



**Tifereth Israel  
Congregation**

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# The Menorah

## From the President: Sylvia Horwitz

Kol Nashim has reconvened their monthly Rosh Chodesh meetings, and I was glad to attend the meeting for Rosh Chodesh Av, warmly and ably led by Michele Sumka. The month of Av usually conjures up sadness for me because its most noted date is the 9th – Tisha B'Av. This is the date associated with calamity in Jewish history: the destruction of both the First and Second Temples in Jerusalem most notably, but also the expulsions from Spain, England and France, and the start of the mass deportation from the Warsaw Ghetto in 1942, among others.

But I came away from that lovely gathering on Zoom feeling really good. I learned that there is another day to commemorate in Av – the 15th (“Tu B'Av”) - and it is a celebration of love! Who knew? Well, I'm sure a lot of people, but I was not one of them.

According to Wikipedia, “In modern-day Israel, it is celebrated as a holiday of love *Hag HaAhava*, similar to Valentine's Day. It has been said to be a “great day for weddings.” Also according to Wikipedia, there is a historical basis for this modern-day holiday: “According to the Mishna, Tu B'Av was a joyous holiday in the days of the Temple in Jerusalem, marking the beginning of the grape harvest. It is

*(Continued on page 3)*



## From the Rabbi: Rabbi Michael Werbow

### New Year/Different Year

I've said often throughout the pandemic that if anyone had written a story with the details of how we have lived our lives since the middle of March, it would have been considered a great work of fiction. Unfortunately though, as the saying goes, truth is stranger than fiction. We can all list experiences and occasions where we would say, “It isn't supposed to be like this.” No one had ever thought through what a total shutdown of a synagogue's regular activities would look like. No one imagined funerals where only the cemetery workers are on site, with the rabbi, family members and friends all at home on their computers. No one dreamed of each individual household having their own Passover Seder with almost no one having an invited guest at their table.

Yes, all of these experiences have in common the fact that “it isn't supposed to be like this.” But, another common thread, linking all of these events, is that people

*(Continued on page 2)*



## From the Rabbi - continued

have constantly seen the blessings as well. Each and every recounting of a funeral I have run under the cloud of COVID has engendered the sentiment that there are people who “attended” that never would have if it weren’t broadcast on Zoom. Some people were able to have Passover Seder with others who live far away and with whom they haven’t had Seder with in many years, because they connected online. Even people who don’t use computers on Shabbat and holidays expressed that having Seder with just their nuclear family was a specific treat that they haven’t had in a long time, if ever.

So, what have we learned from within the midst of the pandemic? Things are different than we would have ever imagined but different does not always mean bad. With something being different there is an opportunity for something new to be created. We are pushed to try something different and be open to new experiences.

We are now moving closer and closer to the High Holidays and we can all be certain that they will not look like the High Holidays we are used to. This is not going to be the year where we have a filled sanctuary and we sit in (or close to) “our spot.” It is not going to be the year where we are in person to hear the chanting of Kol Nidre or other favorite melodies of the High Holidays.

What will this year be like? It will be a year where we look past the ordeal of the pandemic and focus on the themes of the High Holiday season. It will be a year where we are creative in how we will experience the holidays. It will be a year where we have to double down on making an effort to connect with people we would expect to see in person on the holidays. It will be a year where we will find meaning in something new and different.

The Hebrew letters that make up the word *Shana*, “year,” are *Shin, Nun and Hey*. These are also the letters that make up the word *Shoneh*, meaning “different.” We may still be over a month away from wishing each other a *Shana Tovah*, a good year, but we can begin to prepare ourselves for having a “good change.” Change is hard and with every change is a sense of loss but change also brings about opportunity. Change urges us to be creative and change opens us up to new possibilities.

Please join me in looking ahead to a year of change. A year where we support each other in reflection of what we miss and a year where we encourage each other to embrace what is new.

Rabbi Werbow

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United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism*

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**5781**

*High Holidays*

We look forward to seeing you  
and wish you a sweet new year!

**Selichot:**  
September 12

**Erev Rosh Hashanah:**  
September 18

**Rosh Hashanah:**  
September 19-20

**Kol Nidre:**  
September 27

**Yom Kippur:**  
September 28

### From the President - continued

also said that this day represents the love between God and God's people Israel. Yom Kippur marked the end of the grape harvest. On both dates the unmarried girls of Jerusalem dressed in white garments, and went out to dance in the vineyards. That same section in the Talmud states that there were no holy days as happy for the Jews as Tu B'Av and Yom Kippur.

The destruction of the Second Temple has been attributed to "sinat chinam" or 'baseless hatred.'" It is fascinating to me that six days later, the opposite of hatred – love – is celebrated. But the conversation at our Kol Nashim Rosh Chodesh gathering re-

vealed to me another way of thinking about the opposite of "sinat chinam," and that is kindness. Kindness is a smile for a stranger on the street (even behind a mask), or listening to and hearing another person. Not judging or making assumptions is kind. Of course kindness can also be proactive – volunteering, donating, helping out, speaking out when something isn't right. I heard about what some Rosh Chodesh attendees have been doing in this time of pandemic and turbulence - about kindness - and it made my heart swell.

Happy Tu B'Av.

Sylvia

# BIRTHDAY & ANNIVERSARY

## Happy Birthday!

**A**  
 Rabbi A. Nathan Abramowitz  
 Andrew Afflerbach  
 Ethan Balis  
 Sophie Balis  
 Gideon Bass  
 Jessica Bell  
 Cayden Berch  
 Joshua Berch  
 Ron Borzekowski  
 Ariel Brandt Lautman  
 Anna Bressler  
 Wilma Brier  
 Alice Burton  
 Susan Catler  
 Susan Chapin  
 Hal Cohen  
 Mary Craig  
 David Driscoll  
 James Ehrman  
 Noa Eisenbach Chazan  
 Robert Feron  
 Dinah Finkelstein  
 Brett Gerstein  
 Larry Greenfield  
 David Greisen  
 Raphael Grimes  
 Jeremy Halpern  
 Eliot Harrison  
 Emmett Hedrick  
 Nathaniel Heller  
 Samuel Hyman  
 Anita Isicson  
 Lisa Itkin  
 Samuel Jewler  
 R. Jason Kimelman-Block

