



# THE SHOFAR

# שופר

## United Synagogue of Hoboken

TEVET / SHEVAT 5779

JANUARY 2019

### UPCOMING EVENTS

#### JANUARY 2019

- 6 Shalom Baby workshop for expectant parents 7:30pm
- 10 Tot Shabbat, Urban Jungle. 4pm
- 12 Bingo, Beer, Brownies & Beatles 8pm
- 13 Book Brunch, Jeffrey Dauber, Jewish Comedy, A Serious History, 10:30am
- 15 Women's Torah Study group 7:30pm
- 24 Men's Beer Mitzvah 8th Street Tavern, 800 Washington Street 6:30pm
- 26 Jackie West Jazz, USH Speakeasy 8pm

#### FEBRUARY 2019

- 7 Explore Judaism Course begins 8pm
- 9 Learning Center 1<sup>st</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> grade sleepover
- 10 Book Brunch, Mike Reiss, longtime writer for "The Simpsons" and author of Springfield Confidential 10:30am
- 10 Tot Shabbat, Urban Jungle. 4pm

Friday night services 7pm

Saturday morning services 9:30am

See [www.hobokensynagogue.org](http://www.hobokensynagogue.org) & USH Facebook page for more info on these and other upcoming events!

## TREES AND THE MESSIAH

IN HONOR OF TU BISHVAT JAN 21, 2019

BY RABBI ROBERT SCHEINBERG



The Talmud is full of all sorts of questions and answers, some of which are of day-to-

day practical value; for example: what's the most appropriate way to give *tzedakah* (charity) to the needy? Under what circumstances is it justified to kill in self-defense? How do we best make Shabbat

into sacred and special time?

**And there are** some questions and answers for which we need to use a little more imagination in order to see their practical value. For example: what should you do if someone tells you that the Mashiach, the Messiah, has arrived to usher in a perfect world, but at the moment when you hear the news, you happen to be planting a tree??

**This is not something** that happens every day, but the rabbis of the Talmud ask it anyway. There is, in fact, a discussion on this issue in the volume called *Avot de-Rabbi Natan* - one of the 'minor' tractates of the Talmud: "Rabbi Yohanan ben Zakkai said: If there was a sapling in your hand and they tell you that the Mashiach is here, first, plant the sapling - and THEN go out to greet the Messiah."

**Some say that** Rabbi Yohanan is cautioning us: if someone tells you the Messiah has arrived, don't get too excited too quickly. We've been disappointed before by people who have claimed to be the Messiah but have NOT ushered in a perfect world. (We don't need to name names.) When you hear the Messiah has arrived, finish what you're doing -- and then go investigate the claims. (According to this interpretation, Rabbi Yohanan is not really making a comment about trees, but he is making a comment about the Messiah. And if you were in the middle of, let's say, doing some repairs on your car, and someone tells you that the Messiah has come, Rabbi Yohanan would similarly recommend that you finish repairing your car before investigating the claims.)

**But the explanation** that I like best is one that is specifically tied to the Jewish holiday we celebrate during the month of January: Tu Bishvat, observed this year on Monday, January 21. Tu Bishvat is the Jewish New Year of Trees. (The fact that there is a Jewish holiday entirely about trees is revelatory in and of itself.)

**What do we mean** when we refer to the "Messiah," the Mashiach, in Judaism? Every people, every community, and certainly every religion holds

(Continued on p.2)



**THANK YOU** TO ADAM LADEN FOR PRODUCING A FANTASTIC EVENING OF STORYTELLING AT **THE SPEAKEASY AT USH**, and for telling a hilarious story about his experiences and intimate feelings while swimming outdoors in a freezing London park in winter. And thank you to M.C. and storyteller, David Plotka, Hoboken storytellers Eugene Flinn, Ron Rosenberg, Dina Rose, and Lisa Levy, and invited storytellers Vicki Eastus and Adam Wade. This was such a fun evening.



(Continued from p.1) a vision of what a perfect world would look like and hopes that that vision will someday become a reality, usually working to make it so. The “coming of the Mashiach” is our Jewish version of this universal desire. Some Jews may believe literally that one particular individual (probably male) will be the Mashiach, and others believe more metaphorically in a “Messianic era.”

