



# The Menorah

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## President's Column: Jeff Davidson Belief in God Is Not Required at TI

One of my interesting tasks as President is to recruit volunteers for various positions and jobs. Occasionally, people tell me that they are not up for the task because they are not devout or scholarly enough. There appears to be an illusion that all TI members are both devout and scholarly. Some certainly are, but others value TI for the camaraderie, the opportunities for their children and families to have a Jewish education and the ever popular TI activity of breaking bread together.

I was very sorry to miss the December TI Shabbaton because of illness. This column will explore some of the themes relating to the session about the need (or not) to believe in God in a traditional fashion to participate fully in the community.

### Kaplan's *Judaism as a Civilization*

Rabbi Seidel and I have been reading in an off-and-on fashion Rabbi Mordechai Kaplan's major work, *Judaism as a Civilization*. Rabbi Kaplan has never seemed to get the respect and attention that Rabbi Heschel has received at TI.

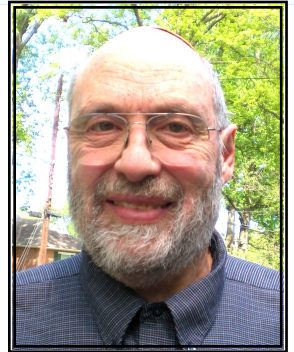
Part of this may undoubtedly be due to the fascinating stories and memories that Rabbi Abramowitz has been generous in sharing with us over the years. As politics is the local business, we are also inspired by Heschel's legacy of social activism.

Kaplan's major opus is a serious read at over five hundred pages. Kaplan teaches us: "The human mind will have to undergo considerable development before it will learn to treat its own initiative in bringing about a better world as part of the process whereby God is actualizing the world to come." Furthermore: "But even of greater importance for the reordering of Jewish life

than the study of the sacred writings, is the fostering of a mode of life that will be animated by whatever in the traditional attitude toward the Torah is of incontestable

worth." It is this

attitude of the primacy of Jewish texts that I would like to explore.



### Two Secularists' View

Another book may not be as familiar, but offers a great deal of insight to this issue. *Jews and Words* by the father-daughter team of Amos Oz and Fania Oz-Salzberger, the Israeli novelist and political activist and a professor of history, respectively. I was favorably inclined to the book because our historian daughter gave it to me as a gift.

The Ozes wrote this book from the vantage point of Israeli secularism. They are quite upfront in not believing in God; their Jewish identity is not faith-based. Yet, they believe that Jewish texts serve as their cultural and intellectual gateway into the world. Moreover, they deplore a trend in contemporary liberal Israeli life to treat references to the past, expressed through the great Jewish texts, as somehow atavistic and unnecessarily triumphalist, and to withdraw from Jewish learning.

The theme that is explicated in *Jews and Words* is that we Jews are a race dominated not by a bloodline, but by a textline. The authors' hypothesis is that

*(Continued on page 2)*



## President's Column(continued)

our heritage is not measured by blood, but rather by words. They argue for the supremacy of text in the following fashion:

...Israel's greatest songwriter-poet, Naomi Shemer, memorably snapped, 'I am no specialist in archeology, but who cares whether it happened or not? Suppose the Bible never was, but was only a fable; I think this fable is more alive than all the stones.'

We, for our part, do care, and would love to know 'whether it happened or not' if only we could. The Bible, for us, is a tricky cocktail of fact, myth, and the sort of fiction that can convey deep truths. But we heartily agree with Shemer on her fundamental point. The grandeur of ancient Israel is not a matter of cities and kings.

Material life may well have been crude, buildings rough-hewn, and clothing coarse. Solomon's splendid palace may well be a flimsy abode, a fib, or a fable. In all honesty, ancient Jewish architecture is not a major point of pride. But the texts are palatial.

Genesis, Isaiah and Proverbs are our pyramids, our Chinese Wall, our Gothic cathedrals. They stand undemolished in the flow of time. They have fed a plethora of offspring; from Mishnah to Haskalah, from medieval Sephardic poetry to Modern Hebrew literature, from Gotthold Ephraim Lessing to William Faulkner, all were able to drink from those deep wells.

### This Book Spoke to Me

It was a rare feeling, for me, to read this slender volume. The authors get me. They speak of the importance of understanding Derrida as well as Hillel and how Jewish texts permeate literature and philosophy.

Their discussion of how the heritage is transmitted to one's children echoes my family's experiences. One does not have to be secular, as the authors are, to buy into their premise of the primacy of texts in Jewish life.

This book includes a quote from the modern Israeli writer, Yizhar Smilansky, who used the pen name, Samech Yizhar. He describes the thoughtful approach secular Jews bring to the study of the tradition. I have learned much and value the learning and thought that such men and women bring to Jewish life at TI.

Secularism is not permissiveness, nor is it lawless chaos. It does not reject tradition, and it does not turn its back on culture, its impacts and its successes. Such accusations are little more than cheap demagoguery. Secularism is a different understanding of man and the world, a non-religious understanding.

Man may very well feel the need, from time to time, to search for God. The nature of that search is unimportant. There are no ready-made answers, or ready-made indulgences, pre-packaged and ready to use.

And the answers themselves are traps: give up your freedom in order to gain tranquility. God's name is tranquility. But the tranquility will dissipate and the freedom will be wasted. What then?

At TI, all are welcome regardless of the state of their beliefs. We have learned much from each other and may truly recite, *Hinei Ma Tov*.

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*Tifereth Israel is a traditional egalitarian congregation affiliated with the United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism*

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## New Members

### Jared Garelick

Last month, TI held one of its regular “New Member Shabbats,” at which new members are invited to participate and are honored. It’s always fun to come and see the *bimah* fill up as the current cohort of new members are called up, and nice to chat with them at Kiddush afterwards as well.

But being welcoming at TI doesn’t come just once a year, like National Brotherhood Week (shout out to Tom Lehrer fans). Do your part and say hello to someone new next time you’re at *shul*. You might help change TI from a place someone has just joined, to a place where they belong.

#### Reenie Wagner

Reenie, born and raised in Baltimore County, moved to the Washington area for an internship in 1996 and has lived here since.



After undergraduate studies at Bryn Mawr, Reenie worked in banking for two years, then earned an MBA from NYU in finance with a concentration in international business.

After a two-year hitch in the Peace Corps during the late 1980s, spent in the Dominican Republic, and some

international consulting projects, she changed her career focus and got another Master’s degree, from Johns Hopkins University’s Bloomberg School of Public Health in health services research.

Since 2005, Reenie has worked for the Census Bureau, where she recently switched divisions. Previously she worked in the Field Division as a Survey Statistician on the American Community Survey.

Now she is a Program Analyst in the Customer Liaison and Marketing Support Office of the Communications Division, monitoring and helping Data Dis-

semination Specialists across the country who meet with users of Census Bureau databases.

Reenie is a regular swimmer and volleyball player, and also enjoys reading, dancing and traveling. In 2012, she visited the Dominican Republic, where she had done her Peace Corps work, and found many changes, including more widespread electrification and ubiquitous cellphones.

Growing up, one of Reenie’s parents was Orthodox and one Reform, and she has found an egalitarian Conservative congregation like TI to be the right balance for her.

