

TEMPLE TOPICS

Vol. LXXXXI No 8
May/June 2020
Iyyar/Sivan/Tamuz 5780

Saying Goodbye ...



**Shabbat
Evening Service
honoring our
Rabbis**
Friday, June 12th
6:00 pm

#TINRTogether
#WeAreInThisTogether
#NewRoStrong



It's On!
STILL

Coming in July!

In support of
Temple Israel
Honoring
Laurie Thomas
Berdie & Len Stein

Our Most Important Fundraiser of the Year!



Envisioning Our Future Together

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Temple Topics Deadline

The deadline for Temple
Topics is the second Sunday
of the preceding month.

Daily Virtual Programming Days

Temple Israel continues to connect with the congregation through virtual programming on the Temple website: www.tinr.org

Congregants receive weekly and daily eblasts with programming and corresponding links. For security reasons please continue to identify yourself by your **first and last name when connecting to zoom sessions**, so that the coordinator can securely invite you in from the "waiting room."

Zoom links are offered only in eblasts for security reasons, and are not posted on the daily programming tiles on the Temple website or the calendar.

Service Times can be found through the Temple Website at Worship/Service Times. The weekly Virtual Shabbat Leaflet can be found both here and Worship/Streamed Services.

Live Streaming is available through the Temple website at Worship/Streamed Services. If you would like to interact with other members, you can continue to Facebook Live at: https://www.facebook.com/TempleIsraelNR/live_videos/.

The *Mishkan T'filah siddur* (prayerbook) link can be found through the Service Times and the Streamed Services web pages.

If you have questions, you can email templeisrael@tinr.org, or Anita Aronoff, the Executive Director, at AnitaAronoff@tinr.org

THANK YOU...

Thank you to all the volunteers who are reaching out to our members. A lot of new and meaningful connections have been made during this challenging time.

Thank you to: Anita, the staff, the clergy and the Board of Trustees for all they do. A HUGE shout out to Orietta for keeping us "virtually" connected, Ellen for handling the financial end of the shopping program, and to Sally Meisner, Caroline Alter, and Robby Alter, for making, initiating, and creating the platform for volunteers to reach our entire congregation, and offer Temple Israel SHOPS. We are enormously grateful to Frank Chavez, Brian Gomez, Brian Reiner and Eddie Torres for being our volunteer shopping team.

If you are interested in joining our effort to support our community, whether it's by making calls or offering technology services to help members access online programming, please let us know. You can email us at SocialActionTINR@gmail.com. If you have started a fundraiser or services to help the local community during this time, please let us know so that we can help publicize.

Thank you!
Amy Ecker and Mia Egelberg

Note: You can help others during the crisis. Refer to pages 12 and 13 in the Social Action section of this Temple Topics.

Sympathy

We send condolences to...

- Cantor Randall Schloss, on the loss of his mother, Myrna Schloss
- Richard Grayson, on the loss of his sister-in-law, Sucky Hochman
- Eric Gottesman, on the loss of his father, Haskell Gottesman
- Andrew Rabin, on the loss of his mother, Flora Rabin
- Ira Lippel, on the loss of his uncle, Harold Anfang
- The Family of Barbara Kantor, long-time Temple member & dedicated staff member
- Michele Boyum, on the loss of her father, Larry Schechter
- Scott Ornstein, on the loss of his mother, Sydelle
- Lynn Fler, on the loss of her brother, Larry Kushner
- Terri Gifford, on the loss of her cousin, Randy Weinberg
- Nicholas Tamagna, on the loss of his father, Dr. Joseph Tamagna
- Ori Boyum, on the loss of his great-uncle, Lev Levy
- The Family of Eileen Gitlin
- Linda Capozzola, on the loss of her friend, Pamela Doyle
- Tobi Barr, on the loss of her husband, Arthur Barr
- Jim Lasser, on the loss of his aunt, Ruth Lasser
- Gail Polsky, on the loss of her father, Nathan Solinsky
- Ira Orenstein, on the loss of his father, Seymour Orenstein
- Deborah Blatt, on the loss of her aunt, Audrey Weiss
- David Lieberman, on the loss of his mother, Sarah (Ruby) Lieberman Asher

"May their souls be bound up in the eternal bond"

Mazal Tov

Congratulations to...

- Claude Metzger, on celebrating his 95th birthday
- Dr. Amy Bass, Daniel DiAnni, Amy Ecker, Joel Finger, Joseph Handelman, Marion Herskowitz, Dr. Matthew Kates, Cynthia Mintzer, Jana Rockoff, Amy Schlamkowitz, Ellen Sontag-Miller, Deborah Zimmerman, on celebrating their "special" birthdays in April
- Sean & Caitlin Gilman, on the birth of their son, Eli Julian Gilman, born on April 14th
- Lynn & Saul Fler, on the birth of their grandson, Oliver Zayn Cohen, son of Brad & Jackie Cohen
- Berdie & Len Stein, on becoming grandparents again with Hudson Jacob Stein born on May 8th in Philadelphia
- Martin & Stephanie Krasner, on their 55th Wedding Anniversary
- Theodore & Joanne Goldman, on their 40th Wedding Anniversary
- Hayden Roberge, on being selected among nine students, as a finalist in the annual GENIUS Olympiad, an international high school competition that promotes an understanding of environmental issues
- Grade 7 Boys in Basketball beating WRT (Westchester Reform Temple) in overtime for their second league championship in two years
- The 2020 Kehillah graduates
- The 2020 High School and College graduates
- The 2020/5780 Confirmation Class and the 2020 Chavaya High School Graduation Class. Names are listed on page 6.
- Annabelle Rosenbluth, Hannah Klupt, Abigail Rittenberg, Gabrielle Fishbein, Marnie Silverman, and Danica Frey, are celebrating becoming Bat Mitzvah in May and June. See their bios on page 8.

Send all your good news to OriettaSchneider@tinr.org

On the Cover: We thank the congregants for joining in on the Zoom session for the Shabbat HaKavod Service (Friday, May 1st). We congratulate all of the congregants who celebrated their membership milestone anniversaries with Temple Israel. The list can be found in the March/April Temple Topics, page 8.