**Different religions** differ in terms of how this perfect world gets achieved and when it is expected. Some say: it is God who decides when it's time for this perfect world to come into being, and the role of humanity is to wait for that blessed day. Others say: it is a human responsibility to strive towards that perfect world, and ultimately a perfect world will come into being because of things that people do, rather than because of things that GOD does.

*This Tu Bishvat, I hope we will remember the lesson of Rabbi Yohanan, bearing in mind that our concern for the environment is part of our commitment to our grandchildren, our great-grandchildren, and their descendants*

**You can imagine** that those who think that a perfect world will come at God's initiative are likely to believe that a perfect world could come all of a sudden, at any moment, without warning. This is the paradigm that characterized early Christianity, whose adherents believed that the end of the world is at hand, and this is also the paradigm of some contemporary American evangelical Christians. Conversely, those who believe that creating a perfect world is a human endeavor are more likely to feel that it will be a gradual process, something we are unlikely to see happening overnight.

**Here's the question:** if you believe that the world as we know it could end at any moment, because of the sudden and unannounced arrival of the Messiah, are you going to take the time to plant trees? Obviously, the answer is no. Tree-planting is a long-range activity, so why bother? Any moment, there's going to be a perfect world. Are you going to care about the depletion of natural resources in the world? Probably not. How concerned will you be about pollution? Probably not very concerned. The more you feel that it's in God's hands to solve all world problems, rather than in ours, the less responsibility you are likely to feel to care for the environment.

**We contrast this** with Rabbi Yohanan's teaching. If you hear the Messiah is on his way, and you're planting a tree, keep planting. First of all, doing something generous for the earth and for future generations -- like planting a tree -- is, in and of itself, a way to bring the Messiah sooner. Second, even during a Messianic era, who says we won't still need the trees?

**I don't see this** necessarily as a contrast between Judaism and Christianity. There are both Jews and Christians who have a sit-back-and-wait perspective regarding the Messiah, who are therefore not inclined to be environmental activists. There are also Jews and Christians -- even some Evangelical Christians -- who say that at least some of the responsibility of perfecting the world lies with us here on earth. They would be inclined to agree with Rabbi Yohanan that the best thing you could do in such a circumstance is to plant and prepare for the future. This Tu Bishvat, I hope we will remember the lesson of Rabbi Yohanan, bearing in mind that our concern for the environment is part of our commitment to our grandchildren, our great-grandchildren, and their descendants. ☆



PRESIDENT'S REPORT

BY David Swirnoff



THANK YOU, LAURA

My articles tend to cover fairly standard subjects: please give your time (and give generously), please help us identify things you'd like us to do (or try to do better), and please give money (and give generously), but I want to take this opportunity to say thank you to someone who has been a part of this community for almost two decades.

Last month, Laura Forino, our Office Administrator, left USH as she and her husband decided to move out of state. She and her family (through her daughter) have been a part of this community and this organization longer than some members. The Rabbi and I had a chance to sit and speak privately with Laura just a couple of days prior to her leaving and it was a moving conversation. She told us that she could remember getting no sleep at all the night before her first day of work. And she was the first person to talk to the notion of having seen children grow up to young adults in the time she's been working in the office and how meaningful that was to her.

As much as we tend to categorize people - human nature, after all - as members or staff or parents or children, we should never lose sight of the fact that we are all part of this community, regardless of how we primarily interact with each other.

I'd already shared with Laura, on behalf of the staff, the parents, children, USH members and members of the Board, that her time in our community was a gift. She brought a sense of humor and a positive attitude and smile to our days, and USH, KPS and the Learning Center operated more smoothly because of the work she did.

Thank you, Laura. And thank you to the rest of the USH staff, as well.