Welcome to Reenie and to all our new members.

### **Funeral Practices Committee** **Always On-Call**

Chaverim of the Funeral Practices Committee are on call to provide counsel and services to synagogue members and their dependents.

In the event of a death, prior to contacting the funeral home, please contact one of the following chaverim, Rabbi Seidel, or the TI office (202-882-1605).

<b>Shelly Heller</b>	h: 301-942-1836 w: 202-242-6698
<b>David (Judy) Cohen</b>	h: 301-652-2872
<b>Marcia Goldberg</b>	h: 301-589-0352
<b>Marcia Goggin</b>	h: 301-593-8480 w: 301-754-1963

## Summary of TI Board of Directors Minutes December 8, 2014

**Attending:** Susan Catler, Joel Cohen, Jeffrey Colman, Jeff Davidson, Joe Davidson, Lisa Goldberg, Wilhelmina Gottschalk, John List, Stephanie Roodman Murdock, Ray Natter, Cynthia Peterman, Andrew Reamer, Howard Riker, Morris Rodenstein, Hannah Rubin, Judy Tulchin, Dan Turner, Mark Verschell, Terri Zall.

**Excused:** Larry Baizer, Sharon Brown, Leah Weinryb Grohsgal, Judy Herzog, Debbie Pomerance, Chris Zeilinger.

**Absent:** Joanne Hovis.

**Staff:** Eitan Gutin, Rabbi Ethan Seidel, Jevera Temsky.

**Guests:** Rabbi Jason Kimmelman-Block, Laurie Berger, Shelly Heller.

The meeting was called to order at 8:04 p.m.

Rabbi Jason Kimmelman-Block spoke about his recent experiences in Ferguson, MO.

**President's Report,** Jeff Davidson.

The Social Action Committee's Christmas Dinner needs volunteers to prepare and serve meals.

An anonymous donor will match contributions to replace old *humashim*, up to 100 books.

An anonymous donor would like to set up a fund to enable people in need to attend the Shabbaton.

We need someone to be TI's liaison for Israel issues with the Jewish Community Relations Council.

### Upcoming Events

December 12-13: Shabbaton featuring Peter Pitzele, bibliodramatist.

December 17: Hanukkah party.

### Funeral Practices Committee

Shelly Heller, chair of the Funeral Practices Committee (FPC), explained the sequence of events following the death of a TI member, and the funeral contract available to TI members through the Jewish Funeral Practices Committee of Greater Washington. She also explained the structure of the TI FPC.

Board members asked about the Meal of Consolation, *shomrim* training and the FPC's succession plans.

Laurie Berger, elected Cemetery Trustee, explained that the Cemetery Fund is used to maintain TI's areas of two cemeteries. She also explained the pricing structure for plot purchases.

[See article, page 17, for more details on these presentations to the board.]

**Minutes.** The board approved minutes and summary of the November 10, 2014 board meeting.

**Membership Committee.** Susan Catler reported one pending membership; new members will make *sufganiyot* with Rabbi Seidel.

**Background Checks.** Terri Zall reported on background check practices. Ray Natter and others will research best practices for synagogues and report back to the board.

**Finance Committee.** John List gave a financial update and reported that the annual budget process will begin in January.

**House Committee.** Mark Verschell would like a web-based site for people to communicate with the House Committee.

### Good and Welfare

There will be a bathroom fundraiser on January 15.

New York-based USY'ers will be coming to TI just after Christmas, with home hospitality by TI'ers.

David Levy is not well.

Rabbi Seidel won the *hallah* baking contest at the Jewish Folk Festival.

Joelle Novey and Ethan Merlin have a new son, Ellis Joseph Merlin.

Mark Verschell greatly improved the lighting on the Juniper side stairwell.

**Adjournment.** The meeting was adjourned at 9:40.



## Lifelong Learning

### Eitan Gutin

#### Himmelfarb Happenings

Come to this year's first **Himmelfarb School Open House** and learn how our school has grown at a record pace and now has the largest enrollment TI has seen in 25 years.

The event will be **Sunday, February 8**, from 9:15 to 11:00 a.m. The Open House is for any household with school-age children who will be in grades K-5 next school year.

We are also proud to announce that we will be opening enrollment for the 2015-2016 school year. We currently have three classes that are at capacity, so enrolling early will be key in our determining whether to split any grades. As they say - enroll early and often!

Any questions about the Open House, enrollment, or any other aspect of our school can be directed to either Eitan Gutin, Director of Lifelong Learning, or Marla Sevi, the Assistant to the Director. Just email [Eitan@tifereth-israel.org](mailto:Eitan@tifereth-israel.org), or [Marla@tifereth-israel.org](mailto:Marla@tifereth-israel.org).

#### Family Programs

Our Winter/Spring Family Programs calendar moves into high gear over the next couple of months.

February opens with a **Family Tu B'Shvat Dinner & Seder** on Wednesday, **February 4**. You should have already received a link to register for this over email.

March opens with our annual **Purim Carnival** on **March 1**. The celebrations continue with **Megillah Reading** and **Costume Parade** on Wednesday evening, **March 3**.

Our final March Family Program is this year's third **Family Service** on Shabbat, **March 28**.

Finally, a big thank-you to all the TI'ers who came to our 4th annual **Family Mitzvah Day**. The numbers tell the tale, thanks to the efforts of our volunteer kids and adults:

- Martha's Table received over 100 PB&J sandwiches for their clients.
- 6 kids who need some security will get a hand-tied blanket from Project Linus.
- 30 people who are ill or infirm will get a pick-me-up teddy bear card decorated by our kids.
- Capital Area Food Bank will be able to provide 70 households with a hearty bean and lentil soup.

In addition to those who volunteered their time, thank you to **Roz Kram** and **Marla Sevi** for assembling all the materials for this special day.

#### Youth Events for Every Age & Stage

Don't forget that **Bonim** (PreK-1st) and **Machar** (2nd-5th) meet every Shabbat that school is in session.

On one Shabbat in every month when there is no Family Service Machar features a special guest. In January, it was Rabbi Seidel. Watch your email for our special guest in February!

Our first ever **Kadima** basketball team opened the season with a 52-40 win over Shaare Torah of Gaithersburg. Congratulations to the team and best of luck as they play in February and March.

TI Kadima will be gathering the last week of February to **bake cupcakes**

for a new decorate-your-own booth at this year's Purim Carnival. Watch your email for the date and time for the baking.

**TI USY** is gearing up for a busy winter in February and March. Join our Assistant Youth Director, **Missy Mandell**, on Sunday, **February 15**, to enjoy some treats and talk about future events.

In the meantime, watch your email for an opportunity for TI's USY'ers to get involved with Jews United for Justice's paid sick leave campaign in Maryland, AND for the chance to join TI's Team Tefillah by leading services or reading Torah on Shabbat morning.

Everyone in 6th-8th grade should mark their calendars for our two signature events in March:

**March 1** is the annual **Purim Carnival**, assembled and run by TI's USY'ers and Kadimaniks. We will set up the carnival on Saturday night and Sunday morning. The carnival itself is scheduled from 12:15 to 3:00 on Sunday afternoon.

