



Temple Israel

May/June 2018

# CHRONICLE





Temple Israel  
WESTPORT, CT

# ***Shabbat on the Beach***

**Compo Beach at 6:30 pm**

**June 22**

**July 13, 27**

**August 10, 24**



# *Nurture Spiritual Practice*

**RABBI MICHAEL S. FRIEDMAN, SENIOR RABBI**



From time to time each of us has heard a friend or neighbor extol the benefit of his or her “spiritual practice.” In response we may have raised an eyebrow, imagining an uncomfortable “new-age” practice, the chanting of bizarre mantras or visits to some smoke-shrouded guru.

Such images are an unfortunate misconception. A spiritual practice can be any regular activity that helps you calm down, clear your mind, and re-center yourself.

Many of you know that I run regularly, most usually three times per week. Some spiritual practices involve exercise. Some spiritual practices bring you into nature: hiking or walking your dog. Some engage your creativity: cooking or painting. Some center on one’s state of consciousness: meditation or yoga. It may take time to find the right spiritual practice for yourself.

A spiritual practice must be freely chosen. It must be undertaken regularly, even when you’re tired or not in the mood. A spiritual practice need not be a daily routine; once a week may be enough. But your practice does need to be long enough to take you out of your current mental space and into a different place for a period of time. It cannot be done while driving, or taking care of your kids, or looking at a screen.

When you’re done you feel less stress. You are more focused on your priorities. You have a greater awareness of who you are and your place in the universe.

Those who have a regular spiritual practice feel more balanced, more capable of dealing with the unexpected. They need less caffeine to get them going and less alcohol to wind themselves down.

A spiritual practice can be Jewish. Regular Torah study would certainly qualify. Our weekly Saturday morning Torah study group not only immerses itself in the world of Torah but also creates a tight and caring community. I have a friend who gets up early to volunteer at a soup kitchen once a week. You might pause to celebrate the beginning of Shabbat in your home, using the physical rituals of candles, wine and challah, and then carefully reviewing the successes and failures of the week in your mind or out loud with your family.

I have recently added a new Jewish spiritual practice to my own routine. Many mornings I feed both of our twins their bottles simultaneously, as they sit propped in a tandem seat designed just for that purpose. With both hands occupied and eyes fixed on our children, I quietly say or sing the morning blessings from our prayer book. These are words that I have committed to memory over many years of repetition. They seem to calm Goldie and George and allow them to focus on their bottles. Some mornings I feel like I have given myself a little gift, by starting my day focused on wonder and gratitude.

The longer days of spring and summer can be a perfect time for each of us to nurture our own spiritual practice. Find something new that works for you. Or refresh a beloved practice that you once left behind. Do it with intention. Stick to it. You will thank yourself.

# UPCOMING EVENTS

## ***Shabbat Celebrations***

### **WEEKLY SCHEDULE**

- Kabbalat Shabbat  
6:30 pm on Fridays
- Meditation & Reflection  
8:30 am on Saturdays
- Shabbat Morning Minyan  
9:00 am on Saturdays
- Torah Study  
10:00 am on Saturdays

## ***Special Services***

- First Fridays  
Friday, May 4 at 5:30 pm  
3rd Grade Participation  
and Combatants for Peace
- Israeli Emissary Shabbat  
Friday, May 18 at 6:30 pm
- Shavuot, Yizkor and Confirmation  
Sunday, May 20 at 9:30 am
- Shabbat Under the Stars  
Friday, June 1 at 6:30 pm
- Shabbat on the Beach  
Friday, June 22 at 6:30 pm  
Friday, July 13 at 6:30 pm  
Friday, July 27 at 6:30 pm  
Friday, August 10 at 6:30 pm  
Friday, August 24 at 6:30 pm

## ***Religious School***

### **SPECIAL EVENTS & SCHEDULES**

- **LAST DAY OF SCHOOL:**
- Grades K-3 Last day of school  
Monday, May 14
- Grades 4A , 5A , 6  
Last day of school  
Tuesday, May 15
- Grades 4B, 5B, (Sunday only  
students) last day of school and  
celebration of Shavuot  
Sunday, May 20

