



Where You Belong

Vassar Temple Bulletin

Congregation Brethren of Israel אהים ישראל Founded 1848 Volume 161 No. 5 December 2014

Chanukah Dinner and Service: December 19th

Vassar Temple's annual pot-luck Chanukah Dinner will be held on Friday, December 19th, at 6:00pm in the social hall. Sisterhood will provide latkes, apple-sauce, challah, salad and beverages.

- Bring a dairy dish (anything except meat or poultry) for 12.
- \$18 per family or \$6 per individual

Prepaid reservations for this popular event must be made by Tuesday, December 16th. Send your check to Vassar Temple Sisterhood, 140 Hooker Avenue, Poughkeepsie, NY 12601, with "Chanukah Dinner" on the memo line.

The dinner will be followed at 7:30 by our traditional, exciting and beautiful family-friendly Chanukah Menorah-Lighting Shabbat service, to which everyone is welcome and encouraged to bring a menorah and candles. If you have not yet experienced this service, and even if you have, you are in for a real treat! Contact Roni Stein at 223-5804 or roniagt99@aol.com for more info.

Upcoming Events

- Dec 2 Jewish Meditation, p5
- Dec 7 Lunch Box, p6
- Dec 7 Judaica Shop Sale, p1
- Dec 14 Judaica Shop Sale, p1
- Dec 14 Tiny Temple, p1
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Tiny Temple Celebrates Hanukkah!

Tiny Temple will meet on **Sunday, December 14th** from 11:00-noon. Children will learn about Hanukkah! All children age infant thru 5 and their parents are warmly invited to join us in fun activities and crafts in a relaxed and friendly setting while adults will have an opportunity to meet others raising young Jewish children.

Tiny Temple, sponsored by the Vassar Temple Sisterhood, is open to all regardless of Temple affiliation and is always free of charge. To assist in our planning, please RSVP to Laura Brundage and Fern Wolf at tinytemple@vassartemple.org. They will also be happy to answer any questions you may have about this wonderful free monthly program and can put you on the Tiny Temple e-mail list.

Shop Early at Our Annual Hanukkah Sale

Vassar Temple Sisterhood's Judaica Shoppe annual Hanukkah Sale will have special hours on:

Sundays from 9:30-11:30am
(Nov. 23, Dec. 7, Dec. 14)

As always, the Shoppe is open Mon-Thurs from 9:30am- 2:30pm. Visit our special display in the East Chapel for menorahs, candles, dreidels, candy gelt, holiday items, gift wrap and more. Shop early for the best selection! For further information, please contact Perla at brandaliz5@optonline.net.



Rabbi's Message: The Future of a Jewish Community



One segment of the classic TV series, "Northern Exposure," made an insightful comment on the notion of community. The

premise of the series entailed a Jewish doctor from New York City working off his Med School loans by serving in a remote Alaskan town. In this particular segment, he learns of the death of a loved one and feels the need to gather together a minyan in order to say Kaddish. Finding ten Jews in the Alaskan outback is no mean trick, but with the help of the townspeople, a minyan is found. The Jews, however, are dramatically different from one another, as well as from the doctor, and getting everyone to agree on the minyan proves impossible. The doctor finally gathers his friends and associates from the town, a mixture of Christians, followers of Native American religion and devotees of various Eastern and New Age practices, and creates what he finds to be a satisfying and meaningful forum for reciting Kaddish.

What is a Jew to make of this show (which was written by a Jew; I knew his father)? To say the least, it is complicated. At first blush, it appears to be a denigration of the concept of the minyan. On the other side, the doctor clearly feels the need to engage in the self-conscious Jewish act of reciting

Kaddish, and further wishes to do so in the context of community.

Community can pertain to a neighborhood, a bounded area of land, but usually we are referring to a group of people that have some distinguishing, though non-familial, connection to each other. In "Northern Exposure," the doctor had been apart from other Jews for so long that he could no longer feel a sense of community with them. Before the series ended, however, he essentially solved this alienation by finding his way back to New York.

