



Temple Israel
RELIGIOUS SCHOOL

Kehillah
School for Early Learning



Vol. XCVI No 4
July/August 2024
Sivan/Tamuz/Av 5784

TEMPLE TOPICS



Shabbat ShaBeach

p. 9

Visit Israel

p. 16

Ein Bokek Beach, Israel

Rabbi's Note
p. 3

**From the
President**
p. 4-6

Cantor's Corner
p. 7-8

**High Holy Days
Preview**
p. 19

**Temple Israel
is Grateful**
p. 10

**Youth Group:
Signon BBYO** p. 9

Kehillah
p. 11

Religious School
p. 12-13

Camp Pinebrook
p. 13

**Temple Israel
Cares** p. 9

**Sisterhood
Brotherhood**
p. 15

Library
p. 14



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July/August 2024
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The deadline for the
September/October 2024
Temple Topics is
Sunday, August 11, 2024

Sympathy

Our Temple Israel of New Rochelle family offers our heartfelt condolences to the family and friends of the following people, who passed away during the past two months since the last Temple Topics:

- Steven Hacker, friend of Andy Rabin
- Helen Klinghoffer-Kay, mother of Marjorie Dingée
- Jeffrey Zane, brother-in-law of Richard Balik

"May their souls be bound up in the eternal bond"



Mazel Tov to ...

- Helen Miller, on her 90th Birthday
- Amy & Morris Marcus, on the birth of their grandson, Riley Marcus
- Myra Saul & Howard Pinn, on the birth of their grandson, Mark I. Wachs, born to their daughter, Audrey, and son-in-law, David
- Mitchell & Carole Ostrove on their upcoming 60th Wedding Anniversary
- Berdie & Len Stein, on their 50th Wedding Anniversary
- Frank & Barbara Axel, on their 50th Wedding Anniversary
- Kristen Dassler, on passing her Human Resources exams, and her title change to "HR & Bookkeeping Administrator"

Send all your good news to OriettaSchneider@tinr.org

New Members

We welcome the following to our Temple Israel family!

- Jeannie Gelberg Armstrong
- Josh Berger & Averie Negron

Please say hello to them when you see them at the Temple!

Closings

Please note the following Temple Office and Kehillah School closures:

Thursday - Friday, July 4th-5th: Independence Day
(includes Camp Pinebrook)
Monday, September 2nd: Labor Day

On the Cover: morning sun shines on salt crystals formations, clear cyan green calm water at Ein Bokek Beach, Israel

Rabbi's Note

Is History Repeating Itself?



It is interesting how Israeli society resembles what it was like one year ago. Again, there is protesting in the streets calling for an election, a divided society, and a far-right government. And it was this civil unrest which weakened Israel, making it vulnerable last autumn. Thus, providing an opening for the October 7th terrorist attacks. Why is history repeating itself?

First, I think Israel is like American society and many other countries, a politically divided nation. Their political parties are focused on winning elections and view governing as a secondary responsibility. Since Bennie Gantz and his centrist National Unity Party left the war-time cabinet, this has propelled Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu to rely upon far-right ministers such as Itamar Ben-Gvir and Bezalel Smotrich to stabilize the government. Thus, causing the Israeli leadership to have more extreme views to keep its slim majority 64 out of 120 seats in the Knesset.

Second, Benny Gantz demanded a clearly documented strategy for Netanyahu to end the war. Gantz has proposed a plan that would include bringing a cease fire that orchestrates a partnership of US-European-Arab-Palestinian system of civil administration for Gaza, with Israel retaining overall control of security. It also would require the ultra-Orthodox to serve in the military, ending their current exemption. This proposal puts pressure on the current leadership if it wants to retain the centrist political party. Currently Prime Minister Netanyahu does not support such efforts.

Third, Benjamin Netanyahu believes agreeing to cease fire without a destruction of Hamas and return of hostages as non-viable. Therefore, his leadership believes that Israel must not stop the war until its goals have been achieved. And thus, is focused only on a long-term "Permanent Truce". This is leading to more isolation from other governments including allies. He has not been able to articulate a realistic plan (one that is supported by other nations) to move forward.

Lastly, the hostage's families also have a strong impact on what is taking place in Israel. Many are urging the Israeli government to prioritize freeing hostages as their main priority. Thus, forcing an Israeli cease-fire and exit from Gaza in exchange for the return of all hostages. This has led to conflicts between politicians and these family members. Approximately 116 of the 251 hostages abducted by Hamas on October 7 remain in Gaza, and it is believed that many are dead. In addition to a cease-fire, for the release of the hostages, Israel would have to exchange jailed Palestinians in Israel, many who are terrorists. This exchange would impact Israeli society because terrorists would be set free, and the majority

of the remaining hostages are likely bodies of the deceased. This has all led to politicking, with the goal of either initiating or delaying an Israeli national election. Currently Benny Gantz seems to be out polling Benjamin Netanyahu. However, as we previously saw, it took five elections within four years for Israel to form a stable governing coalition. And a new election might not bring a decisive voice to how Israel should handle Gaza and other societal and political issues related to October 7th.

It is unlikely that any election will take place in the near future. Instead, Israelis again will be arguing with one another on the direction of the nation. And a divided Israel is dangerous. Therefore, we pray that all hostages return home, and that Israel can unify as a people. The American government has been a steadfast ally. And we ask that our government continues to assist Israel. And we seek a lasting peace where Israelis and Palestinians can live as neighbors after this horrible situation. There are many difficult decisions ahead, but it is vital that we support the Israeli people.

L'Shalom, with a hope for peace,
Rabbi Jesse



In times of happiness and sorrow, through each Lifecycle, the Clergy are HERE for you.

Please do not hesitate to call (914) 235-1800, email, or reach out to us with questions or requests.

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From the President

Ahhhh Summer!



Our Gala usually marks the finale of our “year” here at Temple Israel, and this year’s celebration, honoring Saky Yakas & Lisa Keller Yakas was a smashing success. We achieved both our fundraising and our “fun” raising goals. The evening was absolutely spectacular, and I want to once again acknowledge Berdie Stein and Miki Gerblich for all their hard work making it such a magical night.

