were ready to bring style to your Seder this year with an array of fabulous items but due to the need to shelter-in-place, the Gift Shop is closed. We will open as soon as it is safe to do so. In the meantime, we wish good health to you and yours.

Cantorial Fund Drive a Success

Heartfelt thanks to so many of you in our congregation who contributed to the recent Cantorial Fund drive. Over a hundred generous temple families contributed to the fund, and, in just a few weeks, we raised over \$135,000 to enrich our congregation's musical offerings and provide needed support to our beloved clergy. Todah rabah! And let the music begin!

—Margaret Gordon, Chair, TBE Fund Development Committee

paragraph above, we are a congregation with generous hearts, and we know that this is a very hard time. But we as Jews see the light and believe that we need to stay connected with each other throughout the course of this pandemic.

As my two years of leadership begins to wind down, I think back to the members I have been able to get to know—I so enjoy hearing about you and your families. If you are reading this note, and have not introduced yourself to me, please do. Part of the rewards of being on the board of TBE is being able to connect with more wonderful people. **I would love to get to know you, so please send me a note.**

Although many of our group gatherings are postponed or cancelled, we will stay in touch with all of you through our virtual world. Please know that we will be posting at least weekly, or twice a week, with current updates as we hear about them.

Thanks again for all of your support in the past two years of my presidency and of our beloved congregation.

With Gratitude and Shalom
—Amy Harrington

The 2020 Santa Cruz Jewish Film Festival is Going Online!

Thanks to our film distributor partners, we bring you the opportunity to view films in the comfort of your home, on your own schedule. ChaiFlicks is offering a special pre-launch chance to view the best of Jewish films for a FREE 30-day trial. [View ChaiFlicks here](#), and share this with your family and friends so that they can enjoy this opportunity as well.

In addition, we will host online Zoom meetings—instructions to follow. Our first film discussion will take place on Sunday, April 12, from 5:00 to 6:00 PM. We will discuss *LIVE AND BECOME*, winner of 16 U.S. film festival Audience Awards. In Hebrew, French, and Amharic, the film tells the story of an Ethiopian boy airlifted from a Sudanese refugee camp to Israel in 1984 during Operation Moses. The 2005 film may be viewed on Netflix.



GET TO KNOW

Sarah Tziporah Moser

Have you ever heard of a Kohenet Hebrew Priestess? Now you have, and you are about to meet one as well in this month's Get to Know—our student rabbinic intern, Sarah Tziporah Moser!

Originally from Falls Church, Virginia, Sarah Tziporah grew up in a Reform synagogue. After graduating from Bryn Mawr College she worked with Jewish nonprofit organizations: Urban Adamah and Wilderness Torah. It was her love of practicing joyful earth-based Judaism that led her to spend the next four years at the Kohenet Institute studying Jewish leadership where she was ordained as a Kohenet Hebrew Priestess in the summer of 2018. Two years ago, she enrolled in the Rabbinical program at AJRCA, the Academy for Jewish Religion in Los Angeles that Rabbi Paula attended. She is currently in year two of a five-year program. "Now I get to read Torah, lead ritual, and find G-d in the wilderness regularly!" explains Sarah.

Recently transplanted to Santa Cruz from Sonoma County, Sarah laughs; "We are fresh off the 101," and she and her partner Travis, a geologist, and 10-year old cat Rilo, are loving calling Santa Cruz their new home. So far, her favorite places include our many forests and Mt. Madonna. And when not teaching Temple School, Confirmation classes, adult classes, helping to lead some services and tutoring, you can find her hiking, camping, backpacking or mushroom foraging. She is also passionate about ancient nature, and female-based religious practices and how they contributed to Judaism.

Being at TBE "feels like coming home!" A feeling, she says, she has not felt since her own Confirmation back in her childhood synagogue. "I'm looking forward to connecting even more with our TBE community this coming summer and fall." We are happy to meet you Sarah, and so glad you are here!