Temple Israel is Grateful

Todah Rabah - Thank You

Temple Fund

Diane Hallenbeck, in memory of Gilbert Brooks; in memory of Bill Hallenbeck

Ilissa & Paul Warhit, in honor of the Egans grandson Peter

Thelma Fixler, in honor of Alan Ascher's special birthday

Judy & Bernie Robinson, in appreciation to Rabbi Nichols and Cantor Schloss for the Bar Mitzvah of Ben Robinson; in memory of Barbara Kantor; in memory of Myrna Schloss; in appreciation of the wonderful concert with Miho from Japan

Toni & Alan Hoffman, in appreciation of the Clergy's celebration of Alan's 85th birthday; in memory of Arthur Barr

Kenneth & Marcia Green, in memory of Miriam Belkin

Robin & Warren Herskowitz, in appreciation

Penny & David Klein, with speedy healing wishes for Carol Balik, James & Mona Kunen, and Robert Kurzman; in honor of Leroy Fadem's Gala recognition; in memory of Marilyn Levine

Kenneth & Marcia Green, in memory of Charles Belkin

Lee Fadem, in memory of Gloria Baskin, mother of Laurie Baskin, Steve Fadem's wife

Anita Wolf, in memory of the yahrzeit of Pauline Wolf

Joanne Specter, in appreciation of her parents, Sara & Myer Friedman's, husband Marvin's, and father-in-law Arthur's yahrzeits

Carol & Arthur Ostrove, in memory of Arthur Barr; in memory of Barbara Kantor

Norman Mauser

Anthony J. Leopizzi, in memory of Eileen Gitlin

Carol & Bob Kurzman, in memory of Arthur Barr, our friend of many years

Michael & May Goldberg, in memory of Sydelle Ornstein; in memory of Barbara Kantor

Barbra & Reid Rosen, in memory of Larry Kushner, brother of Lynn Fleer

Linda Capozzola, in loving memory of Barbara Kantor

Dianne & Brian Heaps, in memory of Sydelle Ornstein, wife of Herbert and mother of Scott; in memory of Flora Rabin, mother of Andy

Joan & Hank Goldsmith, in memory of and celebration of Barbara Kantor; in honor of Brian Reiner for being special and ESSENTIAL; in honor of our clergy for keeping us all connected

Mary Ann DeRosa, in memory of Flora Rabin

The Weisman Family, in memory of Barbara Kantor

Jennifer & Matthew Kates, in memory of Barbara Kantor

Marion and Ilissa Herskowitz, in memory of Barbara Kantor; in memory of our beloved daughter and sister, Jennifer Loren Herskowitz

Andrea & Ira Lippel, in memory of Barbara Kantor

Marji & Dave Karlin, in memory of Barbara Kantor; in memory of Larry Kushner, brother of Lynn Fleer; in memory of Flora Rabin, mother of Andy; wishing a speedy recovery to Steve Aronoff; in thankfulness to Rabbi Weiner, Rabbi Nichols, Cantor Schloss and the entire TINR staff for doing so much to keep us all connected during this crisis

Jamie & Melissa Levine, in memory of Howard Levine

Diane & Elliot Senderoff, in memory of Flora Rabin, mother of Andy

Berdie & Len Stein, in memory of Barbara Kantor

Dr. Jay & Gloria Augenstein, in memory of Eileen Gitlin

Ellen & Jack Egan, in memory of Barbara Kantor; in memory of Eileen Gitlin; in memory of Arthur Barr

June Streisand & John Reches, in memory of Cantor Schloss's mother, Myrna; in honor of Rabbi Weiner, Rabbi Nichols, and Cantor Schloss for all they have done for congregants during the Covid19 crisis

Orietta Schneider, in memory of her friend, Barbara Kantor

Beverly & Stuart Greenfeig, with very late congratulations to Elle Roberge for her Bat Mitzvah and love to the Roberge Family

Marcia Nackenson & Bruce Turkle, in memory of Larry Kushner; in memory of Barbara Kantor; in memory of Seymour Orenstein

Leroy Fadem, in memory of Barbara Kantor

Val Etra, special thanks to clergy, office, and custodial staff for being available, kind, and giving; in memory of Barbara Kantor; in memory of Ruth Lasser; in memory of Eileen Gitlin; in memory of Flora Rabin, mother of Andy; in memory of Larry Kushner, brother of Lynn Fleer; in memory of Seymour Orenstein, father of Ira

Penny Kaplan, in appreciation of help with an errand. Special thanks to the gentleman who helped.

Barbara Nissim, in memory of Barbara Kantor

Marion Herskowitz, in honor of her 50th Membership Anniversary at Temple Israel, and her special birthday

Rabbi Weiner's Discretionary Fund

Herb Smith & Sharon Blinkoff, in memory of Seymour Orenstein

Joan & Hank Goldsmith, in memory of Arthur Barr

Tobi Barr, in memory of Arthur Barr

Robin & Paul Messer, in memory of his mother's yahrzeit

Judy & Steve Gutmann, in memory of Arthur Barr

Lenore Sempert, in memory of Howard Podell; in memory of her mother Lillian Podell

Gail & Gary Polsky, in memory of Nathan Solinsky and with thanks to Rabbi Weiner for his support

Barbara & Frank Axel, in memory of Arthur Barr and his many years of contributing on the Board of Temple Israel

Rabbi Nichols' Discretionary Fund

Andy and Steve Rabin, in appreciation for Rabbi Nichols' wonderful service for Flora Rabin

Linda Capozzola, in honor of Rabbi Nichols with thanks for her kindness

Ellen Sigman, in memory of Eileen Gitlin

Cantor Schloss' Discretionary Fund

Kovenat Family, in appreciation for his virtual shira and shabbat sessions

Stacy & Alan Spiegel, in memory of Cantor Schloss' mother, Myrna

Andrea & Ira Lippel, in memory of Myrna Schloss

Linda Capozzola, in memory of Cantor Schloss' mother, Myrna

Bill Weil & Elaine Weiss, in memory of Cantor Schloss' mother, Myrna

Marcia Nackenson & Bruce Turkle, in memory of Myrna Schloss

Thelma Fixler, in memory of Myrna Schloss

Toni & Alan Hoffman, in memory of Myrna Schloss

Brotherhood, in memory of Cantor Schloss' mother, Myrna Schloss

Barbara Coleman, in memory of Barbara Kantor; in memory of her brother David Gleekman

