



CONGREGATION
TIFEREETH ISRAEL

A National Historic Site

E-Volume 21 Number 12

The Shofar

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Affiliated With The United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism

December 2019/Kislev-Tevet 5780

• CALENDAR OF EVENTS •

Shabbat and Holiday Services

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

Saturdays: Shabbat, 9:30 a.m.

Learning at our Shul

Monday, Dec. 2, 9, 16, 23 and 30: Hebrew class, 4 p.m.

Shul Events

Sunday, Dec. 8: Making latkes with Joan Prager, kitchen, 9 a.m.

Sunday, Dec. 8: "The Ethical Life," continues Dec. 15 and 29, 11:30 a.m., community room

Sunday, Dec. 15: Board and Congregation meetings, 9 and 10 a.m.

(Gift Shop sale of Hanukkah essentials at the Congregation meeting.)

Wednesday, Dec. 18: Book Circle, noon, community room

Sunday, Dec. 22: First night of Hanukkah; menorah lighting, Mitchell Park, 5 p.m., followed by
latke party at the shul

Lighting Shabbat Candles in December

Dec. 6: 4:10 Dec. 13: 4:11 Dec. 20: 4:13 Dec. 27: 4:17

Dates to Remember

Thursday, Nov. 28: Thanksgiving Day

Sundays, Jan. 5, 12, 19 and 26; Feb. 2, 9 and 16; March 22 and 29 "The Ethical Life" course
continues, 11:30 a.m., community room

Wednesdays, Dec. 25 and Jan. 1: Christmas Day/New Year's Day

Monday, Jan. 20: Martin Luther King Jr. Day

Wednesday, April 8: Ecumenical Seder at noon; first Passover Seder 5 p.m., community room

Thursday, April 9: Second Passover Seder, venue to be announced, based on attendance

(Submission deadline for the January 2020 issue of *The Shofar*: December 20)

From The Rabbi...



“Happy Thanksgiving in Yiddish”

A few days ago, I went to see the Yiddish version of “Fiddler on the Roof,” now playing off-Broadway at Stage 42. Last year, I saw the Broadway version in English. The story is the same, of course, but the flavor is very different. While the English version was riveting and entertaining, the Yiddish authenticity, sprinkled with Hebrew words and Torah verses, invoked in me deeper feelings. I actually could see my own ancestors in Tevye and his family.

In choosing the name of Tevye — meaning in Hebrew “the goodness of God” — Sholem Aleichem seems to be sending us a message that despite this family’s frequent desperation, they somehow are still hopeful and thankful. Being religious is being hopeful. When things don’t seem to be good, we should keep up the conversation with God, hold ourselves back from quitting, thankful for what we have. Sholem Aleichem highlights the process of acceptance — equality — in a way, even with the goyim.

Living under constant ominous warning and fear that the Russian Cossacks are coming to destroy their village, life seems as unstable to the villagers of Anatevka as a fiddler on a roof. The Tevye in us who still believes in the goodness of God practices self-control that is backed by tradition. Those moments when tradition may be morphing in front of our eyes is still the tree of life to those who hold onto it. Those are moments not just of *wearing* the Star of David but of *being* the Star of David.

One of the glaring differences between the two productions — the English and the Yiddish — is the personal authenticity. Throughout the play, the word “Torah” is written in Hebrew in gigantic black letters in the middle of the set. Yet, there was a scene when one of the Cossacks tears the panel where the word Torah is written. At that moment, the tear was felt through the audience. The cut was even deeper than in the last scene when Tevye and the villagers are given only three days to abandon their homes, to pack up generations of their lives in a suitcase. The message is clear — in adversity, we need to pick up and start again. The Torah sign is stitched together and the journey continues.

It stands to reason that if we keep taking our homes with us where we go, we will eventually find our place — a place without violence, a place of peace.

On this Thanksgiving, let us give thanks for where we are and what we have.

—Rabbi Gadi Capela

[Rabbi Capela maintains office hours at the shul on Mondays, from 2 to 4 p.m. Those interested in meeting with the rabbi should call the office at 631-477-0232 to schedule a time.]

The shul initiates a new program

For those unable to attend services, the shul has initiated a new program whereby members can add names to the Mi Sheberach list of the ill in our community. To add names, members can email Andrea at the office (ctigreenport@gmail.com) with names to be mentioned during the Torah service.

From The President...



A trick I learned while trying to become an extrovert was to slip a “What’s your favorite?” into the conversation. Ask one of those questions, and you’ll easily enter the kingdom of friendship. A person’s answer to a “favorite” question is always a lead-in to discussions about differences of opinions, of facts, of backgrounds, of hopes and dreams. And since we are programmed to be social, if we go with the program, those differences become the stuff of sympathy and compatibility.