Asher Kirschbaum  
 Abigail Klein  
 Morris Klein  
 Allan Kolker  
 Michael Kraft  
 Francesca Kranzberg  
 Simcha Kuritzky  
 Susan Laden  
 Abraham Laufer  
 Aaron Lav  
 Jennifer Lav  
 Raviv Levone  
 Erica Lipschultz  
 Hannah Mathis  
 Jacob Mazer  
 Simon Melsky Linden  
 Timothy Michalak  
 Aidan Moorehead  
 Rebecca Morris  
 Barry Nelson  
 Jeffrey Nosanov  
 Maya Pitch  
 Erica Pitlick  
 Deborah Pomerance  
 Herschel Revzin  
 Naomi Revzin  
 Susan Rodberg Corp  
 Naomi Rubin  
 Natan Seidel  
 Lois Shapiro  
 Noam Shelef  
 Sammie Simon  
 Steven Stoller  
 Michael Stone  
 Emily Stopak

## Happy Birthday! (continued)

Hayim Stopak  
 Jacob Suddleson  
 Elnatan Sullivan  
 Neil Tickner  
 Rachel Tickner  
 Paula Tucker  
 Allan Tulchin  
 Lester Turner  
 Nathan Turner  
 David Wachtel  
 Ilana White  
 Aaron Wiener  
 Betsy Wohl  
 Adam Wolfson  
 Abraham Zeleke

## Happy Anniversary!

Larry & Elaine Baizer  
 Daniel & Elizabeth Berman  
 Daniel Chazan & Ronit Eisenbach  
 Rick Glaser & Sheryl Gross-Glaser  
 Henry & Melea Greenfeld  
 Linda & Matt Heller  
 Eugene & Esther Herman  
 Joshua & Jennifer Kefer  
 Aaron & Anat Kofner  
 Gabriel & Yael Kravitz  
 Vera & Philip Krimnus  
 Jennifer Lav & Jane Gilvin  
 Mark & Ilene Levine  
 Rabbi Sarah & Rachel Meytin  
 Raymond & Adele Natter  
 R. Elizabeth Richman & Benjamin Dreyfus  
 Yvonne Shashoua & Yochanan Sullivan  
 Sarah Sorscher & Marcus Hedrick  
 Jack Stone & Wilma Brier  
 Edwin & Rose Ellen Stromberg  
 Howard & Michele Sumka  
 Michael & Ruth Unterweger  
 Diana & James Zurer

## High Holidays 2020

It has been several months since we have been together in person at TI but there has been a great deal of activity in thinking about and planning the High Holidays for this year. A COVID-19 Taskforce has been meeting regularly to discuss what gatherings would be acceptable in the face of the virus. In addition, the Ritual Committee has met and discussed what aspects of the holidays are most important to maintain and to give guidance to help shape the holidays for this year.

Assessment of the virus and its impact on our community is constantly evolving so our plans may change but we wanted to share an overview of what we are planning for the High Holidays this year.

On the first day of Rosh Hashanah, as well as on Yom Kippur, a small group will make a minyan in the sanctuary and broadcast a Zoom service to the rest of the congregation. This group will most likely be made up of two or three families and the leaders of the services. It will be just a minyan or slightly over. The people who are in the sanctuary will be spread out to the corners of the room; the service leaders will each lead from a different podium; and only one person will handle the Torah. All of these precautions are intended to minimize the risk of any spread of the virus through our small gathering. In addition to those in the sanctuary, we will have people participating from their homes.

On the second day of Rosh Hashanah, we will have a different Rosh Hashanah experience that will be completely run on Zoom. This experience will include the key elements of a Rosh Hashanah service

but will look different than we are accustomed to.

On both of these days, as well as Yom Kippur, we expect to have several other options available. On the second day of Rosh Hashanah, Kol Nidre, and Yom Kippur morning, Rabbi Avis Miller and Larry Paul will lead parallel services via Zoom. We will also offer special youth and family activities.

In addition to our services, you can expect a range of other High Holiday-themed activities to engage in. During the month of Elul, preceding the holidays, there will be a number of events to help us all prepare for the work we are meant to do during this time of the year. There will also be some gatherings outdoors in public where we will perform tashlich and hear the shofar blown. For all of these events, we will keep in mind physical distancing guidelines and no one who does not feel comfortable in public spaces should feel any pressure to attend in person. Our objective is to continue to share these gatherings by Zoom as well.

Since Zoom will be the primary access point for people to participate in High Holiday services this year, we will be reaching out to make sure people have the ability to connect. If you know someone who is not connected to, or comfortable with, Zoom technology, please let Rabbi Werbow know. We want services to be as accessible as possible, even under the current conditions.

More details for all of the High Holiday services and events, as well as those for Sukkot and Simchat Torah, will be publicized shortly. We look forward to celebrating the holidays as a Kehilah Kedosha, as a holy community.

## Summer Memories - Myrna Goldman

During the summer in my elementary school years, I used to go to the outdoor city pool at River Park (near the north bank of the Chicago River) for both swimming lessons and free swims. They actually had separate girls and boys days. I remember having to wear a bathing cap, which was always too tight and never seemed to keep the water out. It was also the first time that my friends told me that I looked like my mother when wearing the cap. This truth is confirmed every time I look at myself in Zoom these days.

I also remember the song "Sealed with a Kiss" that came out near the end of my high school years.

# HIGH HOLIDAYS

Coming up:

## LEARN TO BLOW SHOFAR WITH JUDAH FLUM!

*August 5, 12 & 17 at 7:00 pm*

Come get ready to blow the Shofar during High Holiday with this class for Shofar blowers of all levels.

[Click here to learn more.](#)

## SOCIAL ACTION FOOD DELIVERY

*Sunday, September 13, 9:00 am*

Help brighten a family's High Holidays by helping to deliver Holiday groceries to those in need.

[Click here to learn more.](#)

## SELICHOT WITH LOOLWA KHAZOOM

*Sunday, September 13 at 7:30 pm*

Loolwa Khazoom will return for an Selichot evening featuring Sephardic melodies for the High Holidays.

[Click here to learn more.](#)

## SELICHOT WITH JOEY WEISENBERG

*Monday, September 14 at 7:45 pm*

Equal parts conversation, prayer, study and song – delve into the lyrics of Joey's songs and sing melodies of teshuvah and celebration.

[Click here to learn more.](#)

## New Members - Jared Garelick

**Robin Reiss and Timothy Michalak** – Some people complain that they are not getting much done during these pandemic times. That is not true of Robin and Timothy. During July, they completed their conversions to Judaism, got married and, to top it off, joined TI! That will be a month to remember.

Both Robin and Timothy grew up in Massachusetts; he in the suburbs of Springfield and she in central Massachusetts. While in college Robin fell in with some of Timothy's old home friends, and that brought them together.

