



Congregation Beth El

A seasonal, egalitarian synagogue affiliated with the Conservative Movement

Founded in 1947

32 Gorton Avenue ♦ Old Colony Beach ♦ Old Lyme, CT ♦ 06371

Tammuz/Av 5781

June/July 2021

President

Lisa Semel
917-913-9722
lisasemel@gmail.com

VP Membership

Brian Cutler

beachshulmembership@gmail.com

Treasurer

Rick Hyne

Recording Secretary

Andrea Fenton

Corresponding Secretary/ Newsletter/Ritual

Sharon Waxenbaum
shanaaviv@gmail.com

Board of Directors

Ira Feigenbaum

Mindy Jason

Anita Kaplowitz -Tree of Life

Shari Most

Peter Patten - Tzedakah boxes

Ruth Spitz - Youth Services

BJ Diefenbacher - IPP

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Harvey Wallet*

Sandy Steinberg

Milton Rulnick*

Peter Patten

BJ Diefenbacher

*z"l May their memory be for a blessing



Shalom Congregation Beth El members and friends,

Summer 2021 is here and I hope that all of you have weathered this pandemic with your health intact and your family safe. While it is not completely behind us, the state of Connecticut is open, having one of the highest percentages of the population vaccinated at just under 60%. Surrounding states have vaccinated at least 50% of their population. After much discussion by our Board of Trustees on safety requirements, I am pleased to announce that we will hold Friday night services, beginning July 2nd, and High Holy Day services in person this year.

In order to do this, the Board has decided that to attend adult services, you must be vaccinated and wear a mask. For children's services, as young children can't receive the vaccine yet, masks are required for children and parents.

We are looking into continuing to Zoom or stream our services, utilizing our large yard for a *Shabbat* under-the-stars and other events that can include more people, so watch for more information to come your way.

Last, but not least, I'd like to welcome Mindy Jason to CBE's Board of Directors. If you know Mindy, then you know she is a great addition to our team.

I look forward to seeing you at CBE!

Lisa



Friday Evening Services

July 2nd - September 3rd

Youth Services 7:00 pm Adult Services 7:30 pm

CBE COVID-19 Policy for Friday Evening Services

We all look forward to resuming our lives together, reconnecting with Congregation Beth El and each other.

In order to treat one another with safety and with consideration, only vaccinated people will be permitted to attend services inside our sanctuary and masks are required.

As vaccines are not yet available for children, both adults and children are required to wear masks during Junior Congregation services.



Thank you for your generous donations!

Ruth & Andy Spitz - In celebration of Aviva Kramer becoming a *Bat Mitzvah*.

Sharon & Preston Waxenbaum - In celebration of Aviva Kramer becoming a *Bat Mitzvah*.

Pam & Len Grossman - *Mazal tov* to Gabriella & Ari Kramer in honor of their daughter, Aviva Kramer, becoming a *Bat Mitzvah* on April 10, 2021.

Pam & Len Grossman - *Mazal tov* to Ellen & Scott Bobrow on the birth of their grandson, Jackson James Bobrow, on February 4, 2021.

Pam & Len Grossman - *Mazal tov* to Ellen & Harvey Schiller on the birth of their granddaughter, Hadassah Schiller, on February 23, 2021.

Lisa Semel & Jon Guthart - *Mazal Tov* to Deborah & Ira Feigenbaum on the birth of their second grandchild, Gavriel Yehudah Baruch, on May 26, 2021.

Natalie Mandell - On the birth of her great-grandson, Cole Alexander Daly, on June 11, 2021.

Ellen Rabin - In memory of my father, Sol Kaplowitz, at the time of his 2021 *yahrzeit*.

Ruth Spitz and **Sharon Waxenbaum** - In memory of our grandfather, Fred Snyder, at the time of his *yahrzeit*.

Ruth Spitz and **Sharon Waxenbaum** - In memory of our uncle, Marvin Snyder, at the time of his *yahrzeit*.



Project Re-Connect

Our CBE Board is interested in re-establishing connection with former members of our synagogue community, regardless of where they now live.

