

# The Shofar

CONGREGATION TIFERETH ISRAEL

*A National Historic Site*

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Kislev-Tevet 5784/December 2023

## • CALENDAR OF EVENTS •

### *Shabbat and Holiday Services (Hybrid)*

Fridays: Erev Shabbat, 7:30 p.m.

Saturdays: Shabbat, 9:30 a.m.

### *Dates To Remember*

Thursday, Dec. 7: First Hanukkah candle

Thursday, Dec. 21: The Winter Solstice

The Winter Solstice is the point at which the path of the sun in the sky is farthest south. The sun will travel the shortest path through the sky, resulting in the day of the year with the least sunlight and, therefore, the longest night. Once the solstice passes, we gain approximately a minute of light each day until the Summer Solstice on June 20, 2024

Sunday, Dec. 31-Monday, Jan. 1: New Year's Eve-New Year's Day

### *Shul Events*

Friday, Dec. 1: First Friday Oneg Shabbat, hosted by Ellen Buchbinder

#### **Big Reveal Sunday: Art Show and Silent Auction events**

Sunday, Dec. 3: Bagels and lox brunch, followed by Art Show of Israeli works, opening reception and art talk by gallerist and curator Michelle Schwartz, 11 a.m. community room

Sunday, Dec. 3: "Great Stuff Silent Auction," Opening Party, 5 p.m. on Zoom

Sunday, Dec. 10: Light the menorah in Mitchell Park, 5 p.m., party, music and Silent Auction at the shul

Monday, Dec. 11: Ritual Committee, 10 a.m., Pastoral Committee, 11 a.m., on Zoom

Sunday, Dec. 17: Board meeting 9 a.m., Congregation meeting 10 a.m., on Zoom

Thursday, Dec. 21: Book Circle, 3 p.m., on Zoom

### *Lighting Shabbat Candles in December*

Dec. 1: 4:11   Dec. 8: 4:10   Dec. 15: 4:11   Dec. 22: 4:14   Dec. 29: 4:18

Deadline for the January 2024 issue of *The Shofar*: December 20

## From The Rabbi...



### “The Misguided Premise of the Anti-Israel Message”

The dramatic pro-Palestinian demonstration that took place on Nov. 15 gave witness that Columbia University continues to be a battlefield and a tinderbox of Palestinian Protest, colored by a distortion (intentional or not) of the Palestinian cause.

Since 2008, I have seen the slow progress of Apartheid Week on the Columbia campus, developing from a small booth to an army. Even after two pro-Palestinian organizations — Students for Justice in Palestine and Jewish Voice for Peace — were suspended from campus because of their violent rhetoric in a demonstration on Monday, Oct. 23, they arranged another demonstration of 200 people outside the gates, carrying signs that said, “By any means necessary.” Following the barbaric events in Israel on Oct. 7, things progressed quickly. My professor, who heads the Institute for Israel Jewish

Studies at Columbia, thought we should organize an interfaith event on campus. The matter became more urgent after the Oct. 23 demonstration.

The demonstration prompted a discussion in class. Everyone was shaken. The professor asked me to share with the class my own family history, which I had detailed in my mid-term paper. It centered on my parents’ immigration to Israel in 1951 via Operation Wings of Eagles, and stated the case that virtually half of the Jews in Israel are indigenous to the region. Indeed, 1948 saw thousands of Arabs displaced from Palestine, but thousands of Jews were displaced from surrounding Arab countries as well. None of the students knew that. My subsequent conversations with our own congregants, community residents (including members of GEM, our local ecumenical group) again revealed no awareness of the makeup of the Jewish population in Israel.

This past week, I spoke at the Bayit — the oldest Jewish food co-op. The students there were thirsty for a conversation. A couple of them even said they wouldn’t care if Israel lost the land, as long as they stopped the bombing in Gaza. That many Israeli Jews are indigenous to the land, and that there was always a Jewish presence there, albeit small, was startling to them, yet it resonated. They agreed that we need to think differently, take a new approach.

The essential (and false) argument of anti-Israel rhetoric is that the country was colonized by white Europeans. The essence of all the demonstrations against Israel boils down to this distortion: Jews are white Europeans who colonized the brown indigenous man. Anti-Israel rhetoric found a button that is pushed over and over and over again.

Incorrect. In Europe, Jews were not white enough. In America, Jews gradually became white and assimilated. Moreover, the current American public perception is firmly set that Jews are white. On that basis, Black Lives Matter connects itself to the Palestinian cause, considering Jews white European colonizers.

Since this has become the main argument — that we are all white colonizers — it means that to free Palestine, all measures become acceptable and legitimate. Therefore, we need to create an impactful event with the sole purpose to flip this argument. Considering my personal history, I am in a unique position to state the following premises:

**Jews are indigenous to the Middle East and the region. World and regional wars caused a similar number of Jews and Arabs to be displaced in the Middle East in the years surrounding 1948. We are not giving up on interfaith dialogue; on the contrary, we will continue to speak to all who denounce the savagery in the attack on Oct. 7. We continue to believe that the Middle East must focus on religion and interfaith relations to promote a sustainable peace.**

The parallel to the challenges of the 1930s is striking. For many years, I sat behind Eli Wiesel in synagogue and joined him in washing the hands of the Kohanim on the High Holidays. We didn’t speak much. We didn’t need to. His message to not remain silent in the face of adversity resonated loudly enough. Even though we seem to be Me’atim mul rabim — a few against the many, let us not despair. We must respond to the time and place in which we find ourselves. This is our moment. We must counter that which is a blood libel and yell this message from every rooftop.

May God bless Israel and keep it, and shine His face upon her, and give her peace.

—Rabbi Gadi Capela

## From The President...



### “Christmas Makes Me Anxious”

Overheard in the checkout line at Costco:

Woman #1: Can you believe this crowd? Look, packed with Christmas shoppers.

Woman #2: Christmas shopping seems to start earlier and earlier these days.

Woman #1: Well, it's not even Thanksgiving, but let me be the first to wish you a merry Christmas.

Woman #2: I don't celebrate Christmas. I'm Jewish.

Woman #1: Oh, I'm sorry. I didn't know. I didn't mean to offend you.