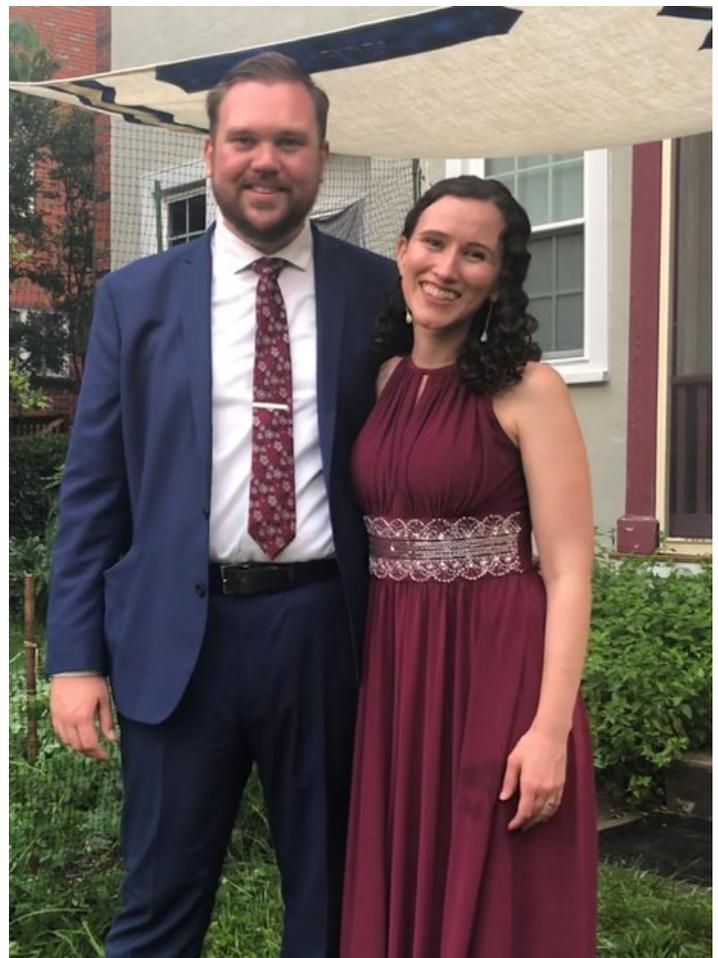
They moved to this area in May 2019. Timothy was finishing a master's degree in public policy from the University of Texas that culminated with six months in Washington. Deciding to end the long-distance phase of their relationship, Robin moved down from New England to join him here. With the degree finished, Timothy now works as a legislative assistant to Rep. Jim Clyburn, the House Majority Whip, working on a variety of policy matters. Robin, who has long worked in libraries, is working on a master's in library and information science at the University of Maryland while employed at the University library.

Robin was raised by a single father who was Jewish, and she describes always feeling culturally Jewish but not involved in religious life. She became increasingly interested in Jewish religious practice as an adult, and shared that interest with Timothy, who was also increasingly becoming a big part of her life. They decided to convert together and, being new in town, used Google to find a nearby Conservative synagogue that could help them. They studied with **Rabbi Seidel**, quickly becoming regulars at TI services and events. On July 5, their conversion was completed before a bet din, a three-rabbi panel on which **Rabbi Werbow** served, one of his first official acts as TI Rabbi. The very next day they were married by Rabbi Seidel in the

Seidel's back yard, with Rabbi Werbow in attendance as well. It was not the big wedding they had long been planning. Only a small number of carefully spaced people attended in person, with many more friends and family joining online through a friend's cell phone. Nor did they travel on a honeymoon. The party and travel are postponed for the duration.

Among other things, Robin and Timothy both enjoy board games. Robin also likes crafts, and Timothy is an adult piano learner. They are happy to officially join TI, which they describe as already feeling like family.

Welcome to TI, Robin and Timothy.





## Nayes un Mechayes - Melissa Perera

### Joyous News

**Robin Reiss** and **Timothy Michalak** got married in Rabbi Seidel's backyard on July 6, 2020 (14 Tamuz, 5780). A large wedding had been planned for August but they postponed it to next year and married sooner rather than later. It was a beautiful ceremony, thanks to **Rabbi Seidel** and **Rachel Seidel**. They had to wait out a downpour, but the rain eventually broke and a rainbow even appeared in the middle of the ceremony. Because of the pandemic, many of their loved ones were unable to join in person but they were able to Zoom them in. See the [New Member column](#) on page 6 to learn more about Robin and Timothy.



### Sports, Music and Technology

**Alan Landay** virtually "attended" classes in mountain dulcimer and voice/singing at the Common Ground on the Hill Music and Arts Camp, which he has gone to several summers at McDaniel College in Westminster, MD. He reports that, although virtual, he had a great time and pretty much felt like he had really gone to the camp. He has signed up for another camp, this one emphasizing dulcimers, in NC in October. He reports that this is supposed to be a real, actually being there, camp, but stay tuned ...

**Dina** and **Ruby Borzekowski** snuck away (pre and post negative COVID-19 tests) and Roo got to train in Coral Springs, Florida. She is looking forward to

diving again in Maryland.



Photo by Dina Borzekowski

**Joshua Weitz** (son of **Cyndy** and **Alan Weitz**) who directs the Interdisciplinary Graduate Program in Quantitative Bioscience at Georgia Tech, led the development of an interactive tool to visualize and assess the possibility that someone at an event has COVID-19, based on county, event size, and given certain underlying mathematical assumptions. The tool can be accessed at: <https://covid19risk.biosci.gatech.edu/>, and has been covered extensively in the media, including <https://www.wired.com/story/to-navigate-risk-in-a-pandemic-you-need-a-color-coded-chart/>.

*(Continued on page 10)*

## Nayes un Mechayes - continued

### Sad News

Agbot Martin, brother of TI member **Desiree Douglas**, died July 4, 2020, 12 Tamuz 5780, in Cameroon. He was 58 and died after suffering a second stroke. He is survived by his wife, Aboh Sea Marcelin, eight children and six grandchildren. The funeral was in Cameroon.

Philip J. Raimondo, father of TI member **Barbara Raimondo (Dennis Kirschbaum)**, and grandfather of Meira (Jeff Fredrickson) and Asher, died on July 12, 2020, 20 Tamuz 5780, at the age of 85. The funeral was held in New Jersey on July 17, 2020.

Marianne C. Dreyfus, grandmother of TI member **Ben Dreyfus (Rabbi Elizabeth Richman)**, and great-grandmother of **Yonatan** and **Avital**, died on July 20, 2020, 28 Tamuz 5780, at the age of 95. She was also the wife of the late Rabbi A. Stanley Dreyfus, mother of Dr. James N. Dreyfus (Rabbi Ellen Weinberg Dreyfus) and the late Richard B. Dreyfus (Helen Dreyfus), grandmother of Lina Wallace (Dr. Adam Wallace), David Dreyfus (Lauren Butterfield), Daniel Dreyfus, and Adam Dreyfus and great-grandmother of Sivan, Eitan, and Penina. Private graveside services were held in New York.



