



*Temple Beth-El Mekor Chayim*  
*2022*

*Hybrid Spring Celebration*

**To Be Emerging aMongst Community**



## A Message from our Rabbi



*Our 2022 Spring Celebration is both an opportunity each year to honor very special members of our congregation as well as reflect on the meaning that Temple Beth El Mekor Chayim has for all of us and provides us with the platform to raise the funds to create meaningful Jewish experiences for both our long-time members and new generations of families and children.*

*In a synagogue with a historic tradition of volunteerism and active participation, we have many outstanding volunteers. This year we recognize Judy and David Kupferberg as our Volunteers of the Year, Leah Davidson, our Education Committee Co-chair as Young Leader of the Year, the late Stephen Solomon as our Past-President honoree and Abbie and Howard Halperin will receive our Tikkun Olam Award. Our honorees represent the best examples of self-less leadership to fulfill the many tasks that enables our community to thrive and flourish. Mazal Tov!*

*My deepest thanks to our Fundraising Chair Shari Kopla and her amazing team for all of their hard work and effort to make this event such a success! Special thanks to Melissa Kerbel of Kerbel Philanthropy for her guidance and wisdom in achieving the great successes of this year's Spring Celebration and last year's Spring Benefit. All of this would not be possible without the support of our Synagogue Administrator, Susan King. We thank her for helping us juggle many balls in the air to bring this event to reality.*

*It is my hope that this annual event will become woven into the tapestry of our yearly activities to bring an even greater level of engagement and participation in our beloved congregation.*

*Rabbi Paul David Kerbel*

## From our Presidents



*This is Celebration Time! Celebration of our Honorees who are Superhero Volunteers! Celebration of their dedication to TBEMC. What could be better than that?*

*Our community is enriched by the spiritual leadership of Rabbi Kerbel and the Temple business administration of Susan King. But we know that those two people alone cannot deliver all that our community needs. That gap is filled by so many wonderful volunteers.*

*TBEMC stands on the strength of our volunteers and donors. For our 2022 Spring Celebration, we honor two couples and two individuals who have demonstrated their dedication to TBEMC for many years through their involvement, time spent, energy invested, and expertise shared. Their volunteering contributions are priceless, but they have also donated funds to help TBEMC deliver a spiritual home for our congregation. Each of this year's honorees has taken a leadership role and treated TBEMC like family. They have each been a pillar of our community ensuring that our members' needs are taken care of. Congratulations to Abbie and Howard Halperin for the Tikkun Olam Award, Stephen Solomon Z"L as Past President, Judith and David Kupferberg with the Volunteers of the Year Award and Leah Davidson with the Young Leadership Award.*

*This Spring Celebration serves as a celebration of ourselves, recognizing the special people who give of themselves to make our TBEMC Community truly something special. It is also our Temple's major fundraiser of the year. As we move forward together after the COVID lockdowns, it is great to host an event that accommodates those who are joining us in person as well as those who are more comfortable joining from home.*

*Very special thanks to the entire Fundraising Committee led by Shari Kopla. Like an orchestra conductor, Shari coordinated the Committee to deliver a hybrid in-person gathering and Zoom event, complete with videography, catering, entertainment, and a silent auction to make this 2022 Spring Celebration such a resounding success. Kudos to the entire Committee including Genie Berry, Andrew Feldman, Jessica Handsman, Becca Reissman, Jessica Suckerman, Sandy Springer and Joy Veron. It also was ably supported by Melissa Kerbel, who was our behind-the-scenes consultant, and Rabbi Kerbel. Special thanks to Jackie Baranoff who assisted coordinating with the caterer, Rhondi Solomon for arranging the musical entertainment and B.J. Solomon for producing the Ad Journal.*

*It takes many volunteers to make an event a success. Imagine how many volunteers it takes to ensure that our Temple delivers our religious services, our programs, our events, our commitment to charity, education, and service not only to our TBEMC Family, but to our community. Thank you to our honorees and to all of you for your steadfast support.*