## ***Family Programs***

- 6th Grade Bar Mitzvah  
Family Program  
Sunday, May 6,  
from 9:00 am -11:00 am  
*Putting the Mitzvah  
Back in B'nei Mitzvah*

## ***Adult Jewish Learning***

- Interfaith Theology Course  
All are welcome, no registration  
necessary  
Tuesdays at 11:00 am-12:00 pm
- TI Book Group  
Thursday, May 10 at 12:30 pm  
Thursday, June 14 at 12:30 pm

## ***Community Events***

- TI Community Conversations  
Organized by CONECT  
Tuesday, April 24 at 8:00 pm  
Sunday, April 29, at 9:15 am  
Friday, May 4 at 9:15 am  
Sunday, May 6 at 12:00 pm
- Mitzvah Day  
Sunday, May 6 at 11:00 am  
to 1:00 pm

## ***Men's Group***

- Sandy Koufax Classic  
Sunday, June 3 at 9:30 am

## ***Women's Group***

- Sushi, Schmooze and Celebrate  
Wednesday, May 31 at 7:00 pm





## *Seeking Art Project & Reading Volunteers*

Caryn Blatt and Social Action Committee Chair Allyson Gottlieb and Mrs. B's kindergarten class at The Tisdale School in Bridgeport show off their artwork, after participating in an art project together. If you would like to lead an art project or be a volunteer reading partner, contact Allyson at: [allysonbrooke@gmail.com](mailto:allysonbrooke@gmail.com)

## *ECC Director Visits Israel With URJ Educators*

### **SEES BRIGHT FUTURE FOR ISRAEL**

Carol Schoke Early Childhood Center Director Nancy Isaacs experienced what she called “the trip of a lifetime” over a 10-day journey to Israel in February. Facilitated and planned by the Early Childhood Division of the Union for Reform Judaism (URJ), 40 educators deepened their knowledge of Israeli education, culture and history through visits to preschools, historical sites, kibbutzim and cultural institutions. The wealth of knowledge and experiences gained will support and inform deeper planning of Israel curriculum in the early childhood classrooms.

According to Isaacs, one of the most moving experiences of the trip was visiting the Peace Mural on the wall separating Israel from Gaza. “Being so close to the wall separating Gaza from Israel reinforced all the barriers to peace. Contributing a stone to the peace mural was merely symbolic, but a reminder of both the possibilities and obstacles that lay in Israel’s path to peace,” she said.



# **Mitzvah Day**

**Sunday, May 6 at 11:00 am**

**Help. Act. Do.**

[tiwestport.org/mitzvahday](http://tiwestport.org/mitzvahday)



**WHAT'S ON YOUR MIND?  
WHAT'S YOUR STORY?**

**TI COMMUNITY CONVERSATIONS  
TUESDAY, APRIL 24 AT 8:00 PM  
SUNDAY, APRIL 29 AT 9:15 AM  
FRIDAY, MAY 4 AT 9:15 AM  
SUNDAY, MAY 6 AT 12:00 PM**

We invite you to gather in small groups to share stories and engage in substantive conversations about the issues that are of greatest importance to us, our neighborhood, our state, our nation. We aim to address these issues with gubernatorial candidates ahead of the November 2018 election, and eventually with our new governor. Register at: [www.tiwestport.org/conectconversations](http://www.tiwestport.org/conectconversations)

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# FEATURED EVENTS

## ADULT JEWISH LEARNING



### **INTERFAITH THEOLOGY COURSE TUESDAYS 11:00 AM-12:00 PM THROUGH MAY 15**

Westport/Weston clergy of all faiths are joining together to offer this brand-new course on interfaith theology. Each clergy member will teach a segment of the course, enabling us to learn a multitude of perspectives on creation, revelation, redemption, good & evil, covenant and many other topics. Together with our neighbors, we will listen and share with mutual respect and openness in order to achieve greater understanding of others and ourselves.