ASL Interpreting Fund

Beth Feldman, in memory of Barbara Kantor

Benevolence Fund

Jeremy & Rebecca Sigel

Scott & Doreen Levine

Sandra Lavin & Jason Falberg

Claire & Stephan Reinhard

Erin & David Melfi

Simona Covel & David Amstel, in honor of our wonderful teachers and staff

Meredith & Anthony Stanford, in honor of Sarah Stanford

Deborah & Gary Kohler, in honor of Charlie Kesten

Irina & Matthew Furman
Amanda Weiss & William Ritz
Samantha & Jordan Rich
Courtney & Ed Hesselbacher
Shanee & Avishai Cohen
Ilissa & Jeff Henle, in honor of our amazing teachers
Tamar Rubenstein & Michael Greenberg
Amanda & Evan Kesten
Caity & Sean Gilman, in honor of Julian Gilman
Jesse Lanoil & Adam Edelman
Linda Fang & Daniel Dickman
Jenna & Jeffrey Abramowitz
Julia Keltz & Zach Seiden
The Fliegels
Sherie & Avner Mar-Chaim
Danielle & Jesse Sirotkin
Melissa Jhunja
Rebecca & Gary Haase
Lauren & Ross Hurwitz
Emily Miller & Ernest Yakob
Nicole Marti & Donna D'Alessandro
Jessica & Matthew Scheer
Karine & David Herschman
Sarah & Martin Dowdall
Susan & Ross Daron
Erica & Robert Ellis
Alyssa & Corey Sieven
Pam & Morgan Griffiths
Sharon Terlep, Rachel Hood, and Murphy Hood Terlep
Tomy Liu
Summit Rock Advisors, in honor of Rob Ellis
Rebecca & Joshua Schickman
Alyssa & Aldous Advincula, in honor of Isabel Advincula
Rebecca & Steven Lippel
The McSherry Family
Lindsey & Daniel H Scharfman
Erin Anthony & Lee Jagoda
Marisa & Nicholas DeMartini
Lauren & Josh Roth
Allan Just & Catherine Starr

Camp Pinebrook Program Fund

Orietta Schneider, in honor of Frank Chavez, to give him strength during the passing of his grandmother and aunt; in honor of Berdie & Len Stein, on becoming grandparents again

Chavaya Program Fund

John Reiches & June Streisand
Joan & Hank Goldsmith, in celebration of Jordan Weiner's Bat Mitzvah

Edith H. Handelman Library

Northport/East Northport School Librarians, in memory of Eileen Gitlin
Candace Reeder, in memory of Eileen Gitlin

Endowment Fund

Dan Pomerantz & Jackie Bitterman, in honor of Cantor Reps' role in marrying Dan & Jackie
Joan & Hank Goldsmith, in memory of Sydelle Ornstein, wife of Herbert and mother of Scott
Joan Resnik, in memory of Eileen Gitlin

Gladys & Murray Goldstein Cultural Center

Sari & Kirk Bedevian, in memory of Seymour Orenstein
Sharon Blinkoff & Herb Smith, in memory of Barbara Kantor

Hospitality Fund

Dianne & Brian Heaps, in memory of Barbara Kantor
The Gold family, in honor of Ross' Bar Mitzvah
The Freedenberg family, in honor of Emelia's Bat Mitzvah

Joan Sanders Transportation Fund

Connie & Gerry Sanders, in memory of Arthur Barr

Kehillah School Program Fund

Beverly & Howard Hoffmann, in memory of Wendy Bill
Val Etra, in memory of Wendy Bill
Aude & Ran Schwarzkopf, in memory of Wendy Bill

Kehillah School Capital Fund

Rosemary Becker, AnnMarie Jenkins, and Sandy Schumacher, in memory of Eileen Gitlin

Music Fund

Toni & Alan Hoffman, in honor of Cantor Schloss for the creation of "Our Song-Your Song"

Sandra & Michael Tannenbaum, with love and sincere thanks to Cantor Schloss for his caring, sensitivity and spiritual support upon the passing of our mother, Marilyn Levine
Adele Wasko, in honor of Thelma Fixler's great-grand-daughters, Daniella Pearl and Fredi Ruth
Marion and Ilissa Herskowitz, in honor of the clergy for the wonderful virtual Passover Seder; in memory of Cantor Schloss' mother, Myrna; in memory of our beloved father and grandfather, Irving P. Fisher
Ilissa Herskowitz, in memory of Edward Zimmerman
Joan & Hank Goldsmith, in memory of Cantor Schloss' mother, Myrna
Ilissa & Paul Warhit, in memory of Cantor Schloss's mother, Myrna
TINR Sisterhood, in memory of Cantor Schloss's mother, Myrna
Mary Ann DeRosa, in memory of Cantor Schloss's mother, Myrna
Orietta Schneider, for her colleague, Cantor Schloss, in memory of his mother
Dee & John Valvano, in memory of Barbara Kantor; in memory of Myrna Schloss
Michelle & Michael Klein, in memory of Myrna Schloss
Leroy Fadem, in memory of Cantor Schloss' mother, Myrna
Donald & Bonnie Rosenfeld, in memory of Cantor Schloss' mother, Myrna
Val Etra, in memory of Myrna Schloss
Thelma Fixler, in memory of her dear friend, Barbara Kantor

Prayerbook Fund

Ronnie & David Parker, in memory of Ronnie's father, Bertram D. Weiss

Social Action Fund

Judith Osten, in memory of Barbara Kantor
Linda Capozzola, for Amy Ecker's & Mia Egelberg's food delivery program "Temple Israel Shops," and to Frank Chavez, Brian Gomez, Eddie Torres, and Brian Reiner for delivery

Marion and Ilissa Herskowitz, in appreciation for Amy Ecker's and Mia Egelberg's efforts on behalf of "Temple Israel Shops," including delivery by Frank Chavez, Brian Gomez, Eddie Torres, and Brian Reiner

Temple Israel Cares Fund

Toni & Alan Hoffman, in honor of the birth of Thelma Fixler's great grand-twins; in memory of Arthur Barr
Val Etra, in memory of Sylvia Fields
Sari & Kirk Bedevian, in honor of our clergy and the wonderful "Daily Check-Ins" they have provided during these difficult times; in memory of Barbara Kantor
Mary Ann DeRosa, in memory of Eileen Gitlin
Barbara & Paul Greene, in memory of Larry Kushner, brother of Lynn Fleer
Linda Capozzola, to Sari & Kirk Bedevian in appreciation
Mary Ann DeRosa, in memory of Barbara Kantor
Mary Ann DeRosa, wishing a speedy recovery to Steve Aronoff
Ilissa & Paul Warhit, in memory of Barbara Kantor
Phyllis & Mark Shainker, in memory of Flora Rabin, mother of Andy
Donald & Bonnie Rosenfeld, in memory of Arthur Barr

Please visit page 14 for a complete list of funds to donate

From the President

I hope this letter finds you all as safe and healthy as you can be. Sadly, no one has been spared the fallout from the Covid pandemic. We've all had to cope with sickness and death, loss of jobs and savings, either personally or among those we love.

