



CONGREGATION  
TIFERETH ISRAEL

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# The Shofar

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Affiliated With The United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism

August 2020/Av-Elul 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

### *Learning at our Shul*

Mondays, Aug. 3, 10, 17, 24 and 31: Hebrew class, 4 p.m., via Zoom

### *Shul Events*

Wednesday, July 29: Sisterhood meeting, noon, via Zoom (bring lunch)

Thursday, July 30: Tisha B'Av, a fast day

[Note: At the Thursday Lunch and Learn session, learn about Tisha B'Av, but no lunch]

Mondays, Aug. 3, 10, 17, 24, 31; Thursdays, Aug. 6, 13, 20, 27: Lunch and Learn, noon, Zoom

Wednesday, August 19: Book Circle, at noon, via Zoom

Sunday, Aug. 16: Board of Directors and Congregation meetings, 9 and 10 a.m., via Zoom

### *Lighting Shabbat Candles in August*

Aug. 7: 7:45 Aug. 14: 7:36 Aug. 21: 7:26 Aug. 28: 7:15

### *Dates to Remember*

- Beginning August 6, at noon, on Zoom, and for the next seven Thursdays before Rosh Hashanah, Rabbi Gadi will offer Lunch and Learn sessions as preambles to the High Holy Days.
- Beginning on Thursday, Oct. 15, at noon, on Zoom, Rabbi Gadi will offer a series of Lunch and Learn sessions on Jewish history, one of the most requested topics for discussion on the recent survey conducted by the shul's Long-Range Planning Committee.

**(Submission deadline for the September 2020 issue of *The Shofar*: August 20)**

## From The Rabbi...



### “The Two Chancellors”

On May 31, the media announced the passing of Rabbi Dr. Norman Lamm. Rabbi Lamm was the iconic president of Yeshiva University, beginning in 1976, and he went on to become chancellor in 2003, serving in that capacity for the next 10 years. In an incredible bit of timing, the very next day, on June 1, the Jewish Theological Seminary announced its pick for a new chancellor to succeed Dr. Arnold Eisen, who had served in that role for 13 years. Dr. Shuly Rubin Schwartz, who started her tenure in the beginning of July, is the first woman to occupy the office. The timing of the passing of one chancellor and the appointing of another stirred me to look closely into the two, as they represent the two flagship Jewish educational institutions in America — two denominations, two genders, yet both tell the Jewish story. I was privileged to be part of both.

In January 1997, I sat in at my first Talmud class at Yeshiva University. It was a life-changing move from secular life for me. Growing up, I had studied the Bible in school, but this was different; this was Torah. It was not studying anymore; it was learning. Chancellor Lamm was then the president. He was eloquent and wise, and he left an indelible impression on me. I didn't really understand what he was preaching; it went over my head. At that time, I was just beginning my learning and still surveying my way through the tenants of Torah and Judaism and where I fit in. I wasn't informed enough to absorb his philosophy, but I knew that he knew.

As many students in orthodox yeshivot, I learned the beauty of following a rabbi, trusting that he knows. Rabbi Lamm, who had a Chassidic flavor, was focused on the Yeshiva, while having to defend it from the right, remaining true to the synthesis of a yeshivah with a progressive, modern university. When I finally understood the convincing philosopher with the soft voice, I totally bought into the ideas, and I still do. Yeshiva University was established to create a modern orthodoxy, responding to the Judaism that focused only on the particular and that mainly looked inward. The Torah Umadda philosophy tried to balance Torah learning in the yeshiva, and the Madda — sciences in the university. Torah is particular to the Jewish people — revelation, while sciences are universal — creation. This philosophy, which embodies the idea of the “light unto the nations,” fashioned my Judaism.

In August 2008, I was sitting in at my first Talmud class at the Jewish Theological Seminary. It felt different. It was quite a move from Yeshiva University. While women and men study separately and shomer negiah (don't even shake hands) at YU, at JTS it was all egalitarian, all equal. It was the way I lived my own life, except when it came to worship. It felt out of place to pray next to a woman. Here too, it is all about marrying the universalism of the sciences and the particularism of Torah, but perhaps in an inverted way. Progressive modernism is a given, but the Torah must provide the answers on how to balance the two. The challenge here is to defend from the left.

The two schools, both of which were founded in 1886, reacted in their own spirit over the decades to the challenges of the times. While YU reacted to ultra-Orthodoxy, JTS reacted to the Reform Movement which, in that view, was consistently marginalizing Jewish particularism; the “Trefa Banquet” — the non-kosher feast — in its first rabbinic ordination in America was the last straw. The two were much closer when they were founded, but grew further apart in the middle of the 1980's. While JTS began ordaining women, YU was moving toward “black hat” orthodoxy in its Yeshiva side. Both had to deal with the place of women and ultimately with the question of homosexuality. By ordaining LGBTQ rabbis and now choosing Dr. Shuly Rubin Schwartz as the next chancellor, JTS had come full circle in response to both questions.

Perhaps polarization is a natural movement of finding your own, like-minded people. But I vacillate between the two chancellors. Both represent true communities that ultimately share the same story. It was not the invention of language, but the invention of the story that moved humanity ahead, and it would be both leaders who would keep moving the Jewish story forward.

