



The Menorah

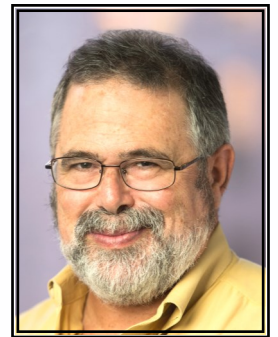
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President's Column: Stan Dorn New Responsibilities for TI Office Staff

In this month's column, I'd like to relay exciting news about how we're approaching the education and community-engagement responsibilities that were originally envisioned as the responsibility of a new, part-time hire. Many of you already know about this, but some may not – hence this column!



Rina Rebibo Takes on Broader Responsibilities

Rather than hire new staff, we are going to increase the involvement of existing staff, taking advantage of their remarkable skills and talents. Our beloved Rina Rebibo, who currently heads the Himmelfarb School, will take on broader responsibilities overseeing all of TI's Jewish education and engagement activities involving tots, children, and teens. She will work closely with existing committees and volunteers, including the Tot Committee and Youth Commission. Teachers from the Himmelfarb School, already known to and loved by many of our families, will continue to be involved in our Shabbat morning and holiday programming. Rina will also work with and oversee our new USY advisor, Adam Rosen.

Shoshana Strom, Engagement and Administrative Assistant

I don't know how many of you have met Shoshana Strom, our amazing new Administrative Assistant. Once you do, I think you'll agree that she brings incredible talents and skills from which our community will greatly benefit. Shoshana comes to us from Avodah, the Jewish service corps, and from the University of Puget Sound, where she played a vital leadership role and revitalized the UPS Hillel.

Shoshana began as a temporary TI employee intending to work through the holidays, but we've asked her to stay on as our full-time Engagement and Administrative Assistant. While continuing administrative duties under Jevera Temsky's supervision, Shoshana will work with Rina to support community engagement, starting with existing programming. Shoshana will divide her hours between administrative staff work and community engagement efforts.

Review and Next Steps

After four months, Janet Blank, our Administrative Vice-President, and Chris

(Continued on page 2)



President's Column (continued)

Zeilinger, our Vice-President for Lifelong Learning, will review this arrangement and decide on next steps. Over those months, Janet will also work with Jevera and Rina to conduct a broad analysis of staff duties across the organization.

This approach resulted from considerable, excellent work by Chris and Janet; a Community Engagement committee with representation from the Tots Committee, the Youth Commission, and the Membership Committee; the Board; the Board's Executive Committee; Rabbi Seidel; and staff. In my view, this is a very

solid arrangement that leverages the known strengths of our existing staff. Our new approach promises to invest the community's resources wisely, with a significant payoff that begins with children and youth but quickly benefits TI's membership across the full demographic spectrum.

May you and yours be sealed for good throughout the coming year,

Stan

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Synagogue Administrator: Sheri Blonder, ext. 304

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Sunday Afternoons at Theater J

Revised Dates: Oct 29, Dec 24, Jan 28, Mar 18, Apr 29 and Jun 24 at
2:00 pm

Join other TI members on Sunday afternoons for the upcoming season of shows at Theater J. The performances listed above will feature a post-show discussion led by Lisa Traiger, (arts correspondent, Washington Jewish Week) and Rabbi Seidel.

For more information on Theater J's season call their box office at 202-777-3210 or visit <http://edcicc.org/center-for-arts/theater-j/on-stage/17-18-season/>

Visits by Rabbi Seidel

Are you homebound, or hospital-bound, and would like a visit from Rabbi Seidel? Or do you know of someone in the congregation who could use such a visit? Please let Rabbi Seidel know, either by phone at 202-882-1605 x 302, or by email at tirabbi@tifereth-israel.org.

Plant of the Month - Carla Ellern

Our very first plant of the month is Hibiscus Moscheutos, also known as "Swamp Rosemallow" or "Rose Mallow." Here's a photo from the TI rain garden:



One Native American tribe used this lovely plant to cure inflamed bladders. A native to eastern and southern North America, Rose Mallow thrives in moisture. The first European to collect the plant was English planthunter Rev. John Banister, who found it in colonial Virginia around 1680. The roots of a different species of this plant (*Althaea officinalis*) were boiled in Europe to produce a white, sticky substance. Even though Western physicians could discern no effective medicinal effects, Rose Mallow satisfied children's sweet tooth and was called "marshmallow."

It grows in TI's rain garden, as you can see from the photo. If you enjoy our community rain garden, I encourage you to join the TI Rain Garden Team. Send an email to: carla.ellern@gmail.com or call/text me at 301.943.3666.

We need to maintain the garden, and if we get enough volunteers, we'll each spend just a few pleasant hours from time to time weeding and enjoying our wonderful garden.

Editor's note: This is the inaugural column in a new Menorah series. We welcome new columns. Contact the editor with your idea for a monthly or occasional column at menorah@tifereth-israel.org

Successful Jeremy Goldberg High Holiday Cleanup Day - Ruth Tabak

Thank you to all of our fantastic volunteers for an efficient and fun Cleanup Day! The Himelfarb School students - assisted by their morim - completed the Machzorim and binder switch in record time (grades 3-6) and spruced up the playground outside (K-2). Our "adult" volunteers set up the Cherner; polished silver; rolled Torot (courtesy of the "Holy Rollers"); assembled HiHo packets; straightened books; folded tallitot; cleaned closets, shelves, and the bimah; and weeded and moved bricks. Our "children" volunteers cleaned the toys and switched kippot to the HiHo whites. None of this could have happened without the staff's preparation for our Cleanup Day and their on-the-ground assistance. Many thanks to Jevera, Rina, Sheri, Grant, Steve, Shoshana, and Elisha.

