



CONGREGATION  
TIFERETH ISRAEL

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# The Shofar

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Affiliated With The United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism

June 2020/Sivan-Tammuz 5780

## • CALENDAR OF EVENTS •

### *Shabbat and Holiday Services*

Fridays: Erev Shabbat, 7:30 p.m., online only, via Zoom

Saturdays: Shabbat, 9:30 a.m., online only, via Zoom

Thursday, May 28, Shavuot service, 7:30 p.m., followed by Torah study (Tikkun Leil), via Zoom

Saturday, May 30, Shabbat/Shavuot observance and Yiskor, 9:30 a.m., via Zoom

*[Shavuot commemorates the anniversary of the day God gave the Torah to the Nation of Israel assembled at Mount Sinai.]*

### *Learning at our Shul*

Sundays, May 24 and May 31: Final two “Ethics Course” classes, 11:30 a.m., via Zoom

Mondays, June 1, 8, 15, 22 and 29: Hebrew class: 4 p.m., via Zoom

### *Shul Events*

Tuesday, May 26: Virtual Silent Auction opens (through June 7); opening party at 5 p.m.

Mondays, June 1, 8, 15, 22, 29; Thursdays, June 4, 11, 18, 25: Lunch and Learn, Zoom at noon

Wednesday, June 10: Virtual Journal ad sales to members begins (through July 15)

Wednesday, June 17: Book Circle, noon, via Zoom

Sunday, June 21: Board of Directors/Congregation meetings 9 and 10 a.m., elections, via Zoom

### *Lighting Shabbat Candles in June*

June 5: 8:06 June 12: 8:10 June 19: 8:12 June 26: 8:13

### *Dates to Remember*

Saturday, June 20, at 5:43 p.m. EDT: June Solstice, summer begins

*[At the Summer Solstice, we will experience the year’s longest day and shortest night.]*

Sunday, June 21: Fathers’ Day

Wednesday, August 5: Virtual Journal goes live online

**(Submission deadline for the July 2020 issue of *The Shofar*: June 20)**

## From The Rabbi...



### “Out of Service”

“Yesterday at 5 in the afternoon, we went with Mom to the grocery store, and on the way we saw that our kindergarten was closed. The swings standing between the tall trees, and the flowers seem so small and faded, because our kindergarten was closed...It isn’t very nice to see our kindergarten closed...” Every Israeli child born in and after the 1970’s knows by heart, like the National Anthem, the words to this Hebrew song, “A Closed Kindergarten,” by the Israeli poet, Jonathan Geffen. The kids that were used to seeing their kindergarten full of life never saw it sleeping. The children, not used to seeing their kindergarten in the afternoon, are surprised to see it so lifeless, even when they know it’ll be open again in the morning.

In Israel, of course, there have been various reasons over the years for schools to close, and not simply for the evening. Now, many children around the world share this notion. The closed kindergarten has become a metaphor for imagining new angles and new perspectives, in people, in places, in life.

Every time I pass by our shuttered synagogue, I think about this song. When stores or businesses renovate and put a sign, “Temporarily out of service” or “Forgive our appearance while we renovate,” they mean to say that it’s temporary, that we’ll be back better and stronger. This is only a sleep, a rest, a break — a necessary phase in any place that wants to grow. Even our bodies will get tired at certain points, and we will have to sleep.

We are in the season of reading about the Shmita, the 7th year of sabbatical for the land, and the Jubilee, the 50th year of an overall cessation in the land, a forgiving of debts, a time of reflection, and Cheshbon Hanefesh, a soul searching self-examination. Counting the 49 days of the Omer and resting on the 50th to receive the revelation of the law in Sinai on Shavuot is a similar process. It is such a monumental event that it requires a break, a time for contemplation.

But life continues in some capacity, even while access to the kindergarten, the school, or the shul is unattainable. In our case, we are maintaining all of our scheduled rituals, classes, and meetings, albeit virtually. This is actually what the Jewish people have been doing for the last 2,000 years. Since the destruction of the Holy Temple, we have been keeping a “virtual Temple” through “placeholders” of mitzvot and rituals. Some mitzvot that are Temple-bound, such as the sacrifices, or mitzvot that are land-bound, such as Shmita, were still recognized through prayers and counting, despite the absence of the Temple and exile from the land. It was as if to say, “We are closed for renovation and self-reflection, but we will return one day.”

To redeem the situation and the sacrifice we are making during shutdown, we need to recognize the new opportunities that this time presents. The reality afterward needs to be much better, not just simply a return to “normal.” This year, for instance, most likely we will hold High Holiday services virtually. This provides an opportunity to customize our High Holidays, perhaps share them with more people around the world. The building is closed, but the whole world has opened. We can start to begin again. Imagine.