For us, not being in the Alaskan wilderness, the opportunity to feel that we are part of a Jewish community is much more of a daily reality. But, just what community is it? For one, we know that it is bigger than Vassar Temple, which is indeed a community, but not *the* Jewish community. This community encompasses everyone who wishes to be a part of it. There are Reform, Reconstructionist, Conservative, Orthodox, Haredi (Ultra-Orthodox), Renewal, self-declared "post-denominational," secular, and even non-Jews within it. Further, the Jewish community is mostly a state of mind. It represents the extent to which we are concerned about the welfare and well-being of Jews. Thus, the borders are elastic, incorporating all the world's Jews, especially Israel, American Jews as a whole, or the local population, such as Dutchess County.

What holds a Jewish community

together, however, must be more than one's attitude of awareness. There have to be organizations and institutions that permit our concerns to be put into practice. Historically, these have included a Jewish Community Center and a Jewish Family Service, some educational facilities such as a pre-school, a day school and perhaps an academy for more adult learning, institutions for the care of the elderly, and finally, a Jewish federation to coordinate fund raising and distribution for both local and global needs.

Until recently, Dutchess County had a Jewish Federation, Family Service, community Hebrew School – and a Day School, for a while – and a Jewish Center that administered to both pre-school and programs for the elderly. The Hebrew School was decentralized and its independent organization was retired. The Jewish Center, however, has essentially disappeared, and with it, the community based and supported pre-school and senior activities. What now?

There are a few possibilities; one of which is nothing. This is the least likely. The Jewish community is not going to disappear, and neither are the needs that an organized community normally serves. A second is that, like the Hebrew School, the

Rabbi con't on page 3

President's Message: What's in a Word?



Some words are trivial and simply serve their purpose in an overall line of communication. But there are some words that are powerful all by themselves. Such is the word which is

the subject of this "President's Article." The word is FORGIVENESS.

A little over a month ago, we gave particular attention to concepts associated with forgiveness during Selichot and the High Holidays. We dedicate our holiest ritual to the need to give and ask for forgiveness, and we associate forgiveness as being one of the quintessential qualities of the Holy One.

It's not by coincidence that I chose this word. I've been thinking about why "forgiveness" is such an important concept for Vassar Temple since I was asked to be Vice President nearly 3 years ago. But I haven't spoken of it much

until recently, because we have many more pressing matters. Considerable progress has been made on many fronts! As challenging as those matters are, they pale in comparison to the challenge we have with forgiveness. In my opinion, forgiveness is as important as our financial objectives, because ultimately, our ability to do what is necessary to achieve lasting financial sustainability also requires us to find forgiveness.

Look up antonyms for "forgiveness" and you'll find "blame, accusation, censure" and even "meanness," all of which produce anger. These negative sentiments are not healthy for either our Temple or the Jewish community. You may wonder, where do I see problems with forgiveness? I will leave you, the readers, to look into your heart and answer that question.

When we fail to forgive, we are trapped in the past and holding on to old anger. It works like a self-fulfilling prophecy because it closes our minds to any possible justifications for others' actions. We invalidate them. And that only feeds our anger and raises the walls we need to overcome to find

forgiveness.

In order to start to forgive, we first must recognize that we don't forgive for the other person! We forgive for ourselves, for that which we value! Forgiveness sets us free and opens our minds to new possibilities and potential. It allows us to partner and solve problems together.

In addition, when we don't forgive others we can't love God to our fullest because part of us is occupied by anger. Perhaps the next time you recite the Shema, which calls us to love the Holy One completely, consider at that same moment the possible value in forgiving others so that you and Vassar Temple can move forward.

I believe the ultimate solutions to Vassar Temple's greatest challenges, as well as the challenges facing the Reform movement in Dutchess County, depend on ALL of us being willing to forgive. I'll close with the wisdom of Ann Landers who said, "Some people believe holding on and hanging in there are signs of great strength. However, there are times when it takes much more strength to know when to let go and then do it."

Bob Ritter

December Worship Services

5	6:00pm Kabbalat Shabbat with Rabbi Golomb
6	9:00am Torah Study; 10:00am New Paths Shabbat service
12	6:00pm Kabbalat Shabbat and Torah reading with Rabbi Golomb and Elisa Dugatkin
13	No Torah Study this morning
16	(At home) The first candle of Hanukkah
19	6:15pm Family Shabbat Dinner; 7:30pm Hanukkah Candlelight service with Rabbi Golomb and Elisa Dugatkin
20	A Vassar Temple Shabbat: <i>Carrying One's Judaism Onto Campus</i> . 9:00am Torah study; 10:00am New Paths Shabbat service and Torah Reading with kiddush; 11:45 Program with college students; 12:30pm light lunch
26	6:00pm Kabbalat Shabbat with Rabbi Golomb
27	9:00am Torah study