L'shana Tovah and we hope you'll join us next year!

Volunteers: Pearl Schinker, Ellen Kramarow, David Rubin, Mical & Mike Schneider, Lee Footer, Vera Krimnus, Phil, Ettie & Bina Wallach, Morris Rodenstein, Eliot Goldberg, Samuel Goldberg, Shira & Eric Schechtman, Lois Frankel, David Hart, Jeri Roth Lande, Melanie Greenfield, John List, Rachel Tickner, Susan Catler, Myrna Goldman, Michele Sumka, Gabe & Liora Tabak



Bina Wallace and Liora Tabak enjoy a snack after switching all the kippot.

My Afternoon Tea with Audrey Smith

Seth Glabman

I had heard from Susan Catler that Audrey had taken a fall and was recuperating at home. This would have been either June or July—just a few months ago. Audrey and I were not close friends, but we were friends. I looked forward to seeing those piercing, large eyes on Shabbat and talking with her about my dissertation and about music.



Audrey had a regal bearing that truly belied the almost constant pain she was in.

In any event, when I realized that it had been a long time—perhaps six weeks—since Audrey had originally suffered her injury, I felt I wanted to do more than just make a phone call. Thus, when I called her, I asked if she would like an “afternoon

tea” provided by me at her home. She gave me an enthusiastic answer in the affirmative. When I asked her what snacks she liked, she said, “Everything”!!

When the day arrived, I had several stops to make. I bought Audrey a large chocolate brownie from the Kosher Pastry Oven, crackers and Moroccan cookies from Shalom, and also a special flavor of iced tea in a bottle since it was summertime.

After a long search, I finally found her apartment. Upon my arrival, Audrey gave me a big greeting, and we sat down in the small museum, as I would call it, that served as her apartment. The “museum” was overflowing with books, trinkets, and artifacts from all over the world and told a visual story of Audrey’s many travels. Audrey took great delight in describing some of these treasures and the circumstances of their purchase.

Audrey told me some things that I know she would not like me to share about how hard how life was. During most of the visit, however, Audrey told me about the good things: Her love of DC, which she called “the greatest place on the planet,” her love of contributing (e. g., the Silver Spring Library), and her many travels. She was looking forward to hearing about a trip to England that I was about to take with my mom, 87, who had never been to Europe, and Martha (my wife).

All I can say to sum up is that that was a wonderful afternoon tea. Audrey couldn’t thank me enough. Being with Audrey that afternoon simply reinforced what I already knew about her: She was a loving, giving person who valued intelligence and could hold a conversation with anyone. She loved history, music, and people. I am very, very glad to have known her and to have shared this special day with her.

May her memory be for a blessing.

Dear TI Community,

My family and I want to express our deep appreciation for all you have done for Jeff and for us during the past fourteen months of Jeff’s illnesses, up to the time of his death and the following weeks. I cannot thank this community enough for the caring shown by Rabbi Seidel and so many friends who repeatedly visited Jeff in the hospital, the rehab center and at home during this entire period. It meant so much to Jeff and me, and definitely kept him going longer than he would have without your support.

He always worked hard at rehab so he could get back to attending services at TI as soon as possible. He even skipped rehab after one hospital stay so he could attend the centennial gala weekend with three days of activities. He was so happy to be able to get to TI for that weekend.

In Jeff’s memory I am helping sponsor the November 4th birthday/anniversary kiddush with some of the foods he loved. I hope to see you there.

Thank you again for being the caring and compassionate community that you are.

Miriam Davidson



Photo by Jeff Peterman

Social Action

Larry Baizer

Rosh Hashanah Food Deliveries

For many years volunteers from Tifereth Israel have delivered food baskets for Rosh Hashanah and Pesach to those less fortunate among us. These efforts, organized by TI's Social Committee and sponsored by JSSA and B'Nai B'Rith, have always helped to provide the traditional foods for the holidays and permitted a brighter New Year or Pesach for many elderly individuals and recent immigrants. On Sunday, September 17th twenty intrepid volunteers from TI made seventy such deliveries, the most of any congregation involved in the program! Several volunteers related touching conversations and interactions they had with recipients of the food packages, one of which is described by Krayna Feinberg in the accompanying story. Many thanks to all who aided in making this Rosh Hashanah so special for those we served.

Recent Developments with the Abdullah family

Volunteers from TI have been assisting the Abdullah family, recent immigrants from Syria, for several months. This effort has been led primarily by Janet Nesse, with critical assistance from Bob Feron and Alice Burton. More recently working with the family has evolved into a team effort, through which at least a dozen different TI volunteers have contributed significant time and effort, each in their own ways, which has made it possible to support the Abdullahs in many different aspects of their lives. This has included

taking advantage of various programs for food donations, generous donations of furniture from Shelly Heller, arrangements for extensive dental care with the Hermans' dentist, determining which vaccinations the children need to enroll in school and ensuring that they received those immunizations and helping the children with school assignments.

The Sunday tutoring effort was begun by Janet Nesse and since July has continued with Esther Feron and, since early September, with Simone Kimmelman-Block. A few additional homework tutors would be helpful, especially two or three adults whose schedules would permit them to work with the Abdullah children on weekday afternoons, when Janet Nesse is now the only volunteer doing so. It would also be extremely helpful to identify one or two volunteer ESOL tutors for the adults, who really aren't learning much English (although the children are becoming quite facile with the language).

Finally, Mrs. Abdullah now has a good sewing machine and says she's now interested in working at home to make clothing items for sale, so one or two TI volunteers who could support the mother with seamstress skills would be sincerely appreciated.

If you can assist with any of these efforts, please contact Janet Nesse at jnesse@mhlawyers.com or (for tutoring) Bob Feron at bobferon@gmail.com.

