

ט"ז בשבט הגיע:
חג האילנות!

Tu B'Shevat is
Coming: The
Holiday of Trees!



Temple Sinai News

Volume 74 Number 3

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- Sisterhood Receives Award
- #JewishANDProud
- Upcoming Events
- Calling All Readers!



NO HATE - NO FEAR

From the Desk of Adam Wohlberg

On Sunday, January 5, I boarded a bus at Har Zion Temple in Penn Valley with 35 members of the Philadelphia Jewish community—and one Messianic Jew, it turns out—bound for New York City. We were one of three buses from the Philadelphia area on our way to the “No Hate. No Fear.” solidarity march across the Brooklyn Bridge. More than 100 of us from the City of Brotherly Love joined 25,000 people intent on showing our support for the Jews of Brooklyn and Monsey and Pittsburgh and Poway, for Jews everywhere in the face of rising anti-Semitism, in response to attacks on Jews—both verbal and physical—which have been occurring with increasing frequency and which have left all of us feeling unsafe.

“The purpose of today’s march,” said Eric S. Goldstein, CEO of UJA-Federation of New York, one of the organizers of the march and the accompanying rally, “is to loudly and publicly proclaim that an attack on a visibly Orthodox Jew is an attack on every Jew, an attack on every New Yorker and an attack on every person of good will.”

I traveled to New York that day because I felt it was important, in truth an obligation, for me to stand up and march alongside tens of thousands of demonstrators—Jews, Christians, Muslims, white people, black people, members of the LGBTQ community, people who had traveled by car, bus and train from Washington, DC and Boston and Cleveland—calling for enhanced protection for members of the Jewish community and for anti-Semitism to be pushed back under the rock from which it came. It was uplifting to see so many people join this call to action and to know that while there are many things that divide Jews today—as well as a frightening number of comments, incidents and events that have left us wondering who our allies truly are—we are able to come together and respond as one when we are threatened.

continued on page 14





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PRESIDENT
LAUREN GLADSTONE

Last month, I had the privilege to travel to Boston to attend the United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism 20/20 Summit. I attended the conference with Rabbis Wohlberg and Hollander, as well as Shira Weissbach. I attended different workshops and lectures on various topics, had the pleasure of listening to the songs of Rabbi Josh Warshawsky (who will be at Temple Sinai at the end of April), and attended a brunch for women synagogue presidents. Being immersed in Jewish learning with people from around the country and Canada was invigorating and inspiring. I met synagogue leaders who share in similar struggles as well as others who are paving the future of the movement. The most important takeaways were that the most successful synagogues are the ones that are always looking to find ways for their congregants to create meaningful relationships with one another as well as meaningful connections with Judaism. I also learned that it is necessary for synagogues to evolve and innovate, as we constantly try to meet the needs of our communities. Non-profit institutions, especially houses of worship, struggle to find the balance between running a successful organization and having compassion for its members. It is the delicate balance of living in a fast-paced, ever-changing 21st century and abiding by the laws of our people that is over 5000 years old. I returned from Beantown inspired and reinvigorated to help Temple Sinai remain vibrant for generations. My hope is that more people will attend future conferences where we can learn and grow with our constituents.

As you all are aware, these past months were marked by so many anti-Semitic incidents. Recently, we began the process of preparing to install more security features to ensure the safety of anyone who enters our building. Unfortunately, we live in troubling times where we all need to be more vigilant in protecting each other from harm. I feel blessed that we have a community that cares for one another and the Jewish people through our commitment to the synagogue and various local organizations. On behalf of my family, I wish you a healthy and happy New Year. Here's to a new decade!

WHAT IS TEMPLE SINAI TO YOU?

Ben Wachstein, Executive Director

For as long as Temple Sinai has been a synagogue, we have referred to those who make an annual commitment as members. Members pay dues to belong to Temple Sinai. Members can send their children to our Preschool and Religious School and become *B'nai Mitzvah*, use the services of the clergy for life cycle events, and vote on congregational matters at our annual meeting. The challenge here is that membership implies a relationship where specific benefits are received by the member when payment is made. It's a transactional and often one-sided relationship. Just like the phrase made popular by American Express in the 1980s, "membership has its privileges."

The complication is that it's not a transactional relationship. Or it shouldn't be. There are times when it might feel that way, because we bill for dues and security, and because there are various fees for education. If we are in agreement that a synagogue is necessary as a crucial element of a solid Jewish community, the fees are necessary. And I think most people reading this agree with that statement—a synagogue is necessary. It unites; it centralizes; it provides; and it

supports. Sinai provides a setting and context for everything Jewish in our lives.

So consider what Sinai is—and means—to you. Is it the weekly and monthly gatherings of one of our groups, or the community where your family was able to connect with other families as you created lifelong friendships? Is it the synagogue where your child, your grandchild or other relative became a *Bar* or *Bat Mitzvah*, or was confirmed or married? Did it become more to you when the community came together to support you in your time of need?

