



CONGREGATION  
Beth Ami

Shofar

4676 MAYETTE AVENUE, SANTA ROSA, CALIFORNIA 95405

707-360-3000

MAY/JUNE 2025

5785



*See page 14 to find blintz recipes*

## Congregation Beth Ami

4676 Mayette Avenue  
Santa Rosa, CA 95405

**Telephone** 707/360-3000

**Fax** 707/360-3003

**Email** office@BethAmiSR.org

**Website** BethAmiSR.org

## Office Hours

Mon.–Thurs. 10 a.m.–5 p.m.; 10-2 on Friday

## Gift Shop and In-Person Appointments

**Elizabeth Jarlsberg**, office manager, is in the office Monday through Friday. She can also help you with gift shop purchases and library access. Contact **Bonnie Boren**, bonniegboren@gmail.com for special gift shop assistance. Appointments are appreciated.



Please “like” us at [facebook.com/CongregationBethAmi](https://facebook.com/CongregationBethAmi)

### Personnel

#### Rabbi Ron Koas

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Mobile: 732-998-1029  
rabbi@bethamisr.org

#### Elizabeth Jarlsberg, Office Manager

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office@bethamisr.org

#### Andrea Nett, Friedman Center Director

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#### Bonnie Boren, Gift Shop

707-528-1628

#### Leanne Schy, Communications/ Shofar

Leanne(a)sonic.net

### Officers & Board of Directors, 2024–25

**Betty Boyd,**  
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707-537-2211

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**David Ballo,**  
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707-576-0612

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VP of Membership  
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707-953-2526

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707-836-9074

### Members at Large

**Myra Stern-Thomas**  
707-287-0786

**Myrna Morse**  
707-539-5457

**Judy Kupfer**  
408-835-3966

**Leanne Schy**  
707-528-4874

OUR MISSION:  
A KEHILLA THAT IS OPEN, WHERE  
RELATIONSHIPS MATTER  
CONGREGATION BETH AMI  
ENRICHES OUR LIVES, TRANSFORMS OUR  
HEARTS, HELPS HEAL THE WORLD AND  
SUSTAINS OUR JEWISH HERITAGE. WE ARE  
DEEPLY ROOTED IN JEWISH TRADITION AND  
WELCOME ALL TO OUR COMMUNITY FOR  
CELEBRATION, LEARNING, EDUCATION AND  
PRAYER.



## RABBI'S REMARKS

Rabbi Ron Koas

### Days of Sadness and Joy in Nissan and Iyyar

Last month, we marked one of the most important days in Israel and in the Jewish world: Yom HaShoah ve'Hagvurah, the Knesset (the Israeli Parliament) has officially designated 27 Nissan as a day to commemorate the Holocaust, and to honor the heroes of the resistance movements during the period of the Holocaust.

The following week, we marked two of the most important days in Israel: Yom HaZikaron (Remembrance Day for fallen soldiers and victims of terrorism) and Yom Ha'atzmaut (Independence Day). They are—at least from a national perspective—the saddest and happiest days of the year. Their moods could not be more different. We feel sadness and grief as we mourn the people who have lost their lives fighting for our country and enabling Jews around the world to live with greater security.

Israel stands in silence on Yom HaShoah and Yom HaZikaron. The silence is full of recognition of our history and hope for a brighter future. How much suffering must the Jewish people endure? When will the hatred,

the incitement, the threats, the missiles end? When will we see the fulfillment of the words of Isaiah, that “nation shall not lift up sword against nation, nor shall men learn war anymore?”

Yet, as the sun sets, in the blink of an eye, the mood changes. We dress in Yom Tov clothes and pray a special tefillah to celebrate the greatest miracle of the Jewish people in the last 2,000 years. A nation returned to its land to build a thriving country—a country that leads the world in so many fields! The idealism of so many in this country is a beauty to see. Walking in the streets of Jerusalem and Tel-Aviv, there is so much good to celebrate and so much hope for the future.

Yom HaShoah, Yom HaZikaron and Yom Ha'atzmaut may be opposites, yet they are all essential to the Jewish people. We live in an era where sadness and joy coexist. We have survived and thrived because we are quickly able to move on, despite the obstacles put in our way. And we continue to grow.

Israel is not a perfect country. At just 77 years old, the State of Israel is just at the beginning of an exciting journey. It will have twists and turns, but we can and should continue to fulfill our mission of being a light unto the nations.

This year, we also remember the horror of October 7, and we pray for the hostages to come back home asap. Amen.

Am Yisrael Chai

—Rabbi Ron Koas



*Traffic in Israel stops as a siren sounds to mark Yom HaShoah*



## FROM THE BOARD

Richard Kahn

### Beth Ami is now solar powered

The board would like to give the community an understanding of our new solar power system. Built and installed by *Vital Energy*, the system consists of 47 commercial solar panels that are about 110% as efficient as residential panels.

There are three inverters so there are three zones. The panels are on the sanctuary upper roof, the sanctuary and Social hall roof, and the room 12/13 [lounge] roof. In trial runs last week it was producing 15 kW per hour with overcast and 25 kW in the sun and this is of course before we have optimal conditions. Over the year it will definitely generate more electricity than we consume, though that won't be true every single day. But once we start selling power to PG&E, we should be doing really well. Our projected energy consumption for the year is 30,500 kWh and we should produce 36,500 kWh.

As you may be aware, the rate PG&E pays to purchase electricity from solar systems was reduced two years ago, but because we are a nonprofit, we were able to buy a three year extension on that old rate with a very small deposit. So we are at a great advantage in terms of what we should net from PG&E compared to new installations now.

