



*The December 2011 Shofar*  
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 Affiliate member of the URJ since 1950



# Temple Beth El

invites you to a  
**Family Friendly Shabbat Channukah Service**

on  
**Friday, December 23, 2011 at 6 p.m.**

followed by a  
**Channukah Potluck Dinner**

You are welcome to bring your menorah and candles to light up this celebration or you can share one of ours! Please bring a dish to share.

This *Channukah* celebration is open to all who would like to be part of this special celebration of lights, freedom and miracles!

Bring your friends and share the fun!

**Please call or e-mail Katie in the Temple office by Friday, December 16 to let her know what you will be bringing and how many people will be attending.**

518-792-4364

[tbegfny@gmail.com](mailto:tbegfny@gmail.com)

**Latkes made from the Latke Fest winning recipe will be served.**

**To help cover incidental costs, we ask for a donation of:**

Single: \$5

Family: \$10



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## Ask the Rabbi

Instead of a Rabbi's message, Rabbi Durbin will host an "Ask the Rabbi" column where he responds to questions from our readers. We look forward to receiving your questions sent to Katie in the Temple office. Or you might have questions for the Temple's historian or board members or various committees of the Temple. Send them in! If you wish to express an opinion or idea instead of a question, we welcome "guest editorials." Help us to make *The Shofar* more interesting.

## Rabbi's Message

**Question:** Historically, Reform Jews did not wear a *tallit* in the sanctuary for services but as we're moving toward more traditional practices in the Reform Movement, when and where is it appropriate to wear a *tallit*, both in and out of the sanctuary?

**Answer:** The *tallit* (or *tallis*; plural, *tallitot*) is a rectangular prayer shawl with strings tied in a particular pattern in its four corners, called *tzitzit*. Though most often *tallitot* are made of wool, linen, or silk, they may be made of any fabric. They are most often found in white with black or blue stripes, but, likewise, may be any color or design.



Sometimes what we wear has the miraculous power not only to change our appearance but to transform our internal experience to one of meaning and value. We know this regarding the feeling of putting on a sports uniform, a coat and tie, or a ball gown, and we know, too, the power of donning a costume, playing at being something other than what we are.

There is no biblical basis for the *tallit* itself; rather, Numbers 15:37-39 contains an injunction to wear *tzitzit* on the corners of one's garments:

*God said to Moses as follows:*

*Speak to the Israelite people and instruct them to make for themselves*

*Tzitzit on the corners of their garments throughout the ages;*

*let them attach a cord of blue to the tzitzit at each corner.*

*That shall be your tzitzit; look at it and recall all the commandments of Adonai*

*and observe them, so that you do not follow your heart and eyes in your lustful urge.*

Rabbinic tradition understood this commandment to mean that one should wear *tzitzit* on any garment with four corners, and when, centuries ago, it fell out of style to regularly wear four-cornered articles of clothing, it was mandated to wear a *tallit* under certain circumstances specifically in order to fulfill the biblical precept of donning *tzitzit*.

Typically, a *tallit* is worn during *shacharit* (morning services), except on *Yom Kippur*, when it is worn in the evening and throughout the day, and on *Tisha B'Av*, when it is worn only in the afternoon. In many communities, whoever is leading prayer or reading or offering a blessing over the Torah wears a *tallit*, at any time of day. In most liberal communities, a *tallit* is worn by someone who has become a *bar* or *bat mitzvah*.

People choose to wear *tallitot* for any number of reasons. For some, a *tallit* is a reminder of the 613 *mitzvot* (commandments); for others, wrapping themselves in a *tallit* provides a spiritual and private space for prayer. As Michael Strassfeld writes: "At times it conveys a sense of being enveloped in the surrounding divine, while at other times it simply encloses us, helping us focus on praying."

A *tallit* has the power to transform our experience, allowing us to make our external appearance a reminder to ourselves about the internal intentions and attitudes we desire. Uniform or costume, commanded or chosen, they are each replete with symbolism—both with the meanings that have been ascribed to them throughout Jewish history and with what we bring to them on any given day.

Rabbi Matthew J. Durbin

(Taken from the URJ website.)



## President's Message

Now that our busy November is ended, it's time to look ahead to December and even January. It is gratifying to know that so much is happening here at Temple Beth El. As I said at Rosh Hashanah, we want activities for everyone; be they religious, social or intellectual. Read through this December edition of *The Shofar*; put the calendar in a prominent place.

