

Jewish Elections Are Coming: VOTE!

Rabbi Jonathan L. Hecht, Ph. D.

What are "Jewish" elections? You might not know it, but there is a parliament of the Jewish people. It is called the World Zionist Organization and it was founded in 1897 by Theodor Herzl, Every 10 years there is an election for the World Zionist Congress and EVERY Jewish person in the world (who is 18 years old, pays \$10, and pledges their support for the Jerusalem platform) is eligible to vote.

The elections are for delegates to the Congress which meets every 4 years. The Congress sets funding priorities and controls appointments to the Jewish Agency for Israel -- in charge of education and welfare programs in Israel and the

sending of Israeli representatives (shelichim) to camps and communities around the world -- and the Jewish National Fund (in charge of reforestation and land management in Israel).

There are 500 delegates to the Congress. One third of the delegates come from the State of Israel, one third from the United States, and one third from the rest of the world. Representation is proportionate to the votes that people cast. For Israel, the delegates are based on the political parties' representation in the Knesset (Israel's parliament), for the rest of the world, each vote we cast for "our" movement gives us more representation! That is why it is crucial that YOU VOTE

and that YOU VOTE for the Reform Movement's slate, called "Arzenu" ("Our Land").

To give you an idea of what this means: as a result of our movement's strength in the last Congress, we were able to insure that \$4 million dollars were allocated to causes important to Reform Judaism in Israel, including some of our syna-

gogues, our kibbutzim, and Hebrew Union College, our seminary. That is \$4 million dollars a year, or \$20 million dollars from one Congress to the next! Your vote, which costs \$10, will be multiplied many times over! But this is not just about

funding; the size of our delegation allows us to influence what's happening in the Jewish world!

Want to vote? Here's what you should do: Go to the website **reformjews4israel.org** and sign up. Then, between January 15 and April 30, you will receive an email from the website telling you how to vote. Your \$10 fee goes to the AZM (the American Zionist Movement), and you can cast your vote for Arzenu, our party. It's THAT simple.

When you go to the website **reformjews4israel.org** take a look at the video that explains what our movement is doing in Israel and why this election is so important.







TAKE THE PLEDGE
REFORMJEWS4ISRAEL.ORG



We are having a menorah-making contest! Last year our congregants created menorahs that were so clever and imaginative that we decided to make it a tradition.

Menorahs will compete in several categories including: "Cleverest Use of Food," "Highest In Calories," "Most Colorful," and -- our favorite -- "Most Likely to be Eaten."

Chanukah Menorah Contest



Bring your best efforts to our **Chanukah Shabbat Service** on **December 19**. We will light our menorahs together and say the Chanukah blessings at **8 pm**. After services, enjoy sufganiot (jelly donuts) -- the traditional Chanukah treat in Israel.

If you do not want to make a menorah, no problem; just bring one from home and join in to help with the "ooohs and ahhhs!"

President's Message: Please Pray....



"Please pray for my family" - How Temple Chaverim can help in the face of tragedy

As I write this, it has been two weeks since my friend's 22 year old son, Jonathan, was hit over the head with a metal pole and was subsequently put into a medically induced coma. If doctors could reduce the swelling in his brain, he might

have a chance of survival. As of this writing, he has been slowly taken out of the coma and now is on the road to determine damage and, hopefully, recovery; but, at least there is a road. This tragedy has shocked his family and dozens of our friends. We are all feeling helpless trying to figure out what we can do. When I spoke via email with my friend (who is Jewish), this is the note I got back...

"Thanks, Ka. I know you're active at your Temple so please say a prayer for him... Allan"

I immediately put Jonathan on the Temple Chaverim Mishaberach list. I sent an email to the long list of friends waiting for an update on Jonathan's progress. I told them what Allan said, and I also sent everyone the Mishaberach prayer. The response I got back from our Jewish and non-Jewish friends was the same. All felt comfort in the beautiful prayer and touched that our community is praying for Jonathan.

It is amazing and wonderful that our roots, no matter what our religion, often take us to the same place...prayer.

When tragedy strikes, and we ask what we can do to help, our Synagogue, our community and the world all agree on one thing..."please pray." I am honored to be a part of the Temple Chaverim community, a community that can help others find some comfort in the face of tragedy.

Karen Bressner, President

Welcome to our newest Temple members! Shalom, Chaverim!

Brian & Debra Corhan Ari & Alison Goldblatt - Abigail & Alivia Philip & Susan Kazin Evan Krakauer & Lisa Perlstein - Lexi & Dani Daniel & Dana Selmer - Benjamin & Brooke Elissa Sharp - Cailey & Emily

Elliot & Rhonda Silverberg Lawrence & Donna Weiss



DESIGN YOUR OWN TALLIT

I earn about the tallit & tzitzit and how to tie them.

Sunday, February 8, 12:15 pm

Preference given to earlier B'nei Mitzvah dates, \$60 fee Call Ronnie to reserve: 516-367-6100 ext. 112



Cantor's Corner: Jewish Foods



Have you ever wondered about the Jewish foods we eat, and why they are Jewish? The history of our diet can often be just as much fun to explore as eating your way through the vast list of foods accepted as "Jewish." Eating Jewishly is more than keeping a Kosher palate, more than just a bagel or a slice of corned beef. We do these things very well, but knowing why we eat these foods and the story that goes with the menu is what makes them "Jewish."

Why do many Jews enjoy Chinese food? Of course it tastes good, but historically the Chinese have followed similar socioeconomic paths as the Jewish immigrants. Think about where Chinatown is located geographically with relationship to the Jewish Lower East Side. The hard-working Chinese helped build many textile industries right along side the Jewish businesses, often taking full advantage of each other's experience and influence. It would make sense that over time, each would share a meal or two and develop a symbiotic relationship.