I also want to thank those who attended the Annual Congregational Meeting. This is a welcome opportunity to introduce new board members, share our financial updates, and get everyone involved in voting on the budget. Plus, we love sharing all the exciting projects that the board has on its agenda. If you have not attended an annual meeting yet, you’re missing out – but don’t worry ... we will remind you next June!

While we recently celebrated uplifting news with the rescue of four hostages by the IDF, there are still over 100 people hidden by Hamas. The past eight months have challenged us, as Jews and as decent caring human beings, in ways none of us could have ever imagined.

Here at TINR we are committed to bringing insightful speakers and conversations to our community. This summer, we’re keeping the momentum going with more opportunities to connect and discuss, and we hope you’ll join us. Have an idea or know someone who would be a fantastic speaker? Let me know!

Camp Pinebrook is gearing up to welcome a record number of campers. How exciting is that! This boom has given us the perfect push for expansion, and we’re planning to build another pool for better swim instruction, and to accommodate more campers. The Board has been working diligently all year improving our facilities and will continue revitalizing our spaces to make them as warm and welcoming (and as beautiful) as possible.

We are also looking forward to making the most of this gorgeous season with some Friday Night services outdoors in the courtyard (weather permitting, of course).

I want to thank everyone for all the love and support you’ve shown me over the past year. Being President of this 116-year-old congregation has been an absolute honor, and I have loved every minute of it. I look forward to next year and all the joys (hopefully just a few OYs) it will bring.

As always, please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or ideas!!

Todah Rabah,
Margie Ostrove, Temple President

Please note the image above!

Anja Rožen, a 13-year old elementary school student from Slovenia is the winner of the international contest Plakat MIRU. She was chosen among 600,000 children from all over the world. “My poster represents the earth that connects and unites us. People stick to each other. If one person let go, the rest will fall. We are all connected to our planet and to each other, but unfortunately we are little aware of it,” said the young creator.

If you visit Anita Aronoff, Executive Director, at Temple Israel, you will see it displayed on her wall!

"Board" Bulletin



The TINR Board of Trustees met on Wednesday, May 15th for its regular monthly meeting. Highlights of the meeting included...

The meeting opened with sharing of “joys and oys.” We celebrated the graduations of Toni Brackis’ grandson, Gary & Janet Frey’s son, and Greta & Jeff Berenbaum’s son. Congratulations to them and all the other members of the TINR community with 2024 graduations!

Allison Horn, who is approaching her second summer as director of Camp Pinebrook, shared updates about growth and development at the camp. The camp continues to grow this summer, with a 17% increase in enrollment. She highlighted the tremendous success of the “On the Rise” (OTTERZ) program for teens, which was begun last summer.

Allison stressed that the camp’s philosophy is rooted in Jewish values, which are interwoven into everyday activities from reciting blessings to singing about R-E-S-P-E-C-T; the warmth and intimacy of the camp is what differentiates us from other programs in the area. Some enhancements for Summer 2024 include: adding a licensed clinical social worker to offer additional support for campers and families with unique needs, including trips and special programming for older campers, creating a special area just for age-3 campers, and providing parents with weekly camper progress updates.

Looking ahead to Summer 2025, there will be a need for a third and deeper pool for advanced instruction and to

accommodate camp growth; plan design is underway to determine the scope of the project before we go out to bid.

Rabbi Jesse then gave his report. He acknowledged that this has been a challenging time, since October 7, 2023, when life changed for the Jewish community and TINR. He then discussed his vision of what it means for the TINR community to support Israel. He shared the following tenets:

- 1) The belief in a Jewish homeland, Israel's right to exist, and a pluralistic Jewish State that honors democratic values.
- 2) Hamas' acts were unjustified, and that hostages must be returned home.
- 3) Life is sacred; we feel for all of those who are suffering, and we grieve the deaths of all innocent people.
- 4) There is hope in our future generations; education with a nuanced approach is crucial to engaging today's Jewish youth/young adults.

In light of Rabbi Jesse's emphasis on supporting Jewish programming and education, the board voted to make a \$2,500 donation to Hillels of Westchester to be presented to Rachel Klein, Executive Director of Hillels of Westchester, who is the guest speaker at Friday night services on May 17, 2024. There was also discussion about building philanthropy into future TINR budgets.

Treasurer's Report: Lloyd Robinson shared that thanks to several generous contributions, there is a \$270K operating surplus which can be put toward paying down the camp loan. The combined investment portfolios are performing well, with a fund balance of over \$9,000,000 as of April 30, 2024.

Executive Director's Report: Anita Aronoff referred to her written report. She emphasized the need to re-asphalt the service road between the entrance and the kitchen, as it has become a hazard. The board voted unanimously in favor of approving the use of funds from the Land, Building, and Capital Fund to do the asphalt repair; it was approved unanimously, and the Board of Trustees will convene in 5 days (May 20, 2024) for a second vote, as required for major, un-budgeted expenditures.

President's Report: Margie Ostrove then led the board in a discussion of the extent to which the TINR community condones or condemns actions or political stances of congregants or organizations, particularly when these actions may be perceived to be in opposition to TINR values. The board did not reach any conclusions, but meaningfully and thoughtfully explored the interplay between individual congregant choices and worldviews and the inclusiveness, integrity, and long-term strength of the TINR community.

Other new business: The board approved the use of money from the Hirshenhorn Fund to support youth programming and the incoming rabbinic intern. Brian Heaps presented the Nominating Committee's report. The nominated candidates

will be voted on at the meeting on June 5, 2024. There will be one vacancy on the board when Lloyd Robinson and Brian Heaps finish their terms. The board expressed appreciation for their service, and thanked Marilyn Morris and Jeff Berenbaum for agreeing to serve another term. Lloyd Robinson presented the budget assumptions for 2024-2025 fiscal year. We expect total operating surplus of \$202,518. Margie Ostrove made a motion to vote on presenting this budget to the congregation on June 5, 2024; it was approved unanimously.

