

One of my favorite Mel Brooks quotes, is: "If God wanted us to fly, He would have given us tickets."

Whenever I find myself in an airplane tens of thousands of feet above *terra firma* and we encounter turbulence, for a moment my thoughts go to a dark and negative place: "Vey'izmir. Is this IT?! What am I doing up here in the first place?"

But then when I catch myself panicking, I do my best to conjure up my more rational side and remind myself: "Statistically, it's safer up here than driving to Wegmans."

Whether for business or pleasure, air travel allows us to do things that generations past would never have dreamed of. When my grandparents left Lithuania, there was no such thing as taking an overnight flight to go back home to visit the *mishpocha* they'd left behind. Goodbyes were final back then. But nowadays, when the need or desire arises, the sky really is the limit.

And so when my brother, who lives in Cape Town, South Africa, told me they'd picked a date for his son's Bar Mitzvah, my only uncertainty about being there to celebrate with them was: aisle or window?

COVID got in the way of my visiting "home" sooner, so it's been four years since I was last there; four years since I'd last seen my brother and his family. Knowing that not only would I get to see them again and enjoy a *simcha*, but also that a January event meant I'd be going into summer, didn't hurt. Neither



did the anticipation of spending time in a city which so many visitors describe as the most beautiful in the world. Having lived there for the first 23 years of my life, all of these expectations were well founded and a lot to look forward to.

One of the most significant changes, though, since my last visit four years ago, is the issue of power. Electricity. There's just not enough of it to go around. For reasons that appear to be a combination of a failure to plan for the increased demand for electricity by a growing population, together with corruption by officials who've allegedly pocketed the funds intended for public utility expansion, the system is woefully inadequate. The consequence is "load shedding", the term used for daily power cuts.

At random times of the day, *everyday*, one can expect to lose power – in the middle of the day, the middle of the night, you name it. Traffic lights go out, industry comes to a standstill, CPAPs stop functioning at people's bedsides, the TV cuts out just before Final Jeopardy, etc. When my sister and I arrived from the airport at the apartment we were renting - luggage in tow - at first we thought the elevator was simply out of order, but then we realized: load shedding...

Hospitals and other critical facilities have diesel-powered generators, but most businesses see their employees sitting around unable to be productive during the

*continued on page 2*

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work day, waiting for the power to come back on. There's even an app that gives an hour's notice that a power cut is on it's way to the current location of one's phone.

During the Bar Mitzvah itself, needless to say, the power went out. What was most fascinating to notice was how people have adapted to this inevitability: when the synagogue sanctuary suddenly got darker, the locals didn't even flinch. It reminded me somewhat of the anecdote in Thomas Friedman's book, *From Beirut to Jerusalem*, in which he described a Beirut dinner party he attended during the Lebanese Civil War. Shelling is suddenly heard in the distance at which the hostess casually turns to her guests: "Shall we have dessert now, or should we wait until after the ceasefire?"

It was a true joy to spend time with my brother, his family, my aunt and cousins – whether the lights were on or off. I was there for such a short time that I didn't even have the chance to contact friends of mine. And as for the Bar Mitzvah: it was so special to see my nephew truly excel at reciting his *Maftir* and *Haftarah*. It felt to me that this was the crowning achievement of my brother's life, to bring his only child to this auspicious moment in Jewish life.

In a word, it was powerful.

Michael

## March Yahrzeits

### March 2

Lillian Abelson\*  
Sara Brodsky  
Norman Klein\*  
Harry Roxin

### March 3

Alan Herman

### March 6

Bluma Schonbrun

### March 7

Faye Goldin

### March 10

Max Palagyi

### March 11

Jacob Haymoff  
Morris Herman\*  
Samuel Markus

### March 12

Albert Marcusfield

### March 13

Amy Brody

### March 15

Helen Langmann  
Abraham Rothberg  
Anna Weinstein

### March 16

Louis Klein

### March 19

Mollie Roth  
Jewell Rothstein\*

### March 20

Harry Cohen  
Molly Cohen

### March 21

Harry Herman  
Stephen Sigelow

### March 22

Bessie Klein  
Betty Segelin

### March 23

Samuel Katzman

### March 25

Florence Sanow  
Rappaport

### March 27

Alex Perlman

### March 29

Barbara Berger

### March 30

Minetta Klein\*

*\*Memorial plaque on display in the Temple Beth David sanctuary.*

*The yahrzeit date that appears above is the date of observance using the secular calendar.*