Being out of service is not always bad. Out of service is the Shabbat that gives us the opportunity to rejuvenate and to begin anew. “In the beginning...,” like another famous start, it was chaos, a long period of incredibility, and then a new world was created. In his collection of songs titled *The Sixteenth Lamb*, which includes “A Closed Kindergarten,” Jonathan Geffen also wrote “How is a Song Born?” And he concludes, “...like a newborn baby, in the beginning it hurts, then it comes out, and everyone is happy...”

Chodesh Tov and Chag Shavuot Sameach.

—Rabbi Gadi Capela

## From The President...



Who in his or her right mind would sign up for a job that pays zero, offers no union benefits and runs a 24/7 schedule? As far as I know, only synagogue presidents would allow themselves to stray so far from the path of reason. Who else imagines that the congregations they serve are seeking the ideal community for the celebration of Jewish traditions? Who else envisions committees staffed by synagogue volunteers who keep the heat on in winter, the air cool in summer, the floors swept, the kitchen spotless, literature and the arts in tune with Judaism, the bills paid, and the bank accounts in the black? Who else fabricates the many reasons for the doubting donors of their congregations to believe in the flourishing future of their synagogues?

So go ahead. Tell synagogue presidents they're a bunch of Looney Tunes dreamers. But be prepared to learn that they don't dream alone. A whole congregation dreams right alongside them. Sure, there are moments when congregations come up with images of community that clash with each other; when visions of dedicated service fall short of reality; and when fabrications of the future, far from inspiring, damage our faith in each other's integrity. But in the minds of synagogue presidents, these moments are brief aberrations, limited detours in a congregation's search for the community they dream of becoming.

As this synagogue president prepares to make room for the next dreamer-in-charge at Tifereth Israel, she is happy to observe that she will be resuming life in a congregation that hallucinates just as wildly about its future as she has for the past two years. It will be a pleasure to continue dreaming with the congregation she has been privileged to serve.

—Susan Rosenstreich

## • SHUL NEWS AND NOTES •

### **They're Live Online! The Virtual Auction And Virtual Journal *Support Our Shul With These Fun, Breakthrough Happenings***

#### **Kickoff party for the Virtual Silent Auction**

In response to the Covid-19 pandemic that has shuttered our shul and driven us to virtual events, our Silent Auction is moving to an online version. To kick off the event, the organizers of the Virtual Silent Auction have planned a virtual opening party to show off all the items and services they've been gathering. Right from the easy chair in your living room — or your deck or patio or even poolside in your backyard — you can raise a glass of wine or a fizzy soft drink, munch on cheese and crackers or whatever hors d'oeuvres are stored in your fridge, and peruse all the offerings that make this Silent Auction different (virtual) and irresistible (fun).

The party starts on Tuesday, May 26, at 5 p.m. It's easy to get there: visit [www.tiferethisraelgreenport.org](http://www.tiferethisraelgreenport.org) and click on "join a meeting online." Follow the prompts, and type in the code: 955110. And you're there, hobnobbing with shul members and fellow shoppers. Questions? Call Madelyn at (631) 559-2816.

#### **Ad sales opening for the Virtual Journal**

You're also invited to be part of another great new venture — our 2020 Virtual Journal. With your messages of good wishes and good will in the Virtual Journal, you proclaim loudly that you

are here for our synagogue, you are here for our shul family, and you are here for our future together.

Your ad in the Virtual Journal can deliver your messages to a greater audience than ever before — congratulations to our synagogue on its 119th year, and thanks to Susan Rosenstreich, our synagogue's Virtual Journal honoree, for the outstanding job she has done to shepherd our shul through these difficult times.

The Virtual Journal will be on our website 24/7 for an entire year, and also on Facebook and Instagram. This broad exposure raises the shul's visibility, raises respect for this initiative in our community, and raises the dollars from members and vendors that we need to bridge a \$60,000 gap in our annual budget.

Watch your email and text messages for more information about this important opportunity. Support our shul with your messages, and be a part of this breakthrough happening. Member sales will be open from June 10 through July 15. We will go live online on August 5.

## **Nominating Committee Announces Slate Of Officers And Directors**

The Nominating Committee has announced the slate of officers and directors for the 2020-21 term, as follows:

President: Judith Weiner  
Vice President: Sara Bloom  
Treasurer: Alan Garmise  
Financial Secretary: Susan Rosenstreich  
Corresponding Secretary: Elaine Goldman  
Recording Secretary: Joanna Paulsen  
Members at Large: Hedvah Campeas Cohen; Miriam Gabriel; Madelyn Rothman  
Also serving on the board  
Sisterhood Representative: Adrienne Greenberg  
Men's Club Representative: Z. Micah Kaplan, MD

The election will be held at the annual meeting on June 21, via Zoom. All congregants are invited to attend the June Congregation meetings to show support for the new officers and directors. To access Zoom, visit the shul's Website ([www.tiferethisraelgreenport.org](http://www.tiferethisraelgreenport.org)), follow the prompts, and type in the meeting code: 955110.

