



# The Shofar

January 2018  
Volume 40 No. 1  
Kevet - Sh'vat 5778

Temple Or Elohim serves the surrounding communities of Jericho, Syosset, the North Shore and beyond.

**Temple Or Elohim**  
Jericho, NY 11753  
[www.templeorlohim.com](http://www.templeorlohim.com)

## Escape the [Chanukah] Room

A dark room with just a dim light of one single menorah. This was life during the miracle of the oil that lasted 8 days. What was it like to play dreidel? To eat meals? To play "Escape the Room"?

Familyhood held its first ever "Escape the Room" event on December 10, 2017 with customized Chanukah clues! With over 40 people in attendance and with 8 clues to solve, the team successfully escaped! We darkened the room so that only the glow of a menorah was present. Watching a digital timer of a candle burning down, the team worked together to solve challenging clues. The clues ranged from unlocking the screen of an iPad with a secret code, to solving a riddle that led to finding candles. This clue ended the game with a finale with Rabbi Kail lighting the official candle menorah with the team. They were then awarded the key to unlock the door and "escape" before the digital candle timer burned out. The teamwork demonstrated by those as young as 4 and as old as 17 was heartening.

Our event was then followed by a sing-along of various Chanukah songs, led by Rabbi Kail who played her guitar. We enjoyed a delicious breakfast and jelly donuts!

It was a fun morning enjoyed by all. We thank those who were able to be a part of it and look forward to bringing you more, unique events in the future. If you have suggestions for activities that you'd like Familyhood to have, please reach out to Jodi or Steve, or simply start up a 'discussion' on our Facebook group!

Warm wishes for a Happy New Year,  
Jodi Breslin ([jodibreslin@yahoo.com](mailto:jodibreslin@yahoo.com))  
Steve Finkelstein ([steve@professorpedals.com](mailto:steve@professorpedals.com))  
[www.facebook.com/groups/orelohimfamily](http://www.facebook.com/groups/orelohimfamily)

**Rabbi Kail Leads A Chanukah Sing-Along**



**Victorious Escapees**



**Searching For Clues To Escape**



**YAY! We Escaped The Chanukah Room**



**Temple Or Elohim**

**18 Tobie Lane, Jericho, NY 11753**

Temple Office (516) 433-9888	Temple FAX (516) 681-1626
Rabbi Cassi Kail	Ext. 11
Harvey Abramowitz, Rabbi Emeritus	
Marvin Antosofsky, Rabbi Emeritus	
Cantor David Katz	Ext. 12
Deborah Tract, Director of Education	Ext. 15
Michael Wilner, President	
Nancy Marshall, Temple Administrator	Ext. 13
Goldie Brandl, Temple Secretary	Ext. 14

**Office Hours:**

**Rabbi's Office Hours:**  
4-6 PM Wednesdays & Thursdays

**Cantor's Office Hours:**  
By Request

**Director of Education's Formal Office Hours (She is always available by appointment, as needed):**  
1:00-6:30 PM Mondays & Thursdays  
2:00-8:30 PM Tuesdays

If any of the above hours are inconvenient, please call to schedule an appointment.

**Executive Committee:**

President	Michael Wilner
Vice President	Neil Miller
Vice President	Laurel Fried
Vice President	Amy Adler
Treasurer	Roslind Vermut
Assistant Treasurer	David Schwartz
Recording Secretary	Deena Yaris
Immediate Past President	Howard Pastolove
Chairman of the Board	Howard Pastolove
Advisor to the President	Larry Jacobs

**Yarmulkes:**

Do you need yarmulkes for your Bar/Bat Mitzvah or Wedding?  
Satin 6-panel \$21.00/dozen  
Suede \$28.00/dozen  
Suede (with trim) \$32.50/dozen  
Embossed Suede \$34.00/dozen

\$10 shipping and handling charge on all orders. Gold or Silver imprint is free on orders of 5 dozen or more. If more than one color is ordered, or if orders are less than 5 dozen, there is an additional fee.

**Please call Susan Bloomberg at (516)932-7112.**

**Board of Trustees:**

Carol Berg	Barbara Feinstein	Robin Grossman
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David Davis	Kenneth Gerome	Barbara Lubliner
Anne Edelman	Jessica Gerschitz	Esther Reich

**Catering Information:**

Our expanded and redecorated Temple can accommodate your celebration: Bar/Bat Mitzvah, Kiddush, Havdalah Service, Luncheon, Wedding, Bris and all other types of parties.

Please contact Hasson Caterers to consider having your simcha at Temple Or Elohim.

Shawn and Scott will be happy to help you plan a memorable occasion for your family.

**Hasson Caterers: (516)937-0120 or 0121**

**Editorial Corner:**

We encourage our members to submit articles, photos, and simchas for us to include in future issues. We also welcome suggestions for future issues. Please contact Esther Reich at: (917)922-4993 or [Shofar@templeorlohim.com](mailto:Shofar@templeorlohim.com).