Shalom, David Swirnoff





**Fun Club**, a thrice monthly evening of learning, eating and developing community for local refugees, is still in need of drivers from participants' homes to the Jersey City LDS Church and back. If you have a car and can drive on any of the Thursday nights in the coming month, Welcome Home, sponsor of Fun Club, would be so grateful. You can also sign up as a volunteer for any of the other roles and/or to donate money for dinner. Here is the link:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0548a8a92ca4f58-jersey>

If you have any questions, you may contact Alain Mentha at [amentha@hotmail.com](mailto:amentha@hotmail.com)

**Refugee-chef dinner** at Dina and Todd Rose's house. January 26, 2019

Contact [Dina@dinarose.net](mailto:Dina@dinarose.net) for reservations

A two-session workshop for expectant parents:

## SHALOM BABY: Welcoming a Jewish child

Enhance your preparation for welcoming a new child into your family and the Jewish community .... Learn about values, customs, rituals and community resources available to help as the family grows.



Sunday evenings Jan 6 and Jan 13  
7:30-9pm  
led by Rabbi Rob Scheinberg  
Free for USH members;  
\$40/couple for non-members  
United Synagogue of Hoboken,  
115 Park Avenue  
RSVP: 201-659-4000 or  
[office@hobokensynagogue.org](mailto:office@hobokensynagogue.org)

## TOT SHABBAT AROUND TOWN Winter / Spring 2019

Celebrate Shabbat with songs, story time, and play.  
Share challah and meet new friends! Featuring **Tkiya's ShaJam Program!** For children 0-3 and a caregiver.

Winter/Spring 2019  
2 locations:  
**At Urban Jungle\***  
1140 Maxwell Lane  
Thursdays 4:00-4:45pm  
Open to the community, \$10/session  
Jan 10, 17, 31; Feb 7, 14, 28; Mar 7, 14, 21, 28  
Apr 4, 11; May 2, 9, 16

**At United Synagogue of Hoboken**  
115 Park Ave., Hoboken, NJ  
Fridays 9:30-10:30am  
Free and open to the community. RSVP appreciated to [kaplanprograms@gmail.com](mailto:kaplanprograms@gmail.com).

## Explore Judaism

5 Thursdays beginning 2/7. 8-9:30pm


A course designed for anyone seeking a deeper understanding of Jewish tradition, values and spirituality.

5 Thursday evenings beginning 2/7. 8-9:30pm  
United Synagogue of Hoboken,  
115 Park Ave

Sponsored by United Synagogue of Hoboken  
Instructor: Rabbi Robert Scheinberg  
Cost for the series: \$75/person; \$130/couple;  
free for USH members  
and LC/Preschool parents  
Register at [www.hobokensynagogue.org](http://www.hobokensynagogue.org)  
or [office@hobokensynagogue.org](mailto:office@hobokensynagogue.org)




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OUTFRONT

# A TRIBUTE TO RON ROSENBERG

by Jeremy Morley



**Ron Rosenberg** was at the helm of USH, as President, from 1999 to 2005, was in leadership positions at the synagogue for many more years and continues to serve the community in important ways. During his tenure the USH community was transformed.

**Ron was born** in Jerusalem. As a child he moved several times within Israel as his father, a medical doctor, was appointed to various positions. And when his father accepted a fellowship in the States, he spent a few years in high school in Ann Arbor, Michigan. Two matters shocked him right away. The first was that while on a layover in New York, his mother bought him a heavy “Eskimo-like” winter coat and it was only after stepping foot in Michigan on a freezing December day did Ron realize why she had done so. His second shock was that it felt as if the entire country – and certainly Ann Arbor, a college town – was embroiled in protest activities. He was “blown away” that everyone was voicing their opinions freely and without censure, however scandalous or strong they might be.

**After returning to Israel**, he served as a sergeant in the Israeli Air Force. He was stationed at a remote forward air base in the desert. On the morning of Yom Kippur, October 6, 1973, he was sitting alone atop a fuel tank in complete silence. He looked up and saw some planes above. He assumed that it was part of an Israeli exercise. Suddenly he realized that the planes were shooting and that he was the target. He ran for his life and he survived, although his knee was injured. The IDF suffered many casualties that day, the first day of the Yom Kippur War, and Ron lost friends, but Israel survived. At the recent USH Evening of Storytelling, Ron held the audience completely spellbound as he quietly and emotionally told the harrowing story of what happened that day, and how it has lived within him for every day since.