High school and college seniors were unable to celebrate their achievements with the community. Birthdays and anniversaries have been solitary affairs. Our b'nei mitzvah students were denied the opportunity to stand on the bimah, in our beautiful sanctuary, to celebrate their achievements with family and friends while leading our congregation in prayer.

At the same time, a silver lining has emerged. I've been awed by the resilience and generosity of our community. So many of you have stepped forward, giving of your time and money, to help support our community. During a time when all of us have good reason to do less, you've done more. The "Todah Rabah" pages of this issue are bursting with the names of community members who have chosen to lend their support in honor of staff, clergy, and other members.

Not included in those pages are the names of the many, many volunteers who have given thousands of hours of their time in support of our community. With your help we've been able to connect with our community through calls and virtual visits to ensure everyone is ok. We've been able to offer technical support,

allowing those who may be less familiar navigating a virtual environment, to stay connected beyond their homes. We've shopped, providing grocery deliveries to the doorsteps of our elderly, immunocompromised, and otherwise homebound congregants. Deliveries have been made from Rye to Greenwich, Harrison to Manhattan. None of this happens without you.

Likewise, none of this happens without our staff and clergy. On behalf of the Board and our entire community, I'd like to thank our clergy and staff for their efforts in keeping our connections intact. The past 3 months have been challenging and we thank you for being there for all of us in so many ways, shapes and forms.

Temple Israel remains in a position to continue its mission of serving its congregants and the wider community at a time when it is most needed. To that end, we'll be celebrating Rabbi Weiner and Rabbi Nichols' send-off in proper fashion later in June and we'll be launching into our future with a virtual gala event in July.

As we approach 2020-21, I look forward to working with all of you to support Temple Israel, each other, and the wider community. Even more than that, I look forward to doing it in person.

Please reach out to me with any questions at any time.

Stay safe with those you love,

Rich Alter,
Temple President

Shavuot

Shavuot Virtual Programming will include services and activities for **Thursday, May 28th** and **Friday, May 29th**.

Expect zoom links and other information via the weekly and daily eblasts, sent directly to congregants.

Thursday, May 28th

- 5 pm *Tikkun Leil Shavuot* (Shavuot Night of Learning) in collaboration with other Westchester Synagogues. At 11:00 pm, Rabbi Weiner will be co-teaching with Michael Friedman, from Temple Israel Westport: "My Cup Runneth Over: Wine & Bourbon in Judaism." You can log in at any time. Link will be sent.
- 6 pm *Erev Shavuot/Confirmation Service of Blessing*

Friday, May 29th

- 10 am *Shavuot Morning Service/Confirmation* including Yizkor
- 5:30 pm Kehillah Shabbat and *Shavuot* Celebration for young children
- 6 pm Shabbat Evening Service/Birthday Party for the Torah

Our 2020 Confirmands



Alexa Feigenbaum, Joshua Feldman, Emma Hochberg, Amber Nero, Jordan Nero, Sydney Relkin (*not in picture*), Jessica Schlamkowitz (*not in picture*), and Jessica Shapiro

* Photo taken at Religious Action Center of Reform Judaism trip to Washington in January, 2020.

Chavaya High School Graduates 2020

Joshua Berenbaum **
Rebecca Brooks *
Lucas Cohen
Ethan Cuggino-Zensky *
Abigail Davis
Grace Davis
Jonny Ecker **
Jake Egelberg **
Trevor Frey
Anna Kessler *

Sam Meisner
Jack Schlamkowitz
Maya Schloss *
Stephen Tahbaz

*Madreecheem (teen assistants)

**Manheegeem (teen facilitators)

Rabbi's Note

Saying Goodbye ... Shabbat Evening Service: Friday, June 12th, 6:00 pm

Dear *chevrei* (friends),



When I was approaching Confirmation as a tenth grader, many years ago, my own rabbi assigned the class an essay, a choice between two topics: Why I would want to be a rabbi, or, Why I would not want to be a rabbi. Of course, I chose the latter. In my well-thought-out essay, I wrote vehemently that I doubted that I would want to have a career in which

I would be so caught up in other people's lives. Their trials and tribulations, their mourning and celebrations all seemed so private to me and that I would merely be some interloper in those private moments. Being a tenth grader, nearly by definition, is a self-centered time in one's life. I cannot recall exactly what my rabbi wrote on the graded essay, but I know that the upshot was this: being enmeshed in people's lives is the best part of being a rabbi and slightest of all the burdens that come with the rabbinate.

Now, 30 years later, and 16 years into my rabbinate, 11 here with you all, I know that he was right. Absolutely right. Being a part of your lives has been the very best part of my rabbinate and has never seemed like a burden at all. Even at the hardest moments of your lives, at the bedside of a dying parent, counseling you about an incredibly difficult child, helping you see a future after an excruciating break-up, and so many more, I have never felt happier as a rabbi. There was no joy in your pain and anguish; there was satisfaction in knowing that I was privileged to be there to help you, in any way I could, not because I had magic words or salves for your pain, but merely that we had the kind of relationship where I was allowed into your life. A place reserved for precious few.

The same was true of your joyous moments. I get choked up at almost all of them. The happiness I see in your faces when your child walks down the aisle toward the *chuppah*, or when they finish their last aliyah to the Torah, or when they learn to walk in our hallways, and so many more, I know that I am lucky to be a rabbi, to have been your rabbi. I've been on the inside of your inside jokes. I've been witness and officiant at so many of them – a ringside seat to love in action.

Now I know what 15-year-old me could not possibly have known – that being enmeshed in your lives has been the most satisfying career I could ever think of. That is what makes parting so hard, because of those bonds and those times together; good and bad, joyous and painful.