The members of the Nominating Committee are Phil Goldman, chair; Sara Bloom, Tom Byrne, Roberta Garris, and Susan Rosenstreich.

*The Shofar* has learned that some members have been lax about reading email messages. We know, sometimes the volume is overwhelming. But as we cope with Covid-19, our shul doors locked, and shelter-in-place regulations in force, email and text are ways for the shul to keep you up to date on what's going on.

Please, please, check email and text daily for messages and ShulCloud announcements.

## **Enthusiastic Audiences Zoom In For 'Lunch and Learn'**

We knew we had a good thing going when shul members zoomed in on April 20 with a big turnout for our first Lunch and Learn session with Ron Rothman talking about his grandfather's friendship with Albert Einstein. (Yes, that Albert Einstein.) Sara Bloom offered a session on memoir writing, which was followed by our third Lunch and Learn session with Marian

Friedmann, an inveterate gardener. Susan Rosenstreich came next, talking about body language and how actions sometimes can speak as loud as words. Chef Deborah Pittorino delighted the zoom at noon group with a cooking demonstration. Gnocchi anyone? And rounding out the month, we invited Cantor Melissa Berman to lead us in songs of celebration for Memorial Day Monday. Each week, Rabbi Gadi filled the Thursday slot with probing questions about Judaism.

What have we cooked up for June? Zoom at noon every Monday and Thursday and find out. Sometimes it's chitchat; sometimes shul folks or guests offer particular expertise for all of us to learn while we lunch. There's always discussion, Q&A, and more chitchat. It's instructive, it's entertaining, it's fun.

To Zoom at noon for Lunch and Learn, visit [www.tiferethisraelgreenport.org](http://www.tiferethisraelgreenport.org), click on "Go to meeting/services," follow the prompts, and enter code 955110. Come learn. Bring lunch.

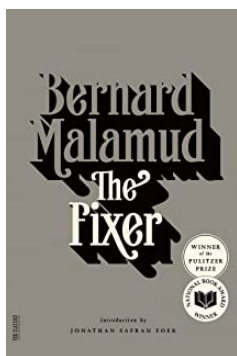
## Oculus: Eye On Art



This month's Oculus column features 'Edouard Vuillard (1868-1940), who benefitted from the patronage of Jewish avant-garde artists, theater impresarios, writers and philosophers who supported him throughout his life. As the image illustrates, Vuillard tended toward intimate domestic scenes of family and friends. His work is infused with intricate wallpaper and upholstery patterns, colored with the warm and intimate hues that speak to home. Lucy Hessel was Vuillard's muse, model and lover. This painting, "Lucy Hessel Reading," which is housed in the permanent collection of The Jewish Museum in New York City, is a good example of his approach to painting.

Submitted by Saul Rosenstreich for the Judaism & Art group

## Book Circle Looks Back To 1966 For Malamud's 'The Fixer'



The Book Circle will meet on Wednesday, June 17, at noon, via Zoom, to revisit a prize-winning classic novel, *The Fixer*, Bernard Malamud's best-known and most acclaimed novel. *The Fixer* won the 1967 National Book Award for fiction and the 1967 Pulitzer Prize for fiction.

Set in Kiev in 1911 during a period of heightened anti-Semitism, the novel tells the story of Yakov Bok, a Jewish handyman falsely blamed for the brutal murder of a young Russian boy.

The Book Circle meets monthly to explore books on Jewish themes by Jewish writers. For more information, call the shul at 631-477-0232, and leave a message for Susan Rosenstreich, coordinator of the group.

*The Shofar* joins the membership in welcoming to our shul Dr. Richard G. Schwartz and Dania Kier Schwartz and family of West Palm Beach, FL, and East Marion. We look forward to meeting you and participating with you in our spiritual, educational and social offerings.

## EEJCC Provides Pizza And Hero Sandwiches To Local Police

In appreciation for responsiveness to their communities, member congregations of the East End Jewish Community Council donated pizza pies and hero sandwiches to local police departments.

Our shul worked with the North Fork Reform Synagogue to recognize Chief Martin Flatley and his team at the Southold Police Department. In all, eight departments on the North and South Forks were recognized, including Sag Harbor, Southampton, Westhampton Beach, Riverhead, Suffolk County precincts, and the New York State department in Suffolk County.

Coordinating the total effort was shul member Ladan Shalom-Murray, who worked with Rabbi Gadi Capela, president of the organization, to develop the project. “Because of all our first responders, we have a safer and better community today and always,” the council said. “We pray for the health, safety and strength of all of our front liners. With God’s help, may there soon be global healing.”

For more information about the EEJCC, call 631-645-5106 or visit [www.eejcc.org/](http://www.eejcc.org/).

## Random Reads Offers Diverse Choices For A Sheltered Society



- ***Hell and Other Destinations***, by Madeleine Albright

Six-time *New York Times* bestselling author and former Secretary of State Madeleine Albright reflects on the final stages of one’s career, and working productively into your later decades in this revealing, funny and inspiring memoir.