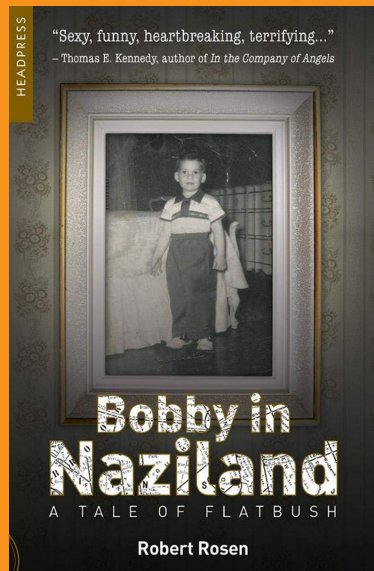
Consider what brings you together with your community, and as you consider what Temple Sinai is to you, what terms would you use? Are you a member? A friend? A supporter? All three? More? Amidst all of this questioning, there is one solid truth—we are in this together. It may seem transactional, but it's so much more. We are each other's pillars, supporters, and friends.



LOST & HOPEFULLY FOUND

Herma Abramson lost her autographed copy of *Bobby in Naziland*. She left it in the Chapel right after the signing and came back to get it and thinks someone may have taken it by mistake. It was in a ziploc bag. Does anyone have it or know where it is? Thank you!

Please contact: Edy Israel at 215-643-6510 ext. 103



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SISTERHOOD AT SINAI

If you've never been to a Sisterhood *Rosh Chodesh* discussion, now is the time to try one. We meet one Saturday a month, after *Shabbat* morning services, at 12:15 pm in the conference room. On Saturday, January 25, Carolyn Savitzky will lead our discussion on Mysteries of the Ancient Calendars. Thank you to Nancy Fagan and Roz Romanoski for leading our November and January discussions.

Please join us as our talented women lead services on Sisterhood *Shabbat*, Saturday, February 1, followed by a delicious luncheon. If you'd like to participate in the service with either an English or Hebrew part, please contact Amy Brody at jnabrody@comcast.net or 267-549-

1836; or Nancy Fagan at nfaganmsw@gmail.com or 215-805-6349.

Don't miss our What's It Worth? event on Wednesday, January 22 at 7 pm. Find out what your treasures are really worth! If they aren't really worth anything, you can always donate them to our Rummage Sale in July.

Mah Jong and *Mimosas* is back by popular demand—Sunday, February 2 at 9:30 am. Learn, play, enjoy!

Sisterhood has something for everyone. I hope to see you at our events. If you have any suggestions, email me at Petkunk@yahoo.com.



**SISTERHOOD
PRESIDENT
KAREN PETKUN**

PAID-UP MEMBERSHIP DINNER



DARING LIFE EVENT WITH JODI SILVERMAN



SISTERHOOD RECEIVED THE TORAH FUND ACHIEVEMENT AWARD FOR REACHING OUR TORAH FUND GOAL LAST YEAR.

Pictured from left to right: Lori Snow, Beth Chernoff, Ilene Blatman, Marsha Wasserman

SISTERHOOD - JEWISH LIVING

Joan Winokur

After Thanksgiving and *Chanukah* we should be extra specially delighted in *Shabbat*. There are "slim pickens" of festivals in *Tevet* and *Shevat*. *Tevet* has the last two days of *Chanukah* and 10 *Tevet* commemorates the Babylonian siege of Jerusalem. No Celebrating that. Then *Shevat* has *Tu B'Shevat*, the new year of the trees. If you're lucky you have a *seder*.

It seems that we should put time and effort into celebrating *Rosh Chodesh* and *Shabbat*, both giving us a chance to be together, to rejoice in our Jewishness.

Then we look forward to "Be happy, it's *Adar*" since this is the month of *Purim*. *Purim* is the time to tell the story, bake and "fress" *hamantaschen*, dress up and give *shalach manot*.

Remember the saying: "*tsiz schwer zu zein a yid*," "It's hard to be a Jew." That may be so but it's also exciting, rewarding, community-building and joyous, if we truly live it.

BEING #JEWISHANDPROUD @ RELIGIOUS SCHOOL

Shira Weissbach, Director of Education

As we've seen from recent current events, antisemitism in America is on the rise. This is a trend we as a Jewish community have seen before and, sadly, it doesn't seem that antisemitism is going out of style any time soon. The American Jewish Committee recently launched a campaign to make January 6th, the day following the large march over the Brooklyn Bridge, a day to be #JewishAndProud. The campaign encouraged Jews everywhere to wear their Jewishness publicly, take pictures, and post on social media.

Of course I enjoyed seeing many of my Jewish friends posting on Facebook and displaying their Judaism, but it forced me to wonder, what are we doing the other 364 days a year, which is also important to see? The Temple Sinai Religious school aims to foster these values and positive feelings through every class, social event, and experience within the walls of the synagogue with the end goal of making our students proud, American Jews highlighting that there is no gap between being Jewish and American; rather they complement each other. We do this in many ways. We create a sense of community in each class. The students know they aren't alone in their Jewishness and they have caring teachers to guide them through their learning. We teach them Hebrew, our common Jewish language, through prayer and song. We also encourage our students to actively give back to the community by volunteering at places such as the Abramson Center or Jewish Relief Agency. (Check out Sydnie's article for more information on our youth volunteer programming.) We also provide fun, meaningful activities for the students such as the recent *Shabbat* sleepover in December which the students played games and had tons of fun, all while observing *Shabbat*.