The TINR Board of Trustees met on Tuesday, June 18th for its regular monthly meeting before the summer hiatus. Highlights of the meeting included...

The Board of Trustees celebrated the conclusion of a truly wonderful year for TINR. The meeting started with Margie Ostrove offering effusive thanks to Lloyd Robinson and to Brian Heaps for their generous service to the Board and to the Executive Committee. TINR bylaws require that they each relinquish their role as active trustees as their terms are expiring. Their tremendous hard work, devotion, and love for our temple have been instrumental in steering TINR through challenges and changes, growth, and wonderful successes and mitzvot. Their leadership will be missed. Thank you so much, Lloyd and Brian!

The meeting lingered on good and welfare from the year past and celebrations we are looking forward to. Specifically, we particularly congratulate Mitchell & Carole Ostrove on their upcoming 60th anniversary, and Berdie & Len Stein on their upcoming 50th. Lisa Keller Yakas expressed warm gratitude for such a spectacular TINR Gala celebration. She and her husband were overwhelmed with the beauty and joy of the evening. David Soberman commented on how lovely the bar mitzvah this past weekend was, including great participation by the TINR community. Rabbi Jesse also reminded us all of the special happiness he has felt about the cycle of b'nei mitzvahs and other important lifecycle events in this past year.

In the "business" portion of our meeting, Lloyd Robinson reviewed the financial reports included in the board packet, highlighting a greater than expected budget surplus, and Anita Aronoff updated the board on the review we have received from Johnson Control about our HVAC system. The system is largely original to the building and will require a very extensive overhaul to remain functional. The Land, Building, and Capital committee, with other interested board members, will meet with representatives of Johnson Control to review the details of their review and proposal for renovation. We then discussed and approved funding for needed repairs to an area of pavement where the asphalt has deteriorated.

Announcement of the new executive committee (EC): Brian Heaps, on behalf of the nominating committee, announced the candidates for the upcoming year's EC. The committee nominated the following: President: Margie Ostrove; Executive Vice President: Michael Goldberg; Secretary: Marilyn Morris; and Vice Presidents: Jeff Berenbaum and Allen Fishbein. The slate was unanimously approved.

Board Bulletin: continued on p. 6



Statement of Guiding Principles. Margie Ostrove called the board's attention to a draft statement of guiding principles related to the State of Israel, which was included in the board packet. With a minor modification, the board expressed consensus support for the statement. The statement will be posted on our website and publicly posted.

The board met in executive session and the meeting adjourned at 8:05 PM.

Happy summer to all!

Temple Israel of New Rochelle Position Statement

As a Reform Jewish synagogue, Temple Israel of New Rochelle is an inclusive Zionist community that accommodates a diversity of views related to Israel. Our prayers call out to Zion, and our movement's platforms support the modern state. We uphold the following core values:

Support for Pluralistic Israel

We support Israel as a pluralistic Jewish country that upholds democratic values and minority rights.

Condemnation of Terrorism

Terrorism and the targeting of civilians are never acceptable. All hostages should be returned immediately, and innocent people should never be used as collateral.

Universal Human Rights

All people deserve peace, dignity, and safety. We believe that Palestinian civilians have the right to shelter, food, clean water, hospitals, infrastructure, and other basic human rights.

Two-State Solution Advocacy

We believe that Israel's long-term security and safety are best ensured through a Two-State Solution, with Israelis and Palestinians living side by side in cooperation and respect.

We uphold this document as core to our Temple's identity and the way we teach, preach, and advocate in support of and love for Israel.

We acknowledge a diversity of views and opinions, and we make room for those who may respectfully disagree with us.

In response to recent events, Temple Israel of New Rochelle (TINR) would like to clarify our identity, values, and the principles we uphold.

Denunciation of Campus Protest Actions

We denounce the actions of protesters on college campuses that create an unsafe and threatening environment, while firmly supporting the right to free speech.

Support for Jewish College Students

TINR supports Hillels of Westchester in their vital work of supporting local Jewish college students who have felt unsafe on their campuses.

Distinguishing Solidarity from Hate Speech

We recognize that expressing pro-Palestinian solidarity should be distinct from affirming pro-Hamas hate speech. It is possible to support Israel while being pained by the suffering of innocent Palestinians in Gaza and wishing for an end to their plight.

Anne Frank's Chestnut Tree



Recently, Cantor Glassman gave a sermon at a Friday service... we thought we should hear it again. Thank you Cantor!

One of Northern California's most beloved nature preserves is Muir Woods National Monument. It is a lush, green, majestic forest populated with tall, towering redwood trees that are many hundreds of years old. It is a forest I know well, where I have walked many times-a place filled with beautiful, winding trails, wooden bridges, the running, clean water Redwood Creek where salmon spawn,

and for serious hikers, there are many curvy, steep, tree and plant laden hills. Over time, I became quite familiar with the various trees in Muir Woods and even gave them names like "Grandmother Tree" or "Old Barky Tree" or "Old Red". While living in Marin County, California, I developed a special connection with those trees and at some point, Muir Woods took on a sanctuary- like quality for me. For many years it was a place I would go to meditate, to clear my head, to get in a good walk, to breathe deep, to connect with nature in a big way. I listened to the sound of the many species of birds who live in that forest, including the vocally distinct Northern Spotted owls, who occasionally showed up in all their glory on a branch overhead. Oftentimes, I hummed my own songs or prayers as I walked along the trails.

