

# The Chronicle

The "Green" Issue

Congregation Neveh Shalom  
No.3 January - February 2016



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one chicken, bike, and  
hike at a time p.6

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to Vietnam p.13

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# The Ecology of Community

## Rabbi David Kosak

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Tu B'Shvat this year begins Sunday night, January 24th. According to our early sources, it is the new year of the trees and was used to determine certain types of agricultural taxes. Like many other Jewish holidays, later meanings and associations have been connected to it. In Israel and the United States, for example, it has become something of an Earth Day. This addition of the Chronicle is thus devoted in large measure to things green, and I am sure you will find many valuable and interesting articles in these pages. For my part, I want to share two very short stories (or sayings) that illustrate how our ancestors viewed the web of life, and the lessons those vignettes teach us about human community.

### Story One

Rabbi Yochanan taught: If the Torah had not been given, we could have learned modesty from the cat, honest labor from the ant, marital fidelity from the dove, and good manners from the rooster (Talmud: Eruvin 100b)

### Story Two

The Torah states "everything God had made," is good, without qualification. Even snakes, scorpions, and insects, even things that seem to be destructive, are included in the Torah's statement that God's creation is "very good." For they, too, serve God. (Zohar III: Emor, 107a)

While the Jewish tradition has many texts that speak clearly and directly about environmental law and responsibility, including air pollution and water use, these stories present us with an image of nature in which all parts of life are communicating with one another and are interconnected in ways that are at first hard to grasp. Animals can teach us how to behave, and we are reminded that everyone and everything has a purpose and is thus deserving of respect. Each living being communicates, teaches and impacts every other part of life.

I think our age struggles with this. There is an ecology to human communities and we all would do well to pay closer attention to this spiritual truth. The way we talk and act to those around us—whether they have more power or less than we do—will end up reverberating and producing unexpected outcomes throughout all of society.

One area where our society stumbles to express these values is in our consumer culture. We have all seen people humiliate waiters or scream at office clerks. We tend to demean our



teachers without gathering facts. We send blistering emails in which we assume the other person is wrong, rather than engaging them in conversation. In each of these cases, we imagine that we have more power or righteousness than the other party, and abuse them because it feels safe to do so. We pretend that these behaviors won't come back to haunt us, and that they are not toxic. But they do and they are. They undermine the sense of responsibility, mutuality and decency that are bedrock values of civil society. They sully the body politic.

The Torah tells us in many places that human immorality pollutes the land. For a long time, I couldn't wrap my head around those statements, or imagined they demonstrated bad scientific thinking. As my own environmental awareness has grown, I have come to appreciate the depth and sensitivity that the Torah displays in this regard. As this Tu B'Shvat rolls around, I'm dwelling on the environmental impact of my moral footprint.

*L'Chaim!*

The Board of Directors of  
Congregation Neveh Shalom  
requests the honour of your presence at

the Formal Installation of

*Rabbi David Kosak*

as Senior Rabbi of  
Congregation Neveh Shalom

Sunday, the tenth of January  
two thousand sixteen  
at three o'clock in the afternoon  
Congregation Neveh Shalom  
Main Sanctuary

*Reception to follow*

**RSVP:**  
[tinyurl.com/kosakservice](http://tinyurl.com/kosakservice)  
or main office, 503 246-8831

## President's Corner

Rich Meyer

*"We never could design a building as beautiful as the trees."*

Pietro Belluschi, inscribed on a park bench in Forest Park



One of my favorite places in Portland is Forest Park. I have spent many hours walking and running on its trails, observing the trees and wildlife, and feeling fortunate to live near such an inspirational place. Part of my appreciation for this urban gem comes from my early experiences planting trees at Neveh Shalom.

Tu B'Shvat seems like a perfect marriage between Judaism and Oregon. The "Birthday for the Trees" is our own ecological holiday, a time when we eat native species and plant trees for the future. What could be more "Oregon" than that?

One of my vivid memories growing up at Neveh Shalom in the 1970s was the annual Tu B'Shvat observance at Sunday School. Each year, we would gather with David Bernstein, a synagogue member who worked for the US Forest Service, who would lead all of us in planting trees on the synagogue property. From my childhood perspective, this was the holiday when we got to leave our classrooms, go outside, and dig in the dirt. Amid the Bible quizzes and memorizing the 10 Commandments, this, too, was a Jewish act.

As I grew up, I was able to make the connection between this ancient Jewish tradition and the modern environmental movement. Our tree planting at Neveh Shalom took place in the broader context of events in Oregon at the time, like the development of the Beach Bill, the Bottle Bill, the demolition of a freeway that became Tom McCall Waterfront Park, and a push toward recycling, all of which helped put Portland and Oregon on the map as a hub for seeking a balance between the built and natural environments. In the context of Tu B'Shvat, these, too, were Jewish acts, as visionary leaders planted and planned for future generations.

We continue to build on our environmental heritage at Neveh Shalom. People like Jordan Epstein are this generation's David Bernstein. For many years, Jordan and a dedicated crew of volunteers have toiled to preserve and enhance our synagogue's natural surroundings, removing invasive non-native species and replacing them with native plants. Even as we have worked to create inspirational worship spaces inside our building, the greenery that surrounds the space helps to elevate our personal experiences.

Thank you to David and Jordan and all those who have inspired so many of us to see environmental protection as Jewish responsibility.

# The Chronicle

**Congregation Neveh Shalom**  
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## CONTRIBUTORS

RABBI DAVID KOSAK, Senior Rabbi

RABBI EVE POSEN, Rabbinic Educator  
and Youth Advisor

RICH MEYER, President

JENN DIRECTOR-KNUDSEN

CATHERINE HARTOCH

BARRY HOROWITZ

RICK HARTOCH

EADIE KALTENBACHER

TOBY SHULRUFF

TAMAR WYTE-LAKE

**On the cover:** Drawing by Talia Valdez, age 11

*To contact us with ideas, comments or  
to become a contributor:*

[jgreenberg@nevehshalom.org](mailto:jgreenberg@nevehshalom.org)

*Subscriptions, member news and submission*  
[news@nevehshalom.org](mailto:news@nevehshalom.org)

*Information about upcoming events*  
[news@nevehshalom.org](mailto:news@nevehshalom.org)

*Membership inquiries*  
[cnsmembership@nevehshalom.org](mailto:cnsmembership@nevehshalom.org)

*For full staff list go to:*  
[nevehshalom.org/clergy-and-staff](http://nevehshalom.org/clergy-and-staff)

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**Congregation Neveh Shalom**  
**2900 SW Peaceful Lane, Portland, OR 97211**  
**(503) 246 - 8831   [www.nevehshalom.org](http://www.nevehshalom.org)**

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# Speaking of Trees

Rabbi Eve Posen

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Former *Saturday Night Live* writer A. Whitney Brown is probably less well known than his most famous comedic quip: “I am not a vegetarian because I love animals; I am a vegetarian because I hate plants.”

It’s a funny take on how we rationalize our identity and our decisions, but I think the humor speaks to how we anthropomorphize the plant world. Remember the flowers in *Alice in Wonderland*? How about the spooky forest from *The Wizard of Oz*? And of course one of my favorites, Shel Silverstein’s *The Giving Tree*?

The Torah also gives trees special consideration, and even asks us this very pointed question: “Are trees human?”  
Deuteronomy, Parshat Shoftim 20:19-20

כִּי תִצּוּר אֶל עִיר יָמִים רַבִּים לְהִלָּחֵם עָלֶיהָ לְתַפְסָּהּ לֹא תִשְׁחִית אֶת עֵצָהּ לְגִדּוֹת עָלֶיהָ גִּרְזֹן כִּי מִמֶּנּוּ תֹאכֵל וְאִתּוֹ לֹא תִכְרֹת כִּי הָאָדָם יֵץ הַשָּׂדֶה לְבֹא מִפְּנֵיהֶ בַּמִּצּוֹר: רַק יֵץ אֲשֶׁר תִּדְּעַ כִּי לֹא יֵץ מֵאֲכָל הוּא אִתּוֹ תִּשְׁחִית וְכָרַת וּבְנֵיהֶ מִצּוֹר עַל הָעִיר אֲשֶׁר הוּא עוֹשֶׂה עִמָּה מִלְחָמָה עַד רִדְמָה:

When, in your war against a city, you have to besiege it a long time in order to capture it, you must not destroy its trees, wielding the ax against them. You may eat of them, but you must not cut them down. Are the trees of the field human to withdraw before you into the besieged city? Only trees that you know do not yield food may be destroyed.

It’s safe to assume our sacred laws would have something to say about the preservation of human life when engaging in battle. Interestingly, the Torah sets aside a number of verses to show us the importance of protecting land and plant life as well. Without trees, we would have no fruit or worse, no oxygen. Trees cannot protect themselves from us, and so we must go out of our way to actively protect them.

On January 25 we will celebrate Tu B’shvat, the Jewish “new year” of the trees. Deep in the heart of winter when our trees are bare and so many favorite fruits are out of season, we’ll say a blessing and marvel at the gifts trees bring to us.

Trees were around long before we got here and likely will be here long after we’re gone. If they were in fact able to speak to us like they do in books and movies, what would they say? Would they be the unconditionally-loving givers that Silverstein describes? Would they convey the wisdom gained from witnessing the entirety of human history?

