



Ma CHADASH! מה חדש!

What's New! The newsletter of Temple Shalom Synagogue Center, Auburn, Maine ק"ק היכל שלום

December 2022, Kislev/Tevet 5783



The Room in the Elephant

Exhibition and Gallery talk by, Los Angeles artist, Benny Ferdman

**TUESDAY, DECEMBER 13th, 7 P.M.,
ON ZOOM**



**Temple Shalom
Annual Mega-Chanukah Party
Sunday, December 18th,
4:00 p.m.**

FROM THE RABBI



A letter from Rabbi Harry Sky, z"l, written on May 14, 2009. Rabbi Sky, who passed in 2019, led Temple Beth El in Portland for nearly three decades. His wisdom is particularly appropriate for these times. Thank you to Sha Sha for passing this along.

Hope. During the dreadful years of the Holocaust someone wrote a song of hope: "Don't ever say the current road is the final road." It was sung in the ghettos of Europe, in concentration camps and even at the doors of the crematoria. Many survivors of the camps and the ghettos have told their stories of hope and faith. One said to me: "Every morning the survivors of the night before began their day with "This is not the final road."

Lately I have been saying to myself, "We, the current survivors of the errors and miscalculations of recent years, should be singing the same song." Every period in history had moments of great fear and despair, of failure and chicanery. But we humans have survived!" Well, if truth be told, the divine message in Genesis is "I did not create the world to destroy it." We have to believe there are messages imbibed in us, in our souls, that provide us with the desire and the hope to continue and survive.

My message to all of us is simple: Do not listen to the nay-sayers who insist the freedom-loving, the hope-believing and the optimists are foolish. We are not. We say to all that is ruinous, destructive and defeatist: "This too shall pass." Brush off your coat, hold your head high, sharpen your faith and you will find an answer for this period's dilemmas.

Don't compare your life with others', you have no idea what their journey is about. No one is in charge of your happiness except you. Burn the candles, use the sheets, don't save them for a special occasion. Today is special. You are special. Forgive everyone for everything. What other people think of you is none of your business. Time heals almost everything. Give time, time.

However good or bad a situation is, it will change. Your job won't take care of you when you're sick. Your friends will stay in touch. Get rid of anything that isn't useful, beautiful or joyful. "For I know the plans that I have for you," declares the Eternal. "Plans for welfare and not for calamity, to give you a future and a hope. Then you will upon Me and come and pray to Me, and I will listen to you. And you will seek Me and find Me when you search for Me with all your heart." -Jeremiah 29: 11-13

"The greatest hazard to life is to risk nothing. The person who risks nothing does nothing, has nothing, is nothing. He may avoid suffering and sorrow, but he simply cannot learn, feel, change, grow, love, live." -Ron Brownfield, author

Each night before you go to bed, finish these sentences: "I am thankful for _____. Today I accomplished _____." Enjoy the ride. Remember this is not Disney World and you certainly don't want a fast pass. Make the most of it, and enjoy the ride! When you wake up in the morning, complete the sentence: "My purpose today is _____."

Realize that life is a school and you are here to learn and pass the tests. Problems are simply part of the curriculum: they appear and fade away like algebra class, but the lessons you learn will last your lifetime. Life is too short to waste time being angry or hating anyone. Don't take yourself so seriously; no one else does.

Rabbi Sruli

P.S. On December 3rd, at 3:30 p.m., Rabbi Sruli and Lisa will perform for the Lewiston "Holiday Lights" Tree and Menorah lighting in Dufresne Plaza, 72 Lisbon Street. On December 20th, at 6:30 p.m., Rabbi Sruli and Lisa will perform a Chanukah concert for OceanView at Falmouth

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



With the holidays and the end of the year approaching, many of us feel overwhelmed. We get very busy, sometimes crazy busy, especially when trying to think of that perfect gift to give someone. But what about the intangible gifts we can give? Like writing someone a letter, making a phone call, inviting someone to dinner, remembering someone's birthday, or just sitting down face to face and really listening. These are the moments that can leave an indelible mark on the receiver. Dare I say they will also make the giver feel good. I'll just sneak in a suggestion to make a donation to Temple Shalom before the

end of the tax year. That'll make you feel good too! As president, I'm always thinking of ways to benefit our community. I believe that being a presence and staying connected have the biggest payoffs. Now it's up to you to help make this work. I welcome phone calls or emails, or even a text, to discuss ways you can do your part. It's a new day, it's a new year.....good things are coming!

Lesli Weiner
President

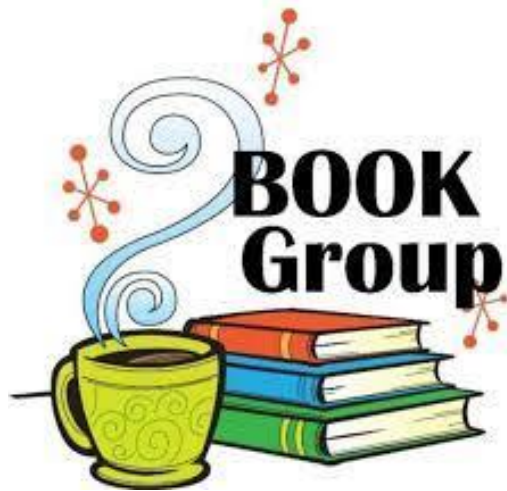


BOARD MEETING

Board of Director's Meeting
Monday, December 12, 2022
7:00 PM

Rabbi Sruli is always happy to speak with and meet with members or our Temple. Please call or text his cell phone at 914-980-9509 if you would like to speak with him or to arrange a time for a meeting. You can also call or leave a message at the Temple office and Rabbi Sruli will get back to you.