On Wednesday, **March 4**, TI USY'ers will once again be renting boxes of Mac & Cheese for our annual "Shake It Then Donate It" **Tikkun Olam Tzedakah** fundraiser.

Last, but certainly not least, the annual **USY Tzedakah Dinner** is Friday night, **March 13**.

#### Age-ing to Sage-ing

The 5-session class, taught by Michele Sumka and Rabbi Devora Lynn, originally scheduled to begin January 25, has been rescheduled to begin March 8.

## Mitzvah Day, January 18



Kids and their families prepare packaged ingredients for a five-bean soup for Capitol Area Foodbank, sandwiches for Martha's Table, and blankets for Project Linus.

## Rabbi A. Nathan Abramowitz Fund

The Rabbi A. Nathan Abramowitz Fund was established in 1980 to celebrate the rabbi's 20 years of service to TI and was enlarged in 1996 when Rabbi Abramowitz completed 36 years of service. Part of its mission is to honor youth who spend their summer or part of a school year in a program to enhance their Jewish education.

To qualify, the youngster may attend a camp recognized for its Jewish educational component (such as Camp Ramah, Capital Camps, and Moshava), participate in an educational program in Israel (such

as USY Pilgrimage or Ramah Seminar), or take part in a United Synagogue Youth on Wheels trip.

Awards are made each spring. The Fund depends on your support and welcomes contributions in any amount. Each year, all TI'ers who participate in a qualifying program are honored at a special Shabbat service and receive a gift.

If you have a child participating in one of these programs, please fill out the online form at <http://tinyurl.com/2015ANA>.

The Fund also awards scholarships based on financial need to facilitate participation in qualifying programs. Families who would like information about scholarships should contact Rabbi Abramowitz. All such applications and inquiries are kept strictly confidential.

To apply for the award program, please print the online form at <http://tinyurl.com/2015ANAScholar> and return it to the TI office. Applications for 2015 are due by Tuesday, March 31. An additional application is required for the scholarship program.

## February Highlights at Tifereth Israel

February 1	Torah Art/Writing Collective, 2-4 p.m.
February 1, 8, 15, 22	Recollective Awareness Meditation, Sigfried Gold, 10:30 a.m.
February 2, 9, 16, 23	Monday Lunch & Learn <i>Parashat HaShavuah</i> , 11 a.m.; Lunch 12 noon
February 4	Tu B'Shevat Seder and Dinner, 6:15 p.m.
February 4, 11, 18, 25	Beginner's Guide to Jewish History (final 4 sessions), Cynthia Peterman, 7:30-9:30 p.m.
February 8	Himmelfarb Religious School Open House, 9:15 -11:00 a.m.
February 15	Gevarim Brunch: Alan Eisner, "A Positive Agenda for Peace and Democracy in Israel," 10 a.m. Movie Nite, <i>Caesar's Writers</i> , 7:30 p.m.
February 20	Shabbat Dinner, 7 p.m. followed by Theater J reading from their upcoming play, <i>God's Honest Truth</i> .
February 21	SHALEM, "Aging in Place," Margie Odle and Carl Bergman.
February 22	"Self Help for the Stressed Out," Adele Natter, 10:15 a.m.

## Survey of TI Communications

Debbie Pomerance, VP for Communications

Be on the lookout for a survey for all congregants that will be coming to you via email. The survey will cover the main TI mailing list (also called a Listserv) and the subsidiary Yahoo Extended Discussion mailing list. We want to improve communication among congregants as well as from TI to the congregation.

Ensuing surveys will cover *The Menorah*, our monthly magazine; our weekly email *Newsletter*; Facebook and Twitter.

For mailing list subscribers, we want to know if the lists are working well for you, and if you would like to see changes made to the operation of the lists. For non-subscribers, we would like to know, for example, why you do not subscribe.

### Background

The main TI mailing list (denoted with a [TI] in the subject line) is a Listserv list that started almost twenty years ago for members to have a place to discuss issues, to create "commu-

nity" by sharing of themselves, to find a good roofer, to conduct a minyan swap, or give away concert tickets. It quickly became clear that some discussion topics, such as Israel, could become heated and contentious. As a result, we started the Yahoo Extended Discussion mailing list – a list we use to offload such discussions after they start on the main list.

It is time again to revisit how the lists operate and how well they work for the congregation.



## Social Action at TI: Stephen Nelson Caring for Refugees Probed at Shabbaton

The current plight of political refugees was the topic of this year's Social Action Shabbaton, held in conjunction with the Martin Luther King holiday weekend on January 17.

This year's drash was delivered by **Mark Hetfield**, President and CEO of the Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society (HIAS), which works to protect refugees, including ethnic, religious, and sexual minorities, who have been forced to flee their homelands because of who they are.

In addition to his 25-year career at HIAS, Hetfield, has held positions with the Immigration and Naturalization Service in the U.S. and Haiti, and has been the senior advisor on refugee issues at the United States Commission on International Religious Freedom.

Hetfield outlined the transformation of HIAS from an organization that concentrated on the needs of Jewish immigrants, particularly from Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union, to an advocate for all political refugees. As he put it, "the Torah, our tradition, our values and our history demand that we remember

our own refugee experience out of Egypt and elsewhere, and welcome and love the stranger as ourselves."

### One Refugee's Experience

Hetfield told the story of Manny Lindenbaum, who as a boy was able to escape Poland through the *Kindertransport*, the operation bringing Jewish refugee children to England. While Lindenbaum and his brother were able to escape, his 14-year-old sister was left behind because she was too old, and eventually was murdered at Auschwitz.

Just last summer, at the age of 84, Lindenbaum took his children and grandchildren to retrace his refugee journey, both to celebrate their lives and to overcome the overwhelming survivor's guilt he had been carrying for over 70 years. He also used the journey to raise funds to help refugee children from Darfur.

In addition to working in Darfur, Hetfield said HIAS is also aiding refugees from the Syrian conflict, which is a challenge because Jews are not allowed in that country. He was passionate about the need for Jews to be on the front lines of these efforts, saying that "we cannot be a bystander, because bystanders are guilty, and if you do not stand up for others, you cannot stand up for yourself."

### Afternoon Panel Discussion

After lunch, a panel discussed these issues in greater depth. The moderator was TI Member **Princeton Lyman**, former Ambassador to Nigeria and South Africa, Director of US AID in Ethiopia, and Assistant Secretary of State for International Affairs.

Panelists included:

**George Escobar**, Director of Health and Human Services for



CASA de Maryland and former Deputy Director of the D.C. Mayor's Office on Latino Affairs;

**Abel Nunez**, Executive Director of the Central American Resource Center (CARECEN), who has been active in a number of civil rights organizations since his emigration to the U.S. in 1979; and

**Madeline Wilks**, a family physician with La Clinica del Pueblo, a nonprofit health center that serves the Latino and immigrant populations of the Washington, D.C. area.

Among the topics that were discussed during the afternoon session was the integration of refugees in the communities in the D.C. area, including mental health issues faced by children who often feel abandoned by their parents and need strong support systems.