We maintain a database of emails, phone numbers and addresses of current and former members. If you know of people who might like to receive our newsletter and announcements, and perhaps participate in a Zoom service, please send their names and email addresses to **Brian Cutler** at:

beachshulmembership@gmail.com

Milestones & Mazal Tovs

Aviva Kramer became a *Bat Mitzvah* on April 10, 2021. Her proud parents are **Gabriella & Ari Kramer**. (Ari is our High Holy Days Cantor.)

Cassidy Siso graduated as a police officer from the Peoria Police Academy this past spring. She previously graduated from Barrett Honors College at Arizona State University with a degree in psychology and received her Master's degree in Criminal Justice from ASU. Her accomplishment is celebrated by proud mom, Jamie Summer, and grandparents, **BJ & Bill (z"l) Diefenbacher**.

Deborah & Ira Feigenbaum celebrated the birth of their grandson, Gavriel Yehuda Baruch, on May 26, 2021. He is welcomed by proud parents, Mimi & Mark Baruch and great-grandparents, **Gladys (z"l) & Fenmore Feigenbaum**.

Natalie Mandell celebrated the birth of her great-grandson, Cole Alexander Daly, on June 11, 2021. He is welcomed by proud parents, Taylor & Adam Daly, big sister, Sloan and big brother, Blake.

Sarah Lauren Barnett graduated *magna cum laude* from Dartmouth College with a major in neuroscience and a minor in Spanish. She is on track to medical school. Sarah is the granddaughter of **Anita Kaplowitz**.



The Congregation and Board of Trustees offer their deepest condolences to the following:

Natalie Mandell - On the loss of her brother, Gerald Allen, on May 3, 2021.

Claire Sookman - On the loss of her aunt, Clara Rosenbaum, on June 18, 2021.



Happy Birthday!

| | | | |
|-----------------|---------|-------------------|---------|
| Josh Waxenbaum | June 2 | Alexander Weisman | July 3 |
| Sally Wallet | June 4 | Jackson Weisman | July 3 |
| Drew Cohen | June 6 | Andy Spitz | July 5 |
| Aden Dennison | June 9 | Anita Kaplowitz | July 7 |
| Cole Daly | June 11 | Jamie Summer | July 14 |
| Alexandra Lewis | June 15 | Brad Dennison | July 18 |
| Tovia Sillman | June 18 | Steven Wallet | July 25 |
| Irene Smith | June 18 | | |

Happy Anniversary!

| | | |
|------------------------|------------------------|---------|
| Sandy & Peter Patten | celebrated 59 years on | June 10 |
| Becky & Tom Fucella | | June 30 |
| Carol & Larry Bojarski | | July 12 |

Membership News

Brian Cutler, VP Membership

We are excited to begin the 2021 summer season here at Congregation Beth El! We have a new website that will soon go live, our Friday evening and High Holy Day services will be held in person and we hope to offer other social events!

As you know, our beloved *shul* depends on the generous support of our members and friends to continue serving our Jewish community. If you haven't contributed your dues for 2021, please assist us by doing so soon. Checks may be sent to: Lisa Semel 70 Old Colony Road, Old Lyme, CT 06371 or Rick Hyne 19 Danielle Drive, Wayne, New Jersey 07470.

CBE also offers Venmo as a way to pay your dues or to make a donation. Our Venmo account is:

Congregation-Bethel

spelled exactly as above, with a hyphen and no space between Beth and El. When you search for our account you will see a picture of the shul with its distinctive blue door. Please remember to note on your Venmo payment exactly what the the payment is for: dues, donation in memory or in honor of, *Oneg Shabbat*, High Holy Day services, etc.

If you need to update your personal information, email address, street address or phone number, please email me at beachshulmembership@gmail.com.



Candy Fund

Sharon & Preston Waxenbaum - In honor of their children and grandchildren.

Ruth & Andy Spitz - In honor of their children and grandson.

Congregation Beth El has Cards for Every Occasion!

You can acknowledge a loss or happy occasion such as a graduation, anniversary, birthday or wedding with a card from CBE! If you make a contribution to the synagogue, **Carol Bojarski** will send one for you! Call her at 860-508-3635 or email her at cbojo9@hotmail.com.



We also have cards with a picture of the synagogue on the front and plenty of room for your message inside! Purchase a packet of cards and you will have one on hand!



Read...

Relax...

Renew!

Top 10 Jewish Best Sellers

FICTION

1. *Eternal*
by Lisa Scottoline
2. *The Passenger*
by Ulrich Alexander Boschwitz
3. *The Book of Two Ways*
by Jodi Picoult
4. *The Book of Lost Names*
by Kristin Harmel
5. *Send for Me*
by Lauren Fox

NONFICTION

1. *The Light of Days: The Untold Story of Women Resistance Fighters in Hitler's Ghettos*
by William Morrow
2. *Jew-ish: A Cookbook: Reinvented Recipes from a Modern Mensch*
by Jake Cohen
3. *Philip Roth: The Biography*
by Blake Bailey
4. *Is This Anything?*
by Jerry Seinfeld
5. *The Beauty of What Remains: How Our Greatest Fear Becomes Our Greatest Gift*
by Steve Leder

This list comes to us courtesy of **MyJewishBooks.com**, an online discount Jewish bookstore. Visit their website for a selection of Jewish children's books, as well as the list of the winners and finalists of the 2020 National Jewish Book Awards. The site also posts links to author online readings.



Rosh HaShanah

Monday, Sept 6 - Wednesday, Sept 8

Yom Kippur

Wednesday, Sept 15 - Thursday, Sept 16



Tisha B'Av July 17th - 18th

Tisha B'Av, literally meaning the 9th of Av (the Jewish month), will take place this year beginning at sunset on July 17th and end on the evening of July 18th. It is observed as a day of mourning. While we recall misfortunes and calamities experienced by the Jewish people throughout history at this time, the main focus of the day is looking back on the destruction of the First and Second Temples in Jerusalem and the Jewish diaspora that followed. We also look for the lessons of hope that can be found in the saddest day on the Jewish calendar.

People still continued to fast, even after they rebuilt the First Temple after it was destroyed by the Babylonians in 586 BCE. The Romans destroyed the Second Temple in 70 CE and this marked the start of a long exile period for the Jewish people. Over time it became a custom to recall other tragedies on this day, such as the expulsion of Jews from England in 1290 and during the Inquisition in Spain in 1492, as well as the mass deportation from the Warsaw Ghetto during WWII.

Many traditional mourning practices are observed on this day such as fasting, avoiding certain types of work, avoiding bathing for pleasure (it is permitted to bathe in cool water to remove dirt or perspiration), shaving or wearing cosmetics, not wearing leather shoes, abstaining from sexual activities. The Book of *Eicha*, Lamentations - the prophet Jeremiah's poetic expression of sorrow over the destruction of Jerusalem and the First Temple - is read, and mourning prayers are recited in the synagogue.

Tisha B'Av is the culmination of a three-week period of mourning. Weddings and other parties are generally not permitted during this time and it is customary to refrain from cutting hair, listening to music, eating meat or drinking wine (except on *Shabbat*) from the 1st to the 9th of Av.



Peter Patten has obtained new JNF tzedakah boxes. If you would like a new box, please contact him at:
peterpatten@att.net

Sponsor an Oneg!



Martina Shapiro

In Hebrew, *Oneg Shabbat* means Joy of Sabbath and it often refers to the refreshments and celebratory gathering held after Friday evening services.

Although we will not share food together just yet, it is still a custom to make a donation at this time in honor of or memory of a loved one, or for a special occasion. Friday night services will be held on:

July 2 • July 9 • July 16 • July 23 • July 30
Aug 6 • Aug 13 • Aug 20 • Aug 27 • Sept 3

For a donation of \$18 you may sponsor a virtual *Oneg Shabbat* during July or August. Please contact Sharon Waxenbaum at 631-748-8459/shanaaviv@gmail.com to choose your *Shabbat* date. Please make your check payable to Congregation Beth El and send it to:

Rick Hyne at 19 Danielle Road, Wayne, NJ 07470.

Shabbat Candle Lighting Times



| | | |
|--------------|----|---------|
| Friday, June | 18 | 8:07 pm |
| Friday, June | 25 | 8:08 pm |
| Friday, July | 2 | 8:08 pm |
| Friday, July | 9 | 8:06 pm |
| Friday, July | 16 | 8:02 pm |
| Friday, July | 23 | 7:57 pm |
| Friday, July | 30 | 7:50 pm |



Congregation Beth El's

Tree of Life

If you are looking for a meaningful way to remember a loved one, or to commemorate someone's accomplishment or a happy event, you could mark the occasion by adding a leaf to our CBE Tree of Life!

Please contact **Anita Kaplowitz** at **860-559-7836** or email her at **anitak1126@gmail.com**.

Virtual Travel for Grounded Tourists



"With Covid-19 keeping many of us stateside for a second year, screens have become the new airlines, transporting us via virtual Zoom tours to destinations that remain difficult to visit. Internet-based programs don't replicate travel so much as offer insights, imagery and personal Jewish connections around a given destination."

Online programs also open access to those for whom physical touring is difficult due to health, mobility or finances. Digital programs can provide closed captioning for the hearing impaired.

If you have a wi-fi connection, you have access to thousands of Jewish virtual journeys. Online experiences average 1-2 hours at a cost of \$12-\$20 per screen, for example:

- **explorejewishindia.com** is operated by Calcutta-born guide and author Rahel Musleah;

- **sightseekersdelight.com** owner Karen Reb Rudel takes fellow Americans through the heart of Paris's Jewish Marais district and on virtual strolls;
- **jewishroma.com** Micaela Pavoncello's guests skip the walk in favor of conversation, culture and cooking tips;
- **qesher.com** runs online programs on Jewish communities around the world including Belarus, Iran and Cuba;
- **ayelet.com** will host virtual tours of Argentina and Eastern Europe this summer;
- **hadassah.org/israeltravel** will debut six guided video tours spotlighting religious sites, the arts and youth villages in Israel;
- **blog.birthrightisrael.com/choose-your-own-adventure** aimed at travelers under 30, it provides an interactive swing through Masada, the Dead Sea and trendy cafes;
- **roadscholar.com** is a larger tour company that offers multi-day approximations of real-life tours for an increased fee.

Hilary Danailova, Hadassah Magazine May/June 2021

We welcome new advertiser
The Chocolate Shell!

Barbara Crowley (860) 434-9727
168 Lyme Street • Old Lyme, CT 06371
thechocolateshell@gmail.com
thechocolateshell.com

CBE newsletters are published in
June/July/August/September/December/March.

Please send your good news:
simchas, birthdays and anniversaries to:

Sharon Waxenbaum at
shanaaviv@gmail.com
or call
631-748-8459



Donations to CBE by check should be made out to
Congregation Beth El and mailed to
Rick Hyne, 19 Danielle Drive, Wayne, NJ 07470

Our **Venmo** account is: **Congregation-Bethel** (hyphen between Congregation and Beth and no space between Beth and el)

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Old Lyme, CT

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Coral Coast Group, Inc. offers behavioral
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For more information see
www.coralcoastgroup.com
Brian Cutler, Ph.D.

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Tree of Life Order Form

Donor Name: _____

Address: _____ City/State/Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Order _____ Leaf @ \$75 OR _____ Stone @ \$295

S
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In honor of
our children
Ephraim & Menashe
with love
Asenath & Joseph
Jacobson

In celebration of
the marriage of
Rachel & Jake Isaacson

Rivkah & Isaac
Abramson

In memory of our
beloved mother
Yocheved Moses

Miriam & Aaron
Amramson

Line 1 (12 characters): _____

Line 2 (14 characters): _____

Line 3 (18 characters): _____

Line 4 (20 characters): _____

Line 5 (17 characters): _____

Line 6 (9 characters): _____

Do you wish to have your donation acknowledged? Send to the person/family recognized at:

Name: _____

Address: _____ City/State/Zip: _____

Please make checks payable to **Congregation Beth El**. Mail your order & payment to Anita Kaplowitz:

Mailing Address: 233B Boxelder Lane, Stratford, CT 06614 **Cell Phone:** 860-559-7836