### **TI BOOK GROUP**

Enjoy engaging discussions and rich fellowship. For more information and descriptions of each book visit: [www.tiwestport.org/tibookgroup](http://www.tiwestport.org/tibookgroup)



**THURSDAY, MAY 10 AT 12:30 PM**  
A Horse Walks Into a Bar  
by David Grossman



**THURSDAY, JUNE 14 AT 12:30 PM**  
My Jewish Year: 18 Holidays, One Wondering Jew  
by Abigail Pogrebin

## COMMUNITY EVENTS



### **MITZVAH DAY SUNDAY, MAY 6 AT 11:00 AM TO 1:00 PM**

It's more than an annual day of service, it is TI's opportunity to serve and bless the greater community. From making meals for the homeless to sending letters to Israel Defense Forces troops, we ensure there is a mitzvah in the making for everyone. Register at [www.tiwestport.org/mitzvahday](http://www.tiwestport.org/mitzvahday)



### **A TASTE OF ISRAEL 2ND ANNUAL SOUTHERN CONNECTICUT JEWISH FOOD FESTIVAL SUNDAY, JUNE 10 1:00 pm to 6:00 pm**

Temple Israel will host the Federation for Jewish Philanthropy community food festival celebrating Israel's 70th anniversary. We will combine a day of learning with the tastes of Israel, featuring do-it-yourself foodie workshops, food demos, Israeli wine tasting, kids' crafts, a vendor hall, Hebrew book fest and breakout sessions on Israeli food and agriculture. Keynote speaker Nir Mesika, renowned chef at Timna in NYC, will address the multi-cultural aspects of Israeli cuisine. For more information, or to register: [www.shalomct.org/foodfestival](http://www.shalomct.org/foodfestival)





## HIGH HOLY DAYS SCHEDULE

### **SELICHOT**

Saturday, Sept. 1, Reception at 8:30 pm,  
Service at 9:00 pm

### **EREV ROSH HASHANAH**

Sunday, Sept. 9 at 8:00 pm

### **ROSH HASHANAH FAMILY SERVICE**

Monday, Sept. 10 at 9:00 am

### **FIRST DAY ROSH HASHANAH**

Monday, Sept. 10 at 10:30 am

### **TASHLICH SERVICE**

Monday, Sept. 10 at 5:00 pm,  
Westport Public Library

### **SECOND DAY ROSH HASHANAH**

Tuesday, Sept. 11 at 9:30 am

### **KOL NIDREI**

Tuesday, Sept. 18 at 8:00 pm

### **YOM KIPPUR FAMILY SERVICE**

Wednesday, Sept. 19 at 9:00 am

### **YOM KIPPUR MORNING SERVICE**

Wednesday, Sept. 19 at 10:30 am

### **YOM KIPPUR COMMUNITY CONVERSATION**

Wednesday, Sept. 19 at 1:45 pm

### **YOM KIPPUR AFTERNOON, YIZKOR & NEILAH**

Wednesday, Sept. 19 at 3:15 pm  
Yizkor will begin at approximately  
4:45 pm followed by Neilah

## FIRST FRIDAYS AT TEMPLE ISRAEL

### FRIDAY, MAY 4

Reconnect, recharge and renew. Slow down from the week's busyness. Unite, pray and celebrate with your family and ours. Following dinner, enjoy a host of entertainment offerings. For more information: [www.tiwestport.org/firstfridays](http://www.tiwestport.org/firstfridays)

**5:30 - 6:00 pm**

#### **Tot Shabbat Sing Along**

*Song and celebration starring Cantor Dan & our rabbis*

**6:00 - 6:30 pm**

#### **Pizza and Crafts**

*Food and family fun  
\$12 child / \$14 adult*

**6:30 - 7:30 pm**

#### **Congregational Shabbat service**

*Soulful music and inspirational worship*

**7:30 - 8:15 pm**

#### **Community Dinner**

*An opportunity for connection and friendship  
\$15 child / \$20 adult*

**8:15 - 10:00 pm**

#### **May 4**

*Featured Guests:  
Combatants for Peace*

**9:00 pm**

#### **Dessert Reception**

*A sweet conclusion to the evening*



### **COMBATANTS FOR PEACE FRIDAY, MAY 4 AT 8:15 PM**

Peace does not happen by itself; it requires commitment, perseverance and unorthodox approaches. Combatants for Peace is comprised of Palestinians and Israelis who once played an active role in the cycle of violence in the Middle East: Israeli soldiers serving in the IDF and Palestinians fighting to free their people from occupation.

Combatants who once saw one another only through gun sights have put their weapons aside and established Combatants for Peace on the basis of the principles of non-violence. Hear their transformational story as TI welcomes Israeli and Palestinian CFP activists. Learn more at [cfpeace.org](http://cfpeace.org).



### **TI CARES: SUMMER CAMP CARE PACKAGES**

Is your 2nd- 8th grader going to a sleep away camp this summer? Keep them connected to Temple Israel with a special care package. Contact Jordyn Kay, Director of Youth Engagement, at [jkay@tiwestport.org](mailto:jkay@tiwestport.org). with your child's age, grade, camp's name and address so we can send your child some TI care through the mail!

# FEATURED EVENTS



## ***MEN'S GROUP***

### **SANDY KOUFAX CLASSIC SUNDAY, JUNE 3 AT 9:30 AM**

Calling all softball players! Want to get back on the field? ... Well now is the time. Dust off those gloves and get back on the field for the first-ever Temple Israel slow-pitch softball game! And for those of you who prefer to remain on the sidelines, spectators are also welcome. Bagels and OJ will be provided. Register at [www.tiwestport.org/softball](http://www.tiwestport.org/softball)



## ***WOMEN'S GROUP***

### **SUSHI, SCHMOOZE AND CELEBRATE THURSDAY, MAY 31 AT 7:00 PM**

Come unwind and connect with new and old friends as we as we celebrate the summer. Enjoy a sushi dinner and have some specially selected wine. Register at [tiwestport.org/sushischmooze](http://tiwestport.org/sushischmooze)

## ***SPECIAL SHABBATS***



### **ISRAELI EMISSARY SHABBAT FRIDAY, MAY 18 AT 6:30 PM**

Usher in Shabbat Israeli style, together with our Israeli Emissaries, or shlichim, Bar, Itamar, Ofek and Yuval. Funded by the Federation for Jewish Philanthropy of Upper Fairfield County, in partnership with the Jewish Agency for Israel, our shlichim are high school graduates from Israel who, prior to enlisting for their military service, live abroad and perform community service. These shlichim bridge the gap between Jews of different backgrounds and Israel, increase Jewish awareness and pride within our community and promote an understanding of Israel and its ideals.



### **SHAVUOT , YIZKOR AND CONFIRMATION SERVICE SUNDAY, MAY 20 AT 9:30 AM**

Stand with our Confirmands as they affirm their commitment to Torah and reflect on their pivotal year of learning.



### **SHABBAT UNDER THE STARS FRIDAY, JUNE 1 AT 6:30 PM**

Celebrate Shabbat under a canopy of stars, as we move our worship beyond the walls of our sanctuary, and conclude the evening with an Israeli barbeque. In the event of rain, the event will be held indoors. For more information and to register: [www.tiwestport.org/shabbatunderthestars](http://www.tiwestport.org/shabbatunderthestars)

## **ADULT JEWISH LEARNING**

Dan Magida in memory of Irene Seltzer  
Sheila Weiss in memory of Julius Roazen

## **CANTOR RICHARD B. SILVERMAN MUSIC FUND**

The Crain Family in memory of Sheila Crain

## **CANTOR SKLAR'S DISCRETIONARY FUND**

Herb and Arlene Bloom  
in memory of Sarah Perlis and Rose Bloom  
Sharon and Jeff Fiarman  
in appreciation of Cantor Sklar  
for all of his help in preparing Hannah for her special day  
Bruce and Suzanne Fields  
in memory of Roberta Peters Fields  
Carl and Eileen Glickman  
in memory of Gertrude Glickman  
Eileen and Carl Glickman in memory of George Morris  
Brad and Judith Oren  
in honor of Daniel Oren's bar mitzvah  
Joyce Pauker in memory of Richard Pauker  
Susan and Steven Scher in memory of Norma Stessel  
Richard and Martha Siderowf  
in memory of Alec E. Siderowf  
The Greisman Family  
in memory of Harvey Greisman and Rosalind Leslie