*Larry Baizer and Gene Herman aided in the preparation of this article.*

### Torah Art/Writing Collective

The first session will be **Sunday, February 1, 2-4 p.m.** The group will study Exodus 13:17 through Exodus 14:31.

Bring your own materials so you can work on your writing and/or artwork following the discussion portion of the session.

All are welcome.

### Juniper St. Collection

We are nearing the end of collecting winter clothing for Shepherd's Table.

- All clothing should be in good condition, for men, women or children, and suitable for fall or winter only.
- NO underwear

Collection ends on Thursday, February 5.



## A Christmas Story at TI

### Frank Solomon

About 40 years ago, a group of TI folk wanted to take *tikkun olam* to the streets of Washington and began providing refreshment on Christmas Eve for homeless women in a shelter at Calvary Baptist Church in Chinatown. Physicians from TI also provided medical examinations for the women.

A few years later, the group began serving refreshments at the House of Ruth Women's Shelter on Christmas Eve. Later, under the auspices of the Social Action Committee, TI began its monthly Martha's Table food van run. Eventually, the van started running even on Christmas Eve, accompanied by members of the local community organization Home of the Brave, who handed out sleeping bags to the homeless.

In 2002, the TI Social Action Committee began preparing Christmas dinners for the homeless at the Third Baptist Church, where Georgiana Herron, TI member Carolivia's mother, was a deacon. Committee leaders thought they could that way free church members to celebrate the Christmas holidays.

Eventually, the committee realized that the homeless had problems trekking to the church from downtown D.C., and decided to "take it to the shelters." The group began with three shelters in 2004; a fourth was added a few years ago. The event has spurred some memorable tales.

#### Takoma Park on Fire

When Christmas fell on Saturday one year, Carolivia decided to serve the meal on December 24<sup>th</sup> and arranged with her cousins, Ricky and Janie Harris, to cook cabbage all day on the 23<sup>rd</sup>. It wasn't until midday of the 23<sup>rd</sup> that she realized that the Harrises could not cook 80 pounds of cabbage alone in one night. So Herron enlisted her Takoma Park neighbors to help cook the cabbage.

The Harrises, Sara Green and Rich Holzsager together cooked the cabbage outside through the night — with flames that alarmed and confused neighbors. Nevertheless, the cabbage arrived on time the next day, and chief coordinator Martin Kessel only found out about the sighting of the burning bush later. When there was no heat at the Harris' house one year, the couple cooked the cabbage on an electric stove.

#### Jewish Soul Food

The annual social action project also helped Jews learn how to cook soul food. Even though TI members were experts on Jewish, Middle Eastern and Eastern European cuisines, they were mostly clueless on how to make food that would appeal to a mostly southern/African-American clientele.

So Georgiana Herron took over the TI kitchen and trained TI folk how to "southernize" yams — boil, sugar, butter, bake and season, and then put in more sugar and butter. The diners also advised Janet Nesse and Deena Dugan how to prepare the mac and cheese properly — use the usual Yankee recipe and then quadruple the amount of cheese — important lessons they never learned at law school.

#### These Boots Are Made for Walkin'

Andre Harris, Ricky and Janie's son, who every year delivers cabbage to the four shelters, always walks the streets on Christmas Eve to spread the good news of free luncheons on Christmas Day. He would carry five or six blankets and go from homeless huddle to homeless huddle through the night, giving out blankets.

In 2004, Andre bought a pair of size 11 boots to give to someone who had no shoes. On the day of the dinner, the man proudly walked in to the church in his new shoes — and

brought along a platoon of 20 other homeless folk.

Gene Herman and Martin Kessel talked with the men, who told them about the transportation problem to the church. The two leaders decided that year that TI should serve the meals at the shelters.

#### TI's Largest Social Action Project

The Christmas luncheon for the homeless event has since mushroomed into the largest social action project at Tifereth Israel. Kosher foods are prepared at the synagogue. Non-kosher foods are prepared by members and friends at their homes.

For the 2014 event, 102 adults participated, and 32 children volunteered as servers and gift wrappers. Twelve adults and two children prepared stuffing and yams at TI. Seven TI members served as runners to deliver food from the synagogue to the four shelters.

Altogether, 155 volunteers from TI, Adat Shalom, Har Shalom and Segulah helped out in one role or another.

Thanks go to all volunteer servers, food preparers and gift wrappers, without whose help TI would have not been able to serve hundreds of homeless people. Thanks also to:

- food runners Andrea Kline, Larry and Melanie Greenfield, Mike and Iris Lav, Ruth and Phil Shapiro;
- meal warmers Mark Berch and Seth Glabman;
- food preparers Janet Neese, Deena Dugan, Varda Fink, Caroliva and Georgiana Herron and their relatives the Harrises, Gene and Esther Herman and his friend, Mr. Davis, who has

*(Continued on page 10)*

## A Christmas Story at TI (continued)

- smoked the turkey year after year;
- Andrea Kline (again), the gift czarina;
- Mona Berch, who took care of the supplies;
- Roz Kram, who supervised the TI kitchen activities;
- Susan Morse, the publicity wizard;
- Sue Catler, who handled the online messages;
- Jeff Peterman, who rushed back from his China trip to take photographs of the event;
- site captains Lisa Hack and her husband Steve, Franca Brilliant and Seth Grimes, David and Judy Cohen, Larry Baizer and Judi Berland; and
- longtime chief coordinator Martin Kessel.

## Homeless? Been There, Done That

### Frank Solomon

Among the hundreds of volunteers for the annual Tifereth Israel Christmas luncheon for the homeless is a group of longtime dedicated people who form the backbone of this project. One of them is Andre Harris.

Harris, 42, delivers cabbage to the homeless shelters every Christmas. But Andre is more than a typical volunteer. He has “crossed the River Jordan and come back.” He has intimate knowledge of the shelters because, at one time or another, he was a client of those shelters.

Andre was an at-risk youth. He grew up in D.C. and had life’s usual ups and downs. While deciding whether he was going to live or die in New York City, Andre remembered that when he was a child, his aunt, Carolivia, took him to see “Peter Pan” at the Kennedy Center.

The memory of that musical reminded him of art, beauty and love, and a beautiful world in which to live. Instead of dying in New York City, Andre came back to Washington to work with other young people.

Probably because of his own experience, Andre has a genius for connecting with the down-and-out and the homeless, particularly through music and sports.

“There are many who have been at risk but do not have his capacity to connect with those who are at risk,” said Carolivia, who is also Andre’s



godmother, which carries a special relationship in the African-American community.

“I have never seen anyone with Andre’s magnetism for speaking to, attracting, helping and encouraging the lost ones of many generations. I am working with him to help him extend his work to the youth of far Northeast Washington in the Kenilworth neighborhood,” said Carolivia.

In fact, Andre has been so successful in encouraging youth — especially young black men in the Petworth area — that Neighbors Incorporated, a Shepherd Park community organization founded by former TI member, Marvin Caplan, gave him an award for his work in September

2014. These days, he uses his knowledge of art and music to promote hip-hop and to help black youth find connection.

“Andre is a very nice guy. He is very persistent,” said TI member, Pierre Dugan, founder of the community work organization Street to Street and husband of Deena Dugan. “He is a good person to have at Street to Street. We are hoping that he brings his hip-hop music knowledge to grow the organization. He is very trustworthy.”