With December comes Christmas. And Christmas makes me anxious. Not because of the shoppers jamming the aisles in the supermarket and at the malls, not to mention trying to find a parking space. Not because of the constant rotation of Christmas music on the radio. And not because every program on TV has a Christmas episode, and every Christmas movie ever made is playing on the movie channels. Even Netflix is offering Christmas picks for December.

Nope, none of that really bothers me. In fact, I have favorites among the Christmas melodies, and years ago, when I had a bit of a voice, I joined an ecumenical group rehearsing Handel's "Messiah," which we presented in a late afternoon concert at a church in the village where we lived. The acoustics in that church, with its barrel-vaulted ceiling were extraordinary, and every Hallelujah set to Handel's stirring composition reverberated joyously throughout the sanctuary. At the end, my family and I hurried out and raced home in time to light the Hanukkah candles at sundown.

So where is all the anxiety coming from? That's easy. From little exchanges like the one heard at Costco. Or when a customer in a store reprimands a storeowner or salesperson that the place down the street has a menorah in the window as well Christmas decorations, and asks, "Why don't you?" Or when parents won't let their children sing Christmas carols in school, or play Santa's elves in the class play.

Maybe this is a surprising point of view for a synagogue president. You might rather be expecting me to promote the Jewish story, Jewish identity, Jewish values — Jewish values, I hear that phrase a lot, by the way. Are Jewish values so different from the values of good people whether Jewish or not?

If ever there is a time when we should be coming together, not setting up barriers, it would have to be now. At the time of this writing, innocent Jews and Palestinians are dying in a war that has no meaning for any of them. One minute they are in the loving arms of their families, and in the next, they are struggling against the unknown and mourning losses.

This is no time to turn away good wishes and the heartfelt spirit in which they are given, whether for Christmas, Hanukkah, Kwanza or just a friendly hello with no agenda attached. What's wrong with "Thank you. Same to you."?

Of all the holidays throughout the year — those celebrated by Jews or observed by other faiths — Christmas is the one that touches all my senses. It's not what I *see* — tinsel and red bows are bright and cheerful, happy ornamentations. No complaint there. It's not what I *taste* — cranberry everything — sauce, bread, pastries, stuffing, whatever. And I'm particularly fond of the port wine cheddar cheese and cranberry nut bread that appear during the holiday season. It's not what I *smell* — that fresh, clean, sinus-clearing fragrance of evergreen. And it's not what I *touch* either — the rosy red cheeks of my adult grandchildren making snow angels if we're lucky enough to get a white Christmas.

And yet — the season of peace on earth, good will to all — makes me anxious. What worries me is what I might *hear* people say to each other.

—Sara Bloom

## • SHUL NEWS AND NOTES •

### **Shul To Mount A New Art Show Featuring Works By Israeli Painters** *Show Opens Sunday, Dec. 3 With Bagels/Lox Brunch and Art Talk*



By special arrangement with Michelle Schwartz, a highly regarded gallerist and curator of Israeli art in the Bay Area of San Francisco, the Judaism and Art group is mounting a new art show in the community room of our shul.

The first viewing of the show will take place on Sunday, Dec. 3, at 11 a.m., at a bagels and lox brunch, after which Michelle Schwartz will talk about the art, the artists, and the vision each artist conveys about the challenges and ideals of living in Israel.

The show is particularly significant at this time of turmoil focused on the State of Israel. See the country through the eyes of an impressive roster of creative artists and their enlightening insights and expressions. Represented are works by Dorit Feldman, Samuel Katz, Menashe Kadishman, Moshe Kupferman, David Reeb, Naftali Bezem, Nachum Guttman, Moshe Castel and Samuel Bak.

“I’m looking forward to talking about this body of work, revealing the stories about this art at this time — what inspired it, and what it says about 20th-century creative artists and their world,” Michelle Schwartz said. The shul will receive a generous percent of the proceeds from any sales.

Bring your family and friends. Bring your appetite for a bagels and lox spread, and prepare for an engaging and uplifting afternoon.

[Photo Menashe Kadishman by Dan Porges/Getty Images]

### **Plans Underway For Annual Shul Hanukkah Party On Sunday, Dec. 10** *It Ain’t Just Latkes...*



The annual shul Hanukkah party is jam-packed with fun stuff to see, to do and, of course, to eat.

Will there be latkes? You bet. Chef Deborah Pittorino has promised 300-400 latkes for the party. And that ain’t all.

Also on the menu: jelly-filled doughnuts (sufganiot), hot cider, coffee, tea, cold drinks, plus applesauce and sour cream for the latkes.

What else? Thanks to the hard work of Madelyn Rothman, Roberta Garris and Nina Neimark, we will have a Silent Auction. The kickoff event will take place on Sunday, Dec. 3, at 5 p.m. — when everyone will see the great stuff (!) we have this year. Final bidding will take place at the Hanukkah event. Bring your smart phones and iPads for last chances to bid.

Of course, it all starts at 5 p.m. on Sunday, Dec. 10, in Mitchell Park, when we will light the public menorah, recite the traditional prayers and sing the traditional songs before heading back to the shul and the hundreds of hot latkes — plus schmoozing, holiday music, and all of the above — awaiting our arrival.

Wow! How’s that for a fun-filled night? Told ya. It ain’t just latkes.

#### **And by the way...**

Get your Hanukkah goodies at the shul’s Gift Shop — menorah, candles, choco coins, dreidels — plus, of course, items for home and for giving. Email [ctigreenport@gmail.com](mailto:ctigreenport@gmail.com) with a message for Sara Bloom.



## A Letter To The Congregation From CAST...

Thank you so much for all the effort involved in administering the Cans For Cast drive. The cans and nonperishables collected will go directly toward feeding the 1,211 families who use our services. The work we do would be impossible without the support and collaboration of community members like you.

