



CONGREGATION  
TIFEREETH ISRAEL

A National Historic Site

# The Shofar

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Affiliated With The United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism

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## • CALENDAR OF EVENTS •

### *Weekly and Holiday Services*

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

Saturdays: Shabbat, 9:30 a.m.

### *Learning at our Shul*

Mondays, Feb. 1, 8, 15: Hebrew classes, 4 p.m.

Thursdays, Feb. 4, 11, 18: Parasha classes, 4 p.m.

[No classes Feb. 22, 25 and 29: Rabbi in Israel (see Shul Events)]

### *Shul Events*

31 January: Board and Congregation meetings, 9 and 10 a.m.  
(Rescheduled from Jan. 24 meetings, cancelled for snowy weather)

Wednesday, Feb. 3: Book Circle, Community Room, 3:30 p.m.

Sunday, Feb. 21: Board and Congregation meetings, 9 and 10 a.m.

Feb. 21-March 3, 2016: Trip to Israel and Rome w/Rabbi Gadi and Fr. Roy Tvrdik  
(For more information, visit <http://pilgrimages.com/genesis>)

### *Lighting Shabbat Candles in February*

Feb. 5: 5 p.m. Feb. 12: 5:08 p.m. Feb. 19: 5:17 p.m. Feb. 26: 5:25 p.m.

### *Dates to Remember*

Sunday, Feb. 14: Valentines Day

Monday, Feb. 15: Presidents Day

Wednesday, March 2: First spring training game New York Yankees vs. Detroit

Thursday, March 3: First spring training game New York Mets vs. Washington

Sunday, March 13: Daylight Saving Time begins, 2 a.m.

Wednesday, March 23: Purim begins (Reading of the Megillah)

Friday, April 22: First Passover Seder

**(Submission deadline for the March 2016 issue of *The Shofar*: Feb. 20)**

## From The Rabbi...



“Seeing it Coming”

Dear members and friends,

As we experience the season of winter and snow and drift into occasional hibernation, let’s hope it won’t be too challenging this year. It is interesting that at this same time of hibernation, Jews are celebrating Tu Bishvat, the “birthday” of trees. Of all possible seasons, our tradition chooses to celebrate the regeneration of life in nature when it seems to be moribund. But that’s the beauty of it, according to the Zohar, the main book of Kaballah (in Vayishlach), which says that winter is the time when we can learn about the ultimate resurrection of the dead. In winter, the trees lose their leaves and look lifeless, but then, what seems to be dry wood flowers again.

Along with millions of others, I was saddened to hear about the recent passing of David Bowie, who has contributed many of the soundtracks of our lives for many years. When I lived in New York, every morning on my way to the subway, I would pass by the Essex House, where he lived. Sometimes I would see him standing alone, unassuming,

*Unlike Pharaoh, Bowie recognized the end of his life and prepared for it spiritually, believing in life after death, just as the trees wake up after winter.*

perhaps waiting for a driver. I never thought about it too much until now, when his death juxtaposes with the Torah readings about Pharaoh and his stubbornness. What is the connection? Let me explain.

Pharaoh represents extreme denial; he does not think he is subject to the same rules of mortality as everyone else and, as a result, he cannot see that the end is coming. With every plague God thrusts upon Egypt, Pharaoh’s courtiers advise him to face reality, to admit he is not invincible. God wanted the Biblical Pharaoh, or any other “Pharaohs” living among us, to show humility, to face our humanity and our mortality. Pharaoh’s persistent refusal to admit to forces greater than himself brought about his and Egypt’s ultimate demise.

Getting back to the late Mr. Bowie, it seems he was well aware of his humanity and his mortality. The lyrics and video of “Lazarus” and other songs in his last album, *Blackstar*, seem to be self-eulogizing, his way of admitting and dealing with his looming death. (Lazarus of Bethany is the man Jesus brought back to life four days after he died. Jesus refers to Lazarus as “asleep,” saying he would be waking up.) Unlike Pharaoh, Bowie recognized the end of his life and prepared for it spiritually, believing in life after death, just as the trees wake up after winter. Perhaps this makes it easier for us to deal with our own mortality. We have to learn to see it coming.

Happy Tu Bishvat and rejuvenating hibernation,

—Rabbi Gadi Capela

## From The President...



With mixed feelings, the Levin family has announced the sale of the Sound View Restaurant and the Sound View Inn to Eagle Point Hotel Partners LLC. Eagle Point closed on the property on Jan. 11, 2016.

Jack and Donna Levin, long-time synagogue members built the Sound Shore Motel in 1953, and purchased the neighboring Sound View Restaurant in 1968. In recent years, the two businesses were operated by the Levins' daughters, Rachel Murphy and Ellen Wiederlight. The other Levin children, Jodi and Andrew, also worked in the family business right after graduating college. Andrew died in a car accident in 1998.

A few years before Andrew Levin died, our shul inherited the Hedges House and property adjacent to the synagogue. The house remained vacant and was vandalized on several occasions. The synagogue Board of Directors determined that the Hedges House should be demolished to eliminate the liability from the vacant building.