In November, we celebrated the baby-naming of Valis Schanzer-Yu, grand-daughter of Temple member Deborah Schanzer. We honored Katie and Tina at a special Board-sponsored Oneg. Sandy Searleman again was chef *extra-ordinaire* for the *Chai* society breakfast; Rachel Gartner, Maxine Wasserman and committee members worked tirelessly to bring us the Pedlar's Fair. How many thousands of dollars this group has raised for our Temple! *Mazel Tov* to Deborah and her family, Katie and Tina. Thank you to all who chaired and worked on our November events.

Now what? In addition to Shabbat services and Torah study, there are a lot of dates to reserve in December: A Hadassah Shabbat service to be held at Temple, the Latke Fest, our Temple Shabbat *Channukah* dinner and Rabbi Durbin's classes. Something for everyone. And if you don't find that "something" that will encourage you to come to Temple, call me with your ideas. We'll help you make it happen. Thank you in advance to all of you who are working on the December events.

Last year at this time I shared my *Channukah* wish list with you. A few of my wishes have been granted, for which I give thanks. I do appreciate those volunteers who did call and offer their help but we still need more. There are occasional needs that don't require much time. Katie always appreciates help in the office when there are bulk mailings. The more we help her, the more time she has to help us. If you are an outdoors person, put together a crew to help rake leaves in the autumn; in the spring, come and help clean up the grounds and plant flowers. The more we help at Temple, the more connected we feel to it. You provide the volunteers and the crew, and I'll provide the refreshments.

One of my *Channukah* wishes last year was to hear "Need help?" when I answered the phone and my e-mail. This wish remains on my list. Please join those who have done so already.

From the extended Rosoff family, Happy *Channukah*

Barbara Rosoff

## Pedlars Fair—November 6, 2011

Thanks to all those who gave their time and efforts to make this a successful sale. We could not do this without your generous support and hard work.

Myra & Bob Katz	Nancy & Fred Fagelman	Martin Wasserman	Stuart Leinoff
Peter LaGrasse	Leah Conklin	Paul Durlacher	John Pennachio
Lois Hellman	Lynn Seidel	Ami Goldstein	Meta Pfeiffer
Christine Levy	Dale Tracy & Jerry Starr	Carol Wells	Sandy Katz
Norm Schips	Bob Kaufman	Betty Gancher	Marilyn Bazan & George Conable

We want to thank the Alternative Sentencing Program of Washington County for the help they gave us with carrying everything up from the basement. We also want to thank Tina for the assistance she gave us. This is a difficult set up and sale. It would be impossible to do it without lots of volunteers. Thank you!

The Pedlars Fair has been a Temple fundraiser for many years and has had many dedicated workers. Rachel and I took over the sale 15 years ago when these workers decided that they could no longer manage all the work required to run this event. We have now organized and held this sale for 15 years for a total of 23 sales. We, at one time, had two sales per year. We have raised over \$50,000 for the Temple. It is now our turn to step down and take a break. There will not be a Pedlars Fair next year, and although we are sorry to stop, it is time to do so.

We again want to thank everybody who has so generously given their time and efforts to make this a successful fundraiser for the Temple.

Rachel and Maxine



### Torah Portions

#### December 3

##### Vayetze

Pent. Gen. 28:101-32:3

Pr. Hos. 12:13-14:10

#### December 10

##### Vayislach

Pent. Gen. 32:4-36:43

Pr. Obadiah 1:1-213

#### December 17

##### Vayeshev

Pent. Gen. 37:1-40:23

Pr. Amos 2:6-3:8

#### December 24

##### Miketz

Pent. Gen. 41:1-44:17;

Num. 7:30-35

Pr. Zech. 2:14-4:7

#### December 31

##### Vayigash

Pent. Gen. 44:18-47:27

Pr. Ezek. 37:15-28

### 10 Minutes of Torah

Sign up to receive a one-page e-mail each day on a topic of Jewish interest. It only takes **10 minutes a day** to get started on a lifelong journey. Spend 10 minutes a day — and before you know it you'll have completed 100 hours of Torah study! All you need to do is find ten minutes a day to "do Torah." Reform Jews committed to having Judaism in their daily lives are encouraged to participate in 10 minutes a day of personal connection to a Jewish text, issue or topic. For example: Monday—Reform Voices of Torah; Tuesday—The Rhythm of Jewish Time; Wednesday—Israel Connection; Thursday—Delving into *Tfilah*; Friday—Reform Judaism Q&A. Select all five days or any combination. Each weekday morning, an e-mail will be delivered to your inbox for you to study at your convenience. Sign up for 10 Minutes of Torah by visiting: [www.urj.org/learning/torah/ten](http://www.urj.org/learning/torah/ten). Take your study of 10 Minutes of Torah to the next level by signing up for *Eilu V'eilu*.