**Once his military service** was over, and still only 21 years old, Ron moved to the United States. He had fallen in love with the complete freedom that he had experienced in high school here, whereas in Israel he had become upset about what he perceived as “the religious oppression by the religious establishment.” He explains that, “I didn’t want to be controlled by them. They control who is and who is not a Jew. They control who is allowed to marry. They tell you what you can and can’t eat. In fact, just a few weeks ago a winery in Israel was shut down because the religious establishment decided that the Ethiopian Jews who work there are not real Jews and therefore the wine isn’t kosher. I love Israel. I go there all the time. But I loved being in America. There was so much more freedom.”

**Ron went to school** at NYU, ultimately being awarded an MBA in corporate strategy and finance. He moved to Hoboken in 1982 and has lived here ever since.

**As an Israeli in** the United States who was not an orthodox Jew, Ron felt extremely out of place in any religious Jewish environment, and yet he wanted to find a way to connect as a Jew in this country. He explains that, “In Israel, being Jewish is in the air. You know when it’s Shabbat and you know when it’s Shavuot, because everything changes for those special holidays. But in the States, we Jews are a minority. To be a Jew here you need to belong to a Jewish entity, to play some role in the American Jewish experience.” So Ron went on looking for a “landing spot” so long as it was outside the orthodox structure. He had not had any exposure to Conservative or Reform Judaism because they did not really exist in Israel when he lived there.

**Ron’s younger brother**, Ami, had grown up primarily in the States. He had been exposed to Conservative Jewish life as a youngster and never had the culture shock that Ron was experiencing. Ami also lived in Hoboken, was a USH member and indeed was USH president at one time. Ami “dragged” Ron to the synagogue, but Ron explains that “when I first stepped into the synagogue, I felt like a stranger in a strange land, and I couldn’t run away fast enough.” Yet he continued to attend and he began to see that there were many members who were not “ritualistic” but who, like Ron, felt that it was important to belong to a Jewish organization and they made him feel comfortable. He joined USH in about 1990.

**Over time**, Ron got involved in some synagogue issues. His daughter, Leora, was a toddler when he first joined the shul, and so he quickly focused on Jewish education. The first committee that he joined made a strong effort to create a preschool. Ron teamed up with others, especially Rob Harari, and they worked hard. Their initial efforts did not succeed at the time but their ideas ultimately morphed into the Kaplan preschool.

**As time went by**, Ron took an increasing role in the synagogue. Ron explained that, “You have to understand that the synagogue was very different then. There was a huge rotation of membership. Just about the only real qualification to be an officer was to be alive.”

**It was unusual** at that time to find an Israeli in a leadership position in a Conservative Jewish organization. He told me, “By their very nature Israelis bring a totally different vision and dynamic. So I brought that, as well as my training in strategy and finance, to the synagogue.” He believed that the synagogue should be far more than a religious institution, since Jewish life has many different manifestations, such as cultural, community and social, as well as religious. He contended that, “we needed to build a highway with many different ramps, like a mini-Jewish Community Center without a swimming pool. And we did it.”





**Under Ron's leadership**, USH was consolidated into one building. As Treasurer, enough money was raised to build the Kaplan building. As President, the physical work was completed, and the board was then able to focus on infusing the building with energy. The preschool was opened. USH achieved financial sustainability. The number of employees increased from 1½ to 29. The budget increased during Ron's tenure from \$130,000 to about \$1.3 million.

**Following the tagline** of a famous TV commercial that, "It Aint Just Paint," USH launched all kinds of programs, bringing in musicians and singers for concerts, showing movies, organizing talks on all kinds of topics and offering many other activities. Ron loves to see the USH building full of people and gets so much satisfaction when he hears the buzz and feels the energy. He says, "It's working very much as I envisioned it. I am just so proud of what we accomplished."

**Fortunately** for our community, Ron is not only an elder statesman at USH but also is in charge of security and technology. Recent shocking events in Pittsburgh and elsewhere have propelled security issues to the forefront of our concerns and with great energy and resolve Ron is overhauling and expanding our security procedures in a major way.