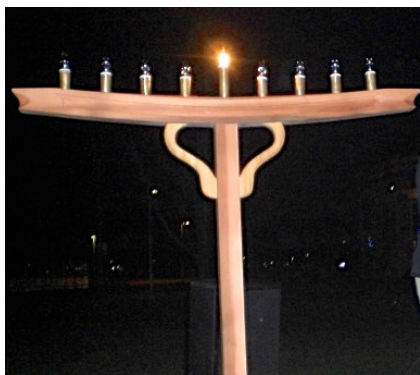
Sy Brittman, who was in charge of synagogue buildings and grounds at that time, started to develop the idea of creating a park on the now-vacant lot. Sy was approached by Rachel Murphy with an idea to create Andrew Levin Park, in Andrew's memory. The Levins endowed the park, and their continuing bequests maintain the park to this day.

On behalf of the entire congregation, I wish the Levins the best of luck in all future endeavors. I also wish a speedy recovery to Jody Levin from her recent illness.

—Alan Garmise

## • SHUL NEWS AND NOTES •

### New Hanukkah Menorah Vandalized In Mitchell Park



The new menorah stood tall and proud on the first night of Hanukkah 2015. SBloom photo

Members and friends of our congregation were disheartened to learn in a Dec. 28 email from Rabbi Gadi that our Hanukkah menorah, newly constructed and donated to us by Greenport craftsman David Nyce, had been vandalized over the Christmas weekend. It had been only a few weeks since shul members, visitors and local residents had gathered in Mitchell Park to inaugurate the menorah at the onset of Hanukkah 2015.

“Even though the physical damage to the menorah was relatively mild...it is still alarming, Rabbi Gadi wrote. At first, it was feared that the act might have been an anti-Semitic incident. But according to Rabbi Gadi, who has been in close touch with the police department investigating the crime, the damage was perhaps an unfortunate target of opportunity by some trouble-making youngsters, and not a hate crime against the Jewish community here. The investigation is continuing.

Meanwhile, the menorah has been repaired. The middle light fixture, the shamash, the attendant “candle” on the nine-branch candelabrum, was reattached, and new bulbs were installed for display throughout the holiday season.

## Mazel Tov To The Levin Sisters On Sound View Sale



Mazel tov to shul members Rachel Levin Murphy and Ellen Levin Wiederlight on the sale of the Sound View Inn and Restaurant, the iconic resort property overlooking Long Island Sound in Greenport, a Levin family enterprise for more than four decades.

The new owner, who took possession on Jan. 11, is Eagle Point Hotel Partners LLC, a company with an excellent reputation as hoteliers in the Sound View tradition. The company has expressed its intent to continue operating the

property as a family resort with the same staff that has served the Levin family and its guests for decades.

In a statement to the press, the sisters said, “Understandably, it is with some sadness as well as pleasure that we make this announcement...Our family business was always just that — a family business — inspired by my father, nurtured by my mother, and operated by a loyal staff that is as much a part of our family as our own blood line...It is our hope and expectation that the Sound View will continue to grow and to serve our local residents and visitors to the North Fork communities.”

While shul members will always cherish our memories of joyous luncheons, dinners, parties and special events at the Sound View, we wish the sisters well as they embark on new ventures.

## Book Circle To Discuss FDR’s Attitude And Contrasting Actions



The next installment of the Book Circle will be held on Wednesday, Feb. 3, at 3:30 p.m., in the shul’s community room. The book for discussion will be *FDR and the Jews* by Richard Breitman and Allan J. Lichtman. (The January session has been cancelled.)

According to a *New York Times* review of the book by David Oshinsky, Franklin Roosevelt enjoyed the overwhelming support of American Jews during his presidency. From 1933 to 1945, he led the war against Hitler, supported a Jewish homeland in Palestine, appointed a Jew to the Supreme Court, chose another to be his secretary of the Treasury, and surrounded himself with Jewish

advisers. But born to Protestant wealth and privilege, the Roosevelts were not immune to the prejudices of their time, and have been quoted slandering Jews. Nevertheless, the reviewer wrote, “When it mattered most, their nobler instincts took over.” Discussion will include FDR’s attitude and his contrasting actions.

Previous sessions of the Book Circle have included *Dancing Arabs* by Sayed Kashua, *The Lost Wife* by Alyson Richman, *Jewish Journeys* by Jeremy Leigh, *The Yiddish Policeman’s Union* by Michael Chabon, *Seyder Tkhines* (a book of common prayer for

women), *Children of the Ghetto* by Israel Zangwill, *My Father's Paradise* by Ariel Sabar, and *Rabbis and Wives* by Chaim Grade.

The Book Circle meets on the first Wednesday of every month to explore works by Jewish writers on Jewish themes. For more information, call the shul at 631-477-0232 and leave a message for Suzi Rosenstreich.