Z'HAVAH YOUNG SISTERHOOD COOKIE DECORATING WORKSHOP

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and
Minds

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ONE &
ALL**

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Yes She Can: 10 Stories of Hope

3*15*20 Phyllis Chesler
Living History

4*24*20 Rabbi Josh Warshawsky
Artist in Residence Weekend

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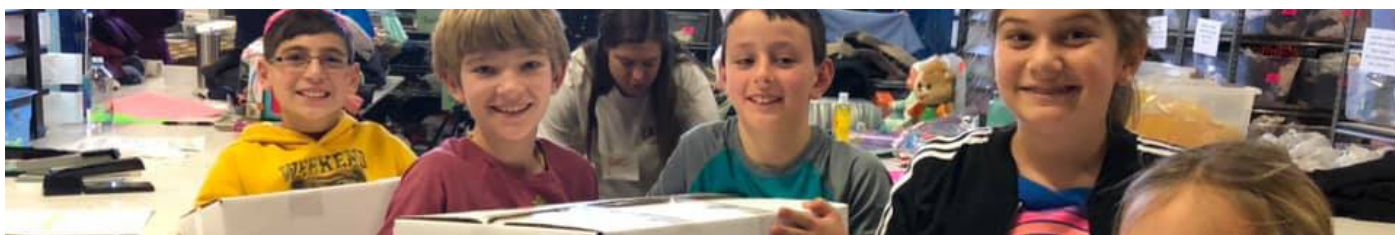
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YOUTH STEPPING UP!

Sydney Ciment, Director of Youth & Congregational Programming

There is nothing I love more than seeing kids and teens step up and do good for others. Young people are our future, and when I see them going above and beyond it gives me hope. I want to highlight some of the very cool and meaningful ways our kids and teens step up in and around our Temple Sinai community.

Mitzvah Circle

Each year the religious school takes our students to Mitzvah Circle. Mitzvah Circle is an organization that was created to fill gaps, and provide items that are not covered by government assistance. Each year we take our 5th through 10th graders to Mitzvah Circle. While there, they sort and organize donations, as well as help pack up boxes to be delivered to those families in need. The kids also bring stuff from home to be donated, including baby supplies, toiletries, clothing, and winter accessories.

Idor V'dor,

From Generation to Generation

Setting up meaningful gatherings with our elderly neighbors is another way in which our youth step up. This year the 3rd and 4th graders went to Dresher Estates, and the 7th grade went to The Abramson Center. The 3rd and 4th grades made beaded bracelets with the residents to go to Beat it Beads, a non-profit organization that gives back to the breast cancer community, while giving patients the strength and encouragement to beat cancer. The 7th grade made greeting and get well cards and delivered them to the residents in the short-term-care wing.

Our youth also participate in Food For Thought, helping to prepare food for Caring For Friends, an organization that makes and delivers food to those in need throughout the Philadelphia area.

If you need some inspiration for a service project, don't hesitate to reach out. I am happy to help find a project that is meaningful to you!



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THURSDAY Heimische Night

Cholent Plate

Shabbos Shopping at HOK

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**MEN'S CLUB
PRESIDENT
IRA LETOFSKY**



Welcome to 2020! We have just celebrated the start of another year and we get a chance again to make resolutions and start over or reset our lives. How will you start over this year? Maybe you will come out to a Men's Club event. Maybe you will try attending a *Shabbat* service. Maybe you will take a class or learn a new skill. Whatever it is (per the famous NIKE slogan) JUST DO IT!

Men in the Kitchen is always looking for new faces. Try it out, and bring your teenage children. You'll get to spend quality time with them; they'll learn the skills of preparing food; you will be contributing to our synagogue—and the time spent volunteering will help them qualify for the annual Men In The Kitchen Scholarship Award. (see below)

**MAN OF THE YEAR DINNER
HONORING LEONARD BROWN**



Join us for upcoming Men's Club events:

January 14, 2020	Men's Club Board Meeting
January 16, 2020	PUB Night
January 26, 2020	Texas Hold'Em fundraiser for PROJECT H.O.P.E.
February 2, 2020	World Wide Wrap
February 8, 2020	Men's Club/Scouts' Shabbat

**MEN'S CLUB ANNUAL
SCHOLARSHIP:
APPRENTICE IN THE KITCHEN**

While quality time with dad is an admirable, hopeful outcome of this program, the goals of the Apprentice In The Kitchen scholarship program are far more broad. The program offers a worthwhile means for teens to support their community and earn valuable service hours for their college resumes. Men In The Kitchen is always in need of volunteers, and we hope that the scholarship program entices Temple Sinai's teens to get more involved while learning kitchen skills, meal planning, dining service and the universally reviled chore of cleanup. To qualify for the \$1,000 scholarship, applicants must meet the following criteria:

- Interested students must volunteer at six full Men In The Kitchen events throughout their four-year high school career. Each event should be properly recorded with TSMC.
- College-bound seniors must complete an application, which will be made available on the Temple Sinai website at www.TSinai.com/scholarship.
- With the application, students will submit an essay of at least 500 words about their experiences in the Temple Sinai kitchen.

A committee of Men's Club volunteers will evaluate each of the applications in March and announce the winner in April. If you have any questions about Apprentice In The Kitchen, please contact us at mensclub@tsinai.com.



25th No Limit

TEXAS HOLD'EM
Tournament

Sunday, January 26, 2020

5:30pm Registration

6:30pm Start

Dinner Included

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\$60 Buy In - Seating is Limited

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**All proceeds benefit
Project H.O.P.E. on April 5**

Happy New Year! We hope you had fabulous *Chanukah* and new year celebrations with family and friends.

We want to thank all of you who joined us for brunch on December 15 to hear Jamie Bernstein speak. Her talk was lively and insightful and gave us a look at Leonard Bernstein's life from a totally different perspective. A special thanks to Ben Wachstein and the cultural committee for their help in setting up this program.

