



Temple Israel Doorpost

December 2019

Kislev / Tevet 5780

From the Rabbi's Study...

Dear Friends,

Henny Youngman, the master of one-liners, once said, "I once wanted to become an atheist, but I gave up -- they have no holidays."

Humorous as it may be, there is some deeper truth in these words. Most people look forward to holidays, not because it means a day off from work or school, but because it means time to be together

Continued on page 2

Upcoming Events

The Temple Office will be Closed

Wednesday – Thursday, Dec. 18 – 19

Wednesday – Friday, Dec. 25 – 27

Sisterhood Winter Bazaar Extravaganza

10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m., Sunday, Dec. 1, Social Hall

Learn Hebrew in Less than a Week Class

4 evenings at 7:00 p.m., Dec. 2 - 5, Board Room

Ritual Committee Meeting

6:30 p.m., Tuesday, December 3, Board Room

Musical Kabbalat Shabbat with Kochava Munro

6:15 p.m., Friday, December 6, Chapel

USY Kickoff Event

Sunday, December 8

11:30 a.m., parent meeting

12:00 p.m., teen meeting (grades 7 - 12)

Events, continued

Executive Committee Meeting

7:30 p.m., Wednesday, December 11, Virtual Mtg.

Adult Bar/Bat Mitzvah Class

7:00 p.m., Thursday, December 12, Board Room

Rabbi Candidate Visit Weekend

Rabba Kaya Stern-Kaufman

Friday, December 13 - Sunday, December 15

Please see bio and detailed schedule on pages 8 - 9

Youth Group Pre-Hanukkah Party

6:00 p.m. Saturday, December 14, Social Hall

Community Pre-Hanukkah Celebration

11:00 a.m., Sunday, December 15, Social Hall

Board of Directors Meeting

7:00 p.m., Tuesday, December 17, Board Room

Tot Shabbat Services

11:00 a.m., Saturday, December 21, Social Hall

Hanukkah Candle Lighting and Prayer for Peace

5:00 p.m., Sunday, December 22

Open to the public; refreshments will be served.

Hanukkah: Third Night (see back cover)

5:00 p.m., Tuesday, December 24

Hanukkah: Eighth Night (see back cover)

Sunday, December 29

First Night Portsmouth Concert

Beginning at 6:30 p.m., Tuesday, December 31, Social Hall, Randy Armstrong and Genevieve Aichele, *World*

Tales: Stories and Music from Around the World



Rabbi's Message

(Continued from page 1)

with family or friends. For most, it is a chance to be with others who care about them. It is important to know the difference between being alone and being lonely.

Rabbi Abraham Twersky, an Orthodox rabbi, therapist and medical school professor from Pittsburgh, writes that some people enjoy a period of solitude. It allows them to think without being distracted or interrupted by goings-on in their environment. Loneliness, on the other hand, is a feeling that no one ever enjoys.

Being alone means that you do not have anyone else near you. Being lonely means that you do not have yourself. In other words, loneliness is an alienation from oneself, and this is indeed a most distressing feeling.

You may be totally alone, miles away from others, yet you may be at peace with yourself. The absence of distraction allows you to focus more on yourself and to come closer with yourself. This enhances your self-awareness, and you welcome it. While you are indeed alone, you are not lonely.

On the other hand, you may be at Gillette Stadium among 65,000 people, yet you may be terribly lonely. The action on the playing field may temporarily distract you from your misery, but in the moments that you are not distracted, you may feel very uncomfortable.

Judaism provides us with many opportunities to connect with others and thus minimize the pangs of loneliness or becoming alienated from ourselves. Holidays fill our calendar and Shabbat comes every



week. Even in the shadow of a loved one's death, our holidays and Shabbat, which have the potential of accentuating the loss, can help us avoid being lonely if we take the step of joining the community on Shabbat and holidays. In fact, the rabbis made it necessary to have a minyan, a quorum of ten people, to say Kaddish in order to ensure that the mourner not be alone and not feel lonely.

Of course, you need not be a mourner to feel a connection to our community. By allowing Shabbat and the holidays to enter our lives, by joining with others at temple, we need never become alienated from ourselves. We can enjoy knowing who we are with others who share in our same identity, and when those times come when we are totally alone, we will be in pleasant company with ourselves

L'shalom,

Rabbi Ira Korinow

Shabbat Service Leaders

Friday, Dec. 6, 6:15 p.m.	Kochava Munro
Saturday, December 7	Lay Leaders
Friday, Dec. 13, 7:15 p.m.	Rabba Kaya Stern-Kaufman
Saturday, December 14	Rabba Kaya Stern-Kaufman
Friday, Dec. 20, 7:15 p.m.	Rabbi Ira Korinow
Saturday, December 21	Rabbi Ira Korinow
<i>Followed by "Lunch & Learn" Torah Study</i>	
Friday, Dec. 27, 6:15 p.m.	Rabbi Ira Korinow
Saturday, December 28	Rabbi Ira Korinow
<i>Followed by "Lunch & Learn" Torah Study</i>	