New Paths Services

Join us at the next New Paths services on Saturdays, Dec. 6th and Dec. 20th (includes Torah reading) at 10:00am in the East Chapel at Vassar Temple. The focus is on letting the service get through you, rather than on getting through the service. The atmosphere has been described by participants as spiritual, uplifting, and thought provoking. The moving liturgy of the New Paths prayer book includes both traditional and contemporary writings, and participants may bring supplemental materials to share. Each New Paths service, whether lay led or rabbi led, provides a unique and thoughtful Shabbat morning experience. A brief informal kiddush follows. For more information, please contact Marian Schwartz mschwa9882@aol.com or Rabbi Golomb rabbi@vassartemple.org or 845-454-2570.

VT's Adult Education

All Welcome ~ No Charge to Attend

A Taste of Judaism: Are You Curious?

The principal themes of Jewish life and thought: God, Torah and Israel; an excellent class for those who have very little familiarity with Judaism and want to learn more. Last class in the series: **Tuesday, Dec. 2nd, at 7:00pm**

The Jewish Idea of Time: An Introduction and Guide to the Celebration of Festivals

An opportunity to learn about the religious foundations, liturgy, customs and practices that go into the observance of the major holidays throughout the Jewish year. This course only meets prior to holidays with each session being held on a Sunday morning. Next session, on **Dec. 7th at 9:15am**, will cover Chanukah.

Jewish Meditation Excellent for both beginners and those experienced in the practice. Sitting and walking meditations, readings, sharing, Q&A. Facilitators are

Scriptural Readings

Dec. 6	<i>Vayishlah</i> Gen. 34:1 – 35:15 Hosea 11:7 – 12:12
Dec. 13	<i>Vayeshev</i> Gen. 38:1-30 Amos 2:6 – 3:8
Dec. 20	Shabbat Hanukkah Miketz Gen. 41:53 – 43:15 Zechariah 2:14 – 4:7
Dec. 27	<i>Vayigash</i> Gen. 45:28 – 46:27 Ezekiel 37:15-28

Linda Cantor of Vassar Temple and Ed Rosenberg of Temple Beth El. **Meets the first Tuesday of the month from 7:30-8:30pm at Vassar Temple.** Please call the Temple 454-2570 to verify that class will be held on those dates, as our schedule may change:

On-going classes:

Torah Study Saturdays at 9:00am (no class 12/13)

Talmud Study Tuesdays at noon. Interactive classes considering ancient texts with a modern approach, in English, no previous knowledge necessary, all welcome to come and join in!

For the 2015 Adult Ed. schedule, visit our website at:

<http://vassartemple.org/learning/adult-education>

Rabbi continued from p2

services are decentralized, with programs for the very young and the old being picked up by multiple synagogues and Jewish organizations. Such an approach would probably fail, or more likely, would succeed in a very uneven fashion. Thus, for instance, one congregation's pre-school would flourish, but a number of families would not avail themselves of it; it is, after all, the wrong synagogue. In the end, I would suggest, a viable Jewish Center with attractive pre-school and programs for seniors, as well as general interest events, will be re-established.

When I started my career, the federated Jewish community was firmly secular. Synagogues and their rabbis were often kept marginal to decision-making forums where programs and planning for the general com-

munity took place. Over the decades, however, American Judaism has become more religious; that is, the basis of one's Jewish identity is mostly in connection with a synagogue – even the synagogue one does not go to! Jewish Centers and Family Services, and even many Jewish educational programs were once created and maintained by Jews who wanted to promote their Jewishness quite independently from Jewish religion. The number of American Jews willing to do so has dropped steadily over the years. The institutions of the Jewish community can only be preserved *through* the area synagogues, rather than in opposition to them.

Dutchess County will, of course, have its ups and downs, but given its own attractions

in work opportunities, cultural riches and relative cost-of-living, as well as its proximity to the City, there will be a vibrant Jewish community here for decades to come. This community will need a strong organizing force in a Jewish Federation, and will need to rebuild the institutions of an early childhood center, activities for seniors and general events for the entire community. All of this will be done through a continued sense of cooperation among the congregations. We will all – liberal, conservative and orthodox – hang together, because we recognize that the alternative is hanging separately.