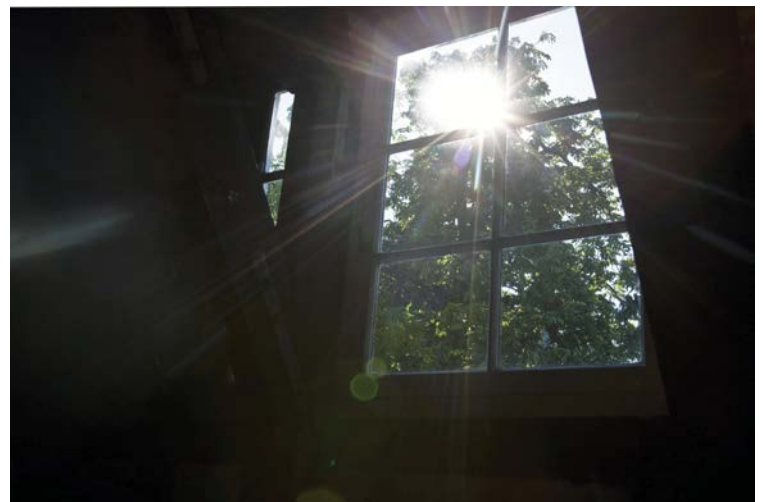
Four years ago, I was hired to be the Interim Cantor at the Reform Congregation Rodeph Shalom in Philadelphia. Turns out, it was exactly two weeks before the start of the pandemic and Philadelphia's citywide shutdown. As they say, "the shul must go on" and so I drove myself with keyboard in tow, across the country, from San Francisco to Philadelphia, to avoid the risk of getting Covid on a flight, and began my new job. My apartment in Center City in Philly became my living place, my workplace, my B'nai Mitzvah studio and yes, for Shabbat and Holiday services-the synagogue sanctuary. Looking back, I truly believe that what kept me sane throughout that year is that nearly every weekend, after I was done with my Temple duties, I drove the forty-minute drive from my apartment to Swarthmore College, where I could walk around the college's 350 acre Scott Arboretum. It is a huge, spectacular garden which basically covers the entire Swarthmore campus.

What struck me as particularly beautiful in that garden were the magnificent oak, poplar, chestnut, magnolia and flowering cherry trees, full of character and charm. After a while, I started naming some of those trees too-like "Menorah Tree" a tree which really looked to me like a many branched menorah. I took photos of the trees every time I visited the arboretum, and sent them to friends, my clergy team at Rodeph Shalom

and congregants-something beautiful to focus on in the midst of our less than beautiful pandemic reality. Those trees and that garden were a kind of lifeline, providing a way to stay connected with nature, with God's earth, with beauty, with something healthy and robust unaffected by the terrible virus going around. That place and those trees brought me joy, a sense of calm and a sense of peace. As the seasons changed, I so appreciated seeing the falling leaves, the snow-covered trunks, the flowers coming into bloom. Those trees and gardens gave me hope and for a little while, the pandemic seemed very far away.

So I was particularly moved and grateful to be present this past Tuesday at a ceremony held at the Holocaust Garden of Remembrance in White Plains, to commemorate the planting of a young sapling tree. This is no ordinary tree. In fact, it is an offspring of the tall chestnut tree Anne Frank wrote about eighty years ago in her diary-a tree that gave her strength and hope. For two long years from 1942 to 1944, while hiding with her family in the famed Secret Annex in the Netherlands, Anne Frank was able to view that tree through the one uncovered window in the attic. She wrote-

"From my favorite spot on the floor I look up at the blue sky and the bare chestnut tree on whose branches little raindrops shine, appearing like silver, and at the seagulls and other birds as they glide on the wind. As long as it exists, and it certainly ever will, I know that then there will always be comfort for every sorrow, whatever the circumstances may be. As long as this tree exists, how can I be sad?"



View from the attic of the Secret Annex on the chestnut tree, photo is made in 2010. Photo collection Anne Frank Stichting, Amsterdam / photo: Cris Toala Olivares

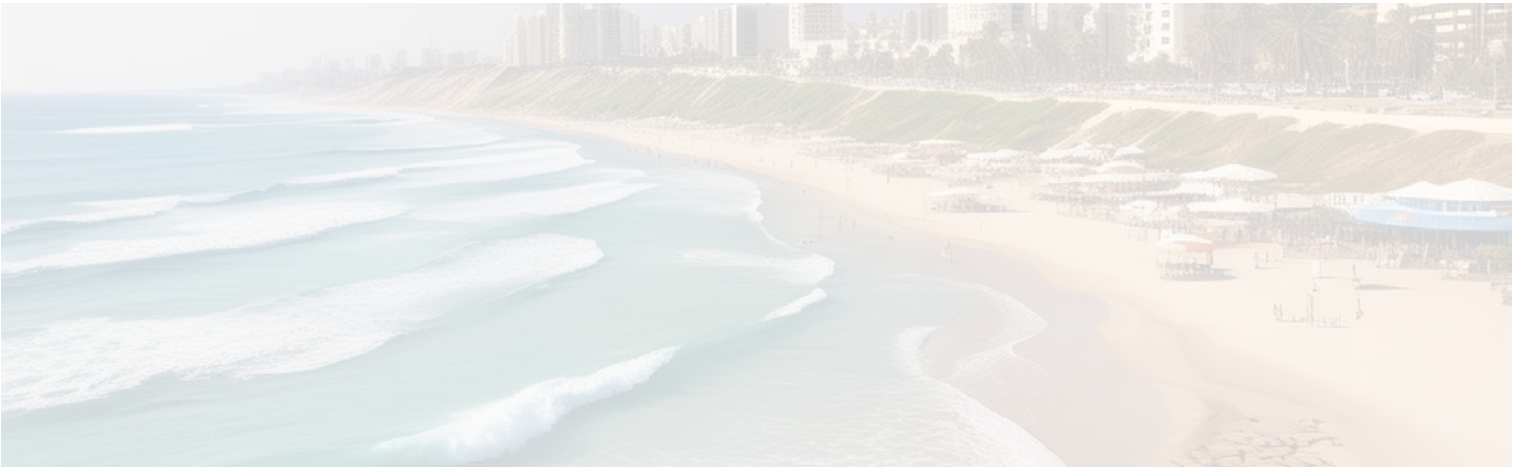
Visit "Anne Frank House" Museum at www.annefrank.org/en

Just being able to see the blue sky, hear the birds, and see the blossoms on that tree which stood rooted and free in Anne's garden, inspired the notion in Anne's mind that a better world than the one she was living in could be. That chestnut tree outlived Anne Frank by some 65 years. In August, 2010, the two-hundred-year-old chestnut tree fell, taking with it the entire iron structure that had been supporting it for five years, after it was discovered that the tree had become diseased. But before it fell, acorns from the tree were collected, germinated and then distributed to various places around the world-to schools, parks, Yad Vashem in Israel, the US Capitol, and just this past Tuesday, one of the young saplings was dedicated at the Holocaust Garden of Remembrance right here in Westchester County. It was a beautiful ceremony with important, heartfelt speeches from leaders of the Holocaust and Human Rights Education Center and the Anne Frank Center USA.

