

April 2025 Bulletin



4737 Deerfield Place
Vestal, NY 13850
607-723-7461
TempleIsraelVestal.org

We are grateful to our Bulletin sponsor:

In honor of those who serve our congregation and the Jewish Community by *Steve Gilbert*

In honor of Julie Piaker's special birthday by *Merri Pell-Preus & Tony Preus*

For the Yahrzeit of Lilly Ullmann by *Arieh Ullmann*

For the Yahrzeit of Rae Levine by *Rhonda Levine*

For the Yahrzeit of Leonard F. Cohen by *Ann Cohen*

For the Yahrzeit of Faye Gerstein by *Ben & Susan Kasper*

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TC/TI Adult Education Program

"The Yiddish Bund and Bundism:
The Politics of Here-ness, Then and Now"

Sunday, April 27

Temple Concord, 9 Riverside Drive, Binghamton

10 am - noon



Professor Gina
Glasman

The community is welcome to attend this informative and interesting program. Gina Glasman, lecturer in Judaic Studies at Binghamton University will be joined with some members of Binghamton University's "New Jewish Bund" in a panel discussion about Bundism, its history, and current relevance.

Suggested donation \$5-20 per person. For more information and to RSVP, contact Temple Israel at 607 723-7461, e-mail:

office@templeisraelvestal.org or Temple Concord at 607 723-7355.

Kindly RSVP by April 23, so enough refreshments can be prepared for a light brunch.



Letter from the Rabbi:

In the traditional Passover Haggadah we read each year at the Seder, we declare: "In each and every generation, a person is required to see yourself as if you yourself had come out of Egypt, as it is said: "And you shall tell your child on that day, 'Because of this the LORD acted for me when I came out of Egypt.'" (Exodus 13:8).

Each year, our experience of celebrating Passover is meant to help us to see ourselves as becoming free. As we lean to the side and linger over a long, elaborate meal, we embody what it feels like to be free and, through telling the story of our people's ancient redemption, we pray for increasing freedom in our lives and in the world at large.

For some of us, this will be a particularly challenging experience this year for one reason or another. As I write, I am keenly aware that events in our local community, in the land of Israel, in Albany, Washington, and around the world are of significant and urgent concern to many members of our community..

With all of this in the air and more, we may be tempted to not give Passover the attention it is due. However, our foundational festival of freedom offers us precisely the spiritual sustenance we need in these times. On Passover, even as we eat simple bread (Matzah that is called the bread of affliction), we taste the feeling of redemption. On Passover, we are commanded to hold two poles together at once: the reality of our unredeemed world and the reality of our freedom.

This Passover, there will be several special meaningful opportunities to celebrate in community! Over the first days of Passover, we will welcome a visiting Rabbi Deborah Anstandig to read Torah and offer sermons while I am celebrating the first days of Pesach with Rav Talia in Ithaca. During the intermediate days of Passover, we will gather in-person and online to pray, sing, and study together. During the final days of Passover, we will put to use new melodies we learned from our Artist in Residence Zach Mayer as we sing Hallel and then we will remember our loved ones passed on as we recite Yizkor on April 20th.

Please, join us for as many of these opportunities to come together in community over Passover, to celebrate our liberation and to pray for complete freedom for all! If you need a place to go for Seder or have an open seat at your seder, please be in touch with me so I can make pairings. Finally, if you are unable to physically remove all the Chametz from your home, please authorize me to sell your Chametz to a non-Jew on your behalf.

May this Pesach bring the beginning of our Geulah Shleimah, our complete redemption, may we each see ourselves as becoming more free together, and may we make room in our hearts for the abiding brokenness of our world even as we prepare for our great festival!

Chag Pesach Sameach v'Kasher! Wishing you a happy and kosher Passover!



Dear Members and friends of Temple Israel,

Letter from the President

First, I want to acknowledge each of you who expressed your condolences to Suzanne and me and our family on the loss of my father, George H. Siegel. Dad was a wonderful mentor and friend, and he and my mother were generous supporters of Temple Israel and active members of our community. Dad was very much at home in Temple Israel services, connected often via zoom, and used our accessible bimah to good effect whenever he visited in recent years. He chanted his Bar Mitzvah haftorah on the 80th anniversary of that event, and was honored with an aliyah just last Pesach at age 97. We were most gratified by the warmth of community support that we felt at the shivah in our home. We truly are a community that cares for one another, and we all benefit.