President's Message

Temple
Israel

Join me as Shabbat regular: Here's why

There have been multiple periods of my life when I have been a “regular” at Shabbat services. For a few years in my early teens, I attended services most Shabbat mornings and also on holidays like Passover or Shavuot. My dad would bring me and my friend Annie to temple in lieu of school. After services were over, we enjoyed a couple of hours off in the afternoon. In college, I regularly attended Friday night services at the University of Michigan Hillel. With a large and diverse Jewish community on campus, there were several services happening at once throughout the building, but the whole community came together for Shabbat dinner and a spirited song session afterwards. I even got home in plenty of time to go out with my friends if I wished to do so. Many years later, Brian and I brought toddler Kayla and baby Emily to the weekly tot Shabbat service at Temple Emanuel in Newton. It was a great chance to meet new friends and helped to make a very large synagogue community a little bit smaller.

This fall, I began attending Shabbat morning services with my oldest daughter Kayla, who is in seventh grade and preparing for her bat mitzvah. I hadn't attended regular Shabbat services outside of a special occasion in a long time. With three kids and what feels like a million activities, Shabbat services have not been at the top of our family's priority list, especially since we devote most of our Sunday mornings to religious school at TIP. What is amazing to me is not only how quickly I felt like a “regular,” but also all the unexpected benefits I feel when I attend Shabbat services. In addition to the mitzvah of helping to make a minyan, I have been enjoying the following benefits of attending services regularly:

- **Built-in time for self-reflection.** As much as I

say that I would like to do this on a daily basis, it just does not happen. But at many moments during services, and in particular at the end of each Amidah, I take a moment to reflect and set some personal goals for myself.

- **No phone = sanctuary from the outside world.** I love that my phone is banished during services. While at times it is inconvenient that I cannot be reached by the rest of my family, it is freeing to be sealed off from this crazy contraption called an iPhone. I welcome this respite of technology-free time each Shabbat. It feels like a break.
- **Quiet, quality, and positive time with my near teenage daughter.** Kayla and I are enjoying special time together, and even though much of it is spent sitting quietly in services, it is quality time. Sometimes we hold hands in the pew. We both feel happy to be there. We both enjoy the routine and rhythm of the morning.
- **Tasty Kiddush lunch prepared by someone else.** As the cook in my house, I appreciate each meal I don't have to prepare myself. And there are always excellent desserts!
- **Social time getting to know my community.** It is always enjoyable to see whomever happens to be attending services that week and to have some social time.

I was out of town and missed services a couple of weekends this fall. Each time I was away, I missed our quiet service where I am able to pause, pray, and reflect. At a time when our world offers constant distraction, I encourage you to join our community and focus on what is important. I hope to see you soon on a Shabbat morning.

L'shalom, Amy Hyett



Committees

Ritual Committee

I am pleased to report that the Board of Directors voted to accept the committee's recommendation to replace our current worn copies of *Siddur Sim Shalom* with the contemporary *Siddur Lev Shalem*. Ritual Committee member Richard David Grossman made a generous donation to cover most of the books in our initial purchase. In order to have enough copies on hand next spring for bnei mitzvah celebrations, we will need congregants to augment that purchase by buying and donating more copies.

Please consider buying one or more siddurim! Donated copies may be designated with a bookplate inscribed in honor or in memory of a loved one. Dedicated siddurim are a wonderful way to celebrate an anniversary or birthday, a retirement, or simply to acknowledge or thank someone. You can donate money to the Prayerbook Fund and compose a bookplate inscription.

The Ritual Committee encourages all congregants to attend services and other events during Rabba Kaya Stern-Kaufman's visit the weekend of December 13-15. There will be multiple opportunities to observe and interact with the candidate. One of these will be the community-wide Pre-Hanukkah celebration, at 11:00 Sunday morning, December 15. Hebrew School will be dismissed early so that students and their families can attend. It is a wonderful opportunity to meet families and kvell in the participation and enthusiasm of our younger generation! There will be latkes to eat, dreidels to spin, songs to sing and ample time to schmooze with one another and with Rabba Kaya.

As the days grow shorter and the cold and darkness more enveloping, may the warmth and companionship of family and friends sustain you. The solstice will be here soon and with it,

Hanukkah. May the glowing lights of our menorahs remind us of the miracles that took place in days of old and those that we can help to bring about in the present and the future.

