

## SEPTEMBER NEWSLETTER 2020

# NORTHERN HILLS SYNAGOGUE

מזל טוב! - Mazal tov!

Birthdays			Anniversaries		
Martin Ackerman	Friday	9/4	Barry & Laurel Wolfson	Wednesday	9/2 41st anniversary
Marcy Reed	Tuesday	9/8	Keith & Shelley Sklar	Thursday	9/3 14th anniversary
Phyliss Shubs	Tuesday	9/8	Vic & Susan Amster	Friday	9/4 43rd anniversary
Dr. Gerald Shubs	Saturday	9/12	Jonathan & Lisa Bernstein	Saturday	9/5 37th anniversary
Raye Brass	Sunday	9/13	Eli & Renee Roth	Saturday	9/5 49th anniversary
Ryan Engelman	Sunday	9/13	Steve & Orly Rumberg	Saturday	9/5 27th anniversary
Daniel Randolph	Sunday	9/13	Matthew & Claire Lee	Wednesday	9/9 42nd anniversary
Cassandra Vick	Sunday	9/13	Scot & Amy Perlman	Wednesday	9/9 36th anniversary
Eva Grace Fischer	Tuesday	9/15	Jason & Courtney Ackerman	Thursday	9/24 15th anniversary
Atara Zmora	Tuesday	9/15	Daniel & Irene Randolph	Thursday	9/24 53rd anniversary
C. Fred Duncan	Thursday	9/17			
Beatrice Horowitz	Thursday	9/17			
Scot Perlman	Saturday	9/19			
Beverly Saeks	Tuesday	9/22			
Rabbi Noah Ferro	Wednesday	9/23			
Sadie Hazel Grossman	Friday	9/25			
Donald Hordes	Friday	9/25			
Dr. Mark Washofsky	Saturday	9/26			
Autumn Asch	Tuesday	9/29			

### Got a simḥah to share?

Any joyful news is a good reason to celebrate! Let us know what's going on and we will be glad to share the news with the congregation for you .



### President's Message

The High Holidays are nearly here, with changes to the ways they will be celebrated at the Synagogue and in our homes. Adjustments are never easy. Joe and I will miss seeing smiling faces and catching up on news, but that will happen—just not now. Sisterhood meetings will be held virtually through 2020.

We will wait to decide about 2021 as it approaches. New programs are being developed, and we invite **any** ideas and suggestions for more. Please contact me or our Programming Vice-President, Sue Amster, at [lazearkaryn@gmail.com](mailto:lazearkaryn@gmail.com) or [susanamster1@gmail.com](mailto:susanamster1@gmail.com) Meanwhile familiar, time-tested gatherings via ZOOM continue (see below). I encourage each of you to take part in these interactions. New members are welcome! We need to stay together during these uncertain times so we can be strong when restrictions are lessened.

Karyn Kern-Lazear

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**RUMMIKUB**, a long-standing group, gathers virtually the second Monday of every month at 4:00 P.M for a chat, since COVID-19 has suspended our ability to play (September 14 this month). If you'd like to join in, you can! You do not need to be a player, and if you would like to become a player eventually, we'll teach you. Please contact Sonia Milrod, [smilrod@gmail.com](mailto:smilrod@gmail.com) for the ZOOM Meeting Link.

**KNITTING CLUB**, another long-standing club, meets in person on Raye Brass' screened-in porch—socially distanced, with masks—on Sunday, September 27, at 10:15 A.M. Crayons to Computers—an organization that supports needy children in the very extended greater Cincinnati area— provides us with yarns, and Sisterhood provides them with knitted scarves, caps and mittens. Great skill is not a requirement! Please RSVP to [rayebrass@me.com](mailto:rayebrass@me.com)

Sandy Spitz recently began hosting **COFFEE CHATS** every Thursday morning at 8:00 A.M. via ZOOM. And

It's not too early to prepare for the next **BOOK CLUB** meeting via ZOOM (on Sunday, October 21). The subject is *The Library Book* by journalist/best-selling author Susan Orlean. If you need a copy, Bobbi Handwerger has them. Email Bobbi at [bhandwerger@gmail.com](mailto:bhandwerger@gmail.com)

Our **GIFT SHOP** is ready to serve your High Holiday needs. For questions or requests, please contact Shop Manager Pam Simowitz-Weber at [giftshop@nhs-cba.org](mailto:giftshop@nhs-cba.org) while the store remains closed during this transitional period.