**I asked Ron** to look back at his work at USH. He says, "I found my place as a Jew. It was a transformative experience for me. And I'm delighted that we, as Jews in Hoboken, are being recognized as an important part of the fabric of the community. I think it's so important because Hoboken is now such a diverse town, but it wasn't always that way. The synagogue is older than some of the churches, and we've made a large contribution over the years which wasn't always recognized, but now people in Hoboken know and acknowledge that we're here. Indeed, our rebirth has infused several other Jewish activities in Hudson County."



Ron and Leora

**Ron's daughter**, Leora, is very integrated in the synagogue life. She taught at the Learning Center for many years. With justified pride, Ron tells me that as Leora walks around town she constantly sees her former students, who tell her how much they loved her classes. Ron tells me that, "Leora grew up in Hoboken in a house where we were, and are, very attached to our Jewish and our Israeli roots. Leora speaks Hebrew to me and her mother and people in Israel who hear her speak are amazed that she grew up here, not there." Just like her daddy, Leora attended NYU. Her minor was in Jewish studies.

**Ron is a very committed** Hobokener. He is always interested in ethics and sees politics as a way to serve the public through clean government. He served on the School Board and during his tenure he spearheaded the passing of a Pay-to-Play ban which then became the model for the state-wide law affecting all public schools in New Jersey.

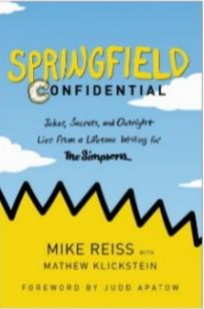
**USH has been** tremendously fortunate to have had Ron at its helm for so many years. His accomplishments are innumerable. Hats off to you Ron! You played such a major role in the progress and growth of the synagogue! And while you have been looking back, I encourage you now to look forward again. We need your great energy, enthusiasm, vision and involvement on a continuing basis as head of the Security Committee but also as in so many other ways.



Ami, Ron & their father

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In celebration of The Simpsons' thirtieth anniversary, the show's longest-serving writer and producer offers a humorous look at the writing and making of the legendary series that has become one of the most revered artistic achievements in television history.

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10:30 AM - 12:30 PM \$25 for nonmembers

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BINGO, BEER, BROWNIES & THE BEATLES

Saturday, January 12 at 8:00PM

That's right – Lots of your favorite things all wrapped into one fun evening at USH.

16 and older are welcome to play – we look forward to seeing many USH students who are home from college

\*\*\* Cash & Other Valuable Prizes! \*\*\*

In addition to beer and brownies, we'll be serving egg creams and snacks. Bring a friend or two and a bit of luck.

Members \$10; non-members \$15

# FAREWELL AND JOY, DEAR LAURA

For the last 18 years, if you contacted USH -- whether by phone or email or at the door of our office - the first person who greeted you was probably Laura Forino. How fortunate we have been to work with a person who so embodies the values we seek to promote in this community -- including inclusivity, empathy, hospitality, non-judgmentalism, and wisdom. In her retirement, we wish her blessings of good health and happiness and fulfillment, surrounded by the love of her family -- and always carrying the memories of the difference that she has made in our community and in the lives of so many!

**WE HAVE BEEN INUNDATED BY MESSAGES OF THANKS AND GOOD WISHES TO LAURA. HERE ARE JUST A FEW, MANY OF WHICH HAVE BEEN ABBREVIATED:**



"You will always be a treasured part of our USH family. It was always a delight when we would have to call or stop by the office knowing we'd get a warm greeting and a solution to our problem. Thank you for many years of service to our community. You are a gem! Love, the Kriegels."

"Best of luck to you and your husband, and on behalf of the entire Refugee Support Committee, thanks for all your help in keeping track of our financial transactions. You will be missed! Lisa Zablocki"

**"Laura always had a smile and happy welcome for me — no matter how crazy busy she was. She was a burst of sunshine and will be missed." Dina Rose**

"The Plotka family would like to thank you for your years of dedicated service to the USH community. Your warmth, your smile and your class will most be certainly missed. Good luck with the next stage of your journey. The Plotkas"