B'Shalom,

Deborah Hirsch Mayer, VP Ritual

Education Committee

The Education Committee has been hard at work on some exciting initiatives that we feel strongly will provide enhanced experiences to our youth and families. The Education Committee has interviewed two UNH students and is moving ahead to hire them to lead our reignited USY program. These two advisors bring a lot of energy and experience, as both were very involved in their local temple USY groups and served in positions with NERUSY (New England Region USY).

Please look for upcoming communication about the first USY event, scheduled for Sunday, December 8, at 11:30 a.m. for parents, and 12:00 p.m. for teens (7th—12 graders). This will be a time to meet the advisors, ask questions, and brainstorm program ideas. It will also provide a great opportunity to see some old friends and make some new ones.

Participation in the USY program is a wonderful way to meet and socialize with Jewish teens in our area and from all over the New England Region. We hope to see you and your teens there.

L'shalom,

Seth Wizwer, VP Education

Bulletin Board

Temple
Israel

Candle Lighting

December	6	3:50 p.m.
December	13	3:50 p.m.
December	20	3:52 p.m.
December	27	3:56 p.m.



Service Times

Tuesday afternoon	5:30 p.m.
Friday night	6:15 p.m.
* First & Third Fridays	7:15 p.m.
Saturday morning	9:30 a.m.
followed by kiddush luncheon	

Welcome to new members

- ♦ Marc Sorel of Portsmouth
- ♦ Brandon and Norma Boyd and their children Faith and Zahara of Lee.

Condolences to Marc Grossman and his family on the passing of his mother, Francine Grossman, grandmother to Matthew and Jordana.

Condolences to Sam Berg and his family on the passing of Nancy Berg, Sam's mother and Sydney and Seth's Bubbe.

Condolences to Stuart Scharff on the passing of his father, Monroe B. ("Monty") Scharff.

A photograph of a dining room with a table set for a meal, featuring a large floral centerpiece and the Atlantic Grill logo.

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Hebrew School

Shalom everyone and happy December, which coincides this year with the Hebrew months of Kislev and Tevet!

Hanukkah, which starts on the 25th of Kislev (December 22, at sundown), won't even have started before we adjourn for vacation. Nevertheless, we'll have a jam-packed last three weeks of fall.

Here are some highlights from November:

- On Sunday, November 3, the second grade practiced **Hachnasat Orchim**, the Jewish value of *Welcoming Guests*, and now we have a new second grader!
- **The Teachers' Turn to Learn:** On November 11 and 12, we attended the **Hebrew College Conference for Jewish Educators**. Workshops ranged from "*The Elements Needed for Flourishing in the Classroom: Space, Play, Imagination, Inner Life, Text,*" to "*Israel Everyday- How to teach about Israel,*" to "*Blossoming into Jewish Adulthood: Preparing Students of All Abilities for Bnei Mitzvah,*" and so much more.
- On Wednesday, November 13, **Natalee Wizwer**, one of our older *madrichot*, used "*Kahoot,*" a fun, interactive electronic quiz game, with the seventh graders. There was a happy buzz as they were leaving the classroom. *Kol hakavod*, Natalee! I heard it was quite a success!

Sunday, November 17, was a busy day:

- The fifth grade enjoyed **Breakfast with Rabbi Ira**, having planned their own menu and having learned about Kashrut while doing so.
- **Baking challah with Laura Sher:** The third graders baked challah and took home their delicious-smelling loaves, while the sixth

graders made the dough from scratch and shaped and baked their **challot** the next Wednesday.



- On Sunday, November 24, grades K, one, and two enjoyed **Sefer B'Sakeet**, library program, with Margie Fisher.

Coming up this month:

- A visit by staff from **Camp Pembroke, a Jewish girls' camp**, on Wednesday, December 4.
- A second visit by **Avia, our Israeli shlichah**, on Sunday, December 8.
- **Rabbi candidate visit on Sunday, December 15: Rabba Kaya Stern-Kaufman** will be leading services. She will meet with parents and then visit some of the classes.
- **Community Pre-Hanukkah Celebration – latkes by the Brotherhood, dreidel games, Hanukkah songs, and another chance to spend time with Rabba Kaya.**

As usual, please feel free to call me at 603-969-2984 or email me at egt9@aol.com with any questions, feedback, or ideas.

L'shalom,

Elia Tackeff, Head of School

Early Learning Center

Temple
Israel



Tammy Labonté
Director, ELC

Shalom,

The children in the ELC have been finding ways to practice the Jewish value of *G'milut Chasadim*, or Acts of Loving-Kindness. In Pirke Avot 1:2 we learn: "The world stands on three things: Torah, worship, and acts of loving-kindness." These acts include honoring your parents,

doing deeds of kindness, making peace, caring for the needy, visiting the sick, and comforting others. For the ELC students, kindness is practiced by meeting ordinary obligations and helping one another willingly and with care.