At a recent dinner party, the guest seated next to me unhesitatingly confessed that his favorite color was blue, as do 99 percent of respondents to the “What’s your favorite color?” question. But I didn’t yawn. Remember, we’re working toward extroversion here, toward expanding our understanding of others, toward appreciating different views of the world, toward hearing what others have to say about life.

To get where you want to go as an extrovert, you need to learn that when we talk about favorite colors, we aren’t talking about favorite colors. What we are talking about is what you hear when you ask blue-lovers of the world: “What’s so special about blue?” I asked that question of my dinner party neighbor, and guess what happened next.

Out came a soliloquy about fishing at dusk in a hidden lake, about how the moment between day and night reveals a whole array of blues, about the way the color blue can bring back memories of states of tranquility and moments of magic.

Then, since we aren’t talking about favorite colors when we talk about favorite colors, this lover of blue asked why my favorite color is any shade of green. He agreed that greens are the signature color of nature, at which point the conversation turned to experiences of the outdoors and why they make such an impression on us. We moved on to a mutual lament about climate change before laying out our opposing views of the function of politics in solving problems, concluding with a laugh after dessert and coffee that you’d run out of things to talk about if talk stopped at favorite colors.

But of course, that’s never what you’re talking about. What the blabber is really all about is the search for the portal to trust. Will my dinner party neighbor look beyond our differences in choice of favorite colors to our mutual desire for a life that lets both of us flourish, while allowing each of us to argue for the kind of world we believe in? Can I rely on the lover of blue sitting next to me to want a world that will be good for both of us, not just for him? I don’t know. That’s why I’m taking lessons in extroversion. I can only find out by asking “What’s your favorite” questions, with the understanding that whatever the answer to the question is, we won’t be talking about favorite colors for the rest of the evening.

—Susan Rosenstreich

• SHUL NEWS AND NOTES •

Did You Pledge Your Support For Our Shul On Yom Kippur?

Traditionally on Yom Kippur, synagogue officers around the world address their congregations in search of a pledge of support to help perpetuate the local Jewish presence. This year, our shul’s vice president, Madelyn Rothman, spoke to our Yom Kippur worshippers, and many responded with their contributions. Did you?

For readers who would like to join their co-members in support of Congregation Tifereth Israel's synagogue and its spiritual, educational and social programming, *The Shofar* offers excerpts from the vice president's remarks:

"A few weeks ago, I was at a Sisterhood meeting here, and we went around the table answering the question, 'Why is Congregation Tifereth Israel important to you?' What I realized is that each of us comes here for our own personal reasons, but the commonality is our shared Jewish identity.

"We appreciate the founders of our synagogue who, more than 100 years ago, had the vision and insight to realize the importance of having a synagogue in Greenport, and who had the will and ability to build it. We also appreciate the people who have maintained the synagogue and expanded it over the years.

"Whether your family has a rich history with Congregation Tifereth Israel, or even if you are with us for the first time, we need your participation, volunteerism, and your financial support. Please contribute generously to help ensure the continuation of our historic, beloved synagogue. Thank you."

Note: JTS Ethics Course Begins This Month on Dec. 8



As you may know from reading past issues of *The Shofar*, the shul's Education Committee has chosen a course developed by the Jewish Theological Seminary, to be offered to shul members beginning this month. The course, titled "The Ethical Life: Jewish Values in an Age of Choice," has been purchased through the

Marshall S. Hurwitz Fund for Special Programs and Projects. It is designed to guide participants in understanding how Jewish ethics can inform discussions and decisions about critical issues of the day. Rabbi Gadi Capela is the facilitator.

The complete course is 12 classes, and is divided into three sections. Each of the 12 classes begins with a video lecture by a JTS faculty member on an ethical dilemma. Some examples are "The Ethics of Torture and Just War," "Ethics and the Lived Experience — A Feminist Approach," "Advance Directives and the Ethics of End-of-Life Care." Also included are links to background readings and primary texts.

Here's what you need to know

The first section of three classes will begin on Sunday, Dec. 8, at 11:30 a.m., and will continue on Dec. 15 and 29. [NOTE: the class originally scheduled for Dec. 22 has been changed to Dec. 29.] Subsequent dates are Jan. 5, 12, 19 and 26; Feb. 2, 9 and 16; March 22 and 29. All materials will be provided, and transportation will be arranged for members requiring it. All classes will be recorded; participants will receive an online link that will allow them to view the videos at home if they cannot be present. In addition to our shul members, those belonging to the North Fork Reform Synagogue and Temple Israel of Riverhead have been invited to participate.