Why do we eat bagels? Portability! The ability to take a fresh bread product on the road when many days' journey might lie between destinations is a blessing in and of itself. The concept of putting cream cheese and appetizing between the bagel is a whole other story.

Why do we eat corned beef? Practicality! Jews are masters at taking things no one else seems to want and turning them into a delicacy. Brisket is temperamental. It has a grain you really shouldn't cut against; it has various sizes and quality depending on where you shop for it; and it takes precious time to cook. Take a tough, fatty piece of meat and try to cook it like a steak and you'll cry for a day. But take that same piece of meat, salt it, boil it to break down fibers, and steam it to perfection, and you have deli gold to eat from for a week.

These are just a few of the many foods we eat as Jews. I hope some of you are interested enough to look for the stories behind the other foods we enjoy together. This is what takes the necessity of eating to a love and art form.

Cantor Bradley Hyman

DESIGN YOUR OWN YAD Sunday, March 15, 12:15 pm Must order in advance by March 1. Only pre-orders can participate; minimum 12 students needed.

\$50 payable to Temple Chaverim Contact cantorbrad@templechaverim.org or 516-367-6100 ext 105



Temple Chaverim

Tu B'Shevat



I think I shall never see, A poem as lovely as a tree; A tree that looks at God all day, And lifts her leafy arms to pray; Poems are made by fools like me, But only God can make a tree. --Joyce Kilmer

This February 4th, the 15th of Shevat, Jews around the world will celebrate **Tu B'Shevat -- the New Year of Trees**. Tu B'Shevat is our very own environmental holiday. In Israel the trees are beginning to bud, and the blossoming almond trees in Jerusalem look very much like the cherry blossoms in Washington, D.C.

Here on Long Island we find ourselves in the dead of winter, an odd time to be thinking about flowering trees. We know that people need trees, but do trees need people? Human beings couldn't exist very long without trees, but many people feel that perhaps trees may be better off without human beings. Those who think this way point to air and water pollution, which have damaged our environment. Trees need sunshine, fresh air and clean water in order for photosynthesis to occur. Toxic waste can damage trees' roots and our soil. We also must remember to recycle wood and paper products to save the lives of other trees.

Several mitzvot, or commandments, teach us to protect the world around us. *Bal Tashchit* -- do not waste -- is rooted in the biblical commandment not to destroy fruit trees during wartime. Today this commandment is expanded to include a ban on purposely destroying nature.

Tu B'Shevat is the time to repay the earth for all that we are given. That is why we give tzedakah, to plant trees in Israel, especially donations to the Jewish National Fund.

Debbye Brandell

Principal, Religious School

Religious School Committee News



Dear Religious School Families,

I am Michael Zutler, the Chairperson of the Religious School Committee at Temple Chaverim. In years past, the Religious School has pioneered some wonderful programming and is doing so again as we are almost half way through another year.

We continue to leverage the use of technology in our Hebrew education programs. This is not your parents' Hebrew School! Our Smartboard has been a wonderful addition to the school.

Perhaps the most exciting addition to our program is ShalomLearning, which was described in detail in the fall issue of *Connections*. With ShalomLearning — a mixed venue, interactive teaching method — Temple Chaverim is on the cutting edge of educational experience. Yes, that's right; Temple Chaverim joins prestigious learning institutions, from Harvard to Oxford Universities, in offering a remote learning component to our curriculum!

While we embrace the use of technology, we continue to be grounded in our scripture. Last year we incorporated the use of an interactive teaching method called Project Based Learning for our 5th grade classes. In so doing, the students wrote a new Siddur based on the Shabbat prayers. This year we double the effort with the introduction of Project Based learning in two grade levels.

As you can see, YOUR Religious School constantly strives to improve. This year we looked to simplify your lives with what we hope is an easier Sunday schedule. We welcome dynamic new teachers.

How do we stay a leading religious school in the area? We listen to you, our members. Please be an active participant in the educational process. We encourage your messages by phone, snail mail and emails with your teachers.

I welcome each of you to our Religious School Committee meetings. They are the $2^{\rm nd}$ Thursday of each month. Please look for the meeting reminders in the Weekly Events emails. If you have any questions or want to be in touch, please contact the Religious School office and leave a message for me, and I will call you back.

Stay, Play and Pray

We are happy to continue **Stay**, **Play** and **Pray**, an exciting series of creative workshops designed to introduce our **youngest students** (ages 4 & 5) and their parents to the Jewish holidays, Shabbat and Israel. Join us as we discover the Jewish year through projects, stories, songs, food and fun!!

Sundays at 9:30 - 11:00 am December 14, January 25, March 1

Free to Temple members & the community

Contact Louise at 516-367-6100 ext. 128.



Tot Shabbat PJs & Prayer

Pray, sing, enjoy hot chocolate & Shabbat with Rabbi Hecht, Rabbi Bennet & Cantor Hyman.

For children through age 8; older siblings welcome.

FREE to Temple members & the community.

Start making Jewish memories together that will last a lifetime.

RSVP to Ronnie at 516-367-6100, ext. 112 by 1/28.

Friday, January 30, 6 pm



YOUTH ENGAGEMENT

T U E S D A Y NIGHTLIVE

Teens at CHAVERIM





Our youth programs involve our young people in meaningful, innovative, and fun experiences that will enhance their Jewish identity and encourage a lifelong connection to Judaism. We seek to help our youth acquire the tools to

> make decisions throughout life based on Jewish values and to further strengthen their connections to the Jewish community and to each other.