- ***Family Papers***, by Sarah Stein

Named one of the best books of 2019 by *The Economist*, and a *New York Times Book Review* Editors’ Choice. A National Jewish Book Award finalist. Sephardic historian Sarah Stein uses the family’s correspondence to tell the story of their journey across the arc of a century. They wrote to share grief and reveal secrets, to propose marriage and plan for divorce. They wrote because they were a family.

- ***A Life In Comics***, by Stan Lee

Few artists have had as much of an impact on American pop culture as Stan Lee. Witness the characters he created — Spider Man and Iron Man, the X-Men and the Fantastic Four. This illuminating biography draws surprising connections between comic book heroes and the ancient tales of the Bible, the Talmud and Jewish mysticism.

### Where are the graduates?

Yes, we know. *The Shofar* promised to provide readers with a listing of the graduates and their proud families in the June issue, the one you are currently reading. Change in plan. Covid-19 has sidelined graduation ceremonies in all schools — from move-up ceremonies for nursery school children to degree earners at our institutions of higher learning. Ceremonies originally scheduled in May were moved to June, then moved to virtual events TBA.

Nevertheless, *The Shofar* and our shul families are proud indeed of the accomplishments of our young people, and we will publish their names as the ceremonies take place. Please forward graduation information to [sbblazer@hotmail.com](mailto:sbblazer@hotmail.com). Include name of graduate, relationship to shul member, school, degree or diploma earned, honors, next step if known. Hoping for the July issue...

## Shul Members Support Common Ground For The Common Good



*The Shofar* proudly recognizes the members of our congregation who are stepping up with other community organizations, churches and individuals to participate in a common ambition to provide for those in need. The charity is called the Common Ground Project — growing vegetables to stock local food pantries, including CAST, for the poor.

The project was initiated by Holy Trinity Episcopal Church in Greenport, thanks to a grant from the Episcopal Ministries of Long Island, the generosity of Treiber Farms, which donated the land and watering system, and the hard work of a dedicated group of volunteers, who are cultivating a quarter-acre on Route 48 in Peconic (look for the Dodge truck with the giant American flag on its side; that's Treiber Farms.) The Boy Scouts helped build the raised plots, Southold Town donates the soil, Marion Gardens in East Marion donates the seedlings, and the horse farm across from Treiber Farms supplies the manure to fertilize the plants. Clearly, the Common Ground Project is a true community garden.

For quite some time, a volunteer gardening group from our shul has put hands in the dirt to plant, weed and water the young veggies in Bed 16. But recently, the group took on a second plot, Bed 18 (chai), a number that figures prominently in modern Jewish culture. [In Hebrew, chai means life and/or luck. The Hebrew letters that spell chai add up to the numerical equivalent of 18, which is why many Jews make contributions in multiples of \$18.] The gardening group maintaining the two beds are Tom Byrne, Rabbi Gadi Capela, Miriam Gabriel, Adrienne Greenberg, Veronica Kaliski, Jesse Reese, Suzi Rosenstreich and Madelyn Rothman. Those interested in helping can contact Veronica at [v2kay@aol.com/](mailto:v2kay@aol.com/).



Volunteers cultivate for charity. Photos by Tom Byrne and Adrienne Greenberg.

## The Story Of The 1890s Tokaj Torah And Its Modern Mission



When Henry Fuchs acquired a Torah scroll from the Hungarian synagogue he belonged to as a child, it came with two conditions — that the scroll, painstakingly written in ink on parchment, be used regularly in services at Fuchs’ synagogue in North Carolina, where he now lives; and that his congregation recite the Mourners’ Kaddish once a year in memory of the 1,000 Hungarian Jews of Tokaj. In May 1944, the town’s Jews were marched into cattle cars and sent to Auschwitz. Fewer

than 100 survived.

Fuchs, a professor of computer science at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, has honored those two conditions. Since the scroll came into his possession 18 years ago, it has been housed inside the Ark at his place of worship, the Kehillah Synagogue in Chapel Hill, where it is part of a rotation of the congregation’s four Torah scrolls. But since the coronavirus pandemic began, the scroll has taken on a starring role on Zoom.

Every Saturday, when Kehillah members gather online for services, one of the Zoom video screens shows the Tokaj Torah, which resides for the duration of the lockdown in Fuchs’ home office. When it comes time to read the weekly Torah portion, Fuchs lays it out on a table and unfurls it to the allotted chapter and verse, as the rabbi or one of the congregants reads from it on the screen, and everyone else watches from their own homes and listens to the reading.

The history of the scroll is a testament to the resilience of the Jewish people. The Jewish residents of Tokaj could not keep the Nazis from destroying their synagogue, but they had hidden the scrolls, which were unearthed after the war. Several of them were sent to an Orthodox synagogue in the southern Israeli town of Beer Sheva, where they were repaired and refurbished. Fuchs, who had followed their migration, convinced the Israeli synagogue that as one of the few remaining Jews of Tokaj, he should have one. It arrived in North Carolina in 2002, just in time for Fuchs’ son’s bar mitzvah.