**Sponsor an Oneg:**

A special way to celebrate your family's simcha is by sponsoring a Friday night oneg. Sponsorship is not only for Bar/Bat Mitzvah families. You can celebrate an anniversary, birthday, aufruf, bris, special birthday, graduation, becoming grandparents or anything else.

**Rabbi Requests Information:**

We commemorate the lives of those we have loved and lost. It is also appropriate to commemorate events in the lives of those we love in the here-and-now. We'd like to announce special events in your lives. Please forward all such information to:

Rabbi Kail [rabbikail@gmail.com](mailto:rabbikail@gmail.com) (516) 433-9888 Ext. 11.

The price for an oneg following a traditional Friday night service with an event attached to it is \$300 with fruit and \$250 without fruit. An oneg following a Friday night service without an event may be available at a reduced rate. Your sponsorship will be acknowledged in the pamphlet and will be announced from the Bimah.

You will not only be making a wonderful gesture on behalf of your family, but will be helping out your Temple as well.

**Please call Deena Yaris at (516)433-0771.**

**Committee Chairpersons:**

B/M Liaison, Changes	Amy Adler	931-6030
By Laws, Internal Controls	Roslind Vermut	822-2246
Legal Committee	Neil Miller	681-9263
Building & Housing	Michael Wilner Jeff Feltman	263-9778 551-1126
Caring Committee	Susan Bloomberg	932-7112
Catering	Deena Yaris	433-0771
Familyhood	Jodi Breslin Steven Finkelstein	413-6549 375-8492
Finance	Roslind Vermut David Schwartz	822-2246 917-741-4710
Membership	Rose Bruy	433-3637
Men's Club	Mark Heller	978-8760
Religious School	Susan Bloomberg Howard Pastolove	932-7112 433-9007
Ritual Chairperson	Leonard Gerschitz	932-0931
Shofar Producer	Esther Reich	931-0789
Sisterhood		
Sisterhood Showcase	Susan Bloomberg	932-7112
Social Action	Susan Levine	931-2550
Strategic Planning	Larry Jacobs	759-3229
Tree of Life/Wall of Light	Toby Suoff	433-6618
Yarmulkes	Susan Bloomberg	932-7112

**Services Schedule:**

Fri.	Jan. 5	Erev Shabbat Service	7:30 PM
Sat.	Jan. 6	Shabbat Shalom	
Fri.	Jan. 12	Erev Shabbat Service	7:30 PM
Sat.	Jan. 13	Shabbat Shalom	
Fri.	Jan. 19	New Member & K-2 Shabbat Service featuring Nishamah	7:30 PM
Sat.	Jan. 20	Shabbat Shalom	
Fri.	Jan. 26	Erev Shabbat Service	7:30 PM
Sat.	Jan. 27	Shabbat Shalom	

**Thoughts & Prayers:**

We offer our prayers of healing and heartfelt thoughts to acknowledge those of us who have had an illness or are in need of healing (mind, body and soul).

Please do not hesitate to contact Rabbi Kail, Cantor Katz or our Caring Committee with any requests that you may have.

**Honor the Occasion:**

Honor the occasion of your child's Bar or Bat Mitzvah, Birth, Anniversary, Wedding, Special Birthday, etc. by gifting a "Leaf" on the **Tree of Life** located in the Temple's Lobby.

To Order, call the Temple's Office at (516)433-9888 Ext.14.

**Order Memorial Plaques:**

Bronze Yahrzeit plaques, to be mounted on the Memorial Tablet in the Sanctuary, are available by order.

These plaques are offered to memorialize the names of our departed loved ones.

Each year, upon the anniversary of their passing, as well as at the Yom Kippur Memorial Service, the light beside the name is kindled.

To Order, call the Temple's Office at (516)433-9888 Ext.14.

**Keep Handy for Reference:**

(If God forbid, there is a death or illness in the family)  
**CALL AND TELL US**

Daytime – Call  
Temple Office (516)433-9888

Otherwise - Call  
Rabbi Kail at (718)869-6673  
Cantor at (516)849-1332

Consultations with the clergy before final scheduling of services will help ensure availability.

**SERVICES PROVIDED BY TEMPLE FOR MEMBERS:**

- Shiva services at a home for up to 3 evenings.
- E-mail notice sent to membership informing of the loss, if requested.
- Whenever Kaddish is said during services:
  - Temple Members' names read for 11 months.
  - Close relatives of Members' names read for 30 days.

## Come out of the Cold and Have Dinner With Us Instead!

What better way to feel part of our congregation than to join us for our annual New Member/K-2 Shabbat Dinner and service. A long-standing tradition of this temple family and enjoyed by many in the past, it is time to bring back the Shabbat Dinner before services once more.

This year on January 19<sup>th</sup> we will be having a multi-faceted celebration starting with none other than our Temple band, Nishamah comprised of our President - Michael Wilner, Ritual Chair - Len Gerschitz, Cantor David Katz, and the one and only Dave Berg. The band is always looking for new members to audition if you are interested in joining. Our congregation's new members will be integrally involved throughout the evening, participating in the dinner and service, reading selections in Hebrew and English. Fellow congregants and their families are welcome to join the membership committee in incorporating these new families into our Temple Family. We will also be saying thank you to our office staff, Nancy and Goldie for all of their hard work keeping our Temple running smoothly. Finally, what is more special than the youth of our congregation? The kindergarteners through second graders will be singing and leading us in prayer as they light candles, sing the Shema and engage us in many other surprises for all of you to enjoy.

