

# January 2025 Bulletin



4737 Deerfield Place  
Vestal, NY 13850  
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TempleIsraelVestal.org

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For the Yahrzeit of Bert Rosenbaum by *Scott, Lenny, Bob & Suzanne Rosenbaum*

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For the Yahrzeit of Shirley Greenhouse Cohen by *Ann Cohen*

In memory of Stanley Gilinsky by *Steven Gilbert*

For the Yahrzeit of Hannah Braslow Pell by *Merri Pell-Preus & Tony Preus*

For the Yahrzeits of Marlene, Gussie and Michael Mendelson by *Suzanne Austenfeld*

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### TC/TI Adult Education Program

Sunday January 12 at Temple Israel

"The Transformation of the Marriage Market  
in the Eastern Sephardi Diaspora"

The Adult Education Committee of Temple Concord and Temple Israel will hold a program and brunch on Sunday January 12, from 10am-noon at Temple Israel, 4737 Deerfield Pl, Vestal. Professor Dina Danon will speak on the transformation of the Jewish marriage market in the Ladino-speaking diaspora during the modern age. Her talk will provide an overview of the traditional marriage market and discuss the various ways in which it changed in the late Ottoman period (late 19th and early 20th centuries), focusing specifically on forms of bridal capital such as dowries and trousseaux. Danon's talk will draw on the research she conducted last academic year at the National Library of Israel and the Ben Zvi Institute in Jerusalem and will showcase Ladino-language sources such as matchmaking registers, trousseau inventories, and press articles.

The entire community is welcome to attend what promises to be an informative and most-interesting program. There is a suggested donation of between \$5-20 per person. For more information and to RSVP, contact Temple Israel at 607 723-7461, e-mail: [office@templeisraelvestal.org](mailto:office@templeisraelvestal.org) or Temple Concord at 607 723-7355 by January 3, so enough refreshments can be prepared.



## Letter from the Rabbi:

Hodesh Tov and happy new year! Once again we welcome a new secular month along with a new Hebrew month: Tevet. Tevet is the only month that begins in the middle of an ongoing festival: Hanukkah. This season, my hope for us all is that the light in our lives will continue to increase like the lights of the hanukkiyah, even as we bid our festival farewell until next year.

For Temple Israel, the month of December was full of a number of great events! On the first Shabbat of December, we piloted a new program: Kabbalat Shabbat and Dinner for children and young families and more than 60 people came together for a joyous celebration of Shabbat! We are looking forward to another such program soon, most likely in February. Thanks to all who helped to make the event happen!

Special events at TI in December also included Hanukkah celebrations, over Shabbat and on New Years Eve when about 30 of us came together to light the menorah, daven, and enjoy latkes in each others company. Before Hanukkah began, we the TI/TC Adult Ed committee organized an event where I presented two modern Midrashim written by Israeli women from Gaza envelope communities in the immediate aftermath of 10/7. The program offered a valuable space for substantive conversation about challenging questions of theology and politics in our time. Sadly, we find ourselves continuing to need to pray for the swift emergence of peace in the land of Israel and for the safe return of all the hostages and exiles.

We can look forward to new learning opportunities in our community in January! The next program of the TI/TC Adult Ed committee will be at TI on 1/12 as we learn from TI member as Binghamton Jewish Studies professor Dina Danon about her current research on the Eastern Sephardi Diaspora. On Tuesday afternoons, I will continue to facilitate space for learning and conversation before our weekly minyan. However, I will shift the focus to "Torah in Our Times." Each week, we will put a Torah passage or teaching into conversation with a current issue that is claiming attention in the news and on our hearts. If you have an issue or topic you would like to explore with others, please share it with me so that I can prepare some appropriate Torah sources for that topic.

Also in regards to learning, our newly revised Hebrew school program will begin weekly classes again on 1/22! We will gladly welcome any children who would like to join what is both a fun and educational environment! Adults who are interested in helping with instruction or organizational efforts are equally sought after!

I hope we can continue to gather together in community often in this new secular year and to be together in both sad times and joyous occasions! Please, be in touch with me if you are going through something and would like rabbinic pastoral support.

L'shalom



## Letter from the President

Dear Members and friends of Temple Israel,

*Nays Gadol Hayah Sham* - A Great Miracle Happened There! The four Hebrew letters on the dreidel (Nun, Gimel, Hay, and Shin) serve as a mnemonic to recall our antecedents' triumph over the Syrian Greek invaders in our homeland, and the miraculous long-lasting lamp oil. As we celebrate Chanukkah and spin the dreidel, we hope that it lands on the letter *Shin*, and we can claim the pot. Even *Hay* would be okay, as we would win half the pot.