Since they can’t communicate quite that directly, perhaps we’re the ones who should be communicating on the trees’ behalf, as the Torah suggests in *Shoftim*. This Tu B’shvat, perhaps we should adopt the perspective of yet another work of classic literature and follow the example of the Lorax. May we remember that on Tu B’shvat - and every day - we speak for the trees.



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## Upcoming B'nai Mitzvah

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### BRIANNA COUGHLIN - JANUARY 9

Brianna is a 7th grader at Brown Middle School in Hillsboro. She is an excellent student and excels in all of her studies. She is involved with band, jazz band, volleyball, Girl Scouts and any other activity she can get us to let her join. At the ripe old age of four she began her career of being a volunteer. To name a few she has been a volunteer for Friends of Trees, Sunshine Pantry, Neighborhood House, Oregon Food Band, Bonnie Hays Animal Shelter, Century High School Band, Linus Project and I am sure I am forgetting much more. At 9 she begin volunteering for Life for Paws helping find dogs their forever homes and discovered her passion for being an advocate for all animals. Brianna has grown into a beautiful young woman inside and out and amazes us each and every day with her zest for life and her boundless energy and her big heart.



### RACHEL YOKEN - JANUARY 16

Mazel tov to Rachel Yoken, loving daughter of Jennifer and Jonathan Yoken and witty sister to Hannah and Eliana. Her grandparents are Judy and Arthur Berman of Singer Island, Florida; Susan Robbio of Tamarac, Florida; and Stephen Yoken of Houston, Texas. Rachel is a 7th grader at the Catlin Gabel School. A dedicated learner in all of her subjects, Rachel especially loves to write and is a voracious reader. She plays tennis competitively and is on her school volleyball team. Rachel is an accomplished pianist and recently has taken up bridge. An animal lover, Rachel enjoys taking care of her two beloved dogs, Zeke the golden retriever and Tosca the pug, and teaching them new tricks.



### ORLY MAYER - JANUARY 23

Orly is the daughter of Erika and Rich Meyer and younger sister of Avi and Dalya. Her grandparents are Lora and Jim Meyer of Portland, Nicole and Jerome Kluever of Seal Beach, California and the late Alan Kempler. Orly is an eighth grader at West Sylvan Middle School. She is an avid reader, enjoys boogie boarding on the Oregon Coast, river rafting, playing squash and soccer and, most of all, spending time with friends. One of the highlights of Orly's year is spending time at Camp Ramah in California.



### JENNA COOK - JANUARY 30TH

Mazel Tov to Jenna Cook, daughter of Sherri and David Cook and sister to Joshua, Jacob, and Jesse. Jenna's grandparents are Martin Eisenberg and Evelyn Eisenberg (z"l) and Ida Mae Girten. Jenna is a 7th grade honor student at Highland Park Middle School where she enjoys playing the clarinet in the school band. She also enjoys playing soccer, reading books, camping, and spending time with friends and family.



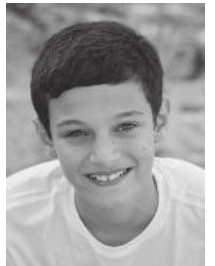
### SYDNEY KAUFMAN - FEBRUARY 6

Mazel Tov to Sydney Kaufman, who will celebrate her Bat Mitzvah on February 6, 2016. Sydney is the daughter of Nicole and Steve Kaufman. Her grandmothers are Lois Nathan of Portland, and Annette Sear Wade of Austin, Texas. Sydney is currently seventh-grader at Robert Gray Middle School. She is actively involved in the school's drama program; and she enjoys spending time with her friends. Sydney attended the Portland Jewish Academy from pre-school through fifth-grade.



### ANDREW CAPLAN - FEBRUARY 13

Mazel Tov to Andrew Caplan, son of Michelle and Jon Caplan, brother to Jennifer, and grandson of Barbara and Ronald Blumenthal of Chicago and Barbara and Barry Caplan of Portland. Andrew is a 7th grader at Raleigh Hills K-8 and enjoys playing soccer, computer games, reading Rick Riordan books, and taking care of the family dog, Cooper. It is his love for Cooper that influenced Andrew to choose The Pixie Project as his personal Mitzvah project. Andrew loves to travel when given the opportunity and especially enjoys visiting his cousins in Washington D.C. When not hanging with friends and his Raleigh Hills posse, Andrew looks forward to summer and participating in different outdoor activity camps.



### ALIZA RUBIN, FEBRUARY 27

Aliza Rubin's bat-mitzvah is on her birthday! She is a daughter of great joy as her name means in Hebrew. She studies at International School of Beaverton loves languages, art, and literature. She devotes free time doing meals on two wheels with mom and spent two years (since diagnosed with type 1 Diabetes) fundraising for Tour de Cure. She biked 60 miles to help find a cure. This bat-mitzvah is a blessing to family and friends. Family will be attending from East coast to share in this joyous event as well as grandparents from Bend.



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# Improving our planet one chicken, bike, and hike at a time

By Jenn Director Knudsen

Jewish values infuse CNS' congregants' lives. Including the value of protecting and improving the Earth. With Tu B'Shevat on our minds, here are three active members of our Neveh Shalom kehilla who are equally active in making our world a better place.



*Pictured: Mia Birk with Lord Mayor Clover Moore of Sydney Australia*

Were it not for Neveh Shalom or extended family, **Mia Birk** might not ever get behind the wheel.

Mia, husband **Glen Coblens**, and their three children, **Skyler**, **Sasha**, and **Levi**, live a “car-light” lifestyle, as Mia puts it. “We have set up a lot of our life around (our Southeast Portland) home,” Mia says. The family walks, bikes, or takes public transportation whenever possible.

“Especially with kids and getting them to and from activities, we do have to drive. But certainly not like they do in Texas,” she says of her Dallas upbringing.

The Lone Star State is not the only state that’s car-heavy. Mia says that as many American cities grew in the post-WWII

period, city planners gave lots of thought to accessibility via car... and negligible consideration to getting around via foot, two wheels, or public transit.

Mia credits her brother, Portlander Dr. Bruce Birk, with “goading” her into practicing what she preached. Overweight and feeling subpar, Mia took Bruce’s advice by ditching her car and bringing his 10-speed Schwinn to the nation’s capital, where she was attending graduate school. She started biking, quickly got in shape, and felt terrific.

In 1991, Congress passed its annual national transportation spending bill that for the first time required dedicated funding for bicycling and pedestrian projects.

“I decided then to dedicate myself to transforming American cities to being pedestrian- and bicycle-friendly,” she says. “My entire career has been devoted to creating active communities where biking and walking are safe, normal, healthy, and fun activities.”

Her Jewish values – and key tenets of Tu B'Shevat – are behind much of her rebuilding and renewal work in Portland, such as creation of myriad bike lanes and paths, bridge improvements, and even a PSU education program.

“We are a people who are change agents,” she says. “My work is all about trying to find ways to make our world and communities healthier and more resilient.”



*Pictured: Robert Litt at The Urban Farm Store*

Chickens are responsible for the Litt family.

**Robert Litt** says when he first met **Hannah**, who would become his wife, they clicked from the get-go. The fact she owned chickens and treated them with the love and respect they’re due sealed the deal.

When the couple met, Robert was a professional landscape architect in the midst of “a sort of identity crisis,”

he recalls. While considering turning tail on his first career and becoming a (Jewish!) famer, he enrolled in a master's degree agriculture program.

The couple married; they took joint custody of their chickens; and Robert had an epiphany that led to a career change.

As Robert tells it, one day while walking his dog, he began ruminating on the \$50 he spent on every bag of carefully formulated, organic canine chaw. Robert realized, "I was feeding my chickens generic chicken food; there should be an equivalent thing (to special dog food) for chickens."

So, with his wife's enthusiastic support, he went to work formulating and creating the best possible chicken feed.

Self-taught and with a few ingredients and a mill in hand, he began preparing organic chick chow from the garage of their Northeast Portland home.

Robert clearly had hit upon something scrumptious for the pecking set: "My wife said there were too many people coming at all hours to our house," Robert recalls.

He launched the Urban Farm Store in 2008. Its mission is to help people grow and make their own food, for themselves and for their pets, in their yards and in their homes.

Indeed, the Southeast Portland-based store sells fruit tree and vegetable starts, as well as its famous feed. Robert hopes soon to have a significant online presence and "to sell all over the country."

New to Neveh Shalom, Robert and Hannah have two young children, one of whom is in the ALIYAH Education Program. Robert says that his Jewish values drive much of what's behind his personal and business' mission. "Having a business like this is an environmental statement," Robert says. "We connect folks with their food choices. It connects us back to Tu B'Shevat, back to nature and life's energy that comes from it."

To visit or for more information, drive or bike to 1108 SE 9th Ave; call (503) 234-7733; [www.urbanfarmstore.com](http://www.urbanfarmstore.com)

Continue on page 8

## **Fruit, Wine and Blessings Fill the Table for the Tu B'Shvat Seder**

By Toby Shulruff

Tu B'Shvat is one of four "New Years" listed in the Mishna. The 15th of Shvat (Tet-Vav in gematria, giving it the name "Tu of Shvat"), is the New Year for the trees. The custom developed to eat a new fruit for the season on this day, and to say the Shehechyanu as the blessing over this new experience of the year. In Ashkenazi communities in Eastern Europe, Jews ate up to 15 kinds of fruit on this day; in Tzfat the Sephardic mystics began a tradition of eating certain kinds of fruit (with and without edible peels) as symbolism for getting closer to God's holiness. Another tradition is to eat the Seven Species (Shivat HaMinim) of foods that are native to the land of Israel (wheat, barley, grapes, figs, pomegranates, olives, and dates). Some Jews today create a Seder (a ritual with a particular order of blessings and foods), just like on Passover, with prayers, songs, drinking grape juice or wine, and the eating of fruits with various characteristics, and focusing on the strong relationship between Jews and our responsibility to take care of the earth.