Sadly, our synagogue family and the greater community has also been rocked by several other losses of stalwart pillars in the past few weeks. Former leaders of Temple Israel - Hersch S. Rozen and Jeffrey B. Shapiro - passed away, and their

voices and diverse perspectives will be sorely missed. May their memories, along with those of others we have recently lost, be for a blessing, and an inspiration to the rest of us to do our part to support the institution we hold dear.

Kudos to Rabbi Friedman and all the volunteers who made our first Artist-in-Residence Weekend a joyous musical and spiritual event. Backed by local musicians, Zach Mayer demonstrated virtuosity and versatility, leading us in vibrant song and inspirational prayer throughout the weekend. The Megillah Reading and Kabbalat Shabbat service were the most entertaining and meaningful Purim celebration we have held at our synagogue in many years, and the full house of costumed participants really enjoyed it. The rest of the weekend activities were each special and rewarding - Shabbat Morning Services with special Kiddush, Havdallah service and Participatory Concert Saturday Evening, and the Sunday Morning Harmony Workshop were all well-attended and well-appreciated. We are already thinking about how we can follow that act - your ideas are welcome!

Passover is coming soon, and we need your support. Several of our regulars will be traveling and unavailable at our Shabbat and Holiday services. If you will be in town and can participate in our services, please make every effort to attend, and so indicate by responding to our on-line survey. It will be very helpful to our hard-working Ritual Committee, who are organizing the services. Please watch email closely for schedule changes around these services in case we need to adapt. Whether you are traveling or at home, whether your seder is a big boisterous banquet or a quiet reflective repast, I wish each of you a zissen Pesach - a sweet holiday celebration.

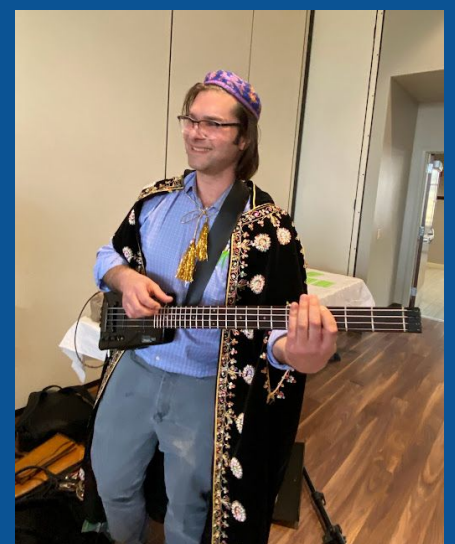
In stunning contrast, we note with sadness that the conflicts in Europe and the Middle East continue to boil, with loss of life and humanitarian crises worsening by the day. Strife and polarization at home and abroad are equally distressing. It is my hope that our synagogue may serve as a refuge for all, a safe space for members to seek and share comfort.

Spring finally seems to have broken through the chill, so come on out and join us at Temple Israel services soon!

Zissen Pesach to all,
Art

Arthur B. Siegel
President, Temple Israel

Artist-in-Residence Purim Weekend



Artist-in-Residence Purim Weekend



		April 2025				
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 Birthday of Josh Hubal minyan 5:30pm Rabbi on vacation	2 Hebrew School 4:15-6pm	3 Birthday of Zev Rosales	4 Erev Shabbat svcs 5:30pm candle 7:15pm	5 Birthday of Naoma Feld Beverly Rozen Heidi Thirer Svcs 9:30am Havdalah 8:30pm
6 Birthday of Ben Kasper	7	8 minyan 5:30pm	9 Birthday of Joan Jacobson	10 Birthday of Elissa Brown	11 Birthday of Nancy Basmann Aviva Kaminsky Alice Kweller Andre Rosales Lawrence Wiesner NO Erev Shabbat svcs 5:30pm candle 7:23pm	12 Erev Passover Birthday of William Weissberg Shabbat svcs 9:30am NO Havdalah
13 PASSEVER 1 Service 10:30am Birthday of Richard Kostick	14 PASSEVER 2 Office closed Birthday of Jordyn Goldberg Anniversary of Mel & Myrna Dubofsky	15 Birthday of Stuart Rouff Office closed minyan 5:30pm BOT meeting 7pm	16 Ritual Committee mtg 10:30am	17 Birthday of Amanda Cronk	18 Birthday of Julie Piaker svcs 5:30pm candle 7:31pm	19 PASSEVER 7 Shabbat svcs 9:30am Havdalah 8:45pm
20 PASSEVER 8 Birthday of Don Zelter	21 Birthday of Jeff Greenblott Rabbi Shmaryahu Howard Warner	22 Birthday of Michelle Green minyan 5:30pm	23 Birthday of Ezra Gindi Hebrew School 4:15-6pm	24	25 Birthday of Bonnie Brown Jeff Feinberg Rochelle Goldberg Erev Shabbat svcs 5:30pm candle 7:39pm	26 Birthday of Isaac Green Shabbat svcs 9:30am Havdalah 8:45pm
27 Birthday of Mark Hubal Adult Ed @ TC 10:00am	28 Birthday of Celia Klin Dan Miller	29 minyan 5:30pm	30 Anniversary of Jim & Jennifer Schutzer Hebrew School 4:15-6pm			

Contributions

General Fund

In memory of...