While the winter months for Hazak are quiet, we did have our AARP first-timer and renewal programs in January. Many of you signed up to take advantage of the insurance discount offered to graduates of these programs.

We are busily planning Hazak *Shabbat* weekend, March 14 and 15, 2020. This year, the Hazak *Shabbat* service on Saturday, March 14 will be coordinated by Susan and Paul Bratt. If you are interested in participating in the service—as a greeter, *Torah* reader, psalm reader in Hebrew or English, Ark opener, or in another role—please contact Susan or Paul. We would like as many people as possible to participate. If you just wish to attend the service, that is fine too. Hazak will be sponsoring a *kiddush* lunch following services, so please let us know if you are planning to attend. We want to make sure we have enough food for everyone, and having an accurate count of attendees is critical.

Please plan on joining us Sunday, March 15, at 10:30am for our brunch. Our speakers/performers will be Cantor David Wisnia and his grandson Avi. The cantor is a 95-year-old Auschwitz survivor and escapee. He will tell us about his time in Auschwitz and his experiences as a concentration camp liberator. He will also sing in several languages. Cantor Wisnia will be attending the 75th Anniversary Commemoration of the Liberation of

Auschwitz on January 27, 2020. He is sure to have memories to share with us about his trip. This is a brunch not to be missed, so please sign up as soon as possible.



In April, we will have a speaker from Technion University in Israel on the medical advances that have been made there. The month of May brings us a joint function with Sisterhood and Men's Club on the History of the Beatles, and our final program in June will bring us the music of songstress Leslie Aita.

Hazak Needs New Leadership

The end of our final year as co-presidents of Hazak is rapidly approaching. Unless someone steps up to assume our position, there may not be a Hazak organization next year. Please do not let that happen! Reach out to the Hazak board to offer your time and do your part.



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YEAR-ROUND BIRTHDAY PARTIES & SCOUT EVENTS!



WE NEED READERS FOR PURIM & PASSOVER

Cantor Marshall Portnoy

Here is our 2020 schedule for both holidays, so take a look and help out if you can!

Purim

Begins on Monday evening, March 9, and goes through Tuesday, March 10. The majestic melody of the book of Esther is regal and dramatic. The cantillation signs are the same as for the *Torah*, and they relate to one another in the same manner. *Mahpach*, for example, is followed by *pashta* just like in the *Torah*. The difference is that the melody for each *trope* is different just as the melody of the *tameem* for *Haftarah* is different from *Torah* cantillation. Like the *Torah*, the *megillah* is unpointed (without vowels and cantillation signs) so it's a bit of a challenge, but a most worthwhile one!

Megillat Esther is chanted both *Erev* (the night before) *Purim*, and on the morning of the holiday itself. Congregations and communities often team up, with individuals each taking one of the ten chapters, or a part of each. There are also some special traditions in which we deviate momentarily from the "Esther melody." In addition, we even mimic the drama itself by "sleeping" or "acting inebriated" on certain words. Of course, the names of Haman's sons are chanted without taking a breath. *Purim* is fun!

**If you already know part of the text,
PLEASE PLEASE
raise your grogger and
e-mail me immediately!**

If you would like to know more about chanting, raise your glass and we'll quaff together to this wonderful text!

Passover

The First Seder is Wednesday evening, April 8.

Here is the schedule for the rest of Passover. In addition to the weekdays, we need *Torah* and *Haftarah* readers for all the *Yomim Tovim* and the one *Shabbat* listed below:

1st Day, Thursday, April 9

2nd Day, Friday, April 10

Shabbat in Passover (*Shabbat Chol Hamo'ed Pesach*), April 11

7th Day, Wednesday, April 15 (Pay your taxes Tuesday!) Also, if you know how to chant the Song of the Sea from *Parashat B'shallah*, PLEASE SIGN UP.

8th Day, Thursday, April 16. Baskin-Robbins and challah French toast after dark.

Remember, as the good book says, *Torah* and *Haftarah* reading bring good luck and long life

(Don't ask me what book, it must be there someplace).

mportnoy@tsinai.com



NOW IS THE TIME ...

In your hectic life, how can you fit in another "to do"? You may not even need it (God willing) for a long time. Why not put off thinking about it for now?

Why Not?

Because no one knows when the need will arise. When it does, many tasks must be handled, and decisions made in a limited amount of time.

- Contacting loved ones
- Selecting & purchasing a gravesite
- Making funeral arrangements
- Handling the affairs of the deceased

Now is the time to lessen the burden placed on your family by purchasing a gravesite for that inevitable need. Having one less decision to research and make during that difficult time is one of the greatest gifts you could give them, along with the peace of mind of knowing that everything has been arranged exactly the way you wanted.

Temple Sinai has available gravesites at nearby King David Memorial Park in Bensalem, PA at reasonable costs for its members and their families. For more information, please call the Temple Sinai office:

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TSN 2019



#JEWISHANDPROUD TO BE A #JEWISHEDUCATOR

Beth Rabinowitz, Director of Early Childhood Education

Happy New Year! On January 6, a social media campaign #JewishANDProud was launched. The goal was to get Jews to show our Jewish pride. Though I wore one of my favorite Jewish shirts to work, I am fortunate to see, feel and hear Jewish pride every day. If you really think about it, I bet your preschooler shows Jewish pride too.