Our Experience Delivering Food Packages - Krayna Feinberg

Chuck and I have been delivering bags for the Jewish Social Services Agency (JSSA) before Rosh HaShana and Pesach for the past 2 years. This year, for RH, we delivered 4 bags. When we came to the last delivery, the woman invited us in. I said we could only stay for a short time because we had to take care of our grandson. When she heard that he is 15 months old, she proceeded to tell us that she has 15 great grandchildren! This 95 year old woman then

told us that she left Berlin in 1939 and came to the US with her family. In the course of the conversation, we learned that her son had made Aliyah and established a kibbutz. She and her husband made Aliyah to be with him and his family. When her son returned to the US, they followed because they had no other family in Israel. Her daughter and family are in Texas. Since her husband died, she lives alone, but sees her son and family who are in Kemp Mill.

We had a lovely visit and were pleased to have this experience. The people who receive the bags are very appreciative of the gift and of the deliverer's visit. It's a mitzvah that I recommend it highly.

We Care

 & Take Action

Himmelfarb & Chai School Happenings

Rina Rebibo

School Kick Off

The year got off to a fabulous start. We started our first day with the Rabbi for our Sunday morning Tefillah. After, our classes got busy learning about Rosh HaShanah and diving back into Hebrew. This year we have eight madrichim on Sundays and they spend some of their time doing a 'Flashmob'. Not the ones you see in YouTube videos, but they go into both 4th and 5th grade each Sunday for about 20 minutes and work with one or two students on their Hebrew decoding.

We were honored to host three Israelis who are interning at the US Holocaust Museum for a couple of months. They shared with our 6th grade & Chai School their life stories – how their families arrived in Israel from Ethiopia, what it is like living in Israel and what they are doing with their internship here, (see photos below and on the next page).

Visitors discuss and share their life stories with students

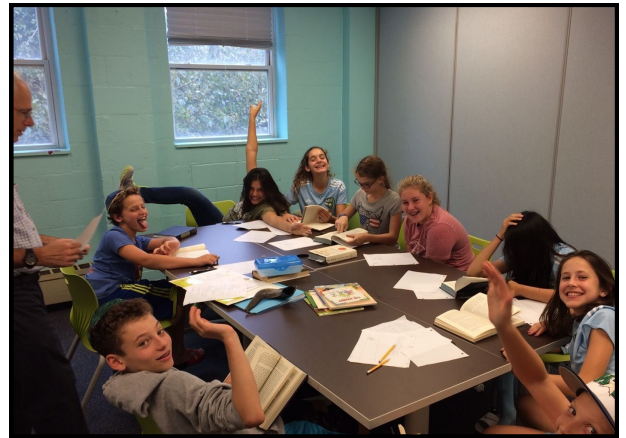


Himmelfarb & Chai School Happenings (continued)



Israeli Ethiopian visitors with 6th graders and Chai School students.

Rabbi Seidel with the Jr. Chai class



Rosh Hashanah 5778



Photos by Rina
Rebibo

Look for the Easy Mitzvot

Paula Flicker

I look for the easy Mitzvot. I'm not a people person; social action activities such as food delivery are not for me. Instead I make casseroles for S.O.M.E (So Others Might Eat). I cook a casserole in the privacy of my home and bring it to TI on Sunday morning. Since I am a regular at Sunday morning minyan, this contribution is easier for me than it might be for others who would have to make a special trip just for this purpose.

Speaking of Sunday morning minyan, I started going to the minyan one summer when there were Shabbat announcements of need for more people. I thought, "I could do that." Thanks to years of Hebrew School, parts of the service were quite familiar. Now I appreciate that attending minyan gets me up on Sunday so that the Sunday chores and errands get done earlier than they would without minyan. It's been a pleasure to get to know people by visiting with them for a quick bite to eat or a cup of coffee after the service.

Another easy mitzvah is cooking for either birthday/ anniversary Kiddush or for the break-the-fast meal. I like to cook. For the most part, I just go and do what I'm told to do. I don't care whether or not I end up eating any of the meal that we cook. I get to visit with some members of the congregation. I've learned some tricks in the kitchen as well. By contributing a few hours of my time, I help save the congregation some money, and we have a more complicated meal with more high-effort dishes than we might otherwise have. Many hands make light work.

Think about what might be an easy Mitzvah for you, particularly cooking (we need more cooks). If you want to try out cooking in the TI kitchen, respond to

the emails requesting people to sign up to cook for the birthday/anniversary Kiddush. We would love to have you.

Try it, and you might just find it is your easy Mitzvah.

Or try making a casserole for S.O.M.E, or coming to the Wednesday night or Sunday morning minyans. Stopping by TI for 20 minutes to make the minyan on your way home Wednesday could turn out to be your easy Mitzvah.

You won't know until you try.

Funeral Practices Committee Always On-Call

Haverim 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, before contacting the funeral home please contact one of the following haverim, Rabbi Seidel, or the TI office (202-882-1605).

Shelly Heller h: 301-942-1836
w: 202-994-5906

David Cohen h: 301-652-2872

Marcia Goggin h: 301-593-8480
w: 301-754-1963

Bruce Heppen h: 301-299-3255
c: 202-997-1890
w: 703-417-8983

Ann Kline h: 301-946-2693
c: 301-346-9862

Robert Rovinsky h: 202 237 1036
c: 202 815 8707

Nayes un Mekhayes for TI'ers

Diana Zurer

You don't see me at TI for the High Holy Days because I'm in Raananah. Not Raananah in Israel but a summer community in Highland Mills, NY called Raananah Park. This Labor Zionist community of 39 homes was founded 80 years ago by my grandfather and two others. My parents met there and I've spent many happy days there. The land is owned in common and the homes individually. About ten years after it began some of the members wanted to have a shul, and services began, always led by members of the community. For the last 14 years I've been the one to organize and lead much of the Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur services. It's an egalitarian, participatory, *hey-mish* service that always includes a Yiddish poem, Yiddish being the language many used when I was growing up there. We now use the Lev Shalem Machzor - as I write this I'm thinking I should be practicing Ne'ilah. I do miss being at TI but Raananah is a very special place.