In this month of Av, let's hope the Jewish people find commonality between the two chancellors, and that they can build together. Let's find the balance between revelation and creation to find redemption.

Chodesh Tov,

—Rabbi Gadi Capela

## From The President



U.S. Congressman John Robert Lewis, died Friday, July 17, after serving 33 years in the House. He was 80 years old. I was privileged to hear him speak, to be forever touched by his towering presence and humility, and to be inspired by his words: “Never, ever be afraid to make some noise and get in good trouble, necessary trouble.”

On many occasions, he spoke alongside of us — community organizers and arts advocates from all over this nation as we lobbied for government support of the arts. It was an unforgettable experience to be in a room where the air becomes electrified by a man's very presence, and to watch crowds part respectfully as he approaches the podium.

He was a man small in stature but towering in influence. He captured the hearts and the imaginations of those of us around him. Somehow, in those moments, anything and everything seemed possible. At first, his message seems simple, until you understand the weight and urgency of what he proposes. Then it becomes breathtaking.

Today, we should consider his cautions, his calls for respect and dignity. We should recognize our moral obligations toward one another, and the manner in which we regard each other and our leaders in this time of social distancing from behind masks.

Our shul is an endless work in progress, evolving with each generation, with the passage of time, and with the changing cast of characters in leadership positions. As John Lewis advised our delegation of arts advocates, “Yes, yes, never give up, never give in...” May his memory be for a blessing.

— Judith K. Weiner

## • SHUL NEWS AND NOTES •

### Quick Notes Of Note

- Shul president Judith Weiner has appointed shul members Charles Simon and Paul Jeselsohn to represent the synagogue's interests at the East End Jewish Community Council.
- Shane Costello, a graduating senior at Greenport High School has won the Congregation Tifereth Israel Men's Club Community Service Award. Shane will attend SCCC this fall.
- Mazel tov to Adrienne Greenberg and Miriam Gabriel on the birth of Adrienne's great niece, Layla Shea, on July 2. The baby's parents, Adam and Tammy Adler of Bellmore, are die-hard Mets fans, and chose the name Shea for Shea Stadium.
- Sy Brittman's pet companion, Maccabee, known as Mac, has found a new home with Pat George of Westhampton. Many of us know Sy's little Yorkie, and we wish him and his new owner many years of fun and games together.

## Harold Neimark's Covid-19 Odyssey

### *Shul Member Survives As Others Die Around Him*



On April 2, shul member Harold Neimark was admitted to Maimonides Hospital in Brooklyn, critically ill with coronavirus. *The Shofar* talked with Hal Neimark and Nina Neimark, his wife, about the onset of the disease, his treatment, seemingly miraculous survival, and the after-effects some four months later.

Make no mistake, as Hal Neimark's experience will attest, Covid-19 is not the common cold, and not the flu. It is a devastatingly

potent killer. As of July 16, 138,000 Americans have died from complications of this disease. It continues to linger here on the North Fork where, as Hal Neimark said, we must be prepared psychologically to maintain safety precautions for up to another 12 to 18 months — until a vaccine can be developed and distributed worldwide to contain the virus and prevent those infected from spreading it through close contact. “Until then, we need to make up our minds to wear a mask,” he said, “and to maintain physical distancing. It's not that onerous.”

#### **Shofar: How did you come in contact with the disease?**

**Neimark:** At the outset of the epidemic, I suspected it would spread, but Nina and I wanted to see our family in Philadelphia before we were quarantined. We took a chance, and on March 6, we took a car service (not the subway) to Penn Station, and boarded a southbound train. We spent Shabbat with our son, his wife, and our grandchildren, and took the train back home the next day. On Sunday, we went to a busy supermarket and a pizza parlor for takeout. It was early in the public understanding of the disease and what was to come. No one was wearing a mask. Two weeks later, I lost my appetite and sense of taste.

#### **Shofar: What were your symptoms?**

**Neimark:** Apart from losing my appetite and sense of taste, the most concerning development was that I wasn't thinking straight. It was this vague feeling that something was wrong, and my behavior seemed irrational. I was unable to function as I should. At first, I thought it was something intestinal. I made an appointment with my gerontologist, Janine Kelly, MD, and she thought I had some kind of unspecified virus. She sent me for an intestinal x-ray. Two weeks after that, I became very ill.

#### **Shofar: What did you do next?**

**Neimark:** Nina saved my life. She insisted on calling Dr. Kelly again because she didn't like the way I was breathing. Dr. Kelly insisted I come to the office immediately, where she discovered that my blood oxygen level had plunged to a dangerously low 40%.

**Shofar: Is that what triggered hospitalization?**

**Neimark:** Yes. Dr. Kelly admitted me to Maimonides Hospital, where the emergency room doctors suspected Corona. There were so many cases by that time that an entire hospital floor had been converted to a Covid floor.

**Shofar: How did the ER respond to your symptoms?**

**Neimark:** The first step in my treatment was an oxygen mask. The doctors monitored me, hoping to raise the blood oxygen level to 100%. That was the start. I learned later that one of Dr. Kelly's colleagues said that with a blood oxygen level as low as mine, I should have been dead. A scan of my lungs confirmed Covid.