This would not be possible without the dedication and support of our clergy, Rabbi Cassi Kail and Cantor David Katz, as well as our Director of Education, Deborah Tract. This year our wonderful Teaching Assistants, Hanna Kweit and Stephanie Lashin, have made it fun and educational for the young children to learn the Aleph Bet from their teachers Mrs. Jill Karp and Mrs. Laurel Fried.

Please make sure you join us for this Shabbat dinner and service led by our kindergarteners through second graders enhanced by Nishamah's musical presence and to thank our office staff Nancy and Goldie on January 19<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 PM for dinner and 7:30 for the Service!

RSVP's for dinner are required by **January 10**. The cost of the Dinner is \$25 for adults, \$15 for children over 13 years of age and free for younger children and new members.

See you on the 19<sup>th</sup>!

Rose Bruy & Laurel Fried  
Membership Chairs

Join SISTERHOOD on this exciting outing!



Optical Illusions Abound

At the Saltzman Fine Art Building at the Nassau County Museum of Art  
(Read more about the exhibit at [http://nassaumuseum.org/exhibits\\_fool\\_the\\_eye.php](http://nassaumuseum.org/exhibits_fool_the_eye.php))

**February 17, 2018**

**Lunch: 11:00AM** (on your own)

**Museum Tour: 2:00 PM**  
(costs: senior = \$8; non-seniors: \$12)

For more information or to RSVP: contact Sheila at [szimme2581@aol.com](mailto:szimme2581@aol.com)

## ***From Our Rabbi:***

### **Winter Air**

A small green spruce  
Struggles through gray brush,  
Near the shadow  
Of a winter-dead oak,  
And suns itself,  
While gently swaying  
To the air of God's love  
(Adam Fisher)



During this time of year, we spend an inordinate amount of time indoors, using heaters and draft-free windows to shield us from blistery winds and snowstorms. The middle of winter may seem like a peculiar time to celebrate Tu Bishvat, the birthday of the trees. And yet, we will celebrate this holiday from sundown on January 30<sup>th</sup> until sundown of January 31<sup>st</sup>. Unlike here, in the Land of Israel, the worst of the rainy winter season is coming to a close. Plants are beginning to struggle through heavy ceilings of soil and blossom on the other side. This is truly something to celebrate. Tu Bishvat is a day on which we can rejoice in this miracle by acknowledging the beauty of creation, eating fruits and nuts and planting seeds in anticipation of the spring.

Tu Bishvat was not always celebrated this way. It began as a day of delight in the full moon. Since Deuteronomy 14:22-23 teaches "Every year, you shall set aside a tenth part of the yield, so that you may learn to revere your God forever," as Israelites gathered their harvest, they gave 10% of their produce in order to support priests, their assistants (the Levites) and people who were poor. Hillel, a 1<sup>st</sup> century Rabbi, suggested that taxes be collected on Tu Bishvat, allowing everyone to celebrate in the beginning of the harvest and the miracles of nature. In this way, Tu Bishvat became the birthday of the trees. In the 16<sup>th</sup> century, Kabbalists created a Tu Bishvat seder, which many people follow today. While we no longer collect taxes on Tu Bishvat, the holiday remains alive as a celebration of a harvest, rejuvenation and life.

On January 30<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup> and throughout the rest of this winter season, may we look beyond the bare trees on the horizon and open up our eyes to the miracles of creation happening just beneath the soil's surface—both in the Land of Israel and in our own backyards.

L'shalom,  
**Rabbi Cassi Kail**  
[rabbikail@gmail.com](mailto:rabbikail@gmail.com)  
**(516)433-9888 Ext. 11**

## ***From Our Cantor:***

Are you ready? Are you able? Can you do it? It's a new year and it's all up to you. 2018 has arrived and Or Elohim is making it thru the ups and downs of the Jewish world in brilliant fashion.

Some amazing highlights, especially from last month are very worth mentioning. Our Band was tremendous and we had a packed house for our Chanukah service. We also lit our menorahs with the light coming from them shining throughout the whole service. It was beautiful. Additionally, I must thank our very own Noah Svetkov for playing his solo "Hanukah o Hanukah" on the piano!

If you have not yet been to a band shabbat (which I cannot imagine how that could be!) then you must make it one of your new year's resolutions. We really have a great time. It's a whole community celebration and the music is a blast.

Last year, the choir also sang magnificently during many services including the High Holidays. So please come and hear the choir when it's listed on the calendar in this new year. Music coming from the choir member's beautiful voices fill the entire sanctuary.