### **Here are some further ideas for creating a seder:**

Many types of fruit are eaten in three groups: those you can eat whole (figs, grapes), those with an inedible pit (olives, dates) and those with an inedible peel (pomegranate).

Wine is poured in four rounds, as with the Passover Seder, but here the first cup is white, the next white with a touch of red, then red with a touch of white, and lastly red.

Blessings are made on everything.

Each round of fruit and wine symbolize the four levels of creation: asiyah (action), yetzirah (formation), beriah (creation) and atzilut (emanation).

The Kabbalists of Tzfat, "imagined God as a tree, with divine light running like sap through its branches. They believed eating a simple fruit could release sparks of divine light into the world." (Rabbi Jill Hammer, *A Jewish Book of Days*)



**Jordan Epstein** remembers April 22, 1970, the world's first Earth Day and, since then, has become increasingly considerate of and grateful for the Earth's bounty, beauty, and fragility.

Growing up in Chicago, Jordan says he always was aware of the environment and its import; Lake Michigan and the green belt surrounding the Windy City proved a constant spiritual, physical, and emotional resource.



*Pictured: Jordan Epstein on one of his hikes*

Even while working as a public financial planning professional most of his career, Jordan's thoughts and attention included the environment; he volunteered for non-profits like Oregon Wild, the Nature Conservancy, and especially the Audubon Society of Portland, where he is still actively involved.

But his Jewishness moved to the fore in the early 90's as his daughters became b'nai mitzvah and Jordan looked for ways to combine Judaism and environmental concern.

Like non-native ivy, it was a 1998 Coalition On the Environment and Jewish Life (COEJL) conference in California that got under his skin.

"There I saw the connection I was looking for," he says.

Soon thereafter, he co-founded the now-defunct Shomrei Adamah Northwest as an effort to rally the Jewish community to the environment. Today he is known as the face of Shomrei Teva (guardian of nature), CNS' own environmental-interest group.

In this capacity, he involves others in key projects like educational hikes, ivy pulls, and removal from Neveh property of non-native plants like Himalayan blackberry and holly; in their place he and his team plant native species, such as Oregon Grape, ocean spray, and sword fern. Jordan has created hikes that incorporate Tu B'Shvat seders into them, worked to involve our kids in environmental projects, and he encourages the congregation to strive for a goal of zero food waste at events.

Jordan says that any passion can have a Jewish origin or angle, the environment included. And yet, it does seem that prioritizing protecting the Earth is a Jewish value, he says, citing a few teachings, including the second paragraph of the shema.

He says: "I try to help people realize that being Jewish includes caring for the earth – that we can be shomrei teva."

## How to Do 'Green' in Small Steps

by Catherine Hartoch

Besides the green contributions we can make by following the 3 R's (reduce, reuse, recycle), perhaps growing some of our own food (it can't get more local!), and using alternate means of transportation when possible, the Chronicle has a few simple ideas that might help you increase your green solidarity:

### Water use

- Keep in mind the increasing value of the sweet water that comes into our homes.
- Decrease the volume you use by adjusting the water level in the following ways:
- Decrease toilet flush water volume (classic trick: put bricks or a filled quart plastic bottle in the toilet tank).
- Adjust your clothes washer to the lowest water level possible per load and omit extra rinses when you can.
- Set your dishwasher to run its shortest cycle possible to do the job.

### Beautification

- Make a habit of hiking with a garbage bag to clean up trash in our natural spaces.
- From picking up a few candy wrappers to organizing a group or joining an organization like SOLVE, this activity makes a big difference.

### Emissions

- Decrease car idling periods -- when you're stuck snaking through a slow pickup line of cars, turn off your engine.
- The Oregon Zoo promotes this during summer camp, reporting that car emissions are greatly decreased with turning engines off and restarting them. Some cities, like Minneapolis, have instituted laws prohibiting idling for over 3 minutes.

### Say No to Disposables

- Bring your own mug, use compostable products whenever possible.
- Here's a fun idea: seeded kippot for your next event! Find them at [www.circlesoflife.com](http://www.circlesoflife.com).



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# Do Tell by Tamar Wyte-Lake

## CNS Members Answer A Few Intriguing Questions

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**Toinette Menashe** is a Portland native. She is the proud mother of two, and grandmother of four wonderful grandchildren. A lifelong Neveh Shalom member, Toinette remains very active as a dedicated congregant and lifelong learner.

**What are your favorite books?** Birdsong by Sebastian Faulk and The English Patient by Michael Ondaatje.

**If you could have lunch with any three people (real or fictitious/ from any time period, dead or alive), which three people would you choose and why?** I would choose John Updike, Philip Roth, and Anais Nin. I think the conversation would be extraordinary.

**If given a choice to skip work for a day, how would you spend the entire day?** Well, I have been retired for a few years, but my ideal day would be searching out all the size 5 ½ shoes in Portland with my two daughters-in-law, Wendy and Debbie.

**Were you named after anyone?** I was named after my great grandmother, Tovah, who was born in Lithuania. It came out Toinette. My parents liked French names.

**What is your favorite Jewish holiday, and why?** Passover is my favorite Jewish holiday because it is the time that my entire family gathers together in my son's home for a very large Seder. We are lucky enough to do both nights.

**Can you give us your favorite Portland tidbit?** My favorite memory of growing up in Portland, was watching the Rose Festival Parade, seated on a trunk, in front of my father's luggage store, which is now the Nordstrom near Pioneer Square.

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**Jacob Harper** is a Northern California native. He has lived in Portland for 15 years and is the proud father of Reuben and Esther. Jacob has been a Neveh member for 6 years.

**What is your favorite book?** My favorite book is TANAKH. The sheer volume fosters a lifetime of intrigue and a lifetime of learning. Right now I am reading Isaiah and have a goal to someday get all the way to the end of Chronicles.

**If you could have lunch with anyone, who would you choose and why?** I would choose to have lunch with the young King David, before he was officially King. I want to hear how he reconciled showing respect and reverence for the current king, King Saul, while at the same time King Saul was trying to kill him.

**What is your favorite season and why?** My favorite season is fall. It is prime time for mushroom foraging and I also like the crisp weather. If I could go anywhere I would probably want to drive across the USA to experience all the different regional customs and cuisine.

**What is the last item you cooked?** The last item I cooked was smoking whole trout on my BBQ. After I deboned the meat, I served it with bagels, cream cheese, onions, and the last tomatoes from my garden.

**What is your favorite Jewish holiday, and why?** Sukkot is my favorite holiday! I love the transition between Yom Kippur and the building of my sukkah, during this time I feel invigorated. I also enjoy getting the whole family involved with the building and decorating. The commandment to be joyful is just plain awesome.

**What is your favorite Hebrew word, and why?** My favorite Hebrew word is the name Esther. The root of Esther means 'hidden' and I appreciate how this plays out in the Purim story. It is also just a great name and the name of my daughter.



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# On the Calendar

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## Join In

### Friday, January 8

Shabbat around the World - The Rabbi Kosak Installation weekend kicks off with Shabbat around the World- **Shabbat Marrakech**. Join us at 6:15pm for a musical Shabbat featuring the sounds and cuisine of the Jews of Morocco. Services followed by Shabbat dinner. RSVP at <http://tinyurl.com/shabbatmarrakesh> or call our office 503.246.8831

### Sunday, January 10

#### The Installation of Rabbi David Kosak

**3:00pm Main Sanctuary**

**Gather as a community to celebrate the installation of Senior Rabbi David Kosak. Music, formal installation with remarks by Rabbi Steven Denker, Temple Emanu El, Ohio followed by festive reception. RSVP [tinyurl.com/kosakservice](http://tinyurl.com/kosakservice)**

### Sunday, January 17

Sisterhood Sunday, Vestry

We have created a time and space for women to gather and enjoy each other's company once a month.

Join us to learn and share new ideas and talent. We will also be preparing sack lunches for ALIYAH school, part of a new Sisterhood fundraiser. Meet in the foyer behind the main sanctuary.

### Sunday, January 24

Men's Club presents Misha Isaak, Stampfer Chapel

Join us for Misha Isaak's inside perspective of "Law and Politics at the State." Misha is the Deputy General Counsel for Governor Kate Brown and the son of Rabbi David and Carol Isaak. Our event starts at 9:45am with a brunch which is free for Men's Club members and \$5 for others.

### Wednesday, January 27

Speaker Series, Stampfer Chapel

Teresa Raiford, who chairs "Hands up Don't Shoot, Portland" will speak on "The Politics of Poverty". Teresa has been an active member of the Black-Jewish Dialogue that is sponsored by Federation. She is passionate and rational in her understanding of this sensitive topic. Join us for an evening that will enlighten you to these timely issues. It begins at 7 p.m. and is sponsored cooperatively by Neveh Shalom Sisterhood and Men's Clubs.

### Sunday, February 7

Sisterhood Sunday - see January 17 listing.

### Sunday, February 7

PJ Our Way Book Club, Feldstein Library

Are you between the ages of 9 and 11? Do you love to read? Join the book club for PJ Our Way participants. We will read "Jordan and the Dreadful Golem" by Karen Goldman this month. Free. 12:15-1:15pm.

