



# Temple Israel

# CHRONICLE

January/February 2017

## *It's Up to Us*

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



This month the 45th President of the United States will be inaugurated. I know that some in our congregation have high hopes for the new administration. Others are concerned for what the future may hold.

We have all lived long enough to see the inauguration of presidents we supported and voted for as well as those we did not. Moreover, none of us can truthfully claim to have agreed with every decision a president has made. Nor, if we are honest, can we say that we opposed every decision a president has made.

More importantly, as administrations have come and gone, we have learned that presidents can only do so much.

Broad societal change rarely comes from the top down. For example, marriage equality was not achieved by force of government. On the contrary, it was achieved because individuals - often acting on the basis of their religious convictions - gradually laid the groundwork for acceptance of gays, lesbians and same-sex relationships in their families, their communities and their houses of worship. Only once there was broad support did certain states legalize marriage equality. And only once a tipping point had been reached did the president express his support and did the Supreme Court act.

In fact, throughout the history of America great social change has always come from the bottom up. And often people of faith have played a leading role. I think about the great movements in our history: the abolition of slavery, child labor, temperance, women's suffrage, civil rights, and LGBTQ rights. Each of these movements was nurtured, supported and strengthened by religious people acting out the values of their faith in the public sphere.

We should not expect change to come from our government. To the contrary, we should only expect it to come from ourselves. I pray that we, as religious people of good faith, will have the courage and fortitude to work for societal change - as we would no matter who is in the White House.

Together, may we give every American the chance to succeed educationally and economically. Together, may we ensure that everyone has access to quality affordable health care. Together, may we keep one another and all our neighbors safe.



# 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 SHABBATS

- FIRST FRIDAYS at Temple Israel  
January 6 at 5:30 pm  
February 3 at 5:30 pm
- Women's Group Shabbat  
Friday, January 27 at 6:30 pm
- Shabbat Shirah  
Friday, February 10 at 8:00 pm

## Religious School

### FAMILY PROGRAMMING

- 5th Grade  
Ellis Island Immigration  
Experience  
Sunday, March 5 at 9:00 am

### E@T AT TEMPLE

Religious School Students  
in grades 2-6

- 2nd Grade  
Monday, January 9 at 5:30 pm  
Monday, February 6 at 5:30 pm
- 3rd Grade  
Monday, January 9 at 6:00 pm  
Monday, February 13 at 6:00 pm

- 4th Grade  
Thursday, January 12 at 6:00 pm  
Thursday, February 9 at 6:00 pm

- 5th Grade  
Tuesday, January 10 at 6:00 pm  
Tuesday, February 7 at 6:00 pm

- 6th Grade  
Tuesday, January 10 at 5:30 pm  
Tuesday, February 7 at 5:30 pm

### KATANTY

Students in grades 2-4

- Gaga Center in Scarsdale  
January 15 at 11:00 am
- Movie & Pajama Party  
February 19 at 11:00 am

### MITY

Students in grades 5-7

- Gaga Center in Scarsdale  
January 22 at 11:00 am

### TISY

Students in grades 8-12

- NFTY NAR event at BowlMor  
January 8 at 2:00 pm
- Go Karting- TBD
- Tikkun Olam Trip to New Orleans  
April 11-16, 2017

### JTT

Students in grades 8-12

- Teens in Action at TCS  
February 12

## Adult Jewish Learning

- Book Group  
*The Secret Chord*,  
Geraldine Brooks  
Thursday, January 12 at 12:30 pm
- Dov Waxman Lecture  
Sunday, January 15 at 10:00 am
- Episodes in Modern  
Jewish History with Allan Arkush  
January 23, 30,  
February 6, 13 at 7:00 pm
- Scholar in Residence  
with Rabbi Bob Orkand  
February 3-5
- Tuesdays with Torah  
Every Tuesday at 11:00 am

## Community Events

- 2017 MLK Celebration  
Sunday, January 15 at 3:00 pm  
at Westport Country Playhouse
- Taste of Torah  
Sunday, January 22 at 3:30 pm  
at Congregation B'nai Israel

## Women's Group

- Shabbat & Dinner  
Friday, January 27 at 6:30 pm



## A Message from the President

GARY SCHANZER, PRESIDENT



Fellow Congregants,

I'm actually sitting writing this column on the weekend after Thanksgiving. And as much as I am NOT thankful for the outcome of the Michigan/Ohio State game this afternoon...there are many things for which I am incredibly thankful. No doubt, most important of these are the health and happiness of my family. But as President of Temple Israel, I've got a brand new list this year. First and foremost of course is the hard work and dedication of our clergy and staff - working tirelessly each and every day to make Temple Israel feel like home for all of us. I'm also greatly appreciative of all of our lay leaders, board members and volunteers, all of whom give of their time and energy for the benefit of our entire community.