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(Cantor - Continued From Prior Page)

Given all this joy and fun, let's project about what will come this year for YOU! All of us face the new year with the same struggles, hopes and dreams for an easier life for ourselves and our families. Can we try and move that energy and strength to others around us? Can we support those closest to us so that they may feel strong and useful in our world? In Jewish tradition there is the concept that God creates and destroys the entire world every second. This means that anything that happened in the past is just that, the past. Let the last year go, let go of the old resentments and deep seated anger. Practice forgiveness and give yourself a chance to be a part of the endless re-creation of the world. Let yourself be free of the chains that bound you last year and open up to the unlimited possibilities of which you are truly capable. This is my wish for you and your family.

Happy new year and many blessings for a great and prosperous New Year.

B'shalom,  
Cantor David Katz  
[cantorkatz@templeorelohim.com](mailto:cantorkatz@templeorelohim.com)  
(516)433-9888 Ext. 12

### ***President's Message:***

Dear Congregational Families and Friends,

A Healthy, Happy, Prosperous and Gebentched New Year, 2018, to all our Congregants, Temple Members and Friends. I am still kvelling and filled with delight with the retirement party's ambiance and success honoring Rabbi Harvey Abramowitz and Rebbetzin Joan. The service was extremely meaningful and hartzig as Rabbi Harvey and Rabbi Marvin Antosofsky filled the room with their Judaic presence and Talmudic Chachum talk and demeanor. I was in awe to see such spiritual leaders grace our Temple halls once more.



Rabbi Kail's service that morning was once again on a new level of Shabbat bliss as we all scratched our heads in wonder to the genius and poignancy of her D'var Torah for that weekly parsha. Bravo Rabbi Kail!

I must thank Susan Bloomberg and Dr. Phil Rubin for the exemplary leadership they displayed taking care of all necessary moments making this honoring of Harvey and Joan such a success. Let me not forget Jessica and Len Gerschitz, organizers, planning to perfection every facet of this memorable day. Thank you "Super Gabai Len & Jessica, the NEW voice of Temple Or Elohim."

Thank you everyone who helped make this such a special day; Anne Edelman, Barbara Feinstein, Laurel Fried, Ken Gerome, Mark Heller, Mark Rozner, Roz Vermut, Deena Yaris and Sue Zichlin.

Bagels and Torah with Rabbi Kail is on fire twice a month from 8:45 -10am, as was the Bar Mitzvah of Aaron Samuelson on 12/14. Aaron led us through the Shabbat morning service with an air of adult sophistication that was quite impressive, especially his in depth D'var Torah of the weekly parsha Mikeitz.

We also had a nice few days of snow during December that got us ready for winter, just before we all disappeared for vacation. I hope everyone is back and refreshed and had a great time relaxing with family and friends. We are now ready to rock and roll at Temple Or Elohim in 2018.

From my family to yours, may nothing bad befall any of our family and friends...Amen. See you Friday nights. Please watch for our musical Erev Shabbats with Nishamah.

Respectfully,  
**Michael Wilner, President**  
[michaelwilner@danielgale.com](mailto:michaelwilner@danielgale.com)

## ***Religious School:***

Shalom Friends,

Happy New Year! May 2018 bring you and your family best wishes for good health, happiness and cherished memories.



Chanukah was celebrated with a unique, interactive music and drumming program. We brought the story of Chanukah alive by going back in time when the 2<sup>nd</sup> Temple was ruled by the Greeks. Mattiyahu and his sons had no fear and stood up to their enemies. The bright lights that flicker on the Menorah are a reminder that a great miracle happened. Our children, through interactive music, drumming and imagination, learned and commemorated The Festival of Lights!

Throughout the year, our students learn about the MITZVAH (Commandment) of charity. When combined with an Act of Kindness, it is considered equal to ALL the MITZVOT in the Torah. The act of Tikkun Olam, defined as to “repair the world” was a joint effort between our Religious School and our congregation at large. We demonstrated this with the act of giving, one of the several Social Action projects we do at Temple Or Elohim. We collected an abundance of new toys for the John Theissen Foundation for Sick & Underprivileged Kids. This year’s toy drive was a huge success. Thank you to everyone who generously donated a toy for an ill child. Your generosity and assistance will definitely put smiles on the faces of many children. Not only did you so generously donate but all of you came together as a community, with compassion and empathy.

We had a wonderful community-wide Chanukah party on December 17, 2017. A huge thank you to all our volunteers. This party could not be possible without all of you. Your time, efforts and dedication are admirable and greatly appreciated. Thank you Mark Heller, President of Men’s Club and the terrific group of men who came to support our event, as well as your generous donations. Thank you to Sisterhood for always supporting our school events, and your generous donation. Thank you to our Board of Trustee’s Leadership for coming and volunteering with our school’s efforts. All of you need to be commended for your time, energy and efforts.

A huge shout out to our teen, Samantha Coleman and the Plainview/Old Bethpage Robotic Team for once again bringing thought provoking games and working with our children. All of you are role-models and future leaders. Your participation was a tremendous asset to the day’s festivities.

As we enter the New Year of 2018, please remember we will have Parent/Teacher Conferences on January 22, 23 and 25<sup>th</sup>. Please be on the lookout for an e-mail regarding an appointment time to discuss your child (ren’s) progress.

Wishing all of you a very Happy New Year! May 2018 be a good year for all!!!