We have financed this through an exchange with Redwood Credit Union, where we've made

a savings deposit equal to the loan. The interest difference between the savings and the loan is very, very small, definitely less than inflation. In addition, there is an anticipated rebate for a nonprofit grant from the Treasury to put us on more equal footing with tax paying entities. This rebate should come through, but I won't know that until we see how it all goes with the application and powers that be.

In addition, we were in essence gifted two charging stations located on the wall behind the multipurpose room on the parking lot. Once they are fully up and running, they will be code protected to be utilized only by those congregants who have electric vehicle vehicles and registered with us.

We are finally utilizing the great solar potential we have here at Beth Ami.



*Two high speed charging stations were installed as part of the solar power system.*



## EVENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS



### INSTALLATION OF RABBI RON KOAS

Dear Friends and Supporters,

Beth Ami will be installing Rabbi Ron Koas as our Rabbi on Sunday, May 18th in our sanctuary. Please join us at 2 pm followed by a wine and hors d'oeuvres reception.

For those who would like to mark the occasion, please send a written acclamation by NOON on Monday, May 12th to be included in the program book. Your typed message should be no longer than 250 characters (approximately 50 words). No photos or graphics. A donation of \$36 for the entry is requested. If you would like to be listed by name only in the Program book under Bruchim Habayim (Welcome) please make a minimum donation of \$9. Please send your written entry by email to the office at office@bethamir.org by NOON on Monday, May 12th.

We will not be taking late entries so ACT NOW. ~The Rabbi Installation committee.

### Our condolences to the family of:

Phyllis Shapiro, a founder of Beth Ami

### Wishing a speedy recovery to:

Sandra Shulkin	Richard Feldman
Lenore Holloway	Bernice Fox
Tish Levee	Miriyam Gevirtz
Dennis Judd	Chip Swanson
Anna Judd	Raphael Kauffman
Lindsay Kvam	

## SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Friday May 2nd, Pot luck dinner after 6:00 pm Kabbalat Shabbat service. Please bring an Israeli style dish to share.

Saturday May 3rd, Dr. Michael Harris will do the D'var Torah at services and after lunch will speak on Antisemitism and the Education bills in the California legislative process.

Sunday, May 4th, The Israel Programming committee and CAMERA present David Littman. We'll commemorate Yom Ha'atzmaut, and celebrate Israel's 77th birthday.

Friday, May 16th, Erev Shabbat under the sky for Lag B'Omer. Hotdog BBQ with chili and S'mores, Shir Shabbat Services at 6:00 pm. Cost \$16 members, \$20 for non members.

Sunday, May 18th, We'll install Rabbi Ron Koas as our Rabbi. We will be joined by his colleague Rabbi Adam Ruditsky, from Plano, Texas. The ceremony starts at 2 pm, followed by a reception with small bites.

Saturday, May 31st, Sonoma County's 40th Pride Parade. Prayers at 9:30 at Cancer Survivor's Park, followed by walking the parade. Come show your support by participating.

HaLayla HaGadol FUNdraiser dinners and a brunch to start the summer season. Dates between May 30th through June 8th. See page 6.

No community catered dinner in June

### Sunday June 1st to June 3rd Shavuot

Sunday night June 1st, Tikkun Leil Shavuot study with B'nai Israel in Petaluma.

Monday, June 2nd festival services at 9:45 am

Tuesday, June 3rd a potluck meal at the farm of Steve Schwartz. Details TBA.

Friday, June 13th, Potluck dinner

Sunday, June 22nd, 10 am. Rummage sale starts. Collecting items to sell after June 9th. Want to help, Call David Kahn or the office.

And finally, mid June, we'll have the CBA annual meeting. Refreshments served. A formal announcement will be made on June 1st.



**EVENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS**


*Continued...*

**OUR ANNUAL HALAYLA HAGADOL "FUN" DRAISER SPANS TWO WEEKENDS THIS YEAR.**

Call the office at 707-360-3000 or email of-  
fice@bethamisr.org to reserve your seat by  
*Tuesday, May 27th*. Confirmations will be sent  
with location and final details by May 29th.

**HaLayla HaGadol**  
CONGREGATION BETH AMI'S  
BIG NIGHT FUNDRAISER

Friday May 30  
Sunday June 1  
Sunday, June 8



Painting by Marilyn Sommer, marilynsommer.com

**Friday, May 30th** for dinner Starts at 6:30 pm  
Hosted by Judi Hyman  
Cuisine is **modern Israeli** with a little wine.  
Seating for 9. Cost is \$100 per person.

**Sunday, June 1st** at 11:30 am for brunch  
Hosted by David Kahn  
Cuisine is **Midwest Jewish deli**.  
Seating for 8.  
Cost is \$54 per person.

**Sunday, June 1st** at 3 pm at the vineyard  
Hosted by Rafaela Equils and Barb McGee  
Cuisine is **BBQ chicken**, all the sides.  
Seating for 14.  
Cost is \$100 per person.

**Sunday, June 8th** at 5 pm for dinner on  
Dierk's Parkside new Patio  
Hosted by Mark Dierkhising  
Cuisine is **Classic restaurant** Fish or Fowl.  
Seating for 30.  
Cost is \$100 per person.

**CELEBRATE ISRAEL MAY 4, 2025**



The afternoon starts at 1:00 with a brief  
remembrance of those fallen to create and  
retain the Jewish Homeland followed by a  
transition into a celebration of Israel Indepen-  
dence with wisdom by CAMERA speaker, Da-  
vid Litman: Senior Research Analyst, Commit-  
tee for Accuracy in Middle East Reporting and  
Analysis "Yom Ha'atzmaut! Zionism & Jewish  
Freedom: From Israel to American Campuses."