**Shofar: Were any drugs administered?**

**Neimark:** While I was in the hospital, I received my usual medications plus an anticoagulant injection to reduce the possibility of a clot formation. Nina Neimark said that Hal had received an "experimental drug" for five days, but neither she nor Hal was able to identify it. Hal said he was so ill as to be unaware of most of the treatment.

**Shofar: I'm surprised you were unaware, considering your medical background.** [Hal Neimark is a retired microbiologist and immunologist, whose professional career was divided between research and teaching 2nd- and 4th-year medical students at the SUNY Downstate Medical School.]

**Neimark:** I was too ill. I know that the staff took precautions when treating me; they were gowned and masked, with Plexiglas protection in front of their masks.

**Shofar: Were you intubated?**

**Neimark:** No. I didn't need that and, in fact, the procedure is so traumatic that although it was a common procedure early on, later it was considered a last resort. No intubation. No ventilator.

**Shofar: What were the major concerns during your hospitalization?**

**Neimark:** The doctors' major concern was my oxygen level. The nurses and I carefully monitored that, in addition to my weight. I kept losing weight. My major concern was eating enough and sleeping enough. It's difficult to sleep in a hospital. Even though you are asleep, the staff insists on waking you to take your temperature.

**Shofar: How long did you remain extremely ill?**

**Neimark:** After 4 or 5 days, I felt better. But the doctors continued to be concerned about weight loss. I'm not a large person, and could ill afford to lose weight. I forced myself to eat, but it was a slow process. Swallowing and eating meals could take me 1-1/2 hours. In fact, some of the hospital food was quite good, but it was physically difficult for me to eat.

**Shofar: Did you have roommates in the hospital?**

**Neimark:** I had three consecutive roommates; two of them died. I hope the third survived. A former colleague of mine at SUNY also died. He died of the same Coronavirus he was treating at Maimonides.

**Shofar: To what do you attribute your survival?**

**Neimark:** Realistically, I don't know. This is a respiratory disease. I never smoked. My main exercise was fast walking outside, which may have strengthened my lungs. That may or may not have been a factor. The virus did scar my lungs, however; I find now that when I climb a couple of flights of stairs, I'm out of breath, and this is a change. I never had that problem before. In the

hospital, I was meticulous about wearing my oxygen mask, and that surely contributed to my survival.

**Shofar: How long were you in the hospital?**

**Neimark:** Three and a half weeks. I entered on April 2 and was released on April 26. I had excellent care, and I feel lucky to be alive. [Hal Neimark is 88 years old. According to a physician *The Shofar* consulted about Covid-19, the majority of Covid patients survive, but Hal Neimark is one of the few in his age group.]

**Shofar: Were any special preparations needed for you to return home?**

**Neimark:** I had to be weaned from the oxygen mask in order to come home. At home, I used a nasal cannula (portable oxygen). I also had a device that I blew into to help expand my lungs. I started using it in the hospital and continued at home. I found it helpful.

**Shofar: Now that you have had the disease, do you assume you are immune?**

**Neimark:** I think so. In fact, if I weren't so thin, I could probably donate antibodies to help others. That protection indicates to me that a vaccine is possible.

**Shofar: An article in the July 2, 2020, *New York Times* reported that Covid patients returning home after hospitalization are confronting physical, neurological, cognitive and emotional issues. Do you have lingering effects from the virus?**

**Neimark:** Yes, I experienced some of those conditions. My sense of taste has returned, but I still don't have a big appetite. And I tire easily. I need to exercise, but I have little stamina. At first, I couldn't function well; for instance, I couldn't add the numbers to do our taxes. One of my legs was quite swollen, but that is somewhat better now. And at first, I needed both hands to feed myself.

**Shofar: How should the synagogue respond to the threat the virus imposes?**

**Neimark:** The synagogue should reach out to the congregation as much as it can to maintain connections while the building is closed. The Lunch and Learn program is an excellent addition. Maybe other activities like it can be initiated, until there is a vaccine. Outdoor activity in small groups on a sunny day (not on an overcast day), masked, and 6 feet apart would be okay.

**Shofar: Overall, what is your observation on the handling of this pandemic?**

**Neimark:** The nation is fortunate to have Dr. Anthony Fauci's advice. If we had listened to him from the outset, thousands of lives could have been saved. As for the future, we need to be prepared psychologically to continue the protocols because this virus is going to be with us for a very long time, maybe as long as another year and a half. We need to make up our minds to take the precautions, specifically, to wear a mask. It's not that onerous. You'll get used to it.

— Sara Bloom text

— Kait Yulman photo

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

The idea for a Lunch and Learn program was an initiative inspired by the shuttering of our synagogue in the wake of the coronavirus pandemic. The organizers of the program were concerned about helping members maintain a connection to the shul and each other while the doors were locked and everyone was sheltered in place at home. Enter Lunch and Learn.

Every Monday, Lunch and Learners zoom in (via Zoom, a videoconferencing antidote to the shelter-in-place restrictions) for sessions led mostly by our members. July offerings included a sailing trip with Dan and Nancy Torchio aboard the Rhapsody, the straight talk about Covid-19 from eminent surgeon Lewis Teperman, MD, insights on picture-taking in the digital age from Ellen Jaffe, a professional photographer; and a fascinating trip backstage at the United Nations led by Francis Dubois.