For more information visit [www.pjourway.org](http://www.pjourway.org)

Questions? Contact [kgoldhammer@nevehshalom.org](mailto:kgoldhammer@nevehshalom.org)

### February 21

Men's Club presents Rob Neyer, Stampfer Chapel

Join us for Fox Sports Rob Neyer's inside perspective of the sports scene. Our event, which is open to all, starts at 9:45am with a brunch which is free for Men's Club members and \$5 for others.

### February 28

Mah Jongg Tournament, Neveh Shalom

This is a popular annual fundraiser sponsored by Neveh Shalom Sisterhood and open to the community. Look for flyers with more detailed information. Registration is required, deadline to register is Feb 21. \$30 per person.

## Unveiling

Unveiling for Erma Rykus (z"l) - Sunday, January 17 12:00pm, Ahavai Shalom Cemetery

Unveiling for Richard Lakefish (z"l)- Sunday, January 17 1:00pm, Ahavai Shalom Cemetery

Unveiling for Bernice Resnikoff (z"l)- Sunday, February 14 11:00am, Ahavai Shalom Cemetery

## **Young Family Activities:**

### Fridays, January 8, 15, 22, 29, February 5, 12, 19, 26

Foundation Fridays , 9:30am

Join us in our Foundation School's indoor playroom for open play, singing, Shabbat stories, age-appropriate service and Shabbat snack.

### Sundays, January 3, 10, 17, 31 February 7 and 28

Boker Tov Bunch, 9:00am, Feldstein Library

Wake up and get your wiggles out during Boker Tov Bunch at the Feldstein Library with Kaiya, our librarian. Listen to stories, sing songs, and enjoy a snack! 9:00-9:45am.

Questions? Contact [kgoldhammer@nevehshalom.org](mailto:kgoldhammer@nevehshalom.org)



### **Saturday, 5:30pm, January 9, February 13**

Havdalah in Pajamas

Hang out in your favorite jammies with friends! Enjoy a kid friendly dinner, Havdalah, crafts and a milk and cookie story time. \$12/adults \$7/kids \$42/family.

### **Fridays, January 22, February 26**

Fourth Friday, 5:15pm

Join Rabbi Eve and welcome Shabbat with music and stories, potluck dinner to follow. Co-Sponsored by PJ Library

### **Saturday, January 30**

Fifth Shabbat, 10:00am

Participatory service geared towards families with children 0-9 led by Rabbi Eve Posen. Meets at the main service that morning. Lunch to follow.

### **Saturday, January 16**

Mom's Night Out with Rabbi Eve Posen - details soon.

### **Sunday, February 21**

Walk-a-thon with Foundation School, 11:30am

Cheer as your child walks laps on our indoor track to raise funds for our amazing synagogue preschool. To participate contact [iconley@nevehshalom.org](mailto:iconley@nevehshalom.org)

## **Lend a Hand**

### **Monday, January 4**

Never Again Coalition Meeting, Neveh Shalom

Join us at 7pm to brainstorm events and ideas for 2016. Did you know that the ivory trade is not only endangers the lives of elephants but it is one of the largest sources of money for armed terrorists groups in Africa? We are going to be joining the campaign for the Oregon Wildlife Tracking Prevention Act which will make the sale of ivory illegal in Oregon. The U.S. is the second largest consumer of ivory after China. By making it illegal in Oregon we join Washington and California in putting up a wall along the Pacific Coast to help put a stop to human rights abuses. Learn more about this campaign at our next meeting. If you have any questions or would like to be in touch, email us at [neveragaincoalition@gmail.com](mailto:neveragaincoalition@gmail.com) or call Lauren 503-784-1950. [neveragaincoalition.org](http://neveragaincoalition.org)

### **Sunday, January 17**

Shomrei Teva at the Creekside Wooded area next to lower parking lot of Neveh Shalom. Want to help beautify Neveh Shalom - on the outside? Join us Sunday morning at 9:45am as we remove non-native, invasive plants. Bring a small tool (trowel, small shovel, pruner, clippers), gloves if you have them (we can supply them if you don't), sturdy shoes with good traction, and dress for the weather. Don't forget your sense of humor as we like to schmooze while we work. Spend an hour or so (it's up to you) and

do a mitzvah for the earth. It's good for the soil - and good for the soul. Contact Jordan Epstein, 503-245-6580, [yaakovm@comcast.net](mailto:yaakovm@comcast.net)

### **Sunday, January 24 and Sunday, February 21**

#### **Cooking for Outside-In Neveh Shalom Kitchen**

Join us from Noon to 2pm in the Neveh Shalom kitchen to make dinner for 60 homeless teens in downtown Portland. To help out contact Chris Blair (503) 675-1328.

### **Weekly Shabbat Greeters**

Your presence matters! Join thousands of others who have come before you to say, "Shabbat Shalom!" on a Friday night or Saturday morning. A friendly face and a warm greeting is a gift to all! Welcome new members, out of town guests, frequent visitors and of course, long-time members of our kehilla! Sign up today!

Contact Wendy Kahn, [cnsmembership@nevehshalom.org](mailto:cnsmembership@nevehshalom.org)  
503-293-7305 or sign up: [tinyurl.com/ShabbatSchmoozer](http://tinyurl.com/ShabbatSchmoozer)

### **February (all month) Never Again will sponsor the 3rd annual Chocolate for Congo.**

For the whole month, people can go to participating restaurants and bakeries and enjoy chocolate dessert made with Theo Chocolate (they source their chocolate through direct trade with farm cooperatives in the DR Congo). \$1 from the sale of each chocolate dessert will go to Eastern Congo Initiative. ECI provides development grants and international advocacy for community-building initiatives in the DR Congo. Last year we raised over \$4600. This year we hope to make over \$5K! Stay tuned for more details on who is participating.

### **Mondays from 7:30-9:00pm**

Koleinu, Stampfer Chapel

Join Koleinu, the Neveh Shalom choir, as we prepare music for synagogue holidays and events. Under the leadership of professional director, Becca Stuhlbarg, we meet Mondays 7:30pm-9:00pm in Stampfer Chapel. All are welcome. For more information: [joni.cady@comcast.net](mailto:joni.cady@comcast.net).

## **New Class**

### **Shalom for the Soul: Jewish Wisdom for Stress Management - Wednesdays 7pm-8pm, starting January 6.**

We might be busy, productive, and creative, but we also can be challenged by unhelpful emotions and a lack of balance in our lives.

This six week course provides a tried-and-tested framework to help us cope with these struggles, taught by someone with personal and professional experience with family crisis and stress management. \$36 course material fee. RSVP <http://goo.gl/forms/CIPjDFn6wH>

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## Who's New?

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Welcome **Eric Simpson and Dana Kostiner Simpson**, and their daughter Iris (age 4) and son Ronen (17 months). Both Dana and Eric are originally from the Portland area, and Dana grew up at CNS. Dana is a genetics doctor at Kaiser, and Eric is a project manager with Intel. They also own and operate a doggie daycare business with five locations. Eric was recently elected to the Beaverton School Board, and is a track coach at Sunset High School. Dana enjoys live comedy, theatre, Blazer games, and doing kickbox at the gym. Eric is athletic - he plays volleyball and often drives to his alma mater, UW, to cheer on the Huskies. This family goes green by recycling and driving sustainable vehicles; including Dana's parents and sister, the family has 3 Prii and one electric Nissan Leaf!



Welcome to **Rabbi Shelton Donnell and Wendy Bocarsky**, who moved here after spending the past 10 years living in Jerusalem. Rabbi Donnell was a congregational rabbi in Los Angeles for over 30 years, and most recently taught at the Hebrew Union College seminary in Jerusalem. Wendy is an oncology nurse, and although now retired, she still does consulting work. She is also a Jewish educator and performs scholar-in-residence work in California. They joined Neveh Shalom after visiting a few times and feeling very welcome, as well as having relatives as part of the community. This family goes green with their water usage - after spending so much time in arid climates, they are struck by the abundance of water here and are conscious of conserving it.



Welcome **Jenn and Brad Topliff**, who moved here from the San Francisco Bay Area with their two daughters Grace (8) and Hazel (6). They have been enjoying their new city by hiking, exploring Portland's amazing restaurants and listening to the rain upon their roof. They have also become avid Thorns supporters. Jenn is a graphic designer and loves drawing, painting and making a mess with her girls! Brad recently became Director of Innovation at his software company and loves spending time reading with the girls and writing about them. The Topliff family joined Neveh Shalom after several recommendations from friends, and hearing glowing reviews at a BB camp family weekend. The Topliffs are dog people, recyclers, composters and organic shoppers.

## Photo Contest!

Do you have a knack for taking creative, interesting, beautiful photos? Maybe YOU will be the first winner of our First Annual CNS photo contest! In conjunction with the "Green" theme of this issue of the Chronicle, related to Tu B'Shvat we are asking congregants to rev up their cameras or cell phones and take a walk around the amazingly beautiful grounds of our synagogue.



## Explore!

We are asking for photographs of NATURE taken from our grounds that do not include any building. You may be very surprised by the natural beauty that surrounds us! There will be 3 winners in the age 1 - 20 category and 3 winners in the 21 and over age group. First prize is \$36 gift certificate to the CNS gift shop. Second prize is \$18 and 3rd gets honorable mention. Please email your best photo with title to [jgreenberg@nevehshalom.com](mailto:jgreenberg@nevehshalom.com) by Feb 1, 2016. The photos will be reviewed anonymously by a panel of judges. Get started and GOOD LUCK!!!





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# Bringing Oregon to Vietnam

**By Barry Horowitz**

In a world filled with headlines about uncivil politics, terror and denial it can be difficult to respond to a request for a piece about sustainability and a greener world, while adding in something connected to one's synagogue, or at least something even a little bit ecumenical.

My work in international trade and logistics takes me to many different countries in Asia, including Vietnam. Over the past twenty years I have been to this fascinating, country at least fifteen times. During my visit in October I again noticed cultural shifts that brought to light how much this country has changed in the last two decades.

Meeting with a client over dinner in Ho Chi Minh City, I heard music from outside; I looked out, but saw no source. A few moments later the music was joined by voices – many voices, singing what sounded like a hymn. As the sound swelled in volume and force, I stood up to get a better look. Directly across the street and through a forecourt was a large church, whose front entrance was like that of the restaurant, just a long opening across the width of the building. The church was full to overflowing, with people outside in the forecourt and almost out to the street. The singing was in Vietnamese, and the sound was beautiful, to say nothing of surprising!

My client advised that this was now a common sight on Sunday evenings in Vietnam. There are just shy of 100 million Vietnamese with as many as 20% of the population practicing Christianity, mostly Catholicism, a legacy from French colonial times. Freedom of religion exists, but not in the fully free and open sense familiar to us in America. Vietnam as a Communist country does not officially recognize religion. The Government is very suspicious of people who practice their religion, especially from the West. She went on to explain that some of those in the church were probably government 'observers'.

I asked her about the celebration of Christmas. My client, a devout Buddhist, became quite animated and explained how much she and everyone she knew loved this holiday. It has no religious meaning to her at all, but the themes of peace and love were very much admired.



*Christmas in Hanoi, Vietnam, Photo by Noa Rubin*

Out of the blue, she then asked me if there was any way I could help her to import 'fresh' Christmas trees to Vietnam, as she just couldn't 'stand the ugly plastic Christmas trees from China'. Now, my role for the Port of Portland is to assist Oregon companies increase their business in international markets, by helping with the often complex requirements of logistics and supply chain management. As the second largest economic driver in Oregon, agricultural production accounts for approximately 1 in 8 jobs and last year added products valued at \$5.4 billion to state GDP. About 40% of Oregon agricultural production is exported outside of America, no small amount! Oregon's success is very strongly connected to the high quality of our products and the attention paid to sustainable agricultural processes. Needless to say, I jumped on the opportunity being presented.

This project is now well underway and if you travel to Ho Chi Minh you just might see real, freshly cut, Oregon trees and wreaths spread around hotel and department store lobbies in the coming weeks.

So a Jewish boy from Oregon, assists a Vietnamese Buddhist to bring fresh, green Oregon trees to a Communist country in Asia to help a minority of citizens to celebrate a Christian holiday. Life is so endlessly amazing!

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## Kvell with Us

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Welcoming the following new members to our congregational family: **Karen Borenst****Karen Borenstein**, **Heidi Holmes**, **Jacqueline Rose**

**Ellie Gilbert**, high school teacher and learning specialist at Saint Mary's academy was a featured subject in the Education Section of the October 15 issue of the Huffington Post. The article details her philosophy and unique methods of teaching.

Mazel Tov to **Al & Rosanne Levi**, whom on Oct 6th became Grandparents to Ayla Joie Levi of Phoenix, AZ. Parents are Tory & Shelly Levi of Phoenix, AZ. Other Grandparents are Steve & Caren Oberstein of Tempe, AZ.

Mazel Tov to **Hannah Glass** daughter of **Sarah Kahn Glass and Jonathan Glass** and **Emma Rosenthal** daughter of **Chantal and Eli Rosenthal**. Hannah and Emma have received the Stampfer Youth Recognition Program as part of the 2015 Rabbi Joshua Stampfer Community Enrichment Award .

Mazel Tov to **Jessica and Garrett Fenton** on the birth of their baby, **Myer Edward Fenton**, younger brother to big brothers **Noah and Joseph**.

Mazel Tov to Maya Zeff, granddaughter of **Laurie & George Fendel** on the simch of her Bat Mitzvah. Aliza Fendel Zeff and Rabbi Todd Zeff are the proud parents. They live in Jerusalem, Maya has two brothers, Joe and Asher. The Zeff family is expecting another brother in mid December.

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## In Memoriam

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We mourn the recent loss of these cherished Neveh Shalom members:

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**Yefim Faktorovich (z"l) May 25, 1919 - October 22, 2015.** Yefim Faktorovich passed away on October 22, 2015 at age 96. Yefim is survived by his wife Yevgeniya, his daughters Alla Piatski and Natalia Zurawska, and 2 grandchildren.



**Estelle Wexler (z"l) January 28, 1931 - November 6, 2015.** Estelle Ruth Wexler of Tigard passed away on November 6, 2015 at age 84 years old. Estelle is survived by her sons Mark, Neil, and Paul Wexler, and three grandchildren.



**Rose Weider (z"l) May 22, 1917 - November 25, 2015** Rose Weider passed away on Wednesday, November 25, 2015 at age 98. Rose was born in Portland, Oregon on May 22, 1917. Rose is survived by her three daughters, a son, two sons-in-law, a daughter-in-law, and six grandchildren and their families. She was predeceased by her husband and her son-in-law.



**Joshua Kahn (z"l) August 19, 1940 - December 1, 2015** Joshua Kahn was born in Brooklyn, NY. He graduated high school at age 16 and began studying math at Hofstra College. He met his soul-mate, Diane (Vosen) when he was 18. They married in 1963, and Josh began an apprenticeship in computer programming at ITT Federal Labs. He later worked for Jet Propulsion Laboratories, where he remained for many years. He was very proud that some of his programming is still in space, onboard Voyager I, Voyager II, and Magellan. Despite being in poor health for many years, Josh never complained, always maintained a positive attitude, and impressed all who knew him with his cheerfulness and concern for others. Josh's sense of humor was legendary. Josh is survived by his wife of 53 years, his children, David Kahn (and Cindy) of Alexandria, VA, daughter Dr. Stacey Kahn Condren (and Gary) of Vancouver, WA, and daughter Julie Kahn Lawrence (and Todd) of Vancouver, WA. His grandchildren are Everly and Sophie Lawrence, and Levi and Eden Condren (all of Vancouver, WA.)

### Yihi Zichram Baruch - Our condolences to CNS members who have recently lost loved ones

**Ruth Adamsky (z"l)** - mother of **Alan (Renee) Biederman**

**Richard Miller (z"l)** - father of **Lindsay (Tyler) Gluckman**

**Sid Levinson (z"l)** - father of **Sharyl (Rick) Vagy**, devoted husband of Sylvia Levinson



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## The congregation gratefully acknowledges the following contributions:

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### Aliyah Donation

**Jennifer & Andrew Greenberg:**  
in honor of Jessica & Garrett Fenton &  
Family on the birth of Myer

### Burton Gevurtz Israeli

#### School Fund

**Andrea Arai:**  
in memory of Burton Gevurtz  
**Bernice Gevurtz:**  
in memory of Burton Gevurtz

### Cemetery Fund

**Jacqueline Constantine:**  
in memory of Rita Pearlmutter  
**Wynne Cooper:**  
in memory of Sidney Cooper  
**Rosalie Goodman:**  
in memory of Simon Newman  
in memory of Stanley Perkel  
**Barbara Hasson:**  
in memory of Rose Weider  
**Leslie Kelson:**  
in memory of Rose Weider  
**Lucille Neusihin, Lisa, Mariana & Berklee**  
**Robins:**  
in memory of Irving Neusihin  
**Arne Rosencrantz:**  
in memory of George Rosencrantz  
**Susan Rufo:**  
in memory of Rose Weider  
**Denny Shleifer:**  
in memory of Rose Weider  
**Melvin & Janet Swire:**  
in memory of Preva Swire

### Muriel & Joseph Unkeles

#### Choir Fund

**John Barton:**  
get well wishes for Roz Kane  
in honor of Gary & Esther Liberman's  
new home  
**Joni Cady & Jane Roosevelt:**  
in memory of George Stubbs

### Charity Food Fund

**Sondra Greenberg:**  
in memory of Philip Greenberg  
**Irwin & Renée Holzman:**  
in memory of Lena Holzman  
in memory of M'liss Gilbert  
**Marilyne Lakefish:**  
in memory of Sidney Lakefish  
in memory of Stanford Nudelman

### CHAI/Tikkun Olam Fund

**Lesley & Bob Glasgow:**  
in memory of Sid Levinson

### Charack Kitchen Fund

**Allan Sherman:**  
in memory of Lillian Sherman

### Camp Solomon Schechter

**Regina Atlas:**  
in honor of Sol Menashe's 90th birthday  
**Frieda Tobin:**  
in memory of Rebecca Zukeov

### Cookie Yoelin Floral Fund

**Amara, Brian, Jared & Jordan Norman:**  
in memory of Davita Yoelin

### Elevator Fund

**Steven Landsberg:**  
in memory of Max Landsberg

### Shuldman Kiddush Fund

**John Barton:**  
in memory of Ben Barton  
**Reena Davis:**  
in memory of Jack Cohen  
**Jeff Edmundson & Eddy Shuldman &**  
**Dan Riback:**  
in memory of Erna Graetz  
**Natan Meir & Elchanan Van Herpen:**  
in memory of Sam Zarkin  
**Ella Ostroff:**  
in memory of Olga Guttman  
**Arden & Lois Shenker:**  
in memory of Barbara Singer