In March 2020, when the coronavirus began to spread, and houses of worship canceled in-person services, Fuchs took home the Tokaj Torah, which is read every Shabbat morning via Zoom — linking his American congregation even more closely to the Hungarian one that no longer exists. At a time when Jews can no longer gather in person for services, this artifact of another time is uniting them.

[Pictured, Henry Fuchs, third from left, holds the Tokaj Torah decorated with a wreath of flowers for the holiday of Shavuot in keeping with Hungarian Jewish tradition. The story was excerpted from original publication by Religion News Service. Rabbi Jen Feldman photo

## U.S. Senate Unanimously Passes ‘Never Again Education Act’

On May 16, the United States Senate passed H.R. 943, the Never Again Education Act, by unanimous consent. The bill had passed in the House of Representatives by an overwhelmingly bipartisan vote of 393-5 on January 27, on International Holocaust Remembrance Day. The



Never Again Education Act supports Holocaust education across the country by bolstering the already expansive educational resources at the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum.

Bill summary:

- It expands the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum’s education programming to teachers across the country in order to help prevent genocide, hate and bigotry against any group.
- It funds support and expansion of a website maintained by the museum so educators can find curriculum materials, and/or develop their own programs within sound pedagogy.
- It also funds support and expansion of the museum’s professional development programs.
- It authorizes \$10 million over five years for these activities.

## Suffolk County Provides Free Masks To Residents Age 60 And Over



**FREE MASK for any individual over 60 years of age**

**To receive a mask from Suffolk County, simply:**

- Dial 311. No Area Code required, just the 311.
- There are several choices that will be mentioned, but wait until the end of the options for personal assistance.
- You should say that you are calling to obtain a FREE mask, or if married, two masks.
- The person will ask for the year you were born and your mailing address in order to qualify.

**That's it and they will send your mask(s) to you.**

Thanks to shul member Beth Britman, *The Shofar* has learned that Suffolk County is offering free masks to all county residents over 60 years of age. Here’s how to get yours:

- Dial 311
- Listen to all the options for 311 services, and wait for an agent to answer the call.
- As for a free mask for you and/or your spouse.
- Provide your name, mailing address, and the year you were born.

That’s all there is to it.

[Just to be sure, *The Shofar* editor tried it. It works. I have my free mask, thanks to Suffolk County.]

## • JEWS IN THE NEWS •

### *Craig Newmark*

The Jewish billionaire philanthropist and founder of the website Craigslist gave \$1 million grant to the anti-Defamation League to support its efforts to detect, expose and counter online hate speech. The two-year grant from Craig Newmark, 67, who has an estimated \$1.3 billion net worth, will directly aid the work of the ADL’s Center on Technology and Society, including its initiative called Online Hate Index (OHI).

The OHI uncovers and identifies trends and patterns in hate speech across different online platforms, using artificial intelligence, machine learning, and human coders.

“We know that the pandemic has had an outsized impact on vulnerable minority groups, including Asian Americans and Jewish Americans who are now being blamed and scapegoated online for creating and spreading the coronavirus” said Newmark. “Now more than ever, it is vital to invest in innovative approaches to detect and stop hate speech from spreading online.”

### *Wendy Sandler*

American-Israeli linguistics professor Wendy Sandler of the University of Haifa was inducted into the prestigious American Academy of Arts and Sciences. Sandler, who earned her PhD in

linguistics from the University of Texas-Austin in 1987, has most recently focused her work on the emergence of new sign languages, developing models of sign-language phonology (speech sounds) and prosody (patterns and rhythms of sound), according to *The Jerusalem Post*.

She is founding director of the Northern Israeli Institution's sign language research lab, and has also authored or co-authored three books.

### ***Dara Torres***



Olympics swimmer Dara Torres has been inducted into the Jewish-American Hall of Fame. In 2008, the oldest-ever Olympic swimmer at age 41 won two silver medals for 100-meter medley relay and 50-meter freestyle, breaking the American freestyle record she had set at the age of 15.

Torres competed in five Olympic Games, winning 12 medals and overtaking American swimmer Mark Spitz, who is also Jewish, with 11 Olympic medals. In her first Olympic Games in 1984, Torres won a gold medal for the 100-meter relay. She went on to compete in 1988, 1992, 2000 and 2008, winning five medals in 2000, more than anyone else on her team. Over the course of her career, Torres won four gold, four silver, and four bronze medals at the Olympics.

Her memoir, *Age Is Just A Number: Achieve Your Dreams At Any Stage In Your Life*, was published in April 2009 and became one of the top-selling business books. Her second book, *Gold Medal Fitness: A Revolutionary 5-Week Program*, was published in May.