So, in parting, I will just say this: thank you for letting me into your lives and for sharing all of those moments with me. I'm honored to have been your rabbi.

With gratitude,
Rabbi Scott Weiner

*Photo of Rabbi Weiner courtesy of Lisa Klein,
on the Congregational Trip to Poland & Hungary, 2019*

Dear *chevrei* (friends),



Surely, this mitzvah which I enjoin upon you this day is not too baffling for you, nor is it beyond reach. It is not in the heavens, that you should say, "Who among us can go up to the heavens and get it for us and impart it to us, that we may observe it?" Neither is it beyond the sea... No, the thing is very close to you, in your mouth and in your heart, to observe it. – Deuteronomy 30:11-14

On the day of my ordination as a rabbi, in May of 2007, I entered the sanctuary carrying a Torah scroll rolled to this passage. A month later, I moved to New Rochelle and began to serve this community as a rabbi. Thirteen years later, as I prepare to move to North Carolina, these sacred words from the Torah still capture the vision of my rabbinate. Just as God reassured the Israelites that "this mitzvah" is within their reach, I have strived to help you discover that a meaningful relationship to Judaism, God and the Jewish people is possible for each one of us. Through our work together I hope that you have found Judaism to feel accessible, applicable and relevant to our modern lives. I hope that you live with Judaism "in your heart" – as a part of your core identity. As well, I hope that you live with Judaism "in your mouth" – that you are comfortable and confident expressing your Judaism, and that you own your right to wrestle and engage with our holy tradition. Of all the lessons that I have taught through sermons, discussions and classes, it is this message of Judaism's ability to enrich our lives and help us be better people that serves as their foundation.

Throughout this year, I have anticipated how difficult it will be to leave this community in June. I imagined strong, loving hugs and many tears. I imagined shared moments in the sanctuary, over the Shabbat dinner table and sitting on the couches in the lobby. I did not imagine social distancing and communicating through screens. I did not imagine helping you to both celebrate and mourn, in digital boxes side by side. But perhaps this experience has only reinforced for us that our tradition and community are powerful and meaningful forces in any situation. Perhaps this experience will lead to a renewed commitment to ensuring Temple Israel's future for this community.

In July I will begin serving Temple Beth El of Charlotte, North Carolina as their Director of Lifelong Jewish Learning. Please know that I am not the same rabbi who came to New Rochelle many years ago: I have been forever enriched and changed by your questions and convictions, your joys and sorrows, your hopes and fears. Thank you for sharing your lives with me.

With love and respect,
Rabbi Beth Nichols

B'nei Mitzvah

May - June Celebrations Mazal Tov!



My name is **Annabelle Rosenbluth**, and I will celebrate becoming a Bat Mitzvah on May 9, 2020. I will be chanting from *Parashat Emor* in the Book of Leviticus. I belong to Temple Israel with my parents, Julie & David Rosenbluth, and my sister, Ellie. I am in the 7th grade at Albert Leonard Middle School. Outside of school, I enjoy playing soccer, singing and acting and hanging out with friends. For my Mitzvah Project, I helped organize a hot chocolate stand fundraiser for the Red Dog Parking Foundation which helps offset the cost of hospital parking fees for parents with a sick child. This project is important to me because parents shouldn't have to worry about extra costs and should be able to spend their time with their child. I look forward to connecting with you at my Bat Mitzvah service when I am called to the Torah.



My name is **Danica Frey** and I will celebrate becoming a Bat Mitzvah on June 6, 2020. I will be chanting from *Parashat Naso* in the Book of Numbers. I belong to Temple Israel with my parents, Janet & Gary, and my brother, Trevor. I am in 7th grade at Albert Leonard Middle School. Outside of school I like to hang out with my friends, and I enjoy playing softball, volleyball, and lacrosse. For my Mitzvah Project I have been volunteering since September as a *Madrichim* on Sunday mornings with the Kindergarten class. This is important to me because I enjoy working with little kids and teaching them. Once we are allowed out again, I plan to complete my original Mitzvah Project which is volunteering at HOPE Community Services. This is important to me because there are many food insecure people in our community and I want to make sure everyone, especially children, have food. I look forward to connecting with you at my Bat Mitzvah service when I am called to the Torah.



My name is **Hannah Klupt**, and I will celebrate becoming a Bat Mitzvah on May 16, 2020. I will be chanting from *Parashat B'har/B'chukotai* in the Book of Leviticus. I belong to Temple Israel with my parents, Amy & Evan. I am in the 7th grade at Albert Leonard Middle School. Outside of school, I like to play violin, ride my bike, hang out with my friends, go to Camp Watitoh, and vacation on Cape Cod. For my

Mitzvah Project, I volunteered with the 3-and 4-year-olds at the Kehillah School, doing a music program with them. This project is important to me because I have been lucky to have music lessons since I was very young, and I wanted to share that with them. I look forward to connecting with you at my Bat Mitzvah service when I am called to the Torah.



My name is **Gabrielle Fishbein** and I will celebrate becoming a Bat Mitzvah on June 13, 2020. I will be chanting from *Parashat B'ha'alotcha* in the Book of Numbers. I belong to Temple Israel with my parents, Allen and Jennifer. I am in the 7th grade at Albert Leonard Middle School. Outside of school, I like to bake, spend time with my friends, play with my dog, and go to sleep-away camp in the summer. For my Mitzvah Project, I was a *madricha* at Chavaya. This project is important to me because I like teaching little kids about Hebrew and Judaism. I look forward to connecting with you at my Bat Mitzvah service when I am called to the Torah.



My name is **Abigail Rittenberg** and I will celebrate becoming a Bat Mitzvah on May 30, 2020. I will be chanting from *Parashat Naso* in the Book of Numbers. I belong to Temple Israel with my parents, Stacey & Steven, and my brother, Andrew. I am in the 7th grade at Albert Leonard Middle School. Outside of school, I do ballet, art, and play the double bass. For my Mitzvah project I made spark and sunshine jars for Soul Ryeders of Rye.

This project is important to me because at Soul Ryeders, they help people going through cancer and they helped out my mom. I look forward to connecting with you at my Bat Mitzvah service when I am called to the Torah.