**BREAKING NEWS:** Sisterhood is happy to announce that we are able to make a \$ 4,000.00 donation toward the purchase of the Synagogue's new streaming device equipment. This contribution was made possible by the membership and their hard work in the past. Sisterhood is proud of being an important part of Northern Hills Synagogue—Congregation B'nai Avraham.

## Yahrzeits

Gregorian			Gregorian		
Name	Date	Hebrew Date	Name	Date	Hebrew Date
Herman Weiner	9/2	Elul 13, 5780	Albert Goldman	9/21	Tishrei 3, 5781
Edna Davis	9/4	Elul 15, 5780	Joseph Nebolsky	9/21	Tishrei 3, 5781
Irving Schwartz	9/4	Elul 15, 5780	Ellen Ganson	9/22	Tishrei 4, 5781
Leona Stecker	9/4	Elul 15, 5780	Robert Levin	9/22	Tishrei 4, 5781
Frieda Goldberg	9/5	Elul 16, 5780	Sarah Roth	9/22	Tishrei 4, 5781
Richard Katz	9/5	Elul 16, 5780	Peter Thomas Brenner	9/23	Tishrei 5, 5781
Norm Nevins	9/5	Elul 16, 5780	Manny Kritzer	9/23	Tishrei 5, 5781
Sidney Groetzinger	9/11	Elul 22, 5780	Miriam Rosenbaum	9/23	Tishrei 5, 5781
Harold Winkler	9/11	Elul 22, 5780	Sandra Budd	9/24	Tishrei 6, 5781
Sophie Forman	9/13	Elul 24, 5780	Jeanette Bard	9/25	Tishrei 7, 5781
Maury Levey	9/13	Elul 24, 5780	Sue Robinson	9/25	Tishrei 7, 5781
Stella Warm	9/14	Elul 25, 5780	Marion Fischer	9/26	Tishrei 8, 5781
Steven Engelman	9/15	Elul 26, 5780	Joseph Pacholder	9/26	Tishrei 8, 5781
Henry Freedman	9/17	Elul 28, 5780	Faye Scheffler	9/26	Tishrei 8, 5781
Pinchas Paul Herman	9/17	Elul 28, 5780	Lee S. Weisberg	9/28	Tishrei 10, 5781
Florence Rethy	9/17	Elul 28, 5780	Sidney Mossman	9/29	Tishrei 11, 5781
Sonya Kwartina-Mazur	9/20	Tishrei 2, 5781	Dorothy Allbright	9/30	Tishrei 12, 5781
Lee Zukor	9/20	Tishrei 2, 5781	Selma Bush	9/30	Tishrei 12, 5781
Barbara Gelbart	9/21	Tishrei 3, 5781			

Please see below for an important message we shared a few weeks ago by email from our President and High Holiday Committee about our offerings this year for Rosh ha-Shanah, Yom Kippur, and the days in between.

Note that the letter makes reference to our High Holiday Attendance questionnaire, which you can find at the following link:

<https://forms.gle/uNdjxgXNcBc9QpBW8>

We will be taking responses until September 7 (closes soon!).

Also note that this year's Yizkor service will NOT take place on Yom Kippur morning, but rather on the morning of Shabbat Shuvah (September 26).

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Members and Friends:

### **2020-5781 High Holiday Services and Experiences at and by Northern Hills Synagogue**

The High Holidays begin this year in the midst of a very unusual, coronavirus-surrounded time. The Board of Trustees and Executive Committee, our High Holidays Task Force, and our High Holidays Planning Committee have all been working diligently since March to design High Holidays services experiences that will be live, immersive, and rewarding for all of our members and friends. We are now at the point where we can begin releasing the details! We hope our High Holiday services provide you with an invigorating, enjoyable and meaningful experience.

This communication is designed to provide you with a complete, high level summary of our 2020-5781 High Holidays services "menu" and experiences.