### ***David Peyman***

David Peyman has been tapped as the U.S. State Department's deputy special envoy to combat anti-Semitism in Eurasia. He will also serve as the lead on strategic projects, including the global Boycott, Divestment, Sanctions (BDS) campaign against Israel.

Led by Elan Carr, the Office of the Special Envoy also includes Ellie Cohan, deputy special envoy to combat anti-Semitism in the Middle East and Latin America, and assistant special envoy Efraim Cohen, who addresses anti-Semitism on the Internet and social media.

## **• OBITUARIES •**

### ***Bernard Gersten***

Bernard Gersten, who helped turn two of New York's nonprofit theater companies into powerhouse producers and presenters of award-winning plays and musicals, died April 27 at his home in Manhattan. He was 97.

Mr. Gersten was Joseph Papp's top deputy at the New York Shakespeare Festival for 18 years in the 1960s and '70s, a time when the two worked together to build the Delacorte Theater in Central Park for free summer productions of Shakespeare, and to turn the old Astor Library on Lafayette Street in the East Village into the Public Theater.

Subsequently, Mr. Gersten worked for Francis Ford Coppola's Zoetrope Studios and the Radio City Music Hall. Then in 1985, Lincoln Center's board chose Mr. Gersten as executive producer. In his first three years, he oversaw more than 20 plays and 2,100 performances. During his tenure, Lincoln Center Theater produced more than 120 shows, many winning Tony and Drama Desk awards.

In 2010, on the 25th anniversary of his joining Lincoln Center Theater, Mr. Gersten reflected on the nature of theater as having four elements: a building, artists, money, and an audience. “How you mix them, how you adjust them, how you administer them is the secret of success or failure,” he said.

### ***Madeline Kripke***

Madeline Kripke, who kept one of the world’s largest private collection of dictionaries, much of it crammed into her Greenwich Village apartment died April 25 in Manhattan. She was 76. The cause was the coronavirus and complications of pneumonia.

Ms. Kripke, her father a rabbi and her mother a writer of children’s religious books, told Daniel Krieger for a profile about her on the website Narratively, that the Webster’s Collegiate she received from her parents when she was in the 5th grade “unlocked the world for me because I could read at any vocabulary level I wanted.” Beginning with the Webster’s Collegiate, she accumulated an estimated 20,000 volumes as diverse as a Latin dictionary printed in 1502 and the New York Metropolitan Transportation Authority’s 1980 guide to pickpocket slang.

As a young collector, she once coveted a 1694 edition of *The Ladies Dictionary*, which she had found in a London shop at a time when she had only enough money for a planned train trip to France to meet a friend in Nice. She bought the book and hitchhiked to Nice instead.

### ***David Toren***

David Toren, a Holocaust survivor and patent lawyer who waged a single-minded quest to recover art looted from his family by the Nazis, died on April 19 at his home in Manhattan. He was 94. The cause was the coronavirus.

Mr. Toren had a career as a successful patent lawyer but became a hunter of stolen art when a painting that once belonged to a relative, “Two Riders on as Beach” (1901), by the German painter Max Liebermann, surfaced in a secret hoard held by Cornelius Gurlitt. Well into his 80’s, the quest for his family’s stolen art became his preoccupation.

“We will continue to search for and hopefully locate additional works of art looted by the Nazis,” David Toren’s son Peter said. “My father would have expected no less.”

### ***Zev Buffman***

Zev Buffman, a prominent Broadway producer, who brought Elizabeth Taylor to the stage in a revival of Lillian Hellman’s “The Little Foxes,” died March 31 at a Seattle hospital. He was 89.

Mr. Buffman’s fascination with show business began in Tel Aviv where, as a youngster, he watched movies from the theaters’ projection booths. Fluent in German, Russian, Hebrew, Arabic and Yiddish, he learned English by listening to Hollywood stars.

After serving as a commando in Israel’s Defense Forces during its War of Independence in 1948, he moved to Los Angeles in 1951, fixated on a Hollywood career. Cast only in minor roles, he turned to producing, and produced or co-produced dozens of shows on Broadway.

According to his wife, Vilma Buffman, Mr. Buffman’s proudest achievement was producing a revival of “Oklahoma!” He said it was like Israel, she told the *New York Times*. “They came to a new area, developed it, and it became a state.”

### ***Barry Farber***

As a popular talk radio host, Barry Farber sustained a six-decade career in broadcasting. He died on May 6, one day after his May 5 program, an on-air 90th birthday tribute.

Mr. Farber's first talk show, "Barry Farber's Open Mike," aired on WINS in New York when he was 30 years old. He was later heard on WMCA and WOR in New York, and on the ABC Radio Network in various time slots over the years. At one point his program occupied 25% of the weekly airtime of WOR. He interviewed celebrities, political figures, and people with unusual and/or controversial interests. Since 2008, he had been broadcasting on Talk Radio Network and on CRN Digital Talk Radio from his Upper West Side apartment. He was inducted into the Radio Hall of Fame in 2014.