My name is **Marnie Silverman** and I will celebrate becoming a Bat Mitzvah on June 20, 2020. I will be chanting from *Parashat Korach* in the Book of Numbers. I belong to Temple Israel with my parents, Alan & Ilene, and my brother, Spencer. I am in the 7th grade at Albert Leonard Middle School. Outside of school, I like to dance, bake and sew. For my Mitzvah Project, I am baking cupcakes and cookies to donate to New Rochelle police, fire and hospital workers. This project is important to me because during the Covid-19 pandemic, many New Rochelle first-responders are required to work and I thought delivering some sweet treats to their jobs would be a way to say thank you. I look forward to connecting with you at my Bat Mitzvah service when I am called to the Torah.



Chavaya–Not the Same, But Still Together

Thank you. Those are really the best words I can come up with for you—our Chavaya participants, families, educators, teens, colleagues, and friends. You jumped in with us into the world of on-line learning and teaching. I never could have imagined that I'd be doing all of my teaching on Zoom: sharing texts and words of wisdom, watching video clips and participating in meaningful discussions, and reinforcing Hebrew reading skills. Since mid-March we have learned Torah, sung songs, listened to stories, prayed, and chatted together. We may be physically distant, but I feel more connected to so many of you than I ever have. And yet,

as I write this, I can't help but experience strange feelings. For the past eight years I have wrapped up each May with a sense of accomplishment, and an eagerness to take a few days to "recharge" before jumping into brainstorming for the Fall. **Now, being the final Chavaya session for the year, I am sad, grateful, and hopeful.**

I am sad because the last two months is not how I envisioned our curriculum to be and feel that, in some ways, we were all cheated. **I am sad** because I wanted to be able to send our graduating seniors off with a proper thank you and farewell.

I am beyond grateful to our educators, *Manheegeem*, and *Madreecheem* for giving it their "all" since March. You have no idea how much it means to me that each of you continued to make our weekly sessions a priority, knowing that each of you were dealing with your own challenges and work/life balance. **I am grateful** for the leadership I have worked with so closely, who have helped me navigate this new normal: our clergy and staff and the Chavaya K7 committee.

Finally, **I am hopeful about our ability to move forward.** One of the things I love most about my role is being able to craft engaging and creative learning experiences. Moving

to on-line learning forced me to abandon what I know and do so well, and construct new experiences. Through these experiences I have learned a lot about myself, our educators, and our children. I look forward to taking our experiences and mapping them to our future.

Thank you for giving me the privilege to do so.

B'chavod (with respect and friendship),

Rebecca
Chavaya Director

Note: See the list of graduating seniors on page 6!

Edith H. Handelman Library

LOOKING TO BUILD A MEANINGFUL HOME LIBRARY?

Jewish Lives

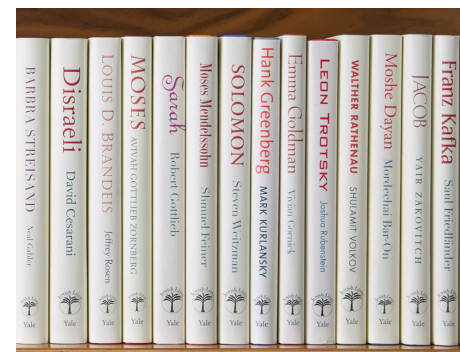


BIOGRAPHIES THAT ILLUMINATE
THE JEWISH EXPERIENCE

The complete "Jewish Lives" collection includes 47 books published in this series to date in 8 different categories including: Antiquity, Arts/Culture, Entertainment, Law/Politics, Literary Arts, Philosophy/Religion, Science, and Business. These biographies are designed to explore the many facets of Jewish identity.

Keep Virtual! Some Jewish Webinars!

- Jewish Women's Archive – [http:// https://jwa.org/events](http://https://jwa.org/events)
- The Jewish Book Council – <http:// https://www.jewishbookcouncil.org/events>
- For the kiddies – check out "Jewish Kidlit Mavens Public Group on Facebook"



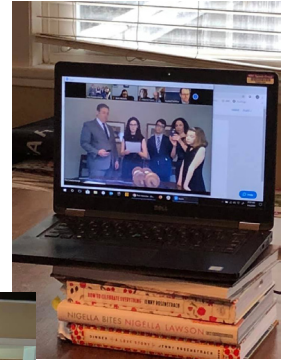
Virtual Library

Stephanie Krasner, the Temple Librarian, offers book selections and descriptions every week. They are listed on the Temple website's homepage at www.tinr.org in the SpotLight section (<https://www.tinr.org/spotlight/virtual-library/>).

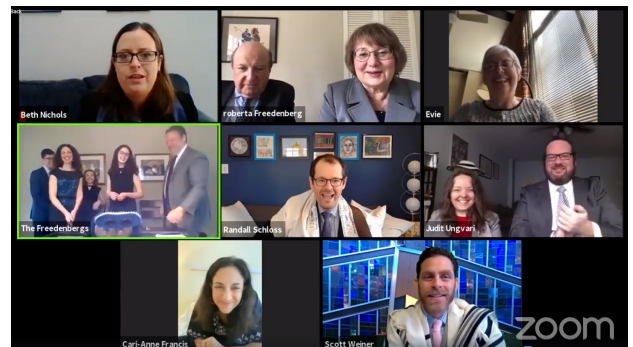
B'nei Mitzvah!



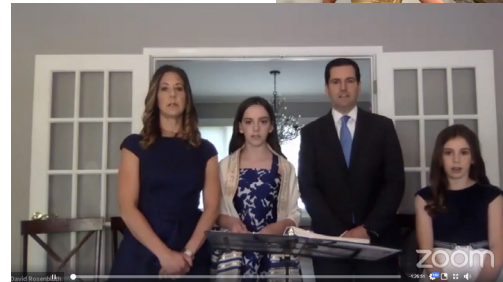
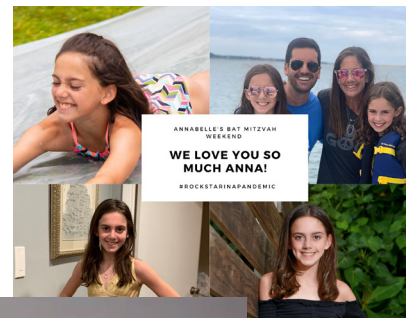
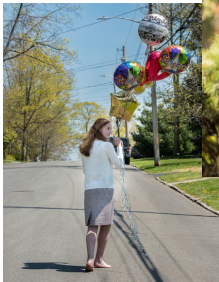
**Ross Gold
March 14th**



**Emelia
Freedenberg
April 4th**



Blessings even during isolation!