The cost is \$36 per person for the complete course of 12 classes, or \$54 for couples, a savings of \$18. To sign up, call the shul office at 631-477-0232 or email ctigreenport@gmail.com and provide your contact information, including mobile phone number and email address, and your request for transportation, if necessary. You can send your check, payable to Congregation Tifereth Israel, to the shul at P.O. Box 659, Greenport, NY 11944, or bring your check to the first class on Dec. 8.

Dec. 22: Come For The Menorah Lighting; Come For The Latkes



It's time for Hanukkah fun, and the shul is planning a happy celebration to usher in the holiday. It all begins on Sunday, Dec. 22, at 5 p.m., when we will gather in Mitchell Park to light the first candle on Greenport's giant menorah. Jews and non-Jews are invited to witness the menorah lighting, which is taking place this year on the first of the eight nights of Hanukkah. In the spirit of ecumenism, the menorah will remain lighted throughout the holiday season, sharing the park with the Village's Christmas tree in a display of friendship and respect among religions. With that in mind, the synagogue invites all those who attend the menorah lighting in the park to join the members and friends of the

congregation for a Hanukkah party in the community room of the synagogue. Latkes and jelly doughnuts will be served. A ukulele group will entertain.

Rabbi Gadi Capela, spiritual leader of the synagogue, will lead those attending the menorah lighting ceremony in blessings and songs of the holiday. Scheduled to participate in the Mitchell Park program are synagogue president Susan Rosenstreich and other local dignitaries.

Hanukkah, called the Festival of Lights, commemorates the rededication of the Second Temple in Jerusalem after desecration by Antiochus IV during the 2nd century BCE. Hanukkah also is a reminder of the miracle that took place then. With only enough consecrated oil to fuel the eternal flame in the Temple for one day, the oil burned for eight days — the length of time needed to press, prepare and consecrate sacred oil.

In recognition of the importance of oil in this holiday, we prepare and eat foods deep-fried in oil, such as potato pancakes and jelly doughnuts. Other celebrations associated with Hanukkah include playing the Dreidel Game, exchanging gifts, and giving gelt in small net bags of chocolate coins.

For more information about the menorah lighting in Mitchell Park, call the synagogue at 631-477-0232.

Hanukkah Essentials On Sale at Dec. 15 Congregation Meeting

The first Hanukkah candle is Sunday, Dec. 22. Do you have candles? Do you have chocolate gelt coins? Do you have dreidels? Golly jeeppers, do you have a menorah?

Rest easy and rest assured, from menorahs to chocolate coins and dreidels, from those tall and majestic candles to the colorful shorties, the shul's Gift Shop is stocked and ready to accommodate. Gift, too, of course. Menorahs for children and adults, mezuzahs plain and fancy, books for children and adults, candlesticks, wine cups, and accessories for the Jewish home will brighten Hanukkah for friends, family and your own abode.

Call the shul at 631-477-0232 and leave a message for Sara Bloom, and you'll be on your way to Hanukkah happiness. Or, for last minute shopping, come to the Congregation meeting on Sunday, Dec. 15 (10 a.m.), and browse the Hanukkah goodies on display.

Have You Seen The New Judaism & Art Display At The Shul?



Selected works from members of the Judaism & Art group are featured in a new display on the north wall of the community room. Artists are, top row, from left, Bruce Bloom, Saul Rosenstreich, Corrine Slade; bottom row, from left, Bruce Bloom, Hedvah Campeas Cohen, Judith Weiner. Not pictured, sculpture by Graham Diamond. The new display opened for public viewing in concert with the dedication of "The Unfinished Rabbi," a paper sculpture by Robert Strimban, now on view in the southwest corner of the community room.

Judith Wiener photo

Long-Range Planning Committee's Survey Results Tabulated

Nearly 50 percent of the congregation responded to the Long-Range Planning Committee's survey, committee member Judith Weiner said at the shul's November board of directors meeting. The results of the survey will help guide the committee as it plans for a meaningful future for our shul, she said.

Significant among the responses were preferences for classes and lectures in Jewish history, initiatives to attract new members and new fundraising efforts, and a willingness among approximately 83% of respondents to participate in discussions about long-range plans.

Commenting on the survey, shul president Susan Rosenstreich said the responses show "positive energy and a commitment to our synagogue."

The committee will offer a more detailed presentation to members at the Dec. 15 congregation meeting.

