Hybrid High Holy Days a Success (and a Peek Behind the Scenes)

It was a beautiful day for Tashlich at Phillips Beach.

For the second year in a row, the same audio and visual production team that brought us the High Holy Days 2020 returned for an encore.

“One congregant texted me that their friend, a president of a similar-sized east-coast synagogue, was ‘blown away by the rabbi and cantor, as well as the [live-stream production] quality of the services,’” Rabbi Michael said proudly.

“I’m grateful that we were connected with such a high-quality audio/visual team. Their artistry helped transform watching at home into a spiritual viewing experience. I loved so much of the services, including the youth choir, tashlich, and the family service. It was special to be once again celebrating the Holy Days with people, not merely performing for the camera,” he added.

Whether watching from home or attending in person or doing a combination, not one congregant had anything but praise for the experience.

“My favorite parts of the services were the Rabbi’s talks and Cantor Sarah’s singing, especially Kol Nidre. I think the hybrid services should continue, and I would never have guessed she has only been there a few months,” Elliot said.

Behind the scenes, Mark “Whisky” Wolinski helmed audio and Perry Hallinan again ran the visual component of the 2021 Shirat experience. While both encountered challenges, the rewards far outstripped them.

Whisky was a part of the first entering Hebrew School class ever at Temple Beth El in 1968. “After my Bar Mitzvah, I was done with temple. About six years ago, lifelong pal Roger Talkov asked, ‘Hey Whisky, want my gig at Shirat?’ So 40 years later, I’m back,” he said with a laugh.

The biggest challenge for him? “Kid’s choirs and folks who do not speak loudly and directly into the bimah mic! Because Shirat’s speakers surround the

Continued on page 4
Oy! With the start of November, come the commercial winter holidays. Traditionally, Hanukkah was not a gift giving holiday. Giving gelt (money) to children emerged in the 19-20th century in Eastern Europe. Meanwhile, the Sephardic custom was to give clothing to students and teachers, and provide for their other needs.

However, when Jews encountered America in the late 1800s and the existing commercialization of Christmas, market forces (stores, advertisers and parents who did not want their children to be envious of their Christmas present-receiving peers) converged to create a culture of gift giving at Hanukkah.

Gifts, whether physical items or experiences, are a way of showing love. At their best, they demonstrate how well we know each other, how well attuned we are to what another person wants. They create memories and bonds.

Still, the greatest gift that we can give may be the gift that we give each day: the gift of character. In his ethical treatise, Netivot Olam, the Maharal of Prague (of the Golem legend), quotes a midrash that discusses the most encompassing verse of the Torah.

Ben Zoma says: We have found a more comprehensive verse and it is, “Hear, O Israel! The LORD is our God, the LORD alone.” (Deuteronomy 6:4).

Ben Nanas says: We have found a more comprehensive verse than that, and it is, “Love your fellow as yourself” (Leviticus 19:18).

Shimon Ben Pazi says: We have found a more inclusive verse than that, and it is, “You shall offer one lamb in the morning, and the other lamb you shall offer at twilight.” (Exodus 29:39 and Numbers 28:4, referring to the daily offering).

Rabbi Ploni stood up and said that the halacha is in accordance with Ben Pazi.

What!? The most comprehensive ethical verse in the Torah is about the daily sacrificial offering? What this midrash suggests, according to Rabbi Doron Perez, is that most importantly, we demonstrate “a continuous and consistent commitment, day in and day out... It is this commitment, stability and perpetual dedication that is at the heart of a moral and spiritual life.”

Hanukkah and its gifts, experiences, giving of tzedekah, and celebrations are an annual occurrence, and we should make the most of the holiday. At the same time, the wisdom of Shimon Ben Pazi reminds us that love, caring and being a mensch are a daily occurrence. The true gifts that we give to the people we love most are how we behave and treat them every single day.
It’s so hard to put into words what my High Holy Day personal experience was like—especially into just a few hundred words. The entire holiday preparation was a challenge for me: a new synagogue; a new state; a different mahzor, and many new melodies that were new to me. Even so, by the time we were “live,” the actual execution was unexpectedly fulfilling and rewarding.

As you can imagine, creating a High Holy Day complete musical experience involved a lot of input and a lot of help. I am immensely grateful to Rabbi Michael, David Sparr, and to all the previous cantors who were so gracious to leave me pieces of music that I was able to put together into something that would be familiar and meaningful to congregants. For example, many of you said how much you appreciated singing along to the same melodies—known as nusach—differ from community to community, with Ashkenazim (Jews of Eastern European descent) using very different prayer music than Sephardim (Jews of Spanish or Mediterranean descent). Even within those broad categories of Ashkenazim and Sephardim, one can find numerous geographic variations of nusach.

For example, in the two prayers I just mentioned, a melodic refrain tied together lines of Hebrew chanted in cantorial prayer modes appropriate for the Yamim Nora’im.

The beauty and mystery of nusach is that you can be in the appropriate classical nusach without having the same exact rendition as the cantor down the road! What goes into chanting in nusach can be complicated—the notes within the mode are spelled out, but at the same time nusach is an improvisational style, a fact that may not be widely known. Even prayers that occur at every service are different, depending on the time of day and what day it is. The nusach for the Amidah, for example, is different for the High Holy Days, for Shabbat, for the Festivals, and for weekday services—just within our own Ashkenazi Jewish community!

Lastly, but certainly not least, the musicians added their own personalities, styles and experiences, helping to create a full and moving sound to support my voice and congregational singing. It was truly a team effort and a blessed way to start a new year.

Many blessings,
Cantor Sarah

Happy Fall to all! I want to thank everyone for supporting our High Holy Days and for continuing to stay connected — for participating in our community in the ways that feel safe and aligned with your needs. We promise to continue to work to find new ways to be together and to meet your spiritual and practical needs, while keeping everyone healthy. I also promise to be transparent and creative, so that we can all feel comfortable with our choices and excited about all the new possibilities that lie ahead. I welcome your feedback and know that our future opportunities are only going to expand as we work together collaboratively to strengthen our community. Please don’t hesitate to reach out to me out at Leadership@shirathayam.org.