*Todah Rabbah!*

*C. Mindy Kipness & Bruce Solomon, Co-Presidents*

# **TBEMC 2022 Hybrid Spring Celebration**

## **Event Chair**

*Shari Kopla*

## **Host Committee**

*Jackie & Jerry Baranoff*

*Joan Finkelstein*

*Phyllis & Lance Kandl*

*Linda & Jonas Leifer*

*Gail & David Salomon*

*BJ Solomon & William Hines*

*Sandra & David Springer*

*Shona & Bernard Young*

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*Andrew Feldman, Website & Social Media*

*Jessica Handsman, Silent Auction*

*Melissa Kerbel, Development Advisor & Consultant*

*Rabbi Paul Kerbel*

*Susan King, Office Administrator*

*Chemda Mindy Kipness, Co-President*

*Shari Kopla, Chair*

*Becca Reissman, Silent Auction*

*Sandy Springer, Silent Auction*

*Shari Kopla & BJ Solomon, Ad Journal*

*Jessica Suckerman, Silent Auction*

*Joy Veron, Media*

# **Temple Beth El Mekor Chayim**

## **2021 - 2022 Leadership**

### **Executive Board**

*Co-Presidents: Chemda Mindy Kipness & Bruce Solomon*

*1st Vice President: Phyllis Kandl*

*2nd Vice President: Andrew Feldman*

*Secretary: Jessica Handsman*

*Treasurer: Marc Bromberg*

*Financial Secretary: Alan Schwartz*

*Immediate Past President: Mark Kaplan*

### **Board of Trustees**

*Elliot Ballen\*, Jackie Baranoff\*, Dennis Berry, Ken Davidson, Marissa Domanski, Heidi Farber, Joanie Finkelstein, Shira Goldberg, Abbie Halperin\*, John Harris, Lance Kandl\*\*, David Kupferberg, Judy Kupferberg, Shari Koplra, Les Levine, Tammy Merman, Craig Schwartz\*\*, Gail Salomon\*\*, Rhondi Solomon, David Springer\*, Sandy Springer, Sidney Solomon\*\*, Jessica Suckerman, Sharon Taub.*

*\*Past President*

*\*\*Men's Club/Sisterhood Co-Presidents*

## *Tikkun Olam Award*



*Howard & Abbie Halperin*

The Halperins didn't just move to Cranford in 1970, they moved to Temple Beth El as a new home.

At their first visit to TBE as a couple, Judy Kupferberg said hello and welcomed them. They realized that Judy went to high school in Jersey City with Howard. It did not take long for the Halperins to get involved. Abbie joined the Sisterhood board, at some point holding each of the Sisterhood leadership positions, including president. As Sisterhood president, Abbie is most proud of buying the piano used in temple shows and in the Hebrew school. Since the Baldwin piano had wheels, it could be moved around as needed.

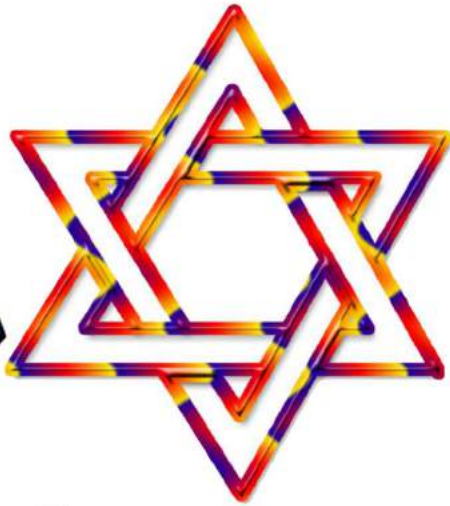
Abbie then joined the TBE board, becoming the first woman president in 1987. She faced pushback as a pioneer in bringing women into temple leadership positions, but her people skills helped her succeed. She was proud to pave the way for other women leaders at the shul, while being a good role model for the girls. She also kvelled at being called “Ima on the Bima” by everyone at shul. After serving as president for two years, Abbie has remained active as a past president on the board, and serving on many committees.

While Howard is not often in the spotlight, he has been a positive force at the temple behind the scenes. Part of that is supporting Abbie, which allows her to contribute fully. And part is in his own right, helping out when needed, like building the sukkah. Howard was Men's Club president in the mid-1980s, at the same time that their daughter Rachel was USY president, a board position at the time. Sometimes the entire Halperin family would be at temple board meetings together.