Nakhes Fun Kinder and General Mispoche News Dept.

Dorothea Wolfson reports that daughter **Margaret** will be starting at the University of Chicago this fall (classes started 9/25) where she is looking forward to her studies and being on the swim team. She's not sure yet what her major will be.

All three of **Susan Catler** and **Keith Secular**'s children have made a move at the end of August. **Ruth Secular** started school at Emerson College in Boston, studying Comedic Arts. **Deborah Secular**, who finished Barnard College in May with a degree in Environmental Science, began living and working in Crown Heights. She is the National Education Director for Habonim Dror North America for the next two years. **Abraham Secular**

continues to work for Google as a software engineer, but has moved to a new apartment in Sunnyvale California. **Susan and Keith** helped move in or visited all three children within 10 days at the end of August - early September.

Meh Fort

Gene and Esther Herman decided to go to the hot south for vacation this year. After the disappointment of not being able to go to China with their daughter **Rachel**'s family, they impulsively put together a vacation plan. They attended a Road Scholar trip that they've been wanting to attend for a number of years: Converso and Crypto Jews of New Mexico.

The course included classroom teachings by an Albuquerque, New Mexico rabbi, learned professors and individuals who had discovered their Judaic roots by piecing together family lineages and exhibiting curiosity of family practices and discussions. They were shown a picture of Saint Esther, a crowned figure whose identity was hidden so Purim could be celebrated. Field trips involved learning about the culture of the pueblos surrounding the Albuquerque area and seeing the few evidences that remain of the Crypto-Jews.

A second part of their trip involved going to Austin, Texas, a second place they'd never been. Daughter, **Rachel Firschein** and two granddaughters were there so daughter, **Jenny**, could study with the Austin Ballet. They helped care for daughter, **Ava**, for several days and were able to tour the LBJ Library and Museum and the LBJ farm which included the Texas White House.

After a stop home for a baby naming, the **Hermans** went to Gettysburg, PA with daughter, **Alisa Herman-Liu**,

to tour battlegrounds and learn more of Civil War and slavery history. For their 59th wedding anniversary gift, Alisa hired a tour guide who drove their car while explaining the history of the area.

All-in-all, this multifaceted trip was a great one.

Sad News

Jeffrey Davidson, husband of **Miriam Davidson**, father of **Naomi** (Sebastien Greppo), **Ezra** (Evelyn Funes Davidson) and **Sam** (Gillian) and grandfather of **Django, Desi and Misha**, died August 24, 2017, at age 67. The funeral was at TI on August 28. **Jeff** was President of Tifereth Israel from 2013 – 2015 and also served TI in many other capacities.

Tifereth Israel member **Audrey Smith** died on September 7, 2017, after a short illness. She was 84 years old. The graveside service at Mt. Lebanon Cemetery was Sunday, September 10. Audrey chaired the Art Committee at TI

May their memories be a blessing.

In case you didn't know, *Es, bentsh, zay a mentsh* means Eat, pray don't be a jerk. This month I leave you with this: *A kluger vaist vos er zogt: a nar zogt vos er vayst*. Hope to hear from many of you for the November Menorah. My deadline is Oct. 24th. dzurer@gmail.com

Come join USY!

For 9th to 12 graders.

Friends, food, and excitement.

Bring your ideas!

To get involved, email us at

USYatTI@gmail.com

What If We Had a Funeral, and No One Came?

Shelly Heller

Many years ago, Marcia Goldberg wrote those lines as TI began its journey toward providing halachically traditional funerals for its members. Congregants would shoulder the responsibilities that had been given over to the funeral industry. We would serve as coordinators, we would be the *shomrim*, we would learn and perform *tahara*, we would provide minyanim. We would be a community that supported our members in times of sorrow as we do in times of joy. This is the origin of TI's Funeral Practices group.

Before the Funeral

A new generation has arisen at TI, one that does not remember Marcia and others who built on halacha to care for our congregation. This is what we had committed to do. When a member of our congregation or their family member dies, it is customary to provide a burial within a day or two. Until the moment of burial all focus is on the *met* (the dead person). We provide *shomrim* (singular is *shomer*, a watcher or guard) so we are not leaving the *met* alone. *Shomrim* sit near the casketed *met* and read psalms or study. We need *shomrim* from the time of death until the funeral: Tlers volunteer in two-hour or four-hour time slots, and many families find it a good mizvah to share with their teens.

Volunteers also perform *tahara* (ritual washing); men doing it for men, women for women. As a member of the *tahara* committee, I can attest that this is a beautiful ceremony where the *met* is carefully washed, then ritually washed, then dressed in a shroud and placed lovingly in the coffin. Prayers are recited, beginning and ending by asking the *met's* forgiveness should the *tahara* committee make a mistake or dishonor them. Parts of the Song of Songs (a poem depicting the most beautiful body) are read. Those who have performed the *tahara* remain anonymous—this is a kindness that cannot be repaid. The members of the *tahara* committee are self selected; you know if this is something you can do.

The Funeral and Afterwards

Most Tlers are familiar with a funeral—the eulogy, the pall bearers, the graveside, our tradition not to leave the cemetery until the coffin is fully covered. And after the funeral, Tlers attend and to lead shiva minyanim, because after the funeral and burial the focus moves from the deceased to the living, the mourners. We are a community helping our members through this difficult time.