Rabbi Paul Golomb

Mazel Tov



to:
Laura Brundage on
receiving the Evelyn
Kahn Award

Exciting News about Youth Group

The Board of Trustees is thrilled to announce the election of Brianna Erlebacher as Youth Group President. A junior at Arlington High School, Brianna has participated in an extensive array of Jewish experiences including several years at Camp Eisner and travel to Israel and Eastern Europe. She works at the Religious School and currently co-teaches the fifth grade. She participates in a number of extracurricular activities including being Vice-President of the "Friends of Rachel Club," an anti-bullying and character education program. Brianna notes that "after my trip to Israel this past summer, my connection to Judaism has greatly increased, which is why I am so excited to get the younger generation more involved in the Temple and Jewish ideals."

During a meeting under the sukkah, the recently revitalized group also elected: Jacob Moore, Vice President; Tara Lerman, Treasurer; Olivia DiLorio, Secretary; and Zoe Peritz-Greenman, 8th grade representative.

We also welcome our new Advisor, Rachel Cohen, a recent graduate of Clark University and a current CIA student. Rachel was a collegiate swimmer, diver, and rower. She is an alumna of Camp Eisner, NFTY in Israel, and NFTY EIE High school in Israel.

Rachel thanks the Temple for its warm welcome and adds, "I am very

Carrying Judaism onto Campus: Dec. 20th

Come study, worship, nosh, schmooze and hear what our college youth have to say, on Saturday December 20th at a special Vassar Temple Shabbat, "Carrying One's Judaism onto Campus." This day of special programming will open at **9:00am** with Rabbi Golomb's torah study, always full of liveliness and learning. At **10:00am** a New Paths shabbat morning service, including a torah reading and mini-kiddush, will be held. At **11:45am** a panel, featuring returning college students from Vassar Temple, will share their experiences as Jewish students on campus in today's world. Following the panel discussion, at **12:30pm**, we'll enjoy a light buffet lunch and another opportunity to socialize with one another. Whichever (or all) of these events you attend, you're sure to have a very special shabbat!

excited to be working with the officers to build Youth Group and looking forward to becoming part of the Vassar community! Our first project is working on the new youth lounge in the lower level of the Temple. We are looking for donations (TVs, couches, etc.) to help make the lounge a comfortable, fun, and safe space for the students!"

Please send any questions to youthgroup@vassartemple.org or contact the group if you have something in good condition to donate to the new lounge.

The Board heartily supports efforts to build a thriving and meaningful Youth Group. Please join us in congratulating and welcoming our officers and advisor!

Condolences

to:
Marianne Abrams and Family on the
loss of her sister, Lisa Heidelberger

Thank you

The Abrams family sends heartfelt thanks to those who offered condolences during this difficult time

Refuah Sheleimah:

A speedy recovery to Rabbi Golomb who had hip surgery.

We Need Your Help!

We are, once again, asking that you be the eyes and ears in the lives of our congregational family. Federal patient privacy regulations limit the information that hospitals make available to clergy and volunteers.

We are encouraging you to contact the Temple office when a congregant is admitted to a hospital and wishes to have Rabbi visit during the hospital stay. Our goal is to meet the needs of all our congregants, and we can only do this with your help.

Pulpit Flowers



- December 5: Donated by Vassar Temple Sisterhood Bimah Flower Fund
- December 12: Donated by Vassar Temple Sisterhood Bimah Flower Fund
- December 19: Donated by Vassar Temple Sisterhood Bimah Flower Fund
- December 26: Donated by Vassar Temple Sisterhood Bimah Flower Fund

Anyone who wishes to honor the memory of a loved one or to commemorate a special occasion can do so by sponsoring the sanctuary flowers with a donation to the Vassar Temple Bimah Flower Fund. Just call the Vassar Temple Office at

Vassar Temple Bulletin , published monthly	
Publisher:	Marianne Abrams
Editors:	Sue Lesser and Donna Loshin
Technical Support:	Bob Abrams

Articles for the January Bulletin must be submitted to the Temple office by December 1st. Sorry, we cannot take Bulletin articles over the phone! Articles may be sent via email to publicity@vassartemple.org. The editors reserve the right to edit articles for style, accuracy and length.

From the Religious School Director



Hanukkah Miracles

December is practically defined by Hanukkah.