Deborah Zapotocky by Alan & Julie Piaker, Larry & Kathy Hurwitz, Len & Naoma Feld, Lynne Green, Don & Barbara Zelter, Arie Ullmann & Rhonda Levine, Marcia Hofstein, Roy & Sandra Paston, Rita & Larry Bleier, Arthur & Suzanne Siegel, Pepi & Kim Levene, Charles & Susan Gilinsky
Jeffrey Shapiro by Al Lavker, Lynne, Jay, Brett & the Green Family, Larry & Kathy Hurwitz, Tracey & Jonathan Weiss, Len & Naoma Feld, Jerry & Phyllis Heller, Alan & Julie Piaker, Dan & Mimi Bartschi, Ilene Pinsker & Ron Sacks, Lori, Bob, Jared & Lindsey Schapiro, Arthur & Suzanne Siegel, Ben & Susan Kasper, Arie Ullmann & Rhonda Levine, Dorie & Damian Osisek, Beverly Rozen, Mark & Shelley Hubal, Don & Barbara Zelter, Joel & Heidi Thirer, Barbara & Les Bank, Larry & Rita Bleier
Hersh Rozen by Alan & Julie Piaker, Steven Gilbert, Larry & Kathy Hurwitz, Walter Jacobson & Joan Rozen-Jacobson, Jerry & Phyllis Heller, Charles & Susan Gilinsky, Lynne, Jay & Brett Green, Michael & Wendy Wolff, Lori, Bob, Jared & Lindsey Schapiro, Howard & Bonnie Brown, Bob Rosenbaum, Etty Ya'akov & Family, Ben & Susan Kasper, Jeffrey & Carolyn Schapiro, Hollie Levine, Arie Ullmann & Rhonda Levine, Arthur & Suzanne Siegel, Dan & Mimi Bartschi, Fred & Sandra Weitsman, Al Lavker, Shirley, Edwin, Shari & Mark Bronsky, Marilyn Livsky, Louise Sheiman, Dorie & Damian Osisek, David & Rivka Channin, Helene Philips, Sue Austenfeld, Jean-Pierre & Susan (Burke) Aglietti,

Hersh Rozen continued

Robin & Don Haas, Marilyn Bell, Marcy Cohen, Ann Spitz & Charlie Pladek, Ruth Shapiro, Mark & Shelley Hubal, Don & Barbara Zelter, Joel & Heidi Thirer, Gary & Vicki Rothman, Fran Goldman, Merri Pell-Preus & Tony Preus, Robin & Jeff Greenblott, Myra & Irving Memis, Keith & Donna Nelson, Gerald & Susan Hubal & Friends of Hersh, Barbara & Les Bank
George Siegel by Lynne Green, Marilyn Bell, The Gould-Citrome Family, Bonnie & Howard Brown, Donna Foster, Ann Spitz & Charlie Pladek, Marcy Cohen, Anonymous, Larry & Kathy Hurwitz, Alan & Julie Piaker, Fred & Sandra Weitsman, Mark & Shelley Hubal, Don & Barbara Zelter, Ilene Pinsker & Ron Sacks, Charles & Susan Gilinsky, Merri Pell-Preus & Tony Preus, Wendy & Michael Wolff, Mimi & Dan Bartschi, Sue Austenfeld, Marcella Attanasie, Larry & Rita Bleier, Steve Gilbert, David & Rivka Channin, Robin & Jeff Greenblott
Fern Sternberg by David & Ofelia Goldstein, Ina Bellis
Sylvia Horowitz by Luanne Yancey

For the Yahrzeit of...
Norman Kline by Herbert Kline
Rhoda Seidel by Joseph & Fran Newmark
Anna Berger by Roy & Sandra Paston
Beatrice Weissman by Roy & Sandra Paston
Robert Greenblott by Robin, Jeff, Adam, Elana and Cookie Greenblott

Barbara Bograd by Marilyn Bell
Nathan Goldstein by David, Mark, Cindy & Rachel Goldstein
Stephen Meltzer by Shelley & Mark Hubal
Zelda Lowy by Ann Spitz & Charlie Pladek

Wishing good health to...