*These dates match those of the Hebrew calendar for the actual date of death.*

# All in the Family

## March Birthdays

Michael Peres	March 7
Eliana Lande	March 18
Seth Katzman	March 20
Michelle Gross	March 21
Anne Goldin	March 24
Mobeen Shirazi	March 26
Kellie Hyman	March 28
Roberta Kinel	March 29

## March Anniversaries

Phillip & Susan Lederer	March 3
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Shabbat Service will be held in the  
Temple Beth El Chapel on  
Saturday, March 18 at 9:30 am

## Riverside Cemetery Plots

are available to purchase from

### Temple Beth David

at reduced temple member rates  
for Jewish burials in adherence to  
Temple Beth David ritual requirements.  
For questions regarding purchase,  
contact the temple office. For questions  
pertaining to Jewish burial ritual  
requirements, contact Rabbi Silbert.



## Kiddush News

**Food and friends!** From now on we can look forward to sit down kiddushes after services on the last Shabbat of each month. See you there on March 25 (Parashat Vayikra), April 29 (Parashat Aharei) -- and onward throughout the spring and summer.

**Mark your calendars** and be ready for plenty of good food and conversation!

We can stay as long as we like at these end-of-the-month kiddushes, but we need to wear masks at all times unless we are sitting down and eating.

What food or foods do you associate with each week's parashah? **Contact Alison Helms**, at [alison.helms@gmail.com](mailto:alison.helms@gmail.com), and she will try to include those foods in the kiddush/take home treats for that Shabbat.

**Please consider sponsoring a treat** at \$18 or cholent at \$36 in honor of a good news event!





# Temple Beth David and Temple Beth El present



## ***6th Annual Joint Golf Outing***

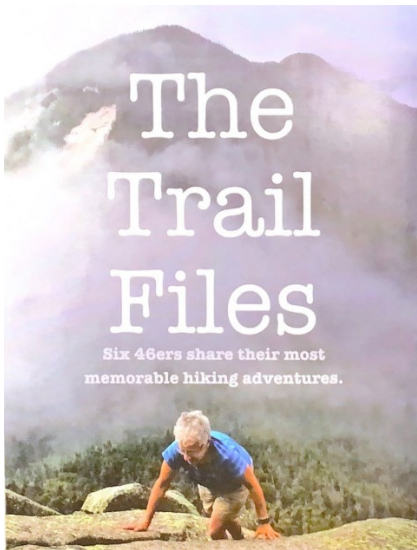
*Mendon Golf Club (Mendon, NY)*

**Save the Date: Monday, July 31**



The next **Temple Beth David Board of Trustee Meeting** will be held Tuesday, **March 14 at 7:00 pm** via Zoom. All temple members are invited to attend or you may submit your questions or concerns in advance of the meeting for consideration by the board of trustees. Board member names are listed on the last page of this bulletin. For more information on how to attend the meeting, please contact the temple office at 585-266-3223 or [office@tbdrochester.org](mailto:office@tbdrochester.org).





Location: Basin  
Hiker: Cindy Halpern, #13510  
Date: 8.29.2021



This article appeared as a two-page spread in Adirondack PEEKS, which is the biannual magazine of the Adirondack Forty-Sixers, Inc. The magazine includes information on club-sponsored events and service projects, articles about the history and natural environment of the High Peaks area, and stories about hiking adventures in the Adirondacks and beyond.

So my 15 minutes of fame in Peaks magazine is limited in circulation to people who have kept their dues

current, registered and received an official 46er number or people who are aspiring and have dues paid up. As of December 2022, there were 14,780 registered 46ers since the first in 1918. Not all of them may be paying dues and receiving the magazine. In fact, not all of them are any longer alive. So I'm not sure how many people get this magazine.

The 46ers is a non-profit organization whose members have climbed all of the official list of 46 major peaks (over 4000 ft.) of New York's Adirondack Mountains. As volunteers we are dedicated to environmental protection, to education for proper usage of wilderness areas, to participation in New York State Department of Environmental Conservation-approved trail projects, and to the support of initiatives within the Adirondack High Peaks region by organizations with similar goals that enhance our objectives.



Reinhard Gsellmeier, Cindy Halpern, Linda Phillips

It should be noted that Linda Phillips is the only other 46er that I know of in our congregation.

Here is a photo from the only backpacking trip I took with Linda. We did the peaks of Algonquin, Iroquois and Boundary together in 2011. I think the first photo is the summit of Iroquois with Alonquin in the background. The second photo is Iroquois, with the slides of Colden in the background. The tallest peak in the background of the second photo is Mount Marcy the tallest mountain in New York State. We climbed all of these mountains.