Though technically a “minor” holiday, Hanukkah in America is huge. Kids look forward to getting gifts. Parents plan out the eight nights. Everyone anticipates the glow of the Hanukkah candles. Here at Vassar, we plan for our yearly Hanukkah service --- one of the best attended events of the year.

Yet, December is also marked by darkness --- physical darkness, to be sure, and also a kind of mental darkness. The days are short. The nights are long. In the morning we leave the house in darkness and in darkness we return at night. For many people, that darkness spills over into the realm of the emotional, actually making them less happy. “Seasonal affective disorder,” it’s called, the condition’s acronym (SAD) reflecting the way darkness makes people feel. As with most things, SAD is a spectrum. Some people creep toward deep depression in the darkness of winter; others just feel a bit down from time to time. But rare are the people who don’t notice the darkness.

So we have Hanukkah on one hand and winter on the other; the holiday of light and the season of darkness.

Alas, the bridge between the two in America is usually gifts...things...presents. Look at the packaging of almost any child’s game, and you’ll see the number one selling point: a photo of a deliriously happy family, bathed in several thousand watts of light, that showcases an immaculately clean house in which children of various ages gleefully interact with their two smiling parents. And there you have it. The only thing standing between you and that family is the right gift. The perfect gift, marketers like to call it. Find it, and your life, too, will morph into the one you see in the photo. The ideal gift doesn’t just banish the darkness. It fixes your life.

So most people spend December in search of that miracle cure. Good gifts abound, but are they good enough? Experience dictates that the perfect gift of advertising fame is elusive. Last year’s gifts didn’t do the trick, after all. So this year’s presents have to be even better.

It doesn’t work, of course. There is no gift that will transform a life, no matter how much we might wish otherwise.

So I’d like to suggest another bridge, another way of mixing the season of darkness with the holiday of light: actual miracles. Now, most people don’t believe in them. But then again, we know for sure that there’s no such thing as darkness. Darkness is just the absence of light --- which is where we get the old joke about the photographer who opened the darkroom door and let all the darkness leak out. If darkness, which we know doesn’t exist, can have such power over our lives, perhaps miracles can, too. Hanukkah, in fact, insists on it. The whole point of lighting the Hanukkah lights is to “advertise the miracle” of Hanukkah. This is why tradition prefers that the candles be placed in a window, where passers-by will pass by, see them, and be reminded of miracles.

Perhaps one reason most people reject miracles is that, as with the gifts, they expect too much; a parted sea, perhaps, or an unconsumed burning bush...or at least a bit of oil that lasts longer than it should.

But I think miracles are more subtle. So this Hanukkah season, give up on the perfect gift. And instead, be on the lookout for a miracle coming your way.

Dr. Joel Hoffman

Book Club to Discuss *The Language of Flowers*



Vassar Temple Sisterhood’s Book Club will discuss *The Language of Flowers* by Vanessa Diffenbaugh, a deeply moving debut novel about an unforgettable woman whose gift for flowers helps her change the lives of others even as she struggles to overcome her own troubled past. The meeting will take place on Wednesday, December 17th, at 2:00pm, in the Community Room of Collegeview Tower, 141 Fulton Avenue, Poughkeepsie.

The Victorian language of flowers was used to convey romantic expressions: honeysuckle for devotion, asters for patience, and red roses for love. But for Victoria Jones, it’s been more useful in communicating mistrust and solitude. After a childhood spent in the foster-care system, she is unable to get close to anyone, and her only connection to the world is through

flowers and their meanings. Now eighteen and emancipated from the system with nowhere to go, Victoria realizes she has a gift for helping others through the flowers she chooses for them. But an unexpected encounter with a mysterious stranger has her questioning what’s been missing in her life. When she is forced to confront a painful secret from her past, she must decide whether it’s worth risking everything for a second chance at happiness.

This beautiful story is available in paperback and through the local library system. Jean Malkischer will lead the discussion to which everyone is welcome. To RSVP or get more information, please contact Linda Babas at 473-7931 or linda.babas.41@gmail.com. Your suggestions for future readings are always welcome.

Jewish Meditation

The Jewish Meditation Group will hold a session at Vassar Temple on Tuesday, December 2nd from 7:30-8:30pm. Both beginners and those experienced in the practice are all warmly invited to attend. The session will include both sitting and walking meditations, chanting or a short reading, plus time for questions and sharing. The group is led by Linda Cantor (of Vassar Temple) and Ed Rosenberg (of Temple Beth El). Temple affiliation is not required and there is no charge to participate. If you plan to attend any or all of the sessions, please RSVP to [845-454-2570](tel:845-454-2570) or office@vassartemple.org.