As soon as a child begins our school he or she is immersed in our traditions. Infants lay on their bellies looking at pictures of Jewish life. We sing the *Motzi*. Toddlers are learning the blessings before they can speak. Visit the sanctuary and you will see children dancing to *Shabbat* songs. The excitement is infectious. When children are *Shabbat Kohavim* it is a moment

that becomes a part of their Jewish journey. I can guarantee families are looking back on that day for years.

We come together for *Havdalah* on Mondays. There's beauty in watching little hands covering their eyes, the "aha" expression when hearing the sound of the candle sizzle, and the overall specialness of starting our week as a school. I love the end of *Tot Shabbat* when the children march to the *bimah* and the Rabbi shakes their hands. That is another memory that will follow many a child who goes from Preschool to Religious School and beyond in this journey. Each moment is just a touchstone leading into the next one.

Holidays are the best in our school. We eat *latkes*, *hamentashen* and other delicious Jewish foods. There's anticipation before going into the *Sukkah* or hearing the blowing of the *Shofar*. Each year children repeat the same songs and blessings, eat Jewish foods,

take part in *Shabbat*, and see our ritual items. Each unique experience builds upon the next. This natural Jewish pride only grows with each occasion.

My heart swells when parents tell me that their child wants to sing a *Shabbat* song or asks to light the candles. When I stand at the door while families are attending *Tot Shabbat* my own Jewish pride is beaming. We instill Judaism as educators, but it's easy to do the same in your home. Eating *challah*, listening to Ellen Allard's music, reading your PJ Library books and attending synagogue events only deepen a child's lifelong love, pride, and connection to Judaism.

Come into our hallway and you will feel #JewishANDProud. My own hashtag would be #proudtobeajewisheducator!





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UPCOMING B'NAI MITZVAH

GREGORY SIEGEL

January 18, 2020 21 Tevet 5780



Gregory is a 7th grader at Sandy Run Middle School. He has many varied interests, including camping with Boy Scouts, playing clarinet in the Sandy Run Middle School Band, playing viola in the Sandy Run Middle School Orchestra, robotics club, reading, and rock climbing, among others. His giving nature led him to volunteer at Dresher Estates, helping to lead the residents in Friday night *Shabbat* services. Gregory is excited to be sharing this *simcha* with his parents, brother Andrew, extended family, and friends.



TEMPLE SINAI BOOK CLUB CALENDAR & SELECTIONS FOR 2020

FEBRUARY 23

The Lost Girls of Paris - by Pam Jenoff

MARCH 29

Savage News - by Jessica Yellin

APRIL (TBD)

Educated - by Tara Westover

MAY 3

Button Man - by Andrew Gross

JUNE 7

The Curious Charms of Arthur Pepper - by Phaedra Patrick

MAX LEVIN

January 25, 2020 28 Tevet 5780



Max is a 7th grader at Pennbrook Middle School, and this summer will be his fifth at Camp Green Lane. Max enjoys playing and watching basketball, football, and baseball. His dog Emma inspired Max's *Mitzvah* Project; last fall he and his family raised money and participated in a 5K fundraiser for Home at Last (HAL), a non-profit organization that fosters and finds homes for homeless dogs. His family is donating supplies to HAL to support those who foster dogs, and plans to make the annual fundraiser a family tradition. Max looks forward to celebrating with his parents, brother Jesse, grandparents, aunts, uncles, cousins, and friends.

TEMPLE SINAI ADULT EDUCATION

Exploring Our World Through A Jewish Lens

Wednesdays - 9:30-10:30am *taught by Rabbi Adam Wohlberg*
Come join Rabbi Wohlberg each week for a discussion of current events and trends that impact the Jewish world. Explore how Judaism and Jewish life, both here and abroad, are being influenced and shaped by internal debates and external forces. Together we will examine the successes, the challenges and what the future holds for the Jewish communities in America, in Israel and throughout the world.

"The Journey Continues"

Thursdays - 10:30am-12:00pm *taught by Faith Rubin*
The Israelites left Egypt, crossed the Sea of Reeds and traveled to Mt. Sinai where they received the Ten Commandments. What happens next becomes the focus of our course, "The Journey Continues." We will study the original biblical text with the guidance of traditional commentators, Rashi, Ibn Ezra, and others, as well as contemporary scholars including the new commentary on the Hebrew Bible by Robert Alter. All readings are in English. Open to all levels. Please bring your own *TaNakh* (or borrow one of ours). New students are always welcome!

Torah Talk Saturdays - 9:00-9:30am

Join us on *Shabbat* for text study of the weekly *Torah* portion before the morning service. Start your morning with coffee, tea, and *Torah* as you learn with us. *Torah* Talk will begin IN THE BEGINNING, *Parashat Bereisheet*.

UPCOMING B'NAI MITZVAH

AIDEN TZABARI

February 15, 2020 20 Shevat 5780



Aiden is a 7th grader at Sandy Run Middle School. He started volunteering several years ago with Project H.O.P.E. where he helped pack and deliver food to families during the Passover holiday. Aiden also loves animals, so he spent most of this year volunteering at the Kitty Cottage in Norristown and the Brandywine Valley SPCA. He walked the dogs, cleaned and fed the cats, and helped the centers with whatever they needed. Aiden likes to read, swim, hike, and bike when he has time. He is looking forward to celebrating his *Bar Mitzvah* at Temple Sinai with his American family and then in Jerusalem with his Israeli family.

