



# Beth Israel Bulletin

Tevet - Sh'vat 5783/ January 2023

Issue 5783 - 5

TEMPLE BETH ISRAEL  
JANUARY EVENTS  
SHABBAT SHONEI



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## From the Rabbi

Chodesh Shevat tov and Happy New Year Temple Beth Israel!

It was amazing to see so many of you at our Chanukkah holiday party in December. The shul still smells of latkes! Thank you to everyone who cooked, cleaned, and helped in the festivities.

And if we're still in the winter holiday spirit, let it be known that in Judaism we celebrate four different New Years. We honor the 1st of Nissan, which was seen as the New Year of Kings; the date for beginning the count of a king's rule. It was also closely associated with the season of Spring and the Passover holiday. Furthermore, the 1st of Elul was the due date to give tithes for any livestock. The 1st of Tishrei -Rosh Hashana is seen traditionally as the date when the world was created. In ancient times, it was also used for calculating certain vegetable tithes. Lastly, the 15th of Shevat-Tu B'Shevat is the birthday and tithe associated with new trees.

As we turn the page on another secular year, I invite us to take a look back at the year that was and to think about how we can all strengthen our community in the year to come. While we have returned to in-person services on Friday nights and occasionally on Saturday mornings, we continue to host a hybrid of online services and programs on Zoom as well. There are also countless opportunities to give back to the Plattsburgh community. On the first Monday of every month, Temple Beth Israel, led by a core group of die-hard volunteers, offers their time and resources to the Plattsburgh Interfaith Food Shelf, and the efforts make a difference! We are able to help feed dozens and dozens of folks, mostly families from our area. So, whatever New Year you celebrate or however many New Years you honor on the calendar, please consider participating in a synagogue program and volunteering your resources to enhance our greater community, during this crucial time of year.

May 2023 continue to shine bright for all your loves ones.

With warm regards,

Rabbi David Joslin  
rabbi@plattsburghtbi.org

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## Schedule of Shabbat Services

Jan. 6, Friday, 6:30 pm Shabbat Shonei  
Vayechi (Gen. 47:28 - 50:26)

Jan. 13 Friday, 7:00 pm Shabbat Service  
Shemot (Ex. 1:1 - 6:1)

Jan. 21, Saturday, 10:00 am Shabbat Morning Service  
Vayeshev (Gen. 37:1 - 40:23)

Jan. 27, Friday, 7:00 pm Shabbat Service  
Bo (Ex. 10:1 - 13:16)



## YAHREZITS

### January 6

Irving Weisman  
Kurt Emil Hirschfeld  
Julius Balkan  
Rhoda Greenfield  
Hyman Simonowitz  
Samuel Bronstein  
Mel Lichtig  
Henry Mendelsohn  
Julius Mendelsohn  
Rose Rednor  
Adele Lessner  
Sarita Tisser

### January 13

Abraham Nizel  
Muriel Gotlieb  
Herman Bornstein  
Beatrice Moldovan  
Ida Dorothy Furman  
Gussie Jaffe  
Samuel Ruzow  
Ben Gabor  
Sarah Miller Morris  
Robert Julian Feinberg  
William Levy

### January 21

Hanka Meldung  
Maurice Kabeli  
Rebecca Merkel Scheier  
Meyer Schwartz  
Isidore Bookman  
Martin Helfgott  
Baruch Feldman  
Avrum Shainmark  
Erwin L. "Joe" Bornstein  
Annie Myerson  
Harry Schlesinger  
Roger P. Kennedy

### January 27

Doris Burde  
Rene Gluck  
Matthew Feldman  
Esther Rozel Smolar  
Sidney Gordon  
Julius M. Evans  
Samuel Rabin  
Samuel Sbinowitz  
Clara Goldman  
Simi Mamane  
Rose Skloff

### December 30 (Cont.)

Moe Balkan  
Ben Barish  
Gerald Baden  
Ruth Hecht  
Jessie Taylor  
Morris E. White  
Audrey Soroka  
Nita Roberts  
Rae Barish  
Dora Copland Rosenzweig



**WE GRATEFULLY ACKNOWLEDGE GIFTS TO THE VARIOUS TEMPLE TRUST FUNDS**

November 16, 2022 - December 15, 2022

Yahrzeit Fund:

**Cerise Oberman:**

In Loving Memory of Audrey Soroka.

**Linda and Steven Leighton:**

- in Memory of my beloved Mother, Henrietta Fishman.

MERKEL-LONDON MEMORIAL LIBRARY FUND

**Bryan Freehling :**

-In gratitude to Paul I Weiss, MD, my beloved spouse, for being the quiet inspiration which led me to Judaism.

RABIN RELIGIOUS SCHOOL TRUST FUND

**Shelley and Michael Lack:**

- On behalf of Break-fast.

GENERAL FUND

**ElizaBeth Brumfield:**

-Donation.

**Sharon Ratner:**

- In Honor of Gayle Ratner.



**Take a Moment and Make a Difference**

It is easy to honor or remember friends and family with a contribution to any of the Temple Funds—no donation is too small. Simply tear/cut off this sheet, list the Fund that interests you, write a check, and drop in the mail to:

Temple Beth Israel, Att: Treasurer, 1 Bowman Street, Plattsburgh, New York 12901.