Tifereth Israel member **Deborah Weilerstein**, died on Monday night, July 27, 2020, 7 Av 5780, at the age of 91 after a short illness. She is survived by her niece, TI member **Rachel (Rabbi Ethan) Seidel**, and their children Alex, Natan (Sheila Werth), and Hannah. She is also survived by nieces Abby (Ken) Jaffe, Faith (Marcus) Szydlo, and Lauren (Irv) Mermelstein; nephew Dan Weil (James Dronenberg); great nieces and nephews Adam and Joe Kellogg, Hannah Szydlo, and Simon and Lainie Mermelstein; and great-great nieces Amelia and Eva.

Deborah was born in Brooklyn, NY, but spent her childhood in Atlantic City, NJ. She graduated from the University of Rochester in 1951. After graduation Debbie worked on a Bookmo-



bile in the Bronx, and then got a Masters in Library Sciences at Drexel University. Deborah worked as a children's librarian for many years, first in Cleveland, Ohio and then in Arlington County, Virginia, where she became the Head Children's Librarian. She served on the Newbery Award Committee in 1991. Upon her retirement Deborah became an active volunteer, working at the White House, the Smithsonian, and a hospice thrift shop. In addition to spending time with family, she loved traveling and storytelling. In recent years she became a "political junkie" following the news very closely and rooting for the Democrats.

## Volunteer Spotlight - Jared Garelick

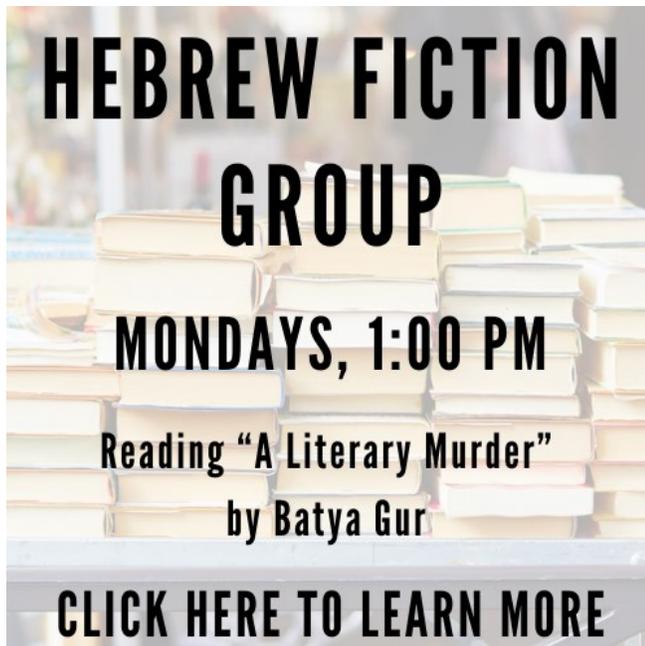
**Heike Bailin** – Heike, a TI member since 2003, has recently found herself giving of her time and professional expertise on the committee created to help plan TI's eventual staged return to in-person synagogue experiences. She stresses that she is just one person of many involved in this important effort. She especially singles out the work of **Dina Borzekowski**, for providing robust public health guidance, **Sarah Berman Osborne**, for developing models of different reopening scenarios and data analysis, **Susan Catler**, for work on surveys, TI President **Sylvia Horwitz**, who has been coordinating this and other COVID-related efforts, and synagogue staff members **Jevera Temsky**, **Sheri Blonder**, and **Rina Rebibo**, and TI clergy **Rabbi Seidel**, and now **Rabbi Werbow**, who have all been continuously involved.

Heike also stresses that the committee is evaluating options that offer flexibility and risk-based solutions tailored to the congregation's meaningful and safe engagement in life cycle events and religious observances. For example, monitoring relevant COVID-related trends in the surrounding communities and careful assessment of information with direct impact to TI will be key elements in defining and implementing progressive re-opening – and potentially

halting it. Her experience shows that what makes the most sense for any particular community may differ from what another community should do. The committee plans to work intensively with input from the congregation to plan how to physically re-open TI in stages in a way that protects its most vulnerable members and the staff. Different members will have different safety needs and concerns, and the committee wants to help all members have the accurate information they will need to make decisions about their own participation. For quite a while after re-opening occurs, that will necessarily include options for remote participation so that vulnerable members can participate while keeping themselves safe.

In her day job, Heike works in occupational medicine to support a large biomedical research community. After earning a medical degree at the University of Maryland, she trained in and practiced family medicine. She enjoys the marriage of medicine, science and program development that she discovered in her current position of ten years.

Thank you, Heike, and everyone else working to keep TI safe for its members and staff.



**HEBREW FICTION  
GROUP**

**MONDAYS, 1:00 PM**

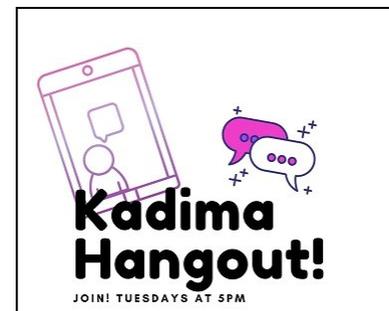
Reading "A Literary Murder"  
by Batya Gur

**CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE**



**4th & 5th  
Grade  
Hangout**

JOIN US! MONDAYS AT 5PM



**Kadima  
Hangout!**

JOIN! TUESDAYS AT 5PM

## 16th Street Vigil

These photos are from the vigils held on 16th street from 4 pm to 6pm every Friday. The vigil is ongoing, and all are welcome to participate. Photos by Louise Kelley except as noted.



Photo by Andrew Apostolou

## August Yahrzeitn

Upcoming Yahrzeitn with the dates when the names would ordinarily be printed in the Shabbat handout.