- **In-Person Services.** We will conduct in-person services in our Roth Sanctuary, with seating limited to 50 individuals at each service. Seating will be spread throughout the Roth Sanctuary and a portion of the Social Hall to assure safe distancing and maximum per-person ventilation; all attendees will be required to wear masks over their nose and mouth, follow instructions for entering and exiting the Synagogue, sitting in their assigned seats, and to participate vocally in nor-

mal speaking voices so as to maximize safety. If you wish to attend in person: use the questionnaire to tell us the services you wish to attend, in rank order. We'll do our best to accommodate your requests.

- **Live-Streaming of All of Our In-Person Services.** We have ordered state of the art live-streaming camera and technology equipment that is being installed now. We will be live-streaming each of our in-person services: you will be able to watch -- live -- all of the services from your homes. We'll supply the link: all you'll have to do is click the link and you'll be sitting in the Roth Sanctuary -- through the miracle of modern technology -- to participate in our High Holiday services. You will need a functioning computer or tablet that can access the internet to test ahead of time and then view our services. If you need assistance, please contact the office (and if you have working computer equipment that you can lend for this purpose, please contact the office).

- **Re-Imagined Services.** Since those attending in-person will be asked to remain in their seats, and since many will be watching at home, we have revamped our Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur services so that, regardless of whether you are sitting in the Roth Sanctuary or participating at home, you will enjoy an immersive and captivating service:

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- **Compact Services to Enhance the Viewing Experience.** We have completely revised each of our principal services so that no service will last longer than approximately two hours. We have reduced the number of “honors” and have omitted some familiar but problematic service features to minimize movement (and thereby increase safety) in the Roth Sanctuary and to heighten the flow of the choreography of each service.
- NOTE: Unfortunately, the need to devote as much space as possible to conducting our service in our building in as safe an environment as possible means we will not be able to offer separate children’s and family services nor will we be able to offer babysitting. Afternoon-evening services will begin at 6:00 PM; morning services will begin at 10:00 AM; our Kol Nidre service will begin at 7:00 PM.
- **Special Yizkor Observance.** To enhance and afford as many of our community as possible the opportunity to participate in a Yizkor service, **instead of including Yizkor as part of the Yom Kippur Torah Service, we will host a special Yizkor Memorial Commemoration Service on Shabbat Shuvah (9/26),** the Shabbat of the weekend that falls between Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur. This service, too, will be live streamed.
- **Prayers before the Open Ark.** One of the most beloved traditions of Yom Kippur at Northern Hills Synagogue is the opportunity for individual worshipers to spend a few moments during the concluding Ne’ilah service praying in front of the Aron Kodesh, the Ark in which our Torah scrolls are housed. We recognize that some members

of our community may wish to have this experience but would prefer not to be present at Yom Kippur services in person. For this reason, we will be offering you an opportunity to sign up for a time to visit the Roth Sanctuary and offer prayers before the Ark during the week between Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur (9/21-9/25).

- **New and Expanded Opportunity to Participate in Services, Regardless of Your Venue (at Home or in Person).** Would you enjoy presenting an English reading? You can do so regardless of whether you will be attending services at home or in the Roth Sanctuary! Let us know through the questionnaire. If you wish to participate, you will need a reliable computer or smartphone to record your English reading. We’ll walk you through the rest. Then we’ll broadcast your recording “live” during the service!
- **New Pre-Recorded Mini-Service.** We are also offering you the opportunity to be a participant in a pre-recorded mini-service that we’ll offer for our community to view at their leisure.

#### **Do You Need a Print Mahzor for Home Use?**

Let us know on the questionnaire. We will follow up so you can sign up to borrow a print Mahzor for home use and tell us whether you will visit the Synagogue to pick up and return your Mahzor or if you wish us to deliver a print Mahzor to you.

Or as an alternative: The United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism and the Rabbinical Assembly are offering the digital edition of our Mahzor, Mahzor Lev Shalem for \$8.99: go to [https://issuu.com/books-rabbinicalassembly/docs/digital\\_mahzor/944](https://issuu.com/books-rabbinicalassembly/docs/digital_mahzor/944) to download a copy.