Synagogue News

A MESSAGE FROM RABBI RICK



Rabbi Rick

Dear Temple Beth El family,

As your Rabbi Emeritus, I am reaching out to each of you at this time of uncertainty and disruption in our normal lives. I hope all of you are accessing the most

up-to-date advice from the CDC and the Santa Cruz County Health Department about keeping ourselves, our families, and our community as safe as possible. In addition, we all need connection to our community and the spiritual resources of our tradition to maintain our resilience, courage, and tenacity in these unprecedented times.

We are so fortunate to have our rich Jewish resources to draw upon. From our 4,000-year survival in the face of continuous adversity; from plague to persecution, and even societal chaos; for thousands of years, we have turned to each other and God and found strength, courage and resilience.

At the end of this article, you will find treasures of our tradition to strengthen and lift your spirits as we navigate the days ahead. Please be sure to scroll all the way down and to utilize the links provided.

Just when we have to make washing our hands a primary means of survival

we are reminded of the [Jewish hand washing blessing](#) to transform this simple task into an act of life affirming holiness. Also included are two contemporary prayers that you may want to recite and reflect upon before you wash your hands in order to remind us that this task is a mitzvah. In addition, perhaps reciting the blessing slowly two or three times as you wash your hands will be more uplifting than singing "Happy Birthday" two times. Included as well are prayers for healing, hope, and courage in the face of anxiety, confusion, and fear.

Prayer in Jewish tradition is not a substitute for good public health practices and sound medical treatment. As the famous medieval Rabbinic sage and physician Moses Maimonides taught, "God gave human beings the gift of medicine; of cures and treatments and healing." It is up to us to fully marshal our nation in concert with the world, to find the cure for this virus, and to do what we can to isolate and treat it until then. Yet prayer can connect us to the wellsprings of healing, and help treat our anxiety about our vulnerability, loneliness, and despair. It can connect us to our highest selves, our souls that are a spark of God. Through that, we can be inspired to choose to act with kindness and generosity even when we are severely challenged by uncertainty and fear.

Prayer can help us remember our common humanity; that every person is made in the Divine image. When there is temptation to look for scapegoats, to hoard resources, or think only of ourselves, prayer inspires us to think also of the needs of others, particularly those less fortunate and more vulnerable.

This is a time for social distancing. But ever more so, let this be a time of creating greater social closeness and connecting through technology whether it be online or by phone. Call each other. Check in with each other, take advantage of connecting through the resources in this article, and through virtual learning, "Kaddish Calls" and streaming Shabbat services that we have available to you. Please continue to check your email for these opportunities.

The last book of the Torah nears conclusion with this verse, "I have set before you, life and death, blessing and curse; therefore Choose Life that you and your descendants may live" We have many curses from the natural world; viruses, hurricanes and earthquakes, but God has also given us the ability to choose blessing and life. Let us do all we can to help each other to protect and affirm life.

*I am holding you close in my heart,
—Rabbi Rick*

Virtual Jewish Worship and Learning:

[Central Synagogue Podcast](#)

[URJ Online Services](#)

[On the Other Hand: Weekly Torah Learning Podcast](#)

[Mishkan T'Filah Flipbook](#) for worship at home

[Liturgy for Concerns Regarding the Coronavirus](#)

For Parents:

[PJ Library](#)

[Kveller](#)

[Shabbat at Home for Parents with Young Children](#)

[Hillel at Home \(for college students\)](#)

[Bimbam](#)

[JTap](#)

[The Stories We Tell Podcast](#)

Jewish Informational and News Resources:

[Union of Reform Judaism](#)

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[The Moment](#)

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[Ritual Well](#)

To Pass the Time:

[Coronavirus Quarantine Reading List](#)

[What Role Should Virtual Presence Play in Jewish](#)

[Ritual & Community?](#)

[Our Favorite Coronavirus Jewish Memes](#)

[A Prayer for Washing Hands by Dori Midnight](#)