## Gift Shop Introduces New Items Made By Israeli Artisans



The shul's Gift Shop has added five new mezuzahs to its collection, among other items. The mezuzahs, pictured here, were designed in Israel by artisans noted for their artistic achievement and craftsmanship. *The Shofar* calls your attention to the children's mezuzah on the right, an ideal gift for a new baby or a special youngster. SMBloom photo

### New members

*The Shofar* joins the membership in welcoming Michael Ferber of Greenport and Diana Whitsit of Orient as new members of our shul. May you find your association with our shul spiritually fulfilling, educationally enlightening, and socially enjoyable. We look forward to meeting you.

## Jewish Presence Uncovered in Limyra, Turkey



Limyra, located on the coast of southwestern Turkey, has served as the home for many different religious groups, according to an article in *Biblical Archaeology Review*. In the midst of pagan and Christian influences, it appears there was also a Jewish presence.

In a building recently excavated by Martin Seyer of the Austrian Archaeological Institute, chancel screens with Jewish symbols, namely menorahs, a shofar and a lulav, were uncovered. Nearby, the excavation team found a water basin

with plastered walls and a floor of marble slabs; the basin was fed by rainwater. A low stone bench rests against one of the walls. Could this basin have served as a mikveh? Another indicator of Jewish inhabitants at Limyra is a solitary Greek inscription on a rock tomb that reads “Tomb of Iudas.”

The recently excavated building with Jewish features shows that there were enough Jewish inhabitants to justify a synagogue.

## Jerusalem Site Is Among Most Beautiful Places Of Worship



With their awe-inspiring architecture, magnificent facades and sheer size, places of worship are often some of the most beautiful buildings in the world. No matter the religion, travelers from around the world can appreciate the work that led to their creation.

To find out which spots are the most spectacular, the BBC

turned to *Quora.com*, a question-and-answer site, to ask: “What are the most beautiful places of worship in the world?” Users responses ranged across continents and across religions, including mosques, temples, synagogues and basilicas. The Dome of the Rock in Jerusalem was listed among the top seven.

The Dome of the Rock is one of the world’s best-known places of worship. Located on the Temple Mount in Jerusalem, the 7th-century shrine is one of the city’s most recognized landmarks, particularly for its impressive dome that was refinished in the 1990s with more than 80K of gold. The octagonal design and colorful mosaics are thought to have been modeled on Byzantine churches and chapels.

The Dome of the Rock is significant across religions. The Foundation Stone, located in the shrine's floor, is one of Judaism's holiest sites, thought to be where the world was created. It is also known to be the site of sacrifices by biblical figures, including Adam, Abraham and Noah. In Islam, the site is thought to be Muhammad's final destination during the Night Journey from Mecca to Jerusalem.

Other buildings listed in the top 7 are Brihadeeswara Temple in India; Shwedagon Pagoda, Myanmar; St. Peter's Basilica, The Vatican; Lotus Temple, India; Nasir ol Molk Mosque, Iran; and The Paro Taktsang, Bhutan.

## **'Diary Of Anne Frank' Published Online As Copyright Expires**



A French lawmaker and a French scholar published separate online editions of the *Diary of Anne Frank* on Jan. 1, the day the current copyright expired, 70 years after Anne's death. Isabelle Attard, a French Parliament member whose grandparents died in the Holocaust, published the entire Dutch text of the diary, and Oliver Ertzscheid, a lecturer at the University of Nantes, published the text on his website the same day.

"The intimate diary, written in a secret apartment in Amsterdam by a Jewish teenager, has finally entered the public domain," Attard said in a statement on her website. "...the whole world can use, translate and interpret these works, and use them to create new ones."

Frank's diary, which chronicles two years of hiding from the Nazis in an Amsterdam attic, may be the most famous Holocaust-era document, and has inspired several plays and film adaptations. Anne died in 1945 at the Bergen-Belsen extermination camp.

Anne Frank Fonds, the Swiss foundation that Frank's father, Otto, established to allocate the book's royalties to charity had sought to have the copyright extended 35 years by listing Otto Frank as co-author. Otto Frank had excised certain portions of the text relating to Jewish practice and belief to enhance the diary's universal appeal. However, an Amsterdam court ruled that the original text of the diary could be copied for academic research.

## ***Mein Kampf* Reissued In Germany; Jewish Groups Divided**

Jewish groups in Germany have been split over the publication of a new annotated edition of Adolf Hitler's manifesto, *Mein Kampf*. A team of scholars and historians spent three years preparing the nearly 2,000-page edition with about 3,500 annotations in anticipation of the expiration on Dec. 31 of a 70-year copyright held by the state of Bavaria.

The effort by the Institute of Contemporary History in Munich to publish the new, critical edition was the subject of debate almost as soon as it was announced: Some saw it as an important step toward illuminating an unsavory era in Germany, never to be repeated, while others argued that a scholarly edition would legitimize the rantings of a sociopath who led the country down the path of evil.

The Central Council of Jews in Germany, which has long warned against further publication of the original work, welcomed the critical edition on Jan. 8 as an effort to counter anti-Semitism by placing Hitler's ideas in historical context. But the Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany called for an absolute ban on any new editions. According to the *New York Times*, sales have exceeded expectations.