Pancake Brunch Nov. 10: A Feast For The Five Senses



The Pancakes Brunch on Sunday, Nov. 10, was a treat for all five senses: The colorful fall room and table decorations, prepared and arranged by Ladan Shalom-Murray; the happy sounds of people enjoying each other's company; the aroma of sizzling pancakes from the kitchen, and the taste — a tam gnaden; and the welcoming handshakes and hugs for new members of our congregation. Pictured, top left, a warm welcome; top right, from left, Suzi Rosenstreich, Graham Diamond and Hedy Cohen; Rabbi Gadi, and Joyce Pitkin. Bottom photo, from left, Tom Byrne and Veronica Kaliski, event co-chairs Elaine and Phil Goldman, Ladan Shalom-Murray with a pan of scrambled eggs, and shul president Suzi Rosenstreich. Adrianne Greenberg photo



An

Random Reads

occasional column on new and noteworthy reading with a Jewish perspective

***Rising: The Book of Challah*, Rochie Pinson**

Rebbetzin Rochie Pinson shares the experiences and insights she has gleaned during decades spent perfecting the art of challah baking and teaching challah workshops around the world. In her wise, warm and humorous voice, she guides the reader through every step of the rewarding process of making challahs.

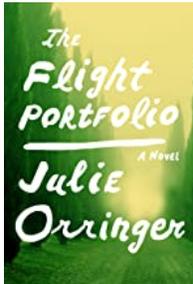
***Irving Berlin: New York Genius*, James Kaplan**

From the Jewish Lives series, an astute portrait of one of the greatest composers of American popular music. In a career that spanned an astonishing nine decades, Berlin wrote some 1,500 tunes, from ragtime to rock. James Kaplan offers Berlin as a self-made man and a witty and wily Jewish immigrant.

***The Dream Stitcher*, Deborah Gaal**

A feast of a novel that blends thriller, history, love, war, magic, deception and tragedy against the backdrop of WWII Poland. Finalist for a National Jewish Book Award, and the Goldberg Prize for debut fiction.

Book Circle Continues Discussion Of November Selection



The Book Circle will meet Wednesday, Dec. 18, at noon, at the synagogue to continue the discussion of its November selection, a high-stakes adventure novel by Julie Orringer titled *The Flight Portfolio*.

In 1940, Varian Fry traveled to Marseille carrying three thousand dollars and a list of imperiled artists and writers he hoped to help escape within a few weeks. Instead, he stayed more than a year, working to procure false documents, amass emergency funds, and arrange journeys across Spain and Portugal, where the refugees would embark for safer ports. His many clients included Hannah Arendt, Max Ernst, Marcel Duchamp, and Marc Chagall. The race against time to save them is a tale of love, adventure, and courage.

For more information about The Book Circle, call the shul at 631-477-0232, and leave a message for Susan Rosenstreich.

At This Season Of Giving, Please Remember CAST

CAST (Community Action Southold Town) provides food, clothing and other life necessities for people in need. Our synagogue has selected the CAST organization as our community outreach project — our contribution to Tikkun Olam (healing the world). In these difficult times, more people than ever before are turning to CAST for help.

You can help us help CAST. Please bring nonperishable canned and jarred food items to the CAST office at 316 Front Street in Greenport, or drop them into the donation box in our lobby, and the synagogue will deliver them.

And don't forget CAST's Holiday Toy Drive, through Dec. 9. Bring new and gently used toys to the CAST office at 316 Front Street, Greenport, or wherever you see Holiday Toy Drive collection cartons at libraries, banks and other venues throughout the Town.

At this season of giving, please remember CAST. Thank you for your generosity.

• FYI • FYI • FYI •

Survey Says Anti-Semitism Tops American Jewish Concerns

A survey from the American Jewish Committee (AJC) finds that 88% of American Jewish respondents to a recent survey say anti-Semitism is a problem in the U.S. today. Nearly a third report they avoid publicly wearing, carrying or displaying objects or symbols that might help people identify them as Jewish. Another 25% said they "always," "frequently" or "sometimes" avoid certain places, events or situations out of concern for their safety. Seventy-one percent said the Jewish institutions they know have either hired security guards, posted police officers outside, or trained members on how to respond to an attack.

David Harris, CEO of the AJC, said that the most striking finding from the survey was that nearly a third of this representative sample of American Jews have changed their behavior as a result of anti-Semitic fear. The survey was conducted from Sept. 11 to Oct. 6, and the results determined from a nationally representative sample of 1,283 Jewish respondents.



Berlin Rabbi Reuven Yaacobov uses a quill to write the first letters on a new Torah scroll in the pulpit of the New Synagogue in Erfurt, Germany. AP Photo/Martin Rubble

Jewish Heritage Museum Extends Auschwitz Exhibit To August

Due to an overwhelming response, the Museum of Jewish Heritage in New York City has extended its current exhibit, “Auschwitz: Not long ago. Not far away,” to August 2020. The exhibit contains more than 700 original objects and 400 photographs. It traces the development of Nazi ideology and the transformation of Auschwitz from the Polish town of Oswiecim to the largest German Nazi concentration camp and one of the most significant sites of the Holocaust.

One Year Ago at The Tree Of Life Synagogue In Pittsburgh...