### July 31–August 1

**8/1** Frieda Abramowitz  
Eric Drazin  
Louis M. Frankel  
Mollie M. Lutsky  
Myrna Matusow  
Paul Weber  
Charles Weingarten

**8/2** Benjamin Greenfield  
Helen Lubin  
Meyer Rothenberg  
Bernard Rubinstein  
Nancy Weber

**8/3** Joseph Goldstein  
Millie Kahanov  
Lena Morris  
Rosalie Choper Stahl  
Etta Watson

**8/4** Charles Philip Berch  
Sanford Mazer  
Philip Shinberg  
Carl Wertheim

**8/5** Paul Osborne  
Abraham Sarrow  
Harriett Rosen Taylor

**8/6** Charles Hare  
Aaron Katzman  
Sylvia Gorewitz Levin  
Robert Siegel

**8/7** Harry Lutsky  
Bernard Wolman

### August 7-8

**8/8** Rita Alterman  
Ida Brown  
Mollie Edelman  
Edna Gross  
Henry Keshin  
Irene Sherman

**8/9** Sophie Elana Dorot  
Ekkehard Günther  
Alfred Spieler  
Gertrude G. Tunick

**8/10** Mollie Lewis Berch  
Julius Green  
Gladys Lerner  
Henriette Dana Mancuso

**8/11** Lillian Goldman  
Morris Gumenick

**8/12** Dorothy Gelernter

Abe Gentner  
Meyer Kavruck

**8/13** Libby Bachrach  
Elizabeth Kahn Coleman  
Shirley Kadushin  
Joan Feinberg Snyder

**8/14** Shalom Amsellem  
Charles Shack  
Benjamin P. Sternstein  
Irving Sumka

### August 14-15

**8/15** Estela Lachman Elencwajg  
Louis Hecht  
Samuel I. Waltman

**8/16** Joseph Benson  
Julia W. Fernbach  
Pauline Goodman  
Anne E. Mehler  
Mollie Mickelson

**8/17** Max L. Jeweler  
Benjamin Mensh  
Ralph Temple

**8/19** Cyril Rothkop Doner  
Bertha Rubin

**8/20** Anna Grabia  
Anne Landay  
Joseph Lutsky  
Sherry Malbin  
Jennie Steffel  
Molly Tulchin

**8/21** Jerry Wolman  
Marjorie Britt  
Gaori Eva Fernbach  
Albert Footer  
Bessie Green Golden  
Gertrude Lazaresco  
Belle Silver

### August 21-22

**8/22** Frances Abramson  
Joseph Cohen  
Jeffrey Davidson  
Alvin Peck  
Rhoda Sherman Sumka  
Steinberg

**8/23** Frieda Zark  
Samuel Zark  
Clarice Axler

Lillian Braverman  
William Harris Lepp

Murray Levine  
Leon Irving Nathanson  
William D. Peterson

**8/24** Sidney Charles Kalish

**8/25** Joseph P. Axler  
Lawrence Bardack

Julius Brier  
Simon Broder  
Jeffrey Eisenstein  
Morris Goldstein

Rae Mestetsky  
Sarah Dicker Wilkenfeld  
Sara R. Yoffey

**8/26** Morris Brown  
Anne Farber

Ludvika Freifeld  
Harold B. Greenberg

**8/27** Esther K. Austern

Mary Brown  
Ida S. Minsky  
Sadie Robert

**8/28** Bernice Jeweler Drazin  
Florence Farber Einhorn

Max Gurewitz  
Joyce Hadl  
Leon Kinland  
Annie Glassman  
Simmons

### August 28-29

**8/29** Marcia Feldman  
Chasie Furman  
Philip Herzog  
Cecilia Hovis  
Rose Hurvitz  
Eva Ida Neviasser  
Harry Perlmutter  
Giorgina deLeon Vitale  
Jonathan D. Wohl  
Diane Yalowitz

**8/30** Marcus H. Lachman

**8/31** Evelyn Brown  
Sadie Jewler  
Mortimer Kadushin  
Theodore Reback

## Our Favorite Summer Vacations - Esther Herman

Neither Gene nor I ever took vacations as we were growing up. Both of our parents always seemed to be working: mine on the chicken ranch in Petaluma, California, Gene's in the corner grocery store they owned in Minneapolis. As soon as I was old enough, I cleaned and packed eggs for sale; Gene stocked and delivered groceries as soon as he could see over the counters.

My dream was to go on a real summer vacation like all of my friends seemed to do, to the Russian River, north of our town. Once my grandmother took me to Calistoga where I could play bingo and win things while she went to the hot sulphur baths. Gene would be sent to a park to sit alone all day reserving tables for his big family to gather for a picnic later in the day. A real vacation was not to be had until we had our own family.

With four young children, we could only go camping. Our pocketbooks and their noisy activities encouraged us to buy a large used tent. So, every year, during the last three weeks of hot humid Washington weather, we went camping. Of course, with camping can come mishaps: looking for a doctor in a small town; fishing in a lake where a kid had drowned the week before; rain so hard that the children were putting bandaids on the leaking holes of the tent, looking for a laundromat with a dryer big enough to dry six (6) soaked heavy sleeping bags, hand pumping air mattresses that a gust of wind blew into thorny bushes, erasing all of our hard work.

The icing on the cake was when Gene was driving to Minneapolis, camping with the kids, thinking that he would treat them to an overnight inside on a military base. Our offspring remember the occasion with total disgust. As non-beach campers, we explored many forests in Pennsylvania, Virginia, Minnesota, West Virginia, North Carolina, Massachusetts, Vermont and Canada. We had many memorable times full of fun and a few mishaps.

To this day, our oldest daughter camps with her family, one trip a year. The other three siblings stay in Ritz Carltons and Four Seasons hotels, ordering room service.

Photos from the Herman Family Archive



Van breakdown.



Gene puts up the behemoth tent

# VIRTUAL KABBALAT SHABBAT

**SHMOOZE, 6:15  
SERVICE, 6:30**

**AUGUST 7**

**AUGUST 14**

**AUGUST 21**

**AUGUST 28**  
(Uptown Shabbat, no Shmooze)

**CLICK HERE  
TO LEARN MORE**

# ZOOM dalah

Join the 'virtual neighborhood' for  
a song-filled havdalah with teachings and  
special time to start the week together.

**AUGUST 1**

**AUGUST 8**

**AUGUST 15**

**AUGUST 22**

**AUGUST 29**

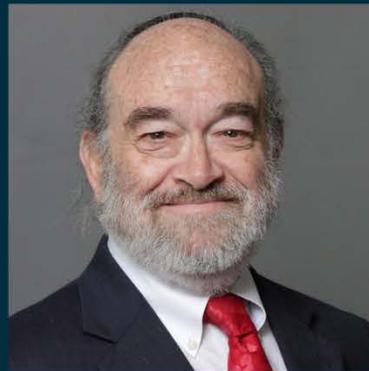
**9:30 pm**

**Click here to learn more**

TIFERETH ISRAEL CONGREGATION PRESENTS

# UPTOWN SHABBAT

FRIDAY, AUGUST 28 AT 6:30 PM



Musician Robyn Helzner, one of the leading interpreters of world Jewish music, and Cantor and TI Member Larry Paul will lead a night filled with soulful song.

Please note: Guitar will only be played before Ma'ariv.

[CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFO](#)

## Himmelfarb Happenings August 2020 - Rina Rebibo

Well, we are at the mid-way point: half way through summer and about six weeks away from the start of the High Holidays. While our summer has been anything but usual, I have spoken with some of our families, and I am pleased to hear that some have gotten away for a break and some children are able to participate in at-home or on-line camps. Needless to say, this is not the summer we hoped for. As for me, I have taken my 'at TI' job to my 'home-office' and am looking ahead to what our children's programming will look like over the High Holidays.

For Himmelfarb students and their families, we plan on starting our school year with a virtual High Holiday Boot Camp on Sunday September 13th. This will include a model Rosh Hashanah seder, learning about the rituals and tefillot we say for the High Holidays, special crafts for Rosh Hashanah and round Challah baking. More information about the High Holiday Boot Camp will be coming to your inbox soon.

All TI youth will have options for the holy days themselves. We are aiming to have both virtual pre-Yom Tov sessions, as well as online live and recorded sessions on the day of the holidays. **Rabbi Werbow, Wilhelmina Gottschalk**, the VP of Life Long Learning, and I are brainstorming different options and while we have come up with some ideas, we would be interested in hearing your ideas as well. Please email me, [rina@tifereth-israel.org](mailto:rina@tifereth-israel.org), any suggestions you have by Friday August 14th.

## TI Teen Times - Elena Prieto

Happy August! I really can't believe how we've ~zoomed~ (get it?) through the summer and have landed in August! As an August birthday, I may be biased, but I think August will bring great things! I am so excited for upcoming events with our TI youth, Kadimaniks, and USYers!

Our Hangouts are continuing on, as scheduled, through August! Our 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> graders are meeting **every Monday at 5pm**. We've been playing games and are even working on our own stop motion video project! All 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> graders are welcomed to join, the more the merrier!

Kadima is meeting **every Tuesday at 5pm**! We've been playing games, catching up, and even working on our baking skills! We are always looking for more games to play and activities to complete! If you or your child has a suggestion of an activity they'd be interested in, please let me know!

Finally, USY is meeting the **first and third Wednes-**

**day of each month at 8:45pm**! For August, we are continuing our discussion on *Judaism, Solidarity, and Anti-Racism*. In July, we focused our discussions on *Confederate Monuments and their Removal*, and *Anti-Semitism: Then & Now*. During our meeting on **August 5th**, we will be discussing *How Jews Respond and Recover from Loss*, a reflection on *Tisha B'av*, the Jewish mourning process, and pattern of resilience. And then, on **August 19th**, we will discuss the ways to get involved this upcoming election season, *How Non-Voters Can Still Participate in our Democracy*.

Our discussions so far have been so encouraging, interesting, and open. I hope we are able to continue this, and all high schoolers are welcome to participate! Don't forget to follow our @TI.USY Instagram account for reminders and updates!

As always, please reach out to me with any questions or comments, including event suggestions you may have: [eprieto816@gmail.com](mailto:eprieto816@gmail.com).

## Israeli Food Tour – Laura Naide

On May 31, 2020, our 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Graders took a virtual tour of Machane Yehuda (the Jerusalem “shuk” or market) with Israeli tour guide Joel Haber. The tour was the last of three Israel learning sessions held between Congregation Etz Hayim and Tifereth Israel Congregation under a grant from JNF and Nefesh B’Nefesh. Previous sessions have covered the people and geography of the State of Israel.

Our tour started out with a brief history lesson. We learned that there have been Jews in Israel continuously for the past 2000 years, but Jews were also dispersed throughout the world during that time period. At many times, especially after the founding of the Modern State of Israel, there has been a “kibbutz galuyot” – an ingathering of Jews. When Jews returned to Israel, they brought their food traditions with them resulting in a delicious melting pot of cuisine.

Machane Yehuda is located at a former trading area outside the walled city of Jerusalem. Merchants who were taking their wares to the city would stop and sell to locals. Eventually this arrangement became permanent and the modern-day market was built. We spent the rest of our session learning about delicious foods that can be found in or near the market and the history of each dish. Here are some of the foods we discussed.

We first learned about “shamburak,” which is a dish sold at a restaurant called Ishtabach. This dish is a way to use leftovers from Shabbat, which are combined and then baked inside a pastry dough. This is a traditional Kurdish dish.



Next, Joel told us about a more commonly-known dish, shakshuka, which comes from Northern Africa. It is traditionally a breakfast food but now is eaten at any time of the day. Shakshuka is a simple combination of simmered tomatoes, onions, garlic, spices, and poached eggs. You can also add tasty extras such as fresh herbs and feta cheese.



Sabich is a dish that can either be a platter or a sandwich. It is a combination of eggplant, hardboiled egg, tahini, salad, and sometimes amba (a curried pickled mango sauce). Sabich comes from Iraq and can be eaten at room temperature which makes it a great Shabbat dish.

The basis for a lot of delicious Israeli delicacies is the sesame sauce/spread known as tahini. Joel showed us a video of how tahini is traditionally made from Ethiopian sesame seeds ground by large stone wheels. The word “tahini” is derived from the Hebrew verb “to grind.” Tahini is also combined with sugar and other flavors to cre-



*(Continued on page 19)*

## Israeli Food Tour – continued

ate a dessert known as halvah.

Another dessert that can be found in the shuk is a cake called babka, which has Eastern European origins.



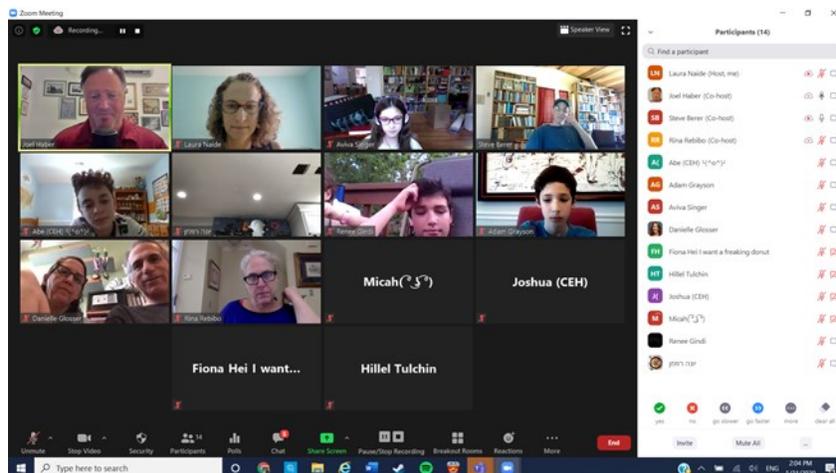
Kadeh is a bread turnover stuffed with melted cheese that originated in Kurdistan. *Editor's note: here is a recipe for the Jewish version of Kadeh:* <https://jewishfoodexperience.com/recipes/kadeh-kurdish-jewish-cheese-bread>