As I listened, I couldn't help but think-now what are the chances that a sapling from the tree in Anne Frank's garden in Amsterdam-the one that inspired her, comforted her and brought her joy in a time when joy might have seemed impossible, would appear just a few blocks from my current residence and so close to our Temple here in New Rochelle.

I hope you will all go and spend some time in the Holocaust Garden of Remembrance with its newest addition- a young chestnut tree, a symbol of hope and resilience, that reminds us of an extraordinarily wise and courageous girl who, despite all that she had to endure, still believed in the goodness of people, and in the possibility of a better, kinder, more compassionate world. May we never forget, may we never lose hope, and may we always strive to make Anne's dream a reality.

Cantor Rita Glassman



Service Times					
These are the service times on upcoming Fridays:			August 2nd	6:00 pm	Shabbat Service & Dinner w/ Guest Speaker, Rabbi Gabby Dagan
July 5th	6:00 pm	Shabbat Service	August 9th	6:00 pm	Shabbat Service
July 12th	7:00 pm	Shabbat Service	August 16th	Shabbat ShaBeach / off-site Five Islands Park details on p. 9	
July 19th	Shabbat ShaBeach / off-site Five Islands Park details on p. 9		August 23rd	7:00 pm	Shabbat Service
July 26th	6:00 pm	Shabbat Service	August 30th	6:00 pm	Shabbat Service
			September 6th	6:00 pm	Shabbat Service



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SUMMERTIME!

Summer's here
and days are bright!
Why not prepare
a meal that's light!

Our Watermelon Salad
will hit the spot,
and you won't even have
to wash a pot!

Arugula Watermelon Salad

... for 12 friends!

3 boxes of Arugula
1/2 small watermelon cubed
1 large shallot minced
1/2 cup orange juice
1/3 cup olive oil
2 teaspoons kosher salt
1 teaspoon black pepper
1 cup mint leaves
Feta cheese crumbled



Shabbat ShaBeach. Summer is Here!

There are **TWO DATES THIS SUMMER**
at Five Islands Park to celebrate Shabbat!

Friday, July 19th
Friday, August 16th

5:30 pm Playground Fun!
6:00 pm Refreshments and Hors d'oeuvres
6:30 pm Sunset service to help us bring Shabbat and the weekend to our community!

Bring your beach blanket or chairs if you'd like to sit on the beach. Bring your own dinner. Carpooling is encouraged! Limited Parking!

This will be the only service for this evening. Sign-up is not necessary. Weather permitting. No LiveStream or Zoom will be available.



Thank you for supporting OUR community!

Temple Israel of New Rochelle 2024-2025 Support/Pledge Packets are being mailed in the beginning of July, to your households.

Now is the time to join your fellow congregants in supporting Temple Israel as best you can for the 2024-2025 year.

If you would like to support and pledge online right now, please visit www.tinr.org/SupportTINR

Thank you for your consideration and support!

Temple Israel is Grateful

Todah Rabah – Thank You

Temple Fund

Laurence Peters, in honor of Berdie & Len Stein on the occasion of their 50th wedding anniversary
Ronald Kaplan, in memory of Roberta Kline Kaplan
Val Etra, in memory of Dalia Levine's grandmother
Ilissa Herskowitz, in memory of Jennifer Herskowitz and Irving P. Fisher
Orietta Schneider, in honor of Paul Warhit, Margie Ostrove, and Anita Aronoff
David & Alina Bases
John Reiches & June Streisand

Brotherhood

Joel & Almarie Fridovich

Camp Pinebrook Fund

Frank & Barbara Axel, in memory of Vivian Klauber

Chavaya (Religious School) Program Fund

Hank & Joan Goldsmith, in appreciation of Toni Brackis
Zachary & Leah Moore

Endowment Fund

Sari Bedevian, in appreciation of my bimah honor

Hospitality

Adam Slansky & Jessica Ottinger, in honor of Abigail's Bat Mitzvah
Dominic & Tara Ciscone, in honor of Brody's Bar Mitzvah
Frank & Barbara Axel, in memory of Vivian Klauber

IDF Donation

Anne Casey

Israel Action Committee

Paul & Ilissa Warhit, in honor of the birth of Riley Marcus
Michael & May Goldberg, in honor of the Warhit Family

Kehillah Program Fund

Ira & Andrea Lippel, in honor of Linda Capozzola's granddaughter, Liat Ester Capozzola Mandelker's Bat Mitzvah

Music Fund

Jeff & Mady Stier, in honor of Barbara & Frank Axel's 50th wedding anniversary; in memory of Frank Axel's sister, Vivian

Rabbi Discretionary Fund

Lisa Keller & Saky Yakas, in honor of Amy Ecker
Lenore Sempert, in memory of Howard Podell; in memory of Lillian Podell

Social Action Fund

Matthew & Jennifer Kates, in honor of Amy & Morris Marcus' new grandson, Riley
Arthur & Carol Ostrove, in honor of the Axel's 50th anniversary; in memory of Frank Axel's sister, Vivian
Michael & May Goldberg

Temple Israel Cares

Toni Brackis, in honor of Barbara & Frank Axel's special anniversary
Val Etra, in memory of Frank Axel's sister