Jim Mason by Roy & Sandra Paston
Hersh Rozen by Roy & Sandra Paston
Ann Spitz by Roy & Sandra Paston

In appreciation of...

Roy Paston for all his tech support on Shabbat and the Holiday services by Arie Ullmann & Rhonda Levine

In honor of...

Alan Lerman on the publishing of his new book *Black Mossad* by Roy & Sandra Paston
Rabbi Friedman's birthday by Charles & Susan Gilinsky

Landscaping Fund

In memory of...

Deborah Zapotocky by Arlene Osber, Hersh & Beverly Rozen
Jeff Shapiro by Jim & Jennifer Schutzer, Louis & Maxine Rosenberg
Hersh Rozen by Arlene Osber & Family, Beverly & Jim Novak, Ann Cohen, Jim & Jennifer Schutzer, Louis & Maxine Rosenberg
George Siegel by Arlene Osber, Jim & Jennifer Schutzer, Beverly Rozen

Contributions

Landscaping continued

For the Yahrzeit of...

Barbara Blazar by Jim & Jennifer Schutzer

Burt Blazar by Jim & Jennifer Schutzer

Neil Gabay by Sima & Neil Auerbach

Cemetery Fund

For the Yahrzeit of...

Hannah Goldman by Philip Goodman

Lillian Goodman by Philip Goodman

Norman Pearlman by Nan Pearlman

Children's Library

For the Yahrzeit of...

Edward Bittman by Nancy Bittman

Clergy Sustaining Fund

For the Yahrzeit of...

Elizabeth Spitz by Ann Spitz & Charlie Pladek

Jeremy Ullmann by Arie Ullmann & Rhonda Levine

Thank you to...

Rabbi Friedman for the ongoing support & prayers for Deborah Zapotocky while she was in palliative care by Myrna Dubofsky

Kiddush Fund

In honor of...

Larry & Kathy Hurwitz for all they do for Temple Israel by Arie Ullmann & Rhonda Levine

Mitzvah Corps

Thank you to...

Bonnie Brown, Rita Bleier & Richard Schneier for providing the meal of consolation after Deborah Zapotocky's funeral by Myrna Dubofsky

For the Yahrzeit of...

Donald Bronsky by Peter Bronsky, John Frazier

Leon Weisslender by Ruth Shapiro

In memory of...

Jeffrey Shapiro by Michael Shapiro, Rose Shapiro & Eric Rouse

In memory of...

Hersh Rozen by Ruth Shapiro, Debra Martinez

Bernie Shifrin Music Fund

In memory of...

Deborah Zapotocky by Al Lavker, Marcy Cohen, Louis & Maxine Rosenberg

Hersh Rozen by Mel & Myrna Dubofsky

In honor of...

Arthur Siegel for the many kindnesses he showed the Dubofsky & Zapotocky families by Myrna Dubofsky
The birth of Irina Orlovskaja & Leon Vainer's grandson Hudson by Myrna Dubofsky

Rabbi Sustaining Fund

In memory of...

George Siegel by Mike & Madeline Azersky

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

A Heartfelt Thank you to...

Rabbi Friedman for the consolation given to the Dubofsky & Zapotocky families on the passing of Deborah Zapotocky by Myrna Dubofsky

Wishing good health to...

Jim Mason by Judy & Irwin Simon

Sandra Weitsman by Judy & Irwin Simon

In memory of...

Deborah Zapotocky by Judy & Irwin Simon, Lewis & Jean Hecht

Jeff Shapiro by Judy & Irwin Simon

Hersh Rozen by Judy & Irwin Simon

For the Yahrzeit of...

Walter Ullmann by Arie Ullmann & Rhonda Levine
Hirschel Kasper by Ben & Susan Kasper

Germaine Rosenberg by Rolph Rosenberg

In appreciation of...

Rabbi Friedman by Steve & Sandra Malkin

Adult Library

In memory of...

George Siegel by Anne Cohen

VINES Garden Fund

For the Yahrzeit of...