*There is a non-Jewish version that is stuffed with roux rather than cheese so check the ingredients for cheese to ensure that you're making the Israeli version.*

We also watched a video about khatchapuri, which is a Georgian cheese bread with an egg and cheese mixed in. *Editor's note: I tested a recipe for a different version of khatchapuri for the Washington Post a few years ago. It's wonderful stuff for a very occasional treat or a party nibble. Recipe is here:* <https://www.washingtonpost.com/recipes/khachapuri-penovani/16185/>



After learning about all of these delicious foods, Joel reminded us that Jewish food in Israel and around the world comes from many traditions – not just Ashkenazi or Sephardi roots. We also talked about all of the fresh produce at the market. We focused on the “sabra” or prickly pear. The sabra has become symbolic of native-born Israelis who are prickly on the outside and sweet on the inside. Interestingly, the sabra plant, a cactus, is not native to Israel! Joel told us that 95% of the produce eaten by Israelis is grown in Israel. At the end of the session we knew a lot about Israeli food and we were very hungry!



## Kol Nashim, Still Leading Conversations - Louise Kelley

The Kol Nashim board met on July 8<sup>th</sup> via Zoom and discussed possible programs for the coming year. Under consideration is the recorded version of the National Portrait Gallery “Votes for Women” exhibition, a backstage tour of Theatre J, a museum tour and docent tour of an upstate New York museum on suffrage, and other virtual possibilities for programs. The Board agreed that of course the long-established Kol Nashim Book Group and the Rosh Chodesh group would continue to meet. We had a gracious and cordial meeting with **Rabbi Werbow** and **Melissa Werbow**. We got to know Michael and Melissa better and we also found out more about each other. The candid, open and wide-ranging discussion not only informed everyone participating, but also helped strengthen our sense of community.

TI members know American women’s right to vote was made into law a hundred years ago, in August of 1920. KN members are working on ways to take virtual tours of suffrage museums or exhibits in the fall in memory of this achievement



Jewish women in England demonstrate for the right to vote. (from the Jewish Chronicle)

Above is a photo of a Suffrage meeting organized by Jewish women in London, circa 1910. British women secured the right to vote in England at about the same time as in the US. In England, at first, they had to be over 30 and own property; these restrictions were later removed. The Jewish League for Woman Suffrage (JLWS) was the only Jewish women’s organization in England—and the world—dedicated to attaining votes for British women and equal religious and communal rights for women within the Jewish community.

Barriers to voting still exist or have been invented, especially for people of color, including Jews of color. The spirit of Sojourner Truth, Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Henrietta Frank and Edith Zangwill continue to inspire all those who believe in the citizen’s right to choose who represents us all.

## Donations

### GENERAL DONATION

Rachel Elwell  
Raymond & Adele Natter`

#### In Memory Of

Laurinda & Bruce Berger	Beth Susan Abramowitz
Laurinda & Bruce Berger	Alan Schechtman
Paula Flicker	Irv Borochoff
Myrna Goldman	Alan Schechtman
Harvey Kabaker & Andrea Kline	Agbot Martin
Scott Shoreman & Elizabeth Carp	Rachel Grabia
Morris Klein & Naomi Freeman	Betty Sherman
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#### In Honor Of

Paula Flicker	Iris Lav
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Allan Kolker	Rabbi Ethan and Rachel Seidel

### MARVIN CAPLAN SOCIAL ACTION FUND

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### MOLLIE BERCH LIBRARY FUND

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### RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

Sidney Bailin

#### In Memory Of

Stephen & Shelly Heller	Miriam Saiger
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#### In Honor Of

Eric Schechtman & Shira Rubinstein	Rabbi Seidel
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### TI DAY

Paula & Joseph Martin

### TORAH REPAIR FUND

Richard Kruger & Naimah Weinberg

### Yahrzeit Donations

#### In Memory Of

Marc & Karen Drazin	Eric Drazin
Tamar Hendel Fishman	Zalman Fishman
Newton & Martha Frohlich	May and William Frohlich
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Howard & Michele Sumka	Rosalie Choper Stahl
Fred & Felice Taransky	Alexander S. Taransky

## Summer Memory - Jessica Weissman

A year before she died, my mother got a Plymouth Valiant Signet convertible, cream-colored with a gold vinyl top. Take it from me, this was a spiffy car. It had a V8 engine in a light body, and so was easy to drive fast. When I was old enough to drive, the car became mine. My sisters and stepsisters got their turns later, when I was in college. There were many glorious places to drive near our home in Palo Alto. Highway 280 was brand new in 1969, and very lightly traveled. I spent my last summer at home driving various combinations of friends and my sisters to gorgeous picnic sites around the Bay Area. Sometimes we sang, but mostly we listened to the radio playing the songs of summer as we sped along 280. Those songs and the memory of that car will always mean teenage summer freedom to me.

## Gevarim - Andrew Reamer

גברים

### Jewish Intellectual History: 16th to 20th Century

David Ruderman, Professor of Modern Jewish History at the University of Pennsylvania, explores the problem of Jewish identity in the modern era, when Jews confronted many challenges in a world very different from the pre-modern age. His video lectures are introduced and the discussion led by Allan Tulchin.

**Sunday, August 9 -- 10:30 am-12:15 pm • via Zoom (see TI calendar for link)**

**Lecture 13: Zionism's Answer to the Jewish Problem** -- Drawing both from the Haskalah, with its strong critique of traditional Jewish society, and from an acute awareness of the lurking dangers of the anti-Semites, Zionism, the political movement calling for the creation of a Jewish state in Israel, emerged as a novel response to the conditions the European Jewish community faced in the latter 19th century.

**Lecture 14: Three Zionist Visions** -- Ahad Ha-Am (1856–1927) saw Israel as a spiritual center attracting an elite leadership who would shape a new secular culture for Israel and the Diaspora. For Jacob Klatzkin (1882–1948), the only meaningful goal of Zionism was to regain the land of Israel and

to normalize the conditions of Jewish existence. To Louis Brandeis (1856–1941), helping Jews return to their ancient homeland was consistent with the best traditions of American culture and philanthropy.

**Sunday, August 23 -- 10:30 am-12:15 pm • via Zoom (see TI calendar for link)**

**Lecture 15: The Jewish Adventure with Socialism** -- Socialism and Marxism had an enormous appeal to many Jews living both in Western and Eastern Europe. Secular Jews were captivated by the moral sense of justice that the movement espoused. In addition, Jews victimized by rising anti-Semitism staked their own personal hope on the socialist ideal.

