

**APRIL 2025**

KEHILLAT MA'ARAV'S  
MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

*My*

**KM**  
**VOICE**



**OUR NEW TORAH IS HERE!**

**SNAPSHOTS:**

- PURIM
- TORAH DEDICATION

**IN MEMORY OF:  
SUZANNE AMSTER**

**LET'S EAT:  
SPINACH LEEK  
PASSOVER PIE**

## APRIL BIRTHDAYS

## YOM HULEDET SAMEACH!

Howard Behnken  
Gabriela Belasque  
Alan Bernstein  
Daniel Brinkenhoff  
Yehudit Coutin  
Les Eber  
Shirley Elmaleh  
Alla Feldman

Lillian Frisch  
Eileen Goldberg  
Michael Goldberg  
Karen Gottlieb  
Fernanda Gray  
Diana Guth  
Elsa Jones  
Joanne Klein

Stanley Kohn  
Jonathan Kramarsky  
Ellis Kirschenbaum  
Joseph Levy  
Lori Mendez  
Lynda Moses  
Deedy Oberman  
Sherwin Olken

Stan Rubin  
Michael Sacher  
Richard Silverman  
Susan Sperling  
Carol Turetsky  
Michael Wyte  
Joseph Yadegar  
Barry Zwang-Weissman

## APRIL ANNIVERSARIES

## MAZEL TOV!

Manny & Judy Baker  
Curt Biren & Carolyn Spencer  
Thomas & Sidne Erdosi  
Ellis & Gloria Kirschenbaum  
David & Elizabeth Ricanati  
Ted & Roselyne Wolfberg

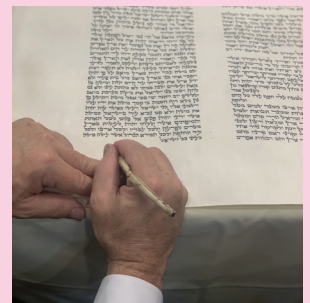
54th anniversary  
25th anniversary  
53rd anniversary  
44th anniversary  
30th anniversary  
60th anniversary

## SNAPSHOTS: "SHUSHANWOOD" PURIM - THURSDAY, MARCH 13





# SNAPSHOTS: TORAH DEDICATION - SUNDAY, MARCH 23





**LET'S EAT:**

# PASSOVER SPINACH, LEEK AND CHEDDAR "PIE"

## INGREDIENTS:

3 TB butter  
3 leeks, white and light green parts  
only, sliced  
5 oz. baby spinach, sliced  
2 cups Cabot cottage cheese  
8 oz. Cabot Cheddar, such as New York  
Extra Sharp, grated  
2 scallions, white and light green  
parts only, sliced  
1/4 cup chives, minced  
1 tsp salt  
1/2 tsp freshly ground black pepper  
2 eggs, beaten  
Mina  
4-6 boards matzo  
1 egg, beaten

## DIRECTIONS:

1. To make the filling, which can be done a day in advance, melt the butter in a large saucepan over medium heat. Add the leeks and sauté, stirring often, until softened, 7 to 8 minutes. Try not to let the leeks brown, but rather just soften, lowering the heat as necessary. Set aside.
2. Combine the spinach, cottage cheese, grated cheddar, scallions, chives and salt and pepper in a large bowl. Add the cooled sautéed leeks and stir to combine. Add the beaten eggs and stir. Set aside.
3. To prepare the mina, preheat the oven to 350. Grease an 8x8 or 9x9 baking pan.
4. Moisten the boards of matzo by holding them under cool running water or by dunking them briefly in a shallow dish of water. You want the boards to soften but remain intact. Wrap the moistened boards in a clean dish towel and let sit for five minutes.
5. Place one of the boards, which should now be pliable, on the bottom of the prepared pan. If there is part of the pan that is not covered, cut or break another board of matzo into pieces and use the pieces to cover any gaps.
6. Top the matzo with half of the vegetable filling. Cover filling with another board of matzo and, again, if there are any gaps, cover those with pieces of matzo.
7. Top matzo with remaining filling. For the top layer of matzo, cut the matzo into squares and overlap them like shingles. (Makes for a prettier presentation.) Brush the top layer of matzo with beaten egg.
8. Bake in preheated oven for 45-50 minutes until the top is golden brown and the filling cooked through. Allow mina to sit for 5-10 minutes before cutting to allow the matzo to absorb excess liquid. Serve warm.