Warmly,  
Center for Advocacy, Support and Transformation (CAST)

### Calendar for giving

Tikkun Olam, a shul group that spearheads charitable giving on behalf of the shul, has established a calendar for giving this year:

September/Yom Kippur: Cans For CAST  
Early November: John's Place  
Late November: Chickens for CAST  
December: Children's toys

March: ParentChild+ Program  
May to October: Common Ground veggies and herbs/planting and harvesting  
August: School supplies

## CAST's 'Holiday Toy Drive' Is Under Way; The Big Red Barrel Returns

**HELP MAKE THE SEASON BRIGHTER BY DONATING TO THE CAST**

# HOLIDAY TOY DRIVE

**NOVEMBER 18 – DECEMBER 12**

**DONATE NEW & UNWRAPPED TOYS FOR CHILDREN OF ALL AGES AT:**

<b>SOUTHOOLD/PECONIC</b> Bank of America Blue Duck Bakery Chick's Southold Agway Dime Bank First Presbyterian Church Fitness Advantage Greenport Harbor Brewing Co. Mullen Motors North Fork Roasting Co. Peconic Recreation Center Port of Egypt Marine Southold Free Library Southold Pharmacy Southold Town Hall The Giving Room Underground Training Wednesday's Table	<b>CUTCAGOUE</b> Cutchogue-New Suffolk Free Library Cutchogue Pharmacy Harvest Pointe Santa's Christmas Tree Farm <b>MATTITUCK</b> Blue Sage Spa CVS Dime Bank Mattituck-Laurel Library Strong's Marine Strong's Water Club/Windamere Total Dental Care	<b>GREENPORT</b> Amazing Flavors American Beech Blue Duck Bakery Congregation Tifereth Israel Dime Bank First & South Floyd Memorial Library Goldsmith's Toys Greenport Harbor Brewing Co. Holy Trinity Episcopal Church M&T Bank Peconic Landing <b>ORIENT</b> Orient Congregational Church Oysterponds School
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**SHIP TOYS DIRECTLY FROM ONLINE RETAILERS:**  
CAST 53930 Main St. Southold, NY 11971 attn: TOYS

**FOR GIFT CARDS AND MONETARY DONATIONS:**  
**DROP OFF:** CAST 53930 Main St. Southold  
**MAIL:** CAST PO Box 1566 Southold, NY 11971  
**ONLINE:** [castnorthfork.org/home/events/cast-holiday-toy-drive-2022-2/](https://castnorthfork.org/home/events/cast-holiday-toy-drive-2022-2/)

**CAST**  
CENTER FOR ADVOCACY | SUPPORT | TRANSFORMATION  
[CASTNORTHFORK.ORG](https://castnorthfork.org) 631-477-3717

Here at Congregation Tifereth Israel, we're familiar with the big red barrel that CAST provides for donations that correspond to the various drives and campaigns that help CAST clients — our neighbors needing a helping hand from time to time during the year.

We step up when personal care items are needed, similarly back to school supplies and, most recently, cans of food and nonperishable items to help families having difficulty feeding their families.

This time, the shul is one of many drop-off points (that's us listed there under Greenport) for the Holiday Toy Drive. The Big Red Barrel is at the top of the ramp by the kitchen door, where it is protected from bad weather and temptation by passers-by.

The shul's participation is monitored by the Tikkun Olam group, which will check the barrel frequently for donations, and see that they are delivered to CAST headquarters so that children can enjoy the fun of the season of giving.

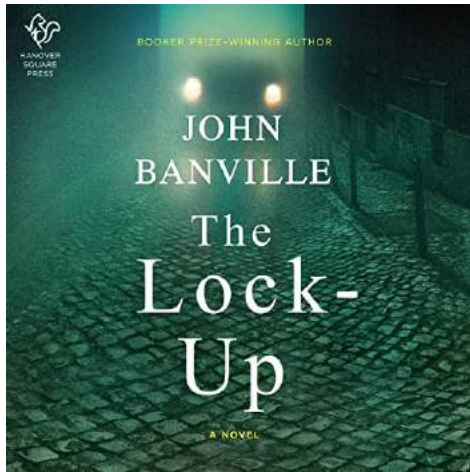
Will you help us fill the barrel?

## Shul's Membership Windfall Continues Until Dec. 31: Sign Up Now

Many people choose to join our shul after the High Holidays. As an incentive to join now, the shul is making the following offer: Any individual or family joining between now and the end of the year will pay the new rate — \$1,000 for families; \$650 for individuals — for the remainder of this year, and will be paid-up members through 2024. In other words, get an extra 12 months...

Interested? Know people interested? Email Sara Bloom at [citigreenport@gmail.com](mailto:citigreenport@gmail.com).

## The Book Circle's December Selection Is A Globe-Spanning Mystery



The shul's Book Circle group has chosen *The Lock-Up*, a globe-spanning crime novel by Booker prize-winner John Banville, as its December selection. The session will take place on Thursday, Dec. 21, at 3 p.m., on Zoom.

When Rosa Jacobs is found dead in her car, the investigation leads two detectives to the mountaintops of Italy, the front lines of WWII Bavaria, the gritty streets of Dublin, and other unexpected settings in efforts to solve a complicated case that puts the duo's personal lives in peril.

The Book Circle explores works by Jewish writers and Jewish themes. For more information about the group, email [ctigreenport@gmail.com](mailto:ctigreenport@gmail.com) with a message for Susan Rosenstreich, coordinator of the group.

## Trope Trainer: Learn To Read From The Torah. New Class Forming *Sign Up Now For Launch In January*



Adding to the education program at our shul, Rabbi Gadi has announced the start of a new class, beginning in January, to teach interested congregants how to read from the Torah. Several members have been studying informally with the rabbi, who will now offer the opportunity to others.

As Hebrew readers know, the difficulty in reading from the Torah is that the text contains no vowels and no punctuation. Various symbols indicate directions

to readers. Learning the symbols and their meanings is challenging and also satisfying, enhancing one's understanding and connection to the ancient script.

To join our shul's community of Torah chanters, email [ctigreenport@gmail.com](mailto:ctigreenport@gmail.com) with a message for Rabbi Gadi.

• FYI FYI FYI •

## Late Breaking News: Two Dozen Hostages Are Freed

Just as the December issue of *The Shofar* was readied for distribution, news came of a breakthrough in the tense situation of the long-awaited release of hostages held by Hamas.

In exchange for the two dozen released from Gaza, Israel released 39 imprisoned Palestinians, completing the first exchange brought about during the temporary truce that halted the fighting after seven weeks, *The New York Times* reported.