**Lecture 16: Hermann Cohen's Religion of Reason** -- As a University of Marburg philosophy professor, Hermann Cohen (1842–1918) believed that reason was the ultimate source of truth and God was simply a grand idea in a system of thought. After Cohen retired and moved to a more Jewish environment in Berlin, he composed *Religion of Reason*, in which he viewed Judaism as ethical monotheism grounded in a prophetic universalism that stressed moral commitments to humanity and a mission to bring about a utopian future.



Photo by Josh Kranzberg

TI USY

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**HOW JEWS RESPOND AND  
RECOVER FROM LOSS:**  
A Reflection on Tisha B'Av,  
the Jewish Mourning Process,  
and Our Pattern of Renewal

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WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 5TH  
8:45 PM



## Kol Nashim Book Group - Jessica Weissman

On July 21st the KN book club met to discuss Ilana Kurshan's *If All the Seas Were Ink*, a memoir that tells the story of how Ms. Kurshan, after a mistaken marriage and a divorce, found herself alone in Jerusalem and decided to take up Daf Yomi, a worldwide daily Talmud study program that is probably the world's largest book group.

Opinions were divided among the members of our much smaller book group. Some found Ms. Kurshan annoying, while others thought she was candid and willing to risk being annoying to tell her story the way she felt it should be told. Others caught hints of obsessiveness behind the tightly controlled presentation of the story.

We next meet on Tuesday, August 18th. Our August reading is Marie Benedict's *The Only Woman in the Room*, a fictionalized biography of Hedy Lamar. Yes, we all know her as an actress. But it turns out she was also a genius engineer. A technology she invented is still in use as part of keeping radio transmissions secure. Copies are available in electronic and paper forms, including a few at the MoCo library.

The book group is open to everyone, so if you have a neighbor or friend who wants to read and talk about books of some Jewish interest, he or she is welcome. You don't have to have finished the book or even started it. We don't avoid spoilers, however, so you take your chances on that.

We meet at 7:30 over Zoom. If you are not on the evite list, please contact Janice Mehler (contact information in the TI directory) to be added. There's no requirement to RSVP until we go back to meeting at members' houses, but being on the list gets you timely reminders and an email with the Zoom link.

Looking forward to seeing many of you on the 18th.

**TI VIGIL AGAINST  
RACISM**

**Every Friday at 5:00 pm**



***Please social distance and wear a mask***

## Jerusalem Gates - Simcha Kuritzky

Part of TI's celebration of Rabbi Seidel's tenure was a Jeopardy-like game. One of the questions to which no one seemed to know the answer was the name of Jerusalem's gates. I knew the answer from Israel's money and medals.

The current Old City was built by the Ottoman Turks in the mid-1500s. Originally there were seven gates, but work on the New Gate started in 1887. Israel constantly replaces her banknotes to deter counterfeiting, and the theme for the Bank of Israel's fourth and fifth series of notes was Jerusalem's Gates.



The fourth series of notes are dated 1973 and 1975, but were first released into circulation between 1975 and 1978. The two lowest denominations also show sites in Jerusalem on the front, so I will only describe those. The 5 lirot shows Henrietta Szold and the newly rebuilt Hadassah hospital on Mt. Scopus on the front with the Lions' Gate on the back. The Bank chose to continue a theme with the two prior 5 lirot banknotes:



(Continued on page 26)

## Jerusalem Gates - continued

the third series (1968) showed Albert Einstein, another American (albeit naturalized whereas Szold was born in Baltimore), and the second series (1958) showed the lion seal of Shema. This note was short lived as it was replaced by a coin in 1978. The 10 lirot shows Sir Moses Montefiore with his famous windmill on the front and the Jaffa Gate on the back.

The next two notes kept the same leaders as the previous series, Israel's first President Chaim Weizmann, who also led the Zionist Organization (ZO) from 1921-31 and 1935-46, and Theodore Benjamin Herzl, who founded the ZO in 1897. The 50 lirot of Weizmann shows the Damascus gate on the back, while Herzl's 100 lirot shows the Zion Gate.



The last note of the fourth series was a new denomination, added due to Israel's runaway inflation. The 500 lirot portrayed Israel's first Prime Minister, David Ben Gurion, who had passed away in 1973. While Netanyahu has now held the PM post for the most years (14), Ben Gurion was PM for 13 years and also held the position as leader of the pre-state Jewish Agency for 13 years, being Israel's *de facto* leader for 26 years.

The Golden Gate appears on the back of his note, the only gate sealed shut, due to stories that the Jewish Messiah would enter Jerusalem through the Golden Gate. By this time, Ben Gurion's political rival Menachem Begin was PM, so he had his mentor Ze'ev Jabotinsky portrayed on the front of the next note, with Herod's Gate on the back. This note was originally to have been 1000 lirot, but Israel switched to the sheqel and lopped one zero off all denominations.

The fifth series started with notes almost identical to the fourth except that the 10 to 500 lirot were now 1 to 50 sheqel, so this new highest denomination was 100 sheqel (only in 1982 did the Bank decide to consistently use "sheqalim" as the plural form, and switched to "shekels" in 2019). This was also Israel's first note to make extensive use of micro-printing. The back has Jerusalem in tiny Hebrew print repeated

(Continued on page 27)

## Jerusalem Gates - continued

throughout the design.



The Bank of Israel decided that the remaining two gates were not worthy of a place on circulating money: the New Gate (opened in 1889) and the Dung Gate. However, all eight gates appear on the Israel Government's 1981 medal along with their location and name in Hebrew and English. The successor Holy Land Mint is creating a series of one ounce bullion silver and gold medals which includes the New Gate, and presumably will include all eight gates once the series is complete.

The banknotes are readily available from dealers and on line. There are some scarce varieties, but the common notes should cost a dollar or two for the low denominations and up to ten for the two highest in pristine condition. The Jerusalem Gates medal can be found for around \$10 in bronze with some looking. The new one Troy ounce bullion series is probably only available from IsraelMint.com for \$100 each in silver and around 30% over the spot price for gold.



### Summer Photo - Sara Handwerker

Sara found this lotus flower at Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens, right here in DC. The Gardens are beautiful almost any time of year, and not overwhelmed with visitors.

# Parashat HaShavua Class

**MONDAYS AT 11:00 AM**

**CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE**

## MEET RABBI WERBOW



All TI members are invited  
to sign up for a virtual  
"Meet the Rabbi"  
event in August

**CLICK HERE TO REGISTER NOW**

## SHABBAT MORNING SERVICES

**AUGUST 1**

**AUGUST 8**

**AUGUST 15**

**AUGUST 22**

**AUGUST 29**

**SATURDAYS, 9:30 AM**

**VIA ZOOM**

**CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE**