

OCTOBER 2022

KEHILLAT MA'ARAV'S
MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

My
KM
VOICE

**SCHOOL
IS BACK IN
SESSION!**



**KM BIZ SPOTLIGHT
BRON REALTY GROUP**

**IN MEMORY OF
RACHELLE SOMEKH
DAN ZWITMAN**

**MAZEL TOV
4 NEW BABIES!**

HAPPY BIRTHDAY *YOM HULEDET SAMEACH!*

Gary H. Andrew
Svetlana Averbukh
Rabbi Haim Dov Beliak
Beverly Bienstock
Mitchell Blake
Michel Bron
Celeste Erdley
Karla Gardner
Elliot Goldberg

Ann Harris
Paul Hoffman
Area Kramarsky
Evan Krantz
Elda Lazaro
Jonathan Moses
Sonia Sabban
Laurie Samson
Shaina Shapiro

Patricia Solomon
Sharon Steiglitz
Joni Trempala
Lloyd Wagner
Roselynn Wolfberg
Randy Ziegler
Lou Zucker
Julia Weinberg Zwitman

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY *MAZEL TOV!*

Robert & Tamara Bernstein	25th anniversary
Brian & Eileen Cohen	26th anniversary
Jonathan & Fran Cohen	37th anniversary
Andrew & Tally Lippman	22nd anniversary
Mark Hirschberg & Brenda Ligorsky	23rd anniversary
Michael & Roz Menitoff	42nd anniversary
Brian & Lori Papernik	29th anniversary
Avraham & Anat Shemesh	21st anniversary

KM MEMBER BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT

With over 21 years experience in Real Estate in Los Angeles, Michel & Jacolyn Bron of the Bron Realty Group continue to be one of the top producing agents in the city. Michel & Jacolyn both have in-depth knowledge of the Los Angeles real estate market, from Santa Monica, to Los Feliz and from the San Fernando Valley to Marina del Rey.



During his time as the associate team-leader at both the Brentwood and Marina Del Rey Keller Williams offices, Michel taught newly licensed Realtors, ethics and negotiation techniques to help sellers and buyers get the best deal and the most money for their home, in the shortest amount of time.

Michel & Jacolyn's business integrity & work ethic are a testament to the hundreds of happy clients who consistently refer their friends and family to them over and over again.

Michel is also a Probate Certified Specialist, a Senior Real Estate Specialist (SRES) and when necessary, they can handle not only the selling process but also the entire home preparation (coordinating a declutterer, a handyman, a painter, etc...). He is also fluent in French, and even speaks "a bisel yiddish too..."

Our philosophy is simple: Clients come first. We pledge to be in constant communication with our clients, keeping them fully informed throughout the entire buying or selling process. We believe that if you're not left with an amazing experience, we haven't done our job.

Feel free to contact us with any Real Estate questions or a complimentary "True Value" Market analysis of your home or income property. We are happy to help!

(310)467-8042 / Michel@BronRealtyGroup.com www.BronRealtyGroup.com

SPECIAL OFFER to KM Congregants - We will pay your escrow fees!

SEE LAST PAGE OF THIS NEWSLETTER FOR INFORMATION ON HOW YOU CAN JOIN KM'S BUSINESS DIRECTORY.

Mazel Tov!

**Willow Bashert
Hoffman**



To Sue and Paul Hoffman, on the birth of their granddaughters, Willow Bashert Hoffman, born on Sunday, August 21, and Remi Naomi Lucas, born on September 19. Willow is the daughter of their son, Adam, and his wife, Amy, and Remi is the daughter of their daughter, Sarah, and her husband, Taylor.

**Ori-Shlomo
Luber**



To Anat and Avi Shemesh, on the birth of their grandson, Ori-Shlomo Luber, born on August 22. Ori-Shlomo is the son of their daughter, Maya, and her husband, Danny Luber.

**Remi Naomi
Lucas**



**Benjamin
David Short**



To Holly and Joel Strom, on the birth of their grandson, Benjamin David Short, born on September 23. Benjamin is the son of their daughter, Natalie and her husband, Michael Short. Benjamin is also the great-grandson of Shirley Strom and nephew of Elaine and Howard Behnken.