Some of the ways Elia and I have observed their acts of loving kindness are shown in the following photographs.



Above: Tending to the sick by playing doctor with our "babies" in the classroom. Below: Welcoming our guest Cacia from the Sonatina Center – music fun through listening and following directions.



L'shalom,

Tammy Labonté



Above: Playing together with inclusivity and kindness. Below: Collecting food for a needy family.



Note to educators: The Early Learning Center is looking for substitute teachers. If you have an Early Childhood or Elementary Education background and would be interested in substituting in the ELC, please contact Tammy Labonté via email at preschool.director@templeisraelnh.org or call 603-380-5589.



Rabbi Search



Rabba Kaya Stern-Kaufman recently served as the Interim Rabbi of the Rutland Jewish Center, an independent synagogue in Vermont where she brought innovation and sparked revitalization of the community. She is the founder of Rimon: Resource Center for Jewish Spirituality, where she served as Executive Director and Spiritual Leader from 2012–2016. In 2015, she was recognized by The Forward as one of “America’s Most Inspiring Rabbis.”

As a sought-after educator, Rabba Kaya has taught all ages at synagogues throughout the Northeast, Simon’s Rock College of Bard, Isabella Freedman Retreat Center, Limmud UK and Limmud Boston. Her central focus is to reclaim ancient Jewish wisdom for contemporary and practical application. Toward that goal, she is seeking a pulpit in a diverse and engaged Jewish community that is committed to honoring traditional observance while welcoming innovation that responds to contemporary needs. She is dedicated to interfaith work and is a creative designer of interfaith experiences and events throughout the Northeast.

Inspired by her grandfather, himself a seventh-

generation rabbi, Rabba Kaya enrolled as a fifth grader in a modern Orthodox yeshiva in New York. She completed her undergraduate studies at Frisch Yeshiva High School and committed herself to Orthodox religious practice. Personal religious inquiry carried her into a period of spiritual exploration, during which she experienced a wide range of Jewish practice, including Conservative, Modern Orthodox, Reform and Renewal. Valuing diverse perspectives, she chose to study at a pluralistic rabbinical school, the Academy for Jewish Religion, and was ordained. Rabba Kaya also holds a BA in Psychology and a Masters in Social Work from New York University. Her background as a Clinical Social Worker / Psychotherapist and professional Feng Shui Consultant inform her work in building and revitalizing sacred communities. She is a Fellow of CLAL’s Rabbis Without Borders and a graduate of the Clergy Leadership Program of the Institute for Jewish Spirituality.

Rabba Kaya’s poetry and writings have appeared in the following Jewish books:

- *Studies in Judaism and Pluralism*, Ben Yehudah Press
- *Earth Etudes for Elul: Spiritual Reflections for the Season*, Strong Voices Publishing
- *The Promise of the Land: A Passover Haggadah*, Behrman House

Video Links:

- Rutland Herald, [Talking Pictures: Rabba Kaya Stern-Kaufman](#)
- Humor/personality, “[Cruisin](#)”

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Rabbi Search

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Israel

Continued from page 8

Rabba Kaya's *Divrei Torah* on the [Rimon Face-book Page](#)

Press links:

- Academy for Jewish Religion, [Rabbi Kaya Stern-Kaufman](#)
- The Jewish Advocate, [Article on Rabba Kaya](#)
- Rutland Herald, [Mourners Gather for Interfaith Vigil after PA synagogue shooting](#)
- Rutland Herald, [Harvest Festival](#)
- Berkshire Jewish Voice, [Article on Rabba Kaya](#)
- Rutland Herald, [Change comes with new rabbi](#)
- The Forward, [What's in a Name? Choosing Rabba over Rav...](#)
- MA Jewish Ledger, [Rabba Kaya Stern-Kaufman brings compassion, creativity...](#)
- The Forward, [America's Most Inspiring Rabbis 2015](#)

Clickable links to all above content may be found in the November 13 email titled "Rabba Kaya Stern-Kaufman," archived on the Temple Israel website page "This Week at TIP."

First Night Portsmouth Concerts

On Tuesday, December 31, in the Social Hall, the family-friendly concerts begin at 6:30 p.m.

Randy Armstrong and Genevieve Aichele present "World Tales: Stories and Music from Around the World." Members are always welcome to volunteer for this special event—please contact Ken Kowalchek, kowalchekcc@yahoo.com.