*"Who among us is so busy that he cannot spend 10 minutes a day in the study of a Jewish text? Just 10 minutes? Such a commitment would enable us to meet our Jewish obligation to make Jewish study a fixed occurrence. If we make time to answer our cell phones a dozen times a day and to check our email five times an hour, surely we can find 10 minutes to contemplate sacred words that nourish the soul." -- Rabbi Eric Yoffie, November 8, 2003, 13 Cheshvan 5764*

### Appreciation

To the **Schanzer and Yu Families** for hosting an Oneg in November in honor of Valis receiving her Hebrew name.

To **the Board of Trustees** for hosting an Oneg in November in honor of special people—Katie Weaver and Tina Stevens.

### The 2012 Entertainment Books are on sale now in the Temple office until December 15!

**Please support our fundraiser!**

**For only \$30, the Entertainment Book includes:**

- \* **Up to 50% off at your favorite restaurants!**
- \* **Great deals on travel!**
- \* **Big savings on shopping, services, and entertainment!**

**Plus this year the book includes a Bonus Card for additional dollars off purchases from popular merchants!**

**Get yours from Katie in the Temple Office!**

### Book Club

We are having our annual *Channukah* party on December 13th at 10am at the Temple. Please let me know what you will bring to share with the rest of our book club members. We will not be doing any cooking but feel free to warm up any food item. All are welcome to join us. We will also discuss the book Cleopatra.

Here is the list of books that we will be discussing in the upcoming months:

January 10: Please Look After Mom by Kyung-Sook Shin

February 14: Extremely Loud and Incredibly Close by Jonathan Safran Foer

March 14: No Ordinary Time by Doris Kearns Goodwin

Don't forget, we meet the second Tuesday of every month at 10 a.m. at the Temple. All are welcome and happy reading!  
Karen Marks



**DECEMBER 2011**

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
				1 2 p.m. Intermediate Hebrew	2 7 p.m. <i>Hadassah</i> Shabbat	3 10:30 a.m. Torah Study
4 9:30 a.m. TSRS at Temple	5 6:30 p.m. Jumping into Judaism	6 5:15 p.m. Beginner Hebrew 6:30 p.m. Rise of Reform Judaism	7 4 p.m. Jewish Value Ethics 6 p.m. TSRS at Synagogue	8 2 p.m. Intermediate Hebrew	9 7 p.m. Shabbat Service	10 10:30 a.m. Torah Study 1 p.m. Turning Swords into Ploughshares Class
11 9:30 a.m. TSRS at Temple	12 6:30 p.m. Jumping into Judaism	13 10 a.m. Book Club <i>Channukah</i> Party 12 p.m. Ritual / Pulpit Committee Meeting 5:15 p.m. Beginner Hebrew 6:30 p.m. Rise of Reform Judaism	14 4 p.m. Jewish Value Ethics 6 p.m. TSRS at Synagogue	15 2 p.m. Intermediate Hebrew <b>Shofar Deadline</b>	16 7 p.m. Shabbat Service / Oneg hosted by David Coleman in memory of Sharon Coleman	17 10:30 a.m. Torah Study 1 p.m. Turning Swords into Ploughshares Class
18 9:30 a.m. TSRS at Temple 3 p.m. Latke Fest	19 6:30 p.m. Jumping into Judaism	20 5:15 p.m. Beginner Hebrew 7 p.m. Temple Board Meeting <b>Channukah Begins—Light 1st Candle</b>	21 6 p.m. TSRS at Synagogue	22 2 p.m. Intermediate Hebrew	23 6 p.m. Family Service / <i>Channukah</i> Dinner 	24
25	26 Temple Office Closed	27	28	29	30	31