- Cindy Halpern

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## Donations

Received January 16 - February 15, 2023

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### **DAVID SOLOMON FUND** **IN MEMORY**

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Bernard Roth  
**Charles Conwell**  
Lewis Rothberg &  
Shelby Nelson  
**Daniel S. Goldman**  
Ron & Jean Brandwein  
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### **GET WELL WISHES** **Alice & Dan Nussbaum** Karen Schaffer

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Robert Dworkin &  
Janet Gordon

### **MARSHA FISHMAN FUND** **IN MEMORY**

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**Laurie Feuerstein Walsh**  
**Lillian Narotsky**  
**Lillian Sardone**  
Sidney Markus

### **RABBI DISCRETIONARY FUND** **IN MEMORY**

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**Donna Wesler Larca**  
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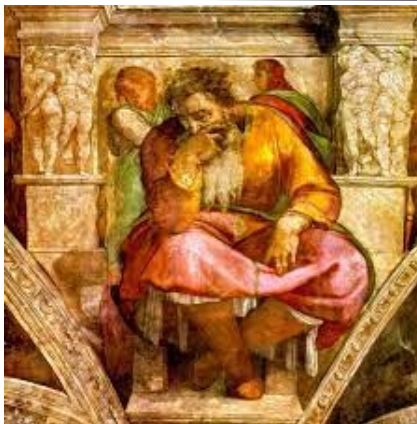
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[www.tbdrochester.org](http://www.tbdrochester.org)

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I did some research into the life of Jeremiah because he authored the haftarah I chanted last week.

Jeremiah was born into a priestly family in about 624 BCE in a small village within the kingdom of Judah. About 100 years before his birth in the year 722 BCE, the Northern Kingdom of Israel was destroyed by the Assyrian Empire. Jeremiah began his prophecies while this event was still a fresh memory. When the Assyrian Empire fell, Jeremiah was asked to go to the 10 exiled tribes and to encourage them to return to the land of their kingdom.

When Jeremiah began as a prophet, Josiah was King and he was a beloved and pious



ruler. But when he died, Jeremiah predicted the end of Judah as an independent state. As he predicted, the people turned to idolatry and were unfaithful to G-d. Jeremiah warned them to mend their ways to avoid another invasion.

But as he predicted, Jeremiah witnessed the destruction of the Temple in Jerusalem by the Babylonians and watched as the people were taken away to Babylon. He helped them to bear the blows and the exile. In response to this event, Jeremiah wrote the Book of Lamentations and his prophecies were compiled in the Book of Jeremiah. He died in Egypt in 570 BCE.

- Sue Lederer



## SEND A CARD TO A FRIEND OR LOVED ONE!

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### Card Message:

- ☐ Get Well Wishes \_\_\_\_\_  
☐ Happy Birthday \_\_\_\_\_  
☐ Congratulations on \_\_\_\_\_

- ☐ In Memory of \_\_\_\_\_  
☐ In Honor of \_\_\_\_\_  
☐ In Appreciation of \_\_\_\_\_

Note: \_\_\_\_\_

**Fund:** If no fund is specified, your donation will be made to the David Solomon Operating Fund. Thank you.

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Congregant Services             | <input type="checkbox"/> Rabbi Aaron Solomon Torah Repair Fund |
| <input type="checkbox"/> David Solomon Operating Fund    | <input type="checkbox"/> Rabbi Discretionary Fund              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Herb Kraus Adult Education Fund | <input type="checkbox"/> Rabbi Skopitz Fund                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mitzvah Kiddush Donation        | <input type="checkbox"/> Unspecified Donation                  |

**Temple Beth David will no longer be collecting donations for the Marsha Fishman Youth Education Fund.  
Please contact Eric Brandt at [ebrandt@jewishrochester.org](mailto:ebrandt@jewishrochester.org) for details about donating.**



It's so easy to make donations and dues payments online! Visit our donation page at [www.tbdrochester.org/donate](http://www.tbdrochester.org/donate). The minimum online donation is \$10.



### Do you receive our Weekly News email?

You may be missing the latest news about Temple Beth David services and events, as well as other important community information. Call or email the Temple Office to add your name to the mailing list!

Please call the office if you or a family member is scheduled for surgery or is admitted to the hospital. We want to offer comfort to congregants who are ill but regulations do not permit the hospital to contact us with your news. We will only know if you let us know.



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