The celebrations conclude with conversa-  
tion, food and refreshment as we enjoy Israeli  
music and dance.



**EVENTS &  
ANNOUNCEMENTS**  
*Continued...*

**40TH ANNUAL SONOMA COUNTY  
PRIDE PARADE MAY 31**



We are all signed up for the Sonoma County 2025 Pride Parade on Saturday, May 31st, in Santa Rosa. It's the 40th anniversary of the Pride Parade, and the gemstone for that is ruby, so Ruby Jubilee is the theme. Judy Kupper is working on finding some ruby colored accessories and finery for us.

If you have a Pride t-shirt with the rainbow Beth Ami logo, or rainbow colored clothes, or ruby-colored clothes, come dressed and ready to walk the 5 block parade route down 4th Street from Brookwood. We'll gather in Fremont Cancer Survivors' Park at 9:30 a.m for a quick Shabbat morning service led by Rabbi Koas then line up for the walk close to Brookwood and 4th.

There will also be services in the Beth Ami Sanctuary led by congregants. We hope we can all get together for lunch in the social hall afterwards.

Bring sunscreen, walking shoes and water. Contact the office at [office@bethamir.org](mailto:office@bethamir.org) to tell us you're coming; put Pride Parade in the subject line.

Also let us know, as soon as possible, if you want to buy a Beth Ami rainbow logo T shirt (and what size). They cost \$20 last year, but prices are mysterious now. We will email those who express an interest in t-shirts.

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MOVEMENTS**

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## EVENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Continued...



Friday, May 16th, Come enjoy Erev Shabbat under the sky for Lag B'Omer. We'll have a hotdog BBQ with all the sides including chili and S'mores, Klezmer Creek will be here for the BBQ and for musical Shir Shabbat Services at 6:00 pm. Cost \$16 members, \$20 for non members.

Regular kosher hot dogs, veggie dogs, chili, condiments, grilled onions and sides of coleslaw and potato salad (or chips), parve dessert (s'mores). Beer, wine, punch, coffee, tea and soda. Possibly a green salad.

*Barbecues and bonfires are traditional for Lag B'Omer, a festive break in the serious Omer count.*

**Ben Goldman, BROKER**

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## EVENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

*Continued...*

### May, June programs led by Rabbi Koas

**Torah Study Every Shabbat at 9:00 to 9:45 am**, when Rabbi Koas leads Services, which will follow at 9:45 a.m.

**Torah on Tap: May 8, June 12 at 6:30 pm**  
We provide the beer. You provide the nosh. (Veggie only – follow potluck guidelines.)

**Torah on Trails: May 11, June 8**, usually Second Sunday of the month **at 10:30 am** We'll speak about God and the wonders of creation as we walk. email the rabbi for the meeting place: [rabbi@bethamir.org](mailto:rabbi@bethamir.org)

**Prayers and Breakfast, May 11, June 8, at 9 am**; On the second Sunday of the month (usually) weekday morning minyan services (shorter than Shabbat!) and breakfast.

**Lunch and Learn: May 14 and June 11**, usually 2nd Wednesday of the month: lunch at noon, class 12:30 to 1:30 pm Order a Veggie Wrap or Tuna Sandwich (box lunch, chips and a drink for \$12). Order through the office at 707-360-3000 by the Monday prior to class.

**Havdalah Gathering: May 17th and June 14th at 7:00 pm**. Gather round to end Shabbat together. Each gathering will segue into the week with a fun activity, accompanied by drinks and a nosh.

**Purely for fun... Biking with Rabbi Koas** every Tuesday (that he's in town) for the Taco Tuesday bike ride. <https://www.downtownsantatarosa.org/events/santa-rosa-taco-tuesday-ride/>

**Introduction to Judaism/Bnai Mitzvah Class Wednesdays May 14, June 4 & 18, 7:00 pm**. How to be Jewish for beginners. A step-by-step guide to gaining an understanding of Judaism and Jewish life. Contact Rabbi Koas if you are interested [rabbi@bethamir.org](mailto:rabbi@bethamir.org).

*All are welcome at Beth Ami's programs.*

## BETH AMI GIFT SHOP

### The gift shop has jewelry!

10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Monday through Thursday office open  
10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Friday office open

Please make an appointment with Elizabeth before your visit if possible.  
360-3000. Call Bonnie Boren at 528-1628 to order special items.





## SOCIAL ACTION

by Lyla Nathan, Chair

### Getting food to the hungry

I will start with some positive news from The Palms. We went to The Palms last week and as usual it was wonderful to serve food to the residents. They are always so appreciative. There was some good news as a number of residents had recently moved to improved housing so there a few new people there who are no longer living on the street. On the other hand, many of the residents fear that their social security and their health services will be cut.

### Our support for the Redwood Empire Food Bank

I would imagine many of you have passed a Redwood Empire Food Bank food distribution site this year. I know the one at the Vets building always has a line of cars with people eagerly awaiting their box of healthy food. This is happening all over Sonoma, Lake, Mendocino, Humboldt and Del Norte counties.

The REFB serves over 142,000 people. People have come to count on these food distributions to have enough food for their families.

I write this article as I am concerned about the cuts by the federal government to food banks across America and in particular here. I received an update from the Redwood Empire Food Bank about the cuts. I am including an abridged report about the current situation.

It is a fact that they are facing severe challenges. In recent months, cuts to federal funding to critical food assistance has become a reality for food banks nationwide and here in Santa Rosa. As a result they need to lean more heavily on the community for support.