Weekend Schedule of Events with Rabba Kaya Stern-Kaufman

Friday

1:00 p.m.: Meet the Preschool Parents (Preschool)

7:15 p.m.: Kabbalat Shabbat Services (Sanctuary), followed by a special Oneg

Saturday:

9:30 a.m.: Shabbat Services (Sanctuary), followed by special Kiddush Luncheon

1:30 p.m.: Educational Discussion (all are invited) (Shmooze or Social Hall)

Sunday:

9:15 a.m.: Hebrew School Service (Sanctuary)

9:45 a.m.: Hebrew School Parents / Congregants Chat (Sanctuary)

11:00 a.m.: Pre-Hanukkah Celebration (Social Hall)



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Yahrzeits

December Yahrzeits

1. Jacklyn Simchik, Renee Goodman, Abraham Fisher, Frances Anderson
2. Donald Albert, Dorothy Feitelson, Benjamin Gold, Naomi Bluestone, Eileen Platania, Bessie W. Young
3. Abraham Hooz, Benjamin Fineberg, Gussie Flescher, Julius Weiner
4. Lewis Hooz, Lawrence Salden
5. Alex Belostock, Milton Weiner, Baurcard Nesin, Fannie Krasnow, Richard Rowe
6. Harry Liberson, Barnett H. Book
7. Max Resnick, Mildred Golden, Marie Muller, Phyllis Wagner Brill, Pierette Zinck
8. Robert Goodman, Annie Tober, Faye Shear, Edward Seperson, Lawrence Felsenberg, Edward Wheeler, Audrey Bierhans
9. Marion Neyer, Lillian Smith
10. Esther Sharansky, Ruth E. Fain, Sylvia Shoer
11. Melvin Partoll, Samuel Levy, Jeanne Slass, Arthur Senter, Mildred Lane
12. Arno Fleisher, Jennie Shoer, Rabbi David Senter, Newton B. Cohn
13. Rachel Kushious, Cyril Ball, A. Harold Seidner
14. Harry Yoken, Joseph P. Giffen, Faye Gerstein
15. Harry Cantor, Sarah Zirpolo
16. Jacob Heller, Mary McCrensky, Morris Levy, Statia Nesin, Sidney Zeff
17. George Gelman, Joseph Partoll, Harold Berit, Arnold M. Baer

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18. John Alexander, Morris Isacoff
19. Aaron Finkelstein, Harry Gross, Herman Spaian, Jacob Mason, Gerald Sher, Davida Gelfman, Selma J. Nasberg
20. Samuel Levine, Morris Zack, Allen Koiles, Rabbi Louis Finkelstein, Deborah Most, Bruce Smith
21. Pauline Lisagor, Jacob Goldstein
22. Joseph Sack, Nedra Loeb, Charlotte Olken, Rita Peters, Gert Sternberg, Robert Blumenberg
23. Bess Rammer, Samuel Lederman, Richard Grace, Rose Cohen, James Green
24. Sarah Avergun, Bella Linden, Robert Goren, Abraham Mittelman, Arnold J. Ashline
25. Anna Glaser, Sam Goldstein, Rose Glick, Rabbi Aaron Ilson, Jean LaFargue
26. Eli Borwick, Lillian Lorde, Florence Slater, Bernard Levitz, Catherine Most, Milton Brody, Jacob H. Cohen
27. Bernice Gordan, Rabbi Morris Shoulson, Shirley Richman
28. (no observances)
29. Vernon Byus, Jr., Lee Fruman, Eva Gordon Baer, Minnie Cooper
30. Daniel Cline, Etta Winick, Ralph Noveletsky, Bernard Fine, Edward Samson
31. Henry Willar, Charles Trott, Hans Hirsch

When you are observing a family member's *yahrzeit*, you are welcome to say kaddish at Shabbat services Friday night or Saturday morning, at Tuesday minyan (5:30 p.m.), and when Hebrew School is in session, on Wednesday afternoon at 4:00 p.m., or Sunday morning at 10:00 a.m.

CULTURAL ENDOWMENT FUND

Jewel Davis in memory of her father, Bernie Davis.
Bernice Richman in memory of her father, Abraham
H. Richman. Faye Goldberg & Jeff Miller.

DUES ABATEMENT FUND

Rabbi Haskell Bernat in memory of his father,
Solomon Bernat.

HEBREW SCHOOL FUND

Meryl Seidner Wein in memory of her mother,
Florence T. Seidner. Barry & Claire Siegel in
memory of Barry's father, Abraham Siegel.

INSTITUTIONAL OPERATING ENDOWMENT FUND

Stuart & Paula Boxer in memory of Frieda Boxer.
Rita Benjamin in memory of her mother, Sarah
Emmer, and grandfather, Samuel Berin. Nancy &
Andy Jaffe in memory of Nancy's mother, Ruth
Morris. Michael Blackman & Molly Samson in
memory of Anne & Herman Blackman and Edward
& Helen Samson.

KIDDUSH FUND

The Baer family in memory of Fran Paradise.

PRAYERBOOK FUND

Richard David Grossman.