Howard remains active in real estate management. Daughter Rachel Halperin-Zibelman and her husband Jay Zibelman live in Westport, CT.

The Halperins have been generous financial supporters of TBE and later TBEMC, with a goal of keeping the synagogue doors open for years to come. They look forward to welcoming the younger generations into these leadership positions as well.

**Pillar**



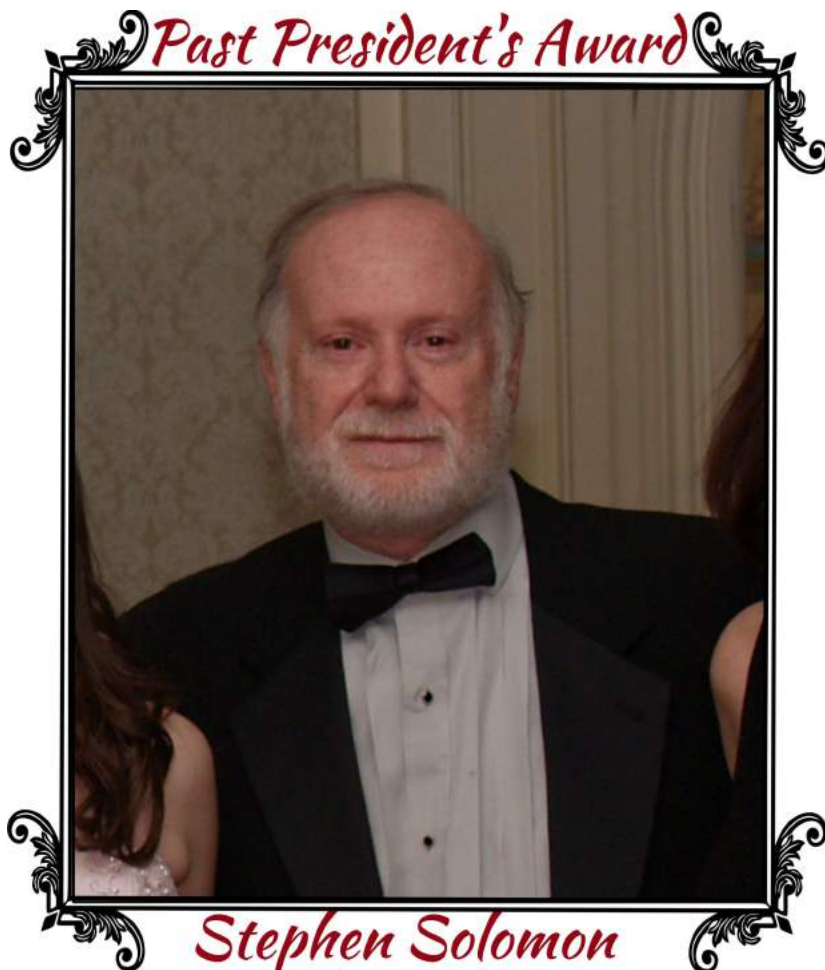
לדור  
ודור

*May all our generations  
continue to work  
for TBEMC*

**תודה רבה**

*for our honor*

*Abbie & Howard*



Stephen Solomon practically grew up in a temple watching his widowed mother work as a religious school secretary in one of the largest synagogues in Beverly Hills. The positives and negatives he witnessed first hand shaped his view of what a temple should be. When he was asked to be president of then Temple Beth-El in 1996, he wanted to raise our standards and set an example for others to be proud to follow. He envisioned an all-inclusive synagogue which was more like a family than an institution or business.