## April 5

Henry Berkin, grandfather of Larry Berkin  
Betty Brook, mother of Robert Brook  
Sadie Goldberg, mother of Elliot Goldberg  
Stan Goldberg, brother of Elliot Goldberg  
Regina Israel, mother of Larry Israel  
Sigmund Kohn, father of Stanley Kohn  
Rivka Vienfald Night, wife of Allan S. Night  
Rose Olken, mother of Sherwin Olken  
Grusha Paterson-Mills, mother of Judy Baker  
Ruth Seeman, sister of Marc Sniderman  
David Stein, cousin of Evelyn Berger  
Randal James Twaite, brother of Karla Gardner  
Morris Wittenberg, father of Marsha Lewin Latiner

## April 12

Ida Bronstein, mother of Bernie Bronstein  
James Dong, father of Shirley Elmaleh  
Shirley Feiner, aunt of Alyssa Ganezer and sister of Celeste Erdley  
Millie Fox, remembered by Gail Rosenfeld  
Merle Goldstone, brother-in-law of Barbara Goldstone  
Gerald Hirschberg, father of Mark Hirschberg  
Leo Kamion, uncle of Matthew Maibaum  
Lorraine Laufer, wife of Bernard Laufer  
Marvin Mord, father of Fran Cohen  
Lena Mund, grandmother of Ellis and Sandy Rosenblatt  
Shirley Nemeroff, sister of Eileen Goldberg  
Thelma O'Reilly, step-mother of Loana Rosenblatt

## April 19

Genevieve Barabash, grandmother of Heather Moses  
Jozef Baruh, grandfather of Gina Epstein  
Leonard Borin, grandfather of Jonathan Moses and father of Lynda Moses

Irving Kagan, father of Marsha Furst  
Linda Kaplan, sister of Arthur Stein  
Nat Karchem, uncle of Debra Silverman  
Andras Kovacs, remembered by Shelly Vedres  
Sharon P. Krischer, sister-in-law of Joel & Sharon Krischer  
Arthur E. Lewis, father of Teri Lewis  
Eric Muller, husband of Lily Muller and father of Paul Muller  
Ira Olken, brother of Sherwin Olken  
Esther Glazer Stadtmauer, friend of Carol Turetsky  
Chana Weinstein, grandmother of Shelly Vedres

## April 26

Suzanne Amster, mother of Michael Amster  
Harry Berger, father-in-law of Evelyn Berger  
Sally Berkin, grandmother of Larry Berkin  
Lillian Fein, mother-in-law of Lucy Fein  
Max Karchem, grandfather of Debra Silverman  
David Kramarsky, uncle of Jonathan Kramarsky  
Beatrice Mikelson, aunt of Michael Menitoff  
Michael Nemeroff, nephew of Eileen and Lew Goldberg  
Anne Rosenblatt, mother of Ellis and Sandy Rosenblatt  
Marcia Shapiro, mother of Rachael Shapiro  
Abram Jay Wolfberg, grandfather of Kathie Rose  
Milton Ziegler, uncle of Randy Ziegler and Julie Ziegler  
Ray Zucker, mother of Lou Zucker

# IN MEMORY OF



Photo: Suzanne and Shraga

## SUZANNE AMSTER

### REMEMBERED BY HER SON MICHAEL AMSTER

My mother Suzanne, was born a half a world away in Timisoara, Romania on March 14, 1932. Her life was marked by reinvention. She lived through the war, and as an only child with a father who died young, she was bonded to her mother Gizelle. They both left Romania to Israel in 1958 and worked there until she met my father in 1965 who then whisked both his future wife and mother-in-law to Los Angeles.