Each Thursday, Rabbi Gadi fills the noontime slot with probing questions about Judaism, often a follow-up to the theme of the Monday program. We learned about Judaic laws that govern boating, God's perspective on Covid, and a Biblical ban on idols and images.

What have we cooked up for August? Zoom at noon every Monday and Thursday at noon, and find out. You'll discover that our shul members are pretty talented and interesting folks, willing to share ideas and expertise with viewers. There's always discussion, Q&A, and 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.

## Can You Help Spread Ground Cover At Andrew Levin Park?



Shul members Tom Byrne, Adrienne Greenberg and Veronica Kaliski have been carrying on Sy Brittman's work at Andrew Levin Park, and the results are stunning, as a meandering stroll through the park will attest. In fact, as we seek out ways to lift our spirits during the Covid crisis, you might consider a visit to the park a mental health break.

Now comes this request from the green thumbers: ground cover. Perhaps you have some areas on your own property dense with ivy or pachysandra or mazus. How about thinning your crop a bit and donating the harvest to the park. Sure, the planters could purchase ground cover, but your contributions will save money and provide the satisfaction that you've donated to a beautiful project.

Those with ground cover to spare can call the shul at 631-477-0232, and leave a message for Adrienne or Veronica.

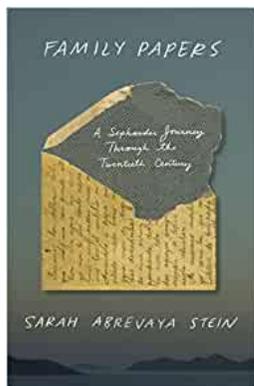
## Shul Members Respond Generously To 2020 Virtual Journal

When the idea of a virtual journal was first proposed by the shul's Fundraising Committee, lively debate gave the committee pause. Should we? Shouldn't we? Would members and friends and our cadre of commercial advertisers support it?

The committee needn't have worried. The 2020 Virtual Journal is a resounding success, as all will see when it is posted online early in August. *The Shofar* has learned that advertisers were enthusiastic about the benefits package that accompanied inclusion in the journal, including postings on Facebook, Instagram, and a year-long presence on a *Shofar* list of supporters. Other incentives that motivated advertisers, members and friends is the reach of a virtual publication, which is far beyond that of a print publication. Reach, after all, is free — with no production costs — and also virtually unlimited as it travels across the globe.

If readers have missed the deadline yet still want to be included, *The Shofar* was assured that late-arriving ads could be inserted within the pages of the journal, to enjoy the benefits of participation for the remainder of the online run. Those interested in adding their voices to the 2020 Virtual Journal can respond to [adsfortijournal@gmail.com](mailto:adsfortijournal@gmail.com).

## Book Circle Selection Traces A Family of Sephardic Jews

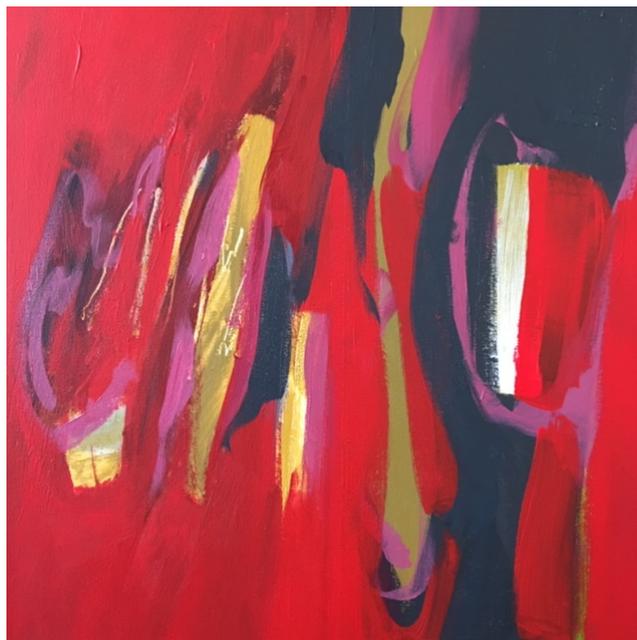


The August meeting of the Book Circle will take place on Wednesday, the 19th, at noon, on Zoom. The novel selected, *Family Papers: A Sephardic Journey Through the 20th Century*, by Sarah Abrevaya Stein, documents a family's history through the letters that kept them connected.

The work was named one of the best books of 2019 by *The Economist*, a *New York Times* Book Review editors' choice, and a National Jewish Book Award finalist. The prizewinning Sephardic historian Sarah Abrevaya Stein uses the family's correspondence to tell the story of their journey across the arc of a century and the breadth of the globe. They wrote because they were family, held together by the papers.

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

## Oculus: Eye On Art



This month's Oculus column features a painting by Judith Weiner titled "Red Emergence," a 20"x20" acrylic on canvas completed in 2018. The work is from the artist's Neshamah Rising series. The concept "melds interior and exterior visions and images, encapsulating and suspending time and space," she said

## CAST, The Shul's Designated Charity, Needs School Supplies



Shul members responded generously to the CAST (Community Action Southold Town) request a few months ago for personal items, including infant and child necessities. Many thanks to all who participated.