During his first year, it became apparent that Temple Beth-El needed an infusion of both members and funds to grow. He looked over the synagogues in the area to find the best match for us and reached out to Mekor Chayim. He continued to serve as president of combined Temple Beth-El Mekor Chayim through 1999. Aside from the merger, he oversaw and led many wonderful initiatives for our synagogue. Stephen was honored to be president during the Jerusalem Ark dedication, which was the dream of David Springer and Charlie Colodner. He also introduced the Shiva Meal program, which brought temple-funded meals to houses in mourning. Stephen chaired the photo albums for the 75th, 60th, and 90th anniversaries. He was the chair for the 100th Anniversary, which was a yearlong celebration including many events and fundraisers. Stephen was known as a "Constitutional Expert" to many on the Board of Trustees and was often asked for guidance when making big decisions. He served many other roles on the Board of Trustees, including Treasurer both before and after his presidency. He also chaired the Security Committee and was responsible for upgrading the alarm system, as well as putting panic buttons in the office, sanctuary, and school. While volunteering with United Synagogue, he was instrumental in creating a task force to counter Jews for Jesus, developing workshops and programs for Jewish students across New Jersey to be aware of the dangerous organization. Stephen also brought the temple into the performing arts when the TBEMC partnered with Cranford Repertory Theatre to produce community theater. As a producer, Stephen presented *The Wizard of Oz*, *Grease*, *Oliver*, *West Side Story*, and *The King and I*.

When Stephen was honored in 2003, he wrote this about his presidency: "The absolute highlight of my presidency was my daughter Jenny's Bat Mitzvah. No event meant more to me than to see her take her place as a Jew. To sit with her on the Bima; to hand her the Torah; to watch her read Torah in front of our family, our friends and our community. That was the most important day of my presidency."

Stephen contracted Covid-19 on March 2, 2020 while attending a synagogue security meeting with United Synagogue in Bergen County and passed away on March 24, 2020. He served this Temple with passion and with wisdom. Stephen is missed by all who knew him and left a legacy that remains embedded in the DNA of TBEMC today.



**Pillar**

**We congratulate all of TBEMC's 2022  
Spring Celebration honorees!**

*You are all well deserving of this honor because:*

*You are role models for our Temple family!*

*You each lead by example!*

*You make a difference every day!*



*You care about the shul!*

*You are our friends!*

**Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!**

*You mean everything to the future of our community!*

**Mazel Tov on this honor!**

*Sandy & David Springer*

## *Young Leadership Award*



*Leah Davidson*

Leah Davidson joined TBEMC with her husband Ken and her two daughters, Jenny and Rayna, in 2013. She has been the co-chair of the Education Committee for four years, having been a committee member for three years prior, and she has also served on the Nominating Committee for several years.

Leah's passion for helping children and their families realize the child's potential and move past limitations helps shape her work at TBEMC and in her professional life. She is currently a Pediatric Occupational Therapist in the Ridgefield Park School system and has worked as an Occupational Therapist for almost twenty years. She graduated Magna Cum Laude from Boston University with a bachelors of science in Occupational Therapy and received a Masters of Health Sciences with a concentration in Pediatric Occupational Therapy from the University of Florida. In her free time, she loves to go on vacations with her family, and she enjoys dancing, going to the movies, and relaxing.

*Sustainer*

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לנו באמת אכפת...  
*... We Truly  
Care*

## *Volunteer Award*



*David & Judy Kupferberg*

Judy and David's involvement with our temple dates back to 1968 when they moved to Cranford. Together they started the Young Marrieds' Group. David joined Men's Club, where he participated in their bowling league and worked in the kitchen for numerous Thanksgiving children's parties. Judy became active in the Sisterhood, working on numerous committees and served as VP and President from 1974-1976. Both have served on the Temple Board of Trustees, with David also serving as Financial Secretary for two years.

In September 2019, Judy and David expanded the WE CARE Outreach program and became co-chairs the following year, where they have worked to enhance programs and basic offerings to the senior members of the congregation. Recognizing the need to keep the congregation connected during the pandemic, they spearheaded several projects: delivering matzah during Passover, providing daily and festival prayer books and Tanachs to congregants who were attending services and classes on ZOOM. Along with the committee, they delivered machzors and meals for the High Holidays. They further expanded the Outreach program to include twenty volunteers who are in frequent contact with all age groups within the TBEMC family. Because of Covid-19, they revamped and managed the Misheberach and Mazol Tov Simcha lists, and they're now the voices of the "dialer." David was chosen as the Men's Club Man of the Year in 2020 and now serves on their Board. Since 2020 Judy and David have been hosting and announcing evening services seven nights a week. They both serve on the Lifelong Learning and Personnel Policy Committees. In recent years, both have also rejoined the TBEMC Board of Trustees.