Clara Krassin by Terry Shelley - Krassin

Congregational News

Condolences to:

Ruth Shapiro and Family on the passing of Jeffrey Shapiro

Beverly Rozen and Family on the passing of Hersh Rozen

Arthur & Suzanne Siegel and Family on the passing of George Siegel

Wishing Good Health to:

**Jim Mason, Marcia Brown, Ann Spitz, Susan Gilinsky, Marcia Hofstein,
Laurence Wyman, Sandra Weitsman**

Congratulations to our March lottery Fundraiser winner:

Ina Bellis

Thank You to all our Purim Artist-in-Residence Sponsors

**Suzanne Austenfeld
Michael & Madeline Azersky
Nancy Basmann
Howard & Bonnie Brown
David & Rivka Channin
David & Virginia Eisenberg Fund
Steven Gilbert
Charles & Susan Gilinsky
Lynne Green
Jeffrey & Robin Greenblott
Marcia Hofstein
Mark & Shelley Hubal
Larry & Kathy Hurwitz
Jewish Federation of Broome County
Sue Krause, Celia & Sophia Klin**

**Hollie Levine
Steven & Sandra Malkin
Damian & Dorie Osisek
Merri Pell-Preus & Tony Preus
Alan & Julie Piaker
Hersh & Beverly Rozen
Richard Schneierson
Howard Schwartz & Carol Herz
Amy Shapiro
Arthur & Suzanne Siegel
Arieh Ullmann & Rhonda Levine
Mark & Susan Walker
Howard & Betty Warner
Michael & Wendy Wolff
Don & Barbara Zelter**

April 1 - 6
Nissan 4 - 8

Norman Kline* observed by *Herbert Kline*
Sandra Perl Gladstone* observed by *Beverly Rozen*
Silvio Ghianda observed by *Darlene Weber*
Elizabeth Rappaport* observed by *Harry Rappaport*
Leon Weisslender observed by *Ruth Shapiro*
Mark Balin observed by *Florence Balin*
Steven Bleier observed by *Larry Bleier*
Greta Herz* observed by *Carol Herz*
Rae Levine observed by *Rhonda Levine*
Richard Mendelson observed by *Sue Austenfeld*
Lilly Ullmann observed by *Arieh Ullmann*
Lillian Jacobson observed by *Bonnie Brown*

April 7 - 13
Nissan 9 - 15

Gregorita Martinez observed by *Debra Martinez, Michael Martinez*
Robert Basmann observed by *Nancy Basmann*
Nathan Dumoff observed by *Lynn Dumoff*
Zelda Lowy observed by *Ann Spitz*
Anna B. Stein observed by *David Weintraub*
Michele Turnbull* observed by *Tony Turnbull*
Harriet Greenberg* observed by *Arthur Siegel*
Evelyn Kaplan observed by *Phyllis Heller*
Sidney Epstein* observed by *Marvin Easton*
Julius Lipetz observed by *Cookie Greenblott*

April 14 - 24
Nissan 17 - 26

Morton Brown observed by *Howard Brown*
Sarah Flaggman observed by *Marcia Brown*
Rosanne Rubinstein observed by *Dorie Osisek*
Moir Shirvan* observed by *Jeremy Shirvan*
Stephen Meltzer observed by *Shelley Hubal*
Alice Richman* observed by *Karen Maddalone*
Jerome Seidel observed by *Fran Newmark*
Natalie Grumet observed by *Lori Schapiro*
Sarah Bronsky* observed by *Shirley Bronsky*
Esther Marcovski Channin observed by *David Channin*
Bob Tobias observed by *Andrea Tobias Kostick*
Harry Wische observed by *Elliot Brodsky*
Anna Kurson* observed by *Sandra Paston*
Marjorie Weiss* observed by *Jonathan Weiss*

April 25 - 30
Nissan 27 - Iyar 2

Joseph Barham observed by *Temple Israel*
William Joseph Sorkin observed by *Sharon Sorkin*
Sylvia Mirvis* observed by *Robin Greenblott*
Samuel L. Kasper observed by *Ben Kasper*
Dr. Albert Shulman* observed by *Gail Shulman*
Shepard Warner* observed by *Howard Warner*
Florence Wulwick observed by *Nancy Basmann*
Anne Brown observed by *Howard Brown*
Donald Roberts observed by *Barbara Roberts*
Michael Wiesner observed by *Lawrence Wiesner, Chereese Rosales*

The Caring Community

Please inform the Rabbi: If your health condition changes, you undergo a medical procedure, are hospitalized, you move to an assisted living facility or rehab, or if you are aware of anyone in our congregation who needs attention.

If you wish to recite Mourner's Kaddish during a weekday service, other than Tuesday or Friday, please contact the Temple Israel office. A notice will be sent to the congregation to make up a Minyan. It would be helpful if you contact us two weeks prior to the date.