The Tradition is Weakening

But our tradition of fully supporting our members is weakening. Many times the request for *shomrim* is unfulfilled. The *tahara* committees are growing older, with many members having been at that work for more than 30 years. The *chaverim* who rush to the family dealing with death are likewise aging, and some have died, placing a greater burden on the rest. People assume others will lead shiva minyanim and pay shiva visits.

If we want to continue providing a TI funeral for each of our members, we need to strengthen and expand our Funeral Practices group. This takes many people: the *chaverim*, the *shomrim*, the members of the *tahara* committee, the daveners. Many of us have been doing these jobs for a long time. We worry that what we know and what we do will not continue when we can no longer do it all.

Join Us

At this time of year, when you are making decisions about tzedaka, remember that the word means “obligation” and not just “charity.” Please think about this mitzvah and about joining the funeral practices committee in some capacity. We will teach you all you need to know for the role you choose.

All of this also takes financial support. As you consider donations in memory of loved ones and members of the congregation, consider a donation designated for the funeral practices committee.

Contact one of our Chaverim to find out more about volunteering:

Shelly Heller (301-942-1836) sheller@gwu.edu

Bruce Heppen (301 299-3255) bruce.heppen@mwaq.com

David Cohen (301 652-2872) davidmcohen37@verizon.net

Robert Rovinsky (202 237-1036) robertrovinsky@rcn.com

Marcia Goggin (301 593-8480) mrqjg@msn.com

Please do not let TI be the synagogue that had a funeral and no one came.

Kol Nashim, Winding the Watch of its Wit

Louise Parker Kelley



Book Club October 17th

At its September meeting at the home of Varda Fink and Stan Grabia the Book Club selected an entire year of varied reading (see the Book Club article for details). First meeting of the new reading season is Tuesday, October 17th at the home of Adele and Michael Sumner. We are reading Etgar Keret's memoir *The Seven Good Years*. RSVP to KNBook@Tifereth-Israel.org

Save the date for two fine events

Start the year with a laugh! Come to **Improbable Success: Making it as a Woman in Comedy**, with TI member Kim Levone on Sunday, October 22 at 10:15 AM in the Emsellem Room / Mollie Berch Library.

So You Wanna be an Activist?

Devorah Kimelman-Block will speak on Sunday, November 19 at 10:15

AM in the Emsellem Room/ Mollie Berch Library.

The next KN meeting is October 18th (3rd Wednesday because 2nd is Hoshanah Rabbah) at the home of Michele Sumka. All are welcome.

Better Together Program by Rina Rebibo

The Himmelfarb School has been selected to participate in the Legacy Heritage Better Together Program. The Better Together Program is a two-year program designed to encourage meaningful interaction between young and old. Our 2018 B'nai Mitzvah Cohort under the direction of Tamar Gasko, (see photo), will be participating in the program with members of Tifereth Israel and East Rock Creek Village. Our first inter-generational meeting will be held in the TI Sukkah on Sunday, October 8th, from 10:15-12:00. If you are age 50+, and would like more information or to join the group, please email Rina at rina@tifereth-israel.org.



BetterTogether

The Himmelfarb School is grateful for being chosen to participate in the Legacy Heritage Better Together Program and looks forward to sharing with our community how this program positively influences our students.



Gevarim

Andrew Reamer



Movie Nite

Movie Nite@TI continues its "Rescue and Resistance in World War II" series. On Sunday, October 15, at 7:30 PM in Cherner, two documentaries will be shown on diplomatic efforts to spirit thousands of Jews out of Europe. The first is "Assignment: Rescue," the story of Varian Fry and the Emergency Rescue Committee, narrated by Meryl Streep (1997, 26 minutes). The second is "Diplomats for the Damned," a History Channel show on the rescue work of diplomats Hiram Bingham (US), Carl Lutz (Switzerland), Aristides de Sousa Mendes (Portugal), and George Duckwitz (Germany) (2000, 50 minutes). Movies are free.

Video Course: The World of Biblical Judaism

Gevarim and the Adult Education Committee present "The World of Biblical Judaism," a set of video lectures by Professor Cynthia Chapman (Oberlin College) provided through Great Courses. The second session will be on Sunday, October 15, in the Berch Library. Lectures 3 and 4 -- "Ancestor Narratives in Genesis" and "Moses—The Torah's Central Hero" -- will be shown from 10:30-11:30 AM and followed by discussion until 12:15 PM, led by Allan Tulchin, Adult Ed Committee chair and Shippensburg University history professor.

Sukkot: Beer and Politics

On Monday, October 9 at 7:00 PM in the TI sukkah, Gevarim is hosting a conversation about current politics, led by TI member experts and facilitated by a sampling of craft Oktoberfest beers and snacks. No charge. So we know how many are coming please sign up at:

<https://tiferethdc.shulcloud.com/event/politics17>

Spirits of Judaism

On Saturday, October 21, from 5:00 -7:00 PM at Rabbi and Rachel Seidel's, Gevarim is hosting a whiskey tasting with special guest Sally from the Ri Ra Irish Pub in Georgetown. Participation limited to 20, \$15 per person. To reserve your space please sign up on TI website at:

<https://tiferethdc.shulcloud.com/event/liquor17>

Kol Nashim Book Club

Jessica Weissman

After taking August off the KN Book Club had its most successful book picking meeting ever on September 12th.

We chose a full year of readings, including a variety of fiction and non-fiction books with different approaches and different levels of seriousness but all with substantial Jewish interest. Also, all books are readily available to borrow from libraries or purchase. There were enough good suggestions to fill most of another year or more.

Our first reading is well-known Israeli author Etgar Keret's *The Seven Good Years*. We'll discuss

this memoir, which is notably less surreal than Keret's short stories, at the home of Adele and Michael Sumner on October 17th. Library copies are available, including at the TI library. The book can be had in paperback, audio, and electronic formats. There even appears to be a translation into Farsi, but that's only in paperback.