### Contributions

#### GENERAL FUND

**Jerry Starr & Dale Tracy**

General Donation

**Dave, Sue & Molly Lieberman**

In honor of Ami Goldstein becoming a *Bat Mitzvah*

**Carole K. Polacsek**

In honor of Ami Goldstein becoming a *Bat Mitzvah*

**Phil & Erma Gordon**

In memory of Abraham Gordon

**John & Susan Coleman**

In honor of Ami Goldstein becoming a *Bat Mitzvah*

**Helene Rudnick**

In honor of Ami Goldstein becoming a *Bat Mitzvah*

**Ruth Heller & Dr. Harold Luria**

In memory of Barbara Hirsch

**Ruth Heller & Dr. Harold Luria**

In honor of Ami Goldstein becoming a *Bat Mitzvah*

**Sandy & Martha Searleman**

In memory of Charles Searleman

**Philip & Erma Gordon**

In memory of Allan Gordon

**Philip & Erma Gordon**

In memory of Wolf Greenman

**Judith Metzner Shepherd**

In celebration of the naming of Debbie Schanzer's granddaughter, Valis Schanzer-Yu

**Judith Metzner Shepherd**

In celebration of the 5th birthday of Tigger and Pooh Bear Shepherd-Silver

**Judith Metzner Shepherd**

In appreciation of Maxine Wasserman and Rachel Gartner

#### RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

**Jeffrey & Karen Levin**

In memory of Dr. Kenneth D. Levin

**Jeffrey & Karen Levin**

In appreciation of Rabbi Durbin for his leadership of the Glens Falls metro area Jewish community

**Phil & Erma Gordon**

In honor of Rabbi Durbin

**Larry Silver**

In honor of Ami Goldstein becoming a *Bat Mitzvah*

#### ENDOWMENT FUND

**Mike & Gilda Siegel**

In memory of Hilda Siegel

**Mike & Gilda Siegel**

In memory of Anne Daniels Goldberg

### GEARING UP FOR THE HOLIDAYS

The Judaica Shop is ready for Channukah . . . are you? Before you even think about buying anything, check out all of the new "stuff" for 2011. You're going to love it!

The Shop will be open during regular office hours Monday through Friday. If you need to get something outside of those hours, please contact Gail Hamel at 761-1220 or email Gail at [ghamel@hamelresources.com](mailto:ghamel@hamelresources.com) to make arrangements.

Shop early, shop often.

### Get Well Soon

Lydia Adler, Steve Adler, Dan Baker, Ronald Binns, Paul Cattabiani, John Dessingue, Len Every, Elaine Faller, Victor Friedman, Alan Gartner, Dawn Gideon, Diann Gordon, Jacqueline Gordon, Mark Grunblatt, James Hipp, Janet Jobst, Mike Jucowics, Shirley Kanofsky, Paula Knight, Betty Lehecka, Elizabeth Levy, Sandra Lewis, Dave Lieberman, Sue Lieberman, Harold Luria, Betty Maloney, Leonard Meyers, Richard Muller, Paul Offricht, Jessica Panebianco, Gerald Rothstein, Edie Rudnick, Bob Savarin, Sonny Segan, David Setzer, Frank Sheridan, Miki Shwimmer, Crystal Stefanovick, Jennifer Steuer, Sally Strasser, Alfred Supe, Judy Supe, William Vogt, Carol Wells, Jared Winchell, Bertel Wolfe



## **Classes with Rabbi Durbin**

### **The Rise of Reform Judaism**

*Tuesday December 6 and 13 at 6:30 p.m.*

Have you ever wondered how the Reform Movement came about? Come for a lively discussion as we explore the Platforms and positions of the Reform Movement and its history of becoming the world's largest movement.

### **Turning Swords into Ploughshares**

*Saturday, December 10 and 17 at 1 p.m.*

This is a text study on our scriptures as they relate to war and discord among our history. We will examine our texts in the light of positive resolutions attained by our sages. All are welcome to attend. No experience necessary.

### **Jumping Into Judaism**

*Mondays, December 5 - December 19 at 6:30 p.m.*

This is a three-week crash course on the history of Judaism from its early sources to Jewish history, lifecycles, and festivals. It is a broad course offering a "Taste" of Judaism from the last 6,000 years.