### What has changed

The US Department of Agriculture (USDA) has cancelled \$500 million in Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP) food deliveries through the fiscal year 2025. This has resulted in the loss of 9 truckloads of food: 155 pounds of milk, eggs, canned meat, and dried fruit valued at \$700,000 for REFB between April and June. Also the USDA ended the Local Food Pur-



*Social Action Committee members pose while volunteering at the Redwood Empire Food Bank in December of 2014.*

chase Assistance Cooperative Agreement which allowed REFB to source food locally.

### How can you help?

Community support has always been vital to the mission of the Redwood Empire Food Bank. With funding, the food bank can remain agile and adapt during these critical times. For every \$1.00 donated they are able to distribute \$3.00 worth of food.

I will be meeting with the Social Action Committee to develop a strategy on how to engage our community to help the food bank. As you probably know, Beth Ami congregants have been volunteering and supporting the REFB for many many years. If you are interested in participating please let me know. Until then, please continue to fill the containers with healthy food, volunteer if you can and support REFB financially. These are hard times for the vulnerable people in our country. We must practice Tikun Olam (repairing the world) now more than ever. Lyla Nathan: 1-707-4864905

Thanks to everyone for your continued support of the food bank!

B'Shalom,

—Lyla Nathan



## ADVOCATES FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE

by Carol Swanson, Chair

### What support can we provide?

These are very unsettling times. Our committee has had numerous discussions on which social issues we should focus our efforts on supporting. What kind of support can we provide, to whom and how?

The daily news provides new information for us to add to our list of concerns. Our committee feels strongly about supporting immigration rights. It is an important issue for all our community, here in Sonoma County. We will keep the Board and membership informed.

Some of us attended a webinar training through the ACLU, ‘Know your Rights’. Those that missed it will have access to a recording of the session. Our first amendment right of free speech was part of the focus. Future plans include collaborating with other religious organizations and possible speakers from the ACLU and North Bay Organizing Project.

### Some happy news

News Flash: Benjamin Mertz and his wife, Mgbечи Erondu welcomed a baby girl into their family last week. She is named Amarachi Ruth. Mazeltov! We are so happy for them. Those of you who attended the shabbat service with Benjamin Mertz on January 18th have asked when he can return. It’s in the works. But for now, as you would expect, Benjamin is enjoying his family.

### Our Committee

We meet every month on the third Thursday at 1:00 at CBA. Please join us. Members: Bonnie Boren, Rabbi Koas, Lyla Nathan, Jerry Newman, Myrna Morse, Michelle Zygielbaum, Barb McGee, Susan Miller, Carol Swanson, chairperson. You can contact us at swangirl@contact.net.



## WEDNESDAY EXERCISE CLASS

We are a friendly group of active older adults, ages 65 to 102, that meet in a weekly in-person exercise class. We gather every Wednesday at 10:30 am in the social hall at Congregation Beth Ami. The class promotes functional strength, flexibility, balance and fall prevention combining physical and cognitive exercises. We perform seated and standing exercises using Activator Poles, which will be provided.

Activator Poles are modified Nordic walking poles invented by an Canadian Occupational Therapist and Geriatrician as a tool to increase mobility, stability and movement in her clients.

The poles have been used successfully as a rehabilitation tool for over 10 years and have been promoted by Parkinson’s, arthritis, and cancer organizations in Canada. The poles act like personalized ballet barres to provide extra support and allow greater range of motion and safety to those with pre-existing knee, hip, lower back and shoulder issues.

The class lasts about an hour. A \$5 donation per class is requested which will be used to buy equipment and as a donation to congregation Beth Ami. Each participant is encouraged to wear comfortable clothing and bring a water bottle to class.

Class is taught by Jeffrey Sternfeld. Certifications of instructor: Senior Personal Trainer, Functional Aging Specialist, Brain Health Trainer, Cancer Exercise Specialist, Arthritis Exercise Group Leader, PNC Parkinson’s Exercise Instructor, Urban Poling and Activator Pole Instructor and Matter of Balance Coach.



## ISRAEL COMMITTEE

*Teddy Bear Project*

*Esther Baruch*

### HAPPY 80TH!

No, I wasn't wishing you a happy birthday, although if your 80th birthday actually is approaching, I do hope it's a good one. What I'm celebrating is the 80th teddy bear to come in from my dedicated circle of knitters, crocheters, and sewing experts.

So far, some of the bears have been delivered to children displaced from their kibbutzim in the south, which were attacked on October 7th. After a difficult year and a half, they were thrilled with the handmade teddy bears. My cousin who delivered them said it was heartwarming to see the kids hugging the teddies. And their parents were warmed by the knowledge that Americans remember and care about them.

Other bears have been given to patients in the pediatric oncology unit of Hadassah Ein Karem Hospital. And a recent cohort went to a program in Nahariyyah that serves kids on the autism spectrum. So they're all finding homes where they will do a teddy bear's job of giving comfort and consolation.



*The teddy bear crafters are expanding into other species.*

Thank you to all who have spent many hours making bears, and to those who have donated yarn, and to those who have contributed money to cover shipping costs. Everyone's participation is so important.

For more information and to participate, email Esther at [finishingtouches18@gmail.com](mailto:finishingtouches18@gmail.com)

[https://www.instagram.com/p/DD-WexpSHq9/?utm\\_source=ig\\_embed&ig rid=772170cc-bfc4-4477-abd7-aba7fb44c653&img\\_index=8](https://www.instagram.com/p/DD-WexpSHq9/?utm_source=ig_embed&ig rid=772170cc-bfc4-4477-abd7-aba7fb44c653&img_index=8)

<https://jweekly.com/2024/12/24/north-bay-crafters-teddy-bears-comfort-traumatized-israeli-kids/>



## CBA BOOK GROUP COMING EVENTS

Linda Emblen, Coordinator

Last month we met in the home of Jeff Richman. Thanks for the hospitality. Jayne Rosenberg did the SF Jewish Community Library book exchange, as she has several times in the past 10+ years of our book club.