Now, the need is for school supplies, especially backpacks for our local kids. And to fill those backpacks, CAST is suggesting donations of calculators, colored pencils, composition books, crayons, dividers, dry erase markers, erasers, folders, glue/glue sticks, graph paper, highlighters, index cards, loose leaf binders/paper, markers, paperclips, pencil boxes/cases, pencil sharpeners, pencils, pens, post-its, protractors, rulers, scissors, spiral notebooks and USB flash drives.

Because our shul is currently closed, you can deliver your donations to the CAST office at 316 Front Street, Greenport, or any of the following locations: local libraries, local banks, Mullen Motors, Fitness Advantage, The Giving Room, Greenport Harbor Brewing Co., Southold Town Hall, Staples. Be sure to call before delivering as hours are irregular, and closings are possible.

CAST's School Supply Drive ends on August 19. Thank you for participating.

## Attention Amazon Shoppers: You Buy, The Shul Benefits

We've all heard of Amazon.com, and probably most of us, at one time or another, have shopped its thousands of products and connected with the conglomerate's many hundreds of affiliate members. But buried inside all those big numbers is a small idea that can make a difference — yes, a little difference — but remember: Mighty oaks from little acorns grow.

Here's how it works: Congregation Tifereth Israel is now registered as a charity with an Amazon program called AmazonSmile, meaning that Amazon will donate 0.5% (half a percent) of the price of eligible purchases to the charity of your choice. If you would like to select our shul as your charity of choice (and we certainly hope you will), the shul will benefit — by a little bit — from your purchase. *The Shofar* is not recommending that you shop at Amazon, but should you choose to do so, and should you choose our shul as a charity within the AmazonSmile program, your purchase could be one of those little acorns from which mighty oaks grow.

Visit <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/11-3192561>

Agree to support Congregation Tifereth Israel

Shop as usual

The AmazonSmile program was suggested by Adrienne Greenberg and put into operation by the shul's Fundraising Committee, which thanks readers for considering this opportunity to help our shul at no additional cost to them.

*The Shofar* joins the Congregation in welcoming the following new members to our shul: Linda Feigelson of New York City and Orient; Kenneth and Nancy Stein of East Marion, and Dr. Richard Schwartz and Dania Kier Schwartz of West Palm Beach, FL, and East Marion. The Congregation looks forward to meeting you and to participating with you in our spiritual, educational and social activities.

## Methuselah: The Tree That Emerged From A 2,000-Year-Old Seed

A tree grows in the arid soil of Kibbutz Ketura in southern Israel. A subspecies extinct for nearly a thousand years, this Judean date palm was resurrected from a tiny 2000-year-old seed found in an ancient clay jar unearthed in 1963 by archaeologists excavating around Herod the Great's palace at the ancient fortress of Masada.

Radiocarbon dating found that the seed, one of six preserved in the jar by the arid climate, dated from sometime between 155 BCE and 64 CE. Dubbed Methuselah for Noah's grandfather, who lived to the age of 969, the palm represents the oldest verified germination of a seed assisted by a human.

Date palms once flourished in the Judean Valley and were an important source of food, shelter and medicine. The palm's fruit — the honey of the “land of milk and honey” — was large, dark and seductively sweet.

When the Roman Empire invaded ancient Judea, thick forests of date palms covered the valley, from the Galilee in the north to the Dead Sea in the south. Over the centuries, the Judean palm was decimated by years of war and foreign conquest. Eight hundred years ago, Crusaders destroyed the last remaining specimens, rendering the plant extinct.

The seeds found at Masada were preserved and stored at Bar-Ilan University in Tel Aviv. More than 40 years later, Elaine Solowey from the Center for Sustainable Agriculture at the Arava Institute for Environmental Studies, decided to try to resurrect three of the seeds.

She first soaked them in hot water to activate absorption, then immersed them in a nutrient-rich solution and fertilizer made from seaweed. On January 25, 2005, she planted them.



In 2010 Methuselah has reached a height of six-and-a-half feet. By 2015, Methuselah had produced pollen that was used to pollinate contemporary female date palms. It is hoped that Methuselah, now 2,000 years old, may yet become a father.

Arava Institute photo

## **The New York The Jewish Week Will Go Digital-Only In August**

*The New York Jewish Week* is putting its print edition on hiatus, the 145-year old publication announced this month. The last print edition is scheduled for July 31.

Print news has struggled for years as technology takes over, and the Jewish news industry in particular has seen lower revenues and decreased pages, the announcement said. Moreover, the coronavirus pandemic has further damaged the paper's revenue, forcing the publication to cut production costs and transform into a digital news outlet starting in August.

## **Hungarian Foie Gras Certified Kosher: Baruch HaShem**

Covid-19 pandemic aside, it has been a long and difficult road for Jewish gourmards and their glatt-kosher ilk, hungry for the divine taste of foie gras — off limits for the observant. Until now.