"Laura has been our internal anchor at USH keeping track of all the logistics that came through the office as per Casino Night. Her help and always cheerful demeanor were invaluable for the many years of successful Casino Nights. She will be very much missed, and it will certainly be a different office environment without her there. I thank her for all of her help over the years. Thanks, Gary"

**"Dear Laura, thank you for always sharing a warm greeting - and having a pen and clipboard at the ready for whatever business needed to transpire. Best wishes for lots of sunshine and happiness in Florida! The Goodman Family"**

"Appreciating Laura's contribution to USH over the past eighteen years requires knowing her job description, which is unknowable, but goes something like this: **Every time you pick up the phone, every time someone walks in the door—treat each concern/request as if it's coming from your boss. Take care of every person with efficiency and a sincere smile. And do all of this while every member of the synagogue, every pre-school parent, every learning center parent, and the entire staff is hovering around your desk—or so it often seems.** Our community has been fortunate to have Laura, the rare individual with the unique combination of skills and disposition required to succeed at this job. As USH president, I witnessed how ably Laura conveyed the warmth and accepting spirit that is the essence of USH. So, Laura, Susan and I wish you and Lou great happiness in Florida, and we hope that your new job description goes something like this: Enjoy! Enjoy! Enjoy!" Ken Schept"

**"You are one of the kindest and most upbeat people I know. Your radiant smile welcomes everyone into USH. When Joel and I moved to Hoboken 11 1/2 years ago, you instantly made us feel at home. You were the perfect face of USH. We wish your family and you only the best. Happy travels, Laura!" Razel**

"Thank you so much Laura for your friendly and cheerful smile, for your hard work for the synagogue, and for just being there for all of us. It meant so much. Beth and Ricky Mason"

"There are so many ways you have been a warm, friendly, and welcoming anchor to USH. I have always appreciated how welcome you made my Mom feel from the first time she spoke with you. I know I can speak for our Casino Night team saying how much we appreciate your consistent help with so many details over the years. We wish you health and happiness in your next chapter. Susan Chait & Family"

"It's been a pleasure working with you, and it's hard to imagine coming into the office without seeing your smile and cheery hello. Someone else may sit in the seat, but no one can take your place. You will be so missed. Best to you and Lou as you start this new chapter in your lives, as Hoboken B&R heads south! Jane K."

"She's always helped make me feel like I was always part of the USH family. Laura has always been helpful no matter what question I put to her and she always responded with a smile on her face - it came through the phone! Laura is a really wonderful person and I am so glad that I got to meet her through the synagogue. Talya Schaeffer"

**"The thought of bidding you farewell is very sad. However your memories of time together will keep you near always. Here's wishing you a happy and content life. Laura, You'll be missed!! The Malekars"**

"Laura has been a true blessing to us and USH. We will miss her tremendously and wish her and Lou all the best in Florida and look forward to her visits back to Hoboken:) It was always so wonderful to hear her voice on the phone or see her smile in person. Her calm and happy personality is contagious! Rhonda & Adam Strosberg"

"Laura was a huge help to me to get ready for Board meetings since I took over as Board Secretary over 4 years ago. I could ALWAYS count on Laura. Thanks for all your help over the years, Laura! I wish you the best in your retirement with many happy and healthy years alongside your family! Love. Rochelle"



"Not once in the last 18 years can I remember walking into the office and not receiving the Laura smile. You freely bestowed it and I accepted it like a gift. And of course, the smile was always

accompanied by engaging chit chat, or a "how can I help?" So many of us will walk into the office and, finding you no longer occupying your usual spot, remember the warmth of your smile and your sunny disposition. With love, Adam Laden"

"Laura might be one of the nicest, kindest people you will ever meet. Her continuous presence in the office was so comforting as she always had a smile on her face and she was always ready to lend a hand. Laura really loved our community and it showed in

her commitment to USH. Laura, we all thank you for your time at USH. We are all going to miss you. Enjoy Florida and don't be a stranger! Kindest regards and best wishes- The Shaw Family, Mike, Judy, Jason and Taylor"

"On behalf of the Mitzvah Day Committee I want to say a huge Thank You for everything that you've done to help make the day run smoothly! From answering the blizzard of emails from me and everyone else, to making sure that we have everything we need for all the various projects -- the success of Mitzvah Day owes so much to you! From Merry Firschein, and the rest of the Mitzvah Day Committee: Adam Berkowitz, Hope Koturo, and Melissa Sandler"