In a special commemoration of Holocaust Remembrance Day, Rabbi Koas picked out a Mitch Albom historical novel, THE LITTLE LIAR, and led an interesting discussion of it.

What makes this book club different from other ones in our area? I've been asked recently, so will explain again for new people. ALL CBA MEMBERS AND FRIENDS ARE WELCOME for 1 or more sessions. We usually read fiction by Jewish authors or on Jewish themes, borrow 12 copies of the same book (from a choice of over 150 titles) from the SFJCL through their Book Club in a Box program. Members who have participated often help choose selections. We usually meet in different member's homes and therefore need an RSVP. Always have refreshments and socializing afterwards. Know that coming regularly or for a particular book discussion are both fine. We meet in small groups and welcome participation by everyone present.

That said, next time, stay-tuned to the Cybershul for date in the end of May, we'll each talk 5-10 min. about a book of our own choosing that we read recently --- fiction or non-fiction --- any author, any topic that might interest others. Or you can briefly present a couple



**Abi Stein, author of *Becoming Eve*, to be discussed on June 14 at Shabbat lunch.**

of books. We've done this successfully in the past and it typically brings in different people.

And coming in June, which is Pride Month, our rabbi and Aly Davis want to lead a discussion of BECOMING EVE by Abi Stein here at CBA after Shabbat lunch on June 14. I was able to borrow 12 hard library copies of their selection. A few copies on audio-book or e-book or hard copy are also available through our local library. Comments or to borrow a book. Linda (land-line) 707-544-4532.



### MEN'S GROUP

Richard Kahn  
Outings Planned

Stay tuned for an event in the future. Is there any more interest in Benziger in Kenwood or Paradise ridge in Santa Rosa for the first week of June for a wine tasting, followed by lunch. your faithful secretary, Richard kahn.

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JOSHUA M. GRAYSON, PH.D.



## THE KITCHEN CORNER

Janet Stein-Larson  
(Myra Stern Thomas, Chair of the  
Kitchen Committee)

### What's happening in the Beth Ami Kitchen?

When events involve the kitchen, all volunteers are responsible for assuring the Beth Ami Kitchen and the food prepared there follow the Kashrui Standards of Beth Ami. That is why the Kitchen Committee was formed. One of its role is to work with and train volunteer mashgichim to supervise event volunteers preparing food to that Kashrut standard for any event that uses the Beth Ami Kitchen. The volunteer Mashgichim undergo some basic training and review to assist them in keeping Kosher, along with food and appliance safety.

And it is nice to have simchas especially to have food to share. They bring more to appreciate in our community, even during these ... challenging times.

When you look at the events happening in the CBA that involve the kitchen, you can't help but notice how often this kitchen is used. March, we had hamantashen baking for Purim, and we had the Purim Cafe which was a spiel and meal. We celebrated Noa's Bat Mitzvah. In April, our events focused mainly around Passover with the preparing and the kitchen for the Seder and the Passover morning services; and a special brunch honoring Elizabeth Jarlsberg.

In May we look forward to a celebration of Yom HaAtzma'ut (on May 4), a Lag B'Omer Shabbat Dinner, Under the Sky (on May 16th, think BBQ), and Rabbi Koas' Installation (on May 18th).

We will also be making blintzes in May because... in June we celebrate Shavuot (on June 1 and 2). All of this is besides our regular schedule which includes the potluck lunches, our special monthly Family Friday night dinners, and helping out with the Lunch and Learn, Torah on Tap, Sunday Morning Minyan and Breakfast, and the occasional simple potluck food events on Friday evenings. Did I forget anything?



*Blintzes originated from the Ashkenazi Jews from central and eastern Europe It was about the year 1800, when blintzes first began to appear on the European culinary map. Basically, you took a soft cheese, added sugar, raisins, and wrapped it in a blintz pancake and you had... blintzes. Crepes or blinis are also thin pancakes, but cooked on both sides before being used. It is the blintz that is fried on one side and then filled (with a sweet cheese or other stuffing) and then folded or rolled (depending on family tradition) with uncooked side out. The blintzes are then fried or baked, and topped with some very yummy toppings (sour cream, fruit compote, etc).*

*Want some recipes? Here are some made at CBA in years past. Read more about Shavuot food customs and get blintz recipes from Beth Ami in our website blog section. <https://bethamisr.org/2022/05/dairy-foods-and-recipes-for-shavuot/>*

All of these events involve volunteers for organizing, implementing, and cleaning up. Thank you all who contribute to these spots of joy in our lives. Enjoy life!

PS-And if you want to join in the fun of being involved the Kitchen Committee or being a mashgiach, reach out to Myra or myself.

*~Janet Stein-Larson*



## LEARNING LEYNING

by Jeffrey Sternfeld

The Religious Practices Committee seeks new volunteers to read or chant Torah and Haftarah during Shabbat and High Holidays services.

Congregation Beth Ami has a subscription to Trope Trainer, the premiere B'nai Mitzvah training platform in the United States. It provides a self guided experience for written and vocalized learning. It is accessible by all electronic devices including smart phones, tablets, laptops, and desktop computers. As this software was developed by a coalition of cantorial organizations, it is highly adoptable to many learning styles and demands.