The order of future readings is to be determined. We'll alternate fiction and nonfiction as always, and save longer books for the

(Continued on page 13)

TI Collection

We are collecting fall and winter clothing for Shepherd's Table until October 15th.

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

Note – The collection bin has moved to the elevator lobby (on the left as you go from the Juniper Street entrance to the sanctuary).

Kol Nashim Book Club (continued)

more leisurely months (i.e., not around Passover or the fall holidays).

Books include:

Sons and Soldiers: The Untold Story of the Jews Who Escaped the Nazis and Returned with the U.S. Army to Fight Hitler, by Bruce Henderson. Non-fiction about a group of men, born in Germany, who after coming to the US enlisted in the army and fought in Germany.

Aphrodite and the Rabbis: how the Jews adapted Roman culture to create Judaism as we know it, by Burton Visotzky Interesting though opinionated history of a little-known period in Jewish history.

Marriage of Opposites, by Alice Hoffman. Historical novel about a Jewish woman who became the mother of artist Camille Pissarro.

Violins of Hope, Violins of the Holocaust-Instruments of Hope and Liberation in Mankind's Darkest Hour, by James Grymes. Non-fiction tracing the history of violins played by Jewish musicians during the Holocaust, and how they were restored afterwards. Formed the basis of a documentary that members had good things to say about.

The Garment-Maker's Daughter, by Hillary Adrienne Stern. Historical fiction by a local author, who will visit the group discussion. Covers labor history, suffrage, early feminism, etc. along with the personal story or romance obligatory for all historical novels.

The Tevye Stories, by Sholem Aleichem. Source for Fiddler on the Roof, but there are notable differences between the stories and the musical.

From Hester Street to Hollywood; The Life and Work of Anzia Yezierska, by Bettina Berch. Biography of a prolific author best known for her novel *The Bread Givers* (did you read it in college or grad school?).

Mark Berch will provide copies for the group to read.

After the Fall, by Lauren Belfer. Fiction about the discovery of a lost cantata by JS Bach with anti-Semitic lyrics. Should the finders suppress it? Does it change our picture of Bach?

Scenes of Village Life, by Amos Oz. Novel in stories (or maybe just linked short stories) by the prominent Israeli author.

Free Spirit: Growing Up On the Road and Off the Grid, by Joshua Safran. Jewish kid grows up, way too fast, in a series of communes and on the road with his mother. A memoir.

Washing the Dead, by Michelle Brafman. Set in Milwaukee, this is a mother-daughter story that goes beyond the clichés. Both the protagonist and her mother leave the Orthodox community that bounded their lives. But decades after the breach, the Rebbeztin of her childhood beckons Barbara back to the community to participate in the tahara, the ritual washing of the body before burial, of a popular and well-loved teacher who inspired her career.

We meet on the 3rd Tuesday of the month, unless it collides with a holiday. Order of readings and meeting locations will be announced. Contact me at knbook@tifereth-israel.org if you would like to host, or if you have requests for what books should be read in which months.

This is your book club. Everyone is welcome, including those who have not read or even started the book. Non-TI-ers too, so if you have literate friends who long for good conversation about books, bring them along. To say nothing of the snacks!

B'nei Mitzvah

Hi, I'm **Noah Grabel** and my Bar Mitzvah is on October 21. My parents joined TI before I was born, and I am really excited to have my bar mitzvah here at TI. I graduated from JPDS last year, and now I go to JDS.

I am currently in 7th grade. I like to play sports and hang out with my friends. For my bar mitzvah project, I tutored elementary school students in the Tifereth Israel Shepherd Tutoring Program. I really enjoyed helping young kids to learn.



Hi, my name is **Simone Kimelman-Block** and I am a 7th grader at Takoma Park Middle School. My Bat Mitzvah is on October 28 and I'm reading Lech Lecha. My dad was my Bat Mitzvah tutor. He helped me with my Torah reading, Haftorah, and Maftir. For my Bat Mitzvah project I am helping to tutor four refugee kids with their homework and English.

I have three siblings, Esther (18), Natan (15), Micah (7.5). I also have a mom (Devora) and dad (Jason), but I'm not going to tell their ages.

I really like musical theater. I am currently in the musical "West Side Story" which will be at Highwood Theater in June. I also played Sally Bowles in "Cabaret" last fall.

I'm really happy that so many of my friends and family from all over are coming to see me become a Bat Mitzvah, and can't wait to see everyone.

SHALEM

Jessica Weissman

Yes, I know that some of us want nothing more after Kiddush than to go home to a nice nap. But for those who like a little food for thought between the meal and the nap, TI provides SHALEM talks on Shabbat afternoons.

We kicked off our fall season with a talk by TI's own **Seth Glabman** entitled "Diverse Musical Soundscapes with a Jewish Twist". Everyone has a soundscape, the sum total of our musical experiences. Seth explained what soundscapes are, and then led us in remembering some of the early experiences that helped define our soundscapes. We all left the talk with those memories filling our heads.

Are you talking to us? If not, you could be

The new season of SHALEM talks is still taking shape. I can promise talks on Jewish history and on social issues. We'll also hear from the authors of recent Jewish books.

If you want to give a talk or have a topic or speaker to suggest, please contact me jweissmn@his.com. Talks must be of some Jewish interest, defined loosely. The SHALEM audience is the best you may ever have. We are attentive, knowledgeable, supportive, and full of good questions. The only limitations are no slides or other electronic assistance.