### ***Avraham Rabby***

Avraham Rabby spoke four languages, studied at Oxford, and went to the University of Chicago on a Fulbright scholarship. Born in Israel, he became an American citizen in 1980. He was intelligent, outgoing, optimistic and capable. He appeared, in other words, like an ideal candidate to be a Foreign Service officer for the State Department when he applied in 1985. Except — he was blind, a condition that ruled him out from employment in the Foreign Service.

He waged a years-long campaign to overturn the policy. In 1989, he succeeded, becoming the first blind person to be hired by the diplomatic corps, paving the way for other blind officers.

Mr. Rabby died April 17 at Tel HaShomer Hospital in Ramat Gan, Israel, near Tel Aviv. He was 77.

"A blind person sees the world differently from a sighted person," Mr. Rabby told *The New York Times* in a 2007 profile. "Our impressions are no less valid."

### ***Jerry Stiller***

Jerry Stiller became a comedy star twice — in the 1960s in partnership with his wife, Anne Meara, and in the 1990s with a memorable recurring role on "Seinfeld" as Frank Costanza, the short-tempered father of Jason Alexander's George. He died May 11 at his home on the Upper West side of Manhattan. He was 92.

Early in his career, he appeared on Broadway, but was best known as a comedian. The team of Stiller and Meara was for many years a familiar presence in nightclubs, on television variety and talk shows, and in radio and television commercials. Following his appearances in about 30 of the "Seinfeld" episodes, he played Arthur Spooner for a nine-season run of "The King of Queens."

"I've never thought of stopping," Mr. Stiller told *The Daily News of New York* in 2012. "The only time you ever stop working is when they don't call you."

### ***Joel Kupperman***

Joel Kupperman, a star on the radio program, "The Quiz Kids," from age 6 to 16, died April 8 at an assisted living facility in Sheepshead Bay, Brooklyn, of Covid-19 symptoms. He was 83.

He was one of the youngest contestants of precocious boys and girls, who answered questions about math, literature, sports and history, all sent in by listeners.

But his early fame became a taboo subject for his family in his adulthood, most of which was spent teaching philosophy at the University of Connecticut. "It was something we knew we were not ever to mention" said Karen Kupperman, his wife of 56 years and a history professor at New York University. In a rare interview with *The New York Times*, Professor Kupperman said his memories of being a national sensation were painful "Being a bright child among your peers was not the best way to grow up in America," he said.

## ***Denis Goldberg***

Denis Goldberg, one of two surviving political activists convicted on the so-called Rivonia Trial, which put Nelson Mandela and seven others in prison and proved a turning point in South Africa's long struggle against apartheid, died April 29 in Cape Town. He was 87.

Mr. Goldberg's career, first in the armed resistance movement and later in the post-apartheid era, encapsulated much of his country's modern history, from the racial nuances of the struggle against white minority rule to the reluctant acknowledgment of the corruption that became a byword in early 21st-century South Africa.

The hearings came at a crucial juncture in South African history. The authorities there had increasingly resorted to force in suppressing opposition to apartheid, the white rulers' draconian system of racial separation, and their adversaries had turned to armed struggle in response. The trial was intended to crush and silence Mr. Mandela and his followers. But the prisoners turned the occasion into a global indictment of apartheid.

Mr. Goldberg served 22 years in prison, until 1985. Mr. Mandela was freed in 1990.

## ***Frances Goldin***

Frances Goldin, a lifelong firebrand who never stopped fighting to safeguard her beloved Lower East Side from upscale developers, died May 16 in Manhattan, in the same rent-controlled apartment on East 11th Street where she lived for 40 years. She was 95.

She was an advocate for affordable housing and a staunch defender of the poor. She was a civic leader in a vintage neighborhood, and in a second career, a literary agent who represented progressive authors, including Susan Brownmiller, Martin Duberman, and Robert Meeropol, among others.

When she was nearing 90, Ms. Goldin said she'd had three goals: to preserve and improve Lower East Side housing, which she did; to free Mumia AbuJamal, who is still serving a life sentence for murder; and to publish *Imagine Living in a Socialist USA*, which she edited with Debby Smith and Michael Smith and which was published in 2014.