If you desire to celebrate an anniversary, a life cycle event, or just want to participate in the Torah service, all are welcome. If you can read Hebrew you can do this. There are options for 5 different vocal ranges and 16 different Torah melodies to choose from. Melodies for all Megillot and Lamentations are also available. Vocal playback allows you to listen to the full aliyah, individual verses, individual trope phrases, or individual words. Trope Trainer also provides full English translations, full English transliterations, and sheet music to accompany the Hebrew text.

I am the administrator of Trope Trainer for the congregation and can provide access to the website. I will meet with you to help you learn and manipulate the many modules. I can also act as a tutor if desired. Reading and chanting Torah is an honorable and appreciated activity. For older adults, like me, it is an excellent cognitive challenge that will help to keep your brain engaged and active. I relearned trope to celebrate the 50th anniversary of my Bar Mitzvah using Trope Trainer and have continued reading and using Trope Trainer ever since.

If you are interested, please contact Jeff Sternfeld, [jster@sonic.net](mailto:jster@sonic.net), or leave a message with Elizabeth in the Beth Ami office.



**June 1 Sunday Erev Shavuot  
Leyl Tikun with Congregation B'nai israel in Petaluma**

**June 2 Monday  
9:45 am. Festival Services Shavuot  
Day 1 including Yizkor with Rabbi  
Ron Koas (and blintzes).**

**June 3 Tuesday  
Second Day Shavuot "on the farm"  
field trip, information to come.**

### CUSTOMS OF SHAVUOT:

- Aqdamut, the reading of a liturgical poem during Shavuot morning synagogue services
- Chalav (milk), the consumption of dairy products like milk and cheese
- Ruth, the reading of the Book of Ruth at morning services (outside Israel: on the second day)
- Yereq (greening), the decoration of homes and synagogues with greenery
- Torah, engaging in all-night Torah study. —Wikipedia

## Services at Beth Ami

We welcome you to join us for services.

For additional information or to verify the times, call the office at (707) 360-3000 or view calendar on the Beth Ami website at [www.bethamisr.org](http://www.bethamisr.org).

All Shabbat Morning Services will be held in person and on Zoom. Masks are optional.

Kabbalat Friday night Shabbat services will be held in person and Zoom unless noted below.

Also, see Virtual Calendar for events and classes at the Beth Ami website.

Monthly Sunday Morning Services start at 9:00 am. Followed by a light breakfast

Sunday - Thursday 7 pm Evening Services only if a Minyan is requested to say Kaddish.

To schedule an evening Minyan service call the office one week prior.

### May Services

#### May 2 Friday

5:30 pm. Meditative Minyan with Rob Gitlin

6:00 pm Kabbalat Shabbat with Rabbi Koas, Israeli style potluck dinner

#### May 3 Saturday

9:00 am. Torah Study in the Social Hall

9:45 am. Shabbat morning service with Rabbi Koas, potluck lunch

#### May 9 Friday

5:30 pm. Meditative Minyan with Rob Gitlin

6:00 pm. Kabbalat Shabbat with Rabbi Koas, followed by oneg

#### May 10 Saturday

9:00 am. Torah Study in the Social Hall

9:45 am. Shabbat morning service with Rabbi Koas, potluck lunch

#### May 16 Friday

5:30 pm. Meditative Minyan

**6:00 pm. Shabbat Under the Stars with Rabbi Koas and Klezmer Creek, followed by a Lag Ba'Omer Hot dog BBQ**

#### May 17 Saturday

9:00 am. Torah Study in the Social Hall

9:45 am. Shabbat morning service with Rabbi Koas, potluck lunch

#### May 18 Sunday

9:00 am. Morning Service in person and Zoom followed by **light breakfast**, then **Torah on Trails** weather permitting

#### May 23 Friday

5:30 pm. Meditative Minyan with Rob Gitlin on Zoom only

6:00 pm. Sing in Shabbat with Leah Gerber on Zoom only

#### May 24 Saturday

9:45 am. Shabbat morning service Lay led, Mevarchim Ha'Chodesh

#### May 28 Wednesday

Rosh Chodesh Sivan

#### May 30 Friday

5:30 pm. Meditative Minyan with Rob Gitlin

6:00 pm. Kabbalat Shabbat with Rabbi Koas, followed by oneg

#### May 31 Saturday

9:45 am. Shabbat morning service Lay Lead in Sanctuary  
**9:45 am Shacharit in the Park and SoCo Pride Parade**

### June Services

#### June 1 Sunday

**Tikkun Leil Shavuot with Bnai Israel, Petaluma**

#### June 2 Monday

**9:45 am Shavuot Festival Service Day 1, Yizkor, Megillat Ruth**

#### June 3 Tuesday

**2nd Day Shavuot "On the Farm"**

#### June 6 Friday

5:30 pm. Meditative Minyan  
6:00 pm. Kabbalat Shabbat with Rabbi Koas, followed by oneg

#### June 7 Saturday

9:00 am. Torah Study in the Social Hall

9:45 am. Shabbat morning service with Rabbi Koas, potluck lunch

#### June 8 Sunday

9:00 am. Morning Service in person and Zoom followed by **light breakfast**, then **Torah on Trails** weather permitting

#### June 13 Friday

5:30 pm. Meditative Minyan

6:00 pm. Kabbalat Shabbat with Rabbi Koas, potluck dinner

#### June 14 Saturday

9:00 am. Torah Study in the Social Hall

9:45 am. Shabbat morning service with Rabbi Koas, potluck lunch

#### June 20 Friday

5:30 pm. Meditative Minyan

6:00 pm. Kabbalat Shabbat with Rabbi Koas, oneg

#### June 21 Saturday

9:00 am. Torah Study in Social Hall

9:45 am. Shabbat Mevarchim HaChodesh morning service with Rabbi Koas, potluck lunch