Their volunteerism extends far beyond TBEMC. From 1973-78, David was the Cubmaster and Judy a den mother in Cranford Boy Scouts Cub Pack 174. In 1977, David became Chancellor Commander of Cranford Lodge 175 Knights of Pythias.

After David received a Cochlear implant, he and Judy began working as volunteer advisors, coaches, and mentors in the Cochlear organization and were recognized in 2018 with a "HEAR-O's" award. They have successfully encouraged, advised, and mentored many candidates to undergo the cochlear implant procedure, enabling them to hear again. They have made numerous presentations at Cochlear events and stay connected with recipients as they progress along their "Hearing Journey."

Both were born and raised in Jersey City. They married in August 1964. Judy and David founded Baker Scott & Co. in 1979, an international executive search firm specializing in telecommunications, which they operated until retiring in January 2020. When not volunteering, they love spending time with their family and are especially proud of their son Stephen, his wife Marcia, their grandsons Jacob and Andrew, and their son Louis, his wife Barbara, and their granddaughter Elizabeth.

*Sustainer*

מזל טוב

*To this year's honorees...*

**Stephen Solomon  
Howard & Abbie Halperin  
Leah Davidson  
David & Judy Kupferberg**

*I'm so proud to call you friends.*

*Laura Rubin*



*Sustainer*

*In Loving Memory*  
*of*  
**Stephen Solomon**  
**HIS HEART AND HAND**  
**BOTH OPEN**  
**AND BOTH FREE**  
**FOR WHAT HE HAD HE GAVE**

Sidney, Jenny,  
BJ & Duncan



## *Sustainer*



*Honoring Stephen,*

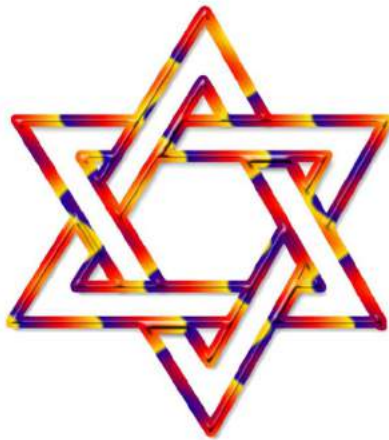
*Our Brother and Uncle,  
And our Friend.*

*His life was an inspiration,  
His memory a blessing.*

*The Ruymaker-Berzon and  
Berzon-Fink families.*

*Sustainer*

*MAZEL TOV  
TO ALL THE HONOREES  
FOR THIS WELL DESERVED  
RECOGNITION*



*Thank you for  
all you do for TBEMC*

*Laura and Aaron Cohen*





*Sustainer*

**How good and pleasant  
it is when god's people  
live together in unity**

**Psalm 133:1**

*and how fortunate we are  
to have such a warm and  
caring TBEMC community*

**an inspiring Rabbi  
devoted leadership  
caring members**

*Best Wishes to All  
Alice Goldfarb*

*Sustainer*

*Congratulations to all our Honorees!*

*Leah Davidson*

*Abbie & Howard Halperin*

*Judy & David Kupferberg*

*Stephen Solomon z"l*

*Thank you for all you and your families  
do for our community*

*May TB&MC continue from strength to strength*

*L'Shalom*

*Debbie and Mark Kaplan*

Builder

# CONGRATULATIONS HONOREES

**Howard and Abbie  
Halperin**



**David and Judy  
Kupferberg**

**Stephen Solomon ז"ל**

**Leah Davidson**

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congratulate our honorees:**

*Leah Davidson*

*Stephen Solomon ז"ל*

*Judy and David Kupferberg*

*Abbie and Howard Halperin*

מזל טוב

TO THE  
HONOREES

IN MEMORY  
OF  
HAROLD OSCLICK

מזל טוב

to all the Honorees

Harriet Mazur  
Renee Herz  
Sandi Sussman



CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL THE HONOREES

MAZEL TOVI!