On Shabbat morning, October 27, 2018, a lone gunman broke into the Tree of Life synagogue in Pittsburgh during services, shot and killed 11 people, and injured 7 others as they worshipped. During commemorative observances a year later, Monique Mead played her violin on the sidewalk outside the gate.,



as three youngsters attached a heart to the gate. AP Photos/ Gene J. Puskar

Hebrew Bible Back In Galicia, Where It Originated 500+ Years Ago



On a summer’s day in 1476, a scribe called Moses Ibn Zabarah put the finishing touches to an enormous and magnificently illustrated Hebrew Bible, commissioned by the son of a wealthy Jewish family from Galicia in northwestern Spain. The Bible, whose pages teem with dragons, monkeys, peacocks, intricate geometric patterns, and an alarmed Jonah entering the whale’s mouth, took 10 months to complete.

Sixteen years later, Spain’s Jews were ordered to leave the country by King Ferdinand and Queen Isabella. The expulsion cast the family and their precious Bible into exile. From Spain, the book was taken to Portugal, North Africa, Gibraltar and Scotland before finally ending up in the Bodleian Library in Oxford.

And now, after more than 500 years, the book is finally coming home...for a visit. The Kennicott Bible, named after Benjamin Kennicott, the scholar and librarian on whose advice the

work was bought by Oxford University, has been loaned to the regional government of Galicia, and will be on display in Santiago de Compostela until April 2020.

Despite the Kennicott's Galician heritage and global renown, the region has no plans to ask for its permanent return, said Roman Rodriguez, minister for culture and tourism in the regional government. "It's Galician, no matter where it is," he said.

Reunion Of Survivors With Their Saviors At Yad Vashem

A 92-year-old Greek woman was reunited in Jerusalem with members of the Jewish family she helped save during the Holocaust, in what organizers said could be the last meeting of its kind.

More than 75 years ago, Melpomeni Dina and her two older sisters risked their own safety to offer shelter to the Mordechai family, a Jewish group of seven from Veria, Greece. The Mordechais lived in Dina's home during the occupation.

At the end of WWII, the Jewish family resettled in Israel. The two surviving siblings brought their children and grandchildren to meet Dina on Nov. 3 — about 40 members in total.

Rescuers have become increasingly rare as the generation that lived through WWII ages. Many have died or have become too frail to travel.

In 1994 the Yad Vashem Holocaust Memorial recognized Dina, whose maiden name was Gianopoulou, as one of the "Righteous Among the Nations." The title has been awarded to more than 27,000 non-Jews who risked their lives to save Jewish people during the Holocaust.

Nazi Germany's occupation of Greece ended in 1944. Up to 70,000 Greek Jews died during the Holocaust — about 81% of the country's Jewish population, according to the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum.



Melpomeni Dina, center, is reunited with Holocaust survivors Yossi Mor, right, and his sister Sarah Yanai at Yad Vashem in Jerusalem on Nov. 3, 2019. Getty Images/Emmanuel Dunand

• JEWS IN THE NEWS •

Chaim Bloom



The Boston Red Sox have hired Tampa Bay Rays' senior vice president Chaim Bloom as its new chief baseball officer. Bloom, 36, will be "responsible for all baseball operations" for the team. He previously spent 15 years with the Rays.

Bloom grew up in Philadelphia and went to a Jewish day school before studying Latin classics at Yale University, where he graduated in 2004. He is an observant Jew and as such will not work on certain Jewish holidays and Shabbat, despite his demanding schedule as a baseball executive. In 2001, because of Rosh Hashanah, he missed the Rays' final game against the New York Yankees, which would determine whether the Rays would make the playoffs. During his time with the Rays, Bloom had a large jar of gefilte fish on his desk, part of an ongoing bet with an employee.

Sophie Wilmes



Sophie Wilmes is the first woman and the first Jewish person to become the prime minister of Belgium. Wilmes, the mother of four from the Brussels region, replaced Charles Michel on Oct. 27 in the top post. Michel's Cabinet collapsed last year, and Wilmes replaced him when he left for a European Union position. Both are members of the center-left MR party. Wilmes' mother is Ashkenazi Jewish and lost several relatives in the Holocaust. Her father is not Jewish.

Andor Stern

Andor Stern, recognized as the only Brazilian-born Holocaust survivor, celebrated his bar mitzvah on Nov. 11, the 81st anniversary of Kristallnacht, in his native Sao Paulo, in its oldest synagogue, Kehilat Israel. Stern is 91. His family was in Hungary when antisemitic acts began against Jews. In April 1944, the Sterns were sent to Auschwitz, where his mother and grandparents were killed in the gas chambers. He returned to Brazil in 1948.