PRESCHOOL FUND

Cynthia Freedman in memory of Alice Sussman and
in memory of Ron Sussman. Veta Stone in memory
of Alice Berit. Cynthia Freedman & Marcia Blacker
in memory of their mother, Rebecca Freedman.

RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

Mike Steinberg in memory of his mother, Rosilyn
Steinberg. Al & Adina Linden in memory of Fred
Linden, Al's brother.

TZEDAKAH FUND

Stan & Rita Robbins in memory of David Goldstein.
Agnes Cabot in memory of her aunt, Emma Frankl.
Jack & Lisa Ohayon in memory of Lisa's mother,
Renée Goodman.

Annual Appeal Progress Report

The Annual Fund is off to a great start, but it's not
too late to make your gift. We welcome donations
at all levels. Please visit templeisraelnh.org/donate
for more information.

Rabbi's Circle

Silver: Fran Berman

Bronze: Richard & Jane LeSavoy, Peter & Jennie
Dinnerman, Brenda Johnston, Irene (Renee) Levy
in memory of Robert Levy, Leslie & Matthew
Allen, Michael & Glicka Kaplan, Roger & Susan
Epstein, Dana & Shaula Levenson, Stuart & Donna
Levenson

Friends: Doug Tilton in memory of Susan Goldin,
Ken & Linda Cohen, Iris Estabrook, Bob & Judi
Weisner, Gail & Steve Goldberg, Amy & John
Lester, Eleanor & Carl Packer in memory of Helen
& Samuel Levy, Laura & Michael Rubin, Steve
Sacks & Pam Battin-Sacks, Henri & Marilyn
Quintal, Selma Freedman "In memory of my
husband Robby Freedman," Jay and Izzy
Lieberman, Bert & Deborah Freedman in memory
of Bert's father, Robert Freedman, at time of
Yahrzeit, Beth & David Salzman, Ellen & William
McQueeney

Thanks also to: Laura Spelke, Claire & Barry
Siegel, Julie Serrano, Eric Weinrieb & Rachel
Hopkins, Burt Wolf in memory of Abraham &
Sarah Shapiro and Mollie Wolf, Ellen Arnold in
memory of Bertram Lefkowich

Correction to the November issue. The following
contributors should have been listed as "Friends:"
Polly Slavet, Marvin & Norma Lesser, Sharon
Bottner & Rich Naimark. **Thank you all!**



In Our Community

Peace Garden in Somersworth Honors Wilhelmina Wiegman

By Helen Hanan

Wilhelmina Wiegman, who passed away last March at the age of 91, has been recognized as one of the Righteous, people who were not themselves Jews, but who helped rescue and smuggle Jews to safety, often at the risk of their own lives. Wilhelmina grew up in Nazi-occupied Holland during WWII. Her family sheltered the Jewish family Georg and Edith Froelich and their young daughter, Sabine, from the summer of 1944 until the war ended in 1945.

Members of the two families kept in touch after re-settling in America, and this summer arranged with the Catholic Church of Saint Ignatius of Loyola Parish in Somersworth to create a Garden of Peace in Wilhelmina's honor. Descendants of both families came the day before erev Rosh Hashanah to plant 1200 bulbs imported from the Netherlands.

Mel Prostkoff, representing Temple Israel, spoke at the event, which was attended by over 100 people, including other Temple Israel congregants. Next spring, we can drive past the church on High Street to enjoy the beautiful garden, be reminded of good people like Wilhelmina, and give thanks.



Community members gathered to hear the new shlichah, Avia Sagron, speak about the culture of Israel.

USCJ's "20/20 Judaism" convention — Coming to Boston this Year!

The congregation is specially invited to attend the United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism's upcoming convention, which will meet in Boston, December 6 -10. TIP member Jeff Salloway, Chair-elect of the Northeast District, has arranged for Temple Israel members to participate as volunteers.

For more information, please contact Jeff at: jc.salloway@unh.edu.

Additional links to register for the convention (and reserve a free concert ticket!) may also be found in the email archive on the Temple Israel website, "This Week at TIP" tab, email dated November 25.



Photos, left: church pastor Rev. Andrew K. Nelson, STL., and Melvin Prostkoff.

Right: Members of Wilhelmina's family and parish congregants plant bulbs in the Peace Garden.

Library

Temple
Israel

Hello, Library Lovers!

I would like to introduce myself to new members and new library users. I am the Temple Israel librarian, working a couple hours a week to maintain our growing collection and library space with help from library volunteers. You can usually find me on Sunday morning when religious school is in session, but please feel free to reach out via email during the week.

Books are available for check-out by all temple members, but the library space is available to non-members as well. Anyone is welcome to use the workstations, books, and periodicals in-house during main office hours.