**June 26 Thursday** 1st Day Rosh Chodesh Tammuz

#### June 27 Friday

2nd Day Rosh Chodesh Tammuz

5:30 pm. Meditative Minyan - Zoom only

6:00 pm. Sing in Shabbat with Leah Gerber - Zoom only

#### June 28 Saturday

9:45 am, Shabbat morning service lay led, potluck lunch





## GENEROUS CONTRIBUTIONS TO OUR CONGREGATION

We are very grateful for your support and think it's important that your donation is acknowledged in the Shofar. Donate online at [BethAmiSR.org /giving/](http://BethAmiSR.org/giving/)

### General Fund

In memory of Marilyn Diamond —*Gloria Fine, Randy Fine, and Larrie & Amy Nader*

In memory of Marilyn Diamond —*Barry Sovel & Carol Newman*

In memory of Marilyn Diamond, one of my best friends for over 50 years. —*Gloria Wilson Dermott*

In memory of Michael Brust, father of Barb —*Barbara McGee*

In memory of Marilyn Diamond —*David Root & Marilyn Wolf*

In memory of Mardelle Rome, Mother of Robin Cooper —*Robert & Robin Cooper*

In memory of Sam Rome, Father of Robin Cooper —*Robert & Robin Cooper*

In memory of Marilyn Diamond —*Evelyn Gurevitch*

In memory of Marilyn Diamond —*Judy Gunnar*

In memory of Dan Hoffenberg —*Zelda Bettman*

Toda Raba: David Kahn, Mark Dierkhising & Anne Steirman —*Anonymous*

A generous donation —*Elisa Watkins*

In memory of Irwin Margolese! —*Anonymous*

In memory of Arthur Margolese —*Anonymous*

In memory of Dan Hoffenberg —*Evelyn Gurevitch*

In honor of being called to the bimah —*Ivan Barta*

Continuing better health to Bernice Fox —*Anonymous*

In memory of Joseph Schussheim —*Arnold & Karen Herskovic*

In memory of Marilyn Diamond —*Anonymous*

In memory of Marilyn Diamond —*Edee Sternfield-Squires*

In memory of Paul Zygielbaum —*Anonymous*

Mazal Tov, Bat Mitzvah Noa Joseph! —*Anonymous*

In honor of Leanne Schy, our tireless director, producer and script writer —*Rhonda Rosenbach*

In memory of Marilyn Diamond —*Phil Weil & Bonnie Boren*

Welcome to the congregation, Aly Davis —*Anonymous*

A generous donation —*Elisa Watkins*

In memory of Brian Gross —*Anonymous*

Congratulations to Rabbi Koas upon his son's marriage and his daughter's improved health —*Mark & Carol Rosen*

### General Fund: Shabbat Lunch

A generous donation —*Jonathan & Rose Batzdorff*

A thoughtful donation —*Anonymous*

### Malk Fund:

In memory of Phyllis Shapiro —*Mark & Carol Rosen*

In memory of Phyllis Shapiro —*Carol Newman & Barry Sovel*

In memory of Phyllis Shapiro —*David Root & Marilyn Wolf*

In memory of Phyllis Shapiro —*Edee Sternfield-Squires*

In memory of Phyllis Shapiro —*Marjorie Gordon*

In memory of Phyllis Shapiro —*Phil Weil & Bonnie Boren*

### Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

In honor of Lee Feinstein and her challah and hamantaschen baking skills —*Mark & Carol Rosen*

In honor of Leanne Schy and all her work on the Purim Spiel —*Mark & Carol Rosen*

In honor of Barb McGee and her work on the Shalach Manot and hamantaschen —*Mark & Carol Rosen*

In memory of Marilyn Diamond —*Judi Hyman*

Speedy recovery to Talya Koas —*Mark & Carol Rosen*

A generous donation —*Michael & Lauren Newman*

Mazel Tov to Rabbi Koas upon the marriage of his son, Daniel —*Phil Weil & Bonnie Boren*



## May Yahrzeits

Secular dates correspond to Hebrew date of death.

Observance of yahrzeit begins at sundown the previous day.

All yahrzeits observed at Beth Ami.

### Announced on May 2 & 3

- May 3 Henry Herskovic  
Father of Arnold Herskovic
- May 3 Maurice Sokolsky  
Father of David Sokolsky
- May 3 Evelyn Decker  
Mother of Mel Decker
- May 4 Joseph Liverman  
Grandfather  
of Marc Bernstein
- May 5 Rose Abrams  
Grandmother  
of Patty Bernstein
- May 6 Sheldon Margolese  
Uncle of  
Michelle Zygielbaum
- May 7 Beba Minsky  
Mother of Dan Anbar
- May 7 Constance Schweitzer  
Mother of Blair Pleasant
- May 8 Everett Shapiro  
Father of Tad Shapiro
- May 8 Lilly Zeamans  
Grandmother of  
Judith Helman

### Announced on May 9 & 10

- May 11 Manny Simon  
Father of  
Lyla Nathan
- May 11 Herman Uday  
Grandfather of  
Richard Kahn
- May 11 Ellen Abrams  
Mother of Anne Steirman
- May 12 Rosa Marks  
Grandmother of  
Myrna Morse
- May 14 Julius Newman  
Brother-in-law of  
Edith Newman

### Announced May 16 & 17

- May 17 Nathan Paul  
Father of Jane Paul
- May 18 Rabbi Samuel Jones  
Grandfather of Ross Jones
- May 19 William Friedman  
Grandfather of  
Bill Friedman
- May 20 Howard Moss  
Husband of Adrea Moss
- May 20 Dalia Sheff  
Wife of Jeff Sheff
- May 20 William Spiegelman  
Grandfather of  
Ronit Glickman

### Announced on May 23 & 24

- May 25 Kay Simon  
Mother of Lyla Nathan
- May 26 Bertha Camarillo  
Mother of Roy Camarillo
- May 26 Marlene Jones  
Mother of Ross Jones
- May 26 Sheila Hyman  
Mother of Alan Hyman
- May 27 Robert Paul  
Brother of Jane Paul
- May 27 Sidney Baba  
Father of William Cordell
- May 27 Lillian Judd  
Mother of Dennis Judd
- May 28 Stanley Williams  
Father of Lenore Holloway
- May 29 Richard Hyman  
Father of Judi Hyman
- May 30 Israel Senzer  
Father of Adrea Moss
- May 30 Sandor Garam  
Father of Rose Batzdorff

### May Birthdays

- David Kahn
- Mark Stoelting
- Judith Helman
- Anne Brown
- Janet SteinLarson
- Iosif Voulfson
- Kathleen Whiting
- Richard Goldberg
- Edith Newman
- Evelyn Gurevitch
- Edward Sherman
- Marina Voulfson
- Graham Cooper
- Irvin Klein

### May Anniversaries

- Barb & Mitchell McGee
- Asher & Lyla Nathan
- Marge & Dave Ballo
- Jon & Rose Batzdorff
- Debbie & Tad Shapiro
- Richard Kahn & Anne Brown
- Janet & Jeffrey Stein-Larson

### Announced on May 30 & 31

- May 31 Ann Stern  
Mother of  
Myra Stern-Thomas
- June 1 Sam Keller  
Grandfather of Dan Weill
- June 3 Joseph Kagan  
Husband of Rita Kagan
- June 4 Betty & Oscar Mann  
Parents of Marge Ballo
- June 4 Morris Hartzman  
Uncle of Cheryle Miller



## June Yahrzeits

Secular dates correspond to Hebrew date of death.  
Observance of yahrzeit begins at sundown the previous day.  
All yahrzeits observed at Beth Ami.

### June Birthdays

- Roz Frommer
- Linda Emblen
- Michelle Zygielbaum
- Dan Anbar
- Joslyn Metzger
- Bobbie Rosenthal
- Jeffrey Sternfeld
- Esther Baruch
- Marjorie Gordon
- Juli Scherer
- Aly Davis
- Shirley Klapow
- Jane Paul

### June Anniversaries

- Nancy & Andy Fleming
- Binese & Earl Goldberg

### Announced on June 20 & 21

- June 24 Stephen Bernstein  
Brother of Marc Bernstein
- June 25 Barbara Boren  
Mother of Bonnie Boren
- June 26 Mortimer Weiss  
Father of Dan Weiss

### Announced on June 27 & 28

- June 29 Anna Seldowitz  
Grandmother of Susan Miller
- July 1 Benny Friedman  
Father of Bill Friedman & Debra Chapman
- July 1 Irwin Levy  
Father of Jancie Sternfeld

### Announced on June 6 & 7

- June 9 John R. Hess  
Father of Barbara Tomin
- June 9 Alice Rapkin  
Great Aunt of Susan Miller
- June 9 Lena Liverman  
Grandmother of Marc Bernstein
- June 11 Bertha Schy  
Mother of Stuart Schy  
Grandmother of Leanne Schy
- June 13 Albert Hirschman  
Grandfather of Abe Alexander

### Announced on June 13 & 14

- June 14 Bluma Rudnitskaya  
Sister of Iosif Voulfson
- June 16 Thomas Cordill  
Father of Kim Cordell
- June 18 Larry Gladstone  
Father of Connie Goldman
- June 18 Tom Fleming  
Brother of Andy Fleming

*Simcha Board Tree of Life* **Leaf—\$360**  
*Honor thy mother also thy aunt, uncle, Small Stone—\$1000*  
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*an engraved leaf on our Simcha Board, We also provide the opportunity for you*  
*commemorating any joyous occasion, to memorialize loved ones.*  
*bestowal of an honor, or cause for Yahrzeit Board*  
*thanksgiving.*



# Congregation Beth Ami

4676 MAYETTE AVENUE, SANTA ROSA, CA 95405

**Address service requested**

## May and June Candlelighting

### May 2 - 3

*Tazria-Metzora*

Candle Lighting—7:45 pm  
Havdalah—8:48 pm

### May 9 - 10

*Acharei Mot-Kedoshim*

Candle Lighting—7:52 pm  
Havdalah—8:55 pm

### May 16 - 17

*Emor*

Candle Lighting—7:58 pm  
Havdalah—9:03 pm

### May 23 - 24

*Behar - Bechukotai*

Candle Lighting—8:04 pm  
Havdalah—9:09 pm

### May 30 - 31

*Bemidbar*

Candle Lighting—8:09 pm  
Havdalah—9:15 pm

### June 1

*Erev Shavuot*

Candle Lighting—8:12 pm

### June 2

*Shavuot Day 1 Yizkor*

Candle Lighting—9:24 pm

### June 6 - 7

*Naso*

*Rosh Chodesh Sivan*

Candle Lighting—8:14 pm  
Havdalah—9:20 pm

### June 13 - 14

*Beba'alotekha*

Candle Lighting—8:17 pm  
Havdalah—9:24 pm

### June 20 - 21

*Shelah Lekah*

*Shabbat Mevarchim*

*HaChodesh*

Candle Lighting—8:19 pm  
Havdalah—9:26 pm

### June 27 - 28

*Korach*

Candle Lighting—8:20 pm  
Havdalah—9:26 pm

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