### Foundation School Fund

**Judith Blauer:**  
in memory of Sol Sax  
**Arnold & Elaine Cogan:**  
in memory of Nicole Ruffine  
**Roberta Cohon:**  
in memory of Stanford Nudelman  
in memory of Charlotte Cohon  
**Delphine Davis:**  
in memory of Sam Schaffer  
**Barbara & Herbert Hochfeld:**  
in memory of Simon Newman  
**Herbert Hochfeld:**  
in memory of Bea Hochfeld  
in memory of Frank Hochfeld  
**Tony & Priscilla Kostiner:**  
in memory of Richard Miller  
**Esther Menashe:**  
in memory of Charlotte Mitchell  
**Marcy & Ron Morris:**  
in memory of Marla Osband  
in memory of Henry Rothstein  
**Joeen Rodinsky:**  
in honor of Irv & Rhoda Leopold's  
Anniversary  
**Jerrie Roth:**  
get well wishes for Hy Jackson  
**Roz & Mylen Shenker:**  
in appreciation of Larry Veltman  
in memory of Richard Miller  
**Bruce & Sheila Stern:**  
in memory of Marla Osband

### General Synagogue Fund

**Marlene Abrams:**  
in memory of Rueben Abrams  
**Stan Adams:**  
in memory of Robert Adams  
**Sharlota Aginsky:**  
in memory of Pesya Pantofelman  
in memory of Vadim Aginsky  
**Linda Atlas:**  
in memory of Sidney Atlas  
**Regina Atlas:**  
in memory of Sidney Atlas  
**Jeff & Sandy Axel:**  
in memory of Estelle Wexler  
**Robin Bacon-Shone:**  
in memory of Thelma Beck

**Manny & Karen Berman:**  
in memory of Rose Weider  
**Melanie & Jack Birnbach:**  
in memory of Sid Levinson  
**Gerel Blauer:**  
in memory of Ruth Blauer  
**Ruth Blum:**  
in memory of Maurice Blum  
in memory of A.E. Rosenberg  
**Marianne Buchwalter:**  
in memory of Fred Buchwalter  
**Steven Caplan:**  
in memory of Robert Caplan  
**Mitch Cooper:**  
in memory of Mark Cooper  
**Helen Cowan:**  
in memory of Samuel Cowan  
**Delphine Davis:**  
in memory of Si Newman  
in memory of Samuel Schaffer  
**Renee Dubroff:**  
in memory of Milton Konecke  
**Neal Dunitz:**  
in memory of Irving Dunitz  
**Beverly Eastern:**  
in memory of Louis Albert  
in memory of Sol Sax  
**The Floom Family:**  
get well wishes for Sam Miller  
**Joan Fraser:**  
in memory of Harry Mandrow  
**Howard Freedman:**  
in memory of Robert Freedman  
**Abraham Furman:**  
in memory of Harry Furman  
**Bradley Gevurtz:**  
in memory of Burton Gevurtz  
**Alan Gotlieb:**  
in memory of Gustav Falkenstein  
in memory of Pincus Gotlieb  
**Charles Greenberg:**  
in memory of Philip Greenberg  
**Gail Halladay:**  
in memory of Helen Menashe  
**Inge Hamburger:**  
in memory of Paula Neuburger  
**Kim Harris:**  
in honor of Cyrus Kagan's Bar Mitzvah  
**Merrill Hendin:**  
in honor of Rabbi Eve Posen  
**Lena Ioffe:**  
in memory of Tsilya Hess  
**Richard Jolosky:**  
in memory of Dora Jolosky  
**Julian Kaufman:**  
in memory of Alfred Kaufman  
**Steven Kaufman:**  
in memory of Bernard Kaufman  
**Nina Khatayevich:**  
in memory of Mendel Khatayevich  
**Trudi Kobin:**  
in memory of Norman Kobin  
**Anatoliy Kotlyarevskiy:**  
in memory of Lev Kotlyarevskiy  
**Yefim Litinetsky:**  
in memory of Sofia Ambyrg  
**Ronald & Taya Meyer:**  
get well wishes for Sam Miller  
**Robert Michel:**  
in memory of Jacob A. Michel  
**Ida Mikhlin:**  
in memory of Abram Mikhlin

### Grigoriy Milman:

in memory of Semen Smetana  
**Richard & Mary Peizner:**  
in memory of Daniel Peizner  
**Esther Perkel:**  
in memory of Simon Newman  
**Robert Perkel:**  
in memory of Flora Perkel Bockman  
**Beth Pollack:**  
in memory of Samuel Schwartz  
in memory of Yetta Schwartz  
**Raisa Premysler:**  
in memory of Isaak Premysler  
**Joy Rabin:**  
in honor of Linda Shivers & Albert  
Kolkin's Wedding  
**Enya Rabovitser:**  
in memory of Abram Kizhner  
**Bruce & Phyllis Ritchie:**  
in memory of Jack Ritchie  
**Kim Rosenberg:**  
in memory of David Rosenberg  
**Fred & Nora Rothstein:**  
in honor of Linda Shivers & Albert  
Kolkin's Wedding  
in honor of Jessica & Garrett Fenton on  
the birth of Myer  
in memory of Sid Levinson  
in memory of Richard Miller  
**Joann Ruden:**  
in memory of Jack Paige  
**Harriet Ruderman:**  
in memory of Jennie Stern  
**Helen Runstein:**  
in memory of Vera Brownstein  
in memory of Al Brownstein  
**Barry & Virginia Russell:**  
in memory of Stanley Perkel  
in memory of Simon Newman  
**Ralph & Elba Shaw:**  
in memory of Rachel Shaw  
**Diana & Stephen Sirkin:**  
in memory of Estelle Wexler  
in memory of Joshua Kahn  
**Yakov Smetana:**  
in memory of Semen Smetana  
**Dennis Steinberg:**  
in memory of Anita Hillebrandt  
in memory of Fanny Bernstein  
**Moisey & Faina Talal:**  
in memory of Bogdana Levitsky  
**Roberta Taskar:**  
in memory of Morton Kessler  
**Barbara Titelbaum:**  
in memory of Arthur Seibert  
**Michael Titelbaum:**  
in memory of Gussie Titelbaum  
**Nick Vaynberg:**  
in memory of Riva Vaynberg  
**Julia Waco:**  
in memory of Howard Waco  
**Debra & Gary Wasserman:**  
in honor of Gary and Deb Wasserman's  
36th Anniversary  
**Allan & Judy Weingard:**  
in memory of Martha Rapp  
**Larry Wiener:**  
in memory of Ray Wiener  
in memory of Dorothy Wiener  
**Yafa Yukhayaeva:**  
in memory of Lev Yukhayaeva  
**Vicki Zidell:**  
in memory of Francine Frisch

in memory of Jack Israel  
in memory of Rebecca Israel  
**Rick Zurow:**  
in memory of Evelyn Zurow

**Gumbert Fund**  
**Miriam Wilenzick:**  
in memory of Esther Feldstein

**Gevurtz Chapel Fund**  
**Bobbie & Phil Cohen:**  
in memory of Rose Weider  
**Elizabeth & David Director:**  
in memory of Rose Weider  
**The Matterazzo Family:**  
in memory of Rose Weider  
**Benjamin Olds & Nadine Gartner:**  
in memory of Rose Weider  
**Michael Olds and Gloria Borg-Olds:**  
in memory of Rose Weider  
**Ben & Jeanette Philan:**  
in memory of Rose Weider  
**Mort Simon:**  
in memory of Rose Weider  
**Jay, Diane, Min & Charlene Zidell:**  
in memory of Rose Weider

**Hazak (Seniors)**  
**Julian Kaufman:**  
in memory of Estelle Wexler

**Hunger Relief Fund**  
**Judith Ahern:**  
in memory of Sonia Willer-Neuman

**Gladys & Joseph Fendel**  
**Camp Fund**  
**Brauna Ritchie:**  
in memory of Jack Ritchie  
**Bruce & Sheila Stern:**  
in memory of Reuben Stern

**Judith & Garry Kahn Camp Fund**  
**Sarah & Jonathan Glass:**  
in honor of Judith Kahn's birthday  
**Garry & Judith Kahn:**  
in honor of Isabelle Levy's  
Bat Mitzvah

**Kirshner Memorial Fund**  
**Esther Bodner-Israel:**  
in memory of Rae Kirshner

**Leonard Barde Cemetery**  
**Enhancement Fund**  
**Larry & Carolyn Gorin:**  
in memory of Leonard Barde

**Feldstein Library Fund**  
**Gloria Bacharach:**  
in memory of Jacob Hammersley  
**Jack & Melanie Birnbach:**  
in memory of David Papper  
**Martha & Glenn Decherd:**  
in memory of Kate Frieda Shapiro

**Lesch Camp Fund**  
**Harold & Jackie Lesch:**  
in memory of Jennie Stern  
**Ben & Jeanette Philan:**  
in honor of Bruce Stern's special birthday  
in memory of Regina Philan