So trustworthy that he did not have to be told how to go to each of the shelters. “I know them all. I have been at all of them,” he said on Christmas morning before he embarked for the cabbage delivery.

### Yom haShoah

Yom haShoah will be observed this year at Tifereth Israel on Sunday, April 12. This will be our third commemoration of Yom haShoah u’Gevurah, the day to remember Holocaust victims and resisters.

If you would like to be involved in the planning of this year’s program, please contact Cynthia Peterman at [cynp25@gmail.com](mailto:cynp25@gmail.com).



# Serving Christmas Dinner to Shelter Residents, December 25



## Gevarim

Andrew Reamer

גברים

Gevarim is pleased to offer the TI community the following events in February.

### Movie Nite @ TI

**Sunday, February 15**, 7:30 p.m., *Caesar's Writers*: A two-hour 1996 reunion of comic Sid Caesar and nine of his (all Jewish) writers from the 1950s live weekly programs of comedic sketches, "Your Show of Shows" and "Caesar's Hour."

Mel Tolkin, Caesar, Carl Reiner, Aaron Ruben, Larry Gelbart, Mel Brooks, Neil Simon, Danny Simon, Sheldon Keller and Gary Belkin share stories about their time working on Caesar's shows and offer their insights about writing comedy (116 mins.).

The evening will begin with the 1955 clip of *Gallipacci*, Caesar's take on the opera *Pagliacci* (14 mins).

Joel Cohen will facilitate the conversation. The movies are free, nosh is \$4, pay in person.

### Sunday Brunch

**Sunday, February 15**, 10:00 a.m. Alan Elsner, Vice President for Communications for J Street, will discuss "A Positive Agenda for Peace and Democracy in Israel."

Mr. Elsner joined J Street in 2012 after serving in the Israel Defense Force, as a Reuters correspondent for over 30 years, and as the executive director of The Israel Project.

Mr. Elsner has authored two non-fiction books: *Guarded by Angels: How My Father and Uncle Survived Hitler and Cheated Stalin* (2005) and *Gates of Injustice: The Crisis in America's Prisons* (2006).

He has also authored two works of fiction: *The Nazi Hunter: A Novel of Suspense* (2007) and *Romance Language* (2010).

Brunch is \$10 for Gevarim and Kol Nashim members and \$12 for others.

Sign up at <http://tifereth-israel.org/positive-agenda-peace-and-democracy-israel-talk-brunch>.

## Dinner, Donors' Stories Open Art Show

Audrey Smith

On a weather-challenging evening in January we enjoyed a Carlebach service and delicious dinner to celebrate the opening of Part II of the art show in the Cherner, "Jewish Art by Jewish Artists on Jewish Themes from Members' Collections." After dinner, we had a tour of the new works and some memorable hold-overs from Part I, with comments by the donors who were there.

We were moved by the story behind Deborah Stern's legacy from an aunt who bought the Max Leiber *Winter Scene* to remind her of an escape from the Nazis by hiding in a snowbank. Also Earl Dotter, Diana Zurer and Fylis

Peckham explained their own work.

Sheri Blonder said, "There were so many voices." Jevera Temsky commented, "Everyone's art was valued equally whether hand-made or from a famous artist." Claudine Schweber summed up the experience: "It was wonderful, just like having a private tour of a collector's private gallery." The show is up for all to see. Share in another facet of Tifereth Israel.

### Artful Adaptation of Psalm 150

Hallelujah  
Praise God in his Sanctuary

Praise Him in the firmament of his power  
Praise Him for His mighty acts  
Praise Him according to His abundant greatness  
Praise Him with art from the hand of the artist  
Praise Him with painting, sculpture and all mediums  
Praise Him with lithograph, silkscreen and etching  
Praise Him with water color and oil paint  
Praise Him with woodcut and papercut  
Praise Him with all styles -- abstract to realistic  
Let every expression of beauty lead us to praise Him  
Hallelujah!



## Kol Nashim

Margie Odle



It's already a busy winter-spring for Kol Nashim programming.

### Game Night

KN and Gevarim co-sponsored game night in early January. Attendance topped 40 this year in spite of the inclement weather.

The board game and poker-loving crowd was treated to mulled apple cider and a wide variety of salty and sweet snacks to conquer the cold and raise the spirit. Next year's event is already in the works.

### Book Club

The KN-sponsored book club continues with the next meeting on **February 17** at the home of **Pearl** and **Larry Schainker**. Our reading is Roz Chast's graphic memoir about caring for her parents in their old age,

entitled *Can't We Talk about Something More Pleasant?*

Roz Chast is a New Yorker cartoonist with a signature approach that blends humor and emotion, and this book is no exception. The drawing style is accessible, too. The book is available in hardback and electronic form.

### Self-Help Workshop

Coming up on **February 22** at 10:15 a.m. in the Mollie L. Berch Library is "Self Help for the Stressed Out," a workshop led by **Adele Natter**. Feelings can be messy, and what good are they, anyway?

In this workshop, Adele will demystify emotions and show how you can reduce anxiety. She will show you techniques to help you self-calm, manage emotions, and lift mood.

### Seder Music and Songs

On **March 8** and **15** at 7 p.m., in preparation for Pesah, **Rabbi Avis Miller** will present two Sunday evening sessions on the music and meaning of Seder songs. Music lies at the heart of our Seder celebration.

Come learn how the songs of the *Haggadah*, which come from various times and places in our history, relate to the themes of the Pesah holiday. Enhance your Seder with new insight into traditional songs, as well as recent adaptations and additions to the *Haggadah*.

There is a small charge for this program, \$15 per session.

## Adult Education

Jessica Weissman

### SHALEM

SHALEM sessions coming up this spring range over many light years, from our local neighborhood to outer space.

On **February 21**, a panel including TI'ers **Margie Odle** and **Carl Bergman** will discuss Aging in Place: How Can Villages Help? The senior village concept is a way to help senior adults stay in their homes as they age by connecting neighbors and by coordinating volunteers to provide services to enable residents to live independently.

There are villages in the TI neighborhood, in Silver Spring, and in Rockville, and the movement is

spreading. Come hear how you can join, volunteer, and benefit.

On **March 21**, TI'er and NASA historian **Steve Garber** presents a Jewish view on extraterrestrial life. Assuming humans discover extraterrestrial life, how will Judaism inform our understanding of it? How did Jews respond to the Copernican and Darwinian revolutions?

What about Judaism has been helpful in understanding and appreciating scientific advances? Are there Jewish approaches to other life forms on Earth that could shed light on how we might deal with extraterrestrial life? Steve will use these questions as lenses for anticipating possible outcomes.

### 2016 TI Retreat

We are just starting to think about the next retreat. Nothing is set – not the venue, not the topic, not the format.

Should we consider an outside speaker for a Shabbaton-style event? Should we include a variety of topics led by TI'ers? Should we rent buses or vans to travel to the venue instead of carpooling? Would you like a venue that includes (optional) tent camping as well as regular lodge rooms?

Please share your ideas for topics, activities, venues, and anything else concerning the retreat. Contact me, **Cynthia Peterman**, or **Eitan Gutin** with your suggestions.