Community Shabbat Sponsorships

Dolores Malaspina & Mark Rosen
Barbara & Frank Axel

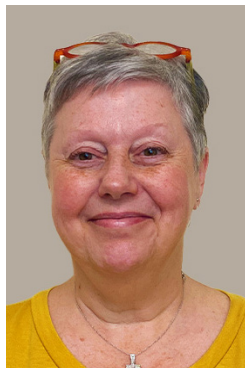
Gala Donations

752 North Avenue Corp, Gemelli Pizzeria
Ardee Electronical Construction
Wilbert & Ina Aronow
Franklin & Barbara Axel
Barbara Balik
Toni Brackis

Linda Capozzola
Mary Ann DeRosa
Division Restaurant Group, Posto 22
Daniel & Amy Ecker
Valerie Etra
Brian & Laura Feinblum
Allen Fishbein & Jennifer Herbst
Helene Fishman
Foley Hardware
Michael & May Goldberg
Lawrence & Jennifer Goldman
Hank & Joan Goldsmith
Donald Handelman
Brian & Dianne Heaps
Robert & June Hirsh
Gerald & Sandra Hyman
David & Marjory Karlin
David & Sara Kaye
Nina Keller-Adago
Kensico Cemetery
David & Penny Klein
Jason Krasner & Sylvana Bunag-Krasner
Laurence Levine Foundation
Steven & Rebecca Lippel
Deborah & Damon Maher
Riverside Memorial Chapel
Mark Nowak & Carolyn Dudek
Arthur & Carol Ostrove
Marjorie Ostrove
Howard Pinn & Myra Saul
Helene Reps
Bernard & Judy Robinson
Lloyd Robinson & Miki Gerblich
Mark Rosen & Dolores Malaspina
Warren & Nanette Sacks
Steven & Jackie Saril
Elliot & Diane Senderoff
Herbert Smith & Sharon Blinkoff
Jeffrey & Madeline Stier
Wexler Associates



"Nothing Without Joy"



Loris Malaguzzi, an Italian psychologist who was instrumental in founding the Reggio Emilia teaching philosophy, often said "Nothing without Joy."

Kehillah approaches our relationship with parents as just that ~creating joyful partnerships acting in the best interests of our children.

This school year we look back with gratitude to all our families who supported Monthly Teacher Breakfasts,

Thanksgiving Family Lunch, Parent/ Teacher Conferences, Family Shabbat, Friday Morning Shabbat, Letters to NRPD & Security, Growlers Family Outing, and Families & Sponsors of Sensory & Sip featuring Morah Jackie's Sensory on Wheels.

What an awesome year of working with families and celebrating together in JOY.

We thank *Moochaneem's* and *G'Shareem's* parents that have been at Kehillah since their children were "littles" as they venture off to Kindergarten. We wished them the best, as we celebrated all their accomplishments on Friday, June 21st at *Seeyoom* (Graduation).

Kehillah's Parents keep our program connected and growing. We are beyond thankful for their support as we close out an academic year and look towards our Summer Programming beginning July 1st at Kamp Kehillah.

If you would like to learn more about PACK -Parents and Caregivers of Kehillah- and how to get involved in Family events, please contact Katie Gorman at kathrynkaplan@gmail.com.

"Nothing without Joy, Kehillah"

Marie Masseo
Kehillah School Director



Pathways: Youth & Family Engagement



When I began my tenure at Temple Israel in 2012, I was hired to make the transition from a “typical/your grandparent’s Hebrew school” into a nurturing, engaging and meaningful learning experience. At the time, my role was specific to the religious school. We wanted to dispel the negative feelings attached to the afterschool/ Sunday school Jewish experience. Thus, the name Chavaya (the Jewish Educational Experience) was born.

Over the past 12 years we have certainly accomplished creating the environment we envisioned and more. And yet, we have found that the needs of families have evolved over the last few years, becoming clear that the name, Chavaya, no longer fits who we are. Furthermore, we found that when families contacted us, wanting to know about our religious school, the name Chavaya wasn’t familiar, and its mere pronunciation imposed a stumbling block for our future members. Finally, we recognized that in order to be the nurturing and engaging place we were striving to be for our families, we needed to begin thinking differently about how we engage with youth and parents, and how we can sustain those relationships for the lifetime, and not just during the K-12th grade years.

Just like our religious school has undergone shifts and revisioning over the past few years, my role at Temple Israel has grown since I began in 2012. As the Director of Education: Youth & Families, I not only have the pleasure of nurturing our K-12th youth and families, but I spend significant time in relationships with our younger families in the Kehillah School. My role is to engage families at different points along their Jewish journey, as there is no one route that families take when it comes to being in relationship with Temple Israel. Some come through the Kehillah School, some come through Camp Pinebrook, and some join us when they’re ready to begin their child’s formal Jewish education. Thus, we thought it was appropriate to create an umbrella system for these pathways to form.

Our new Youth & Family Engagement model, “Pathways,” will build community and promote engagement of families with children from birth through college. Through collaboration with my thought-partner, Rabbi Jesse, and the constructive feedback from our Religious School and Board of Trustees, we have created the following goals for Youth & Family Engagement:

1. Provide experiences for children to establish positive relationships with peers.
2. Engage children in Judaism through knowledge, action, spiritual encounters, and community participation.

3. Provide meaningful, family-focused experiences, rooted in Jewish content and values.
4. Create opportunities for generations to connect and build relationships.

To help ensure we’re meeting these goals, we are establishing a Youth & Family Engagement Committee, which will be comprised of parents with children from Birth-College. In partnership with me, this group will plan and execute holiday and Shabbat programming throughout the year. The Kehillah PACK and Religious School Parent Reps committees will continue to meet, and we are excited to form this new group to help infuse energy and fulfill our mission of engagement and meaningful connections.

If you are a parent in Kehillah, Camp Pinebrook, or our Religious School, and wish to learn more about the Youth & Family Engagement Committee, *please reach out to me at relkusferst@tinr.org.*

You may be asking, if the Chavaya name is being phased out, how are we referring to our Religious School? We understand that outside the Temple Israel community, Religious School is a name people understand so we will be using this name to refer to our K-12th grade program. The name, Pathways, will be our umbrella name that refers to the different ways that families engage in our community in addition to the Religious School like the Kehillah School and Camp Pinebrook.