While we usually only play dreidel for a week, our Temple Israel Lottery Fundraiser offers hundreds of chances to win - six days a week all year long! TI Lottery tickets only cost \$25 each, and if the number you choose is selected in the NY State Lottery, you win! These make great gifts, and it has been an effective fundraiser for our synagogue, as well.

As you know, dreidels in Jerusalem are engraved with different letters (*Nun, Gimel, Hay, and Pay*) representing the sentence: *Nays Gadol Hayah Po* - A Great Miracle Happened HERE! This reminds me of the great miracle that happened here in Vestal a decade ago. Our Temple building collapsed, and miraculously, no one was injured. As a further miracle, we were able to rebuild and reconsecrate our own synagogue. With the support of each and every one of you, we have been able to pray, study, and enjoy this institution, carrying on the traditions of our ancestors in a modern, egalitarian manner.

Your continued financial support and personal participation are essential to keep this miracle alive. I remind you that Annual Dues are due in full by the end of December. Please also consider celebrating a simcha with an engraved leaf, or memorializing a loved one with a yahrzeit plaque, or donating to any one of our various funds.

In 2025, under the leadership of Rabbi Friedman, we are planning numerous opportunities to fulfill your needs. After a busy December, 2025 is off to a great start with a stimulating Adult Ed program on January 12th featuring Professor Dina Danon, and planning is underway for an exciting Musician-in-Residence Weekend with Zach Mayer in March. Your participation and program ideas are most welcome.

A number of our regulars are away during the Winter months, so your participation in our Tuesday, Friday, and Saturday services (in-person or on zoom) is greatly appreciated. Come on in from the cold and enjoy the warmth of our services and programs. We look forward to seeing you.

Best wishes for a healthy and fulfilling 2025,

Art

Arthur B. Siegel  
President, Temple Israel

		<b>January 2025</b>				
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Monday</b>	<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Friday</b>	<b>Saturday</b>
			1 New Years Day Office Closed	2	3 Erev Shabbat svcs 5:30pm Light candle 4:27pm	4 Shabbat services 9:30am Havdalah 5:45pm
5	6	7 minyan 5:30pm Executive Board meeting 7pm	8 Hebrew School 4-6pm	9	10 Erev Shabbat svcs 5:30pm Light candle 4:34pm	11 Shabbat services 9:30am Havdalah 5:45pm
12 Adult Ed Program at TI 10am-12pm	13	14 minyan 5:30pm	15 Ritual Committee mtg 10:00am Hebrew School 4-6pm	16	17 Erev Shabbat svcs 5:30pm Light candle 4:42pm	18 Shabbat services 9:30am Havdalah 6:00pm
19	20 MLK Day Office closed	21 minyan 5:30pm Board of Trustees meeting 7pm	22 Hebrew School 4-6pm	23	24 Erev Shabbat svcs 5:30pm Light candle 4:41pm	25 Shabbat services 9:30am Havdalah 6:00pm
26	27	28 minyan 5:30pm	29 Hebrew School 4-6pm	30	31 Erev Shabbat svcs 5:30pm Light candle 5:00pm	

## General Fund

### **For the Yahrzeit of...**

**Dr. Irving Licker** by Charles & Susan Gilinsky

**Jeanne Stearns** by Charles & Susan Gilinsky

**Charles Baken** by Cookie Greenblott

**Ludwika Horowitz** by Ilana Segal

**Rose Guter** by Marvin & Barbara Guter

**Patti Lapidus** by Cookie, Robin & Jeff Greenblott

**Beulah Riger** by Janet & Harvey Levine

### **In honor of...**

**Howard Warner's Bar Mitzvah anniversary** by Mark & Shelley Hubal

### **In memory of...**

**Marilyn Aigen** by Jim Mason & Carol Engel-Mason

**Stanley Gilinsky** by Madeline Miller, Bonnie & Howard Brown, Marcy Cohen, Fran Goldman, Len & Naoma Feld, Anonymous, Jim & Beverly Novak, Alan & Julie Piaker, Ann Spitz & Charlie Pladek, Marcia Hofstein, Francine Stein, Howard Temkin & Barbara Koren, Arieh Ullmann & Rhonda Levine, Lynne Green, Ben & Susan Kasper, Laura Varsik, Robin Mower, Marilyn Bell, Jeffrey & Tina Feinberg, Orion Realty, Donald Perl, Kim & Pepe Levene