Awesome electives! Jews in Sports & The Arts, Jewish Cooking, Hot Topics Discussions, Movies, and leadership opportunities.

Joining Tuesday Night Live! includes membership in our senior youth group, CHATY and NFTY.

Questions?

Please contact Rabbi Bennet at (516) 367-6100 ext. 121 or email rabbibennet@templechaverim.org



TNL Highlights for grades 8-12

mostly Tuesdays 6:15-8:00 pm

Hanukah Celebration Cook-Off

NFTY Winter Kallah

Cooking Meals for Families in Need

Need

December 16

January 9-11

January 13
(no regular TNL)

CHATY/Tuesday Night Live

Ultimate Gaga

Night at the JCC February 10, 7 pm

Purim Carnival Sunday, March 8

Sunday, February 8

JCHATY - 5th, 6th and 7th Graders JGirls - 5th, 6th and 7th Grade Girls

JCHATY Meetings

Chanukah PartyDecember 16, 6:15 pmMovie NightJanuary 6, 6:15 pmLindsay's Choice!February 11, 6:15 pmPurim CarnivalSunday, March 8

JGIRLS Meeting

Mitzvah Knitting February 24 6:15 pm

Adult volunteers are needed to chaperone & assist at events

Teen Funders Network

This year TNL has a new component for the 11th and 12th graders. It's called the **Jewish Teen Funders Network** or **JTFN**. This program develops the necessary skills and values in our teens to enable them to grow into adults who will support and lead Jewish philanthropy efforts in the future.

There are many facets to learning how to be a good philanthropist. This program utilizes Jewish values and develops leadership skills that will give them the tools to be a part of Tikkun Olam, repairing the world. They will learn how to access organizations, review grant proposals, and work as a team to decide which organizations will get their money, which they will be raising throughout the year.

We Love Tuesday Night Live!!



YES! Jewish Summer Camps



My name is Emily Gergen. I am working with Temple Chaverim as the URJ Service Corps Fellow. I spent the last few summers working at URJ Eisner Camp as the Waterfront Director. I believe in Jewish Summer Camping.

Why is Jewish camping so important for our children today? The URJ camps and their other programs give

kids the chance to develop their Jewish self and live Jewishly, and to develop as the leaders in our world. At camp, they become the cultivators of a world where its leaders are agents of positive change and have experience in making a difference.

Yes, there are lots of sports, the arts, singing, and everything you would find at most summer camps, but the difference is that at our URJ summer camps, children discover and develop their Jewish soul. They build up a strong sense of who they are Jewishly. They meet Jews from other communities and other countries. They build relationships with Israelis. This helps them to connect to the Jewish state in a concrete way.

The URJ has many options, and I would love to share them with you! To learn more about the opportunities for your children, please contact me at egergen@urjcamps.org.























Temple Chaverim Youth in Action!











Community Action



ACTION is an understatement when it comes to our Community Action Committee. Here is a group of people always in action and devoted to making the world a better place, while making sure we are a part of that effort!

Cooking at the Ronald McDonald House has become so popular that we do not need additional cooks on December 14! HOWEVER, do not despair! You can get your name on a waiting list if you are interested in this really important mitzvah. Just write to

Emily Willens at emilywillens@gmail.com, and she will let you know when she has "room for you at the stove!" There will be additional dates to cook at the RMD House in the spring. This experience leaves you with a sense of gratitude and the urgent need to hug the people you love.



In February and March we will be Pack(ing) It Up For Purim! This is a great project to make sure needy families have enough food to celebrate Purim. Temple Chaverim joins forces with members of TANS, Tikkun Alliance of the North Shore. Each member organization is assigned one food item to collect; everything is then pooled to create 2500 Purim Food Bags distributed just before the holiday. Everyone is invited to the Sid Jacobson JCC to pack up the bags. This is a great family mitzvah project. All the dates and specifics will be announced closer to February.

Lastly, our newest effort will be working with the American Jewish



World Service, AJWS, on behalf of women and girls worldwide by calling for the U.S. Congress to pass the International Violence Against Women Act (IVAWA), a law designed to ensure that the U.S. government puts the full weight of its foreign aid and international diplomacy behind global efforts to end violence against women and girls. Please sign the online

petition to Congress to pass this law at: https://secure.ajws.org/site/Advocacy?cmd=display&page=UserAction&id=661.

To learn more about how you can participate in the work of the Community Action Committee, contact Mindy Brown at mindy.f.brown@gmail.com or Lisa Frenkel at frenkels@mac.com.



The High Holiday Food drive filled two cars with donations to FEGS, thanks to the efforts of our congregants and Community Action committee.

Ask Dear Yenta

Dear Yenta,

Every Chanukah I love buying gifts for my family and friends. However, I often wish that I knew a way to use Chanukah as an occasion to also teach values of generosity and tzedakah for those who are not as fortunate as we are. How can I honor my Jewish values and still celebrate Chanukah in a way that my



family will live these important values and still feel they are receiving something, too?

Puzzled Over Chanukah

Dear Puzzled,

I applaud your concerns. Chanukah is a perfect time to start a family tradition of giving by using this holiday as an opportunity to recognize that we are quite fortunate and have enough to share with others who are not as lucky. This creates special lasting family memories.

In our home, we choose one night of Chanukah when we do not give gifts to each other. Instead, each person is given a card explaining that a donation was made in that person's honor. It is fun to find charities that match our loved one's interests. For instance, if the person enjoys reading, we donate to a literacy organization. For someone who adores the theater, we donate to children's theater programs. The opportunities are endless. You can also explore options with your family members, including them in the search and decision.

Temple Chaverim has various funds. Right now you can donate a High Holiday Prayer Book and have your loved one's name inscribed on a bookplate. Or, if your child loves camp, donate to our camp scholarship fund.