### **Jewish Value Ethics**

*Wednesdays, December 7 and 14 at 8 p.m.*

Come explore some contemporary Jewish value ethics and learn what the traditional views on the topic are and how we as Reform Jews interpret and understand them through textual analysis and a Progressive lens.

Call or e-mail Katie in the Temple Office to reserve your spot in one, some or all of these classes!

**REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED!!!!**

## **Saying Kaddish For Loved Ones**

At our Shabbat services, we recite the mourners' *Kaddish* and remember the friends and loved ones who have died recently and those whose *Yahrzeits* are being observed on the anniversaries of their deaths. Usually, the Rabbi or service leader reads a list of names and invites those in attendance to say any additional names.

Upon request, the Rabbi or service leader will read any name. How do names get on the list? First, if a plate has been donated for one of our bronze memorial tablets, the individual's name is read every year during the week of the *Yahrzeit* and whenever names are read at a *Yizkor* service. Second, members and regular visitors are welcome to request that their loved ones' names be added permanently to the list and read at that time each year. Finally, those who want the name read only at a particular service can request in advance that the name be added to the list for that week.

To request that a name be added to the list, permanently or for a single occasion, contact the Temple office during office hours prior to the date of the Shabbat service, and give the Administrative Assistant the name of the individual, the full date of death, and if the name is unusual, pronunciation guidance. Non-members should also provide their own contact information. If you are requesting that a name be added permanently to the list, the Temple will remind you of the date every year. Many people observe the custom of making a financial contribution at the anniversary of a loved one's death.

## **Tree of Life**

With Channukah coming up, what better gift than a leaf of the tree of life? For \$25, your children can see their names on the tree every time they come to Temple. I want to thank Sara Rice and her class for re-hanging the leaves that have fallen off. They have taken it on as a class project.

Elaine Sobel (792-6192)



## Treasures from the Cellar of Temple Beth El

While cleaning up and organizing a small storage room in the cellar, Larry Silver (House Chair) has made some interesting discoveries. Earlier this year he found a silver vase for cut flowers. It was badly tarnished. Larry lovingly polished the vase and now it occupies a prominent place on the *bema*. Many people have commented and wondered about its origins. At least one member recalls that there were always fresh flowers in this vase on Shabbat when she was a child.

More recently Larry found some engravings, in old frames and covered with dust. There is a large picture of the Hebrew people being led out of Egypt. In addition, there are eight smaller pictures of places and events mentioned in the Torah or found in most histories of Israel. All nine have been matted and professionally framed. They now hang on the north wall of the "Bubble Room" around the fireplace, enhanced by a pair of sconces donated to the Temple by Larry's sister, Sandra Terwilliger.

Perhaps another long time (or previous) Temple member has a memory that will help us to learn more about this art work. As a working hypothesis, we think they may be 19th Century lithographs published by a company with offices in London and Paris. In small, faint print on each image is information about the engraver and the original art.

We know nothing about the eight small pictures, but have clues regarding the large engraving. Close inspection and a little research identify the work, "Moise Sauve Israel," as an engraving made in France in 1874, by Louis-Adolphe Gautier, from a painting by "Schopin." Depicting Moses leading the Israelites across the Sea of Reeds, the picture may have been a gift to the Temple shortly before the first congregational Seder in the new building in 1926. A history of that year, written by Mrs. Ella Cline, notes, "Mrs. Gelman gave us a picture to hang above the fireplace in the Home Room so that it should be even more attractive for the Seder . . ." Vilma Gelman, a founding member of the Congregation, was the grandmother of current members Bob Rosoff and Judy Metzner Shepherd. The Metzner family donated the cost of re-framing the suite of engravings.

Is there an art expert or art historian reading this who might like to do some research? For those who might be inclined to do some internet research, we provide the titles below: Moise Sauve Israel (the large picture). The smaller pictures, beginning at the top of the column to the left of the "Moses" picture: Lake of Tiberias on Sea of Gallilee; Jerusalem from the Mount of Olives; Sidon on the Approach from Beirout. The columns to the right of the "Moses" picture: Ford of the River Kishon, Bay of Acre; Mount Carmel, Looking toward the Sea; Valley of Jehoshephat. The column to the right of the east door into the homeroom: Absalom's Tomb near Jerusalem; Plain of the Jordan Looking toward the Red Sea.