As I reflect on the last 12 years, I can’t help but feel a little sentimental thinking about where we started and how we have grown. I have been blessed to grow in my role and I continue to feel grateful and inspired by the work I get to do, and the people I get to nurture and educate. Thank you for making it possible and here’s to the start of a wonderful new chapter.

B’chavod (with respect and friendship),
Rebecca Elkus-Ferst
Director of Education: Youth & Families



Opening Days for Religious School:

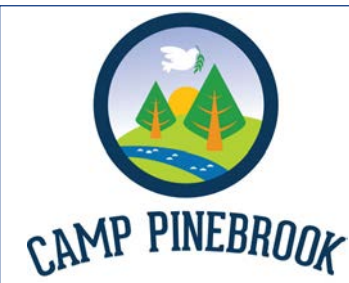
Tuesday, September 10th: 6 pm (K-7th grade)
Thursday, September 12th: 4-6 pm (3rd-6th grade)
6:15-8 pm (8th-12th grade)

Have you completed your 2024-2025 Registration?

Please complete by August 1st. Registration can be accessed via your Shulcloud account.

Mazel Tov to the newly elected Signon Board! Signon is our BBYO Chapter.

- *N'siah* (President) – Ariella Marcus
- *S'ganit* (VP Programming) – Danica Frey
- *Aym Ha'Chaverot*, also known as MIT Mom (VP of Membership) – Devin Ferrucci
- *Sh'lichah* (VP of Jewish Enrichment) – Dylan Rittenberg
- *Mazkirah* (Secretary/Communications) – Sophie Dingée
- *Gizbor* (Treasurer) – Charlie Mangot
- *Mekasheret* (VP of Recruitment) – Olivia Feinblum



Camp 2024 is HERE!



Summer 2023 was a rousing success, and we expect even more fun and excitement in 2024! Last season we welcomed 262 campers and as of the writing of this report, we have 308 on board this summer!

Our plan in 2023 was to bridge the gap between our oldest campers and youngest staff, hoping to retain the “twens” to build a solid staff foundation in the future. By expanding programming options for the older campers and creating ON THE RISE (the “OTTERZ”) for kids entering 7th through 9th grades, we’ve experienced a large growth in camper numbers for those age groups in 2024. Enrollment for grades three through six has increased 59% this year, and the OTTERZ have increased 50%. Our dedication to increasing our tween population will continue, as we add two camp trips this year and more in future summers. The most exciting news about our expansion is the announcement of a third pool that will be built during this off-season! Our new pool will be located where the current basketball court lives, and the sport court will be moved to the other side of camp. Our new pool will have a six-foot deep end so our older campers can enjoy more advanced aquatics training.

All our campers will enjoy our newly shaded Amphitheatre and two new tented specialty pavilions. Programmatically, we’ve added Mindfulness, Movement, and Meditation, LEGO Teambuilding, “Build-A-Camp”, STEAM, a re-vamped ART program led by local artist, Aaron Stone, and the first ever camp show intensive, Willy Wonka, directed by actor and acting coach, Nancy Maloy.

Additions to camp are always necessary and wonderful, but we can never forget that the foundation of camp, what DOESN'T change, is equally as important. In 2018, Camp Pinebrook was created based on the love of children, Jewish values, and a need for kids to have a safe, welcoming, and inclusive summer home. As we continue to expand, we are even more cognizant of strengthening our foundation. Camp is Love, and regardless of size or enrollment numbers, this will continue to be our never-ending, unwavering message. Here's to a safe, fabulous, and FUN Summer 2024!

Allison Horn
Camp Director





Youth Group: Signon BBYO



Signon BBYO is Temple Israel of New Rochelle's youth group. We welcome and encourage ALL 8th through 12th graders to come to our meetings and events which are every other Thursday here at TINR, and will start up again in September.

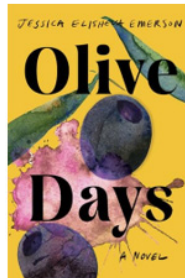
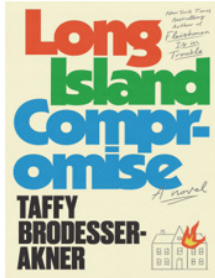
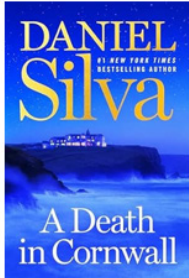
Signon had some fun and well attended events in May including an outing to Dave and Busters in Pelham where we played arcade games, and a cupcake and painting night here at Temple Israel.

Congratulations to the new Signon board for the 2024-2025 year. See the board on p. 13 of this Temple Topics!

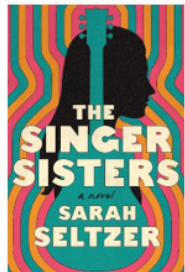
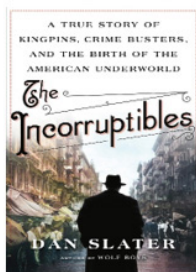
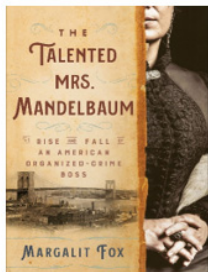
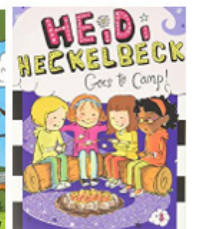
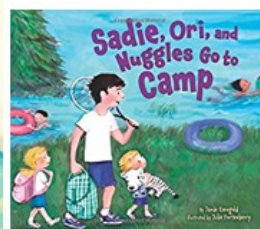
Danica Frey
N'siah / Signon Chapter President
danifreyamber@gmail.com

Edith H. Handelman Library

Hot Reads for the Summer



Bring your kids to find these great summer reads: (and many more)



The library is always open! Just sign the card in the back of the book and leave it in the red box on the librarian's desk.