## **CARING COMMITTEE**

Arleen, Marc, Zack and Josh Block  
in memory of Isidore Fishman and Sylvie Block  
Alisa Trugerman and Jack Davidoff  
in memory of Martin Trugerman  
In memory of Irving Louis Zlatin  
Ronnie Hammer  
in honor of the birth of Goldie Rose and George Nolan  
Marc and Janie Levey and Family in memory of Elaine Levey  
Ken and Phyllis Makovsky in memory of Minnie Makovsky  
Jennifer and Mark Pressman in memory of Molly Small  
Sandra Rothenberg in memory of Mitchell M. Waife  
Martin and Jane Sachs  
in memory of Benjamin Sachs and Lillian Sachs Still  
Sam, Brian, Grace, Hope and Jared Ullman  
in memory of Joyce Bernier

## **CAROL SCHOKE EARLY CHILDHOOD ENDOWMENT FUND**

Erica, Chris, Olivia and Piper Crucitti  
in memory of Peter A. Brandenburg  
James Schoke  
in memory of Carol Schoke and Elayne Schoke  
In memory of Alan Abramson

## **FUND FOR JEWISH CONTINUITY**

Sandra and Steven Rothenberg  
in honor of the birth of Goldie Rose and George Nolan

## **GENERAL FUND**

Robert and Alice Burd in memory of Rebecca Stoller  
Barry and Carol Haber in memory of Sidney Haber  
Rochelle Hollander in memory of Betty Ann Korman  
Dana and Steven Spencer in memory of Phyllis Kiev  
Madelaine and Bill Gallin in memory of Molly Small  
Rebecca and Albert D'Amico in memory of Molly Small  
Ida Lippolis in memory of Molly Small  
Helen and Melvin Neisloss in memory of Zoltan Klein  
Joyce and Bernie Zimmerman  
in memory of Molly Goldberg and Molly Golden

## **GRANDPARENTS FUND**

Barbara and Joel Beaman  
in honor of Ben Seidman's bar mitzvah  
Rita Chingas in memory of Olga Hyman  
Rochelle Hollander in memory of Warren Weinstein  
Susan Lilly in memory of Bernard Reiner  
Craig, Ellen, Lindsey, Michael and Geoffrey Wolson  
in memory of Elaine Wolson

## **LEVINE CHILDREN'S BOOK FUND**

Estelle Margolis  
in memory of Lorna Thompson Rosenthal  
and Deborah Silver Thompson

## **MELVIN AND RUTH P. ZIMMERS CONCERT FUND**

Alysa and Jim Kabakow in memory of Edwin Kabakow  
Jean and Art Levy in memory of Olga Hyman  
Jean and Art Levy  
in honor of the marriage of Alex Chingas and Gal Defes  
Jean and Art Levy in memory of Alan Abrahamson

## **RABBI FRIEDMAN'S DISCRETIONARY FUND**

The Boxer Family in memory of Leonard Boxer  
Owen Bregman in memory of Elaine Bregman  
Michele Corenman  
in honor of the birth of Goldie Rose and George Nolan  
The Elgort Family in honor of the Elgort girls' naming  
Sharon and Jeff Fiarman  
in appreciation of Rabbi Friedman  
for all of his help in preparing Hannah for her special day  
Gladys and Martin Floch  
in memory of Bessie Wisser Eigen  
Austin and Cheryl Ganz in memory of Arnold Ganz  
Enid Ganz in memory of Arnold Ganz and Benjamin Weiss  
Indy and Seth Goldberg in memory of Bernard Beitel  
Marshall and Johanna Kiev in memory of Olga Hyman  
Lillian and Gerry Luterman in memory of Frank E. Berry  
Michael and Linda Magidson and Family  
in memory of Karen Zissu Magidson  
Michael Magidson and Family  
in memory of Victoria Magidson  
Jerry and Lynne Minsky in memory of Mollie Minsky  
The Ravich Family  
in honor of the birth of Goldie Rose and George Nolan