B'Shalom,  
**Deborah E. Tract, Director of Education**  
**(516)433-9888 Ext. 15**

**FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2018 - 7:00 PM**  
**EARLY SHABBAT SERVICE**  
**FOLLOWED BY *MENASHE***

The Men’s Club’s annual winter Shabbat movie night takes place on Friday, February 23. Shabbat services will start early that night at 7 p.m., followed by the movie *Menashe*. The movie will be shown immediately after a brief oneg, which will include movie snacks as well as the usual oneg desserts.

*Menashe* was released last summer to rave reviews. Featuring non-actors, it takes place in New York City’s Hasidic community. The title character works at a local food store, barely able to keep his job and make ends meet, and must deal with the recent death of his wife while fighting for the right to raise his own son in the face of tradition which forbids him from doing so alone. The boy’s uncle is given custody but the local rabbi gives Menashe custody for a week. Can Menashe use that week to overcome his inner “screw-up” and show that he is a suitable man of faith and fatherhood?

Brave the cold and come out on a winter night to support the Men’s Club programming and enjoy both a delightful Shabbat service and a thought-provoking movie.

**Sisterhood:**

We had a successful shopping day and want to thank everyone who helped run it.

19 Sisterhood members attended our holiday celebration in December at Lisbon Café restaurant. It was a wonderful evening. A big thank you to Barbara Ruvín who put it all together.

We are still selling Mah Jongg cards, so make sure you get your orders in.

We are planning an event at the Nassau County Museum of Art in Roslyn for Saturday, February 17<sup>th</sup> at 2:00pm. We'll be meeting for lunch beforehand. More details to follow, so save the date.

Being active and meeting new people is what Sisterhood is all about. We will always be one woman short until you join. We are always looking for new fundraising ideas and welcome your suggestions.

My best wishes for a very happy and healthy New Year

Sheila Zimmerman  
[Szimme2581@aol.com](mailto:Szimme2581@aol.com)

**Social Action:**

Let's not forget our neighbors in need during the holiday season. We collect non-perishable food and gift cards in all amounts (small or large) all year long. The donations are given to families that struggle to provide the everyday needs that we often take for granted.

Hatzilu Rescue Organization is in need of volunteers! If you are interested and want more information reach out to Alan Levine, President of Hatzilu at [alevine@photoreporter.com](mailto:alevine@photoreporter.com)

Please email Susan with all ideas & suggestions you may have.

Susan Levine, Chair  
[susanlevine318@gmail.com](mailto:susanlevine318@gmail.com)

**NEW MEMBERSHIP/K-2 SHABBAT  
 JANUARY 19, 2018  
 6:00 PM DINNER - 7:30 SERVICE**

Please join us as we honor our NEW MEMBERS featuring our Temple Band: "Nishamah"  
 Dinner Catered by Hasson Caterers

Dinner:

Adults	\$25
Children Over 13	\$15
Children Under 13	\$Free
New Members	See Dinner Invite

**NO WALK INS PLEASE**

New Members **MUST** email Rose Bruy at [boropark1479@yahoo.com](mailto:boropark1479@yahoo.com)

Everyone else: STRICT RSVP DEADLINE – January 10<sup>th</sup>  
 Call Temple Office (516) 433-9888 ext. 14 or  
 Email [office@templeorelohim.com](mailto:office@templeorelohim.com)

**Baskets on the Bimah  
 Program:**

A great way to honor a simcha is by sponsoring a basket on the bimah. Proceeds go to assist local needy families.



Any congregant can have a basket displayed on the bimah for a non-Bar/Bat Mitzvah Shabbat by bringing a minimum of \$36 to the Temple Office, at least one week in advance.

A great way to honor any simcha you are celebrating!

Contact the Temple Office at (516)433-9888 Ext. 14.

## ***Men's Club:***

Happy New Year everyone! I hope this year brings each and every one of you happiness, prosperity and peace. I am not a big fan of the holiday season. It is too hectic, too loud and just too over the top. New Year's on the other hand, I like. I like it for the simple reason that it's an opportunity to reset – start with a clean slate. I like that it gives me a chance to look back at the past year and take stock of what was right and what was wrong and continue with the right and do less wrong. I love the optimism of New Year's. It gives me yet another chance to be the best I can be and finally live up to my own expectations.

I'm writing this month's installment in the afterglow of a most excellent Or Elohim Chanukah party. The party was well attended and everyone had a great time. I am so happy and proud to have been a part of it. I would be remiss if I did not take this opportunity to thank the extraordinary gentlemen of Men's Club who so graciously donated their time to make this an amazing event: Master Chef Ken Gerome, Max Heller, Mike Mogavero, Ed Kislik, Mark Starr, Jeff and Scott Feltman, Rich and Philip Jankowitz, Neil Miller, Larry Tract and Brandon Meyer. You guys rock!

Have we got a special Movie Night for you! Continuing our Shabbat Movie Series on Friday, February 23<sup>rd</sup> immediately following an early 7PM Shabbat service, we will be presenting *Menache*. Taking place in New York City's Hasidic community, the title character, in the immediate aftermath of his wife's death and his brother being given custody of his son, must fight his own inner "screw-up" and use the week of custody given to him by the local rabbi to show that he is a suitable man of faith and fatherhood.