In Loving Memory

Rachelle Somekh

Remembered by Carmella Pardo



How best to portray the character of my dear mother Rachelle Somekh in just a few words? She reminds me of the popular toy that can never be pushed down, that always stays upright. No matter, how bumpy her life's journey she always managed to remain upright.

My mother was born in 1922 in Basra Iraq, to a very wealthy family. From childhood to age 17, she was placed by her mother in a French Convent boarding school. Never questioning why her other two sisters stayed home and only she was sent away. She immediately made the convent her home. She found her place in whatever came her way. She befriended everyone and was so loved that she was nicknamed "the daughter of the Convent".

When my father was imprisoned with thousands of other Iraqi innocent Jews after Iraq's defeat in Israel's War of Independence, she knew it was not safe for her, a woman alone, to wait for my father's release. She took my little brother and me and escaped through Iran to Israel, with some 25 other Jewish refugees. After placing my brother and me in a kibbutz in Israel, she joined an Ulpan to learn Hebrew, which became her fourth language she fluently spoke. And in typical affability, she immediately befriended her Ulpan teacher.

I vividly remember her first visit to me on the Kibbutz. She wore an elegant light gray pantsuit. Even as a young girl I was shocked by this inconceivable modern trouser attire for a Middle Eastern woman who had left the Arab world only a year prior. But her Iraq was the past and forgotten, and now she would partake in her new life, embraced it fully. Until her last days, she always dressed elegantly even if she just went down to the neighborhood store.

There were many challenges, her family money was gone, our income limited, the apartment small and crowded. To save money, she shopped at the Carmel Market in Tel Aviv, which required her to return home on foot and by bus while carrying impossibly heavy bags of groceries. Despite all of this, I never heard my mother complain about how difficult life had become for her. While her friends often bemoaned the loss of the wealth and comfort they had enjoyed in Iraq. My mother ignored them and joyfully celebrated life at every step.

Nor did she complain about being without her family when my brother and I settled in the United States, leaving my mother alone in Israel (my father, who had joined us after his prison sentence, died relatively young. She had no children, or grandchildren with her, yet every time we spoke on the phone, and we spoke often, she would tell us stories about our family and about the Israeli political scene, which was her favorite spectator sport. She would keep all of us riveted on the speakerphone, entertained and uplifted. I often wondered how she became our cheerleader, rather than we hers, when she was left alone without her immediate family.

And what wonderful food she cooked! She celebrated life through cooking for others and she became a true chef of Iraqi Jewish cuisine. In her 80s my nephews and my son decided to build a cooking site for her which received incredible amount of response from all over the world. The site is also engraved on her grave site: recipesbyrachel.com

My husband and stepchildren loved her and she them, my son adored her and she him. She was a truly classy and deeply loved LADY! I am proud to claim her as my mother.



Daniel Harris Zwitman *Remembered by* *Julia Weinberg Zwitman*

A life of service, devotion and dedication. Rabbi, Doctor, Daniel Harris Zwitman, came from a distinguished lineage of Rabbis. In addition to being a Rabbi, Dan was also a dedicated neurophysiologist, who taught at the UCLA Medical School for over 12 years. During his lifetime, Daniel helped a small army of special needs youngsters who might otherwise have fallen by the wayside. He was prolific in developing swallowing programs, reading programs (for special need readers), spelling programs and made the time to be of service even in his off duty hours.

Often times when Dan and I were shopping at a mall, a parent would come up out of the blue, and say, "Dr. Zwitman, you changed my child's life, and his self esteem is now fully regained!" At other times, it was a youngster who said, "Dr. Zwitman do you remember me? I saw you when I was 7 years old. I stuttered, you cured me, and now I'm in law school!"

Rabbi, Doctor, Daniel Harris Zwitman, truly exemplified the major pillars of Judaism: kindness, service and love of fellow man. Dan loved being of service to KM when asked to give a sermon in Rabbis' absence, and so very much enjoyed being a part of our Havurah. There is not a day that goes by that I am not reminded of his considerable and deeply valued contributions.

In loving memory of my devoted husband of 26 years.