Synagogue News

Reading Metzora in the Time of Covid-19

By Emily Szasz

Emily became a Bat Mitzvah here at Temple Beth El 12 years ago and her Torah portion was Metzora which we will read this year on April 25th as the double portion Tazria-Metzora

וַיְדַבֵּר יְהוָה אֶל־מֹשֶׁה לֵאמֹר:

And the Lord spoke to Moses, saying,

This shall be the law of the person afflicted with tzara'ath, on the day of his cleansing: He shall be brought to the kohen.¹

So begins the Torah portion of Metzora, a passage of Leviticus read each spring as we make our way through the Torah. This portion, one I studied and read for my Bat Mitzvah at Temple Beth El twelve years ago, largely concerns rules for cleanliness, specifically for those ill and afflicted with leprosy. In 2008, it wasn't clear to me what relevance this passage held. Rules for leprosy? Today, those with leprosy can be treated and cured.

Yet in 2020, as we live through this harrowing and—for those of us alive today, unprecedented—outbreak of the strain of coronavirus known as COVID-19, this Torah portion has renewed relevance. I felt a strange, strong urge to revisit the portion this month, living in New York City as the outbreak exploded, with thousands of cases identified, hospitals overwhelmed, and all of us self-isolating in our homes, out of the assumption that we or others we know and interact with could have been exposed. A quarantine no longer seems archaic; in fact, in this moment, it's the only guarantee of safety we have. In our evolved, modern society, we have turned back to our earliest wisdom to learn how to proceed through this moment.

The rituals and guidelines laid out in the Torah now seem, more than ever, a predecessor to the same systems we have today. There are guidelines for how a house of a person, or persons, afflicted should be handled: “the kohen shall go out of the house to the entrance of the house, and he shall quarantine the house for seven days,” and for when the infection has continued to spread: “remove the stones upon which the lesion is [found], and [they shall] cast them away outside the city, to an unclean place.”²

“And anyone entering the house during all the days of its quarantine shall become unclean until the evening. And whoever lies down in the house, shall immerse his garments, and whoever eats in the house shall immerse his garments.”³ The Torah, written long before a modern understanding of disease, passes down wisdom that remains relevant to today. We should avoid the homes of the sick. If we visit, we should take caution to protect ourselves; we

may know that we ourselves have been exposed. Does this seem so different from what the CDC might say now?

This portion of the Torah also offers us hope. For not only are there guidelines for those who are sick, but also for those who have recovered.

“But if the kohen comes and comes again and looks [at the lesion], and behold, the lesion did not spread in the house, after the house has been plastered, the kohen shall pronounce the house clean, because the lesion has healed.”⁴

And in the rituals for cleaning, after the house is cleansed with a bird, a cedar stick, hyssop, and wool, “he shall take [...] the live bird [...] and he shall then send away the live bird outside the city, onto the [open] field. He shall thus effect atonement for the house, and it will be clean.”⁵

There is a parallel here to one of the best known stories of the Torah, when Noah, after the flood, sends the dove out to seek land. The live bird is sent from the home into the field. Does the bird signify to others that the home has been cleansed? Or perhaps does it represent the afflicted themselves, held in the home and then sent forth from it, “clean,” into the open?

We know from the Torah that our people have lived through similar, and even more harrowing, experiences before. That they have developed rituals, and traditions, and guidelines, to assess and heal the afflicted, and to protect the community at large. And most importantly, we know that many, many were healed, and made it through. May we look to our traditions for wisdom and for the reassurance that we, too, will come through this challenge. Amen.

1 “Torah Reading for Metzora,” *Chabad.org*, accessed 29 March 2020, <https://bit.ly/2JAsZrp>

2 Ibid.

3 Ibid.

4 Ibid.

5 Ibid.

Financial Assistance from Hebrew Free Loan

If you and your family could benefit from financial assistance
in the form of a no interest loan, please go to <https://bit.ly/2U5z4lS>.