Save the date! On Sunday, January 14<sup>th</sup> at 10AM, we will be having a presentation about General Mickey Marcus, a very important piece of American-Israeli history. If you are a fan of American History, Israeli History or both, this is a must see. Our own Paul Rosenfeld will do the presentation. We'd love to see you there!

Save the date, take two: In light of the new changes to the tax laws and the uncertainty surrounding them, on Sunday, April 22<sup>nd</sup>, we will be having a financial planning seminar hosted by our own Mike Mogavero. This will be especially geared to families who would like a solid financial foundation for their future.

So friends, again, a very Happy New Year to you all. Good luck with your resolutions and remember, please be kind to one another.

All The Best,  
**Mark Heller, Men's Club President**  
[hellerhardware@gmail.com](mailto:hellerhardware@gmail.com)



### ***We Sorrowfully Mourn the Passing of:***

Roan Goldberg, mother of our member Robert Goldberg.

Leah Goltzman, mother of our member Gary Goltzman.

## **January Birthdays**

1 Emmy Greenberg	8 Deborah Wactlar	15 Jeffrey Newman	25 Leah Breslin
1 Hannah Lashin	9 Gary Nackman	15 Mark Rosner	25 Mia Sommer
1 Linda Peller	9 Dylan Rogove	15 Devi Sigler	25 Marla Suroff
1 Kevin Pizarz	10 Andrew Greenberg	17 Jaclyn Rosenberg	25 Andrea Weiner
1 B. Caitlyn Schwartz	10 Emma Shapiro	17 Kenneth Schultz	26 Audrey Beckerman
1 Neil Weisbrod	11 Diane Corey	18 Kara Greenfield	27 Brett Agulnick
2 Marcine Marcus	11 Arlene Roth	18 Eric Moore	27 David Cohen
3 Alan Chodosh	12 Dennis Haber	18 Ava Zucker	28 Ariel Feldberg
3 Blaire Lomansky	12 Arlene Horowitz	18 Jack Zucker	28 Enid Kotowitz
4 Benjamin Hatz	12 Arielle Wilner	19 Scott Horowitz	28 Paul Adler
4 Linda Ilan	13 Lizzie Becker	20 David Pressman	28 Eric Bachman
4 Tracie Lichten	13 Rikki Feinstein	20 Noah Zucker	28 Susan Bloomberg
5 Judith Schanker	13 Jonathon Mender	21 Kevin Breslin	28 Ethan Graber
6 Jeffrey Finkelstein	13 Sadie Rosenblatt	21 Arlene Cohn	28 Debra Starr
6 Jonathan Finkelstein	14 Sloane Barrie	22 Andrea Miller	29 Jack Kaye
6 Adam Goldberg	14 Gayle Dolowich	22 Amy Peller	29 Brandon Kusnetz
6 Magda Herling	14 Jeremy Geller	23 Ilyssa Baine	30 Adam Lampert
6 Joshua Kail	14 Marissa Geller	23 David Brill	30 Andrea Lomasky
7 Alexandra Damast	14 Augrey Newman	23 Craig Goldstein	31 Ava Albicocco
7 Jordan Landsberg	14 Hetti Perlmutter	23 Ian Topple	31 Mitchel Senzon
7 Daniel Rosenthal	14 Jami Schultz	23 Eric Wolff	
8 Marc Agulnick	15 Richard Bachman	24 Elizabeth Gold	
8 Joseph Isserles	15 Josh Bassin	24 Brandon Wachs	
8 Amy Martin	15 Steven Clair	25 Adam Baine	
8 Ethan Mogavero	15 Penny Hutner	25 Carol Berg	



## **January Anniversaries**

12 Alan & Bonnie Chodosh
16 Ira & Ellen Eilberg
23 Dennis & Barbara Weiss
25 Arthur & Barbara Katz
27 Jason & Jill Zeller

**Yahrzeits – January 2018:**Week of Jan. 5

Celia Albin, Howard Bertan, Jack Bohrer, Michael Cole, Samuel Feinstein, Dorothy Gellender, Eli Goldstein, David Harris, Edwin Hoffman, Rose Holtzman, Nathan W. Math, Sol Milstein, Jacob Olian, Lillian Reisman, Sigmund Rosenstock, Eugene Rubin, Morris Sklar, Samuel Spiegel, Arthur Stangel, Karen Stein, Rebecca Stoller and Elias Weiler

Week of Jan. 12

Leo Adler, Jean Breitman, Solomon Chorost, Rose Comisar, Ruth Halpern, Rose Kaback, Ruth Kaplan, Phoebe Kreisberg, Gussie Leshowitz, Sandra Liebeskind, Louis Lipson, Toby Marx, Magda Morganstein, Lilly Neider, Betty Newman, William Oliver, Roza Pinto, Sylvia H. Rosenberg, Kurt Rosner, Anne Rubin, Molly Weiss Schneider, Dorothy Schwartz, Harry Schwartz, J. Stanley Shaw, Morton Switzman, Shirley Weintraub, Dora Wendroff, Julius Wendroff and Milton Winters