**Mark Ail Campership Fund**  
**Gail Semler:**  
in memory of Esther Zusman

**Milt Horenstein Minyan Fund**  
**Rosalie Goodman:**  
get well wishes for Samuel Miller  
**Samuel Gottlieb:**  
in memory of Arthur Gottlieb  
**Tony & Priscilla Kostiner:**  
in honor of Mylen & Roz Shenker's new  
grandson  
**Natan Meir & Elchanan Van Herpen:**  
in memory of Carole Katz  
**Jerome Saroff:**  
in honor of Ron Saroff & Irene Hect  
**Joan Sher:**  
in memory of Andrea Alter  
**Moskowitz Fund**  
**Riley & Marci Atkins:**  
in appreciation of Riley & Marci Atkins  
on our  
High Holy Day Aliyah  
in honor of Ayla Levi  
in memory of Sid Levinson  
in memory of Sylvia Moskowitz  
in honor of Garrett & Jessica Fenton on  
the birth of Myer  
in honor of Meredith's wedding  
in memory of Si Newman

**Montrose Video Fund**  
**Hy & Myra Jackson:**  
in memory of Dorothy Jackson

**Sonia Nudelman Floral Fund**  
**Rosalie Goodman:**  
get well wishes for Jerry Nudelman  
get well wishes for Shirley Hodes  
**Irv & Rhoda Leopold:**  
get well wishes for Jerry Nudelman  
**Phillip & Sandra Nudelman:**  
in memory of Sonia Nudelman

**Robbie Ball Memorial Fund**  
**for Darfur**  
**Elaine Ball:**  
in memory of Louis Kagan  
**Melvyn Ball:**  
in memory of Louis Ball  
**Bev & David Kagan:**  
in honor of Elaine & Mel Ball  
**Earl & Dale Oller:**  
in memory of Ruby Solomon  
in memory of Roy Oller

**Honigstock Educational**  
**Scholarship Fund**  
**Bruce & Sheila Stern:**  
in memory of Goldie Oster  
in memory of Isadore Kaufman  
**Judy & Warren Williams:**  
in memory of David Honigstock

**Rabbi Kosak Discretionary Fund**  
**Susan Brenner & Ed Kraus:**  
in appreciation of Rabbi Kosak  
**Harvey Checkman:**  
in memory of Bessie Resnick  
**Gordon Haber:**  
in appreciation of Rabbi Kosak  
**Lidia & Raul Krivoy:**  
in honor of Fred & Nora Rothstein's  
double simcha: engagement of both  
daughters

in memory of Sid Levinson  
**Natan Meir & Elchanan Van Herpen:**  
in memory of Jean Konick

**Rabbi Posen Discretionary Fund**  
**Jennifer Greenberg:**  
in memory of Estelle Wexler

**Mark & Leah Rubin**  
**Foundation School Fund**  
**Darlene Arntson:**  
in appreciation of Leah Rubin  
**Wendy, Steven, Rebecca & Michael**  
**Kahn:**  
in memory of Richard Miller

**Saperstein Chapel Fund**  
**Sandie & Larry Hupp:**  
get well wishes for Jerry Nudelman

**Solomon Beautification Fund**  
**Rosalie Goodman:**  
in honor of Jo-Ann Bleich's new home

**Shabbat Kiddush Support**  
**Marvin Wolfson:**  
in memory of Philip Wolfson

**Soble Renovation Fund**  
**Sandey Soble Fields:**  
in memory of Samuel Soble  
**Jerome & Shirley Nudelman:**  
in memory of Samuel Soble

**Women's League**  
**Scholarship Fund**  
**Sue & Elliot Axel:**  
in memory of Estelle Wexler  
**Leonard Springer:**  
in memory of Nettie Springer  
**Marla Weiner:**  
in memory of Rhea Weinstein  
in memory of David Weinstein

**Toinette Menashe**  
**Bookshelf Fund**  
**Toinette Menashe:**  
in memory of M'liss Gilbert  
**Vic & Toinette Menashe:**  
in memory of A.E. Rosenberg

**Weinstein Chapel Fund**  
**Jerrie Roth & Kids:**  
in memory of Jerry Roth  
**Carolyn & Gary Weinstein:**  
in memory of Violet Hyman  
**Ronald & Devora Weinstein:**  
in memory of Max Weinstein  
**Carolyn & Gary Weinstein:**  
in memory of Max Weinstein  
**Stuart Weinstein:**  
in memory of Max Weinstein

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## 2900 Peaceful Lane

**Rick Hartoch wanted to know about our community's favorite outdoor spots. Here is what he found out:**

### **Danielle, Abigail, Samuel, Aryeh, Claire and Tessa**

Kids LOVE being outside in Oregon! Favorite places from this group include Humbug Mountain "because you can go over the clouds", the loop trail at Smith Rock to look into the amazing Monkey's mouth, Sauvie Island to gather walnuts and Silver Falls State park to run behind a gigantic waterfall!



### **Oshra and Zvi Rapaport**

When not teaching in the Aliyah program, Oshra and husband Zvi enjoy taking their unique Teardrop trailer on outdoor adventures. "We love camping in open spaces that remind us of Israel, usually in Central and Eastern Oregon. Hiking and biking are a big part of every trip. One of our favorite campsites is the new Cottonwood State Park which is less than two hours drive from Portland and not very crowded."

### **Erika, Yahmeet and Ran Freundlich**

Each season in Oregon brings a new adventure for us and our Poodle, Lilah. From spring until fall we love camping in our roof-top tent all over the Northwest and enjoy an annual trip to Frog Lake. In the summer, we take our motorboat on the Columbia River. A special adventure is to a little known and hard to reach lagoon called "Peanut" near Reed Island to ski, wakeboard, tube, and swim. In the winter, we love skiing at Mt Hood Meadows.



### **Charles and Leslie Elder**

Every morning Leslie and Charles walk up to Council Crest, the highest point in Portland, and jog down. Charles does this at the crack of dawn before he goes to work while Leslie goes later in the morning. It's 1 1/2 miles straight up from their house but the reward is a good workout and views of 4 mountains if it's clear. When not working at Kaiser or getting ready for an art show, they enjoy taking their kayaks out for a paddle at McNary Lake on Sauvie Island. Leslie also loves to go plein air painting there. In the winter they enjoy downhill skiing at Mt. Bachelor.

5776  
2016

# January

Tevet/Shevat



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					<b>1</b> 20 Tevet 9:00am Morning Minyan  <b>OFFICE CLOSED</b>  6:15pm Kabbalat Shabbat  4:20pm	<b>2</b> 21 Tevet  9:00am Shabbat Services 10:15am Tot Shabbat 10:15am Kiddush Club  <i>Shemot</i>
<b>3</b> 22 Tevet 9:00am Morning Minyan  9:00am ALIYAH 9:00am Boker Tov Bunch	<b>4</b> 23 Tevet 7:15am Morning Minyan  7:30pm Koleinu (choir) Rehearsal	<b>5</b> 24 Tevet 7:15am Morning Minyan 4:15pm ALIYAH 5:00pm Talmud Class 6:30pm Hebrew for Prayer I 7:00pm Machon Ivrit 7:30pm Hebrew for Prayer II	<b>6</b> 25 Tevet 7:15am Morning Minyan  4:15pm ALIYAH 6:30pm Tichon/ALIYAH 6:30pm Siddur Basics 7:00pm Stress Management 7:30pm Learn Tropes	<b>7</b> 26 Tevet 7:15am Morning Minyan  3:30pm Bible Class R. Isaak 7:00pm Executive Meeting 7:30pm Dad's Night	<b>8</b> 27 Tevet 7:15am Morning Minyan  9:00am Foundation Fridays 6:15pm Shabbat Around the World and Moroccan dinner  4:27pm	<b>9</b> 28 Tevet  <i>Bat Mitzvah of Brianna Coughlin</i>  9:00am Shabbat Services 9:30am Downstairs Minyan 12:30am Women's Torah Study 5:30pm Havdalah in Pajamas <i>Va'era</i>
<b>10</b> 29 Tevet 9:00am Morning Minyan  9:00am ALIYAH 9:00am Boker Tov Bunch  <b>3:00pm Installation of Rabbi Kosak</b>	<b>11</b> ROSH CHODESH 1 Shevat 7:00am Morning Minyan  7:30pm Koleinu (choir) Rehearsal	<b>12</b> 2 Shevat 7:15am Morning Minyan 2:00pm Tea at Two 4:15pm ALIYAH 5:00pm Talmud Class 6:30pm Hebrew for Prayer I 7:00pm Machon Ivrit 7:00pm Book Talk@Neveh 7:30pm Hebrew for Prayer II	<b>13</b> 3 Shevat 7:15am Morning Minyan  4:15pm ALIYAH 6:30pm Tichon/ALIYAH 6:30pm Siddur Basics 7:00pm Stress Management 7:30pm Learn Tropes	<b>14</b> 4 Shevat 7:15am Morning Minyan  7:00pm Sisterhood Board Meeting	<b>15</b> 5 Shevat 7:15am Morning Minyan  <i>Bat Mitzvah of Rachel Yoken</i>  9:00am Foundation Fridays 6:15pm Kabbalat Shabbat  4:36pm	<b>16</b> 6 Shevat  <i>Bat Mitzvah of Rachel Yoken</i>  9:00am Shabbat Services 10:15am Tot Shabbat 10:15am Kiddush Club  <i>Bo</i>
<b>17</b> 7 Shevat 9:00am Morning Minyan  9:00am ALIYAH 9:45am Shomrei Teva 10:00am Sisterhood Sundays 12:00pm Irma Rykus Unveiling 1:00pm Rick Lakefish Unveiling	<b>18</b> 8 Shevat 7:15am Morning Minyan  10:00am MLK Day of Service for Preschoolers 7:30pm Koleinu (choir) Rehearsal  <b>MLK DAY - No School</b>	<b>19</b> 9 Shevat 7:15am Morning Minyan 4:15pm ALIYAH 5:00pm Talmud Class 6:30pm Hebrew for Prayer I 7:00pm Machon Ivrit 7:30pm Hebrew for Prayer II	<b>20</b> 10 Shevat 7:15am Morning Minyan 4:15pm ALIYAH 6:30pm Tichon/ALIYAH 6:30pm Siddur Basics 7:00pm Stress Management 7:30pm Learn Tropes	<b>21</b> 11 Shevat 7:15am Morning Minyan  7:00pm Board Meeting	<b>22</b> 12 Shevat 7:15am Morning Minyan  <i>Bat Mitzvah of Orly Meyer</i> 9:00am Foundation Fridays 5:15pm Fourth Friday with Rabbi Posen 6:15pm Kabbalat Shabbat  4:45pm	<b>23</b> 13 Shevat  <i>Bat Mitzvah of Orly Meyer</i> 9:00am Shabbat Services 9:30am Downstairs Minyan  <i>Beshallah - Shabbat Shirah</i>
<b>24</b> 14 Shevat 9:00am Morning Minyan  9:00am ALIYAH 9:40am Men's Club Presents Misha Isaak 12:00pm Cooking for Outside-In	<b>25</b> 15 Shevat 7:15am Morning Minyan  <b>Tu B'shvat</b>  7:30pm Koleinu (choir) Rehearsal	<b>26</b> 16 Shevat 7:15am Morning Minyan 4:15pm ALIYAH 5:00pm Talmud Class 6:30pm Hebrew for Prayer I 7:00pm Machon Ivrit 7:30pm Hebrew for Prayer II	<b>27</b> 17 Shevat 7:15am Morning Minyan 12:30pm Art about Town 4:15pm ALIYAH 6:30pm Tichon/ALIYAH 6:30pm Siddur Basics 7:00pm Stress Management 7:30pm Learn Tropes 7:00pm Sisterhood Speaker	<b>28</b> 18 Shevat 7:15am Morning Minyan  3:30pm Bible Class R. Isaak	<b>29</b> 19 Shevat 7:15am Morning Minyan  <i>Bat Mitzvah of Jenna Cook</i> 9:00am Foundation Fridays 6:15pm Kabbalat Shabbat  4:55pm	<b>30</b> 20 Shevat  <i>Bat Mitzvah of Jenna Cook</i> 9:00am Shabbat Services 9:30am Downstairs Minyan 10:00am Fifth Shabbat with Rabbi Posen  <i>Yitro</i>