But this year, I'm particularly thankful for the support of our members as we initiated the Annual Fund for Temple Israel. While I certainly don't want this to be the only subject you ever hear from me about, given that we are coming to the end of our focused effort for 2016/2017 (don't get me wrong, we'll happily welcome any additional contributions!), I thought it was important to let you know how successful we have been in this, our inaugural year.

At the time of this writing, we've received contributions or pledges from over 100 member families, ranging from donations of \$18 to Leadership Gifts in excess of \$10,000. And while we still won't quite close our operating budget deficit this year, we have well surpassed the fairly conservative targets built into this year's budget. We'll still have some hard work to do next year as we strive to not only meet but to exceed this year's results, but it's truly been a terrific start.

Equally as important as the financial results, the feedback I've received suggests that we've also been successful introducing this concept, an annual appeal for additional funding to support our operating budget, in a manner that is consistent with our values. I've had the opportunity to sit in discussions with many congregants - in congregational forums, committee meetings and other settings, - sharing some of the basic trends and facts that lead the Board to determine that this was a necessity. What has been universal is how much attendees have appreciated the communication and the transparency, so much that many have asked me to consider how to more broadly share this information with all members. I haven't solved that yet, and am open to any suggestions, but know that the information is available to anyone who is interested - just email me at [president@twestport.org](mailto:president@twestport.org).

So thanks to all of you who have given, attended any one of these meetings or information sessions or have asked great questions and provided valuable suggestions for this effort. We will certainly learn from this year's campaign and look forward to your support as we move forward.

Warmest Regards,  
Gary Schanzer




FOOD • LIVE MUSIC • GUEST SPEAKERS • CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES • Q&A SESSION

**SAVE THE DATE**

The 2017  
**MLK**  
Celebration

**Sunday, Jan 15**  
3pm at Westport Country Playhouse

Photo by George Conklin

	<p><b>Keynote Speaker</b> <b>Professor Tricia Rose</b> <i>Director of the Center for the Study of Race and Ethnicity in America, Brown University</i></p>	<p><b>Westport Country Playhouse</b> 25 Powers Ct Westport, CT 06880</p> <hr/> <p><b>WestportPlayhouse.org</b> (203) 227-4177</p>
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Produced in partnership by TEAM Westport, the Westport-Weston Interfaith Council, & Westport Country Playhouse



# FEATURED EVENTS

## SHABBAT SHIRAH



**FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 10 at 8:00 PM**

Celebrate the song of our people's liberation at this special Shabbat of Song, which will include soulful music by the combined Temple Israel and Temple Shalom volunteer choir.

## ADULT JEWISH LEARNING



**TROUBLE IN THE TRIBE WITH DOV WAXMAN**

**SUNDAY, JANUARY 15 at 10:00 AM**

Israel used to bring American Jews together. Now it is driving them apart. *Trouble in the Tribe* explores the increasingly contentious place of Israel in the American Jewish community. In a fundamental shift, growing numbers of American Jews have become less willing to unquestioningly support Israel and more willing to publicly criticize its government. More than ever before, American Jews are arguing about Israeli policies, and many, especially younger ones, are becoming uncomfortable with Israel's treatment of Palestinians. Dov Waxman argues that Israel is fast becoming a source of disunity for American Jewry and that a new era of American Jewish conflict over Israel is replacing the old era of solidarity.



**TASTE OF TORAH**

**SUNDAY, JANUARY 22nd at 3:30 PM**

**CONGREGATION B'NAI ISRAEL, 2710 PARK AVE, BRIDGEPORT**

This year's community-wide learning event will feature a keynote session with Dr. Joel Hoffman, renowned linguist and author of *The Bible's Cutting Room Floor*. Following Dr. Hoffman, you'll have an opportunity to learn in elective classes with our area Rabbis and educators, including Temple Israel's clergy.