The hostages released included 13 Israelis, several children among them, as well as 10 Thais and one Filipino.

Israel has said it would extend the cease-fire by a day for every 10 additional hostages that Hamas releases.

This is a developing story. Readers are advised to follow the news media for updates.





STEFAN REYNOLDS/REUTERS IMAGES



Rabbi Gadi joined massive crowds of mostly Jews from across the country on Nov. 14 at the "March for Israel" held on the National Mall in Washington, DC. The march is believed to be the largest U.S. show of solidarity with Israel since Hamas attacked Israel on Oct. 7, killing about 1,200 people and taking hundreds of hostages. The demonstrators denounced antisemitism, and many speakers expressed sympathy for innocent Jews and Palestinians and their families suffering during the conflict. President Joe Biden said later that a deal was forming to release the hostages.

## In Jerusalem's Old City, Photo Array Of Israelis Held Hostage by Hamas



Photographs of Israelis being held by Hamas militants are projected on the walls of Jerusalem's Old City, November 2023.

AP Photo/Leo Correa

## Brandeis Bans ‘Students For Justice In Palestine’ Chapter From Campus

Brandeis University has banned a student chapter of National Students for Justice in Palestine from its campus. The university notified the student group on Nov. 6 that it will no longer recognize it “because it openly supports Hamas, which the United States has designated as a Foreign Terrorist Organization.”

Brandeis is one of hundreds of universities roiled by demonstrations and counterdemonstrations in the wake of the Oct. 7 Hamas attack on Israel that killed 1,400 Israelis and the subsequent Israeli military strikes in Gaza that have killed an estimated 10,000 Palestinians. The tense atmosphere on many college campuses has led to spikes in both antisemitism and Islamophobia. The organization has 200 chapters at U.S. universities across the country according to its website.

The decision from Brandeis came two weeks after the Anti-Defamation League sent a letter to 200 universities, asking them to investigate the activities of SJP chapters for potential violations of the prohibition against supporting a foreign terrorist organization. The ADL, which tracks antisemitism and hate speech, alleged in its letter that “SJP chapters are not advocating for Palestinian rights; they are celebrating terrorism.”

As a result of Brandeis University’s decision, the SJP will no longer receive funding or be allowed to conduct activities on campus or associate itself with the Brandeis name or logo.

In a notice sent to the student organization, the university stated that Brandeis was dedicated to upholding free speech principles, but “...the university may restrict expression...that constitutes a genuine threat or harassment...or that is otherwise directly incompatible with the functioning of the university.” The letter added, “SJP has called on its chapters to engage in conduct that supports Hamas in its call for the elimination of the only Jewish state in the world and its people. Such expression is not protected by Brandeis’ principles of free speech.

## The Music of Sephardic Jews Preserved in Sarajevo, Bosnia-Herzegovina



When Flory Jagoda, the superstar of Ladino music, died in 2021, it was a wakeup call for Vladimir Mickovic, a Bosnian musician from Mostar, who realized that with Jagoda’s death, the music of Sephardic Jews was in danger of being lost forever. “The Sephardic music and culture, their proverbs and literature, is a part of our culture here in Bosnia and Herzegovina,” Mickovic told Religion News Service.

Recently, he released a tribute album to her called “Kantikas de mi Nonna,” or “Songs of my Grandmother,” referring to Flory as the “nonna” of the pre-Holocaust

musical tradition of the Balkans.

In the West, Jewish music is often associated with Klezmer, the folk music of Central and Eastern European Jews. But in Spain and across southern Europe, the entirely different music of the Sephardic Jews once thrived. Their language, Ladino or Judeo-Spanish, is a mixture of medieval Spanish, Hebrew and Aramaic, peppered with Turkish, Greek and Serbo-Croatian influences.

Most of Bosnia’s Jews were murdered in the Holocaust. Today, fewer than 1,000 Jews remain. But Mickovic and other Bosnian musicians, none of them Jewish, have pieced together an authentic Bosnian sound, and now are researching the works of other Jewish composers.

Photo: Flory Jagoda in 2002, Tom Pich/Wikipedia/Creative Commons



## About 100 Jewish Youngsters Have Made Aliyah To Enlist In The IDF

About 100 Jewish youngsters from around the world have made Aliyah to enlist voluntarily in the IDF as Israel wages a war against the Hamas terrorist organization, “leaving family and friends behind in order to protect the Jewish state,” according to *Israel Hayom*.

In a month, they will put on their uniforms, but not before completing a preparatory course by the Defense Ministry’s Defense and Society Department, which takes place at an integration center in Karmiel in Northern Israel, where tensions with the Hezbollah terror group are heightened.

During the four-week program, the young men and women will prepare physically and mentally for their service, and also will study Hebrew and get to know Israeli society.

## Anti-Israel Protests Motivate Many Jews To Reassert Their Identity

While some American Jews leave Star of David necklaces at home or remove mezuzahs from their doorposts, others have deepened their spiritual practices or have taken to the streets and social media to shout their pride in their Jewish identity and the State of Israel, reports Religion News Service.

In a show of religious or ethnic pride, American Jews who have never worn a Jewish star or supported Israeli causes are doing so now, said Rachel Werczberger, a senior lecturer on the Anthropology of Judaism at Hadassah Academic College in Jerusalem. Many Jews have reacted to statements accusing Israel of being the aggressor in the current conflict instead of expressing outrage at Hamas’ atrocities, she said. “The refusal by many to acknowledge Jewish suffering after the massacre has pushed people back into their collective identity as Jews.”

### • JEWS IN THE NEWS •

#### ***Sam Bankman-Fried***

Sam Bankman-Fried was found guilty on Nov. 2 of seven counts of fraud for his role in the collapse of cryptocurrency exchange FTX. He faced a slew of charges for stealing billions of dollars from accounts belonging to customers of FTX, which was once one of the most trusted names in crypto. He was found guilty also of defrauding lenders of FTX’s sister company, Alameda Research, which held FTX customer funds in a bank account.

The verdict caps a yearlong saga that saw the 31-year-old go from a billionaire living in a luxury apartment in the Bahamas to a defendant in one of the biggest white-collar crime cases since Bernie Madoff’s Ponzi scheme that fell apart in 2009. Bankman-Fried’s sentencing is set for March 2024.