SOCIAL ACTION OPPORTUNITY

Rise

AGAINST HUNGER

EXPERIENCE

**THIS MITZVAH OPPORTUNITY IS PERFECT FOR ALL AGES
AND ABILITIES. WE WILL BE PACKAGING 10,000 MEALS!**



10am-12pm
OCTOBER
30th
@ KM

CONTRIBUTIONS & TRIBUTES

GENERAL FUND

In honor of

The High Holidays, by Jeff and Lori Baker

In memory of

Alex Bernstein, father of Stu and Martin Bernstein, by Stu Bernstein, Martin Bernstein, and the Bernstein family

Rubin Eckstein, grandfather of Karen Gottlieb, by Karen Gottlieb

Ira Fistell, partner of Rachel Berg, by Manny and Judy Baker, Beverly and Bernie Bienstock, Eileen and Brian Cohen, Karen Gottlieb, Sandy, Annie, Dawn and Suzy Sostrin, Stan Ziegler

Henriette Glick, mother of Michael Wyte, by Michael Wyte

Selma Gordon, cousin of Lori Papernik, by Lori and Brian Papernik

Robert Grody, father of Wayne Grody, by Wayne and Gaylen Grody

Boris Gusse, grandfather of Sara Barnard, by Sara Barnard

Sam Jankelowitz, father of Leon Janks, by Leon and Sharon Janks

Jacob Karpel, grandfather of Susan Karpel, by Susan Karpel

Samuel Klein, father of Mimi Klein, by Mimi Klein

Abraham Mund, grandfather of Ellis Rosenblatt, by Ellis Rosenblatt

Harvey Olken, brother of Sherwin Olken, by Sherwin and Elaine Olken, Judy and Manny Baker, Brana Hall, Karen Gottlieb, Susan and Alan Sperling, Stan Ziegler

Isidor Pardo, father-in-law of Carmella Pardo, by Carmella Pardo

Rachel Somekh, mother of Carmella Pardo, by Carmella Pardo

Hanan Weizman, father of Sharone Weizman, by Marla Rubin and David Shapendonk

Eva Zwang, mother of Linda Zwang-Weizman, by Linda and Barry Zwang-Weissman

Daniel Zwitman, husband of Julia Weinberg Zwitman, by Julia Weinberg Zwitman

DAVID OBERMAN MEMORIAL LECTURE FUND

In memory of

David Oberman, husband of Susan Oberman, by Steven and Maya Oberman

JACK TOPAL KIDDUSH FUND

Contributions by

Susan and Bernie Bronstein, Marla Rubin and David Shapendonk

RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

Thank you to

Rabbi Gotlieb for everything, by Susan Karpel

In honor of

The blessing of my tallit, by Karen Gottlieb

In memory of

Helen Kamion, grandmother of Matthew Maibaum, by Matthew Maibaum

Jerome Maibaum, grandfather of Matthew Maibaum, by Matthew Maibaum

Elaine and I want to thank our friends at KM for their kind expressions of sympathy and concern following my brother Harvey's passing.

— Sherwin M. Olken

YAHREZEITS

Listed by date name is read at Shabbat Services.



October 1

Alvin Mills, step-father of Judy Baker
Rose Binen, grandmother of Ruth Barnett
Sari Joyce Bennett, daughter of Lolly Bennett
Adolph Fogel, grandfather of Larry Berkin
Stuart Perelman, cousin of Ira Fistell
Florence Ganezer, mother of David Ganezer
David Goldberg, son of Elliot Goldberg
Marian Goldin, aunt of Sharon Janks
Jacob Karpel, grandfather of Susan Karpel
Sarah Kern, mother of Harvey Kern
Dennis Oberman, husband of Deedy Oberman and father-in-law of Susan Oberman
Isidor Pardo, father-in-law of Carmella Pardo
FERENCE Waldman Vedres, father in-law of Shelly Vedres
Henriette Glick, mother of Michael Wyte
Bill Bleavins, father of Susan Ziegler
Morris Ziegler, grandfather of Stan Ziegler and great-grandfather of Randy Ziegler
Irene K. Ness, mother of Barry Zwang-Weissman