In the end, you will have given the best present. It will be one that lasts a lifetime, much longer than any video game or fancy sneakers. Your child will have the memory of a parent who instilled important values through the spirit of Chanukah.

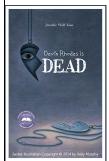
Your Yenta

Shabbat Dinner: Friday, January 16



Noteworthy News in Our Temple Family

To submit some noteworthy news to share with your fellow chaverim -- births, engagements and marriages; special awards at school and work; promotions, honors and awards; college acceptances, graduations and degrees conferred; book signings, gallery shows and other special accomplishments — email Sheila Schroeder, editor of Connections, at sweetsheila624@aol.com by January 30 to appear in the spring issue this March.





Jennifer Wolf Kam deserves a round of applause for her debut novel for young teens and the winner of the National Association of Elementary School Principals Children's Book Award, published by Mackinac Island on October 14 to excellent reviews. On October 23, she had a Book Launch at the Book Revue in Huntington.



Jesse Derris, son of congregants Elise and Jan Derris, and Jordana Kier, daughter of Ellen and Ike Kier, and were married on September 27, 2014 at the Museum of Natural History in Manhattan.





Congratulations to **Florence Halperin!** She competed in the US Tennis Association Senior Double Finals in Surprise, Arizona where she placed second. Husband **David** was there to cheer her on the whole way.

Ilene Samuel, of the law firm L'Abbate, Balkan, Colavita & Contini, has been named to serve as vice president of the Estate Planning Council of Nassau County.



Mayer Hugh Ohebsion was born October 14, 2014 to Temple members, proud parents Marissa and Jonathan Ohebsion, and delighted grandparents Elise and Howard Rubin.

Roger Schroeder took first place with his 1/2 scale Victorian dresser at the 18th Annual LI Woodworkers' show held at the Old Bethpage Village Restoration in November.

Evan Lander
is a SemiFinalist in
the
prestigious
2014
Siemens
Contest.
He is a
Junior at POB
High School



and plans on competing again next year. He is the son of congregants **Mindy** and **Rich Lander**, and the nephew of **Karen** and **Jon Bressner**.

A mazel tov to **Gerry Hirschstein** for his pastel artwork entitled **Expo Wheel**.



It has garnered multiple awards including second place out of 162 entries in the Suburban Art League's Open Juried Show, acceptance into two National Juried Art Shows, and was finally acquired by the prestigious National Arts Club in Gramercy Park, NY for their permanent collection.

Celebrating a special event?

Sponsor a Friday Night Oneg!

Contact Rosemary in the Temple office at rosemary@templechaverim.org.

Mitzvah Makers: Giving Gift Cards

Lori and Scott Levine know they have much to be thankful for. Just for starters they have each other, and they have two great kids, Ben and Justin.

So when it came to planning their 25th wedding anniversary, they knew two things for sure: first, they wanted a big party to celebrate with all the people they love; and second, they didn't want any gifts. They also knew their friends and family would find that difficult to abide by.

They decided they could use their happy occasion and good fortune

to help other people. When they sent out the invitations to their anniversary party, the Levines requested that guests bring only gift cards to any place of their choice in lieu of anniversary gifts.



The response was amazing! Their friends and family gave Lori and Scott more than \$1,500 in gift cards. The Levines then donated all the cards to Temple Chaverim for distribution to needy families. Even their children helped. Ben donated some gift cards he had received.

This was not the first time that the Levine family demonstrated their values. For Ben's bar mitzvah project, he collected donations for an impoverished village in Africa.

Many thanks to Lori and Scott for showing us that there are so many ways to live by our values, to teach our children

by example to be thankful for what we have, and to make the world a better place.

Our Lone Soldier Home on Leave



Rachel Bressner, daughter of Karen and Jon Bressner

one

oldier

recently spoke at Temple Chaverim.

To support Lone Soldiers like Rachel, contact

www.lonesoldiercenter.com.

Broadway Trip—Wiesenthal, The Play



In November, more than 50 members of Temple Chaverim enjoyed a wonderful new play called **Wiesenthal**. Shown above are Helayne Giller, Sheila Schroeder, Jenny Sullivan (the play's director), Tom Dugan (author and star), Rabbi Jonathan Hecht, Donna and Larry Weiss. After the performance Mr. Dugan came out and answered questions about the play. If you can, go see this production.

Holocaust Torah Cover



On Yom Kippur we honored our Holocaust Torah. The 7th grade class created a special cover using a talit and an outline of their hands with a pledge of what they would each do to honor the memory of the victims of the Holocaust. You can see our Holocaust Torah in the glass case outside the Sanctuary.



Fundraising

Jill Schwartz, Chair (jillglembourttschwartz@gmail.com)

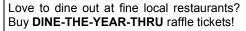


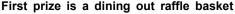
Blue & White Pages Directory

Need to organize a carpool, set up a play date, or phone a committee member? Be sure to use the **Blue & White Pages**, Temple Chaverim's Directory. It includes our congregants' names, addresses and phone numbers. Also check out the local establishments that have advertised; please patronize their

establishments as they have supported us.

"Dine-The-Year-Thru" RAFFLES





valued at \$1200; it includes twelve, \$100.00 gift certificates to incredible restaurants such as Vintage, Grillfire, Angelina II, Jewel, Nisen 110, Cinque Terre, Andrea 25 and more!

The second prize raffle basket valued at \$600 contains twelve gift certificates to wonderful restaurants including Shiro of Japan, Uncle Bacala's, Anthony's, Butera's, Kriniti and Mario's.