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# February

Shevat/Adar I



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>31</b> January <b>21 Shevat</b> 9:00am Morning Minyan  9:00am ALIYAH 9:00am Boker Tov Bunch	<b>1</b> <b>22 Shevat</b> 7:15am Morning Minyan  7:30pm Koleinu (choir) Rehearsal	<b>2</b> <b>23 Shevat</b> 7:15am Morning Minyan  4:15pm ALIYAH 5:00pm Talmud Class 6:30pm Hebrew for Prayer I 7:00pm Machon Ivrit 7:30pm Hebrew for Prayer II	<b>3</b> <b>24 Shevat</b> 7:15am Morning Minyan 4:15pm ALIYAH 6:30pm Tichon/ALIYAH 6:30pm Siddur Basics 7:00pm Stress Management 7:30pm Learn Tropes	<b>4</b> <b>25 Shevat</b> 7:15am Morning Minyan  3:30pm Bible Class R. Isaak	<b>5</b> <b>26 Shevat</b> 7:15am Morning Minyan Bat Mitzvah of Sydney Kaufman 9:00am Foundation Fridays 6:15pm First Friday with Ilene Safyan  5:05pm	<b>6</b> <b>27 Shevat</b> Bat Mitzvah of Sydney Kaufman 9:00am Shabbat Services 10:15am Tot Shabbat 10:15am Kiddush Club  Mishpatim
<b>7</b> <b>28 Shevat</b> 9:00am Morning Minyan  9:00am ALIYAH 9:00am Boker Tov Bunch 10:00am PJ our Way Book Club	<b>8</b> <b>29 Shevat</b> 7:15am Morning Minyan  7:00pm Men's Club Board Meeting 7:30pm Koleinu (choir) Rehearsal	<b>9</b> ROSH CHODESH <b>30 Shevat</b> 7:00am Morning Minyan  4:15pm ALIYAH 5:00pm Talmud Class 6:30pm Hebrew for Prayer I 7:00pm Machon Ivrit 7:30pm Hebrew for Prayer II	<b>10</b> ROSH CHODESH <b>1 Adar I</b> 7:00am Morning Minyan 4:15pm ALIYAH 6:30pm Tichon/ALIYAH 6:30pm Siddur Basics 7:00pm Stress Management 7:30pm Learn Tropes	<b>11</b> <b>2 Adar I</b> 7:15am Morning Minyan  3:30pm Bible Class R. Isaak 7:00pm Executive Meeting 7:15pm Sisterhood Board Meeting	<b>12</b> <b>3 Adar I</b> 7:15am Morning Minyan Bar Mitzvah of Andrew Caplan 9:00am Foundation Fridays 6:15pm Kabbalat Shabbat  5:15pm	<b>13</b> <b>4 Adar I</b> Bar Mitzvah of Andrew Caplan 9:00am Shabbat Services 12:30pm Women's Torah Study 5:30pm Havdalah in Pajamas 9:30am Downstairs Minyan  Terumah
<b>14</b> <b>5 Adar I</b> 9:00am Morning Minyan  No School 11:00am Bernice Resnikoff Unveiling	<b>15</b> <b>6 Adar I</b> 7:15am Morning Minyan  President's Day - No schools	<b>16</b> <b>7 Adar I</b> 7:15am Morning Minyan 2:00pm Tea at Two 4:15pm ALIYAH 5:00pm Talmud Class 6:30pm Hebrew for Prayer I 7:00pm Machon Ivrit 7:30pm Hebrew for Prayer 2	<b>17</b> <b>8 Adar I</b> 7:15am Morning Minyan  4:15pm ALIYAH 6:30pm Tichon/ALIYAH 6:30pm Siddur Basics 7:30pm Learn Tropes	<b>18</b> <b>9 Adar I</b> 7:15am Morning Minyan  3:30pm Bible Class R. Isaak 7:00pm Board Meeting	<b>19</b> <b>10 Adar I</b> 7:15am Morning Minyan  9:00am Foundation Fridays 6:15pm Kabbalat Shabbat  5:25pm	<b>20</b> <b>11 Adar I</b> 9:00am Shabbat Services - Led by ALIYAH 3rd-4th grade 10:15am Tot Shabbat 10:15am Kiddush Club  Tetzaveh
<b>21</b> <b>12 Adar I</b> 9:00am Morning Minyan Foundation School Walk-A-Thon 9:40am Men's Club presents Rob Neyer 9:45am Shomrei Teva 12:00pm Cooking for Outside-In	<b>22</b> <b>13 Adar I</b> 7:15am Morning Minyan  7:30pm Koleinu (choir) Rehearsal	<b>23</b> <b>14 Adar I</b> 7:15am Morning Minyan  4:15pm ALIYAH 5:00pm Talmud Class 6:30pm Hebrew for Prayer I 7:00pm Machon Ivrit 7:30pm Hebrew for Prayer 2	<b>24</b> <b>15 Adar I</b> 7:15am Morning Minyan 4:15pm ALIYAH 6:30pm Tichon/ALIYAH 6:30pm Siddur Basics 7:30pm Learn Tropes	<b>25</b> <b>16 Adar I</b> 7:15am Morning Minyan  3:30pm Bible Class R. Isaak 7:00pm Dad's Night	<b>26</b> <b>17 Adar I</b> 7:15am Morning Minyan Bat Mitzvah of Aliza Rubin 9:00am Foundation Fridays 5:30pm Fourth Fridays with Rabbi Posen 6:15pm Kabbalat Shabbat  5:35pm	<b>27</b> <b>18 Adar I</b> Bat Mitzvah of Aliza Rubin 9:00am Shabbat Services 9:30am Downstairs Minyan  Ki Tisa
<b>28</b> <b>19 Adar I</b> 9:00am Morning Minyan  9:00am ALIYAH 9:00am Boker Tov Bunch 9:30am New Member Brunch 11:00am Sisterhood Mah Jongg Tournament	<b>29</b> <b>20 Adar I</b> 7:15am Morning Minyan  7:30pm Koleinu (choir) Rehearsal					



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Main Sanctuary

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11:00 am - 12:00 pm Brunch and explanation of rules

12:00 pm - 4:00 pm Tournament and prizes



Register by February 21, 2016



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Attn: Sisterhood Mah Jongg

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

I will be coming for brunch: Yes \_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_

I can provide a Mah Jongg set \_\_\_\_ card table \_\_\_\_



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## DAN STOLLER

- BBYO Youth Advisor
- Black / Jewish Dialogue Participant
- Jewish Community Relations Council Representative

NARRATED BY:

## STEVE SIRKIN

- Black / Jewish Dialogue Participant
- Neveh Shalom Men's Club President

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