Excerpts from *Mein Kampf* as well as letters and other Nazi texts, similarly critically annotated have long been taught in German schools. Last month, Josef Kraus, president of the German Association of Teachers, argued for integrating the new edition into high school classrooms as part of efforts to educate young Germans about the dangers of extremist thinking and the atrocities carried out by previous generations. “Schools cannot ignore *Mein Kampf*, Mr. Kraus said, noting that forbidding the work would only drive up interest in the original volume, easily available online. “It is far better they be introduced to *Mein Kampf* by trained, experienced history and political teachers.”

## Provenance Of Gurlitt Art Trove Stalled In Committee

After a two-year, nearly \$2 million investigation, a German government task force set up to determine ownership of an art collection amassed by a Nazi-era dealer announced Jan. 14 that it had identified the rightful owners of just five of the works whose provenance was in doubt.

The drawings and paintings were confiscated in 2012 from a Munich apartment owned by Cornelius Gurlitt, whose father, Hildebrand Gurlitt, had collected them as part of a tax evasion investigation. The task force said that 507 of the more than 1,200 works in the collection were created after 1945, or had been removed by the Nazis from German museums as part of the “Degenerate Art” operation. The task force was able to clearly identify ownership of only five of the remaining works of art deemed worthy of restitution to the heirs of their Jewish owners, prompting criticism from Jewish groups about the pace and intensity of the effort.

German officials defended the results, saying that the task force’s success should not be measured by the number of returned works, but by the important research that had been conducted. Further research will be carried out by a new agency, the German Lost Art Foundation.

## Exodus Flag On Display at Washington’s Holocaust Museum



In 1947, the Exodus, a castoff of the U.S. fleet, set sail on a rescue mission from the United States with a crew of volunteer Jewish-American sailors. The ship took on 4,500 Holocaust survivors in France en route to Palestine, where they hoped to live. But they were refused entry by the British and were ultimately forced to disembark in a British-controlled zone in Germany, where they ended up in displaced persons camps.

The ship’s flag was taken down from the mast by one of the crewmen. He kept it at his home in Philadelphia until 1977. The flag made its way to a rabbi in Jerusalem, and was acquired recently by Bill Silverstein, a realtor in Chicago, from an Israeli auction house for \$144,000.

Cynthia Hughes, a textile conservator at the Holocaust Museum in Washington, pronounced the flag authentic, and accepted the gift on behalf of the museum, where it will be on permanent display. “This flag had quite a journey,” Mr. Silverstein told *The New York Times*. “I think it’s finally found a home here.”



## Berlin Museum Displays Art From The Holocaust Era

“Art From the Holocaust,” an exhibition at the German Historical Museum in Berlin, contains 100 works that were clandestinely created by 50 Holocaust-era artists. Of the group, half were killed by Adolf Hitler’s troops, but their creations survived.

The Holocaust memorial group Yad Vashem organized the exhibition, which will run through April 3. German Chancellor Angela Merkel opened the exhibition with Nelly Toll, who hid with her mother for two years in a small room in a Christian family’s home in Nazi-occupied Poland — and painted pictures. Two of them will be on display in the exhibit.

Ms. Toll said she hoped that visitors to the exhibition would acknowledge the destructive power of religious intolerance while appreciating Hitler’s “failure to kill the spirit,” she told the *New York Times*.

## It’s Oscars Time; Take ‘The Jewish Movie Stars Quiz’

The 88th Academy Awards ceremony, presented by the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences (AMPAS), will honor the best films of 2015 on Feb. 28, at the Dolby Theatre in Hollywood, CA. To commemorate the event, *The Shofar* presents “The Jewish Movie Stars Quiz.” Answers are on page 18. No peeking...

1. Who was the first Jewish movie star?
2. What Jewish actor was the first bad boy method actor?
3. What film playing in a New York City neighborhood theater in the early 1950s had a marquee that read: “Starring Bernard Schwartz and Rosetta Jacobs?”
4. What nice Jewish girl left her Jewish husband, Darren Aronofsky, to marry James Bond?
5. What 19-year-old Jewish girl hung out with Hitler and Mussolini, married a semi-Nazi munitions dealer, made a semi-porno film with a global release, then ran off to Paris and London, where she met Louis B. Mayer, who made her one of MGM’s biggest stars?
6. What famous Jewish stand-up comic saw his first movie sitting in the lap of singer Billie Holiday at the Lowes Commodore in New York City?
7. What Jewish man was the first swashbuckling movie hero?
8. What two stars of the Yiddish stage became movie superstars playing Italian gangsters?
9. What Jewish silent film star was the first film femme fatale?
10. What Jewish movie star he-man wore dresses as a kid?
11. What Jewish movie star owned the world’s largest and finest privately-held art collection?
12. What Jewish leading lady missed out on playing Scarlett O’Hara in “Gone With the Wind”?