Please help us to solve this mystery. As we receive more information, we will report it in *The Shofar*.

## FIRST ANNUAL LATKE FEST!

Don't miss the First Annual Latke Fest, Sunday, December 18, 2011, from 3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m., at Temple Beth El! At this event, open to the public, a maximum of twelve professional and amateur chefs will compete to create the official 2011 Golden Latke, the exclusive recipe to be served at the Temple *Channukah* dinner on December 23!

Ticket holders at this family celebration will be treated to music, games, and other entertainment as they sample mini-latkes with appropriate accompaniments. They will also be the contest judges, voting for their favorite latkes.

Chef-contestants are needed in two categories. Recipes may be either traditional or "twisted," with ingredients of the chef's choice, subject to a few restrictions. In addition to the honor of creating the official latke for the *Channukah* celebration, the winning chef will receive free tickets to the dinner and recognition in the forthcoming Temple Beth El cookbook, to be published in 2012.

Tickets go on sale December 1st and are available through the temple office or from Latke Fest committee members. Advance tickets are \$8 for adults and \$2 for children 12 and under. Tickets will also be available at the door: \$10 for adults and \$5 for children 12 and under. December 5th is the deadline to sign up as a contestant. For information and complete contest rules, e-mail [latkefest@gmail.com](mailto:latkefest@gmail.com).



## Robert Rosoff is Retiring!

After 13 years with the Glens Falls Symphony, Executive Director and Temple's own Robert Rosoff is retiring on December 11th!! *Mazel Tov!!!!*



## Valerie Hope

On Shabbat, Saturday, October 29, 2011, I gave my presentation on my international experiences and adventures in Jewish book collecting. The items shown and discussed were:

- \* La Resistance Juive En France by David Knout (Paris, 1946)
- \* Havaner Lebn (Yiddish and Spanish) (Havana, 1945)
- \* Judaisme Nord-African-Etudes Demographiques Sur Les Israelites Du Department De Constantine by Maurice Eisenbeth Constantine (Algerie, 1936)
- \* Narrative Of A Mission To Bokhara In The Years 1843-1845 by Joseph Wolff (NY, 1845)
- \* In Di Orem's Fun Toyt by Mordchai Sarna (Paris, 1946)
- \* Pri Etz Hador (Fruit Of The Beautiful Tree, i.e., Etrog) Kohelet with Interpretivr Judeo-Arabic Translation and Hebrew Commentary (Djerba Tunisia, 1941-2)
- \* Tehillim Casablanca (Morocco, 1971-2)
- \* Judische Welt-Judische Erzählungen Des Auslandes (Berlin, 1937)
- \* Siddur-Prieres Journalieres (Hebrew and French Translation) (Tunis, 1908)
- \* Israel's Messenger- Official organ of the Shanghai Zionist Association and the Jewish National Fund Commission for China
- \* A Jewish paper devoted to the interest of Jews and Judaism in the far east
- \* Shanghai China August 1927
- \* Haggadah Shel Pesach by Vaad Hatzala (Munich, 1948)
- \* Postage stamp size Siddur (Tel Aviv, 1961)
- \* Invitations to dinners I attended honoring former Israeli Prime Ministers Menachem Begin, Yitzak Rabin, and Golda Meir were included

The event took place at Congregation Shaaray Tefilia; however, it was my pleasure to see that about an equal amount of attendees were from Temple Beth El, and a few non-jewish friends were there, too.

In the days following, I received many phone calls and notes from attendees. A non-jewish friend wrote: "Dear Valerie, Just a short note to let you know how blessed I was attending Saturday (Shaharit) services with you. I was very honored with your invitation. You did a wonderful presentation that was so interesting. I know it kept all of us 'spellbound' as we 'traveled' with you to so many different countries that day. Shalom Aleichem. Love, .... "

G-d willing, I hope to do more presentations in the future, and hope that you will be able to attend.

Valerie Hope



## Temple Beth El History

[Following is an excerpt from the early history of Temple Beth El, written by Ella Cline. "Count Your Blessings" is the chapter for 1932-1933.]