### • OBITUARIES •

#### ***Peter Tarnoff***

Peter Tarnoff, a seasoned diplomat whose work behind the scenes for presidents Jimmy Carter and Bill Clinton included establishing a secret channel to Fidel Castro and helping arrange the escape of six U.S. Embassy officials from Iran, an escapade later depicted in the 2012 movie “Argo,” died on Nov. 1 at his home in San Francisco. He was 86.

While other outsized personalities like Richard Holbrooke and Anthony Lake became famous, Mr. Tarnoff preferred to wield his influence out of the public eye. “Peter was really the quintessential diplomat in the sense that he never asked for the spotlight,” said Wendy Sherman, who served alongside him in the Clinton administration. “He never needed to be the named person. He just got the job done.”

## ***Robert Brustein***

Robert Brustein, an advocate for nonprofit theater, where he served at various times as critic, teacher, producer, director, playwright and actor, died on Oct. 29 at his home in Cambridge, MA. He was 96.

Mr. Brustein was dean of the drama school at Yale and founded and ran the Yale Repertory Theater and the American Repertory Theater at Harvard, producing well over 100 plays. He taught at both institutions. He also reviewed stage productions for *The New Republic* for more than 50 years.

In many books and in countless newspaper and magazine articles, he argued for brave theater, intellectual theater, non-pandering theater, and he worried that the art form was being attenuated by the profit motive.

“The basic aim of the commercial theater is to make a profit,” he said in an interview with *The New York Times* in 1990. “The basic aim of noncommercial theater, in its ideal form, is to create the condition whereby works of art can be known. And I don’t think these are compatible aims.”

As erudite and contentious as ever, Mr. Brustein continued to bemoan the state of theater in his later years. “...Our values have somehow gotten very skewed, and we’ve gone back — if we ever left it — to the notion that success is the highest value in this country. Not integrity, not quality, not intelligence, not spirit, not soul. Success, financial success. And this is a heartbreaker.”

## ***Anita A. Summers***

Anita A. Summers, an economist at the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania who addressed a variety of public policy topics, including zoning, education and tax incentives, died on Oct. 29 at her home in Gladwyne, PA. She was 98. Her son Lawrence H. Summers, the economist and former Secretary of the Treasury, confirmed the death.

She insisted that public policymaking be strengthened with economic analysis, that the business and finance world could benefit from a greater understanding of policymaking. That, in fact, was her primary task at Wharton, where she moved in 1979 after spending nearly a decade at the Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia. She was the founding chair of Wharton’s public policy and management department, the first of its kind at a business school.

Both at the Philadelphia Fed and later at Wharton, Mrs. Summers was a leading advocate of public planning at the regional level, pushing city and state governments to collaborate on economic issues that often crossed political boundaries.

## ***Alan Hevesi***

Alan G. Hevesi, a New York politician who spent 35 years as an elected official until he suffered a fall from grace that led to his resignation as state comptroller and 20 months in prison for corruption, died on Nov. 9 in East Meadow, L.I. He was 83.

On Oct. 23, 2006, a state ethics commission concluded that Mr. Hevesi had knowingly violated the law by improperly assigning a public employee to handle personal chores. On Nov. 3, he was ordered by Attorney General Eliot Spitzer to reimburse the state \$90,000 in addition to \$83,000 he had already paid. Yet, on Nov. 7, he was reelected. A month later, he pleaded guilty to defrauding the government and resigned from office.

Four years later, in October 2010, he pleaded guilty to corruption charges stemming from a pay-to-play scheme in which, as comptroller, he had accepted \$1 million in gifts, trips and campaign contributions for steering \$250 million in New York State pension fund investments to a California venture capitalist. Mr. Hevesi was sentenced to one to four years in prison, and was released on parole on Dec. 19, 2012, after serving 20 months.

## ***Ida Applebroog***

Ida Applebroog, an artist who confronted the violence, coercion and mortality that can simmer beneath everyday relationships with a prolific stream of drawings, paintings, sculptures and videos, died on Oct. 21 at her home in Manhattan. She was 93.

Writing in *The New York Times* in 2010, Randy Kennedy called her work “funny in a way that skews toward weird without losing the ha-ha.” Her work also demonstrates her comfort in grappling with the unspeakable, the unshakable, and the unknown, *The Times* said.

“It’s hard to say ‘What is your work about,’” she said in a 2005 interview with the website Art21. “But for me it’s really how power works — male over female, parents over children, governments over people, doctors over patients.”

Her work is in the collections of the Whitney, the MOMA, the Metropolitan Museum of Art, and the Guggenheim Museum.

## ***Gary Winnick***

Gary Winnick, a former junk-bond salesman who in 1997 founded Global Crossing, a telecommunications company that laid fiber-optic cable underwater around the world to speed internet and phone traffic, but that imploded five years later under billions of dollars in debt, died on Nov. 4 at his estate in Los Angeles. He was 76.

For a time, Mr. Winnick was the wealthiest person in Los Angeles, according to the *Los Angeles Business Journal*. He spread his philanthropy to the United States Holocaust Museum in Washington and to the Simon Wiesenthal Center and Cedars-Sinai Medical Center, both in Los Angeles.

In 2000, he bought his 40,000-square-foot, 60-room estate, called Casa Encantada, for \$94 million from David Murdock, a billionaire businessman. He subsequently spent millions more renovating it. Four years ago, he listed it for \$225 million. Its current asking price, \$250 million, is believed to be the highest for a home ever publicly listed in the United States.

## ***Linda R. Hirshman***

Linda R. Hirshman, a lawyer, philosophy professor, and author who enraged liberals and conservatives alike with an essay attacking women who chose to stay home and raise children, died on Oct. 31, in Burlington VT. She was 79.

In 2005, she published an article in “The American Prospect,” a progressive policy journal, criticizing women who chose to drop out of the workforce to raise families as a bad choice. She argued that affluent women with elite degrees were disappearing from the halls of power in law, business and politics and that the choice was harmful to them personally and to the country because their absence meant that more than half of the American population would be underrepresented in the places where policy was made.