## Nayes un Mekhayes for TI'ers

### Barbara Raimondo

#### Cruisin'

While the rest of us were chipping ice off our windshields, **Laurie Russell** and her stepsons **Aaron** and **Isaac Solomon** went on a Caribbean cruise over the winter break. They visited Puerto Rico, Grand Turk, St. John, and St. Thomas, where they visited the local synagogue.

There were so many Jews on the ship -- from Israel, Argentina, Mexico, Canada, Europe and various parts of the United States -- that the cruising rabbi held services for the last days of Hanukkah, and for Shabbat and Havdalah. A week after the cruise, Aaron and four college friends drove down to Florida, where they stayed at the family's winter home in Vero Beach, and Disney World in Orlando.

Speaking of a beautiful island surrounded by water, **Aylat Lifshitz**, the daughter of **Lisa Traiger**, just returned from a community service trip to Petersfield, Jamaica. There she worked with her small group of students from Towson University Hillel on preparing and planting a field for plantains. When the crop matures the plantains will help feed breakfasts to elementary school children.

This spring semester Aylat will attend the Hebrew University in Jerusalem, and plans to extend her stay in Israel through August. She received a JDC fellowship to work with special needs or under-served children in Jerusalem. Aylat also hopes to continue her dance studies at the Jerusalem Academy.

#### Losin'

While the rest of us were scraping frost off our glasses, lively **Judi Berland** went to Death Valley over winter break. It was a fantastic trip! With every turn she saw entirely different views and rock forma-

tions. The colors were amazing. It was the most unworldly place she has ever been. Until she went to Vegas! Gotta love the penny slots!

Adventurer **Myrna Goldman** traveled to Peru and Ecuador in December. She was with a very friendly tour group that visited Lima, Cuzco, Urubamba, Agua Calientes, and Quito. The highlights were Machu Picchu in Peru (bucket list: check!) and the Galapagos Islands in Ecuador, where she saw many interesting animals and a flamingo mating dance. And you thought they looked so tame hanging out in the front yards of suburbia!

**Sydney Bergman**, daughter of **Margie Odle** and **Carl Bergman**, recently received a Rubenstein Award for Highly Effective DC Teachers in a ceremony at the Kennedy Center. The annual awards are sponsored by Standing Ovation for DC Teachers. Sydney is in her eighth year teaching at DC's School Without Walls Senior High School. She teaches AP biology, coaches the robotics team, science fair and senior projects, and heads the Science Department at the school.

#### Musin'

**Louise Kelley** and **Jessica Weissman** have published books through **Carolivia Herron's** Street to Street Epic Publications. They are available for e-readers and soon will be available in paperback. Louise's *No Behind* is the story of a brave, passionate and hilarious heroine who copes with catastrophe and causes revolution...in the fourth grade! During an epidemic her school is quarantined in a synagogue building. When they emerge she finds the courage to strike a blow against the tyranny of standardized testing.

Jessica's lighthearted *Tales of the WLT: How the Large Main Bride and*

*the Small Auxiliary Backup Bride Survived Their Own Wedding* takes readers behind the scenes and under the *chuppah* at their 1997 commitment ceremony, known as the Weddinglike Thing. Follow them as they prepare for the WLT with assistance from family and friends, including their deceased mothers, who help them from beyond the grave to find the right shoes and a good deal on wine.

And while the rest of us were pulling the icicles out of our socks, **Alan Landay** was -- doing the same thing! At the end of December and over New Year's, Alan went skiing in Whitefish, MT. Several years ago he skied at Big Mountain, MT, so he thought he would try a new resort. Turns out the Big Mountain ski resort changed its name to Whitefish (the name of the nearby town), so he was skiing at the same place!

He also went cross-country skiing one day, very conveniently located on a golf course right next to his hotel. It was better than downhill skiing on the mountain, where the wind-chill temperature was -29 degrees F. Alan returned home just in time for the deep freeze in the Washington area. So he had two weeks of Montana weather even though he was there for only for a week.

On February 7, **Samuel Eric Goldberg**, grandson of **Marcia Goldberg**, will have his Bar Mitzvah at Olam Tikva, *Parashat Yitro*. The congregation usually does a triennial Torah reading, but he is doing the full *parashah*, Torah service, *haftarah* and *musaf*. Proud Savta!

#### Sad News

**Diana Engel**, a former member of Tifereth Israel (and widow of **Milton Engel**, a former TI president), died

*(Continued on page 15)*

## Why I'm Planting Trees in Palestine This Year

Michele Sumka

In February, two weeks after Tu B'Shevat, I'm going to Bethlehem to plant trees with my husband Howard, David (Carla) Cohen, Louise Weiner and 18 other Jews from around the US.

Last May the IDF uprooted 1500 fruit trees on the private land of the Nassar family after leaving a notice under a large rock near the trees. Despite the fact that the family had filed an appeal, the IDF came in the middle of the night and bulldozed all the trees: figs, apples, apricots, olives, and grape vines.

For details, see <http://www.haaretz.com/news/features/.premium-1.598272>. This action is antithetical to the injunction in Deuteronomy:

When in a war against a city you have to besiege it for a long time in order to capture it, you must not destroy its fruit trees, wielding an ax against them. You may eat of them, but you must not cut them down. Are trees of the field human to withdraw before you into the besieged city?" (Deuteronomy 20, v. 19).

This trip is being organized by our daughter, Ilana, who has started a new organization, The Center for Jewish Nonviolence. Their first project is this delegation to help replant some of the trees.

The grandfather of the Christian Nassar family, who bought the land in 1916, had a motto, "We refuse to

be enemies." In 2000 his children established the Tent of Nations, an educational and environmental center up the hill from the orchard, which holds seminars on nonviolence for Jewish, Muslim and Christian groups.

The Center for Jewish Nonviolence is accepting donations for buying new trees for the farm, supporting the replanting delegation, and trainings in nonviolence. The Center is under the fiscal sponsorship of and in partnership with T'ruah, The Rabbinic Call for Human Rights. All contributions are tax-deductible. You can find more information on their Indiegogo page, <https://www.indiegogo.com/projects/give-the-gift-of-a-tree-and-build-a-movement>.

## Readings by TI Authors

Carolivia Herron

I am working with Michele Sumka and the TI Library Committee to arrange readings by TI authors in the coming months. All readings will be held in the Mollie Berch Memorial Library in the Emsellem Room.

Please contact me, at [carolivia@carolivia.org](mailto:carolivia@carolivia.org), for more information or to let me know of other TI authors, with works published after 2009, who should be included.

The schedule of dates, times, authors and works is below:

**Monday, February 23**, after evening minyan (about 8:00 p.m.), **Carolivia Herron**, *Asenath and the Origin of Nappy Hair*.

## Nayes un Mekhayes (continued)

on January 13 after a long illness. The funeral was held at Adas Israel Congregation.

And TI member **Florence Meltzer**, wife of **Stephen Meltzer**, died January 15 at age 84. In addition to her husband, she is survived by three children -- **Abby (Joel) Penenburgh**, **David (Suzanne)** and **Peter (Anne)** -- five grandchildren, and two great grandchildren. She was buried at Mt. Lebanon Cemetery.

Our condolences to family and loved ones.

And now for the meaning of last month's word, *omnibus*: "containing or including many items" (Merriam-Webster Online).

Thanks to all who sent me news, sent me to others who sent me news, or otherwise helped sniff it out. Accept no epigones -- send information for next time to [baraimondo@gmail.com](mailto:baraimondo@gmail.com), with "Nayes un Mekhayes" in the heading, or to P.O. Box 466, Washington Grove, MD 20880.

This brings to a close this edition of Nayes un Mekhayes for TI'ers.

**Tuesday, March 24**, 7:00 p.m., **Bruce Berger**, *To Hide in Athens and Other Stories*.

**Monday, April 27**, after evening minyan (about 8:00 p.m.), **Rhoda Trooboff**, *Correspondence Course: The Bathsua Project*.

**Tuesday, May 26**, 7:00 p.m., **Louise Parker Kelley**, *No Behind*.

**Sunday, June 28**, 7:00 p.m., **Richard Morris**, David's friend, presenting, **David L. Levy**, *Viktor IV*.

## Israel's First Coins

### Simcha Kuritzky

The ancient Jewish coin series ended twice: the official issues ended with procurator Porcius Festus in 62 CE, and the unofficial issues ended with the coins of the Bar Kokhba revolt of 132-135 CE. There is an 18-century gap until modern Jewish coinage. The history of modern Israel's coinage begins with World War I. The Ottoman Turks had ruled the Middle East for four centuries, and their coins were current, as were many European gold coins.

In 1914, the British made Egypt a protectorate, but did not introduce coins until 1916. These were based on a decimal system where 10 millimes equaled a qirsh (in French called a piaster, in Hebrew called a grush), and 100 qirsh equaled a pound. When the British conquered the Holy Land in 1917, Egyptian coins became legal tender there.



In 1926, the British created the Palestine Currency Board in London, which issued new coins for their mandate on both sides of the Jordan River starting in 1927. Egyptian coins were demonetized in 1928.

Although not issued by Jews, the bronze 1 and 2 mils, holed copper-nickel 5, 10, and 20 mils, and silver 50 and 100 mils coins were the first coins minted in the Holy Land to contain Hebrew inscriptions since Bar Kokhba. These coins all show an olive branch with the mandate's name and denomination in Arabic, English, and Hebrew. The Hebrew is (פ"ל)Palestina (E"י). The E"י stands for Eretz Israel. Palestine coins continued to be legal tender in Israel until September 15, 1948.



The first coins issued by Jews, like the last Jewish coins issued in ancient Judea, were unofficial. In 1936, Arabs (with support from Nazi Germany) started a rebellion against the British as well as continued attacks against Jews. The increased cost of defense was supported by a tax administered by an agency called Kofer HaYishuv (Redemption of the Community).

To help with tax collection, the Jewish Agency struck half-mil tokens (equal to one-quarter U.S. cent) in late 1938. They are 18mm brass, and are so thin the same image is on the other side only incuse. In the center is a shield representing the Jewish defense force Haganah, with Kofer HaYishuv at top, the date 5699 divided by the shield, and Bar Tav (tax marker) ½ mil.



About half a million tokens were made at the Pliz Metal Works in Holon, near Tel Aviv. These tokens continued to circulate into the 1950s. Coincidentally, just 5 years earlier, local U.S. governments started charging a sales tax to raise revenue, and the first sales tax tokens that were issued were also for one-quarter cent.

In November, 1947 the U.N. voted to create an independent Jewish state and the British announced they would abandon their mandate on

May 15. The British immediately began withdrawing Palestine Currency Board coins.

To counter the coin shortage, the Provisional Government of Israel contracted with the Zaltman cutlery factory in Jerusalem in July, 1948 to mint 30mm aluminum 25-mil coins. Based on a suggestion by the Israel Numismatic Society, the design was based on coins of the Second Commonwealth.

One side shows a cluster of grapes from a zuz of Bar Kokhba, while the other shows the denomination and date inside a wreath based on the olive wreaths from coins of the Hasmonean kings.



Zaltman minted 42,650 aluminum coins dated 5708. The Government considered the coins to be of poor quality, so they decided to wait for new coins from a private mint in England. However, when these new coins were delayed, Israel not only released the 5708 dated coins into circulation but had Mechsav Ltd. in Holon mint 650,000 new coins dated 5709, starting in April, 1949.

These coins continued to be legal tender until September 6, 1950. They were also the only Israel coins until recently to contain both the country name and denomination in both Hebrew and Arabic. These early Israel coins used to be scarce in the U.S., but today they are readily available here or from Israel dealers on the Internet. The half mil and 1949 25 mil cost \$5-\$10 each; the 1948 25 mil is \$50-\$100. So a piece of Israel's history can be yours for a reasonable price.



## Funeral Practices at TI

Susan Catler

*At the December meeting of the Tifereth Israel Board of Directors, Shelly Heller, chair of the Funeral Practices Committee, and Laurie Berger, Cemetery Trustee, spoke about their respective groups. This article is based on those presentations.*

One of the benefits of membership in Tifereth Israel is that the *haverim* of the Funeral Practices Committee will be there to help should a member of TI die. When a death occurs, the first call should be to TI – to one of the *haverim*, the office, or Rabbi Seidel – not to a funeral home.

### Contract Funeral Package

All funerals conducted at TI use the services of the Hines-Rinaldi Funeral Home in Silver Spring, under its contract with the Jewish Funeral Practices Committee of Greater Washington. This contract provides for a low-cost funeral fully consistent with Jewish *halakhah* (religious law).

The contract covers the costs of funeral home facilities and services, *taharah*, a plain pine box, and transportation of the deceased to the funeral home, funeral service and cemetery. The current contract package cost is about \$1,850.

### Cemetery Costs

The costs of the gravesite and of opening and closing the grave are not included in the contract. Gravesites are available from TI in TI's section of Mt. Lebanon

cemetery. Contact the synagogue office to make purchase arrangements.

Members are urged to purchase cemetery plots in advance, to avoid having to make such time-consuming and stressful arrangements in the day or two between a death and burial. Arrangements can also be made with the cemetery to pay in advance for opening and closing costs.

### Haver Makes All Arrangements

The *haver* assigned will work with the family to make all funeral and burial arrangements, coordinating with the funeral home and cemetery as needed. This relieves the family of burdensome financial and logistical details at a time of great emotional stress.

TI will cover the costs of the funeral package. After the first 30 days, the family will be requested to make a contribution, and to pay additional optional costs not covered by the contract, such as death notices, death certificates and limousines.

### Shomrim and Shivah

The *haver* will also help recruit TI members or relatives/friends of the deceased to serve as *shomrim* to sit near the body from the time of arrival at the funeral home until departure for the funeral. The *haver* also works with the Rabbi and the family to arrange for *shivah minyanim*, recruiting service leaders, getting prayer books to the *minyans*

location and publicizing the *minyans*.

### Three Teams

The Funeral Practices Committee consists of three teams. First, there are four *haverim* – Shelly Heller, Marcia Goldberg, David (Judy) Cohen and Marcia Goggin. Then there are two groups who perform *taharah* – one for men and one for women. These are anonymous trained volunteers who prepare the body for burial, washing it and dressing it in *takhrikhim*.

### Additional Questions

In response to questions from the board, Shelly explained that early on the Committee arranged for the Meal of Consolation, the meal for the family upon their return from the burial. Any meals are now arranged by the Helping Hands Committee or the friends and neighbors of the family.

Asked about training for *shomrim*, Shelly said that training is not provided, but that more volunteers are needed. Ideally two people should work each two-hour shift. If two were assigned, a more experienced *shomer* could mentor new recruits.

Finally, when asked about the Funeral Practices Committee's succession plans, Shelly responded that they do not have such plans for when the current *haverim* and *taharah* coordinators and volunteers are no longer willing or able to continue.

## Upcoming Friday Night Minyan Assignments

### February 6

Oscar & Amy Mann  
 Stephen Marcus & Renee Matalon  
 Joseph & Paula Martin  
 Robert Mathis & Tali Stopak-Mathis  
 David & Carla Matusow  
 David & Diana Meyer  
 Tobi McFarland  
 David & Janice Mehler  
 Robert & Laura Meisnere  
 Alexander & Daniel Meitiv  
 Ethan Merlin & Joelle Novey  
 David & Dana Mermelstein  
 Sarah & Rachel Meytin  
 Josephine Mickelson  
 Michael & Barbara Milton  
 Emily & Adil Moiduddin  
 Jacob & Elaine Mondschein  
 Ken Morris & Terri Zall  
 Eli & Laura Muller  
 Jerry & Sharon Muller

### February 13

Jonah & Stephanie Murdock  
 Myron Murdock & Judy Herzog  
 Beth Naftalin  
 Ray & Adele Natter  
 Sheridan & Dana Neimark  
 Michael H. New & Linda Turnowski  
 Stephen Nelson & Leslie Goodman-Malamuth  
 David Ogilvie & Miriam Lederer  
 Lee & Hedy Ohringer  
 Sarah Osborne  
 Jessica Goldings & Jonathan Panikoff  
 Larry Paul & Joye Newman  
 Perry & Fylis Peckham  
 Daniel Pederson & Dafna Spear  
 David Pelzer & Ellie Tiemann  
 Melissa Perera  
 Adam & Jessica Perlmutter

Jeff & Cynthia Peterman  
 Michael Pitch & Elaine Weiss  
 Joshua Pitlick & Janet Blank  
 Lisa Plotkin

### February 27

David & Laurel Rabin  
 Glenn Rapoport  
 Jacqueline Ratner  
 Marisol Ravicz & David Rapier  
 Andrew Reamer  
 Sanford & Shelley Reback  
 Naomi Reem  
 Jay Renbaum & Shannah Koss  
 Arnold & Naomi Revzin  
 Ruth Reynolds  
 Howard Riker & Danielle Glosser  
 Morris & Judy Rodenstein  
 Joseph Rofrano & Lynn Golub-Rofrano  
 Charles Rombro & Pamela Stone  
 Elliot Rosen & Sharon Cohen  
 Aviell Roshwald & Alene Moyer  
 Ari Roth & Kate Schechter  
 Nancy Roth  
 Marc Rothenberg & Ivy Baer

### March 6 (6 p.m.)

David & Stephanie Rubin  
 Howard & Hannah Rubin  
 Stephen & Jill Saletta  
 Mark & Diann Saltman  
 Lawrence & Pearl Schainker  
 Eric & Shira Schechtman  
 Daniel Schiff  
 Michael & Mical Schneider  
 Keith Secular & Susan Catler  
 Paul Seltman & Jeanne Ireland  
 Hershel & Judith Shanks  
 Phillip & Ruth Shapiro  
 Yvonne Shashoua  
 Scott Shoreman  
 Randy Showstack & Michele Zador

Nathaniel Shyovitz  
 Richard & Marjorie Siegel  
 Yochanan Sullivan

### March 20 (6:30 p.m.)

Morton Simon  
 David & Rona Siskind  
 Audrey Smith  
 Aaron & Reva Snow  
 Dan & Elizabeth Sokolov  
 Frank Solomon & Laurie Russell  
 Louis & Madge Lee Specter  
 Phil & Dianne Spellberg  
 Barry & Sari Siegel Spieler  
 Gregory Stackel & Genevieve Dara Sapir  
 Jeffrey & Julie Steinberg  
 Lois C. Steinberg  
 Jack Stone & Wilma Brier  
 Herman & Malka Stopak  
 Noam Stopak & Shelley Sturman  
 Alexander & Laura Strashny  
 Edwin Stromberg & Rose Ellen Halper

### March 27

Jonathan Strum  
 Marc Suddleson & Molly Surden  
 Howard & Michele Sumka  
 Gabe & Ruth Tabak  
 JT & Naomi Taransky  
 Kassahu Teffera & Melke Mengiste  
 Jevera Temsky  
 Neil & Rachel Tickner  
 Michael Tilchin & Linda Greer  
 David & Anne Crandall Tobenkin  
 Peter & Rhoda Trooboff  
 Paula Tucker  
 Jonathan & Cathy Tuerk  
 Allan & Judy Tulchin  
 Daniel & Allison Turner  
 Michael & Ruth Unterweger  
 Mark Verschell & Elizabeth Leff  
 Susan Vitale

## Donations

### ANNUAL APPEAL

#### Donor

Eric Fingerhut & Karen Beiley  
David & Carla Matusow  
Naomi Reem  
Richard & Marjorie Siegel

### BATHROOM RENOVATION FUND

#### Donor

Paula Flicker  
Keith Secular & Susan Catler

Mark & Mona Berch

Mark & Mona Berch  
Mark & Mona Berch

Mark & Mona Berch  
Mark & Mona Berch

Mark & Mona Berch

Mark & Mona Berch  
Mark & Mona Berch

### ETZ HAYIM MATCHING FUND

#### Donor

Harvey Kabaker & Andrea Kline  
Beverly Lehrer  
Ray & Adele Natter  
Lisa Plotkin  
Louise Kelley & Jessica Weissman

Myrna Goldman  
Charlotte Gottlieb  
John & Lynne List

Howard Gleckman & Ann Kline  
Howard Gleckman & Ann Kline

Marcia Goldberg  
Charlotte Gottlieb

#### In Honor of

#### New Parents

Ellie Tiemann & Daniel  
Pelzer  
Jill & Stephen Saletta  
Elizabeth Richman &  
Ben Dreyfus  
Ari & Mandy Natter  
Joelle Novey & Ethan  
Merlin  
Deborah Greenberg &  
Ruben Seenivasa  
Pillai

#### In Memory of

Malcolm Peterman  
David Levy

#### In Honor of

Eliyah & Shirah Lister  
Cyndy & Alan Weitz  
Stephanie Rubin

#### In Memory of

Albert & Ida Kline  
Herbert & Marilyn  
Gleckman  
Jeremy Goldberg  
Dr. Julius J. Gottlieb

### ETZ HAYIM MATCHING FUND (continued)

#### Donor

Charlotte Gottlieb Hyman  
Simcha Kuritzky

#### In Memory of

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