According to an item posted by the Jewish News Service, the Chief Rabbinical Council of Israel has approved the importation of glatt-kosher-certified foie gras to Israel. Reportedly, a member of the council, Rabbi Simcha Weiss, together with geese experts professor Ari Z. Zivotofsky and Rabbi Roei Ginon from the Chief Rabbinate, visited a slaughterhouse in Hungary last year operating under the Emih-Hungarian Jewish Community Association, headed by Chabad Rabbi Shlomo Koves, to closely monitor the process of fattening the birds.

Upon his return to Israel, Rabbi Weiss set up a team to develop a program to allow the importation of goose-liver products with glatt-kosher certification. And now, the Rabbinical Council has approved the committee's recommendations. As such, Csengele Kosher Slaughterhouse in Hungary has become the first (and only) to receive glatt-kosher certification for goose liver.

So, importers of foie gras will now have to meet a number of new requirements in order for goose liver to be certified with a glatt-kosher stamp, according to a document developed by the Chief Rabbinical Council.

The document stipulates that the breeding and fattening farms be located within the same site. Also, that food for the geese should minimize the chances of esophageal injury to the birds. For example, corn kernels should be prepared in such a way so that they do not retain any coarse and sharp edges or contain any whole grains in the mix. It was also mandated that feeding should be executed through a silicone tube without any sharp points. And finally, the site must be inspected and monitored by a professional kashrut supervisor.

Even during a pandemic, some of the amenities of life remain. Baruch HaShem.

### **• JEWS IN THE NEWS •**

#### ***Rabbi Jacob Blumenthal***

Rabbi Jacob Blumenthal, chief executive of the Rabbinical Assembly (RA), will continue in that role and also became CEO of the United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism (USJC). In his joint leadership role, Rabbi Blumenthal will seek ways to “enliven and enrich meaningful Jewish experiences.”

Rabbi Blumenthal was the founding rabbi of Shaare Torah in Gaithersburg, MD, and he helped to create Washington, DC's Ramah Day Camp as well as outreach programs to millennials.

## *Luis Fux*

Brazil has appointed Luis Fux, 67, as the first Jewish Justice Minister of the Supreme Federal Court. In 2011, he became the first Jewish judge to be named to the Bench of the Court. Brazil rotates the post of Chief Justice among the 11 members who comprise its Federal Supreme Court, a panel that decides constitutional matters and final appeals.

## *Rabbi Delphine Horvilleur*



On Tuesday nights, at 8:30, tens of thousands of people throughout France — believers and nonbelievers, Jews, Muslims and Christians — log on to Facebook to hear the nation’s foremost female rabbi discuss the intersection of racism and anti-Semitism, and help them make sense of a modern plague.

Horvilleur, 45, who has been called a rock star in a leather jacket, is a former model who has appeared on the cover of French Elle. The wild curls framing her face have been compared to the sidelocks of Hasidic Jews. She finds the descriptions amusing insofar as they counter stereotypes and help her reach audiences across cultures.

“I’m trying to create bridges between worlds that have stopped talking to each other,” she said. “I’m trying to create links between words and worlds.”

Horvilleur, one of only four female rabbis in France, is also known as the rare public intellectual who has brought faith into the conversation in a country committed to secularism. And although she is also one of the few progressive rabbis in France’s overwhelmingly Orthodox Jewish community, she has become a leader of a growing movement of Jews from all denominations.

“The Hebrew Bible is full of stories of leaders like Abraham, who were called to leave their birthplace to journey to an unknown region,” she said. “We are who we are because we were willing to go on another path. Judaism is a religion of becoming.”

## *Alexander Vindman*



Lt. Col. Alexander Vindman, a key witness in President Donald Trump’s impeachment inquiry, retired from the U.S. Army after more than 21 years of military service. According to Vindman’s attorney, David Pressmen, his client determined that his future in the armed forces “will forever be limited” due to political retaliation by the President and his allies. Vindman has endured a “campaign of bullying, intimidation and retaliation” spearheaded by the President following his testimony in the impeachment inquiry last year, Pressman said.

News of Vindman’s retirement marks the culmination of a months-long saga dating back to his public testimony in November. Trump fired Vindman as the top Ukraine expert on the National Security Council in February, and also ousted his twin brother, who also played a key role in impeachment proceedings while serving at the White House as an NSC lawyer.

In recent weeks, the controversy has centered on allegations that the White House was attempting to block Vindman’s upcoming military promotion to the rank of colonel.

## ***Ruth Bader Ginsburg***



U.S. Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg has said that her cancer has returned, but ruled out retirement from the nation’s highest court. Ginsburg, 87, said in a statement released by the Supreme Court, that she has been receiving chemotherapy every two weeks since May 19, which has reduced lesions on her liver. “I have often said I would remain a member of the court as long as I can do the job full-steam,” she said. “I remain fully able to do that.”

Ginsburg’s statement was released one day after she was released from Johns Hopkins Hospital in Baltimore for the treatment of a possible infection. Ginsburg, who has sat on America’s highest court since 1993, has experienced a number of health issues over the past few years. Earlier this year, she was hospitalized with an infection in her gallbladder. In August 2019, she underwent radiation for a tumor on her pancreas. In December 2018, she had surgery to remove cancerous nodules from her lungs.