The articles later grew into a book, and four more books followed. At the time of her death, she was working on a book with Margaret Sullivan, the media and political columnist, about the roots of right-wing media and how its growth has destabilized democracies in several countries including the United States. The working title was “Hate, Inc.”

## ***George Tscherny***

George Tscherny, a leading figure in graphic design, whose work unified the clean lines of modern art with pop sensibility, died on Nov. 13 at his home in Manhattan. He was 99.

The family fled Germany after Kristallnacht and ultimately settled in New Jersey, after George and his brother Alex lived for several years in a home for refugee children.



Trained at the Pratt Institute in Brooklyn, Mr. Tscherny apprenticed in Manhattan design studios for five years, then opened his own practice in 1955. He soon had a client list that included American Can, Colgate Palmolive, Pan Am and RCA, all hiring his office to design advertising, logos and annual reports. Unlike other graphic designers of the era, his work brought in humor and humanity. He taught at the School of Visual Arts in Manhattan, created its graphic design program, and designed its logo, still in use today.

## ***Helen Marcus***

Helen Marcus, a photographer whose evocative black-and-white portraits of literary figures and film and television personalities graced book jackets and magazine covers for decades, died on Oct. 1 at her home in Manhattan. She was 97.

Her fame as a photographer, and her leadership role as a defender of her profession on issues of copyright and credit were all the more notable because the field at the time was so overwhelmingly dominated by men.

Helen Marcus founded the New York chapter of the American Society of Magazine Photographers (later the American Society of Media Photographers) in 1982 and served as its national president from 1985 to 1990. From 1998 to 2007, she was president of the W. Eugene Smith Memorial Fund, an organization named for the celebrated photojournalist that was established in 1979 to help independent photographers complete their projects.

Her work appeared in *Time*, *Forbes*, *Gourmet* and other magazines, and in *The New York Times*. Her photographs are included in the permanent collections of the National Portrait Gallery and the International Center of Photography. Her 1977 photograph of Toni Morrison inspired an etching that appeared on a Swedish postage stamp. “It’s probably the most reproduced photograph I ever made,” she said in an interview with *New Letters* magazine in 2007.

## ***Herbert Gold***

Herbert Gold, a novelist, who wrote of the complexities of love and marriage, died on Nov. 19 at his home in San Francisco. He was 99.

Mr. Gold’s writing brought a sense of humor to his tales of ordinary men and women trying to gain a foothold in the slippery terrain of romance or, like him, struggling to connect the world of their Jewish immigrant parents with the realities of American life.

His most admired novels addressed a different theme: Jewish identity in the United States. He explored this subject in two works that blended memoir and fiction, and in a novel-memoir that tilted more strongly toward autobiography.

### **Birthdays In December**

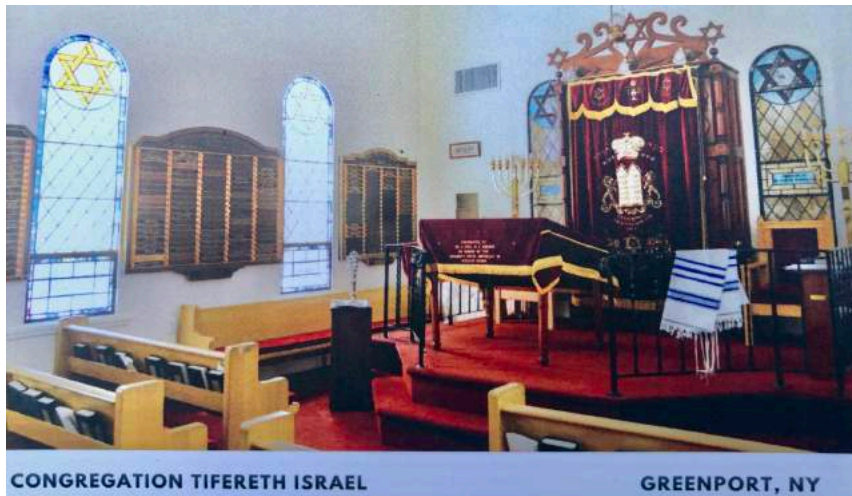
- 2: Madelyn Rothman
- 21: Elizabeth Berg; Elyse Kirschner
- 22: Barbara Glassner
- 24: Lori Melvin
- 26: Matthew Nathel
- 29: Roberta Garriss

### **Anniversaries in December**

- 2: Robert Brown and Suri-Lan Brown
- 14: Miriam Gabriel and Adrienne Greenberg

Please share your celebrations with the shul family. Forward the month and day of your birthdays and anniversaries, and those of your immediate family, to Sara Bloom at [sbblazer@hotmail.com/](mailto:sbblazer@hotmail.com/).

## Share Your Thoughtfulness With A Sisterhood Sunshine Card



On the front, our historic sanctuary; an acknowledgment of your generosity appears inside.

A donation has  
been made in your name to  
Congregation Tifereth Israel, Greenport, NY  
to acknowledge the \_\_\_\_\_  
by \_\_\_\_\_

In times of celebration or sadness, a card to a family member or friend is a welcome expression of love. Purchase a Sunshine card (\$18 each; 3 for \$36) by calling Andrea Blaga at 631-477-0232. Relay your message, and she will send a card, indicating that a donation has been made to the Sisterhood.

Please mail your donation to the Sisterhood, P.O. Box 659, Greenport, NY, 11944, or go to the shul's website ([www.tiferethisraelgreenport.org](http://www.tiferethisraelgreenport.org)) to pay with a credit card.