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Dana Silagi, DDS, MDS  
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Rhondi & Bruce Solomon  
salute TBEMC's Honorees:

The sages and rock of TBEMC  
Howard & Abbie Halperin

Our mentor and inspiration  
Stephen Solomon

TBEMC's future  
Leah Davidson

TBEMC's Heartbeat  
Judy & David Kupferberg

מזל טוב

To All of our Honorees:  
Howard & Abbie Halperin  
Steve Solomon Z"l  
David & Judy Kupferberg  
Leah Davidson

From Stanley & Mindy Kipness

We thank our temple family for this  
wonderful honor!

Mazel Tov to our fellow honorees!

**David & Judy Kupferberg**



*A well deserved honor for Mom & Dad,  
Grandma & Poppy!*

*All our love,*

*Stephen, Marcia, Jacob & Andrew Kupferberg*

*Louis, Barbara & Elizabeth Kupferberg*

*In honor of David & Judy Kupferberg*

*Susan and Tal Sklar*

*Bob and Lauri Saunders*

*Mark and Tobi Rubin*

*Mr Kitchen and Bath*

*Denise and Michael Soriano*

*Shelley and Arie Klapholz*

*Doug and Carolyn Krieger*

*Herb Waldman*

*Carol Frank*

*Charlie Sternberg*

*Phyllis Powers*

*Aleta and Jack Heir*

*Jeff Newmark*

*We are so proud to share in the joy of  
honoring Abbie & Howard Halperin  
and their outstanding contributions  
throughout the years to TBEMC.*

באהבה ובכבוד

*Rachel & Jay Zibelman  
& Emmy Doggy (The children)*

★MAZEL★TOV★

*Sybil Kramer*



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**FOR ALL YOU DO**

**ABBIE & HOWARD HALPERIN  
STEPHEN SOLOMON  
LEAH DAVIDSON  
JUDY & DAVID KUPFERBERG**

**THIS MAZEL TOV'S  
FOR YOU**

**YOUR SISTERHOOD  
&  
MEN'S CLUB  
FRIENDS & SUPPORTERS**

**Mazel Tov**

**to**

Abbie & Howard Halperin

Stephen Solomon

Leah Davidson

David & Judy Kupferberg

Ellen & Phillip Krebsky



Neil Mayer wish a hearty

**Mazel Tov**

**to**

Abbie & Howard Halperin

Stephen Solomon

Leah Davidson

David & Judy Kupferberg

Builder



*to this year's honorees!*

*Phyllis & Lance Kandl*

Builder

*Mazel Tov*

*Abbie & Howard Halperin*

*Stephen Solomon*

*Leah Davidson*

*David & Judy Kupferberg*

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מזל טוב

*Abbie & Howard Halperin*

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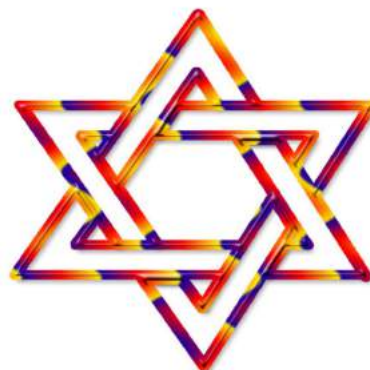
IN HONOR OF OUR  
CHILDREN AND  
GRANDCHILDREN



WITH MUCH LOVE,  
GHITTA AND MARCU  
EIBSCHUTZ

**Mazel Tov**  
**to**

Abbie & Howard Halperin  
Stephen Solomon  
Leah Davidson  
David & Judy Kupferberg



Robert Galen

Builder

*Mazel Tov*  
*honorees!*

Thank you to all the members  
for being an important part of  
our parent's lives.

*-Anonymous*



מזל טוב

*Andrew & Samantha Hickman*



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&  
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**Wishing Mazel Tov  
to Our Honorees**

We are grateful for all  
that you do for TBEMC!