## ***Sheldon Silver***

Former New York Assembly Speaker Sheldon Silver has been sentenced to 6-1/2 years in prison for bribery and extortion. He was also fined \$1 million. As previously reported by *The Jewish Voice*, close to \$5 million was received by Silver from estate developers and a cancer researcher in exchange for Silver using his position of influence for their gain. The funds were then laundered in private investment vehicles.

Silver was first convicted in 2015, which was affirmed in 2018. After various appeals, District Judge Valerie Caproni of Federal District Court in Manhattan rejected the appeals, calling Silver “guilty of corruption, plain and simple,” and imposed sentence.

## **• OBITUARIES •**

## ***Milton Glaser***



“With the passing of Milton Glaser on June 26, his 91st birthday, New York lost a favorite son whose designs — and one in particular — radiated the vitality and multiplicity of his beloved hometown,” said Jason Farago in his “Critic’s Notebook” column on July 1. “Over seven decades,” Farago continued, “he produced an uncountable quantity of high-impact graphic imagery, first at Push Pin Studios, the countercultural and politically engaged design firm he established with Seymour Chwast and others; later at New York magazine, which he cofounded with Clay Felker; and then as an independent designer.

“Mr. Glaser’s designs could be amusing, even outright comic, but his wit and invention were undergirded by a profound seriousness about the history of art and the power of design.” His work appeared in posters, logos, book covers and typefaces — “all with a vibrancy that was unmistakably New York,” Mr. Farago said.

Of his signature “I love New York” design, Mr. Glaser first scrawled a preliminary sketch on the outside of a torn envelope he found in the back of a taxi. “This was a design that

did not just tell tourists we were open for business, but persuaded the residents of a near-bankrupt metropolis [1976] to hold their heads high,” Mr. Farago said.

### ***Carl Reiner***



Carl Reiner, performer, writer and director, died June 29 at his home in Beverly Hills, CA. He was 98.

Mr. Reiner first attracted national attention in 1950 as Sid Caesar’s multitalented second banana on the television variety show, “Your Show of Shows,” for which he was also a writer. A decade later, he created “The Dick Van Dyke Show,” and teamed with Mel Brooks on the hugely successful “2000 Year Old Man” records. His novel, *Enter Laughing*, became both a hit Broadway play and the first of many movies he would direct.

He won praise as an actor as well, with memorable roles in films like “The Russians Are Coming, the Russians Are Coming” and, more recently, “Ocean’s Eleven” and its sequels.

His contributions were recognized by his peers, by comedy aficionados and, in 2000, by the Kennedy Center, which awarded him the Mark Twain Prize for American Humor.

### ***Lester Crystal***

Lester M. Crystal, who after 20 years at NBC News, including two as its president, moved to “The MacNeil/Lehrer Report” on PBS and immediately set about transforming it from a half-hour program into “The MacNeil/Lehrer NewsHour,” a broadcast widely acclaimed for its breadth and depth, died on June 24 in Manhattan. He was 85.

Mr. Crystal, a long-time resident of Scarsdale, NY, served as executive producer of “NewsHour” for 22 years, helping to establish the program as a distinctive voice in broadcast journalism. “NewsHour” took an in-depth approach to the news that the half-hour news programs of commercial television could not.

World leaders, presidential candidates, and other newsmakers were interviewed at length as the broadcast examined issues in segments that had more in common with a newsmagazine than with other TV news programs, thereby “gaining influence in the corridors of power,” *The New York Times* said.

“Les’s voice was the one you wanted to break into your ear during a news-making interview or on an election night, providing a crucial fact or giving you the breaking news you needed to get on the air right away,” said Judy Woodruff, who co-anchored the program with Robin MacNeil when Jim Lehrer suffered a heart attack. He was “authoritative, calm and brief,” she said, and a stickler for facts. “You were OK if Les said it.”

[Editor’s note: Lester Crystal and his wife, Toby, were our friends for many years. My best memory of Les is that he could tell a good joke as well as he could distill the news. Rest in peace, my friend. SMB]

### ***Shirley Siegel***

Shirley A. Siegel, who as a top law school graduate overcame rejections by 40 male-dominated law firms before forging a career as a leading civil rights lawyer, arguing cases before the Supreme Court and becoming New York State’s first female solicitor general, died June 29 at her home in Manhattan. She was 101.

Ms. Siegel was no stranger to discrimination herself — as a woman and as a Jewish woman. She had entered Yale Law School in 1939 as the only woman in her class. “I came to my first class, and nobody would sit next to me,” she said. Graduating fourth in her class, her application for employment was rejected by 40 firms. She was finally hired by Proskauer, Rose & Paskus, a largely Jewish firm, becoming its first female lawyer.

In her New York City Bar Association biography, Ms. Seigel explained how she had achieved her childhood goal of becoming a lawyer. “You get to realize in so many different settings the importance of understanding the facts, getting skeptical if what you’re being told doesn’t hang together,” she said. “It just applies to everything. And, of course, hard work. Everything is hard work.”

## **Ida Haendel**

Ida Haendel, the Polish-born prodigy who became one of the foremost violinists of her generation, died July 1 in Pembroke Park, FL. Her age was unclear, either 91 or 96.