When she arrived in Los Angeles, my mother finished her studies with a French BA from CSUN and embarked on a Masters Degree with interruptions for the birth of her 3 children - Michael the oldest in 1968 and twins Ariel and Ron in 1969. With 3 young boys, a nanny, a mother, and husband, her house was always a flurry of activity. However Suzanne always found a way to make a home cooked dinner each day. She was an excellent cook and passed her talents to all three of her children.

My mother worked in fashion with her mother. They had a small dress shop called Gizelle Couture on Little Santa Monica in Beverly Hills until Gizelle passed away in 1987. Suzanne then decided to go into teaching and became an LAUSD Elementary School teacher at Van Nuys Elementary School. She worked there for 17 years until cancer side-lined her. She retired and went on to take care of my father and be a devoted grandmother to her 7 grandchildren. My mother was known for her linguistic skill and fluency in 7 languages. She could seamlessly switch between Hungarian, English, Spanish, French, Hebrew and more. Suzanne was also known for being a fashionista and a shopper extraordinaire. She filled her closets with clothes and shoes and was always smartly dressed for every occasion.

She lived 58 years in her home in Studio City and enjoyed her weekly visits from us for brunch. She kept busy until the end with lunches with friends, visits to Chico's and Nordstroms, and video calls from her sons in NY and Hawaii and their families. She passed away May 6, 2024 peacefully after a long illness. Suzanne was always very welcoming to her daughters-in-law and especially loved her granddaughters since she had no girls of her own. She showered everyone with clothing gifts from her closet and we all wear memories of her.

# CONTRIBUTIONS & TRIBUTES

*Thank you for your support.*

## GENERAL FUND

### A donation by

Fariba Sameyah

### In memory of

- **FLORENCE GRODY,**  
mother of Wayne Grody, by Wayne and Gaylen Grody
- **MORRIS WITTENBERG,**  
father of Marsha Lewin Latiner, by Marsha Lewin Latiner
- **JACK SCHWARTZ,**  
father-in-law of Beverly Schwartz, by Beverly Schwartz
- **LILLIAN FEIN,**  
mother-in-law of Lucy Fein, by Lucy Fein
- **RIVKA VIENFALD NIGHT,**  
wife of Allan S. Night, by Allan S. Night
- **SAM WOLFF,**  
father of Sharon Krischer, by Sharon and Joel Krischer
- **LEONARD BORIN,**  
father of Lynda Moses, by Don and Lynda Moses
- **IRA OLKEN,**  
brother of Sherwin Olken, Sherwin and Elaine Olken
- **ROSE OLKEN,**  
mother of Sherwin Olken, Sherwin and Elaine Olken
- **IDA BRONSTEIN,**  
mother of Bernie Bronstein, by Susan and Bernie Bronstein

- **GERALD SALTSMAN,**  
father of Susan Oberman, by Minda and Jeffrey Salberg
- **WILLARD WARREN,**  
father of Stuart Warren, by Stuart Warren
- **MILLIE FOX,**  
remembered by Gail Rosenfeld, by Gail Rosenfeld
- **BARAK BEN-TOR,**  
son-in-law of Gail Rosenfeld, by Gail Rosenfeld

## CANTOR'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

### A donation by

Teri Lewis

## RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

### A donation by

Alan and Annie Bernstein

### In memory of

Minnie Freeman, mother of Izzy Freeman, by Izzy and Marilyn Freeman  
Bobbette Diener, mother of Marilyn Freeman, by Izzy and Marilyn Freeman



*for your donations*



*Come celebrate Passover with us*

Community-wide  
*First night  
Passover Seder  
& Dinner*

at Kehillat Ma'arav

**Saturday, April 12 @ 6pm**



**VISIT OUR WEBSITE OR THE WEEKLY TO RSVP FOR THE SEDER!**

**Passover Services Schedule:**

Sunday, April 13 at 9:30am

Monday, April 14 at 9:30am

Saturday, April 19 at 9:30am (Shabbat)

Sunday, April 20 at 9:30am (Yizkor)

**KEHILLAT** קהלת מערב  
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