Raffles tickets cost \$50 each. Buy four tickets and the fifth one is free. Call the Temple office to purchase tickets or email Alyssa Feller at fellup@aol.com. (In subject line please write Fall Raffle.) Only 200 tickets will be sold, so you will have more of a chance to win. All money raised goes to support important initiatives at Temple Chaverim.

The winners will be selected on Saturday evening, January 24, 2015 during **Comedy Night.** You do not have to be present to win, but it is a fun night to attend.

Turn Your Online Shopping & Searching Into Donations for Temple Chaverim

Raise money for Temple Chaverim youth programs every time you search or shop on the web. Simply sign up and use iGive's search engine and enjoy free, easy fundraising --www.iGive.com/TempleChaverim!



Be a fundraiser by joining the first and largest online network of shoppers, online stores, and worthy causes dedicated to turning everyday online shopping and searching into much-needed donations for Temple Chaverim.

iGive.com is totally free. Plus, you get access to free shipping deals and exclusive coupons, on top of the great deals you'll find every day through the **iGive.com** network of over 1,000 stores.

Stores include: Amazon.com, Pottery Barn, REI, Staples, Petco, Expedia, Best Buy, QVC and many more, where you probably already shop online. Best of all, up to 26% of your purchase at each store is donated to Temple Chaverim. Many of these contributions may even be considered tax-deductible.

With the holidays almost upon us, this is the perfect time to sign up. Just go to the **iGive.com** web site and follow the easy directions.

Members Welcome on All Committees!

Get involved in Temple life!

"Do just ONE thing!"

says President Karen Bressner Interested? Contact Karen at 917-836-2207 or Karen.Bressner@gmail.com.



Comedy Night

Back by popular demand!

Join us for an incredibly funny evening of comedy featuring Sherry Davey, Buddy Fitzpatrick and Dan Wilson

on Saturday evening, January 24, 2015.

Doors open at 8:00 pm.
Enjoy Temple Chaverim's very own,
LUCKY CHAI LOUNGE BAND!

The comedy portion of the evening follows at 9:00 pm.

There will be wine, soda and snacks.

If you prefer other beverages,
then feel free to bring your own.

Enjoy an evening of **friends**, **food and FUNNY** -- all for just \$36.00 per person.

Call for tickets and info at 516-367-6100, ext. 101 and speak with Rosemary.



Save the Date: Saturday, March 21, 2015 7:30 - 11:30 pm \$80 per person Casino, games, raffles, music, cocktails and food





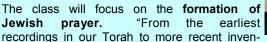
LIFELONG LEARNING PROGRAMS

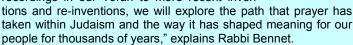
Adult Education

The winter months will be full of fun and interesting things to look forward to thanks to the creativity and hard work of the Adult Education Committee. For all the events, please RSVP to Nirit Weiser, Adult Education Chairperson at (631) 777-1976 or Niritblossom@aol.com. She will gladly answer your questions and try to help you with transportation.

PRAYING WITH FIRE

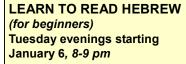
Praying with Fire is the theme of a series of 5 classes presented by Rabbi Debra Bennet beginning this January 7 at 8 pm.





This monthly class meets the following Wednesdays from 8 - 9 pm, January 7, February 11, March 18, April 15, and May 6.

For more information, contact Ronnie in the Temple office at 516 367-6100, ext. 112, or Ronnie@TempleChaverim.org.



A great way to:

- Learn how to follow the service
- Be more involved in your child's Jewish education
- **Enhance your ties to Judaism**



The course is designed for those with NO background in Hebrew and will be taught by Debbye Brandell in a relaxed and informal way. For those interested in becoming an Adult Bar/Bat Mitzvah, this is the first step. It is not necessary to commit to that program in order to take this course.

Register by contacting Louise at 367-6100 ext. 128 or Lsunshine@TempleChaverim.org

spiritual discussions.

JEWISH MEDITATION

Strategies for Relaxation and Inner Peace

Join us on our path of self-discovery. We will connect with an inner sense of true peace as we begin a personal journey to the happiness within our hearts. Our classes incorporate breathing techniques, guided imagery meditation and Jewish

Instructor and Temple member

Donna Bloom.

Thursdays from 7:30 to 9 pm December 4, 11, January 8, 22, February 5,12, March 5, 12, 26

Please bring a mat, pillow, blanket and a writing journal. Registration is required. FREE for Temple members, non-members \$60 for Winter classes. Kindly make checks payable to Temple Chaverim.

RSVP: Rosemary at 516-367-6100 ext. 101 or rosemary@templechaverim.org

In addition to the classes, movies and various offerings, Adult Ed will also be sponsoring two trips to exhibits that are worth your while to attend.

Bring yourself to the National Jewish Sports Hall of Fame and Museum on Sunday, February 8, 2015 from 10:00 am-1:00 pm at the Suffolk Y JCC, 74 Hauppauge Road, Commack. We will see a 30-minute film followed by a discussion led by Scott Zlochower and then explore this unique museum. Afterwards we will have a Dutch treat lunch at Pastrami and Friends in Commack. The cost for the museum is a \$10 donation. Kindly RSVP by February 1, 2015.

March is the perfect month to explore Helena Rubinstein --Beauty is Power Exhibit at the Jewish Museum on Sunday, March 15, at 12 noon, in NYC at 1109 Fifth Avenue and 92nd St. Learn about this amazing businesswoman and arts patron whose innovative business and style helped usher in a modern notion of beauty. See selections from Rubinstein's famed art collection, including works by Picasso, Matisse, Miró, Kahlo,

and Nadelman, as well as her iconic collection of African and Oceanic sculpture, miniature period rooms, jewelry, and fashion. Please note that space is limited to 20 people, which includes a 45 minute docent-led tour of the museum's permanent exhibit and then access to the Rubenstein exhibit. The museum validates parking for discounts at two neighborhood garages. For cost and transpor-



tation information and to RSVP by March 1, 2015, contact Nirit Weiser.