**Mathew Epstein** by Len & Naoma Feld, Jim & Beverly Novak, Alan & Julie Piaker, Marcia Hofstein

**Jeremy Ullmann** by Nancy Basmann

**Maida Piaker** by Steven & David Piaker and families

### **Wishing good Health to...**

**Louis Rosenberg** by Fred & Sandra Weitsman, Anonymous

**Hersh Rozen** by Len & Naoma Feld, Jim & Beverly Novak, Fred & Sandra Weitsman, Anonymous

**Steve Gilbert** by Ann Spitz & Charlie Pladek

### Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

**A donation by Marcia Zalbowitz**

## **Contributions**

### **For the Yahrzeit of...**

**Cantor Daniel Gildar** by Roy & Sandra Paston

**Ada Rouff** by Stuart & Vicki Rouff

### **In memory of...**

**Stanley Gilinsky** by Judy & Irwin Simon

**Mathew Epstein** by Judy & Irwin Simon

### **In honor of...**

**Rabbi Friedman for the successful Young Family Shabbat event** by Arieh Ullmann & Rhonda Levine

### Hebrew School Fund

### **For the Yahrzeit of...**

**Howard Engel** by Jim Mason & Carol Engel-Mason

### Kiddush Fund

### **For the Yahrzeit of...**

**Howard Engel** by Jim Mason & Carol Engel-Mason

**Alfred Hurwitz** by Larry & Kathy Hurwitz

**Lillian Zelter** by Don & Barbara Zelter

**Jack Zelter** by Don & Barbara Zelter

### **In memory of...**

**Stanley Gilinsky** by Larry & Kathy Hurwitz, Debra Martinez

**Mathew Epstein** by Larry & Kathy Hurwitz

### Landscaping Fund

### **In memory of...**

**Stanley Gilinsky** by Al Lavker, Hersh & Beverly Rozen, Louis & Maxine Rosenberg, Steve & Sandra Malkin

**Mathew Epstein** by Al Lavker, Louis & Maxine Rosenberg

### **In honor of...**

**Matty Epstein** by The Osber and Gingold Families

### **Wishing Good Health to...**

**Hersh Rozen** by Louis & Maxine Rosenberg

### Mitzvah Corps

### **For the Yahrzeit of...**

**Howard Engel** by Jim Mason & Carol Engel-Mason

**Ada Rouff** by Linda & Gerald Rosenbaum

### **In memory of...**

**Stanley Gilinsky** by Stuart & Vicki Rouff

### **In honor of...**

**Philip Goodman for his loyal service as our Gabbai** by Arieh Ullmann & Rhonda Levine

### VINES Garden

**A donation by Eve Berman**

### **For the Yahrzeit of...**

**Howard Engel** by Jim Mason & Carol Engel-Mason

### Bernie Shifrin Fund

### **In memory of...**

**Stanley Gilinsky** by Mel & Myrna Dubofsky

**Mathew Epstein** by Mel & Myrna Dubofsky

### Adult Library

### **In memory of...**

**Stanley Gilinsky** by Ann Cohen

### **In honor of...**

**George Siegel's 98th birthday** by Ann Cohen

### **For the Yahrzeit of...**

**Joseph Marcal** by Debra Martinez

### Cemetery Fund

### **For the Yahrzeit of...**

**Morris Goodman** by Philip Goodman

**Hyman Goldman** by Philip Goodman

## Congregational News

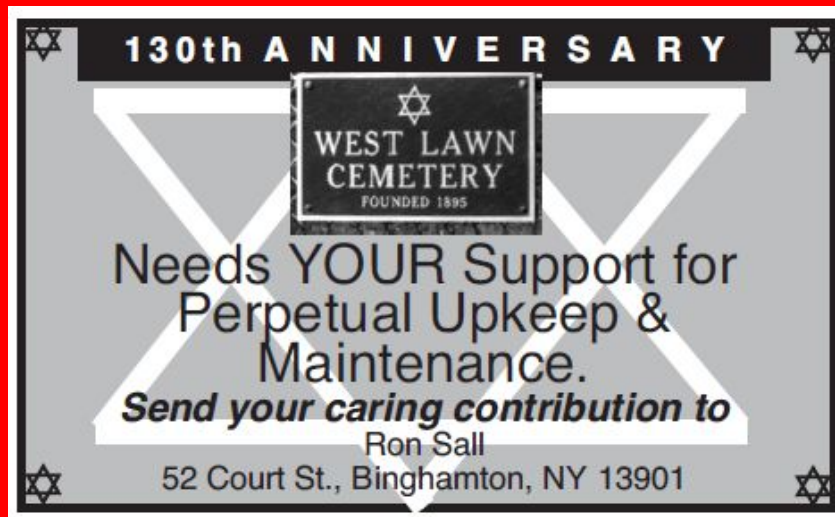
### *Condolences to:*

**Charles & Susan Gilinsky and family on the passing of Stanley Gilinsky**

**Arlene Osber and the Epstein family of the passing of Matthew Epstein**

### *Get Well wishes to:*

**Marcia Brown, Stephanie Horowitz, Jeff Shapiro, Susan Gilinsky,  
Marcia Hofstein, Ann Spitz, Mel Dubofsky, Laurence Wyman,  
Hersh Rozen, Jim Mason**