October Highlights at Tifereth Israel

- | | |
|------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| October 5-6 | Sukkot I and II (see schedule, page 17)
Sukkah Walk touring TI family sukkot, Oct 5 12:30 |
| October 8 | Better Together Program in the Sukkah, 10:15 (see article, page 12)
USY/Kadima Sushi in the Sukkah - at Eliyah Lister's home, 4:30 |
| October 9 | Gevarim: Beer and Politics in the Sukkah, 6:30
RSVP: https://tiferethdc.shulcloud.com/event/politics17 |
| October 12 - 13 | Simchat Torah (see schedule, page 17) |
| October 15 | Movie Nite documentaries: <i>Assignment: Rescue</i> and <i>Diplomats for the Damned</i>, 7:30 p.m. |
| October 17 | KN Book Club, at home of Varda Fink & Stan Grabia, 7:30 |
| October 21 | Noah Grabel Bar Mitzvah

Gevarim Whiskey Tasting at the home of Rabbi and Rachel Seidel, 5:00. RSVP: https://tiferethdc.shulcloud.com/event/liquor17 |
| October 28 | Simone Kimelman-Block Bat Mitzvah |

For further details on these and other TI events go to our website at www.Tifereth-Israel.org, Facebook at www.facebook.com/TiferethIsrael, or Twitter at www.twitter.com/TiferethDC.

Upcoming Friday Night Minyan Assignments

October 13, 2017

Eugene & Esther Herman
 Carolivia Herron
 James & Annie Hershberg
 William Hodos
 Gayle & Erik Hope
 Deborah Horowitz & Michael Bullen
 Hedy Howard
 Neil Hyman & Rachel Decter Hyman
 Anita Isicson
 David & Shana Jacobs
 Leonard Jewler & Andrea Rosen
 Harvey Kabaker & Andrea Kline
 Steven Kalish & Anita Bolt
 Mark & Sarah Kass
 Joshua & Jennifer Kefer
 Kenneth Kellner & Nina Bronk
 Kellner

November 3, 2017

Rabbi Jason & Devora Kimelman-Block
 Alexandra Kincannon & Paul Moorehead
 Shemaya & Dori Klar
 Morris Klein & Naomi Freeman
 Aaron Kofner & Anat Shahar
 Roger Kohn
 Allan Kolker
 Edward Koren & Claudine Schweber
 Michael & Lisa Kraft

Anita Kramer
 Joshua & Francesca Kranzberg
 David & Amy Kritz
 Richard Kruger & Naimah Weinberg
 Daniel & Juliet Kuhn
 Matthew Kunkin & Hilary Sachs
 Simcha Kuritzky
 Susan Laden
 Alan Landay
 Robert Lande & Jeri Roth Lande

November 17, 2017

Alexander Laufer & Jennifer Siegel
 Laufer
 Jen Lav & Susan Gilvin
 Michael & Iris Lav
 Mitchell Lazarus & Judith Shapiro
 Beverly Lehrer
 Elihu Leifer
 Ken & Rachel Lemberg
 Mark & Ilene Levine
 Steve LeVine & Nuri Nurlybayeva
 Wylie & Kim Levone
 Mark Lewis & Janet Nesse
 Martin Libicki & Denise Mazorow
 Dan Liebman & Lis Davis
 Lisa Traiger
 Michael Linden & Rebecca Melsky
 Fred Lipschultz & Rabbi Devorah
 Lynn
 John & Lynne List
 John Lister

Daniel & Elizabeth Handwerker
 Eliot Harrison & Wendy Blake-Coleman
 David Hart & Lois Frankel
 Michael Heimowitz & Dori Gillman
 Matt & Linda Heller
 Steve & Shelly Heller
 Bruce Heppen & Bonnie Suchman

November 24, 2017

Sarna Marcus
 Stephen Marcus & Renee Matalon
 Ilana Marmon & Paul McLeary
 Joseph & Paula Martin
 Robert Mathis & Tali Stopak-Mathis
 David & Carla Matusow
 Stephanie & Yony Mazal
 Allison & Colin McMillan
 Tobi McFarland
 David & Janice Mehler
 Robert & Laura Meisnere
 Stephen Meltzer
 Ethan Merlin & Joelle Novey
 David & Dana Mermelstein
 Sarah & Rachel Meytin
 Josephine Mickelson
 Michael & Barbara Milton
 Emily & Adil Moiduddin
 Ken Morris & Terri Zall
 Jerry & Sharon Muller

Upcoming Birthday/Anniversary Kiddushim



The October birthday/anniversary kiddush is on October 14th. Deadline to sign up to have your name included on the cake and in the handout is Sunday, October 8.

The November birthday/anniversary kiddush is on November 4th. Deadline to sign up is Tuesday, October 31.

For both, sign up at: <https://tiferethdc.shulcloud.com/kiddush-donations>

Sukkot, Sh'mini Atzeret & Simchat Torah Schedule

Sukkot

Sun, Oct 1	9:15am - 12:15pm	Himmelfarb School Sukkah Build - students build sukkahs at congregants' homes
Thu, Oct 5	9:00 am 12:00 noon 12:40 pm	Sukkot 1 - Festival Service (TI office closed) Light Kiddush in the TI sukkah Sukkah Walk - tour TI families' sukkot (map will be supplied at Kiddush)
Fri, Oct 6	9:00 am 12:00 noon 6:30 pm	Sukkot 2 - Festival Service (TI office closed) Kiddush in the TI sukkah Shabbat service, followed by dinner in the TI sukkah (for those with prior reservations)
Sat, Oct 7	9:00 am 12:00 noon	Hol HaMoed Sukkot - Shabbat and Festival Service Kiddush in the TI sukkah
Sun, Oct 8	10:15 am 12:30 pm 2:30 pm 4:30 pm	Better Together - intergenerational program with Himmelfarb School and East Rock Creek Senior Village in the TI sukkah Pizza in the Hut - lunch for all families with children in the TI sukkah RSVP: https://tiferethdc.shulcloud.com/event/pizza17 by Oct 4 Millenials Plus - Dessert Bake-off and Guest Speaker: Sarah Novick of JUFJ, Sukkot themed arts and crafts for children - in the TI sukkah RSVP to TiMillplus@tifereth-israel.org by Oct 6 USY/Kadima - Sushi in the Sukkah - at Eliyah Lister's home
Mon, Oct 9	6:00 pm	Gevarim: Beer and Politics - in the TI sukkah RSVP: https://tiferethdc.shulcloud.com/event/politics17