Week of Jan. 19

Abraham Morris Blackman, Jay Brenner, Marie Ettinger, Julius Geller, Irving Hoffman, Ben Janower, Richard Kaplan, Isidore Katzman, Marilyn Kazan, Frank Kider, Max Koenigsberg, Manny Krumholz, Nat Kutin, Abraham Lerner, Carl Miller, Max Mitchel, Kate Napell, Rachel Oestreich, Renee Ostrove, Morris Rosenberg, Eunice Schroder, Milton Seifman, Isadore Seltzer, Evelyn Sherman, Dora Stein, Irene Steinberg, Anna Weintraub and Molly Yaris

Week of Jan. 26

Isaac Adler, Dorothy Altman, Bernard Berfas, Harold Bisom, Fannie Burns, Al Cohen, Albert Cohen, Lisa Allison Cohen, Sadie Cohen, Isidor Dreier, Tina Fellows, Judith Freudenthal, Leon Fruitbine, Louis Gelber, Dora Goldin, Florence Goldstein, Robert Gordonson, Julius Herman, Sydney Hochberg, Arlene Kaye Elixabeth Kenger, Sadie Kessler, Robert Kislik, Benjamin Leshowitz, Jacob Neider, Joseph Newman, Shirley Osnowitz, Muriel Ritter, Bernard Seltzer, Estera Serko, Leonard Silpe, William Slavin, Sally Syetta, Mildred Topper, Anne Waco, Lorraine Yager, Paul Yaris and Stanley Zipp

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### ***Tidbits from Larry Jacobs:***

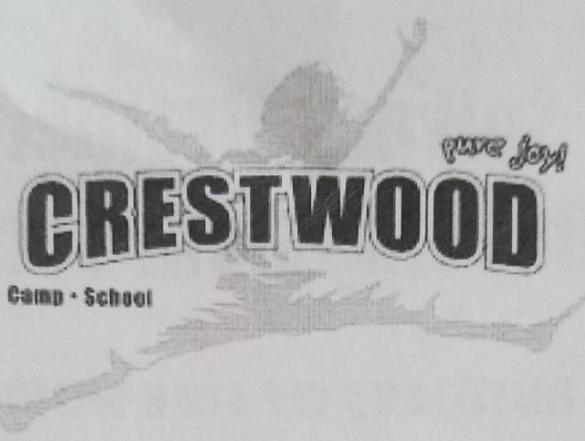
This past July, Robert Kraft, owner of the New England Patriots led a group of 18 National Football League Hall of Famers and their wives on a week-long spiritual trip to Israel. Their first stop was to coach a mix of Jewish and Arab students playing football in Tel Aviv. The group visited typical tourist sites. Several players chose to be baptized in the Jordan River. The trip concluded with the dedication of the Kraft Family Sports Complex, a 6 million, 25 acre plot in Jerusalem that includes the first full sized American football field in Israel.

Four Jewish men were awarded the Nobel Prizes for 2017:

- Michael Rosbash, a 74 year old from Brandeis University. His father was a Cantor at a Reform Temple in Brookline, Massachusetts
- Rainer Weiss, an 85 year old professor at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. He worked on the same project as Barry Barish. Weiss was born in Berlin.
- Barry Barish, an 81 year old from the California Institute of Technology. Barish was born in the United States. He's the grandson of Polish immigrants.
- Richard Thaler, a 72 year old professor at the University of Chicago in the field of behavioral economics.

A scribbled note written by Albert Einstein in 1922 contained his theory of happiness. It read, "A quiet and modest life brings more joy than a pursuit of success bound with constant unrest." It sold for \$1.6 million at an auction in Israel. A second note written by Albert Einstein at the same time read, "Where there is a will, there is a way" sold for \$240,000.

Kabbalah is the most misunderstood part of our Jewish tradition. It is usually referred to as Jewish Mysticism. It was once under an ancient prohibition which restricted those who could learn it to only be men over the age of 40 who are married, fully observant and experts in every aspect of Judaism and Jewish Law. In the year 1540, the prohibition was lifted for the basic principles of Kabbalah. The Torah tells us how to practice Judaism...the Kabbalah tells us why.



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## ***Torah Notes:***

### **December 31- January 6 Shemot (Exodus 1:1-6:1)**

A new Egyptian Pharaoh rose to power who did not remember the once positive relationship between the Hebrews and the Egyptians. Seeing Hebrews as a threat, he turned them into slaves and ordered them to drown male children in the Nile River. Somehow, a Levite woman was able to keep her son alive by placing him in a basket on the Nile. Pharaoh's daughter found Moses and decided to raise him in the palace as her own. As Moses grows up, he begins to wonder about his true identity. Feeling a connection to the Hebrew people, he kills an Egyptian on their behalf. He then flees for his life to Midian, where he settles down and had children. Years later God's calls to him out of a burning bush, insisting that he return to Egypt. After a substantial protest, he agrees.