Eileen Filler-Corn



On Election Day, Nov. 5, 2019, Virginians elected Eileen Filler-Corn as both the first Jewish and female speaker of the state's House of Delegates. A Democrat, Filler-Corn, 55, has represented the Fairfax County suburbs of Washington, D.C., in the state chamber since 2010. She is also the first speaker from northern Virginia in four decades.

Jews Involved In Trump Impeachment Inquiry

To date, five Jewish men have emerged as principals in the impeachment inquiry of President Donald Trump, initiated by the House of Representatives.



- President Volodymyr Zelensky reportedly was asked by President Trump to investigate his political rival Joe Biden and Biden’s son, Hunter.
- Lev Parnas and Igor Fruman, former New York Mayor Rudy Giuliani’s Ukrainian-American business associates were allegedly involved in helping Trump remove Marie Yovanovitch as ambassador to Ukraine.

• Lt. Col. Alexander Vindman, an émigré from Ukraine, testified Oct. 29 and Nov. 19 that he had been troubled by Trump’s conduct in connection with Ukraine policy. He was one of the people who listened to the president’s July 25 phone call with Ukrainian president Zelensky, in which he said Trump had asked Zelensky to investigate the Biden family in exchange for a White House visit and the release of nearly \$400 million in military aid to Ukraine that had been appropriated by Congress — the foundation for the impeachment inquiry.

• Gordon Sondland, the U.S. ambassador to the European Union, provided public testimony on Nov. 20 that he viewed delivery of an aid package to Ukraine, approved by Congress, as contingent upon Trump’s request for a favor — that the Ukrainian government publicly open an anticorruption investigation into the Bidens.

[Pictured top, from left, Vindman, Sondland, Zelensky. Bottom, from left, Parnas, Fruman.]

Nita Lowey



Nita Lowey (D-NY, 17th Congressional District) is retiring after 32 years in Congress. Lowey says her Jewish identity as a lawmaker has been defined by membership on the Appropriations Committee, where she became the senior Democrat in 2013, and the committee chair since the beginning of this year.

Upon taking the helm, Lowey had the option of chairing a subcommittee she narrowed to Labor, Health and Human Services, which controls \$150 billion, including spending on many of the women’s issues she favors, or Foreign Operations, which deals with just over a third of that amount. She chose the latter. “I took that committee because I felt that it was important to make sure that the partnership between Israel and the United States remains strong,” she said.

Lowey says she is leaving Congress because she wants more time with her husband of 58 years, Stephen, her three children, and her eight grandchildren.

Michael R. Bloomberg



Michael R. Bloomberg, the former New York City mayor and billionaire businessman, appears to be preparing for a potential 2020 presidential run. He filed paperwork in November to get on the Democratic primary ballot in Alabama, a state with an early deadline.

Mr. Bloomberg, the former New York City mayor and billionaire businessman, has been privately weighing a bid for the White House and has not yet made a final decision on whether to run, the *New York Times* reported, pointing out that should Mr. Bloomberg proceed with a campaign, it could cause a disruption in the Democratic race. With his immense personal wealth, centrist views, and close ties to the political establishment, he could present a threat to the candidacy of former Vice President Joe Biden, the *New York Times* said. Mr. Bloomberg, 77, initially bowed out of the 2020 race because of Mr. Biden's apparent strength, but he has since grown skeptical that Mr. Biden is on track to win the Democratic nomination, and he does not see the two leading liberals in the race — Senators Elizabeth Warren of Massachusetts and Bernie Sanders of Vermont — as strong candidates for the general election, according to the *New York Times*.

Alon Leviev

Israeli athlete Alon Leviev, 17, won a gold medal at the Ju-Jitsu World Championship in Abu Dhabi in November, beating an athlete from the United Arab Emirates' capital city in the final after competing against athletes from Pakistan, Kazakhstan and Tajikistan.

Once the medals had been distributed, "Hatikvah" was blasted in the arena. Before the UAE changed its policy, Israel's national flag and anthem were banned. Public outrage and the International Judo Federation intervened, forcing the UAE to treat Israeli athletes equally with their competitors.

Leviev participated in the junior division, 55-kilogram-and-under weight category.

• OBITUARIES •

The family of Bruce Bloom acknowledges with gratitude the many expressions of sympathy and condolence from shul members and friends. Cards, letters and phone calls have eased the sense of loss during this difficult time, the family said.

Marta Kurtag

Marta Kurtag, a pianist and teacher who shared a 72-year collaboration with her husband, the prominent avant-garde composer Gyorgy Kurtag, profoundly influencing his work and joining him in dual recitals, died Oct. 17 in Budapest. She was 92.

She played a pivotal role in Hungarian musical life as a piano teacher — first at the Bela Bartok College of Music in Budapest, from 1953 to 1963, and then, after 1972, on the faculty of the Franz Liszt Academy of Music, Hungary's storied conservatory from which she had graduated in 1952. A pianist of considerable skill and insight, she had a solo career of her own in Eastern Europe.