MOLLIE CHAPNICK

February 22, 2020 27 Shevat 5780



Mollie is a 7th grader at Holicong Middle School. As the proud older sister of a brother with Down Syndrome, Mollie has always felt drawn to children with special needs. For her *Bat Mitzvah*, she decided to give her time and talent to working with children like her brother, Matthew, who needs a little extra help to enjoy and experience so much of what the rest of us take for granted. Mollie has volunteered with different organizations that provide activities for children, including a weekly exercise class at the YMCA and a special needs baseball league in the spring and fall. Mollie is committed to giving back, even beyond her *Bat Mitzvah* year, and hopes to one day become a special education teacher. She looks forward to celebrating her special day with her brother, and the rest of her family and friends, by her side.



COOK FOR A FRIEND

Our Cook for a Friend program is one of several dozen in the area preparing Kosher Meals on Wheels. Our program serves seniors who wish to age in place, and live independently in their homes. Our group meets monthly on a Thursday morning, and we prepare approximately 140 dinners, which are then delivered to the Klein JCC for distribution. In all, we are proud to say that the program produces and distributes approximately 50,000 meals per year.

How to get involved:

We'd love to have you participate, whether it's every month or just occasionally. The preparations begin in the Temple Sinai kitchen from 6:45-9:30am. If you can't get there right at 6:45am, please join us anyway as there is always plenty to do. You can also volunteer for the Kosher Meals on Wheels program by picking up meals from the Klein JCC and delivering them to the elderly recipients.

For more information, contact Sue Aistrop at 215-698-7300, ext. 196, or saistrop@kleinjcc.org.

Contacting us:

If you have any questions about how the program works, or how to get involved, please call the main office to leave a message for Beth Heyman. If you would like to be placed on our email list for cooking date reminders, please let us know!

COOKING DATES FOR 2020:

February 6, 2020	April 23, 2020	June 18, 2020	August 13, 2020	October 22, 2020
March 12, 2020	May 21, 2020	July 16, 2020	September 10, 2020	November 19, 2020

Rabbi's Article Continued...

"Today, we do not simply walk over a bridge, we begin building better bridges between all denominations of Jews, and between Jews and non-Jews," said Goldstein. "Building bridges means putting aside our differences, religious and political, and calling out anti-Semitism and all forms of hate wherever we see it."

As we made our way across the bridge—slowly, for sure, because when you are 25,000 people strong, you are formidable but not exactly fast—I was saddened by the need for such a march, that we would have to make such a statement that we will not cower, that we will not be afraid. Yet, at the same time, I was encouraged and inspired by the sheer number of people who "showed up" to proclaim that those responsible for hatred and violence will never outnumber those of us whose hearts are filled with compassion and kindness; they will never overcome the love that we are capable of showing one another. There will always be friends, neighbors, members of our community and members of other communities, who will stand with us and march with us and give us reason to be hopeful.

The most inspiring words I heard that day were the words of Rabbi Nachman of Bratzlav that we sang as we crossed the Brooklyn Bridge: "Kol ha'olam ku'lo gesher tzar m'od v'ha'ikar lo l'fached klal," which translates to, "The entire world is a very narrow bridge and the main thing is to have no fear at all." With God's help and with the support of good people everywhere, we must continue to protest violence and hatred directed toward Jews and toward all human beings. May the day soon come when all people will understand that we are

brothers and sisters, members of the same family, children of the same God. And until that day comes, let us support and love one another so that we need not be afraid.



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UPCOMING SYNAGOGUE EVENTS



Molly Dillon & Taylor Lustig

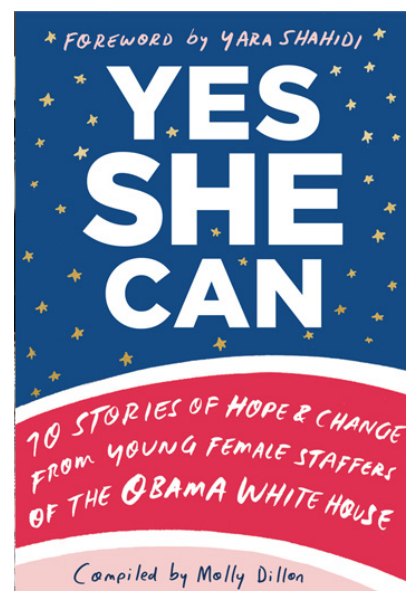
YES SHE CAN!

February 20, 2020 • 7:00PM

10 Stories of hope and change from young female staffers of the Obama Whitehouse

Register Online \$18:

www.tinyurl.com/2019culturalseries



CULTURAL COMMITTEE

Our first programs were only the beginning! Daniel Okrent, author of *The Guarded Gate*; Maly Jackson at the Ambler Theater showing of *The Passengers*, and Stephanie Butnick from *Unorthodox*.

Mark your calendars for our upcoming Cultural Series events in 2020:

- **Thursday February 20, 2020 at 7:00 PM: Yes She Can**
Ten Stories of Hope & Change from young female staffers of the Obama Administration. (Molly Dillon and Taylor Lustig)
- **Sunday March 15, 2020 at 6:30 PM: Living History**
Phyllis Chesler, Ph.D, Emerita Professor of Psychology and Women's Studies at City University of New York, is a best-selling author of eighteen books, a legendary feminist leader, and a retired psychotherapist. Dr. Chesler will talk about the rise of anti-Semitism and anti-Zionism since 1967, and will touch upon women's rights in Israel and in the Arab and Islamic world.
- **April 24-26 - Artist in Residence:**
Rabbi Josh Warshawsky graduate of Columbia University and JTS, with BAs in Religion, *Talmud* and Rabbinitics, who engages Jews across generations through music and teaching.