### **Congratulations to our December Lottery Fundraiser winner:**

**Suzanne Austenfeld**

### **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.**

# JANUARY 2025 YAHRZEITS

## January 1 - 8

**Joseph Marcal\*** observed by *Debra Martinez, Michael Martinez*

**Gertrude Meltzer** observed by *Don Zelter*

**Martha Bauman** observed by *David Tanenhaus*

**Morris Goodman\*** observed by *Philip Goodman*

**Patti Baken Lapidus** observed by *Cookie Greenblott*

**Sanford J. Siegel\*** observed by *Arthur Siegel, George Siegel*

**Howard Engel\*** observed by *Carol Engel Mason*

**Edith Krasnow\*** observed by *Arthur Siegel, George Siegel*

**Norman Sall\*** observed by *Larry Sall*

**Lillian Cohen\*** observed by *Marcy Cohen*

**Dr. Irving Licker** observed by *Susan Gilinsky*

**Andrew Mark Krasnow\*** observed by *Arthur Siegel, George Siegel*

**Anita Foster\*** observed by *Arthur Siegel, George Siegel*

## January 9 - 16

**Thomas Davis\*** observed by *Larry Davis*

**Lena Savitch\*** observed by *Brian Savitch*

**Gertrude Weiss\*** observed by *Robert Weiss*

**Shirley Cohen\*** observed by *Ann Cohen*

**Lana Kaufman-Franklin** observed by *Florence Balin*

**Sylvia Rozen\*** observed by *Hersh Rozen*

**Michele Slotnick\*** observed by *Lynn Dumoff*

**Rose Manasse** observed by *Matthew Manasse*

**Bert Rosenbaum** observed by *Bob Rosenbaum, Scott Rosenbaum*

**Belle Rosengarden** observed by *Marsha Grass*

**Ciorna Rubin** observed by *Hyman Rubin*

**Morris Brown** observed by *Marcia Brown*

**Lena Herz\*** observed by *Carol Herz*

**Abraham Miller** observed by *Madeline Miller*

## January 17 - 23

**Leoni Schoemann** observed by *Jane Maas*

**Sylvia Weber\*** observed by *William Weber*

**Sharon Whitbeck** observed by *Hollie Levine*

**Goldie Hurwitz** observed by *Larry Hurwitz*

**Maida Piaker** observed by *Steven Piaker, David Piaker*

**Samuel Riger\*** observed by *Janet Levine*

**Jean Stearns\*** observed by *Charles Gilinsky*

**Lee Korn** observed by *Tony Turnbull*

**Maxine Bertin** observed by *Dick Lewis*

**Martin Bleier\*** observed by *Larry Bleier*

**H. Joseph Goldman** observed by *Fran Goldman*

**Charles Rozen\*** observed by *Hersh Rozen*

**Carl Hurwitz** observed by *Larry Hurwitz*

**Nora Herz\*** observed by *Carol Herz*

**Hannah Ruth Pell** observed by *Merri Pell-Preus*

**Narola Rosenberg** observed by *Louis & Maxine Rosenberg, Rolph Rosenberg*

**Gail Weinberg** observed by *Sandy Foreman*

## January 24 - 31

**Bernard Bograd** observed by *Marilyn Bell*

**Elaine Lewis\*** observed by *Dick Lewis*

**Brian Rapp** observed by *Barbara Roberts*

**Julius Azersky\*** observed by *Michael Azersky*

**Isaac Benensohn** observed by *David Weintraub*

**Chuck Schweiger \*** observed by *Arlene Osber*

**Samuel Wexler** observed by *Myrna Dubofsky*

**Sylvia Azersky** observed by *Michael Azersky*

**Hyman Thirer** observed by *Joel Thirer*

**Billie Gilbert\*** observed by *Steve Gilbert*

**David Shapiro\*** observed by *Sandra Shapiro*

**Ann Stahler** observed by *Lynn Dumoff*

**Gertrude Berman** observed by *Brenda Margolis*

**Anna Cohen\*** observed by *Ann Cohen*

**Steven Rappaport** observed by *Denise Friedrich, Mike Azersky*

**Yedda Tanenhaus** observed by *David Tanenhaus*

An asterisk(\*) indicates that the name has a memorial plaque in the Sanctuary.

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.