Or donate on-line at [www.plattsburghtbi.org](http://www.plattsburghtbi.org)

Temple Fund \_\_\_\_\_

In honor of \_\_\_\_\_

In memory of \_\_\_\_\_

Write your own \_\_\_\_\_

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

## NOTES FROM THE PREZ

Notes from the Prez...Greetings, Gentle Readers,

If you are reading this, then congratulations are in order. You have completed another trip around the sun. One year ending and another year beginning. Personally, I still have unresolved issues from the previous year, better yet make that previous years. Carrying around all these unanswered questions from previous years cannot be good for my health. Mental health professionals advise us to get things completed and we will find closure, peace and tranquility.

Ain't happened yet! With your kind indulgence, allow me to share some nagging questions that fog my brain and color my perspective. Perchance, Gentle Readers, you have the answers. Perhaps, Gentle Readers, you are the answer!

For instance, it boggles my mind to understand why people leave their shopping carts next to their car when a cart corral is within ten feet? They must realize the cart will take off with the next breeze and inflict damage on an unsuspecting vehicle. Also, why are hot dogs packaged ten to a pack and hot dog buns are packaged eight to a pack? Are the two extra dogs for the dog?

This having a new full-time rabbi has really stimulated the why button in my brain. As to why does congregation Beth Israel, aka Temple Beth Israel, insist on expending so much time, energy and money searching for a full-time rabbi when less than half (and

that's a generous estimate) of the congregation support his being here. A Rabbi's job is to teach and provide Jewish services. There are too many services where there is not even a minyan and that included Zoom. This has to be disheartening for a rabbi and it honestly saddens the heart of yours truly.

And then I start going to dark places and looking down darker roads. What if our new, energetic, warm, personable rabbi gets disheartened, becomes discouraged and heads to better pastures? And then I wonder, could our lack of presence be one of the root causes of our revolving rabbi syndrome?

Dear, Gentle Readers, please enlighten me. What do we need to do to bring you back into the fold? Please tell us. I know you care or you wouldn't push so hard to have a full-time rabbi. Now that Rabbi Joslin is here and I know he is reaching out to you, reach back. It's another new year, another new beginning and another new day.

Be assured, that I, the Board and the Rabbi are willing to work as hard as needed to help you find meaning within the service. Give us your feedback and ideas. We have all changed over the last few years. And almost nothing in the service is written in stone. As Tevya, the milkman says, "Even our ways were new once". Bring us your thoughts and ideas. It may be time for a change.

Baruch HaShem,

Elizabeth

## SHABBAT SHONEI

**Join us Friday, Jan 6 at 5:30 pm**

**For Shabbat services**

**We'll have pizza before Rabbi Joslin Leads us into prayer.**

**Please RSVP to Andy Kaplan before Jan 3**

*(518) 569-7151 or Kappy8@charter.net*

# Yenta

Cheryl Kabeli is a cardinal care honoree at SUNY Plattsburgh.

Sophie Kabeli is still making a lot of waves in her swimming season.

Janet & Jerry Davis and children spent Thanksgiving at Aaron & Lisa's home in Toronto. As it's not a holiday in Canada, everything was open! A great time was had touring downtown Toronto and the CN Tower. Unfortunately, upon returning home, 4 people tested + for COVID.

Ronnie & Alice Marx have left for the warmer weather in San Diego. Jenna and family enjoy having them close by.

New member Dan Goldman is eager to be involved. He's already joined the Security and Cultural Committees.

Lil Resnick has moved into the Lake Forest congregate building. She has a spectacular view of the lake that she formerly spent many hours sailing on.



Michelle Zelkowitz was called up by FEMA for work in Florida. Lenny recently joined her. In their rare free time, they paddled with a shark in their

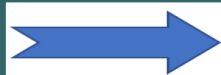
kayaks!

Michelle Davis, daughter of Janet & Jerry, was thrilled to play in the violins for Harry Connick Jr and orchestra recently. She said he's a great musician and personable fellow.

Congratulations to Sarah Davis on being elected to a 3 yr term on the St Louis Park School Board in Minnesota.

We send condolences to Sarah Brown and family on the recent death of her brother Jonathan. May his memory be for a blessing.

Please send your Yenta news to: [office@plattsburghtbi.org](mailto:office@plattsburghtbi.org) attn: secretary, with YENTA in the subject line!



## Volunteer Opportunities at TBI

**RRS Educational Committee Member:** The Ed Comm. is seeking new members. Come and be part of launching the new Rabin Religious School Curriculum. Meets The 3<sup>th</sup> Thursday of every month with occasional volunteer work sessions. Interested? Call **Lynn Schlesinger (518) 569-8979 for more information.**

**RRS Education Committee Chairperson:** RRS Ed Comm is seeking a new chair to guide the education committee and school through the new curriculum. You will be mentored for this position by the current chair. You will also work closely with Rabbi Joslin and Tracey Serlock, school administrator. Meets The 3<sup>th</sup> Thursday of every month. Interested? Call Lynn Schlesinger (518) 569-8979 for more information.

**Ritual Committee:** Is seeking new members. **Work planning our yearly calendar. If you are a get er done person this committee is for you.** Meets The 2nd Thursday of every month. Interested? Call Miriam Worthington for more information.

**Oneg Coordinator:** Are you the ultimate host or hostess who loves to throw a party and not have to clean up? This is your niche! TBI needs an oneg coordinator. Someone who coordinates special onegs and regular Shabbat onegs. Interested call ElizaBeth Brumfield (518) 944-0610.



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**Chinuch** (Religious School):

Lynn Schlesinger, llamalady1955@mac.com

518 -569-8979

**Gemilut Chasadim (Caring Committee)**: Diane Fine,

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518-570-9158, ceriseoberman@gmail.com

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**Bulletin Articles**

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