## Yahrzeits in December

- 2: Miriam Lipman Gluckman; Brigitte Jarvi
- 3: Philip Ballen; Henry Kessler; Herbert Michael Krasnow; Bracha Rothman; Robert Rothman
- 4: Irma Strimban; Annie Wandt
- 5: Sylvia Brittman; Anne Lengyel
- 6: Roseanne Silberger; Lt. Earl M. Silverstone; Mollie Kaplan Singer
- 7: Julius Lieberthal; Dr. Monte M. Warren
- 8: Jack Feinberg; Samuel Weisbein
- 9: Joseph Teperman
- 10: David Robert Levinson; Sidney A. Schneider
- 13: Donna Levin
- 14: Edward Henry; Michael Lepawsky
- 15: Goldie S. Friedman; Roslyn Zimmerman
- 16: Joseph Adelson; Morris Levin; Helen Newman
- 18: Chuck Kahn
- 19: Zvi Blau
- 20: Joseph Baulsir; Scott William Demel; Leo Levine
- 21: Michael Murphy
- 22: Kate Finkelstein; Sally Silberger; Dr. Nathaniel M. Sperling
- 23: Peggy Keller; Robert Strimban
- 24: Dr. Stanley S. Frankel; Olive Spence Friedmann; Paul Panepinto; Sarah Weiskott
- 25: Peri Sausmer; Louis S. "Bill" Sachs
- 26: Max Katz

27: Max Birman; George Grossman  
29: Norma Oestreich; Lilliam Silberberg  
30: Arnold Jaffe; Dr. Melvin Shengold

## **Refuah Shlemah**

Paul Birman  
Menachem Bloom  
Martin Ehrenreich  
Alan Garmise  
Alice Nadel  
Ellen Wiederlight  
Judith K. Weiner

## **• MONEY MATTERS •**

### **Donations in November**

John and Margaret Merrill  
Jonathan and Jane Weber  
Robert and Barbara Seid  
Elaine Goldman  
Sara Bloom  
Robert and Suri Lan-Brown  
David Berson  
Joan Prager  
Michael and Lynn Simon  
Alan and Susan Zelman  
Robert and Judith Goldman  
Gerald Ronkin  
Stephan Brumberg and Carol Ingall  
Lucille Bogen  
Stephen and Susan Meshover  
Rachel Murphy  
Arlene Jacobson  
Elaine Goldman  
Lewis Teperman, MD, and Helaine Teperman  
Robert Holtzman, MD  
Alan and Ellen Wexler  
Rebecca Vilardi  
Stephen and Susan Schneider  
Carol Seigel

### **Dedicated Funds**

- **Capital Improvement:** covers major additions and repairs to our building and grounds.
- **Archive/Library:** supports new books for our library, plus archival materials.
- **Education:** provides supplies/materials for the Hebrew School and adult education classes.
- **Ritual Materials:** replaces prayer books, tallit, kippah, Torah mantles, etc.
- **Rabbi's Discretionary Fund:** allows the rabbi to provide help when he is asked.



- **Financial Assistance Fund:** supports those in need in Southold Town.
- **Harold Winters Fund For the Hebrew School:** supports Jewish education.
- **Paul S. Birman Technology Fund:** supports updates and new communication programs.
- **Marshall S. Hurwitz Fund for Special Programs and Projects:** supports cultural endeavors

## **Invest In Our Shul**

### **• Cash**

Write a check or make a credit card payment.

**Donor Benefits:** There is an immediate tax deduction for the full value of the gift, and taxable assets are removed from the donor's estate, delivering direct benefits to CTI.

### **• Appreciated, Marketable Securities**

Give a gift of appreciated securities that have been held for more than one year.

**Donor Benefits:** This gift bypasses capital gains tax; provides a tax deduction for the fair market value of the securities; and removes taxable assets from your estate.

### **• IRA Charitable Rollover**

Donors 70-1/2 years or older can make an IRA charitable rollover (up to \$100,000 per year) to CTI. The IRA funds must be transferred directly to CTI by December 31 of the calendar year you are making the donation. Charitable rollover amounts could count toward the donor's required minimum distribution, although these funds do not provide a charitable deduction.

**Donor Benefits:** This gift reduces taxes on amounts up to \$100,000 from the donor's IRA, and satisfies all or part of the required minimum distribution for the year.

### **• Gift in a Will or Trust**

Donors can make a bequest gift of specific property, a specific dollar amount, or a percentage of the estate and/or a designated asset. The estate will receive a charitable tax deduction for the amount of the gift, which may reduce the taxable portion of the estate. If the donor already has a will, an attorney can write a codicil to include the bequest.

**Donor Benefits:** This gift is simple to create; the estate receives a charitable tax deduction for the bequest, and the donor retains control of assets throughout life.

### **• Life Insurance/Name CTI as Beneficiary**

Donors can name CTI as beneficiary and specify a percentage or the entire policy as the legacy gift.

**Donor Benefits:** Donors can ask for a "Change in Beneficiary" form from their plan administrator, retain control of the policy; and may receive a charitable tax deduction after death. This gift is an opportunity to make a large gift at little cost.

### **• 401(k) or IRA Retirement Plan Designation**

Upon death, retirement plans are subject to estate and income taxes, which means up to 60% of retirement assets may go to the IRS; distributions to charities incur no taxes.

Donors can name CTI as beneficiary and can specify a percentage or the entire account as the legacy gift.

**Donor Benefits:** Gifts of IRAs and other retirement accounts allow donors to make a gift to CTI while saving on estate and income taxes.

### **• Charitable Gift Annuity**

This gift provides one or two individuals who are 55 and older with fixed payments for life. The gift can be established with a simple contract between the donor and CTI. The donor transfers assets of cash or marketable securities to CTI and, in exchange, CTI promises to pay one or two people for life. The payment rate depends upon the age of the beneficiary or beneficiaries at the time of the transfer; the older the beneficiary at time of gift, the greater the fixed payments. The donor may be subject to tax on the

income stream. When the last beneficiary dies, the annuity's balance becomes the donor's legacy gift to CTI. A deferred gift annuity works the same way, but starts providing payments at a fixed date in the future (rather than immediately). Until payouts begin, the annuity may grow in value, providing a higher payment rate.

**Donor Benefits:** This gift guarantees annual payments for life regardless of market conditions; a portion of the income may be tax-free; taxable assets are removed from the estate; some portion of capital gains may be bypassed with gifts of appreciated property, and the donor is entitled to an income tax deduction in the year the gift is made.

#### • Charitable Remainder Trust

Donors can transfer assets (e.g., publicly traded securities, real estate, cash) to a trust that pays either a fixed amount (annuity trust) or a fixed percentage that reflects the size of the trust (unitrust) to the donor and/or their designated beneficiaries. This enables donors to make an irrevocable gift that produces payments for life or a set term for themselves and/or their beneficiaries, with the remainder of the donated assets going to CTI. At the end of the term or upon death of the beneficiary or beneficiaries, the trust terminates, and the assets in the trust pass to CTI as a legacy.