October 8

Yetta Baker, mother of Emanuel Baker
Malvina Diamant, mother of Louis Diamant
Jacob Beliak, father of Rabbi Haim Dov
Anna Esther Goodman, mother of Celeste Erdley and grandmother of Alyssa Ganezer
Jerome Maibaum, grandfather of Matthew Maibaum
Helen Kamion, grandmother of Matthew Maibaum
David Oberman, husband of Susan Oberman and son of Deedy Oberman
Robert Packer, father of David Packer
Paul Osterman, uncle of Kathie Rose
Marty Hafter, father of Ronnie Rubin
Dora Karchem, mother-in-law of Joan Karchem and grandmother of Debra Silverman
Harriett Gitter, mother of Richard Silverman
Sam Topal, father-in-law of Linda Topal
Anne Chernoff, mother of Judy Zucker

October 15

Rabbi Morris Baker, father of Manny Baker

Boris Gusse, grandfather of Sara Barnard

Leonard Atkins, brother-in-law of Edith Ballonoff and uncle of Lynn Beliak

Sally Segal Spilberg, mother of Lolly Bennett

Scott Antolick, nephew of Charles Goldsmith

Robert Grody, father of Wayne Grody

Samuel Klein, father of Mimi Klein

Fannye Weinberg, grandmother of Don Morris

Charlotte Hoffman, mother of Gail Rosenfeld

Anne Kline, grandmother of Sharon Steiglitz

October 22

Shirley Heller, remembered by the KM congregation

Goldie Kafka, mother of Sidne Erdosi

Mildred Eve Sharon, mother of Barbara Goldstone

Alex Landsberry, husband of Frances Landsberry

Rose Lippman, grandmother of Tamara Bernstein, Andrew Lippman, and Bill Lippman

Benjamin Wolfsdorf, father of Lily Muller and grandfather of Paul Muller

Rachel Somekh, mother of Carmella Pardo

Irv Rosenfeld, husband of Gail Rosenfeld

Leonard Solomon, husband of Patricia Solomon

Faye Flate, mother of Norma Stein

Alan Ace Tamaroff, brother of Tammy Steinsapir

Eva Zwang, mother of Linda Zwang-Weissman

October 29

Mayim Reissman, sister of Alan Bernstein

Estelle Gray, mother of Beverly Bienstock

Richard Blake, father of Mitch Blake

Andrew Richter, cousin of Eileen Cohen

Jacques Elmaleh, father of Philippe Elmaleh

Siegfried Samuel, father of Cande Friedman

Janet Goldberg, mother of George A. Goldberg

George Madaras, grandfather of Area Kramarsky

Aron David Meltzner, father of Sid Meltzner

Carol Weiner, mother of Leah Mendelsohn

Selma Gordon, cousin of Lori Papernik

Jack Topal, husband of Linda Topal

Daniel Zwitman, husband of Julia Weinberg Zwitman

Support Fellow Members' Businesses!



Add your name to the new KM online business directory! Whether you own or are part of a business, or are looking for business services, this directory is for you! Many of us have known each other for years, so it makes sense to reach out to one another when seeking a particular service or questions in various sectors of work. This new directory will be formed by members filling out the (online) form on our website or the weekly.

Once your information is received, it will be uploaded to the Kehillat Ma'arav website and you can find all listings by clicking on a link on our homepage.

If you have any questions, please contact Nancy Pearl pearl.nancy@gmail.com / (310) 804-4503, or Jacolyn Bron jacolyn@bronrealtygroup.com / (310) 251-9413.

Thanks for being a member and please recruit your fellow KMers to do so as well!

Our fine print (because there always is some!): This is a free service for members of Kehillat Ma'arav, and not a referral for other businesses.

KEHILLAT קהילת מערב
THE WESTSIDE CONGREGATION **MA'ARAV**

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President
Executive Director
Director of Education & Youth Programs
Head of Early Childhood & Arts Programs
Business Manager
Events Coordinator
Administrative Assistant
Graphic Design & Communications
Building Manager

Michael Gotlieb
Nissim Nati
Ellis Kirschenbaum
Kate Flanagan
Sharone Weizman
Masha Savitz Keys
Joanne Klein
Cindy Roth
Rose Piccirilli
Mia Schai Labowitz
Carlos Perez