### **January 7-13 Vaera (Exodus 6:2-9:35)**

God asks Moses and his brother Aaron to deliver the Hebrews from Egyptian bondage. After many years of slavery, the Hebrews aren't sure what to make of that promise. Moses and Aaron perform a miracle with a snake, and tell Pharaoh to let their people go. Again and again, Moses makes this plea. Each time Pharaoh fails to uphold his end of the bargain. This portion includes the first seven plagues.

### **January 14-20 Bo (Exodus 10:1-13:16)**

The final three plagues rain down on Egypt, including locusts, and darkness. Before the final plague, God instructs Aaron and Moses about the Passover festival. God tells the people what to do to avoid being affected by the final and most gruesome plague yet: the death of the firstborn. After this plague, Pharaoh finally allows the Hebrews to leave Egypt. God repeats the commandments about Passover.

### **January 21-27 Beshalach (Exodus 13:17-17:16)**

The story of the Exodus from Egypt reaches its climax, as the Hebrews flee. Pharaoh changes his mind about letting the people go, and sends his army to retrieve them. The Hebrews come to the Sea of Reeds. Before them is a body of water too deep and long to cross. Behind them are Egyptian soldiers. They are trapped. Suddenly, the water begins to part and the Hebrews are able to pass through as if on dry land. The water then closes behind them so that the Egyptian army cannot follow. As the Israelites reach the other side, they joyously sing the words *Mi Chamocho* "Who is like you, O God?" God provides the Hebrews with food called Manna. When the people complain about water, Moses hits a rock with his rod and water gushes out.

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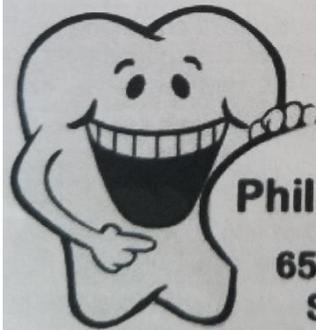
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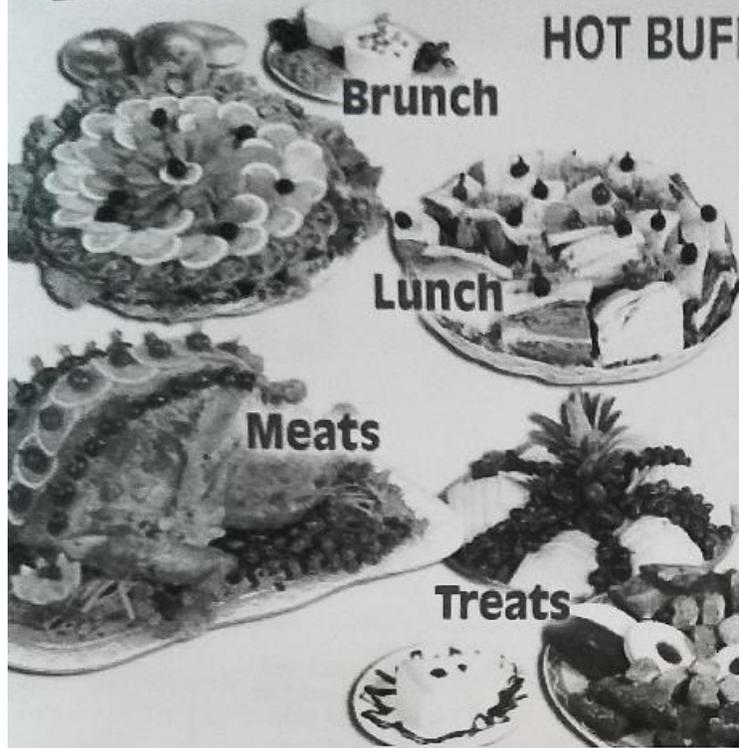
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January 2018						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2 School Resumes	3	4	5 Erev Shabbat Service 7:30 PM	6
7	8	9 Ritual Committee Meeting offsite 8:00 PM	10 Men's Club meeting 7:30 PM	11	12 Erev Shabbat Service 7:30 PM	13 Bagels and Torah 8:45 AM
14 Men's Club Presentation on "Mickey Marcus" 10:00 AM	15 Martin Luther King Day - No School  Adult Institute TBT Westbury 8:00 PM	16 Sisterhood dinner and game night 7PM offsite	17 Executive Committee Meeting 8:00 PM	18	19 New Member and K-2 Erev Shabbat Service featuring Nishamah 7:30 PM Dinner 6PM	20
21 Roundtable Rap 10:30 AM	22 Parent Teacher Conferences - No School  Finance Committee Meeting 8:00 PM  Adult Institute TBT Westbury 8:00 PM	23 Parent Teacher Conferences - No School  Board of Trustees Meeting 8:00 PM  Youth Group 6:00 PM	24	25 Parent Teacher Conferences - No School	26 Erev Shabbat Service 7:30 PM	27 Bagels and Torah 8:45 AM
28	29 School Board meeting 7:30 PM  Adult Institute TBT Westbury 8:00 PM	30	31 Tu B'Shevat			