If you didn't subscribe to the 2019-2020 series, watch for details on how you can register for these upcoming individual events!



UPCOMING COMMUNITY EVENTS



SISTERHOOD & Z'HAVAH

MAHJONG & MIMOSAS

**Sunday,
February 2, 2020
9:30am - 12:30PM**

At Temple Sinai
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Dresher, PA 19025

\$10 for Sisterhood Members
\$15 for Non-Members

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AND PLAY MAHJONG!

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teaching tables for those who want to learn.

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if you have a set to bring to the event
if you are able to teach
if you want to learn

Register online at
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2020 Production



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tickets:**

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Dresher**

This resolution honoring Barry Bressler z"l was passed unanimously by the Temple Sinai Board of Directors in September:



RESOLUTION

WHEREAS **Barry E. Bressler** was a dedicated and devoted life member and leader of Temple Sinai, and

WHEREAS **Barry** served as an executive board member, board member, chair and member of countless committees, having given meritorious and dedicated service to the Congregation and,

WHEREAS **Barry** mentored, guided, counseled, and encouraged innumerable leaders and future leaders of Temple Sinai and worked with diligence for the betterment of Temple Sinai and the Jewish Community at large and who by example inspired others adding immeasurably to the development of our community and of our people,

RESOLVED that Temple Sinai hereby records its sorrow and sense of immense loss on the passing of **Barry E. Bressler** and will strive to follow his example in support of the synagogue and the Jewish Community, and in the devotion to our families. We express our condolences to his bereaved family. May G-d console Barry's family among the other mourners of Zion and Jerusalem.

TEMPLE SINAI BOARD OF DIRECTORS

September 25, 2019 / 25 Elul 5779

Lauren Gladstone, President

Adam Wohlberg, Rabbi

Happy Birthday To The Trees

Tuesday, February 10, 2020

All About Tu B'Shevat

- Tu B'Shevat is the birthday for trees and was originally meant to help farmers determine when the trees were mature enough for their fruits to be harvested.
- Tu B'Shevat is celebrated on the 15th of Shevat on the Hebrew calendar. "Tu" is Hebrew for 15.
- The Rabbis picked the 15th of Shevat because they believed that the climate in Israel was then suitable for planting and harvesting trees.
- Fruit trees are considered important in the Torah because of their symbolism for life, growth and nourishment.
- The importance of Tu B'Shevat declined with the destruction of the second Temple, but rose again with the Kabbalists during the 15th century.
- The Kabbalists created the Tu B'Shevat seder during the medieval period and modeled it after the Passover seder.
- Early Zionists planted trees in Israel to help restore Israel's land and as a symbol of the growth of the Jewish people.
- The most common fruits to eat during Tu B'Shevat are olives, dates, grapes, figs, and pomegranates.
- Many Jews around the world observe Tu B'Shevat by donating money to the Jewish National Fund that purchases trees to reforest Israel.
- Parsley is often planted in areas of the world where it is too cold to plant trees during Tu B'Shevat. The parsley will often be used a couple months later on the Passover seder plate.
- Today, Tu B'Shevat is associated with Jewish environmentalism and strengthening one's connection to the Land of Israel.



WWW.TSINAI.COM

Ways to Celebrate



Plant Trees in Israel through a donation to the Jewish National Fund.

Pick fresh fruits and vegetables at a local farm.



Plant trees, seeds, or start an herb garden.



Build a birdhouse to hang in a tree.

Eat the seven Biblical species of the land of Israel: wheat, grapes, barley, figs, pomegranates, olives, and dates.



Organize a park clean-up to collect litter.



Make something for your home with reclaimed wood.



Take some time to research your own ancestry and assemble your family tree.

Commit to recycling paper goods or compost.



Host a Tu B'Shevat Seder.

Blessing over the Fruit

Ba-ruch atah Ado-nai, Elo-hei-nu me-lech ha-olam, borei pri ha-etz.

Blessed are You, Lord our G-d, King of the universe, who creates the fruit of the tree.

If tasting a fruit for the first time in its season, recite the Shehecheyanu blessing before saying the fruit blessing:
Ba-ruch a-tah Ado-nai, Elo-hei-nu me-lech ha-olam, she-heche-ya-nu ve-ki-ye-ma-nu ve-higi-a-nu liz-man ha-zeh.

Blessed are You, Lord our God, King of the universe, who has granted us life, sustained us, and enabled us to reach this occasion.



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Contributions: Thank You For Your Support 10/28 - 12/31/19

Florence H. Albert Preschool Activities

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Manny Koller	
Jennie Rutberg	
Barry L. Abramson	
Adele Abramson	
Harry Rutberg	
Max Rutberg	Gary Abramson

Boy Scout

<i>In Memory of</i>	<i>Donor</i>
Mark Field	Gregory Field

Risë Bressler Chessed

<i>In Memory of</i>	<i>Donor</i>
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Sara Roth	
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Albert Nosheny	Stanley & Krendelle Nosheny

Cook For A Friend

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Shira Goodman being named Director of the ADL	
	Dina & Hal Rovner

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Jonathan Seligsohn	
Shirley Seligsohn	Jackie Silverman