## Happy Birthday, Leaplings: This Is Your Month In Your Year

It has been four years since leaplings (aka leapers, leapists, leap day babies) have enjoyed a birthday celebration on the actual day of their birth — Feb. 29. But 2016 presents that quadrennial opportunity. So, happy birthday to all leaplings. Enjoy your day. It won't come again until 2020.

Leap years are needed to keep our modern-day Gregorian calendar in alignment with Earth's revolutions around the sun. It takes the Earth approximately 365.242199 days — 365 days, 5 hours, 48 minutes, and 46 seconds — to circle once around the sun. However, the Gregorian calendar has only 365 days in a year, so if we didn't add a day on Feb. 29 nearly every 4 years, we would lose almost six hours from our calendar every year. After 100 years, our calendar would be off by approximately 24 days.

According to the Gregorian calendar, three criteria must be taken into account to identify leap years: the year must be evenly divisible by 4, 100 and 400. That means that 2012, 2016 and 2020 are leap years, but 2017, 2018, 2019 and 2021 aren't. The math has held together since Pope Gregory XIII and his astronomers introduced their calendar in 1582, but mathematicians say the system may have to be rethought in about 10,000 years. Stand by for more information as the date nears...

By the way, should you be wondering why an article on this intercalated year is appearing in *The Shofar*, which offers news that occurs within our shul and in the wider Jewish community, we offer the yahrzeit of Rose Fierer, to be observed this year on the 29th day of February, as inspiration.

### • JEWS IN THE NEWS •

#### ***Bernie Sanders***

As a rule, *The Shofar* avoids political reporting, but it is hard to ignore this year's presidential contender, Bernie Sanders, who has become the darling of the Jewish media, which refers to him as possibly "the first Jewish President of the United States."

Campaigning hard against frontrunner Hillary Rodham Clinton, Sanders candidacy may rise or fall as a result of the Iowa caucuses on Feb. 1. In a way, the Iowa test is something like holding a lottery ticket for the \$1.5 billion payoff. Until the lottery drawing, speculating on what you will do with the money when you win it is great sport. Similarly, until Iowans speak, speculating about the idea of a Jewish POTUS is pretty exciting as well.

[*The Shofar* is neutral on all of the candidates, Republican and Democrat.]

#### ***Jonathan Zizmor, MD***

Jonathan Zizmor, arguably the most famous dermatologist in New York City, has announced his retirement. The doctor is such a presence in the city, thanks to his television commercials and prolific, colorful subway ads promising "Now you can have beautiful clear skin!" that the New York Times featured his retirement on the first page of the "New York" section of the Jan. 5 issue.

Dr. Zizmor's first subway advertisements appeared in 1991 and, by some estimates, appeared in one out of every five subway cars, all created by the doctor. The ads featured his face, often superimposed on a rainbow and/or a photograph of the New York skyline.

On Jan. 4, it was announced that Dr. Zizmor had retired, and will study Talmud.

## ***Herman Wouk***



Herman Wouk's latest book, an autobiographical memoir entitled *Sailor and Fiddler: Reflections of a 100-Year-Old Author*, was released in January to mark Wouk's 100th birthday.

Wouk, born May 27, 1915, is an American author whose best-selling 1951 novel, *The Caine Mutiny*, won the Pulitzer Prize for fiction. His other works include the highly acclaimed *The Winds of War* and *War and Remembrance*, historical novels about WWII, and nonfiction including *This is My God*, a popular explanation of Judaism from a

Modern Orthodox perspective written for Jewish and non-Jewish audiences. His books have been translated into 27 languages.

## ***David Brooks***

After spending much of his career opining on politics, *New York Times* columnist David Brooks has turned to matters of faith and morality. In a revealing interview with *Washington Post* senior editor and *Moment* contributor Marc Fisher, Brooks discussed why he's undergone a midlife spiritual change of heart:

"I don't talk about my own faith. It's all so new and green that I'm afraid if I talk about it in public, it will become like my political opinions, just a bumper sticker, not a living, breathing thing. I will say that right now I'm just a magpie. I read everything, and some of it is Jewish and some of it is Christian, and some of it is just humanistic. Ethnically, culturally, historically, I'm Jewish. But there are parts of Christianity — a more richly developed sense of grace — that I find very beautiful. And so now, just in my attempt at understanding, I'm reading everything and seeing everybody. I go to the Jewish Theological Seminary, and I go to Gordon College, a Christian school in Massachusetts. I'm just in learning mode."

## ***Rachel Bloom***

Rachel Bloom, American actress, comedian and writer, is best known for creating, writing and playing the lead role of Rebecca Bunch in the CW comedy-drama series "Crazy Ex-Girlfriend. In December 2015, she won a Golden Globe Award for Best Actress-Television Series Musical or Comedy, and a Critics' Choice Television Award for Best Actress in a Comedy Series.

Bloom was born in Los Angeles and grew up in Manhattan Beach. She graduated from New York University's Tisch School of the Arts in 2009, earning a BFA in drama.