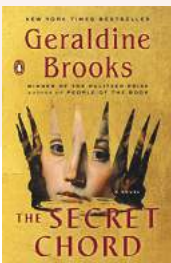


**EPISODES IN MODERN JEWISH HISTORY WITH ALLAN ARKUSH**

**JANUARY 23 and 30, FEBRUARY 6 and 13 at 7:00 PM**

*Temple Israel will host a 4 session course with Professor Allan Arkush of Binghamton University*

What did Napoleon want from the Jews of Europe? How did the Jews of Russia react to the pogroms of 1881-82? Why did the British issue the Balfour Declaration in 1917? What did American Jews do for the Jews of Europe during World War II? Through careful examination of documents and original sources, we'll try to answer these and other questions about major turning points in modern Jewish history. Co-sponsored by The Conservative Synagogue and Beit Chaverim.



**TI BOOK GROUP**

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

**THURSDAY, JANUARY 12 at 12:30 PM**

*The Secret Chord*, Geraldine Brooks

# FEATURED EVENTS

## PASSOVER SEDER



### SECOND NIGHT PASSOVER SEDER TUESDAY, April 11 at 6:00 PM

Join Cantor Dan Sklar, Rabbi PJ Schwartz and your TI family and friends to celebrate Passover. More details regarding price and location will follow. To pre-register, call the Temple Israel office at (203) 227-1293 or email [seder@tiwestport.org](mailto:seder@tiwestport.org).

## PURIM FESTIVITIES



### PURIM SCHPIEL AND CARNIVAL SUNDAY, MARCH 12 at 11:00 AM

With an award-worthy schpiel and a carnival full of games, it's bound to be a Purim to remember at Temple Israel! For more information contact Bryan Bierman at [bbierman@tiwestport.org](mailto:bbierman@tiwestport.org).

## WOMEN'S GROUP



### SHABBAT DINNER FRIDAY, JANUARY 27 (Please note the NEW date) at 6:30 PM

Immediately following services gather together with women from our Temple community for a delicious dinner, conversation, and renewed connections. Bring your friends – the more the merrier! For more information and to register, please visit [tiwestport.org/womensgroup](http://tiwestport.org/womensgroup).

## YOUTH EVENTS



### MYSTERY READERS JANUARY 12, FEBRUARY 9, MARCH 9, APRIL 6, MAY 11 at 11:30 AM

The Carol Schoke Early Childhood Center is looking for older adult volunteers to read preselected books to our 3 and 4 year olds. Please email Nancy Isaacs at [nisaacs@tiwestport.org](mailto:nisaacs@tiwestport.org) or call (203) 227-1656 to express interest.



### TISY SPRING BREAK TIKKUN OLAM TRIP APRIL 11 - APRIL 16, 2017

Calling all 8-12 graders for our annual social justice service trip to New Orleans. Spend spring break with great people in an amazing city, while helping repair the world. For more information, visit [tiwestport.org/tikkunolamtrip](http://tiwestport.org/tikkunolamtrip) or email [RWiskind@tiwestport.org](mailto:RWiskind@tiwestport.org).

## FIRST FRIDAYS AT TEMPLE ISRAEL

### FRIDAY, JANUARY 6 and FEBRUARY 3

The FIRST FRIDAY of each month is a Shabbat not to be missed. Whether you're a family or a senior, single or partnered, young or young-at-heart, there's something for you at FIRST FRIDAYS.

Visit [www.twestport.org/firstfridays](http://www.twestport.org/firstfridays) for more information.

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*

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 reflection*

8:15 - 10:00 pm

#### American Jewish Film Series

*January 6, The Producers*

*February 3, Focus*

10:00 pm

#### Dessert Reception

*A sweet conclusion to the evening*



## RABBI BOB ORKAND: SCHOLAR IN RESIDENCE



### SCHOLAR IN RESIDENCE WEEKEND

Our Rabbi Emeritus, Rabbi Robert J. Orkand, joins us as scholar-in-residence this winter. RSVP at [twestport.org/rabbiorkandweekend](http://twestport.org/rabbiorkandweekend).

#### FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 3 at 6:30 PM

Rabbi Orkand will deliver the sermon at our monthly FIRST FRIDAY Shabbat celebration, and will present the film *Focus* for our American Jewish Film Series at 8:15 pm.

#### SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 4 at 10:00 AM

Delve into the teachings of the Torah with Rabbi Orkand at TI's weekly Torah study.

#### SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 5 at 10:00 AM

##### What Judaism Can Still Teach the World about Ethics

Each day the newspapers are filled with stories of leaders who are guilty of unethical or immoral behavior—leaders in government, politics, business, sports, and even religion. While there is nothing new about this, it seems that an increasing number of leaders seem to have lost their way and made bad choices. Perhaps, then, it is time for the people of faith to be the “light unto the nations” that the prophet Isaiah spoke of so long ago. For centuries, we Jews have believed that the essence of Jewish life and Jewish destiny is ethical behavior. And so, we must ask ourselves, what are Jewish ethics? And to what extent is the answer to that question relevant today?







# GIFTS MID-SEPTEMBER–MID-NOVEMBER 2016

## ADULT JEWISH LEARNING

Michele Corenman and Evan Rabinowitz  
in loving memory of Mollie, Anna and Hyman Corenman

## ASSISTANT RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

The Cofsky Family  
in memory of Harold M. Friedman  
Dr. Steven Rothenberg  
in memory of Lillian Rothenberg  
Art and Amy Buckman  
in honor of Hayley Buckman's bat mitzvah

## CANTOR RICHARD B. SILVERMAN MUSIC FUND

Linda and Robert Roth in memory of Jerome Roth  
Ruth-Anne Perliss in memory of Molly Abrams  
Rhona Derrin Lieberson  
in memory of Beverly Rosenfeld

## CANTOR SKLAR'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

The Cofsky Family  
in memory of Harold M. Friedman  
Eileen and Carl Glickman  
in memory of Sarah Morris  
Jessica Dodge and David Schaeffer  
in honor of our wedding  
Michele Corenman and Evan Rabinowitz  
in loving memory of Mac Corenman  
Sheila and John Weiss  
in memory of Anna Lebow Roazen  
Marvin and Micheline Nachman  
in honor of the b'nei mitzvah of Jasper and Felix Mann  
Carl and Eileen Glickman  
in memory of Julius Yudkovitz  
Eileen, Fred, Jennifer, and Noah Rosen  
in honor of the marriage of Chase Foster and Sarah Magida  
Kimberly and Neil Phillips  
in honor of Hayley Buckman's bat mitzvah  
Art and Amy Buckman  
in honor of Hayley Buckman's bat mitzvah

## CARING COMMITTEE

Michele Corenman and Evan Rabinowitz  
in loving memory of Rose, Abraham and Solly Orenbain  
Sam and Brian Ullman in memory of Robert Lieban  
Stephen and Barbara Raffel  
in memory of Harriet Raffel  
Cheryl Hammer and Ken Mufson  
for the speedy recovery of Kay Nudelman  
Sam and Brian Ullman and Family  
in memory of Dewey Moore  
In memory of Roslyn G. Brecker  
In memory of Neil Rutter, father of Brian Rutter  
In honor of the marriage  
of Sarah Magida and Chase Foster

## CAROL SCHOKE EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER ENDOWMENT FUND

James Schoke in memory  
of Carol Schoke and Elayne Schoke  
The Messman Family  
wishing Reese Schenker a complete and speedy recovery  
In memory of Lester Breidenbach

## CEMETERY BEAUTIFICATION FUND

Helen Martin Block in memory of Jeffrey L. Block  
Abraham Nad in memory of Elsa S. Nad

## ELAINE GASTWIRT COLLEGE OUTREACH FUND

Marna and Stuart Novack  
in memory of Miriam Camhy  
Stephen and Jo Michaelson  
in memory of Sheila Schwartz

## FUND FOR JEWISH CONTINUITY

Daniel and Abbie Kanner in honor of Ken Olson  
In honor of the marriage  
of Sarah Magida and Chase Foster

## GENERAL FUND

Rose Goldstein  
Cheryl Hammer and Ken Mufson  
on the occasion of Sarah Magida and Chase Foster's marriage

## GRANDPARENTS' FUND

Barbara and Joel Beaman  
in honor of Alexis Sheiman's bat mitzvah,  
granddaughter of Melissa and Ed Diamond