**Photos courtesy of the B'nei Mitzvah Families, and Facebook Live*

Social Action

Persevering through the Crisis! YOU CAN HELP...

Over the past several weeks you should have received a call or email from one of over 30 Social Action Committee volunteers. The goal is to reach the ENTIRE congregation. We are still reaching out to congregants, so please know that someone will be in touch. We are checking that people are getting outside for fresh air, talking to their friends, and managing to get groceries, pet food, and medicine.

Temple Israel Shops



This is a new grocery shopping service available to those congregants who are 65 and older, immunocompromised, home bound or caring for a sick family member. As of Friday, April 24, our amazing shopping team delivered 35 orders over the past three weeks! Frank Chavez, Brian Gomez, Brian Reiner and Eddie Torres make up our

incredible volunteer shopping team.

HOW IT WORKS

See below or visit <https://bit.ly/TempleIsraelShops2020> to read instructions in full and to complete your grocery list. If you prefer, you may contact Amy Ecker, (917) 348-2301, or Mia Egelberg, (914) 629-2794, to assist you with your list. We may also be reached at SocialActionTINR@gmail.com

When: Our incredible volunteer team (Frank Chavez, Brian Gomez, Brian Reiner, Eddie Torres) will shop for you at DeCicco's Market in Pelham.

When: Tuesdays and Fridays - Groceries will be left at your doorstep or with your doorman. Our delivery team is NOT

allowed to enter your home for everyone's safety. Please arrange for help to bring in your groceries, if needed.

Payment: Temple Israel's amazing bookkeeper, Ellen Egan, will contact you for payment of your groceries at a later date. There is no charge for this service.

How: Complete "Grocery Order Form" via <https://bit.ly/TempleIsraelShops2020> to schedule grocery shopping and delivery by NOON on Monday or Thursday.

There are **FOUR** sections of the form:

- Delivery Information
- Contact Information
- Product Information - Please be as specific as possible and PLEASE REALIZE THAT MANY ITEMS ARE OUT-OF-STOCK OR LOW ON STOCK. The shopping team will do their best to find your items.
- Payment Notes - You may select to receive an email confirmation before submitting your form.

If you are interested or you know a member who might want to take advantage of **Temple Israel Shops**, you can find more information on the CORONAVIRUS TAB at the tinr.org website.

You may contact us by telephone: Amy Ecker, (917) 348-2301, or Mia Egelberg, (914) 629-2794, or email us at SocialActionTINR@gmail.com to assist you.

LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS THAT NEED OUR HELP



HOPE Community Services: has seen an exponential increase in demand for their services. The numbers are staggering: in February, HOPE provided 18,000 meals and in March they provided 112,000 meals - a six-fold increase in need. Temple Israel has a strong relationship with HOPE as an institution and we also have numerous members who volunteer there and have been on their Board. **Financial donations, non-perishable food donations and volunteers are needed.** Please look for more detailed information on the TINR.org website under the CORONAVIRUS TAB or visit <https://hopecommunityservices.org/> In addition, there is a collection bin outside the temple for food drop off. Please donate canned fruit, canned vegetables, canned tuna and cereal.



The Sharing Shelf: a local non-profit founded by our own congregant, Deborah Blatt, is collecting and distributing **bars of soap and feminine hygiene products (tampons and sanitary pads)** for teen girls. Help our local pantries and shelters ensure that these critical items are available and donate generously! Please drop items off in the dedicated bin in Deborah Blatt's driveway at 80 Sunnyside Way, New Rochelle or email Deborah at thesharingshelf@fsw.org



HEARTS & HOMES
FOR REFUGEES

Hearts & Homes for Refugees: HHR continues to support refugees around New York and is linked to a larger national network. Read their April newsletter to learn more. They are holding a coat and boot drive in October. Learn more in the newsletter. <https://bit.ly/HHRNewsletterAPRIL2020>



#NewRoStrong Lawn Signs & NourishALL: working together to put #NewRoStrong lawn signs out for free, although voluntary contributions are welcomed for the NourishALL program. NourishAll provides local restaurant gift cards to individuals and families experiencing food insecurity. Visit <https://www.newrochelleny.com/lawnsignform>

TEMPLE ISRAEL MEMBERS GIVING BACK

(If you know members giving back during this time, let us know at SocialActionTINR@gmail.com so that we may share their work.)

WHITE PLAINS HOSPITAL

Our congregant, Julie Rosenbluth, has begun an initiative to collect gently used Apple technology for White Plains Hospital COVID-19 patients. Many COVID patients are isolated and have no way of communicating with their families. Julie is collecting the following devices to help patients connect with their family members over FaceTime. If you don't have an old used one to spare but still want to donate, consider purchasing a new one from Apple or Best Buy. Julie will be collecting these items and coordinating drop-off at White Plains Hospital for distribution. To help, please email Julie at julie.rosenbluth@gmail.com or call her at (646) 554-6365.

If you are donating a used one, PLEASE make sure that you reset to factory settings.

iPhones
5s OR NEWER

iPod touch
(6th generation)

iPads
12.9-inch iPad Pro (2nd generation)
12.9-inch iPad Pro (1st generation)
iPad Pro (10.5-inch)
iPad Pro (9.7-inch)
iPad Air
iPad Air 2
iPad (6th generation)
iPad (5th generation)
iPad mini 4
iPad mini 3
iPad mini 2

NEW ROCHELLE/ MONTEFIORE, WHITE PLAINS HOSPITAL & WESTCHESTER MEDICAL CENTER

Two Temple Israel teens, Noa Deutsch and James Luftig, have started an initiative to support COVID19 patients in local hospitals. See letter below:

Dear Friends and Family,

My friend James and I have come to understand through talking to nurses and doctors that Covid-19 patients in critical condition are in need of cell phone chargers, preferably with a long cord. These patients are isolated and without chargers, they can't communicate with their friends and families when their phone dies. Amidst this global pandemic, we are trying to do anything we can to help and to that end we are organizing a drive for chargers for these Covid-19 patients. We are accepting donations of money that we will use to purchase chargers as well as new, boxed chargers, preferably with a long cord. We are collecting both iPhone and android chargers. If you would like to donate chargers, you can either send them to or drop them off at 20 Wilmot Circle, Scarsdale, New York, 10583 or 39 Taymil Road, New Rochelle, 10804. If you would like to send money please send it to Noa's venmo at Noa-Deutsch. Anything you can donate will be a big help and we really appreciate your help. Initially, the donation of chargers will go to the Montefiore Hospital in New Rochelle but if we get enough donations we would like to donate chargers to White Plains Hospital and Westchester Medical Center. Thanks in advance for helping our project and stay safe and healthy.