Hoshanah Rabbah

Wed, Oct 11 7:00 am Morning Service

Shemini Atzeret

Thu, Oct 12 9:00 am Festival Service (TI office closed)
11:00 am Yizkor Memorial Service (approximate time)

Simhat Torah

Thu, Oct 12 6:30 pm Festival Service - hakafot with marching, singing, celebrating and the un-furling of a Torah

Fri, Oct 13 9:00 am Festival Service - hakafot with marching, singing and celebrating (TI office closed)

Israel's Languages

Simcha Kuritzky

Anyone who visits Canada readily sees that both English and French are the national languages, and this bilingualism appears on their money as well. Many other countries use multiple languages and alphabets; India may hold the record for showing denominations in 15 languages on their notes. Israel's official languages are Hebrew and Arabic, but how has Israel reflected this on her coins? The answer has changed over time.

Trade Coins



Under the British, the Palestine Currency Board (PCB) used English, Hebrew, and Arabic on coins and notes. The entity name and denominations were in all three languages, and both the denomination and date used both Western and Arabic numerals, though the date was only given in the Christian or Common Era (CE). The first money produced by the Yishuv were the tax tokens of 1938, which were entirely in Hebrew including the Jewish year which was written with letters using their numeric values (gematria). Since these half mil tokens were used to pay the voluntary tax to support the Hagganah against the Arab riots, it was reasonable to assume only Jews would handle them, though they did circulate as money among Israel's general population for the first few years of statehood. On Israel's emergency 25 mil coin of 1948-9, the denomination was in Hebrew and Arabic as was the state name, the date in gematria, and no English at all.



In late 1949, Israel's regular coinage arrived from a private mint in England. Again, no English and now the Arabic denomination disappeared as well. She didn't add the country name in English until the new half and one lira denominations were introduced in 1963, and this was continued on all new denominations introduced thereafter. When Israel debuted the 5 sheqalim in 1982, it included the denomination in the Latin alphabet. Israel put the denomination in Arabic numerals and words back on coins in 1992 on the 5 new sheqalim coin, and it also appears today on the NIS10 coin and NIS2 coins. Only the NIS1 and agorot denominations today circulate without a trilingual denomination. However, dates are only given in the Jewish Era using gematria.

Banknotes



(Continued on page 19)

Israel's Languages (continued)



Israel's notes have shown more Arabic on them than her coins, probably because there's more room. Mirroring the PCB notes, Israel's emergency note issue of 1948 (issued under the name of the Zionist Organization's Anglo-Palestine Bank) had the entire inscription in Hebrew on one side and Arabic on the other, with English on both. Even the names of the signatories were printed in English and Arabic.



The Bank of Israel was created in 1954 and their first notes' front had a scenic view design and the issuer, date, and denomination in Hebrew. The CE date was also given in Western numerals. The back had the issuer and denomination in both English and Arabic for the 500 prutah, while Israel pounds were represented only by a cursive IL. The 1958 issue only had the numerals for the denomination in Western and Arabic, though the bank name continued to be shown in English and Arabic.



This persisted through several change of series until 1982 when the 500 sheqalim was issued with the denomination spelled out in both English and Arabic. The newest series of notes are essentially the same: Hebrew issuer, denomination, signatures, description of the person portrayed on the front with the English year; Arabic and English issuer and denomination on the back along with a quote in pointed Hebrew. Interestingly, the brochures that describe the new notes and their security features are in Hebrew, Arabic, English, Russian, and Amharic.

Commemorative Coins



Israel started issuing commemorative coins for sale to

(Continued on page 20)

Israel's Languages (continued)

collectors on her tenth anniversary of independence. The coins were entirely in Hebrew, except they included the country name in Arabic and Western year. Some coins, like the Purim half shekel of 1961-2, didn't even include the Western year. The country name in English became a permanent feature in 1968.



Not all coins had an inscription, but those that did were in Hebrew, like the ingathering of the exiles theme on Israel's 1959 independence day IL5. The 1971 Let My People Go 10 lirat was the first to include it in English as well (though they probably should have written it in Russian, as that was the intended audience). The first commemoratives with the legend in Hebrew, Arabic and English were the 1980 Egypt Peace Treaty and 1994 Jordan Peace Treaty coins. By 1984, over half of the commemorative coins issued had legends in Hebrew and English, and English legends became an almost permanent feature by 1991. Arabic legends started to appear regularly in 2000, and are on almost all commemorative coins issued after 2002.



Conclusion

There was considerable anti-British feeling as Israel became independent, which is evident by the lack of English on Israel's early money. While denominations in Arabic appeared on the first coins and notes, it quickly disappeared. This may have reflected Israel's focus on pushing Hebrew out to her immigrant population, especially those from Arab countries. But in the 1980s and 1990s, both English and Arabic denominations were added back, and commemorative coin legends followed suit slowly.

Wednesday Minyan

The Wednesday evening minyan has resumed! Minyan starts at 6:10 p.m. and ends by 6:30 p.m. for Hebrew School pick-up. Come help make the minyan for people saying kaddish.

Donations

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(Continued on page 22)

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