## • OBITUARIES •

### **Gilbert E. Kaplan**

Gilbert E. Kaplan, a financial publisher who had an accidental second career as an international symphony conductor — despite the fact that he could scarcely read music and possessed a concert repertoire of exactly one piece — died on New Year’s Day in Manhattan. He was 74.

Originally trained as an economist, Mr. Kaplan was the founder and longtime chief executive of *Institutional Investor*, a monthly magazine for pension fund and asset managers. After starting the publication in 1967, at 26, he built it into a multimedia concern comprising magazines, journals, conferences and other services. He sold the company in 1984 for a figure reported to exceed \$70 million.

By then, Mr. Kaplan had embarked on his unlikely vocation as a globetrotting conductor of Mahler’s “Second Symphony” — and only Mahler’s “Second Symphony,” known as “The Resurrection.” That work, which had held him in thrall for years, would propel him onto the podiums of some of the world’s leading orchestras, including the Vienna Philharmonic, the London Symphony, the Los Angeles Philharmonic, the St. Louis Symphony, and the New York Philharmonic, which proved to be unhappy with his musicianship, and did not ask him to return. Nevertheless, he conducted the symphony more than 100 times.

### ***Stanley Siegel***

Stanley Siegel, an irreverent New York television talk-show host whose unscripted interviews were as fearless as they often were tasteless, according to *The New York Times*, died Jan. 2 in Los Angeles. He was 79.

He grilled the transgender former professional tennis player Renée Richards about her sex life; persuaded Gloria Steinem to kick back and do a tap dance; asked his parents if they really got along; and so angered the actress Marlo Thomas that she stalked off the set after Mr. Siegel pointed out that she was of “the Lebanese persuasion,” adding “In Lebanon, they have a lot of strange religions; all of them hate the Jews.” John J. O’Connor, *The Times*’s television critic, characterized him as “generous, contemptible, thoughtful, abrasive, disarming, insufferable and charming.”

“I’m being me all the time,” Mr. Siegel once said. “In the words of Albert Einstein, great spirits are sometimes met by the violent opposition of mediocre minds.”

He was the grandnephew of Boris and Bessie Thomashefsky, stars of the early 20th-century Yiddish theater, and a cousin of the conductor Michael Tilson Thomas.

### ***George Weidenfeld***

Lord George Weidenfeld, a giant of British literature who published authors from Harold Wilson to Vladimir Nabokov after arriving in Britain as a Jewish refugee from Austria, died Jan. 20 in London. He was 96.

Weidenfeld left Nazi Vienna for the UK at the age of 19. He founded his publishing house, Weidenfeld & Nicolson, in 1949 after working at the BBC Overseas Service. Shortly

afterward, he took a year's sabbatical, spending it as political adviser to President Chaim Weizmann of Israel, but returned to the firm, where he published big-name authors from Charles de Gaulle to Pope John Paul II and Henry Kissinger.

Last year, Weidenfeld launched the Weidenfeld Safe Havens Fund, which funded Christian Syrians fleeing the Islamic State, telling *The Times of London* he did it because he had "a debt to repay." He said the move was inspired by memories of Jewish child refugees being rescued from the Nazis. "It was Quakers and other Christian denominations who brought those children to England...we Jews should be thankful and do something for the endangered Christians."

### ***David Stoliar***

On Jan. 24, *The New York Times* reported the May 1, 2014 death of David Stoliar, who was the sole survivor of the worst civilian maritime disaster of WWII. Stoliar's experience aboard the doomed voyage of the *Struma*, a 150-foot steamer carrying nearly 800 Jews fleeing the Holocaust in Romania, remained untold until 2000, when Mr. Stoliar told the story to Douglas Frantz, then a reporter for *The Times*. Stoliar's death received little attention outside Oregon, where he lived. *The Times* learned of his death on Jan. 22.

On Dec. 11, 1941, the *Struma* left Constanza bound for Palestine, where the ship was turned away. After several engine failures, the ship limped toward Turkey, where it was held offshore, awaiting determination. Finally, the Turks cut the *Struma's* anchor, towed the ship back into the Black Sea and set it adrift. A soviet sub, torpedoed it. Most of the passengers and crew went down with the ship in 250 feet of water. But Mr. Stoliar, 19 at the time, had been hurled into the sea by the blast, and clung to portions of floating deck. All others ultimately went down, but Mr. Stoliar survived, and was rescued by a passing ship, the only survivor.

"For 58 years, no one asked me about the *Struma*," he said, "and I felt that no one cared. I carried the memories in my head as if it happened yesterday."