**Donor Benefits:** This gift offers a charitable income tax deduction for a portion of the gift, a payment stream, and removal of assets from the donor's estate, which may reduce estate taxes.

If you would like to discuss any of these Legacy Gift options, please contact Judith K. Weiner at [jkweiner@icloud.com](mailto:jkweiner@icloud.com)

#### Honor Loved Ones With A Plaque

• **Memorial Plaque:** mounted in the sanctuary, lighted during the anniversary month.

Cost: \$300 members; \$600 nonmembers.

• **Tree of Life Leaf:** commemorates a simcha or joyous event, mounted in social hall.

Cost: \$54 members; \$108 nonmembers.

• **Sanctuary Seat Plate:** seat nameplate in sanctuary. Cost: \$200 members; \$250 nonmembers

### • SCHEDULE OF SYNAGOGUE FEES •

<b>Event</b>	<b>Members</b>	<b>Nonmembers</b>
Lifecycle Event*	\$1,000	\$2,000
Sanctuary Only	\$500	\$1,000
<b><u>Commemoratives</u></b>		
Memorial Plaques	\$300	\$600
Tree of Life Leaf	\$54	\$108
Prayer Book Bookplate	\$54	\$54
Pentateuch Bookplate	\$72	\$72
Sanctuary Seat Plate**	\$200	\$250
Isidore Handler Hebrew School	TBD	TBD

\*Fee includes use of the sanctuary, community room, kosher kitchen, and Andrew Levin Park, also cleanup fee. Renters of our facilities must sign a contract at least 30 days prior to the event, and satisfy the fee schedule accordingly. For more information, email [ctigreenport@gmail.com](mailto:ctigreenport@gmail.com) with a message for Elizabeth Adams.

\*\* Seat plates are for current members or to honor deceased members.

## **Membership Per Year (Revised June 2023)**

Family: \$1,000; Individual: \$650

## **• WHO'S WHO AT OUR SHUL •**

Rabbi Gadi Capela: 631-477-0232

Gabbai Paul Nadel: 631-734-8519

### Board of Directors

Sara M. Bloom: President

Ellen Buchbinder: Vice President

Joanna Paulsen: Treasurer

Nancy Torchio: Financial Secretary

Suri Lan-Brown: Recording Secretary

Elaine Goldman: Corresponding Secretary

Elizabeth Adams; Caren Demel; Gordon Henry: Members at Large

Adrianne Greenberg: Sisterhood President

TBD: Men's Club President

Immediate Past President: Judith K. Weiner (nonvoting)

Rabbi Gadi Capela (nonvoting)

### The Sisterhood

Adrianne Greenberg: President

Joanna Paulsen: Vice President

Roberta Garriss: Secretary

### The Men's Club

TBD: President

Paul Jeselsohn: Vice President

### The Shofar

Sara Bloom and Miriam Gabriel: Editors

### Shul Committees

Andrew Levin Park/Garden

Adrianne Greenberg, chair

Veronica Kaliski

Advertising

Alan Garmise, chair

Audio-Visual

Adrianne Greenberg, chair

Beautification/Buildings and Grounds

Adrianne Greenberg, chair

Miriam Gabriel

Bylaws

Joanna Paulsen, chair

Alan Garmise, Adrianne Greenberg

Calendar

Elaine Goldman, chair



E-Communications/Website

Andrea Blaga

Education

Ann Hurwitz, chair

Rabbi Gadi Capela, Miriam Gabriel, Madelyn Rothman

Finance

Nancy Torchio, chair

Sara Bloom, Caren Demel, Joanna Paulsen, Judith K. Weiner

Fundraising:

Judith K. Weiner, chair

Gift Shop

Sara Bloom, chair

Information Technology

Paul Birman, Rabbi Gadi Capela, Alan Garmise, Adrienne Greenberg,

Silent Auction

Madelyn Rothman, chair

Sara Bloom, Roberta Garriss, Nina Neimark,

Judaism and Art

Saul Rosenstreich, chair

Elizabeth Adams, Sara Bloom, Rabbi Gadi Capela, Graham Diamond, Ann Hurwitz, Ellen Jaffe,

Corrine Slade, Dan Torchio, Judith K. Weiner

Long Range Planning

Alan Garmise, chair

Elizabeth Adams, Miriam Gabriel, Adrienne Greenberg, Susan Rosenstreich, Judith K. Weiner

Membership

Judith K. Weiner, chair

Elizabeth Adams, Sara Bloom, Suri Lan-Brown, Madelyn Rothman, Chuck Simon,

Nominating

Susan Rosenstreich, chair

Miriam Gabriel, Rochelle Garmise

Pastoral

Rabbi Gadi Capela, Miriam Gabriel, Elaine Goldman, Paul Jeselsohn, Bill Packard, Carol Seigel

Plaques

Adrienne Greenberg

Public Relations

Alan Garmise, chair

Sara Bloom

Rabbi Contract Negotiating Committee

Alan Garmise, chair

Sara Bloom, Judith K. Weiner

Ritual

Rabbi Gadi Capela, chair

Sara Bloom, Ellen Buchbinder, Alan Garmise, Elaine Goldman, Adrienne Greenberg, Stephen

Meshover, Paul Nadel, Carol Seigel, Chuck Simon, Judith K. Weiner

Security

Stephen Meshover, chair

Sara Bloom, Rabbi Gadi Capela, Elaine Goldman, Gordon Henry, Judith K. Weiner

Telephone/Sunshine

Sisterhood

Tikkun Olam

Ann Hurwitz; Veronica Kaliski, Susan Rosenstreich, Madelyn Rothman, Corinne Slade

Yahrzeits

Miriam Gabriel, chair

Shul president Sara M. Bloom is an ex officio member of all shul committees

*[Questions and comments to members of the Board of Directors, Sisterhood, Men's Club, committee chairs, and the editors of The Shofar can be addressed to [ctigreenport@gmail.com](mailto:ctigreenport@gmail.com)/. In the subject line, type the name of the person you want to reach.]*