## RABBI FRIEDMAN'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

The Cofsky Family  
in memory of Harold M. Friedman  
Barbara Boroughs in memory of Allen Friedman  
Suzanne and Robert Kahn  
in memory of Benn B. Davis  
Estelle Kesselman in memory of Dora Elson  
Valerie and Gary Schanzer  
in memory of Albert Rosenthal  
Ricki Stern  
in memory of Zelda Gilman and Alfred Gilman  
Stanley Seligson  
in memory of May and Emanuel Seligson  
John Golieb in appreciation of Rabbi's hospitality  
Michele Corenman and Evan Rabinowitz  
in loving memory of Nellie Corenman  
Jill and Howard Quentzel  
in appreciation of Rabbi Friedman's officiating  
at the marriage of our daughter Felicia Quentzel to Daniel Albano  
Linda and Michael Magidson  
in memory of Matthew Magidson  
Jessica Bram and Bob Cooper  
in memory of Risha Granat Shaw  
Richard and Lana Steinberg  
in memory of Dr. Alfred Steinberg  
Rose Bonanno in memory of Monty Gerbush  
Jo Ann Miller, Carl Swanson, the Wilcox and Felcher families  
in memory of Samuel Abrams  
Janet and Denis Mittleman  
in honor of Jason Zuckerbrod and Stephanie Hwang's wedding  
David Martin in memory of Anthony Albert Martin  
Richard and Lana Steinberg  
in memory of Dr. Philip and Mrs. Sylvia Steinberg  
Ed and Vivian Rabin in memory of Sheila Schwartz  
Matthew Hamlin and Stephanie Cohen  
in honor of Charley Hamlin's naming  
Diane Schwartz in memory of Mollie Schwartz



Erica and Chris Crucitti in memory of Wendy Margolis Smith  
Elliott and Marlene Siff in memory of Irving Siff  
Cindy and Alan Zuckerbrod in honor of the marriage of our son, Jason Zuckerbrod to Stephanie Hwang

**STEINBERG LIBRARY FUND**

Sheila and John Weiss  
in memory of Paul Roazen

**TORAH STUDY**

Janet and Denis Mittleman  
in honor of Sarah Magida and Chase Foster's wedding  
Lisa and Tony Pesco in memory of Ruth Baker  
Bonita and Lenny Messman  
in honor of the marriage of Sarah Magida and Chase Foster  
Bonita and Lenny Messman  
in honor of the marriage of Elizabeth Wachstein and Scott Wilcoxon  
Bonita and Lenny Messman  
in loving memory of Joyce Brigish  
Torah Study Group  
in honor of the marriage of Sarah Magida and Chase Foster  
Torah Study Group in honor of the marriage of Elizabeth Wachstein and Scott Wilcoxon  
Torah Study Group  
in loving memory of Joyce Brigish  
Bonita and Lenny Messman  
mazel tov to Ronnie Hammer on the marriage of her grandson  
Torah Study Group  
mazel tov to Ronnie Hammer on the marriage of her grandson  
Bob and Bobbie Bernstein  
in honor of the marriage of Sarah Magida and Chase Foster

**TZEDAKAH FUND**

Evan Rabinowitz  
in loving memory of Steven Rabinowitz  
Rita and Steve Weisskoff  
in memory of David Weisskoff  
Kenny and Wendy Epstein  
in memory of Lillian Epstein  
The Gottlieb Family  
in memory of Neil Rutter  
Helen and Melvin Neisloss  
Ellen Cohen in memory of Neil Rutter

**YOUTH PROGRAM ENHANCEMENT AND SCHOLARSHIP FUND**

Sheila and John Weiss  
in honor of the marriage of Sarah Magida and Chase Foster  
Maxine and Arnold Nickelsberg  
in honor of the marriage of Sarah Magida and Chase Foster









# B'NAI MITZVAH JANUARY-FEBRUARY



**CAILEN GELLER**  
Daughter of  
Bruce & Keryn Gellar  
January 7, 2017



**JACOB HARITON**  
Son of  
Alan & Anita Hariton  
January 7, 2017



**MAX KIRKORSKY**  
Son of  
Jay & Leslie Kirkorsky  
February 4, 2017



**MILES KATZ**  
Son of  
Marc & Deb Katz  
February 11, 2017



**ISAAC BUNAN**  
Son of  
David & Lisa Bunan  
February 27, 2017





**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).



**SOLUDE** proudly serves Gourmet Air Roasted coffee at Temple Israel.

Please visit our our website at [www.soludecoffee.com](http://www.soludecoffee.com)  
and use **promo code: templeisrael** when purchasing coffee.

**20% of purchases made using this code will be donated to Temple Israel.**