## **• COMMEMORATIONS •**

### **Yahrzeits In February**

- 1: Bessie Goldin
- 2: Kate Kalter; Nettie Rosenstein
- 4: Gertrude Ogur Moskowitz; Bernard Solomon
- 5: Lore Seligson
- 6: Phil Rosenstein; Harris Wilitzkin
- 7: Sophie Berson; Ida Kaplan; Michael Payne
- 8: Jerome Lipman; Leah Gertrude Sachs
- 9: Edward Prager
- 10: Daniel Bostian; Sylvia J. Golden; Maury Harris; Gertrude L. Poulson
- 11: Sara Slotkin
- 12: Herman Keller; Arthur Meyer
- 13: Celia Feigen; Nathan Goldin; Nora Levin
- 15: Jennie Kessler
- 16: Anna Levine; Irma Rybka

17: Philip Cohen; Emanuel Garmise; Michael Adam Rosenbaum; Kurt Seligson  
18: Ruth Berman Cohen; Max Kremsky; Leo Schneider; Lottie Sherrin Schultz  
19: Mollie Kaplan; Joseph Bruce Ross  
21: Annie Goldin; Norman Blaustein  
23: Dr. Mark Youmans  
25: Anna Garmise  
26: Harold Michelson; Abraham Nissenfeld  
27: Nathan Burch; Daniel Harris; Natalie Wisse Wellisch  
28: Jack Eskell; Julius Schwartz  
29: Rose Fierer

### **Birthdays in February**

1: Arthur Levin  
7: H. Lee Blumberg  
11: Justin Solomon  
24: Georgia Downey  
27: Stanley Rubin; David Weinstein

### **Anniversaries in February**

19: Philip and Elaine Goldman

### **Spreading Sunshine**

Rain or shine, a Sunshine Card brightens the day for recipients. Remember friends, family, and fellow shul members on joyous occasions, and wish them well when illness and sadness strike. It costs so little to do so much. Please make your contribution payable to the Daughters of Israel, and send to P.O. Box 659, Greenport, NY 11944.

To send a Sunshine Card, call Thelma Novick at 734-6952.

### **Refuah Shlemah**

Jed Clauss  
Victor Friedman  
Ann Hurwitz  
Arlene Marvin  
Thelma Novick  
Judith Schneider  
Gloria Waxler  
Michael Murphy  
Marshall Hurwitz  
Bill Pittorino  
Jane Sachs  
Jody Levin

[Rachel Murphy is posting updates on her sister Jody Levin's progress on a website called [caringbridge.org/](http://caringbridge.org/). She invites shul members and friends who know Jody to access the site.]

• **MONEY MATTERS** •

**Donations in December/January**

Stephen and Susan Meshover  
Joyce Vinson and Marsha Lipsitz

Debra Riva

Dr. William Sausmer and Peri Sausmer

Dr. Saul Rosenstreich and Suzi Rosenstreich

Philip and Elaine Goldman

Joan Prager

Eugene and Roslyn Kassan

Harriet Abrahams

Jack Weiskott and Roberta Garris

Dr. Arthur Levin

Mark and Ellen Wiederlight

Harry and Ana Katz

Alan and Rochelle Garmise

Elizabeth Otto

Marian Friedmann

Richard Israel

Sy Brittman

Sheldon and Joyce Pitkin

Daniel Slatkin

Bruce and Sara Bloom

Thomas Byrne and Veronica Kaliski

G. Eisen

Michael Ferber

Roselle Mironer

Avi and Sylvia Safer

Mitchell and Jennifer Berg

Elizabeth Holtzman

Audrey Rothman

Diana Whitsit

Eli Adler

Carol Seigel

Aaron and Thelma Novick

Miriam Gabriel and Adrienne Greenberg

Sidney and Gloria Waxler

Stanley and Roberta Kaplan

Ellen Jaffe

Jed Clauss and Joanna Paulsen

**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, Rimmonim, breastplates, curtains, reader's table covers, 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

### **Invest In Our Shul**

- **Bequest:** Make a gift to the shul with an inclusion in your will.
- **Charitable Gift Annuity:** A cash or appreciated stock gift provides fixed income for life.
- **Life Insurance Policy:** Contribute a fully-paid or new policy with the shul as owner.
- **Life Estate:** Donate real estate through a grant deed, and use the property for life.
- **Charitable Remainder Unitrust:** This investment allows the contributor a current tax deduction and an income for life. Upon the death of the contributor, the balance in the trust goes to the charity. For more information, contact Financial Secretary Z. Micah Kaplan, MD.

### **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:** nameplate is placed on the back of a seat in the sanctuary. Cost: \$200 members; \$250 nonmembers.

### **Schedule of Synagogue Fees**

#### **Membership Per Year**

Family	\$850
Individual	\$550

<b><u>Event</u></b>	<b><u>Members</u></b>	<b><u>Nonmembers</u></b>
Wedding, Bat/Bat Mitzvah, Baby Naming*	\$450	\$900
Sanctuary Only	No charge	\$300
Community Room Only	\$25 per hour	\$50 per hour
Community Room, Kitchen and Park	\$300	\$600
Rabbi's classes	No charge	No charge

<b><u>Commemoratives</u></b>	<b><u>Members</u></b>	<b><u>Nonmembers</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	No charge	No charge

\*Fee includes use of the sanctuary, community room, kosher kitchen, and Andrew Levin Park. Setup and cleanup fees will be paid by the individual or group renting the facilities. Renters of our facilities must submit an agreement 10 days prior to the event.