Synagogue News/Todah Rabah/Save the Date

TBE to Arizona to Register Voters



This past February 13, twelve TBE members traveled to Phoenix, Arizona to support *Arizona Jews for Justice's* campaign to register voters. Nine traveled in the TBE van for two days, getting to know each other, laughing, and finding amazing vegan restaurants—thanks to Howie Schneider. In Arizona, we were grateful for the hospitality of the hosts who housed us. On Saturday, despite some hiccups, we went to three different farmers markets and talked with many people. We registered some voters, encouraged many people to vote, and received thanks for the work we were doing. On Sunday, local

organizer Eddie Chavez Calderon, arranged for us to meet Debbie Inez, a Navaho running for State Legislature. If elected, she will be first Native American to serve as an Arizona legislator. She shared her personal story and told us about Navaho culture. Inspired, we went out to knock on doors. Late Sunday afternoon we said goodbye and began our journey home.

On the trip were Howie Schneider, Dianne Brayman, Deb Roisman, Sara Benevento, Spencer Schatz, Wilma Gold, Gus Gold, Marcia Stein, Jenny Kaupp, Ray Kaupp, Judi Sherman, and Steve Guiney.



Participate in the **MAZON Project**, our longest-running social action program!

Our magnificent March MAZON volunteers were: Martha Jacobson (3X!), Cassandra Sprenger (2X), Vicki Belkin-Kondo, Margaret Brose (2X), Rachael Katz and friends (5X!), Gaby Litzky, Deborah Jacobson, Wilma Gold (2X), Jacqueline Tuttle, Susan Karz, Amy Harrington (2X), Nancy Yellin in memory of Aaron Yellin, Penny Chesluk, Catherine and Robert Cooper.

Thank you very much to our compassionate congregants who have collectively fulfilled the sacred mitzvah of *Tikkun Olam*, on behalf of Temple Beth El. They have generously provided dinner to the River Street Homeless Shelter in Santa Cruz, every Sunday of the Year, since 1988!



Participation in the Temple Beth El MAZON Project brings love and spiritual sustenance both to givers and receivers via the mystical power of home-cooked food and *Tikkun Olam*. Try it. You'll like it! Sign-up now by going to the SignUpGenius Mazon link listed under "MAZON Project" in the "Social Action" pull-down menu on the TBE website, or contact Chris Goldstein at orongold@aol.com or Robin Belkin at Robin@MyVeryOwnCoach.com.

Thank You to Our Purim Sponsors and Volunteers



We could not have done it without you! The Temple School kids had a great time and the teens were so wonderful with the youngsters—it was delightful to watch! And \$2,424 was collected for our SRFY youth group. Thanks again for all of your time and generosity. We were so glad to get our community together for this joyous occasion before restrictions were put in place.

A special thank you to our Purim sponsors and volunteers!

OUR PURIM SPONSORS:

Murray and Sheila Baumgarten, David and Marion Brodkey, Molly and Alex Friedman, Linda Imonode Skemer, Amy and David Harrington, James and Deborah Jacobson, Paul and Susan Karz, Barry and Phyllis Katz, Gail Levine and Emily Wughalter, Susan and Michael McKay, Lisa Mendez, Marcia

Meyer, Alixandra Mullins-Poling and William Poling, Edward and Lori Scher, and the Rabbi Richard Litvak Discretionary Fund.

OUR PURIM VOLUNTEERS:

Zea Segnitz, Anna Elman, Marion Towar, Holly Rudnick, Zoe Miller, Rowan Jones, David Novik, Judi Novik, Naomi Q Licht, Greg Furtado, Susan Karz, Becket Glass, Isaac Koontz, Aryeh Koontz, Jessica Fairlie, Rob Fairlie, Oliver Giles, Jeremy Dennis, Aden Sommerville, Lucy Rudnick, Carol Skolnick, Amir Vered, Ezra Hapner, Cassidy Orange, Kathleen Allari, Meghan Kearney, Gabriel Orange, Ben Cornblatt, Al Cornblatt, Bonnie Holmer Orange, Gaby Litsky, Gail Levine, Gilda Zelin, Lenore Hindin, Hadassah Ring, Isaiah Ring, Kerith Koontz, Jen Kanter, Sivanna Sommerville, and Sara Rossi-Young.