As this account is begun, the elms and maples that line the streets and avenues of Glens Falls are flaming with the colors of autumn, in vivid Chinese red, gold and mottled browns against the dark green of lawn and evergreen. Whichever way the eye looks, there stretches a road arched in gorgeous colors, a magnificent triumphant arch of meeting branches for the cavalcade of the days. The hills nearby are vast, colorful, magic carpets, fringed with pines and hemlocks, mirrored in quiet lakes. A beautiful world! Nature, in lovely array, awaiting the coming of winter, content to rest, and to dream of spring.

Let *us* attempt to be as serenely wise, let *us* count our blessings, in these changing times when all mankind is suffering, alarmed and apprehensive. Let us glance back, and count our many blessings.

Rabbi Shulman, with the help of several members, erected a booth in the Home Room and on October 14 a Succoth festival was enjoyed by many there. On October 26 a card party in the Home Room was well attended. On November 18 a reception was held there – a program of amateur talent gracing the event – for Mrs. Jacobson and Miss Goldstein, and that is invariably a popular function. Thus the year began pleasantly although we were in the very depths of the business depression, and each one of us felt the bitter uncertainty of the winter before us.

Possibly because of this feeling of danger, the knowledge that we, the entire country, were passing through a period of grave uncertainty, that no one was altogether spared, our services were, on the whole, well attended, our income-producing activities well patronized. Men and women, finding themselves adrift from accustomed ways, were turning to their Temple for comfort and for guidance.

A cabaret party was held in our Home Room on November 24, a new venture, suggested by and in charge of Mrs. Milton Sheosburg, who worked so eagerly and helpfully the short time that the Sheosburgs lived here. This was so well attended that a larger place will have to be hired if a similar affair is planned. We earned nearly a hundred dollars, and that is a big sum for a Sisterhood activity, these days.

Rabbi Sydney E. Goldstein of the Hebrew Institute of Religion lectured in our Temple on Friday, December 9. Dr. Goldstein had been writing and lecturing for more than two years, and doing committee work in Washington, in many attempts to ameliorate the growing menace of the unemployment problem. The subject of his lecture was, *On the Horizon, a Discussion of the Present Social Crisis*. The gist of his talk was that this was not an ordinary business depression, but that a social crisis existed that might precipitate catastrophe unless measures were taken to decrease the great army of the unemployed. Not by charity, but by a sharing of income; by taking the minors and the aged out of the ranks of active employment. A forum followed the lecture during which many questions were answered.

## TSRS Update

The Temple Synagogue Religious School, with generous support from the Jewish Federation of Northeastern NY, will be holding a musical fundraiser at the Synagogue in January. *Broadway Royalty*, presented by Community Action Theater Services and directed by Martin Kelly, showcases music from the last 100 years of Broadway written by Jewish composers and lyricists. Music from over 20 shows is connected by a narrative that describes the lives of these Broadway legends. The revue stems from a nationwide public library program honoring these composers as representative of the cultural heritage established in the United States by an immigrant group and their descendents. The new musical review stars local performers, Janet Stasio, Angela Potrikus, Bill Hickman, and Me (Adam Paul Fine), with music direction by Vince Bonafede.

Please help to support the TSRS and join us for this matinee performance at the Synagogue. Invite everyone you know as we try to raise money to purchase new computers for our students. Further details about the date and time of the performance and how to purchase tickets will be provided via e-mail. I hope to see everyone there.

Sincerely, Adam Fine, TSRS Director



## We Remember

Mourners Kaddish for the following individuals will be recited in Temple on the noted dates:

### December 2

Paul Arnstein, David Bittman, Billy Dopreen, Alice Doran, \*Herman Feigenbaum, \*Vilma G. Gelman, Mary Hellman, \*Sol Koch, Gertrude Lebowitz, Dr. David Lawrence Little, Hannah Robbins, Marcia Schmitt, William Shapiro, \*Bertie F. Task, Anna Waterman

### December 9

Anna Binns, Robert Gordon, Marie Handen, Cerf J. Levy, Evelyn Lockwood, \*Jeanette C. Metzner, Matilda Schwartz, Morris Shorr, \*Chester Sirkus, \*Mark Tracy, \*Ruth Wasserman

### December 16

Samuel Frank, Jacob Herbert Goldstein, Arthur Leopold, \*Dr. Sherman Lichtman, Ace A. Orange, \*Alec Howard Silverman, \*Edward Sommer, \*Joseph Tucker, \*Alice Strauss Yaffee