The Adult Ed. committee welcomes additional team members to assist with planning interesting and fun events. Do just one thing, or more -- your choice! Contact Nirit Weiser (631) 777-1976 or by email (niritblossom@aol.com) to make her day.

Family Bingo Fun: Sunday, March 15



Temple Chaverim's 10th Annual Family Bingo will take place this year on Sunday, March 15 from 4:30 - 7:00 pm. The cost is \$9 per person paid in advance; 2 years old and under are free; non-members and walk-ins pay \$11.

Attendees will enjoy BINGO as well as other fun activities. Pizza, salad and dessert are included. Prizes range from gift cards and toys to homemade goodies, among various other items. Every child leaves with a prize at the end of the event. We also raffle off High Holiday prime parking spots. In addition, there will be a 50/50 raffle. Prize donations are alwavs welcome. For more information, Merrie Radisch at 917-846-4502.

Sisterhood

Hey ladies, here are two opportunities to enjoy a few moments for yourself!

Celebrate Chanukah on December 11, 7:30 - 9:30 pm with a special evening planned by Susan Stewart and Aimee Reifer, at the Annual Sisterhood Latkes & Vodkas. First, indulge yourself with the most creative and delicious holiday vodka concoctions - created by Sharon Bluth! Then you will enjoy latkes in combinations that would have your grandmother thinking she was on another planet! Finally, the evening concludes with a rousing game of Hanukah Hannah. You will leave relaxed, full, and with a gift in hand. Please register at susiem21@verizon.net.

On **January 29, 7 – 9:30 pm**, just when you feel you need something to perk you up, Sisterhood has a fun evening of **Wine, Wings & Wingo!** Jody Steifman and Joan Kimmel have planned this evening with you and your friends in mind! Drink some lovely wines; dine on tasty chicken wings (the very "in" food of the moment); and then find out what the heck Wingo is! Signup at: **jodylyn712@aol.com** or **joankimmel@aol.com**.

If you have been thinking you would like to find a good way to volunteer, Sisterhood has the answer. There are both one-time and long-term opportunities. The first step is to have a conversation with **Rhonda Green, Sisterhood President**. Simply write to her at **kov64@hotmail.com**, and let her know how you might like to help. Right now she is forming a group to create new programs, especially for our younger members and moms with young children. This is your moment to help create something you think would be fun to have at our Temple.

A special appreciation and thanks go out to our Rosh Hashanah Honey Bag organizers: Amy Willig, Debby Kovensky, Marcia Shiller, Susan Stewart, Robin Klausner, Sharon Cooper, Esther and Sandy Beberman, Jan Kreckel, Jodi Kirschner, Beth Tabak and Michelle Chalfen. A big thank you goes to Leslie Herenstein for coordinating a lovely Sukkot evening's social that was made extra special with a private concert by our very own Cantor Brad.



Sisterhood Welcome Back Breakfast

Sisterhood Welcome Back Breakfast, organized by Susan Stewart (right) thanked all the members who had contributed so much throughout the year. Rhonda Greene (left,) incoming President, thanked Alyssa Feller (center) for her work as outgoing President.

Men's Club

MEN'S CLUB CARD & GAME NIGHTS

Last Wednesday of each month at 7:30 pm

December 24, January 28, February 25
RSVP to Jamie Ortsman at ortsman96@gmail.com
\$20 per person includes dinner



Sociable Seniors

The Sociable Seniors go into high gear beginning **December 4**, when they welcome **Frank Lorenzo**, **former White House floral designer**. Join Mr. Lorenzo for a seminar and photographic tour of his original floral designs that graced the dinner tables at auspicious State dinners and the holiday celebrations of three United States presidents -- Ford, Carter and Reagan. You will feel like you were there at the dinners after viewing his photographs from his 20 years at the White House. The lecture culminates with Mr. Lorenzo creating the "Centerpiece of the Season" which will be given away to a lucky member of the audience.

Then march back to Temple Chaverim on March 4, 2015, to learn how Murray Spiegel can Ask the Four Questions in 300 Different Ways! Mr. Spiegel, a telecommunications speech researcher, is passionate about Passover. (His license plate reads: Pesach.)

Over the years he has created and led thirty-five different Seders including transforming his family's home into a Bedouin tent, a jumbo jet taking the Israelites out of Egypt, and an ancient Egyptian tomb. In addition to a New York Times write-up, Mr. Spiegel's Seders were featured on PBS. You will leave inspired to tweak your own Seder!

A light lunch will be served at 11:45 am. Be early if you want a good parking spot. Cost: \$11 per person for Temple members, \$14 per person for non-members.

RSVP IS ABSOLUTELY A MUST!!! These events sell out, so don't be disappointed. Make a reservation with your name and the names of each of your guests. To RSVP, please call 516-367-6100, ext. 103, and leave the names for the reservation

Sisterhood Stitch & Schmooze Thursdays 7:00 - 9:00 pm

Dust off those old knitting, crocheting, or whatever projects you have been meaning to finish or start, and join a lovely group of women to relax and get your project moving along towards completion. It's a really great way to take some time for yourself.



Contact Randi Gertler at gertler@aol.com or call 516 381-1755 for details.