Of the joint piano recitals, Alex Ross of The New Yorker wrote, “You felt that you were eavesdropping on an intimate family affair. Like some sweet old couple in a movie, the Kurtags smiled at each other and allowed their bodies to sway with the music, apparently oblivious of the packed hall of new-music aficionados watching them.”

At risk after WWII had broken out, Jews faced increasing repression in Hungary. Her father urged her to flee. With forged papers and the help of a Zionist group, she crossed into Romania. Left behind, her parents and her brother perished.

Marcelle Ninio

Marcelle Ninio, who was imprisoned in Egypt from 1955 to 1968 for her role in a failed Israeli spy operation in 1954, died Oct. 23 in Ramat Gan, Israel, near Tel Aviv. She was 89.

According to an account in the New York Times, Ms. Ninio, who was born in Egypt, was a devoted Zionist. She was working as a secretary in Cairo when she was recruited in 1951 by an Israeli intelligence agent to the secret Unit 131. The outfit was largely dormant until 1954, when Gamal Abdel Nasser seized authority in Egypt after leading the coup that overthrew the monarchy of King Farouk two years earlier. Israel was concerned that Nasser would nationalize the Suez Canal and block access to a critical shipping route. Unit 131’s mission was to detonate bombs to show that Nasser could not protect American and British property or people. The plot failed. She and others were arrested, tried and convicted. She was sentenced to a 15-year term.

In 2005, she and the two other surviving members of what was called Operation Susannah were given military ranks in the Israel Defense Forces for their service to the country.

• COMMEMORATIONS •

Yahrzeits In December

- 1: Sidney Waxler
- 2: Moe Harris; Jeanette Lipsitz; Max Posner; Rachel Stollar
- 3: Libbie Esther Brown
- 5: Solomon S. Carasso; Samuel Shemaiah Kaplan; Esther Sperling
- 6: Beverly Rose Seigel; Mortimer Silberger
- 7: Sidney Holtzman; Beulah “Billy” Raphael Sher
- 8: Norman Elsky; Marshall Hurwitz; Betty Millman; Henry Newman; Mildred Pushkin Pelovitz
- 9: Murray Buchbinder; Rose Katcher
- 10: Sylvia Dornfield; Susan Felder; Doris Ann Levine; Samuel Novick
- 11: Eva Bloom
- 12: Sanford Firestone; Morris Kaplan; Sylvia Karp
- 13: A. Harry Brown; Abram Philip Kaplan; Harry Levin; Charles Millman
- 14: Abraham Abba Levine; Helen S. Rose
- 15: Max Rosenstreich
- 17: Miriam Lipman Gluckman; Brigitte Jarvi
- 18: Philip Ballen; Henry Kessler; Herbert Michael Krasnow; Bracha Rothman; Robert Rothman
- 19: Annie Wandt
- 20: Sylvia Britzman; Anne Lengyel
- 21: Lt. Earl M. Silverstone; Mollie Kaplan Singer
- 22: Julius Lieberthal; Dr. Monte M. Warren
- 23: Jack Feinberg; Samuel Weisbein

24: Joseph Teperman
25: David Robert Levinson; Sidney A. Schneider
30: Michael Lepawsky
31: Goldie S. Friedman

Birthdays in December

21: Elizabeth Berg; Elyse Kirschner, Barbara Glassner
24: Lori Melvin
26: Matthew Nathel
31: Pamela Birman

Anniversaries in December

14: Miriam Gabriel and Adrienne Greenberg

Refuah Shlemah

Gloria Waxler
Michael Murphy
Jane Sachs
Jody Levin
Philip Goldman
Paul Birman
Thelma Novick
Michael Slade
Sy Brittman
Judith Weiner
Stanley Rubin
Ann Hurwitz

Spreading Sunshine

In times of triumph and celebration as well as those of sadness and turmoil, a card to a family member or friend is a welcome expression of sunshine and your love.

Yes, you can purchase a card created by Hallmark. But better still, you can purchase a card from the shul's Sisterhood by calling Thelma Novick at 631-734-6952, who will write a personal message on a card, indicating your feelings and that a donation to the Sisterhood has been made in the recipient's honor. Thelma, who has been in charge of this service for decades — yes, decades — can help you write the perfect message to convey your thoughts.