### December 23

\*Maxwell Bassock, \*Reuben Cohen, \*Sharon L. Blitman Coleman, \*Nettye Fonfa, Berdie Gladstone, Emil Grossman, Alfred Komer, Bert Kusserow, Aaron Mandel, Cecelia Hecht Marks, Henry Patack, Leonard Seidel

### December 30

Herman Aronson, \*Edward Brender, \*Jeanette Ginsburg Feller, \*Adolph Fonfa, Louis L. Ginsburg, \*Morris Hellenberg, Ruth Olson, \*Edith L. Pawel, Stephen Schulman, \*Dick Sobel, Annette Socher, Sander Steinberg, \*Sandra Suckman

*(\*name appears on yahrzeit plaque in the sanctuary)*

## Hadassah Shabbat

The Glens Falls Chapter of Hadassah will participate in the Friday Evening Shabbat Service at Temple Beth El on December 2<sup>nd</sup> at 7 p.m.

Congregation Shaaray Tefila and Temple Beth El will be joining together for this special service led by Hadassah. During this service, new Hadassah Life Members and new Hadassah Associates will be honored. In celebration of Hadassah's 100th birthday, Life Memberships and Associates are being offered at the bargain rate of \$100 per person. This offer ends December 31<sup>st</sup>. Contact Sunny Buchman at 792-4624 if you wish to purchase one of these special offerings. What a wonderful gift idea for Channukah!

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*Rabbi Durbin and President Barbara Rosoff will be ex-officio members of all committees.*



### Happy Birthday!

Naomi Marks (12/3), Robert Rosoff (12/4), Sonny Segan (12/5), Charles Searleman (12/10), Molly Lieberman (12/10), Lee Schwartz (12/10), Ana Bazan (12/13), Noah Hellman (12/15), Marcia Krantz (12/16), Barry Goldstein (12/20), Jennifer Nadler (12/20), Jason Wodicka (12/20), Betty Gancher (12/21), Gail Waimon (12/23), Harlan Steuer (12/23), Joseph Bittman (12/23), Scott Segan (12/24), Travis Amengual (12/26), Victor Friedman (12/28), Jaclyn Adler (12/28), Helene Leopold (12/29)



### Happy Anniversary!

Elliott & Cory Heyman (12/24)



### Mazel Tov

To **Valis Schanzer-Yu** for receiving her Hebrew name on November 11.

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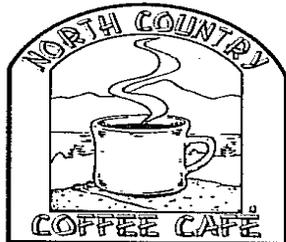
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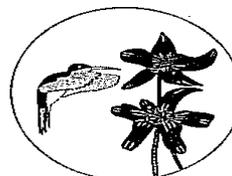


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***The Shofar***

Editor, Lois Hellman

Assistant Editor,  
Judith Metzner Shepherd

Admin. Assistant / Editorial  
Assistant, Katie Weaver

**Writing for *The Shofar*? Think Ahead!**

Writing something for *The Shofar*? REMEMBER YOUR DEADLINES. Articles and announcements for *The Shofar* should be sent to the Temple Administrative Assistant, Katie Weaver, well in advance of the desired publication date. The deadline for each issue (usually the 15<sup>th</sup> day of the preceding month) is shown on the Calendar page, but your article should arrive as early as possible. *The Shofar* is published before the first day of each month, and PUBLICATION WILL NOT BE DELAYED for late articles and announcements.

Remember: If your article will be timed to coincide with a holiday or event, you will want it to appear at least as early as the issue preceding the event. And if you are asking for volunteers, for reservations, or for advance ticket or merchandise purchases, your article or announcement may need to appear several months in advance. Even for something that is several months away, it is never too early to submit an announcement to get *The Shofar* readers to "save the date"!

The Editors welcome letters and other reader contributions. E-mail submission ([tbegfny@gmail.com](mailto:tbegfny@gmail.com)) is preferred. Submit your article as an e-mail message or as an attachment. If you lack internet access, you may deliver or mail your submission to the attention of Katie Weaver at Temple Beth El, 3 Marion Avenue, Glens Falls, NY 12801, to arrive prior to the deadline.

**The deadline for getting articles to Katie for the January issue of *The Shofar* is Thursday, December 15!**