IN GRATEFUL APPRECIATION...Thank you to our members for their generous donations July 24—October 20, 2014

Every effort was made to ensure accuracy. We apologize in advance for any errors or misspellings

Adult Ed Fund IN MEMORY OF Norman Weiser Bruce & Jody Steifman

Rabbi Hecht's Discretionary Fund

Lori Badruswamy Anita Eidenberg Dana Shelton Wishing healing & good health to

Stefanie Nelkens & to the Teich Family Al & Joan Schein

Theodore Schuman Bradley Schuman
IN MEMORY OF

Estelle Neufield Al Zubasky Madelyn Bergman Steven Bergman

Rabbi Bennet's Discretionary Fund

Andrew Novins Ari Rurstein

IN HONOR OF

Your wonderful High Holy Day Sermon on "hope"

Steven & Paula Lefkowitz

IN MEMORY OF Arlene Winetz

Temple Chaverim Sisterhood Nirit Weiser

Al & Marcia Silverstein Mattie Kass

William & Barbara Burstein

Cantor Hyman's Discretionary Fund IN HONOR OF

Your inspiration and powerful voice during the High Holy Days Steven & Paula Lefkowitz

IN MEMORY OF

Betty Salkin Nirit Weiser Leonard Goodfriend

Steven & Paula Lefkowitz Florence Berman

Steven & Paula Lefkowitz

Martha Lefkowitz

Steven & Paula Lefkowitz

Darchei Noam Fund

Wishing Allen Silverstein a speedy recovery Burt & Carol Minov

General Fund IN MEMORY OF

Arlene Winetz **Burt & Carol Minov** Lenny Goodfriend Burt & Carol Minov

High Holy Day Prayerbook Fund

IN HONOR OF

Mac & Pearl Katz Robert & Leslie Herenstein Herman & Evelyn Herenstein Robert & Leslie Herenstein

Bruce M. Steifman

Jody Steifman

The B'nei Mitzvah of Jessica & Matthew Rosenfeld

James & Beth Rosenfeld

All the volunteers who made our holiday

so special Anonymous

Maxwell David Shackman

Jonathan Zimmerman, Sara Lamnin & Lori and Shiva Badruswamy

Emma Lily Shackman

Jonathan Zimmerman, Sara Lamnin & Lori and Shiva Badruswamy

Sienna Abigail Badruswamy Jonathan Zimmerman, Sara Lamnin & Lori and Shiva Badruswamy

The Bar Mitzvah of Max Shackman Roger & Sheila Schroeder

Ron & Ilene Samuel David & Florence Halperin Our Wedding Anniversary

Al & Joan Schein Emma Gold David & Susan Gold

Samantha Gold David & Susan Gold David & Susan Gold David & Susan Gold

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IN MEMORY OF Martin & Evelyn Baron Robert & Leslie Herenstein Abraham & Ida Goldstein

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Jody Steifman

Rabbi Alan Abraham Kay Jo Kay and Lisa, Oren, Ariel & Jacob Tzah Sylvia Cohen

and Corinne, Chris, Harrison, Alexander & Nicole Kyriacou & Adina, Jonathan, Avi

& Mava Gross Richard Rubano

Phyllis Spisto Edith & Irving Schneider

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Joseph Brenner Abraham Mitteldorf & Sadie Mitteldorf

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Harold Steinberg Temple Chaverim Sisterhood Ella Bryn Novins and Serena Novins Mr. & Mrs. Howard Nevins

Tree of Life Fund

IN HONOR OF The birth of our grandson, Dev Thage Suresh

Allen & Linda Greenbaum **Youth Programming Fund** IN MEMORY OF

Shannon Jessica Kalish The Compass Project

MEMORIAL PLAQUES

In loving tribute, the following names have been inscribed on our memorial wall.

Adrienne Wohl January 19, 2001

Madelyn Bergman July 23, 2014

Iack Saul Becker September 6, 2014

Melvin Taber November 10, 2010

Roslyn Taber February 5, 2014

Ierry Reifer July 23, 2010

Walter Marx

8/13/2013 Sylvia Cohen July 11, 2014

MEMORIAL LIST

Madelyn Bergman, mother of Lainie Gorelik, July 23, 2014

Leo Blank, grandfather of Daniel Blank, July 23, 2014

David Egol, stepfather of Jay Benowitz, July 25, 2014

Regina Hasson, grandmother of Scott Hasson, September 3, 2014

"Stella" Esther Becker, Mother of Marla Krellenstein, September 4, 2014

Ida White, aunt of Louise Sunshine, September 6, 2014

Arlene Winetz, grandmother of Rabbi Debra Bennet, September 7, 2014

Jack Saul Becker, father of Neil and Lance Becker, September 8, 2014

Max Karelitz, uncle of Louise Sunshine, September 10, 2014

Zelda Wurtzel, mother of Elan Wurtzel, September 10, 2014 Leonard Goodfriend, stepfather of Linda Greenbaum, September 13, 2014

Fave Niedenthal, mother of Susan Niedenthal, September 15, 2014

Max K. Nelson, father of Laura Tamber, September 20, 2014

Sandra Isaacson, mother of Jeffrey Isaacson, September 28, 2014 Harold Steinberg, father of Amy Davidson, October 3, 2014

Matilda Kass, great aunt of Jerry Burstein, October 6, 2014 Burton Bellask, father of Steven Bellask, October 8, 2014

October 11, 2014

Shannon Jessica Kalish, daughter of Barbara and Michael Kalish,

To make a donation, purchase a brick or plaque in memory of or in honor of a loved one, please contact the Temple office at 516-367-6100.

















Families, Fun & Fall Festivals





















Circles of Giving



Thank you to Our Circles Donors 5775

Circles of Giving is a vital pledge program whereby congregants voluntarily increase their annual support to Temple Chaverim by a minimum of \$500. While our dues are in line with other local Reform synagogues, they do not completely cover the cost of running our Temple. In fact, Temple dues, tuitions and fees cover only 80% of our expense budget. The gap of \$500 per household must be made up through voluntary donations and fundraising efforts.