Support 6th-7th Grade Lunch Box: Dec. 7th

Please support our 6th and 7th graders, who are sponsoring the Lunch Box for Sunday Dec. 7th. They need:

- 3 lb. beef hot dogs
- 12 to 24 pieces of fruit

If you can donate, please contact Lunch Box captain for that event, Carolynn Frankel, ASAP, at carolynnfrankel@yahoo.com or 452-8809.

Food donations may be dropped off beforehand in the kitchen during hours when the Temple is normally open. Non-perishables such as most fruits should be left in the clear plastic Lunch Box bin on the counter near the door. To make a financial donation for Lunch Box, please make your check out to "Vassar Temple" with "Community Tzedakah Fund" on the memo line. THANK YOU for whatever you can do!

Vassar Temple's Annual Souper Sale!!

Winter is here again and many people are now hungry *and* cold. YOU CAN HELP! Vassar Temple invites you to make a donation of any amount which, in turn, will be used to purchase large cans of chunky soups. A caravan of volunteer members will deliver the load to the following local food distribution sites: Dutchess Outreach, Beulah Baptist Church Pantry, the Castle Point VA, Community Action Partnership's pantries in Beacon, Poughkeepsie, Red Hook and Dover, Inter-faith Senior Housing and more.

Please send a tax deductible check in any amount made out to "Vassar Temple", with "Souper Sale Donation" on the memo line. Send the check to: Vassar Temple, 140 Hooker Avenue, Poughkeepsie, NY 12601.

PLEASE, NO LATER THAN
DECEMBER 31, 2014.

That's it. You will know you are helping feed someone in this county who might otherwise miss a meal.

An added plus: Money collected for the Souper Sale will be exchanged for Stop N Shop scrip at the Temple, which benefits the Temple, too. 100% of your donation will be used to buy the chunky soups at a local grocery store. It's a win/win deal!!

Questions? Please call Nancy Samson 845 462-4828 or email CANJAM123@aol.com.

High Holy Days Thanks

We wish to extend our thanks and appreciation to all who assisted in the High Holy Day services: our Temple Officers, Trustees, Torah Readers, Shofar blowers and all the participants. Our common efforts hopefully resulted in the congregation being able to engage in meaningful High Holy Days observances.

Special thanks to:

Rabbi Golomb and Elisa Dugatkin for providing us with both the spiritual and musical elements enriching our worship with meaning and warmth;

Joe Bertolozzi for his talent at the organ;

Judy Creedon and Debbie Golomb for lovingly polishing our silver Roma and Torah breast plates;

Alan Fink, our behind the scene 'precious silver' repairperson;

Jen Dahnert for securing Sunset Lake on the Vassar College campus for the Tashlich ceremony, Alan Kaflowitz for providing shelter and Laura Brundage, Vivian Garber and Meredith Kaflowitz for making the Tashlich ceremony extra special and sweet;

Cathy Bokor for editing our memorial booklet;

Judy Creedon, Alan Kaflowitz, David Lampell and Ron Rosen for their assistance and support;

Sherrie Geisler and Alvin Rosen for working tirelessly to ensure the success of

our High Holy Days;

Maria Araceli Muñoz for setting up the RH apple offering and the breakfast table;

Cathy Bokor, Ariel and Marilyn Lampell for their help in preparing the apples on Rosh Hashanah;

Sarah Frankel, our very special dedicated babysitter for a job well done;

Daniel Albinder for his generous donation of apples enjoyed by our members, the Religious School and Tiny Temple;

Bill and Susan Barbash for their generous contribution which covered the rental of the truck for the Yom Kippur food drive;

Brian Silverman for picking up the truck and delivering the food collected to the Dutchess Outreach site and Ron Rosen for helping with the 'schlepping';

Adams Fairacre Farm... we could not have done it without your bags;

Our youth for distributing the bags at the end of the Rosh Hashanah service and for collecting and loading the food in the truck;

Steve Turk for his donation of greens and corn stalks used for decorating the Sukkah and the Sanctuary;

Susan Hecht for her usual flair at decorating our Sanctuary and the Sukkah for the holidays of Succot and Simcha Torah;

Men's club for raising and taking down the Succah and Sisterhood for their wonderful and generous continued support;

Vincent Miller of Miller Funeral home for his generous support.