**Heart-felt thanks to all  
the volunteers who worked  
hard to make the  
2022 Benefit  
a resounding success!**

With deep gratitude,  
Melissa & Rabbi Paul D. Kerbel



Mazel Tov

To the 2022 Honorees

Thank you for your dedication to  
TBEMC

Heidi, Seth, and Talia Farber



*Mazel Tov  
to all the honorees*

*Linda & Jonas Leifer*



*Mazel  
Tov!*

Larry Posner



*to the honorees*

Builder

*Aimee & Mitchell Kramer*

*Mazel Tov  
to the  
Honorees*



*Shira & Jason  
Goldberg*

Builder

**KOL HA'KAVOD TO  
ALL THE HONOREES**

**Thank you for  
your hard work  
and dedication!!**

Linda Ershow-Levenberg & David Levenberg



**CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL THE HONOREES**

**MAZEL TOV!**

Dr. Jamie Oshidar, DMD  
205 W Westfield Ave  
Roselle Park, New Jersey 07204



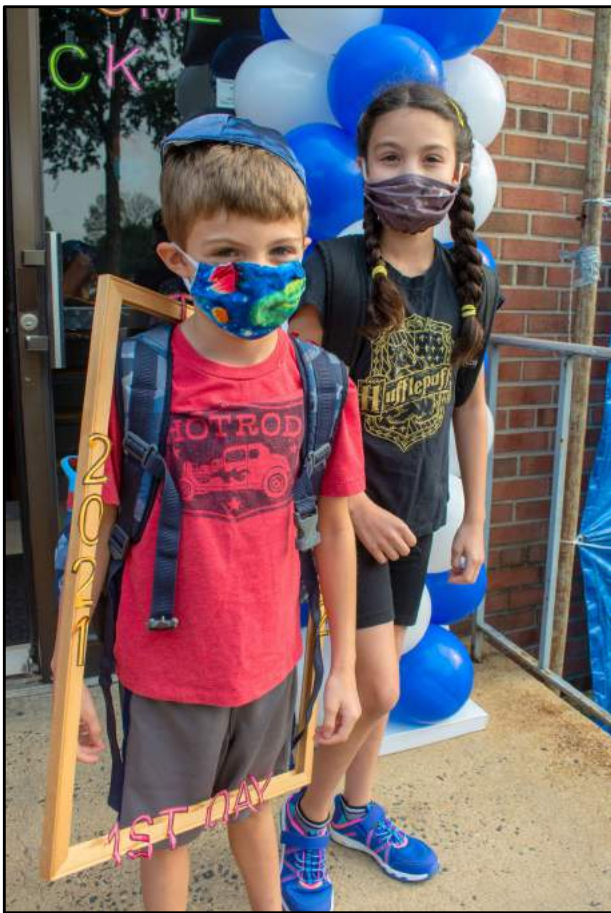
















# *Thank You to*

## **Pillar**

Abbie and Howard Halperin  
Sandy and David Springer

## **Sustainer**

Laura and Aaron Cohen  
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Laura Rubin  
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Elyse Pepose \* Charles Sporn \* Lois Waldman

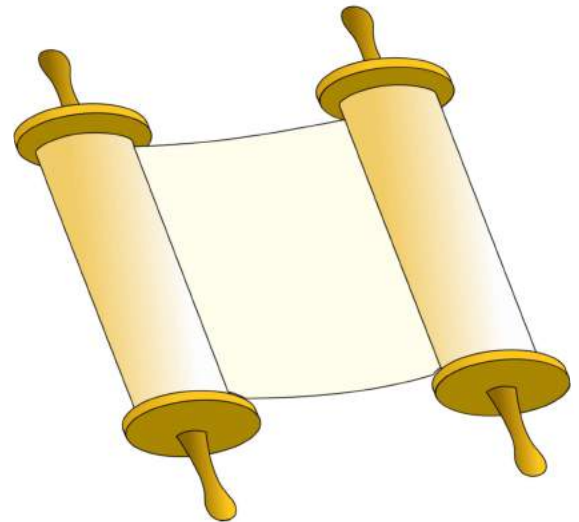
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Tree City Vodka \* Union County of Performing Arts Center (UCPAC)  
USGA Golf Museum \* Winterthur Museum, Garden & Library  
Yestercades of Westfield \* Young Nails Cranford

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