Temple Chaverim is committed to excellence in religious, educational and social programming, and to outstanding professional leadership. Your gift ensures that all children and adults in our congregation will continue to enjoy all the benefits of membership, in addition to providing scholarships to those in need.

To help strengthen our synagogue and secure our future of upholding Jewish values, please make your pledge to the **Circles of Giving** program. Contact Fundraising Chair, **Jill Schwartz** at **(516)** 364-8650.

CIRCLE OF LIGHT Nem Genel!

A donation of \$5,000 or more above the basic dues:

- All Circle of Excellence recognitions
 - Name listed on one of the flames on the Circles of Giving Menorah Plaque in the Temple lobby
 - After 5 consecutive years of Circle of Light status, a permanent plaque will be dedicated at the \$25,000 level on the Capital Campaign Wall

CIRCLE OF EXCELLENCE

A donation of \$1,500 or more above the basic dues:

- All Circle of Distinction recognitions
- A personalized plaque
- Two non-transferable tickets to our annual fundraiser

CIRCLE OF DISTINCTION

A donation between \$1,000 to \$1,499 above the basic dues:

- All Circle of Honor recognitions
- An honor at a Friday night service

CIRCLE OF HONOR

A donation between \$500 to \$999 above the basic dues:

- Listing on Circles plaque in the Temple lobby
- Listing in Connections throughout the program year
- A Certificate of Appreciation presented at the Circles donors wine & cheese reception

Join or renew your participation in Circles today!

CIRCLE OF LIGHT

Anonymous donor Anonymous donor Anonymous donor

CIRCLE OF EXCELLENCE

Lloyd & Pamela Abramowitz Arthur & Phyllis Angstreich Michael & Susan Ashner Alan & Susan Borko Jon & Karen Bressner Allen & Linda Greenbaum Rabbi Jonathan Hecht & Gladys Rosenblum Robert & Leslie Herenstein David & Lisa Heymann Michael & Janice Kerr Daniel & Jill Leav Scott & Lori Levine Hank & Marilyn Levy Allen & Elizabeth Mayer Howard & Elise Hahn Rubin Ron & Ilene Samuel Gary & Hillary Schreiber William & Carolyn Tucker Laurence & Marlene Wald Eric Weiss Mark & Sarane Wolf

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Mazel Tov Bar / Bat Mitzvah

12/6/14	Alexa Schwartz	Laurie & Eric
12/6/14	Jason Birns	Ronit & David
12/13/14	Jacob Lewis	Ariann & Rick
12/13/14	Jessica Rosenfeld	Beth & James
12/13/14	Matthew Rosenfeld	Beth & James
1/3/15	Nicolette Resnick	Deborah & George
1/10/15	Alexander Rangell	Deborah & Bradley
1/10/15	Jillian Bettan	Lisa & Gary
1/17/15	Samuel Erlich	Margot & Brian
1/17/15	Allison Scher	Amy & Brett
1/17/15	Ethan Gany	Bonnie & Glenn
1/24/15	Jared Koshers	Dina & Bryan
1/31/15	Brooke Krugman	Barbara & Gregg
2/7/15	Jessica Blum	Caryn & Randy
2/7/15	Daniel Berg	Madeline
2/7/15	Max Paley	Ronni & Russell
2/28/15	Adam Budiansky	Jennifer & Michael
3/7/15	Carly Kleinberg	Dana & Brian
3/7/15	Andrew Carella	Ellen & Lawrence
3/7/15	Abby Benowitz	Leigh & Jay
3/14/15	Nathan Blank	Elisa & Daniel
3/14/15	Alison Meyer	Sharon & Howard
3/21/15	Dylan Luxenberg	Kimberly & Michael
3/21/15	Benjamin Kam	Jennifer & Jason
3/28/15	Alexa Makowsky	Kareen & Bruce
3/28/15	Maximillian Makowsky	Kareen & Bruce

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BLOOD DRIVE

Donate Blood & Help Save Lives!

Sunday, December 14 8:30 am - 2:30 pm

Free breakfast courtesy of Men's Club & Hasson Caterers Free pint Ben's chicken soup

For details, call Steve Lefkowitz at 516-507-9992



JEWISH FILM SERIES with Rabbi Hecht

Free to one and all! Bring your friends!

10% What Makes A Hero December 7 at 2 pm

Who is a true hero?

What compels one to maintain their integrity, go against the grain and fight for what is just?

Award-winning director Yoav Shamir sets out on an entertaining and insightful international quest, exploring the notion of heroism through a multi-faceted lens.



Shiva

March 1 at 2 pm

A beautifully acted, carefully thought out heartfelt story...

For seven days a large family of Moroccan descent observes the Jewish mourning ritual of Shiva when a brother dies.

Living together again reveals many tensions and conflicts between family members. Amidst the tensions, the Gulf War rages in the background.



Hunting Elephants

January 11 at 2pm

...a 2013 Israeli crime comedy starring among others, Patrick Stewart. Three elderly men and grandson Yonatan find themselves stuck together in a Jerusalem nursing home.

The kid is a genius, but is bullied at school. Yonatan's grandfather, Eliahu, is a former member of the Lehi (pre-State Jewish underground), and a cold person, his best friend Nick and his wife's brother.

There's one thing keeping them together - they all agree to rob a bank for money to make their wishes come true.



Upcoming Special Friday Night Shabbat services at 8:00 pm:

VISUAL TEFILLAH

- December 19
- February 13

BAND SHABBAT

January 9



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