**"It was a great pleasure to have Laura working in the USH office. ALWAYS friendly and ALWAYS helpful. Not to mention there were usually some good treats on her desk that she was always happy to share! Steve Sperber**

"Sorry to hear Laura is leaving us but we wish her the best. She is always so nice and courteous on the phone and in person. A wonderful presence at the synagogue. She will be missed. Sonia Lander"

"Laura always showed amazing dedication, efficiency, optimism, dedication and resourcefulness while working for USH. She did an amazing job for us all the time, very often under difficult circumstances with way too many distractions or too much chaos. We will always appreciate what she did for us for so many years. Matt"

"Laura has helped coordinate every single aspect of the congregation, from the activities of the educational complex to the growth and beautification of the religious campus. She helped us grow from a small contingent of families to a large and actively engaged congregation. For the Harari family, she has been the anchor that facilitated so many things including the installation of the first sound system in the Shul, the creation, dedication and maintenance of the Meditation Garden, both of our children's B'nai mitzvot, every single A/V equipment delivery for the numerous events we helped to produce at USH, big and small. Laura, we will miss you tremendously. Rob Harari"

"I will miss our NYC-Hoboken phone conversations; it's always been a pleasure to speak with you. Wishing you all the best in retirement. Estelle Glasgow"

"Laura, you were my partner – my capable, willing, proactive, and upbeat partner – for so many projects over the years. Thank you. You will be missed. Louise"

## THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROUS DONATIONS

### General Fund

Daniel and Jeri Appel in honor of their baby naming Alix Biel  
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Antonio and Joanne Perrotta  
Sarah M. Klopfer in appreciation for the warm welcome she and her mother received when they attended Friday eve service

### Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

Harry Kafka and Harriet Taub

### Refugee Support Committee Fund

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### Kaplan Preschool Fund

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Emil & Sylvia Temelkov in honor of all Gan Katan USH teachers

## THANK YOU FOR SPONSORING KIDDUSH:

Dec 1: Brian Critz and Laura Siegel in honor of Julia's bat mitzvah  
Dec 8: Joel Cohen and Lauren Scheller in honor of their baby naming  
Dec 15: Charles Natt and Karen Siegel in honor of their 10th wedding anniversary  
Dec: 22 T.J. Schiffer and Nina Kanovitch  
Dec: 29 Kitty Bateman in memory of Abraham and Rachel Belsky

## CONGRATULATIONS TO:

Julia Critz on her bat mitzvah and to her parents, Brian Critz and Laura Siegel and to Julia's sister, Emily  
Joel Cohen and Lauren Scheller on their baby naming  
Charles Natt and Karen Siegel in honor of their 10th wedding anniversary  
Jeffrey Kalman and Barbara Malach Kalman on the birth of their granddaughter, Molly Ryder

## CONDOLENCES TO:

Tracy Schnabel on the loss of mother, Patricia Munson and to her husband, Martin and their son, Jacob.

## USH SCHOLARSHIP AVAILABLE FOR JEWISH CAMP EXPERIENCE FOR CHILDREN & TEENS

An anonymous USH member has generously established the USH Jewish Camp Experience Scholarship Fund to encourage synagogue youth to attend Jewish sleepaway camps and other summer experiences (such as USY on Wheels) for the summer 2019 season. All USH children and teens (preferably under the age of 14) who will be returning campers are eligible to apply for this **need-based** scholarship.

**The deadline for applying for the scholarship is February 15, 2019; awards will be announced no later than February 25, 2018.**

Jewish summer camps which are eligible for this scholarship can be found on the Foundation for Jewish Camp list: <http://jewishcamp.org/find-a-camp/>  
The application can be found at: [bit.ly/ushcampscholarship2019](http://bit.ly/ushcampscholarship2019)

If you have any questions about the scholarship, or if your child or your family meet the requirements to apply, please contact Rabbi Scheinberg at 201-659-4000.

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**Sun., Jan. 13, 2019** \$18 for members  
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