• MONEY MATTERS •

Donations in November

Ann Hurwitz
Rayna and Michael Frangos
Debra Riva and Suzan Lipson
Martin Ehrenreich

Howard and Suzanne Greenberg
Lawrence Kotik and Timothy Mueller
Dr. William Packard
Carol Seigel
Richard and Frida Klinghoffer
Mark Melnick, DDS and Sharon Melnick
Dr. Lewis Teperman and Helaine Teperman
Robert and Judith Goldman
Meryl Kramer
Michael and Rachel Murphy
Paul and Alice Nadel
Roslyn Polonecki
Philip and Elaine Goldman
Joan Prager
Michael and Lorene Solomon
Ari and Susan Spar
Elana Sydney and Ellen Jaffe
F. Marc and Ellen Wiederlight
Paula Shengold
Jake Rose/Color Our Town Press
Sara Bloom
Stephan Brumberg and Carol Ingall
Edward Fox and Arlene Reisman
Ron and Madelyn Rothman
Stanley and Roberta Kaplan,
Peter J. Thaler, MD
Sara and Leyba Minsteris
G.Eisen
Paul Birman and Pamela Panepinto
Joyce Pitkin
Thelma Novick
Michael Slade, MD. and Corrine Slade
Albert and Sylvia Safer
Michael and Lynn Simon
Jack Weiskott and Roberta Garris

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.
- **Marshall S. Hurwitz Fund for Special Programs and Projects:** supports cultural endeavors for the shul and community.

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 tax deduction and an income for life. Upon death, the balance in the trust goes to the charity.

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

<u>Event</u>	<u>Members</u>	<u>Nonmembers</u>
Wedding, Bar/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

<u>Commemoratives</u>	<u>Members</u>	<u>Nonmembers</u>
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

Susan Rosenstreich: President
Madelyn Rothman: Vice President
Alan Garmise: Treasurer
Judith Weiner: Financial Secretary
Sara Bloom: Recording Secretary
Elaine Goldman: Corresponding Secretary
Martin Ehrenreich, Miriam Gabriel, Rachel Levin Murphy: Members at Large
Adrienne Greenberg: Sisterhood Representative
Z. Micah Kaplan, MD: Men's Club Representative

The Sisterhood

Adrienne Greenberg: President
Joanna Paulsen: Vice President
Roberta Garris: Secretary
Eileen Santora: Treasurer

The Men's Club

Z. Micah Kaplan, MD: President
Jesse Reece: Vice President
Philip Goldman: Treasurer

The Shofar

Sara Bloom and Miriam Gabriel: Editors

Shul Committees

Andrew Levin Park
Sy Brittman, caretaker
Advertising
Alan Garmise, chair
Audio-Visual
Phil Goldman, chair
Adrienne Greenberg
Beautification/Building and Grounds
Z. Micah Kaplan, MD, chair
Miriam Gabriel, Phil Goldman, Adrienne Greenberg, Jesse Reece
Bylaws
Aaron Novick, chair
Alan Garmise, Phil Goldman, Adrienne Greenberg, Joanna Paulsen
Calendar
Elaine Goldman, chair
E-Communications/Website
TBA
Education
Rabbi Gadi Capela, Miriam Gabriel, Ann Hurwitz, Madelyn Rothman, Paula Shengold,
Irma Strimban

Finance

Judith Weiner, chair

Alan Garmise, Micah Kaplan, MD, Stephen Meshover, Joan Prager, Susan Rosenstreich,
Corinne Slade, Nancy Torchio

Garden

Adrienne Greenberg, chair

Veronica Kaliski

Gift Shop

Sara Bloom, chair

Information Technology

Pamela Birman, Paul Birman, Rabbi Gadi Capela, Alan Garmise, Susan Rosenstreich,

Journal Dinner-Dance

Elaine Goldman, Joanna Paulsen, co-chairs

Judaism & Art

Saul Rosenstreich, chair

Rabbi Gadi Capela, Phil Goldman, June Shatkin, Cookie Slade, Irma Strimban, Dan
Torchio, Judith Weiner

Long Range Planning:

Alan Garmise, chair

Miriam Gabriel, Adrienne Greenberg, Susan Rosenstreich, Judith Weiner

Membership

Phil Goldman, chair

Nominating

TBA

Pastoral

Rabbi Gadi Capela, Miriam Gabriel, Elaine Goldman, Carol Seigel

Plaques

Adrienne Greenberg

Public Relations

Alan Garmise, chair

Sara Bloom

Ritual

Phil Goldman, chair

Rabbi Gadi Capela, Alan Garmise, Adrienne Greenberg, Stephen Meshover, Aaron
Novick, Susan Rosenstreich, Stanley Rubin, Sherry Shaw

Security:

Phil Goldman, chair

Miriam Gabriel, Z. Micah Kaplan, MD, Paul Nadel, Joan Prager, Nancy Torchio,
Judith Weiner

Telephone/Sunshine

Thelma Novick, chair

Yahrzeits:

Miriam Gabriel, chair

Stanley Rubin

The president is an ex officio member of all shul committees.