\*\* A seat plate designee must be a member or a deceased member of the synagogue.



## • WHO'S WHO AT OUR SHUL •

Rabbi Gadi Capela: 631-477-6940  
Gabbai Stanley Rubin: 631-765-6848

### Board of Directors

Alan Garmise, President  
Philip Goldman, Vice President  
Joan Prager, Treasurer  
Z. Micah Kaplan, MD, Financial Secretary  
Debra Riva, Recording Secretary  
Elaine Goldman, Corresponding Secretary  
Sara Bloom, Miriam Gabriel, Susan Rosenstreich: Members at Large  
Eileen Santora, Daughters of Israel Representative  
Jesse Reece, Men's Club Representative

### The Daughters of Israel

Eileen Santora, President  
Gloria Waxler, Vice President and Treasurer  
Thelma Novick, Corresponding Secretary  
Rochelle Garmise, Recording Secretary

### The Men's Club

Jesse Reece, President  
Aaron Novick, Vice President  
Secretary/Treasurer, David Judlowitz  
Program Chairmen, Thomas Byrne and Jed Clauss

### The Shofar

Sara Bloom and Miriam Gabriel, Editors

### Shul Committees

#### Audio-Visual

Adrienne Greenberg, Susan Rosenstreich, Sidney Waxler

#### Beautification

Helen Weinstein, chair

Miriam Gabriel, Adrienne Greenberg, Debra Riva

#### Building and Grounds

Phil Goldman, chair

Sy Brittman, Miriam Gabriel, Micah Kaplan, Jesse Reece, Eileen Santora

#### Bylaws

Aaron Novick, chair

Phil Goldman, Adrienne Greenberg, David Judlowitz, Stephen Meshover,

Joanna Paulsen,

#### Calendar

Elaine Goldman, chair

Cultural Arts

Debra Riva, chair  
Thelma Novick

E-Communications/Web Site

Adrienne Greenberg, chair

Finance

Micah Kaplan, chair  
Phil Goldman, Adrienne Greenberg, David Judlowitz, Joan Prager

Gift Shop

Sara Bloom

Journal Dinner-Dance

Gayle Kaplan, co-chair; Debra Riva, co-chair  
Joanna Paulsen

Membership

Phil Goldman, chair  
Sara Bloom, Miriam Gabriel, Debra Riva

Nominating

Adrienne Greenberg, chair  
David Judlowitz

Pastoral

Elaine Goldman, chair  
Miriam Gabriel, Carol Seigel

Plaques

Stanley Rubin, chair

Public Relations

Alan Garmise, chair  
Bruce Bloom, Sara Bloom

Ritual

Susan Rosenstreich, chair  
Adrienne Greenberg, Stephen Meshover, Aaron Novick, Jesse Reece,  
Stanley Rubin, Carol Seigel

Telephone/Sunshine

Thelma Novick, chair  
Gloria Waxler

Yahrzeit: Stanley Rubin, chair,

Miriam Gabriel

Answers to the Jewish movie stars quiz:

1. Maxwell Henry Aronson had three minor roles in one of the first movies, the 10-minute 1903 "The Great Train Robbery." He acted in more than 300 short films, but gained huge popularity as Bronco Billy Anderson in 148 silent western shorts.

2. Jacob Julius Garfinkle, aka John Garfield, grew up in poverty on the Lower East Side, and later said, "If I hadn't been an actor, I might have become Public Enemy #1." On Broadway and in the movies, Garfield was an early proponent of "The Method," which was later adopted by Montgomery Clift, Marlon Brando, James Dean and others. John Garfield died of

a massive heart attack at the age of 39 (supposedly in the bed of actress Iris Whitney). More than 10,000 people crowded outside the funeral home, Riverside Memorial Chapel in Manhattan, in 1952

3. “The Prince Who Was a Thief” starred Tony Curtis and Piper Laurie. Both were local Jews, born on the Lower East Side of New York, and well known in that neighborhood by their real names.

4. Rachel Weisz, who is now married to Daniel Craig.

5. Eva Marie Kiesler aka Hedy Lamarr, born Nov. 9, 1914 in Austria.

6. Billy Crystal

7. Thomas Ullman aka Douglas Fairbanks, Sr.

8. Emanuel Goldenberg aka Edward G. Robinson with “Little Caesar” in 1931, and Muni Weisenfreund aka Paul Muni with “Scarface” in 1932.

9. Theodosia Burr Goodman aka Theda Bara was known as The Vamp.

10. Issur Danielovitch aka Kirk Douglas. He was the only boy among five older sisters. They couldn’t afford toys, so they treated him as their own dress-up doll. As a teen, he muscled up and became macho to prove his manhood.

11. Edward G. Robinson. In 1956, he was forced to sell his art collection as part of his divorce settlement. Missing his art more than his wife of 29 years, he immediately began to build a second collection.

12. Marion Pauline Levy aka Paulette Goddard. Producer David O. Selznick was afraid Paulette’s affair with Charlie Chaplin would hurt the box office, so he decided not to cast her.