IN CASE WE ARE ABLE TO RESUME IN-PERSON EVENTS IN MAY, PLEASE MAKE NOTE OF THESE FUTURE EVENTS.

Senior Send-Off Erev Shabbat
Friday, May 15, 7:30 PM

Congregational Meeting
Sunday, May 17, 9:45 AM

Erev Shavuot
Thursday, May 28

Contributions *February 1–29*

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In honor of Sara Rigler attaining her
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In honor of Corinne Miller, on the occasion of her birthday

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In honor of Emily Sinclair, the best choir director EVER. Thank you for finding valuable singers to join us.

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In honor of the Bar Mitzvah of Mordecai Coleman and the nachas he brought to his family and the congregation

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In memory of William L. Lurie, step-father of Sheila Baumgarten

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Thanking you for helping Claire with her Bat Mitzvah preparation and for helping to lead the Bat Mitzvah service

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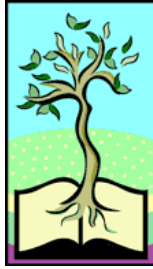
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General News

Host an Amazing Lifelong Learning Program in Your Home

TBE's Lifelong Learning Committee brings amazing programs right to your neighborhood. This latest season had Salons on *Understanding Online Antisemitism*, and *Esther's Story: Facing Hate with Courage*.



While some programs are held at TBE, in order to be welcoming to people from a wider geographic area, the Lifelong Learning Committee seeks members who are willing to host a Salon. Your home would need to be accessible, have ample parking, and be able to accommodate 25 plus seated guests. Programs are typically two hours long. Committee members can help with the set up and clean up if needed! Find out more by contacting Melissa at msunberg@tbeaptos.org or (831) 479-3444.

The Lifelong Learning Committee is also interested in knowing what types of programs would be of interest to members. Please be on the lookout for an upcoming survey of interest areas. Of course, the committee would also like to know if you have something you'd like to share at a Salon, such as an area of expertise, an amazing travel story, etc. We would love to have you join the committee!

TBE to Co-Sponsor County Gun Buyback

The TBE Gun Violence Prevention Subcommittee of the Social Action Committee is embarking on fundraising for a voluntary gun buyback to be conducted by the Santa Cruz County Sheriff's Department. The last gun buyback in Santa Cruz County was on March 24, 2018, at the Fire Department in Watsonville and the Sheriff's Office in Soquel. It was a "no questions asked, no identification needed" event. They spent \$40,000 and had to turn people away. 618 weapons were collected including: 15 assault rifles, hundreds of rifles, shotguns, and pistols, and some antique firearms. All were smelted down (no reference was made to plowshares). Firearms are difficult to get rid of legally. Each year over 380,000 guns are stolen from private gun owners. For more facts, please read the Fact Sheet which is linked to one of the sliders on the TBE website homepage. The Sheriff's Office has asked us to raise between \$25,000 and \$40,000 in order to fund the buy back. The subcommittee is now investigating fundraising strategies and hopes to include the larger Santa Cruz community, including other faith communities. More details about how you can contribute or help in this fundraising effort will follow in the months to come. If you are interested in assisting in the effort in any way, please email gvp@tbeaptos.org.



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Women's Lives: Snapshots in Music for Singers, Saxophones & Piano

Although this performance has been postponed,
we look forward to a wonderful afternoon concert with Ivan and friends
on June 7th, pending the lifting of the shelter-in-place order.

This program explores childhood, adolescence,
falling in and out of love, and the hard road to
independence. Featuring musically varied pieces drawn
from classical, popular and Jewish styles. Join us for
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Suggested donation: \$20

*Your donation includes a wine and chocolate
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We look forward to being together again in-person soon!***