Last but not least, thanks to our congregation for their generosity in bringing back bags brimming with food in response to our yearly Yom Kippur Appeal! Todah Rabah!

*Perla Kaufman
HHD Committee, Chairperson*

New Lunch Box Bin

Thanks to our Sisterhood, we have a new plastic bin, placed on the counter near the door to the kitchen, where you can leave Lunch Box food donations that do not require refrigeration (such as most fruits). When the Lunch Box captain comes to get the food on Sunday morning, s/he will place a sign on top of the bin to indicate that the food pick-up has been made. In this way we hope to avoid food being left in the kitchen after the delivery to Lunch Box for that day has already been made. To be safe, please drop off food by 9:30am Sunday, unless instructed otherwise by the month's Lunch Box captain. Thanks to Sisterhood and all our members for their generous support of Lunch Box!

Contributions

SUSTAINING FUND

In Honor of:

Lila Matlin,
our mother & grandmother
Scott, Susie,
Jennifer & Matthew Piccone
Birth of Howard
and Emily Himelstein's grandchild
Kent & Kathy Mardon
Laura Brundage on
receiving the Evelyn Kahn Award
Joel Kelson's receipt
of the Steven Arnold Award
Dave & Nancy Samson
Elaine Lipschutz' 90th birthday
Miriam Singer

In Memory of:

J. Ralph Stein
Charles, Roni & Joseph Stein
Evelyn Locke
Sidney Locke
Arline Kornreich
Jeanne Lotu Rubin
Martin & Eleanor Charwat
Celia Levine
Lila Matlin
Saul Hesser
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LIPSCHUTZ FUND

In Honor of:

Elaine Lipschutz' 90th Birthday
Lila Matlin
Joyce Klein
Bruce, Harriet & Lauren Lipschutz
Gertrude Clarfeld
Elaine Lipschutz

VT CAPITAL FUND

In Honor of:

Vassar Temple
Phyllis Ritter
Ruth Kapner
William & Susan Barbash
Marjarie Gluck
David & Nancy Gluck

SETH ERLEBACHER RELIGIOUS

SCHOOL FUND

In Appreciation of our School
Eric and Barbara Gilman

Yahrzeits

DECEMBER 5

Larry Adler
Simon Adler
Alexander Asch
Ruth Bagun
Susan Baker
Dr. Morton Bard
Gussie Bernstein
Solomon Berger
Sadie Breit
Rhoda Brooke
Elsa Cohen
Louis Dubler
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Leah W. Cohen
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Michael Goldfinger
Fay Gordon
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Men's Club Co-Presidents: Dave Samson & Dave Wolf
Immediate Past President: Bob Abrams
Youth Group President: Brianna Erlebacher



December 2014

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 7:15 Ritual Committee meeting	2 10am SEP 12pm Talmud 7pm Taste of Judaism Part 3 7:30pm Meditation	3 4:30 pm Hebrew School 6:30 Religious School 8-12	4 10am SEP	5 6pm Shabbat Service	6 9am Torah Study 10am New Paths
7 R/S Gr K-7 VTS Judaica Shophe Hanukkah Sale 11:30am Lunchbox	8 7pm Exec Cmte Meeting	9 10am SEP 12pm Talmud Class	10 4:30 pm Hebrew School 6:30 Religious School 8-12	11 10am SEP	12 6pm Shabbat Service	13 9am Torah Study 10am Shabbat Morning Service 12p Kiddush Luncheon
14 R/S Gr K-7 VTS Judaica Shophe Hanukkah Sale 11am Tiny Temple	15 7pm Finance Cmte Meeting	16 10am SEP 12pm Talmud Class	17 2pm VTS Book Club 4:30 pm Hebrew School 6:30 R/S 8-12	18 10am SEP	19 6:00pm Hanukkah Shabbat Dinner 7:30pm Shabbat Service	20 9am Torah Study 10am New Paths
21 No Religious School	22	23 10am SEP 12pm Talmud Class	24 Office Closed No Religious School	25 Office Closed	26 6pm Shabbat Service	27 9am Torah Study
28 No Religious School	29 7pm Board Meeting	30 10am SEP 12pm Talmud Class	31 No Religious School			