The library utilizes an old-fashioned card system and is self-service. To check out a book, write your name on the card in the back pocket and leave it in the card receptacle on the main desk. You may keep the item for four weeks or call/email to renew! When you're done with it, put it in the book return bin inside the library door.

We are overwhelmed with the support from community members! Thank you very much for thinking of the library when looking for a new home for Jewish books you have finished. We are generally happy to consider current and in like-new condition books for the collection or library book sale. With a backlog of these book donations, however, we are currently unable to accommodate any additional contributions.

While we work through the hundreds of books already in process, please consider a monetary donation to the library fund as an alternative to support the temple library. A meaningful and impactful option for year-end donations as well!

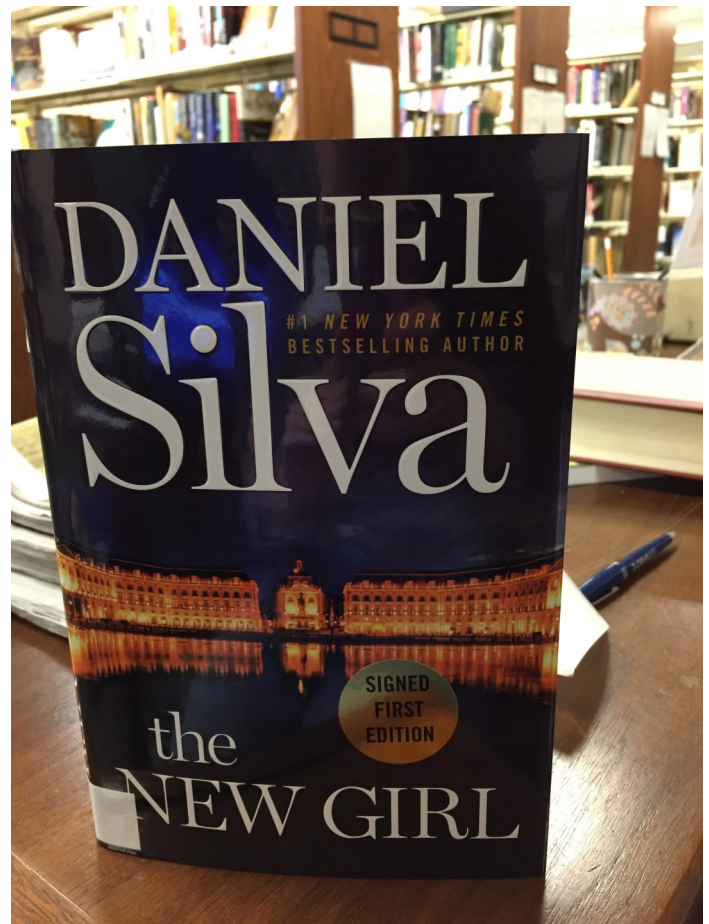
I'm so happy to be a part of supporting Jewish life in the Seacoast community with all of you. Please be in touch with any questions.

L'shalom,

Sara Arnold Warner

Nancy Mae Shaines Memorial Library

librarian@templeisraelnh.org



New this month: Daniel Silva's *the New Girl*



Annual Fund Update

It's Not Too Late to Make History— Donate to our First-Ever Annual Fund by Year's End

Fran Berman, Development Chair

As we begin the month of December, Temple Israel's **first-ever** Annual Fund Campaign is about two-thirds of the way toward its goal of \$65,000. Thank you to the many donors who have helped raise \$41,000 so far! With your generous support, we hope to meet our goal before December 31!

This year's Annual Fund will pay for the installation of our beautiful, new tiles in the Court Street entrance, a state-of-the-art audio-video system in the Levenson Social Hall and the Board Room, and new landscaping along the southeastern corner of our property to beautify and enhance safety and security. This will feature a granite wall, widened path, and stairs to the playground.

We need *your* help to reach our goal! Donations are gladly accepted at all levels. You can become a "Friend" with a gift of \$180 or more, or join the Rabbi's Circle with a leadership gift of \$1,000 or more.

Be sure to send a check to Temple Israel, 200 State Street, Portsmouth, NH 03801 or donate online at www.templeisraelnh.org/donate before December 31!

Thank you for supporting Temple Israel and keeping our historic synagogue a thriving, vibrant Jewish center for prayer, study, and celebration on the Seacoast. Keep an eye out for upcoming announcements of special donor appreciation events we'll be hosting his spring to celebrate you and your donation.

**Temple Israel
Annual Fund Campaign**

**OUR CAMPAIGN'S
AT 65%**

**Together we'll reach
100% before year's end!**

Goal: \$65,000

Please Donate Today!
<http://www.templeisraelnh.org/donate/>

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FINDING YOUR FAMILY: FROM BEGINNING TO ADVANCED JEWISH GENEALOGY

A presentation on Jewish Genealogy will be given by Dr. Fred Feldman at Temple Israel on Sunday, January 5, 2020 from 2 to 4 pm. Dr. Feldman and his family immigrated to the United States as Holocaust survivors and arrived in N.Y. in 1949. He has been documenting his family history and genealogy for over 50 years.