*With care,
Noa Deutsch and James Luftig*

UPDATES and Getting Involved with ICNAW, HIAS and the City of New Rochelle

INTERFAITH COUNCIL FOR NEW AMERICANS WESTCHESTER (ICNAW) Update

The three refugee families relocated by ICNAW are managing during this time with the support of local volunteers. Two of the families are making masks for local healthcare workers at White Plains Hospital!

FROM HIAS (HEBREW IMMIGRANT AID SOCIETY)

1. SHOW UP VIRTUALLY

- Join the Jews for Refugees Facebook Group to stay connected to the Jewish movement for refugees
- Hang a "Refugees Welcome" banner in your window.
- Purchase refugee-made products and support refugee-owned businesses online
- Reach out to refugees, immigrants, and asylum seekers in your community who you know, to find out if you can support them in any way.
- Join or help create a local mutual-aid network, particularly ones that have a focus on immigrant and refugee communities.
- Contribute to bond funds to release immigrants from detention

2. VOLUNTEER

- As an attorney, you can offer your legal services doing remote pro bono representation of asylum seekers at the border. Learn more and submit your interest.
- Explore other ongoing and long-term opportunities here.

3. GET EDUCATED

- Learn about HIAS' work to protect refugees during COVID-19
- Read about the refugee experience using our recommended reading list.
- Use this time to learn more about the worldwide refugee crisis with our General Education Resources

Thank New Rochelle Essential Workers

#NewRoStrong Gratitude is a community-wide effort to thank New Rochelle's essential government workers that have been working through this pandemic to keep our City clean and safe. Individuals, families, youth groups, sports teams, houses of worship, neighborhood associations, etc. are coming together to express their appreciation with food, notes of encouragement, and in other ways.

HOW DOES IT WORK?

Refer to the Thanking Our Essential Workers flyer (<https://newrochelleny.com/DocumentCenter/View/12359/Thanking-our-Essential-Workers-Meals-4-17-20>) that lists those departments welcoming meals. Review what meal, day, time parameters that are listed for the department you are selecting. Reach out to the department coordinator to inform him/her that you are ordering a meal for the staff and when it can be expected. Then contact one of your favorite New Rochelle local restaurants to put in your order for either pick up or delivery. You can also make cards or signs to go along with your order.

Share photos and stories of how you are thanking our essential workers with #NewRoStrong #WeAreInThisTogether and #TINRTogether

List of Funds

Temple Israel is Grateful

Annual pledged membership contributions and tuition fees cover only a portion of the actual cost of Temple Israel's wide range of ritual, educational and social activities. We depend on your support. To facilitate the act of Tzedakah, Temple Israel provides this on-line form to make giving easy.

Simply choose the amount you want to give and for what purpose. If you wish to give to several funds, we will apportion your donation as you wish: evenly to multiple funds or you may type in a specific amount for each fund in the space provided. A list of funds is found on below. Of course, you may include a dedication(s) for each fund. When making a donation in honor or in memory of someone, those honored will be promptly informed of your thoughtfulness. Donations in honor or memory of someone are also acknowledged in our Temple newsletter, Temple Topics. We're happy to facilitate anonymous donations at your request.

Once you have completed the on-line donation form please click the "submit" button. Your wishes will immediately be sent to us and we will contact you regarding your preferred payment method (check or credit card). We accept MasterCard, Visa, and American Express.

Visit the Temple website at: www.tinr.org, and click on the "Donate" button on the upper right corner. Thank you for supporting Temple Israel!

Temple Operating Fund – To support Temple Israel programs, Jewish education, social activities and operations

ASL (American Sign Language) Interpreting Fund – To provide funding for ASL interpreting and to build the bridge between the Deaf and Hard of Hearing and the general Jewish Community

Benevolence Fund – Provide financial assistance to help members of our community meet basic needs

Brotherhood Fund – Brotherhood of Temple Israel of New Rochelle, also known as the Men of Reform Judaism (MRJ), is a group of dedicated Temple members, spanning all ages, who volunteer their time and effort on behalf of Temple members and the New Rochelle community.

Camp Pinebrook Program Fund – To enhance programs associated with Camp Pinebrook.

Chavaya Program Fund – To support programs

Edith H. Handelman Library Fund – to support the Temple library

Endowment Fund – Used to maintain and expand religious, educational, cultural, social and philanthropic activities of the Temple

Gladys & Murray Goldstein Cultural Center Fund – Enables the Temple to present exhibits and improve the Cultural Center

Hospitality Fund – For the holding of Kiddush and Oneg Shabbat receptions

Kehillah School Childhood Program Fund – To support Kehillah programs

Sidney & Ruth Lapidus Fund – For adult education funding

Music Fund – To support musical programs and cultural life of the Temple

Prayer Book Fund – To enable the Temple to purchase prayer books

Radio Fund – To enable us to present radio broadcasts that we bring to the congregation and the larger public

Joan Sanders Transportation Fund – To enable congregants who do not drive to get to services

Sisterhood Fund – Temple Israel of New Rochelle Sisterhood brings together all generations of women within our synagogue to serve our congregation. Our Sisterhood sponsors a variety of social, religious, and community activities throughout the year.

Social Action Fund – To support social action projects in our synagogue and neighborhood communities

Temple Israel Cares – Enables the committee to provide meals for congregants who have been hospitalized or are recovering from illness and to provide Shiva baskets

Youth Involvement Fund – Enhances youth programs

Clergy Discretionary Funds – These funds allow our clergy to support a wide variety of charitable causes.

- Rabbi Weiner's Discretionary Fund
- Rabbi Nichols' Discretionary Fund
- Cantor Schloss' Discretionary Fund



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Photo Courtesy of Susan Lovullo



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We are a community that adds meaning and purpose to modern lives through an inclusive approach to Judaism.
We live our Jewish values in our worship, celebration, lifelong learning and *Tikkun Olam* — the repair of the world.