I am so grateful for each and every one of you.

Warmly,
Ruth Estrich

High Holy Day Appeal

Goal:
$50,000

Pledges as of
Oct. 12, 2021: $32,828

Warmly,
Ruth Estrich

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 16
4:00 pm CJE (grades 2-7)

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 19
5:30 pm Holy Happy Hour with light refreshments followed by musical Shabbat at 6:00 pm with guest musician, pianist David Sparr

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 20
9:00 am Shabbat Synaplex (see p. 2) with Beni Summers leading Traditional Shacharit
9:30 am CJE (grades K-6)
10:00 am Torah Yoga with Stacie Nardizzi and Nosh & Drash with Beni Summers

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 23
4:00 pm CJE (grades 2-7)

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 25
9:00 am (Thanksgiving) Minyan (in person at CSH and online)
NO evening minyan-Thanksgiving

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 26
6:00 pm Kabbalat Shabbat at CSH

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 27
9:00 am Shabbat Synaplex (see p. 2) NO CJE
10:00 am Torah Yoga with Stacie Nardizzi (no Nosh & Drash)

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 28
First Night of Hanukkah (light first candle)

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 30
7:30 am Minyan (in-person at CSH and online)

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 1
7:30 am Minyan (in-person at CSH and online)

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 2
7:30 am Minyan (in-person at CSH and online)

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 3
7:30 am Minyan (in-person at CSH and online)
6:00 pm Kabbalat Shabbat at CSH

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 4
9:00 am Shabbat Synaplex (see p. 2) with Beni Summers leading Traditional Shacharit
9:30 am CJE (grades K-6)
10:00 am Bar Mitzvah of Caleb Sidman with Stacie Nardizzi and Nosh & Drash with Beni Summers

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 5
4:00-5:30 pm Love, Laughter and Light of Hanukkah Celebration (See pg. 2).
Hybrid Holy Days
Continued from page 1

hall, and the mics are within that sound field, it is tricky to get the mics of quiet sources loud enough in the PA without feedback — and as anyone in the congregation knows, it does happen from time to time,” he said.

Last year (2020) was entirely broadcast, which was easier because he has much more control over the mix. “I’m not fighting with the room’s acoustics and potential feedback. And Shirat’s 2020 broadcast was so well planned and produced with the pre-recorded segments, the crew got nice breaks while the tape was rolling,” he continued.

The biggest reward? “It’s nice to think I contributed to a few moments that are meaningful in people’s lives. Also, I had a chance to meet and work with some truly A-List musicians that each cantor has hired for the holidays,” he said.

Cantor Sarah couldn’t have been happier with her first online High Holy Days experience (Shirat-style). “Whisky and Perry were so important in the experience of both the group of people that were in person and the group of people that were at home. They made the in-person experience seem like almost normal in-person holidays, while creating a phenomenal experience for the people at home. That was not an easy task!” she said.

For pianist John Hyde, working with Cantor Sarah was a highlight (this was his first year with CSH). “She is the type of person that you really want to do a good job for because she works so hard. She was very organized and has a wonderful, positive outlook. There was a lot of material to learn, but she organized it so well it all came together.

“We had some obstacles with Covid and the children’s choir losing members, but we pulled through. Next time will be better because we finished the music books and can use them again. It was also a pleasure working with such fine musicians, Fabio Pirozzolo (percussion), Abigale Reisman (violin) and Ariel Freedman (cello).

“I know this may sound strange, but my biggest challenge was reading music with the mask fogging up my glasses! I tried coating it with shaving cream and different soaps but nothing would really last. My biggest reward was taking part in the High Holy Day services. Just noting neither was better — just different.

“Performing in front of an audience is ALWAYS a rewarding experience; if done for a purpose higher than my personal pleasure, the reward is even higher. The latter was the case at Shirat,” he said.

Perry Hallinan operated the visual side of things. Many congregants commented on how it felt as if he “knew the liturgy,” as if the camera crew “knew” when to switch angles or focus in sync with the prayers. He said it was much easier to organize this year because he and his team knew what they had to do. “We were comfortable in the space.

“We first started by looking at our limitations. We have two people on camera and one unmanned camera. We have the same team (Shawn Gauvain and Danielle Bryant) as last year. The limitations are that we don’t have unlimited possibilities of types of shots, so we focus on what is happening at that moment.

“I think the rhythm you’re seeing, being able to highlight the feeling and the mood, comes from simplicity. There are cues that we take from what is going on at the bimah and the physical movement of the people (like someone moving to the ark and back to the bimah) that help us choose which angle to go to.

“The third element is me, who is mixing. We (Sean, Danielle and I) are connected by headsets, but I don’t like chattering into people’s ears and micromanaging. Each section of the High Holy Days, each service, has its own rhythm. Shawn and Danielle both ‘get’ it and can fall into that rhythm,” he said.

Perry said he can have Danielle on one camera, with Shawn on another camera covering other aspects, such as the musicians or the kids on the stage. He then goes back and forth between who focuses on what, but he doesn’t have to go back and forth with them about their getting a different shot. “They just know,” he said.

2020 was exclusively virtual, with large segments of the services prerecorded, and 2021 was 100% live. “Last year we were rolling in all the prerecorded pieces, and that gave Danielle and Shawn a break. And I really had to follow the script to roll it in,” Perry explained.

“This year, it wasn’t the case. We’re on for four hours at a time. We rarely had a break. I think there were one or two 5-minute breaks. So, Danielle and Shawn were on their feet for 4 hours, looking through the monitor and pacing themselves,” he said.

That was one of the big changes from 2020. Another was the music, which, while it had a different energy, still was at basically the same pace.

The biggest reward? “Just hearing the kind words and support afterwards for all of our efforts. [Cheryl Schwartz] was at the front desk, and when she spoke to me, I could tell what she was feeling, that it was a wonderful experience for her, and that really meant a lot,” he said.

The biggest challenge is, “how do we make it interesting to the audience without it becoming a spectacle? What can we do that’s extra, but just enough to help pull in people who are not there into the spirit and physicality of the moment? If there’s too much, it just takes away from it,” he added.

There were times, as he reviewed the videos in the evening, when he could hear the music or the sermon. Hearing the spoken words and watching the images he noticed “some really nice moments when it just rests on what is happening.

For example: “It was at the end of Kol Nidre and the candles were lit and everyone was closing the circle. Shawn had his camera the candles, which he blurred, so he had two glowing orbs, and Danielle had a nice shot on the cantor and the rabbi and we just overlaid those two,” he said.

There was another moment when the rabbi and cantor were both looking at the ark. Perry said he thought, “OK, I don’t want this to become too much like a music... Continued on next page
From the Desk of Andrea Bernard, Director, Center for Early Education

Fall has been festive in the CEE! We began our school year just in time to celebrate the High Holy Days. We ate apples and honey out in the garden to welcome a sweet new year. During Yom Kippur, we took all of the bad choices that may have been lingering in our pockets and we “threw them away.” This activity takes an abstract concept and makes it more concrete for children to understand. During Sukkot, we ate snack in the sukkah and explored the lulav and etrog with Morah Janis. It was a wonderful way to bring the high holiday season to a close!

The CEE is being proactive to keep our community healthy. We begin our day outdoors and we stay outside until it’s time for lunch. We ride bikes, play games, and participate in outdoor curriculum, just as we would if we were indoors. The CEE has also chosen to participate in pooled COVID testing. Each week our staff and children are tested for COVID-19 through voluntary nasal swabbing. We are excited to participate in this program and we look forward to a healthy school year ahead!

Becky’s Book Club

Join Becky’s Book Club facilitator and leader, Amy Cohn, for CSH monthly discussions. Named in memory of Becky Shepard z”l, who started the CSH congregational book club and passed away in 2014, the meetings take place on Zoom and are open to the community. The group will discuss The Book of Lost Names by Kristin Harmel on November 8 (a young woman with a talent for forgery helps hundreds of Jewish children flee the Nazis in this unforgettable historical novel). All meetings start at 7:30 pm. after minyan. Live Zoom link is available at shirathayam.org. Go to the Get Involved tab, click Affinity Groups and then click Becky’s Book Club.

Dec. 13: On the Road by Jack Kerouac
Jan. 10: The Exiles by Christina Baker Kline
Feb. 7: The Four Winds by Kristin Hannah
Mar. 14: The Marriage of Opposites by Alice Hoffman
Apr. 11: Midnight in Broad Daylight by Pamela Rotner Sakamoto
May 9: Hamnet by Maggie O’Farrell
June 13: Gateway to The Moon by Mary Morris

Doris Villa celebrated her birthday with some of her Shirat Hayam friends.

CEE News

TEE students learn about and celebrate Sukkot in the Sukkah
Sukkot 2021 Celebrations!

Moshe Roditi, Steve Bailen, Stan Rich (L to R)

Steve Bailen (left) and Alan Sidman hard at work.

It Takes a Village
The Men’s Club, organized by Alan Sidman and directed by Rabbi Michael, put together our new sukkkah kit and raised a beautiful sukkah on Sunday, 9/19.

Rabbi Michael helps family members perform Sukkot rituals in the sukkah.

Edible Sukkah making was a big hit

Two new members performed the Sukkot rituals at Rabbi Michael’s Sukkah.

Rabbi Michael has the reach (and height!) to put the s’khach on the sukkah.

Rose Ellis
Pamella Fine (above)
Shirat Hayam congregants and their families celebrated Simchat Torah in high style outside.

Cantor Sarah and her husband, trombonist Peter, brought a festive, lively tone to Simchat Torah this year!

Amanda Sorkin Wins Diller Teen Fellowship

The JCC Boston Diller Teen Fellowship is an elite leadership fellowship program for 10th and 11th grade students from the Boston area. It develops future generations of leaders with a strong Jewish identity, commitment to the Jewish people, respect for pluralism and love of Israel. The program operates in 32 communities in the U.S., Canada, the United Kingdom, South Africa, Australia, Argentina and Israel.

Through workshops focused on leadership development, weekend retreats, a ten-day exchange with Israeli teens and a 3-week seminar in Israel—where they will engage in Jewish ideas with teens from around the world—this one year will impact a lifetime. Twenty Boston-area 10th and 11th grade students are selected yearly based on their leadership aptitude, interest in Jewish learning, desire to connect to Israel, and passion for serving their community.

This year, Shirat Hayam proudly announces that Amanda Sorkin will be one of them.

Amanda shared her thoughts with her Shirat family:

What does winning the Diller Award mean to you?

Being accepted into the Diller Fellowship program has already been such a rewarding experience. The Diller Teen Fellowship program focuses on leadership training, Tikkun Olam, building Jewish identity and a connection to Israel and the Jewish people. Diller selects 20 teens from Massachusetts and 32 cities all over the US and the world to embark on a one-year journey of exploring and building Jewish Leadership. Being selected for this amazing opportunity has allowed me to better understand my capabilities as a teen in the Jewish community.

Have you met any of the other winners?

I have met all of the other Massachusetts winners along with 2 of our Junior Counselors! The program consists of monthly workshops at the JCC of Greater Boston. Our first workshop was on September 12 and I was able to meet everyone I would be working with at these workshops during the school year and the program culminates with a 3-week trip to Israel next summer! Everyone has a spark about them and brings their individual talents to the program that is encouraging to be around! I cannot wait to get to know them better during the year!

Continued on page 8
CJE NEWS

From the Desk of Janis Knight, Director, Center for Jewish Education

CJE families regrouped after the summer with our annual Sunset & S’mores at Devereux Beach on August 25th. The following Sunday, August 29th, CJE hosted a Teshuvah Family Hike in Marblehead to prepare for the holiday season. Tuesday, September 21st, marked the return of our “Pizza in the Hut” Sukkot event and our popular edible sukkot making workshop.

I am really excited to tell you about the new Hebrew efforts happening in CJE this year. First, our 2nd and 3rd graders will not only be learning or reviewing the Alef Bet, but they will also begin learning Hebrew Through Movement with new teacher Deborah Noah. HTM is based on natural language acquisition principles and introduces key vocabulary in a fun, social, and above all, effective way that mimics the way a baby learns language. For more information, see: https://youtu.be/qj8N9vmHcA0

Students in Grades 6 and 7 will have their choice of two different Hebrew learning tracks. While each track will strengthen their tefilah (prayer) skills, each track offers a different emphasis. Track Alef is being offered by Rabbi Ragozin as a deeper dive into the language of specific prayers with an emphasis on understanding some of the basic grammar and vocabulary to make meaning and connection. Track Bet will focus tightly on the specific tefilot (prayers) used in various services with an emphasis on communal prayer. Both tracks will demonstrate their skills at a Shabbat morning service they will lead on December 18th. Save the date!

Teshuvah Walk

CJE families (and dogs) went for a walk together and considered the past year, what we are proud of, what we want to change, and our wish for the world during the year to come. We picked up a whole bag of trash, saw some turtles, took some photos and ended our walk with some apples and honey. We were then ready for Rosh Hashanah!

Amanda Sorkin

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Why do you think you were chosen?

Since freshman year of high school, I have been a Madricha (Hebrew school teacher’s assistant) at Shirat Hayam Here I have helped children ages 5-9 learn their Judaic curriculum as well as the Hebrew language. This past summer, I completed my Kerem (counselor in training) year at Camp Yavneh, in Northwood NH, where I have been a camper for 8 summers. I am also on the chapter board of the North Shore B’nai B’rith Youth Organization (BBYO). Drawing upon these experiences, I was eager to expand my knowledge base and learn more about how to become a leader in the Jewish community and expressed that during the interview process.

What do you most look forward to during the year?

Each Diller Cohort has a “sister city” in Israel. Boston’s sister city happens to be Haifa. In April, the Haifa fellows will come to Boston and stay with a member of the Boston cohort for 1 week. Then, for 1 of the 3 weeks we spend in Israel, we will stay in an Israeli fellow’s home. I am looking forward to meeting the other Israeli fellows in April and returning to spend time with them when we go to Haifa in July.

How did you find out you won? What was your reaction?

Every fellow who applied was aware that the decisions regarding acceptance would come out early July. I happened to be at camp at the time, and while on a phone call with my parents, they mentioned that they received an email from Sophia Adler, Boston Diller’s Teen Fellowship coordinator, that I had been accepted to the program! I was absolutely thrilled that I was accepted, knowing the competitive selection pool this year. I am very grateful to have been given the opportunity to be a part of this amazing program knowing many others also deserved this chance.

Anything else you’d like to add?

I would like to encourage anyone who will be in grades 10 or 11 in 2022-2023 to apply for this fellowship! It is such a rewarding experience and you will not regret it! For more information, go to bostonjcc.org/community-jewish-life/jcc-boston-diller-teen-fellowship
Our deepest condolences to those who have passed away.

Members:
Benjamin Spector
8/17/2021
Husband of Yuddly Spector, z”l
Barbara Cohen
9/5/2021
Wife of Phillip Cohen
Libby Kessler
9/21/2021
Mother of Beth Hoffman
Sandy Feinstein Yackolow
Mother of Susan and Barry
9/27/2021

 Relatives of Members:
Carol Feingold
8/7/21
Mother of Judi Karas
Jeanne Hirshberg
8/17/2021
Cousin of Alvah Parker

In memory of
Brother, Carl Titchell
from Arlene Leventhal
Father, David Datis
from Arlene Mann
Mother, Sylvia Revman
Grandfather, Harry Revman
from Audrey Linsky
Father, Philip Yanofsky
from Barbara Levine
Husband, David Messenger
from Barbara Messenger
Father, George Berlow
from Bette Ann Weisman
Father, Samuel Gold
from Beverly Nathan
Father, Sidney Lewis
Grandmother, Lena Lewis
Husband, Marvin Goldberg
Uncle, Joseph Lewis
from Constance Lewis
Grandmother, Rose Sherman
from Cynthia Shefishick
Father, Leo Ouellette
from Doris Villa
Aunt, Evelyn Heller
Grandfather, Jacob Greenbaum
Aunt, Edith Kaye
from Dorothy Tatalman
Husband, Philip Sevinor
from Elaine Sevinor
Father, Hyman Taft
from Eli Talkov
Mother-in-law, Molly Zalkind
from Herb Goldberg
Father, George Leventhal
from Herb Leventhal
Mother, Bertha Siegel
from Herbert Siegel
Mother, Shirley Tishler
from Jackie Rosenfeld
Father, Arthur Axelrod
from Judy Arnold
Great uncle, Bennie Gartz
from Karen Hirsch
Sister, Susan Eakins
Father, Merle Eakins
from Katherine Borten
Grandmother, Martha Elsberg
Grandfather, Albert Elsberg
Uncle, Alfred Elsberg
Uncle, Frank (Fritz) Stark
Cousin, Steven Lich
from Madeline Stark
Husband, Edward Shapiro
from Margery Shapiro
Mother, Irma Sidman
Father, Morris Sidman
from Marilyn Epstein
Mother, Edith Arnold
from Mark Arnold
Grandfather, Max Seltzer
from Marsha Feffer
Father, Theodore Broder
from Maxine Friedman
Sister, Louise Klein
Uncle, Abraham Patt
from Melvin Shapiro
Father, Jacob Hurwitz
from Myles Hurwitz
Grandfather, Harry Stoller
from Natalie White and Family
Mother, Helen Gulkio
from Paul Gulkio
Father, Israel (Irving) Finkle
from Paula Kessel
Sister, Rosita Gross
from Pearl Greenbaum
Father, Eli Gordon
from Phyllis Eidelman
Mother, Ilene Tatalman
from Richard Tatalman
Father, Louis Ravich
from Robert Ravich
Aunt, Anne Mintz
Grandmother, Rose Zimmerman
Nephew, Phillip Kagan
from Robin Cooper
Brother, Leslie Denbo
from Samuel Denbo
Mother, Beside Munick
from Samuel Munick
Father-in-law, Oscar Specter
Mother-in-law, Anne Specter
from Sandra Specter
Father, Gerson Levy
from Sanford Levy
Mother, Mincy Noe
Brother, Joel Noe
from Stacey Gordon
Husband, Henry Gibbs
from Thelma Gibbs

From Eli Talkov
Ogan

In honor of the birth of Ari Logan
Fendell, great grandson of Lois Ogan
from Eli Talkov

From Sandy and Jeff Hirshberg;
home
from Doris Villa

In honor of our daughter, Cantor Sarah
from Darlene and Richard Pachter

In honor of Lois Ogan becoming a great grandmother
from Leslie and Bob Ogan

Burt & Becky Shepard Scholarship Fund
In honor of Cantor Sarah and the Youth Choir
In honor of Herb Goldberg for High Holiday shofar blowing
from Ruth and Shea Rood

In memory of
Mother, Rita Weiner
from Lawrence Weiner
Mother, Miriam Shafler
Sister, Joyce Shepard
from Ruth and Shea Rood

BRODY MINYAN FUND
Get well to Jan Brodie
from Arlene and Herb Leventhal
Get well to Jan Brodie
Get well to Ben Yellin
In honor of Julia Roseman’s marriage to Derek Tingle
In honor of Charlotte Fine’s special birthday
In memory of David Willis
In memory of Nicholas DellaCroce, grandson of Margaret Somer
from Doris Villa
In honor of Natalie White’s new home
from Sandy and Jeff Hirshberg
Doris Villa
In honor of Doris Villa’s special birthday
from Arlene and Herb Leventhal; Rhonda Preman
In honor of Joan Rich’s special birthday
from Lois Ogan; Doris Villa
In honor of the birth of Ari Logan
Fendell, great grandson of Lois Ogan
from Eli Talkov

In memory of Frances Mendelson, mother of Alvah Parker
from Ruth and Eric Kahn; Ann Segal; Doris Villa
In memory of Libby Kessler, mother of Beth Hoffman
from Arlene and Herb Leventhal
In memory of Ben Spector
from Robin and Bob Cooper; Rhonda and David Preman

In memory of
Brother, Carl Titchell
from Arlene Leventhal
Father, David Datis
from Arlene Mann
Mother, Sylvia Revman
Grandfather, Harry Revman
from Audrey Linsky
Father, Philip Yanofsky
from Barbara Levine
Husband, David Messenger
from Barbara Messenger
Father, George Berlow
from Bette Ann Weisman
Father, Samuel Gold
from Beverly Nathan
Father, Sidney Lewis
Grandmother, Lena Lewis
Husband, Marvin Goldberg
Uncle, Joseph Lewis
from Constance Lewis
Grandmother, Rose Sherman
from Cynthia Shefishick
Father, Leo Ouellette
from Doris Villa
Aunt, Evelyn Heller
Grandfather, Jacob Greenbaum
Aunt, Edith Kaye
from Dorothy Tatalman
Husband, Philip Sevinor
from Elaine Sevinor
Father, Hyman Taft
from Eli Talkov
Mother-in-law, Molly Zalkind
from Herb Goldberg
Father, George Leventhal
from Herb Leventhal
Mother, Bertha Siegel
from Herbert Siegel
Mother, Shirley Tishler
from Jackie Rosenfeld
Father, Arthur Axelrod
from Judy Arnold
Great uncle, Bennie Gartz
from Karen Hirsch
Sister, Susan Eakins
Father, Merle Eakins
from Katherine Borten
Grandmother, Martha Elsberg
Grandfather, Albert Elsberg
Uncle, Alfred Elsberg
Uncle, Frank (Fritz) Stark
Cousin, Steven Lich
from Madeline Stark
Husband, Edward Shapiro
from Margery Shapiro
Mother, Irma Sidman
Father, Morris Sidman
from Marilyn Epstein
Mother, Edith Arnold
from Mark Arnold
Grandfather, Max Seltzer
from Marsha Feffer
Father, Theodore Broder
from Maxine Friedman
Sister, Louise Klein
Uncle, Abraham Patt
from Melvin Shapiro
Father, Jacob Hurwitz
from Myles Hurwitz
Grandfather, Harry Stoller
from Natalie White and Family
Mother, Helen Gulkio
from Paul Gulkio
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from Pearl Greenbaum
Father, Eli Gordon
from Phyllis Eidelman
Mother, Ilene Tatalman
from Richard Tatalman
Father, Louis Ravich
from Robert Ravich
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from Sandra Specter
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from Sanford Levy
Mother, Mincy Noe
Brother, Joel Noe
from Stacey Gordon
Husband, Henry Gibbs
from Thelma Gibbs

In memory of
Mother, Betty Bender
from Barbara Abramson
Sister, Ruth Katz
Husband, Larry Sargent
from Lois Sargent
Father, Edward Harris
from Stephen Harris

CANTOR’S DISCRETIONARY FUND
In appreciation of Cantor Sarah from Ellen and Dick Alexander;
Beth and Marc Andler; Kate Borten; Alvah Parker; Susan Willis
In celebration of Natalie White’s new home
In honor of Doris Villa’s special birthday
from Marsha Gerber
In honor of our daughter, Cantor Sarah
from Darlene and Richard Pachter

CENTER FOR JEWISH EDUCATION
In memory of
Father, Abraham Breitborde
from Betsy Breitborde

CENTER FOR EARLY EDUCATION
In celebration of Jessica Orenberg’s high school graduation
from Maury and Roberta Goldfeder

Donations

Our apologies for the following omissions in the Book of Life:
In honor of:
During this unprecedented time, wishing good health to all our family and friends
from Helaine and Jim Hazlett

In memory of:
Beloved husband, Saul Gold
Beloved son, Bruce Gold
Beloved parents, Esther and David Barton
Beloved in-laws, Sophie and Harry Gold
from Enid Gold

DONOR RECOGNITION
Silver listing:
Wishing Everyone a Healthy and Happy New Year
Shari and Robert Cashman
Rabbi Michael and Sarah Ragozin

Many thanks to Helaine Hazlett for the beautiful flowers at the front door and driveway.

August 1 – September 30, 2021

Congregation Shirat Hayam | 781.599.8005 | www.shirathayam.org | NEW WAVE 9
In memory of Libby Kessler, mother of Judi Karas
from Beverly Kahn
In honor of Joan Rich’s special birthday
In memory of Carol Feingold, mother of Judi Karas
In memory of Betty Hicks, mother of Stephen Hicks
from Lori and Larry Groopen

In memory of
Uncle, Lt. Bernard Lipsky
from Beverly Kahn

**FEINSTEIN SCHOLARSHIP FUND**

In memory of
Mother, Estelle Feinstein
from Joyce Bernstein

**GENERAL FUND**

With thanks for all that CSH does
from Daniel Goldberg; Howard Shlidowsky
Get well to Louise Chadnowsky
from Arlene and David Addis
In appreciation of all that Barri Stein does and for Shabbat services from Arthur Gluck
In celebration of Barbara and Gerald Rodman’s anniversary
from The Bowers and Sarnowitz Families
In honor of Harold Kramer’s 85th birthday
from Neal and Marjorie Berenson
In honor of our High Holy Day Aliyot
from Caryn and Barry Cohen
In honor of our parents, Caryn and Barry Cohen
from Lauren and Samuel Andler
In honor of Rabbi Michael for his kindness and generous spirit
from Leslie Selbovitz
In honor of David Levy’s special birthday
from Louise Sadur
In honor of the marriage of Sam Andler and Lauren Cohen
from Marjorie and Randall Putkin
In honor of Alvah Parker
from Susan Erdos
In memory of Sandy Feinstein Yacklow
from Alice and Chuck Leidner

In memory of Frances Mendelsohn, mother of Alvah Parker
from Susan Erdos; Susan and Larry Goldberg; Amy and Cecilie Levine; Constance Lewis; Mildred Samiljan; SCORE friends: Anne Umana; Bahar Thompson and Laurie Christiansen
In memory of Carol Feingold, mother of Judi Karas
from Beth and Marc Andler; Ellen and Barry Turkanis
In memory of Libby Kessler, mother of Beth Hoffman
In memory of Ben Spector
from Beth and Marc Andler
In memory of Barbara Cohen
from Beth and Marc Andler; Enid Gold
In memory of David Willis
from Herb Goldberg; Shelley Sackett
In memory of Nicholas DellaCroce, grandson of Margaret Somer from Jerry Rosen; Shelley Sackett
In memory of Elaine Hirshberg, aunt of Jeffrey Hirshberg
In memory of Edith Lovins, mother of Susan Weiner
from Shelley Sackett
In memory of Donald Glusgold, father of Jill Gilberg
from Jessica and Jed Chmara
In memory of Bette Hicks, mother of Stephen Hicks
from Jerry Rosen
In memory of Frances Brown, wife of Sheldon Brown
from Rebecca and Alvin Rosen

**In memory of**

Mother, Merle Cohen
from Barry Cohen
Father, George Rodenstein
from Barry Rodenstein
Father, Daniel Turkanis
from Barry Rodenstein
Mother, Aurora Mariou Denisch
from Beth Denisich
Father, Harold Novick
from Betsy Goldberg
Mother, Rose Cohen
from Bunny Gorfinke
Sister, Rozalynd Goldstein
from Bunny Lieberson
Grandfather, Jacob Epstein
from Cady Goldfield

**In memory of**

Father, Benjamin Blayer
from Caryn Berman
Mother, Bertha Leidner
from Charles Leidner
Father, Leon Glosband
Grandfather, Howard Wentworth
Grandmother, Ruth Spencer
from Daniel Glosband
Mother, Annie Baselman
from Deborah Sundifen
Father, Adrian Comins
from Edye Baker
Father, William Shube
from George Shube
Father, Irving Goldberg
from Dr. Howard Goldberg
My parents, Marie and Israel Rosen from Jerry Rosen
Mother, Gnesaya Khayter
from Larisa Katsman
Mother, Florence Dolinsky
from Marilyn Segall
Father, David Messenger
from Mark Messenger
Father, Edward Caplan
from Melissa and Andrew Caplan
Mother, Florence Blake
from Michael Blake
Son, Mitchell Gary Blake
from Michele Tamaren
Father, Edward Sundifen
from Paul Sundifen
Father, Kenneth Miller
from Robin Blake

**HOWARD STEVEN FEFFER SCHOLARSHIP FUND**

In memory of
Father, Sidney Feffer
from Judith Feffer

**KIDDUSH FUND**

In celebration of Harold Blass’s birthday
from Louise Sadur
In honor of the birth of Ari Logan Fendell, great grandson of Lois Ogan
from Bunny and Lennie Lieberson
In honor of Doris Villa’s special birthday
from Charlotte Fine

In honor of the birth of my great grandson, Ari Logan Fendell
from Lois Ogan
In honor of the marriage of Shelley Sackett’s daughter, Julia Roseman, to Derek Tingle
from Phyllis Sagan
In memory of Frances Mendelsohn
from Diana Caplan; Donna and Archie Cohan; Brenda and Shelly Cohen; Charlotte Fine; Barbara Vinick
In memory of Libby Kessler, mother of Beth Hoffman
from Ellen and Richard Alexander; Jan and Jennifer Golden; Gloria Sax
In memory of Bettie Hicks, mother of Stephen Hicks
from Ellen and Richard Alexander; Gloria Sax
In memory of Barbara Cohen from Gloria Sax and Leslie Finamore

**In memory of**

Mother-in-law, Rebecca “Betty” Gorfinke
from Michael Gorfinke
Brother-in-law, Michael Gorfinke
from Alan Diamond
Brother, Bertram Shuman
from Arnold Shuman
Daughter, Stephanie Nathan Soler
from Beverly Nathan
Grandfather, George Berlow
from Claudia Rodenstein
Father, Paul Shoreman
from Daniel Shoreman
Mother, Maralyn Keay
from David Zion
Great Uncle, Nathan Kramer
Great aunt, Evelyn Chadis
from Deborah McWade
Husband, George Forman
from Dorothy Forman
Father, David Barton
Mother-in-law, Sophie Gold
from Enid Gold
Father, Max Kahn
from Eric Kahn

**In memory of**

Step-mother, Ida Goldman
from Gloria Sax
Father, Barry Schwartz
from Helinee Fink
Mother, Rose Abrams
from Howard Abrams
Mother, Eunice Kazis
from Rabbi Abraham Kazis from Israelia Abrams
Wife, Ann Baim
from Jacob Baim
Great Grandmother, Kate Stern
from Karen Hirsch
Brother, Nathan Lieberson
Mother, Mollie Lieberson
from Leonard Lieberson
Sister, Joyce Lindmark
from Lois Ogan
Father-in-law, Samuel Wein
Mother, Sally Price
Grandmother, Eva Price
from Marjorie Stein
Mother, Lillian Korsen
from Mark Korsen
Mother, Esta Rosenthal
Sister, Sandy Kosoff
Aunt, Flora Markowitz
Cousin, Beth Berman
from Marla Belostock
Mother, Eve Silverstein
from Sheri Rubin
Mother, Lena Rosenberg
from Michael Rosenberg
Mother, Lott Siderman
from Miriam Rosenthal
Father, Abraham Rich
from Murry Rich
Brother, Alan Dillon
from Nonnie Rubin
Father, Yakov Rosbenbaum
from Perlene Levitin
Mother, Rebecca Weiner
from Rachelle Rosenberg
Mother, Sylvia Robinson
from Reggie Weinstein
Mother, Betty Walker
from Robert Walker
Father, Marc Rubin
from Ronald Rubin
Husband, Harvey Greif
Mother, Edith Alpert
from Romie Greif
Mother, Helen Goldstein
from Sandra Goldstein
Father-in-law, Jacob Gibbs
from Thelma Gibbs
Donations

LEV FUND
In memory of Frances Mendelsohn, mother of Alvah Parker
In memory of Betty Hicks, mother of Stephen Hicks
In memory of Libby Kessler, mother of Beth Hoffman from Marla and Philip Gay

MERKEN TALLIT FUND
In memory of
Niece, Michele Issokson Sbrega from Elaine Merken

RABBI’S DISCRETIONARY FUND
In appreciation of Rabbi Michael from Ellen and Dick Alexander; Beth and Marc Andler; Daniel Rubenstein; Barbara Goldenberg; Judi and Joe Karas, Alvah Parker; Ann Pendexter; Marsha and Sheldon Rubin; Shelley Sackett; Karen and Howard Stiller; Judy White; Susan Willis
In celebration of Harold Kramer’s 85th Birthday from Howard Leibman
In honor of the New Year from Ilene Barkan
In honor of the naming of our daughter, Ruby Turkanis from Jamie and Jeff Turkanis
In honor of Joan Rich’s special birthday from Barbara and Ron Gilefsky
In honor of Colby Kramer’s piano concert from Muriel Follick
In memory of Jacqueline Myerson from Michelle and David Myerson
In memory of Carol Feingold, mother of Judi Karas from Lynn and Neal Mizer
In memory of Frances Mendelsohn from Marsha Gerber

In memory of
Mother, Sally Kodos from Barbara Rodman
Father, Sidney Frisch from Howard Frisch
Father, Israel Arnold
Mother, Edith Arnold from Mark Arnold
Mother, Sophie Waldman from Michael Waldman
Mother, Beatrice Strome from Marsha Gerber
My loved ones from Muriel Follick
Son, Philip Tracey Holmes from Richard Holmes
Father, Philip Issac Holmes
Mother-in-law, Ethel Ullian from Richard Holmes
Father, Jerry Ogan from Robert Ogan
Husband, Harvey Cohn from Ruthann Cohn

RITUAL FUND
In honor of Ann Segal’s special birthday from Barbara and Ron Gilefsky

In memory of
Mother, Louise Epstein from Ellen and Robert Zirin
Wife, Marilyn Levy from David Levy
Grandmother, Esther Calish from Karen Rosenbloom
Father, Dr. Leon A. Weiss from Marjorie Patkin
Father, Samuel Silverstein from Marsha Rubin
Grandmother, Annie Reven from Donna Reven
Mother, Marilyn Levy from Rosanne Jepsy

SHIR CHESED FUND
In appreciation from Ann Pendexter
Get well to Ruthann Cohn from Bette and Dan Shoreman
Get well to Sandra Spector from Louise, Linda and Robin Chudnowsky
In honor of all of Mason Sagan in his accomplishments
In honor of the birth of Lois Ogan’s great grandson, Ari Logan Fendell from Faith Kramer
In honor of the marriage of Clark McMahon, son of Mindy and Tim McMahon, to Taylor Walston from Judy and David Cohen
In memory of David Willis from Alice and Chuck Leidner

In memory of Marion Burke from Arthur Liederman
In memory of Nicholas DellaCroce, grandson of Margaret Somer from Bette and Dan Shoreman
In memory of Libby Kessler, mother of Beth Hoffman from Alice and Chuck Leidner; Karen and Mark Meyer and Family; Judi Simmons
In memory of Frances Mendelsohn from Marion Garfinkel; Faith Kramer; Ann Pendexter
In memory of Carol Feingold, mother of Judi Karas from Kayn and Jim Walsh
In memory of our dear friend, Sue Anne Reed from Wendy and Michael Dubinsky