The presentation will cover getting started recording your personal genealogy / family history, how to construct your family tree, the choices available on recording and storing it, as well as choices on using computer software packages. Options and benefits will be discussed for using internet resources such as Ancestry.com, Geni.com, or the Mormon (LDS) Family History Library. Examples of data and family trees obtained, both from the U.S. and Europe will be shown and, given time, integration of packages with digital and photographic media.



After the question and answer session, Dr. Feldman is also offering to digitally scan photographs of historical family value for attendees who bring them. Preferred photo size is 4 x 6 inches or smaller.

After scanning, the

photographs will be returned to the owners immediately. The computer file of the scans can be copied onto a USB thumb drive, which participants should bring. (Staples is a good source; thumb drives can be purchased for \$14 or less.)

The scans on the thumb drives can then be used for

loading to personal computers, printing in various sizes and formats, and/or emailing.

To sign up for the workshop, please contact the office. Those interested in having photos scanned are requested to email fredfeldman@comcast.net.

Many thanks to the Cultural Endowment Fund which graciously supports this workshop and other events developed by the Art Review Team for 2019 - 2020.

Art Review Team Update

The Art Review Team thanks all of the participants in our fall exhibit, "Land, Sea and Sky."

Photographers included Paula Singer, Fred Feldman, Dr. Tovy Kamine, Courtney Kapral, and Elian Tackeff. Artists were Julie Serrano, Charlie West, Karen West, Josh Moreinis, and Susan Overby West. Also showing were quilter Michele O'Neil Kincade and John Hatch (on loan from Pat Moreinis Dodge). Fellow congregants and visitors enjoyed the variety of work in the Shmooze and Social Hall, commenting on the talent of fellow members and friends.

Our next exhibit, with reception on Sunday, January 5, 2020, at 1:00 p.m., is called "The Work of our Hands." It emphasizes how artists use their craft to bring awareness to protecting the environment, including re-purposing materials in creative ways. Contributors include Suzanne Petty, artist and tapestry maker, Berri Kaplan, with collage and Japanese fabric tapestry, and quilter Heather Tomlinson. (Others will be considered until 12/13).

In addition, we are anticipating capsule exhibits from Israel's Beit Hatfutsot Museum, "Hanukkah" and "Jewish Weddings," to coincide with the Jewish Genealogy Workshop on January 5, 2020.

Deborah Levine, Exhibit Coordinator

Adult Bar/Bat Mitzvah Class

- Have you ever wanted to learn the skill of “Leyning” (reading from the Torah) and chanting the Haftarah?
- Did you never have a Bar/Bat Mitzvah at the age of 12 or 13?
- Would you like to acquire a respected skill of Jewish literacy?

If you answered "yes" to any of these questions, then join the Adult Bar/Bat Mitzvah class.

Rabbi Korinow will begin this class on Thursday evening, December 12th, at 7:00 p.m. in the Board Room on the second floor.

The goal of this class will be to have a shared Bar/Bat Mitzvah at Temple Israel (date to be determined).

Ability to mechanically read (but not necessarily understand) Hebrew is required.

Please RSVP to the office at 603-436-5301, ext. 10, or via email, templeoffice@templeisraelnh.org to enroll.

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Temple Israel

200 State Street
Portsmouth, NH 03801
603-436-5301

OFFICE HOURS

Mon., Tues., Thurs., Fri.

8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Weds: 11:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.



Proud member of USCJ

The Ritual Committee is busy planning Hanukkah events!

Candle lighting will take place every night at the synagogue.

Congregants are encouraged to bring their menorahs and light their candles in community. Details will be emailed as plans are solidified.

On the first night of Hanukkah, **December 22 at 5:00 p.m., we will hold our annual *Interfaith Prayer for Peace Candle Lighting*.** Clergy and congregants from area churches will join us for candle lighting, sufganiyot (jelly doughnuts), and singing. This event is widely regarded as being a very special one – so plan to be there!

On the third night of Hanukkah, **Tuesday, December 24, you are invited to bring your hanukkiah (with 4 candles) at 5:00 and join us for *candle lighting, weekly minyan and a Chinese dinner!***

On the eighth night of Hanukkah, December 29, we hope to end the holiday in a blaze of burning lights and fun. Plans are afoot for ***candle lighting (bring your hanukkiah and 9 candles), singing, and more.*** Maybe a movie, maybe stories, maybe games. If you have ideas or are willing to lend a hand, please contact Deborah Hirsch Mayer via email at hirschmayer2@gmail.com.