## **• COMMEMORATIONS •**

### **Yahrzeits In June**

2: Peter Friedmann

4: Solomon Bush

5: Evelyn Blitz

6: Dorothy Finkelstein; Harry Greenberg; Jennie Levin

7: Robert W. Strong; Rebecca Scheanblum Wechsler

8: Shirley Melnick-Staltz; Louise Oliver

11: Rebecca Kaplan Blumenthal; Myron Sausmer

12: Siah Schlefstein

13: Yitzchak Ben Pesach Katcher

14: Rosa Klausner; Hattie Weinstein

15: Dr. Maxwell C. Ballen; Miriam Lipman; Bertha Mandell; Stella Weinrib

16: Norma Youmans

17: Hersh Julius Edelstein

18: Alexander Feigen

19: Liba Adelson

20: Michael Ballen; Nathan Bell; Sarah Bell; Ethel Schwartz Levinson  
21: Herbert Gochman; Sam Speyer  
22: Kenneth S. Goldin  
23: George Dolin; Lillie Ehrenreich  
24: George Berson  
25: Bernard Cooper; Albert J. Farber; Rosalind Mordkofsky  
26: Meyers D. Goldman; Dr. Gustavo "Gus" Lara  
28: Dr. Howard Bachrach; Shirley Kotik; Eva Levinson; Sandor Weisz  
29: Mary Dalven; Philip Kaplan; Anna Silverman  
30: Filia Holtzman

### **Birthdays in June**

4: Jennifer Berg  
8: Ann Hurwitz  
11: Marian Friedmann  
19: Carol Levin  
27 Carol Seigel

### **Anniversaries in June**

9: Stanley and Roberta Kaplan  
17: Matthew and Allison Nathel  
24: Lewis and Helaine Teperman

### **Refuah Shlemah**

Jane Sachs  
Jody Levin  
Philip Goldman  
Paul Birman  
Thelma Novick  
Sy Brittman  
Harold (Hal) Neimark

### **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. Or better still, you can purchase a Sunshine Card from the Sisterhood by calling Andrea Blaga, the shul's office assistant, at 631-477-0232. Let Andrea know the message you would like to convey, and she will send a personalized Sunshine Card, indicating your feelings, and also that a donation has been made to the Sisterhood in the recipient's honor. You can mail your donation to the Sisterhood (P.O. Box 659, Greenport, NY, 11944) or take advantage of the shul's donate tab on our website ([www.tifereh-israel.com](http://www.tifereh-israel.com)), where you can use a credit card for payment. Your loved one and the Sisterhood appreciate your thoughtfulness.

## • MONEY MATTERS •

### **Donations in May**

Miriam Gabriel  
R and S Schweitzer  
Carol Seigel  
Robert and Judith Goldman  
Z. Micah Kaplan, MD, and Gayle Kaplan  
Paul and Alice Nadel, DO  
William Packard  
Drs. Saul and Susan Rosenstreich  
Jack Weiskott and Roberta Garris  
Stephen Winters  
Stephan Brumberg and Carol Ingall  
Stanley and Roberta Kaplan  
Peter Kaslow and Christine Cerny  
Marsha Lipsitz  
Roslyn Polonecki  
Lawrence and Virginia Rubin  
Michael and Lynn Simon  
Alan and Helen Weinstein

### **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

<b>Event</b>	<b>Members</b>	<b>Nonmembers</b>
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

<b>Commemoratives</b>	<b>Members</b>	<b>Nonmembers</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 Paul Nadel: 631-734-8519

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

Hedvah Campeas-Cohen, Martin Ehrenreich; Miriam Gabriel: 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

Adrienne Greenberg, Veronica Kaliski

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

Joanna Paulsen, chair

Alan Garmise, Phil Goldman, Adrienne Greenberg

Calendar

Elaine Goldman, chair

E-Communications/Website

Andrea Blaga

Education

Rabbi Gadi Capela, Miriam Gabriel, Ann Hurwitz, Madelyn Rothman, Paula Shengold,

Irma Strimban

Finance

Judith Weiner, chair

Alan Garmise, Z. Micah Kaplan, MD, Joan Prager, Corinne Slade, Nancy Torchio

Fundraising:

Judith Weiner, chair

Alan Garmise, Z. Micah Kaplan, MD, Susan Rosenstreich, Sherry Shaw, Nancy Torchio

Garden

Adrienne Greenberg, chair

Veronica Kaliski

Gift Shop

Sara Bloom, chair

Information Technology

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

Journal Dinner-Dance

Madelyn Rothman, chair

Sara Bloom, Tom Byrne and Veronica Kaliski, Graham Diamond, Elaine Goldman,

Z. Micah Kaplan, MD, and Gayle Kaplan, Joanna Paulsen, Judith Weiner

Judaism and Art

Saul Rosenstreich, chair

Rabbi Gadi Capela, Roberta Garris, Phil Goldman, June Shatkin, Corinne Slade, Irma Strimban, Dan Torchio, Judith Weiner

Long Range Planning:

Alan Garmise, chair

Miriam Gabriel, Adrienne Greenberg, Judith Weiner

Membership

Phil Goldman, chair

Nominating

Phil Goldman, chair

Sara Bloom, Thomas Byrne, Roberta Garris, Susan Rosenstreich

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, Sherry Shaw

Security:

Phil Goldman, chair

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

Telephone/Sunshine:

Sisterhood

Yahrzeits:

Miriam Gabriel, chair

Shul president Susan Rosenstreich is an ex officio member of all shul committees.