In memory of
Mother, Mona Finn from Brenda Cohen
Mother, Ida Goldberg from Karen Meyer
Our son, Adam Madoris from Karen and Jerry Madoris
Mother, Janet Aronson Weiss from Marjorie Patkin
Grandmother, Betty Swartz Goodman from Barbara and Bernie Forbush
Father, Aaron Cohen from Wendy Dubinsky

SHIR LANU
In memory of
Father, Jacob Dubinsky from Michael Dubinsky

TORAH FUND
In memory of
Mother, Molly Germain from Michael Dubinsky

TREE PLANTED IN ISRAEL
In honor of the aubrf and wedding of Julia Roseman and Derek Tingle from Lois Ogan

Congregational Spotlight
Marina Giliver

Continued from back page

What first brought you to CSH?
Both of my kids went to Temple Israel preschool. We started attending some services there. Later on, after Temple Israel and Temple Beth El merged to create Congregation Shirat Hayam, I began to attend services there with my friends.
A few years ago, I started attending morning minyans. I felt it was important to me to learn more about Jewish traditions and express my faith more regularly. With the morning minyans happening predominantly at Shirat Hayam, I started attending more frequently, and met a few members of the congregation as well as Rabbi Michael. I was very moved to be welcomed to the community, and I was grateful for everyone’s enthusiasm to greet newcomers. I enjoyed the atmosphere of openness and genuine effort to bring people of different backgrounds and levels of Judaic education together in a place where everyone belongs.

What keeps you at CSH? What’s special to you?
Shirat Hayam and Rabbi Michael’s services give me a boost of energy each morning, preparing me to take on the challenges of the day. The guidance offered has helped me center my spiritual identity, and it is a wonderful regular part of my week.
Shirat Hayam’s community has been tremendously kind to my family during the hard times. Thanks to the support of the congregation and Rabbi, I found solace and a strong sense of purpose and an outlet for my search for meaning. With the recent passing of my father, it is only natural that my participation in morning minyans has become more regular following the completion of shloshim.

Can you tell us about your involvement in minyan? Any other ways you’re involved?
Morning minyans are very important to me as this ritual helps me find the strength to face the challenges of the day, and confidence to tackle any of them. Morning prayers set the tone for the day and make everything feel right and purposeful.
I particularly enjoy Thursday Torah service for a number of reasons. It is a spiritual high point of the week, as well as an opportunity to meet in person with the minyan crew, have a cup of coffee and a meaningful discussion with Rabbi Michael, and, of course, enjoy Doris’ phenomenal baked goodies!
Every issue, The New Wave spotlights a congregant as a way to help us get to know each other by putting a face with a name. This month, Marina Giliver shares her thoughts about Shirat Hayam and its special, personal meaning for her family.

**Where did you grow up? What role did religion and synagogue life play in your childhood and young adulthood?**

I was born and raised in Moscow, Russia, the former Soviet Union. My family was Jewish, but we were not allowed to practice Judaism. In the former Soviet Union, all religions were banned and had to be practiced underground. My grandparents tried to keep some traditions going but were afraid that it could get their children and grandchildren in trouble with the authorities. I never learned Yiddish or Hebrew and my grandparents quite often reverted to speaking Yiddish at home when they did not want anybody around them to understand. I remember that my grandmothers secretly went to the Moscow synagogue—often terrified that they could be rounded up by militia (Soviet police) for violating anti-religion government decrees. Even speaking Yiddish outside of the home meant trouble.

Growing up Jewish in the Soviet Union meant facing flagrant antisemitism in everyday life (such as being bullied at school for my Jewish identity), as well as state-sponsored antisemitism (such as quotas on Jewish students at major universities). A day would not pass that I would not be reminded at school or on the street that I was different, not like everyone else, that Russia was not my homeland.

Despite all of these challenges and constant prejudice, my family maintained our Jewish identity in the face of overt discrimination. We cherished our family history and continued to be strong. My grandmother taught me to never hide my Judaism, to never be afraid of bullies, and to always stand up for myself. Thanks to my grandmother I’ve always known that I had been given a Jewish name—Miriam-Ester—which was extremely uncommon in the Soviet Union.

After Mikhail Gorbachev came to power we started seeing some progress and leniency towards expressing religious freedoms. I remember the first time I came to the Moscow synagogue for Rosh Hashanah in 1989, an eye-opening and deeply moving experience.

My grandmother and I continued to visit the synagogue for High Holy Days from that point on.

**Tell us a little about yourself and your family. When did you come to the U.S.? Was it difficult?**

My husband Leonard and I came to the United States in 1994. We were welcomed by the Jewish Family Service of the North Shore who provided support, advice and assistance to start our new chapter in life. We first settled in Lynn and later moved to Salem where both of our kids were born. In 2001, we moved to Marblehead where we have been living ever since.

My husband Leonard owns his own business, an auto repair shop and a small dealership, in Lynn. He has always been an automotive aficionado, having spent a few years professionally racing cars while still in Russia. After coming to the United States, he decided to open his own automotive business and put many years of car experience into practice.

Both of our kids are out of college now. Our older son Phillip is an aerospace engineer. At the start of his career, he worked at SpaceX. Now, after completing his master’s degree, he works for an engineering firm that has partnered with aerospace agencies on their satellite programs. Our younger son David just graduated from college with a degree in math and computer science. He will be starting his first job at Capital One’s technology division in New York in August.

My background is math and computer science. I found my first job with the help of JFS career services, who helped me put together my very first resume and prepare for the interviewing process. I cannot thank JFS team enough for all the guidance and advice they provided along the way. I’ve worked in the financial technology industry, most recently at Capital One’s Boston office.

Our parents moved to the United States later on and now reside in Lynn.

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