# FEBRUARY 2018

The Schuster Family in memory of Max Schuster  
Richard and Martha Siderowf  
in memory of Alec E. Siderowf  
Rita and Steve Weisskoff  
in memory of Nettie Himmelstein Seiler  
Aliza and Maury Wind in memory of Olga Hyman  
The Greisman Family  
in memory of Harvey Greisman and Rosalind Leslie  
Philip Weiner in memory of Irv Weiner

## **RABBI MOSS' DISCRETIONARY FUND**

Sharon and Jeff Fiarman  
in appreciation of Rabbi Moss  
for all of his help in preparing Hannah  
for her special day  
Brad and Judith Oren  
in honor of Daniel Oren's bar mitzvah  
Richard and Martha Siderowf  
in memory of Alec E. Siderowf

## **RABBI ROBERT J. ORKAND FUND FOR TEMPLE ISRAEL**

Mary Sue and Ed Teplitz  
in memory of Robert Rothenberg  
and Rosalind Dym Teplitz

## **RELIGIOUS SCHOOL FUND**

Fred and Marcey Katzman in memory of Beverly Levine

## **SCHIFF/NAD SPECIAL CHILDREN'S FUND**

Rochelle Hollander in memory of Cecile Tiger

## **TORAH STUDY**

Ronnie Aaron Hammer  
in memory of David D. Aaron and Gloria Aaron

## **TZEDAKAH FUND**

Melissa and Ed Diamond and Family  
in memory of Georgiana Sandberg  
Lynne and Jerry Minsky in memory of Ralph Stein  
Brian and Jane Rutter  
in honor of Allyson Gottlieb  
for being honored as a Mitzvah Hero  
Debbie and Ken Rutz in memory of Bernie Reiner

## **YOUTH PROGRAM ENHANCEMENT AND SCHOLARSHIP FUND**

Susie Blumenfeld and PHP staff  
in honor of the bar mitzvah of Noah Salpeter



# B'NEI MITZVAH



**OLIVER MAXWELL MERCED**  
Son of  
Deusdedi & Jennifer Merced  
May 5, 2018



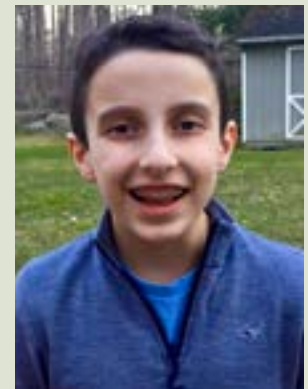
**JACK GINSBURG**  
Son of  
Steven Ginsburg & Lori Strasberg  
May 12, 2018



**CHLOE SARNO**  
Daughter of  
David & Amanda Sarno  
May 12, 2018



**JACK SILVERMAN**  
Son of  
Scott & Robin Silverman  
May 12, 2018



**JASON HODGE**  
Son of  
James & Robin Hodge  
June 2, 2018

# MAY-JUNE 2018



**JET TOBER**

Son of  
John & Adrienne Tober  
June 2, 2018



**MAX VINER**

Son of  
Michael & Naree Viner  
June 2, 2018



**JAMES DOBIN-SMITH**

Son of  
Christopher Smith & Danielle Dobin  
June 9, 2018



**JAMIE SEMAYA**

Daughter of  
Steven & Beth Semaya  
June 9, 2018



**DYLAN COFSKY**

Son of  
Larry & Beth Cofsky  
June 11, 2018



**THEODORE HORDON**

Son of  
Robert & Dorie Hordon  
June 16, 2018



Temple Israel

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## *Shabbat Celebrations*

### **KABBALAT SHABBAT**

6:30 pm on Fridays

### **MEDITATION AND REFLECTION**

8:30 am on Saturdays

### **SHABBAT MORNING MINYAN**

9:00 am on Saturdays

### **TORAH STUDY**

10:00 am on Saturdays

### **CHRONICLE E-DELIVERY**

For those who choose, Temple Israel will send you the Chronicle via email and will no longer send a print copy to your home. To sign up for e-delivery of the Chronicle, visit [tiwestport.org/e-delivery](http://tiwestport.org/e-delivery).



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