Martyn S. & Fannie Goldstein Minvan

<i>In Honor of</i>	<i>Donor</i>
Joshua Block and Chloe Appelstein becoming B'nai Mitzvah	
Asher Caplan becoming a Bar Mitzvah	
Lucy Sternthal becoming a Bat Mitzvah	
Rachel Rosenthal becoming a Bat Mitzvah	
	Farrah, Larry and Daniela Barow
Michael Eisman's second Bar Mitzvah	Herma Abramson
Maxine & Asher Stutman's new home	
Speedy recovery for Judy Blumberg	
Speedy recovery for Herma Abramson	Joan Winokur
Speedy recovery for Judy Blumberg	
	Temple Sinai Daily Minyan

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Michael Silverman	Farrah, Larry and Daniela Barow

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(continued)

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Florence Levin	Sherrie Levin

Richard Harris Memorial

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William Leventhal	Jerome Leventhal

Rabbi Hollander's Charity

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Asher Caplan becoming a Bar Mitzvah	Beth Berkowitz
Rabbi Sam Hollander	Farrah, Larry and Daniela Barow
	Hazak

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Imagine 613

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Esther Rachel Olim	Dave Olim
Sarah Moss	David Hartenbaum
Abe Raivy	
Sara Segal	Hazzan Arlyne Unger
Dorothy Bratt	
Audrey G. Bratt	Paul Bratt
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Claire Axelrod becoming a <i>Bat Mitzvah</i>	
Lucy Sternthal becoming a <i>Bat Mitzvah</i>	
Asher Caplan becoming a <i>Bar Mitzvah</i>	
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Samuel Gluck	Stu & Marci Weitz and Arleen Weitz

Bruce Winokur Memorial

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Alice Winokur Malove	Joan Winokur

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Helen Milrod	Robert Milrod

Yahrzeit

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Sherrie Joy Krevolin	Michele & Eric Kramer & Family
Murray Milrod	Robert Milrod
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Dorothy Lubline	Stanley Steinberg

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they must be felt with the heart.*

- Helen Keller

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PHILADELPHIA CHAPEL

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Caring. Committed. Compassionate.

Temple Sinai



תורה • עבודה • גמילות חסדים

www.tsinai.com

Phone: 215-643-6510

Adam Wohlberg, Senior Rabbi

Sidney Greenberg z"l, Founding Rabbi

Sam Hollander, Assistant Rabbi

Nathan Chaitovsky, Cantor Emeritus

Ben Wachstein, Executive Director

Shira Weissbach, Director of Education

Beth Rabinowitz, Director of Early Childhood Education

Sydnie Ciment, Director of Youth and Congregational Programming

Faith Rubin, Coordinator of Enhanced Education

Edy Israel, Director of Administration and Community Relations

Beth Berkowitz, Religious School Administrator

Marcy Lyons Gohen, Accounting

Ellen McGrother, Accounting

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Lauren Gladstone, President

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Marty & Gail Weiss, Hazak Co-Presidents



Celebrate Purim

Send Shalach Manot to Family and Friends!

Packages ordered for synagogue members will be delivered, if possible, by Sisterhood volunteers living in the same neighborhoods. If delivery cannot be arranged, recipients will be called. Packages ordered for non-synagogue members cannot be delivered, but can be picked up at Temple Sinai.

1st ten packages	\$12.00 each
2nd ten packages	\$9.00 each
Additional packages	\$7.00 each
Teacher & Staff packages	\$7.00 each

Baskets to non-Temple Sinai members and non-preschool families are \$14 (to defray the actual cost of a single basket).



ORDER EARLY ONLINE at tsinai.happypurim.com!

Purim begins March 9 - Order deadline is Tuesday, February 18

It's an easy, convenient, and secure way to purchase your baskets!

You will receive a Welcome Email with your personalized code and instructions for placing your order. If you do not receive this email (check your spam folder, too!), please contact a committee member. You can also Click the Link under Login Box on tsinai.happypurim.com and your Login Code will be emailed directly to you!

YOU MAY ALSO USE THE ATTACHED FORM BELOW

SHALACH MANOT ORDER FORM

Your Name _____
Your Phone _____

Please include a list of the Shalach Manot recipients and indicate whether they are Temple Sinai members.

Total packages for Temple Sinai members, Sisterhood members and Preschool families: _____
@ \$12 _____ \$9 _____ \$7 _____
Non-Member/Non-Preschool baskets @ \$14 _____
Check enclosed payable to Temple Sinai Sisterhood for total of \$ _____

Mail to: Marlene Zubrow
1431 Barton Drive
Fort Washington, PA 19034

Volunteer to get involved in the fun!

Our Shalach Manot Assembly Day is Tuesday, March 3rd at 9:00am

For more info, please call:
Ruth Segal 267.977.0370
Marlene Zubrow 215.641.9682 or
Sarah Vogel 215.563.5639

You can also reach us at purimorders@gmail.com

Order forms are available in the main office, synagogue foyer, and gift shop.



WINTER HOURS

For January and February



Tuesdays	10 am to 2 pm plus 4pm to 6 pm
Wednesdays	10 am to 1 pm
Thursdays	10 am to 1 pm
Fridays	10am to 2pm
Sundays	9:30 am to 1 pm

Open other days and evenings by appointment, contact Stacy at 215-802-0691.

We have enjoyed seeing all your Facebook/Instagram postings from Hanukkah. Let's face it, your Menorah's look tired. They have worked hard for years. It is time for a new Menorah to brighten your holidays for 2020! Stop by the gift shop to check out our beautiful collection — we have Quest, Rosenthal, Emanuel and many more.

30% off all Menorah's during the month of January!