Until the 1980s, Ms. Haendel was virtually the only woman among the top tier of concert violinists. Well into her 80s, she continued to play at any opportunity.

The cellist, Steven Isserlis, who played Beethoven’s Triple Concerto with Ms. Haendel and the pianist Martha Argerich, said Ms. Haendel’s musicmaking had always conveyed passion. “It was strong, vibrant, focused and came from right deep inside her,” he said.

Mr. Isserlis recalled an impromptu performance that Ms. Haendel gave around 1 a.m. in a late-night diner in Westchester County that he described as filled with bikers. The conversation had turned to Schumann’s Violin Sonata in D minor, and Mr. Isserlis offered that he didn’t know the piece well. “Do you want to know how it goes?” she asked.

“Before I could stop her she took out her violin and played Schumann, with all the bikers watching,” Mr. Isserlis said. “When she was done, everyone erupted in applause.”

In 2006, Ms. Haendel traveled to Auschwitz, where she played the Prayer from the “Dettingen Te Deum” by Handel for a delegation that included Pope Benedict XVI. Her recorded performance of the simple melody is “impassioned, her tone anguished yet irrepressibly vibrant,” the New York Times said.

## **• COMMEMORATIONS •**

### **Yahrzeits In August**

- 2: Vera Black; Rose Elsky; Harry L. Karp
- 3: Ruben Feinman; Anne Finkelstein; Edward Kaplan; Rose Malaspina Labar
- 4: Meyer Katzenberg
- 6: Alan Alford; Ruth Buchbinder
- 7: Ann Handler
- 8: Philip Packard; Florence Wells
- 10: David Lewis; Charlotte Meyer; James Sidney Slotkin
- 12: Wilson DeLynn; Rachel A. Israel; Minna Orliansky
- 15: Hannah Lesser Goldstein; Irving Meshover; Marjorie Teperman
- 16: Milton Lipsitz; Esther Winters
- 17: Yomtov Safer
- 20: Bette Jeselsohn; Meyer Levenback
- 21: Leonard Berg; Franklin Mountain; Arthur J. Sharp

23: Ethel Brown  
24: Morris A. Schottland  
25: Rose Wander Kornfeld  
26: Emanuel Bloch; Louis Posner  
28: Morris W. Brown; Anna Goldin; Ethel Moch  
29: Jack Kaplan  
30: Herman Revere  
31: Rose Crohan; Rae B. Levy

### **Birthdays in August**

1: Andrew Sausmer  
2: Marilyn Bayer-Levine  
3: Paul Birman; James Sausmer; Simeon Seigel  
6: Laurie Pinchuk  
8: Dede Whitsit  
9: Rebecca Seigel  
11: Jane Messing  
20: Abby Mendillo  
21: Ashley Solomon  
23: Tom Byrne  
25: Carolyn Finn; Adrienne Greenberg  
31: Rabbi Gadi Capela

### **Anniversaries in August**

5: Alan and Helen Weinstein  
31: Paul and Alice Nadel

### **Refuah Shlemah**

Jane Sachs  
Jody Levin  
Philip Goldman  
Paul Birman  
Thelma Novick  
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.

You can purchase a Hallmark card. Or you can purchase a Sunshine Card from the Sisterhood by calling Andrea Blaga, the shul's office assistant, at 631-477-0232. Relate your message to Andrea, 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.tifereth-israel.com](http://www.tifereth-israel.com)), where you can use a credit card for payment. Your loved one and the Sisterhood appreciate your thoughtfulness.

## • MONEY MATTERS •

### **Donations in July**

Jack Weiskott and Roberta Garris  
Thelma Novick  
Joan Prager  
Carol Seigel  
Yvonne McGee  
Adrienne Greenberg  
Kenneth and Sharon Altman  
Tom Byrne and Veronica Kaliski  
Nathiel and Ana Egosi  
Lawrence Levy  
Steven and Rochelle Artin  
Edward and Arlene Fox  
Ellen Jaffe  
Norman and Marcia Karp  
Keith and Katherine Artin  
Kenneth and Nancy Stein

### **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><u>Event</u></b>	<b><u>Members</u></b>	<b><u>Nonmembers</u></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><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 Paul Nadel: 631-734-8519

Board of Directors

Judith Weiner: President  
 Sara Bloom: Vice President  
 Alan Garmise: Treasurer  
 Susan Rosenstreich: Financial Secretary  
 Joanna Paulsen: Recording Secretary  
 Elaine Goldman: Corresponding Secretary  
 Hedvah Campeas-Cohen, Miriam Gabriel, Madelyn Rothman: 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/Garden

Adrienne Greenberg, chair

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

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

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

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

Paul Nadel, chair  
Rabbi Gadi Capela, Alan Garmise, Phil Goldman, Adrienne Greenberg, Sherry Shaw

Security:

Phil Goldman, chair  
Miriam Gabriel, Z. Micah Kaplan, MD, Paul Nadel, Joan Prager, Nancy Torchio,

Telephone/Sunshine:

Sisterhood

Yahrzeits:

Miriam Gabriel, chair

Shul president Judith Weiner is an ex officio member of all shul committees.