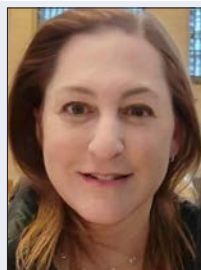
Questions? Contact our librarian at: stephkras11@gmail.com

Watch for these hot books to arrive soon and reserve your copy at:
www.librarycat.org/lib/HandelmanLibrary/TINR

Sisterhood



Berdie Stein
Sisterhood@tinr.org
Sisterhood Co-President



Greta Berenbaum
Sisterhood@tinr.org
Sisterhood Co-President

We hope you all enjoyed this year's Gala, A Greek Feast. It was so much fun to celebrate as a community on a beautiful Spring evening filled with food, music, and friendship.

Thank you for joining us for the Sisterhood/Brotherhood's Friday Night Shabbat Service and Dinner. We appreciate your support and are grateful to be able to give back to the TINR community.

As warm weather finally surrounds us, we look forward to the relaxing and laziness of the upcoming summer months. We are taking some time to plan our Fall/Winter calendar of events.



Are you wondering why we've added a picture of our sisterhood apron? Well, we want to inspire your ideas and wishes for cooking/baking ideas. Please email us soon and we'll make it happen! We aim to start the season off on Thursday, September 19th, with a "Rosh Hashanah Baking" Event.

"Sisterhood Game Nights" are going strong. It has been a joy to play and learn with different players each month. We hope to see you on:

September 4th
October 9th
November 6th
December 4th
January 8th (2025)
February 5th
March 5th
April 2nd
May 7th
June 4th

Events in the works for Fall 2024 include: "Bagels & Books", "Floral Arranging Class," and "Hoods Wine Tasting."

Enjoy Summer!
Greta and Berdie

Brotherhood



Allen Fishbein
Brotherhood@tinr.org
Brotherhood Co-President



Gary Frey
Brotherhood@tinr.org
Brotherhood Co-President

Happy Summer from Brotherhood!

Brotherhood provided breakfast for the Temple's "Mitzvah Day" on Sunday, May 19th. That was also the day of the Blood Drive which was very successful. Brotherhood members also traveled to Sharon Gardens to partake in the Mitzvah of burying *Genizah* (prayer books and other items with God's name).

On Friday, June 7th, Brotherhood participated in the annual Brotherhood & Sisterhood Shabbat Service / Dinner. This was a free dinner for all paying Brotherhood & Sisterhood members, and our opportunity to say "Thank You!"

On Sunday, June 23rd, Brotherhood was thrilled to sponsor another one of its famous tours, "A Walking Tour of Jewish Harlem." Once the second largest Jewish community in the United States, Harlem was home to more than 175,000 Jews. This tour visits the exteriors of grand synagogues, including the Ethiopian Hebrew Synagogue.

In conjunction with Israel Action, Social Action, Sisterhood & Brotherhood, we continue to support the IDF with our Challah Drive. Please continue to donate if you can. Visit ShulCloud, and you can donate through your account.

"Sammy's Roumanian" steakhouse is back and so is Brotherhood!, on September 14th, *details to follow*.

We have many more exciting programs planned for 2024/2025. Of course, "JewParly" will be one of those.

Brotherhood wants to continue to make TINR an event destination. If you have ideas for events, please let us know by contacting us directly or attending a meeting.

Allen and Gary

COME TO ISRAEL IN 2025!

TEMPLE ISRAEL

MULTIGENERATIONAL JOURNEY TO ISRAEL
LED BY RABBI JESSE GALLOP

FEBRUARY 13-23, 2025



Calling All Travelers! Come to Israel, with Rabbi Jesse!

Thursday, February 13th – Sunday, February 23rd
ALL ARE INVITED!

Highlights

- Celebrate Shabbat with Or Hadash Reform Congregation in Haifa
- Explore Tsfat, a center of Jewish mysticism for hundreds of years
- Go for a jeep tour of the Golan Heights
- Home hospitality dinner with an Israeli Druze family
- Walk through colorful Neve Zedek, one of Tel Aviv's earliest neighborhoods
- Travel to the Dead Sea & Masada
- Visit Yad Vashem, the national memorial of the Holocaust
- Tour Jerusalem's Old City and the Jewish Quarter
- Celebrate Shabbat in Jerusalem
-and much more!

REGISTRATION OPEN until December 13, 2024

Visit www.tinr.org/events/trip-to-israel-2025 to see more!, and to **SAY YES to Israel!**

PhotoBooth Memories!




GALA
2024

a
GREEK
FEAST

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Hawthorne, New York 10532**

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RIVERSIDE MEMORIAL CHAPEL

High Holy Days Preview

Be Ready for Reflection and Sweet Celebration



Preparing for the High Holy Days: 2024 • 5785

During the month of Elul: **Wednesday, September 4th - Wednesday, October 2nd**, Jewish tradition instructs us to prepare ourselves spiritually for the High Holy Days and begin the work of repentance. In order to enable our entire community to take part in the spiritual work of Elul, we will be sending out the “e-lul” daily emails with a text, prayer, or a poem to help us get in the right frame of mind for the holidays.

Hope you find them inspirational and thoughtful!

Upcoming High Holy Dates, Events, and Celebrations for your reference.

S'lichot <i>Sunday, September 29th</i>	Erev Yom Kippur (<i>Kol Nidrei</i>) <i>Friday, October 11th</i>	Erev Sukkot <i>Wednesday, October 16th</i>
Erev Rosh Hashanah <i>Wednesday, October 2nd</i>	Yom Kippur <i>Saturday, October 12th</i>	Sukkot <i>Thursday, October 17th</i>
Rosh Hashanah <i>Thursday, October 3rd - Friday, October 4th</i>	<i>More details in the September/October Temple Topics, weekly eblasts, and printed High Holy Days brochure due to be released in the beginning of September.</i>	Shmini Atzeret/Simchat Torah <i>Thursday, October 24th</i>

High Holy Days 2024/5785



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CROWDED NEST?
NEED MORE ROOM?



EMPTY NEST?
NEED LESS SPACE?

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