!!BOOK GROUP NEWS!!



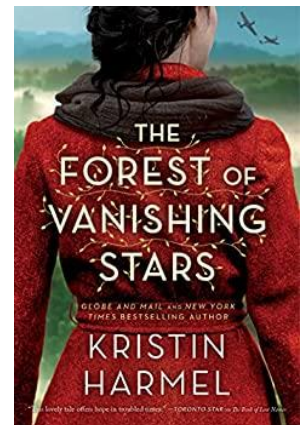
On November 14th we discussed *Hannah's War* by Jan Eliasberg. Attending on zoom were Marsha Auster, Helene Perry, Bertha Bodenheimer, Karen Calloway, Margaret Meyer and me, Lesli Weiner. This was a “re-imagining” of the race to develop the atom bomb. Was the intrigue, romance and plot twists enough to give this 5 stars? No, maybe 3½. But it was a quick read and it kept me guessing, so I won't give away the ending.

Our next novel is *The Forest of Vanishing Stars* by Kristin Harmel. Amazon gives it 4.6 stars, and I agree. Here's the write-up:

“.....an evocative coming-of-age World War II story about a young woman who uses her knowledge of the wilderness to help Jewish refugees escape the Nazis—until a secret from her past threatens everything.

After being stolen from her wealthy German parents and raised in the unforgiving wilderness of eastern Europe, a young woman finds herself alone in 1941 after her kidnapper dies. Her solitary existence is interrupted, however, when she happens upon a group of Jews fleeing the Nazi terror. Stunned to learn what's happening in the outside world, she vows to teach the group all she can about surviving in the forest—and in turn, they teach her some surprising lessons about opening her heart after years of isolation. But when she is betrayed and escapes into a German-occupied village, her past and present come together in a shocking collision that could change everything.”

Inspired by incredible true stories of survival against staggering odds, and suffused with the journey-from-the-wilderness elements that made *Where the Crawdads Sing* a worldwide phenomenon, *The Forest of Vanishing Stars* is a heart-wrenching and suspenseful novel from the #1 internationally bestselling author whose writing has been hailed as “sweeping and magnificent” (Fiona Davis, *New York Times* bestselling author), “immersive and evocative” (*Publishers Weekly*), and “gripping” (*Tampa Bay Times*).



We will meet, again on zoom, on MONDAY, DECEMBER 12 at 4PM, just one week before Chanukah. We will also spend some time choosing our next books. So COME PREPARED!lesli



HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO

Estelle Rubinstein	Dec.	3
Andrew Bodenheimer		6
Joshua Goodman		7
Lillian Zidle		7
Briana Robillard		9
Peter Casares		10
Jennifer Nussinow Tasker		11
Carla Marcus		15
Sarah Levine		30
Patricia Suzanne		30



Yahrzeiten

Rose P. Marcus	Dec.	1
Michael Abromson		3
Max Lezberg		3
Hilda Kleeger		4
Philip Rosen		4
Harvey J. Shain		6
Sonny Isaacson		10
Renee Laine		11
Morris Supovitz		12
Charles W. Marcus		17
Ethel Plavin		19
Dorothy Fishman		21
Morris Zallen		21
Morris Silverman		22
Frances Silverman		23
Sherman Shapiro		25
Frances Stern		25
Marcia Bell		28
Mazie Schwartz		28
Jack Simons		30



BETH ABRAHAM RECORDS NOW AVAILABLE TO ACCESS - MUSKIE ARCHIVES & SPECIAL COLLECTIONS LIBRARY, BATES COLLEGE

The records of the Temple Beth Abraham have been arranged and described and are available for researchers to access. As shown on the online collection description, these records are arranged alphabetically by folder title. Anyone interested in accessing the records can do so by scheduling an appointment online at our website (<https://www.bates.edu/archives/>), or by calling the Muskie Archives at 786-6354. The Archives is not open for drop-in visits: all patrons must make appointments to view any collections. Please see our website for available appointment times.

Ma Chadash/What's New is published monthly by Temple Shalom, Synagogue-Center. Temple Shalom is an independent congregation and a member of the Lewiston-Auburn Jewish Federation.

The mission of Temple Shalom, Synagogue-Center is to foster a strong Jewish identity and an active Jewish Community.

Rabbi Sruli Dresdner

Office Manager Julie Waite

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COMMITTEE CHAIRS

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	Paula Marcus-Platz

SPEEDY RECOVERY

We pray for refuah sh'leimah – the full and speedy recovery of **Valci Braga, Eli Brenner, Rachel Corvi, Lee Jay Feldman, Andrea Finn, Dougie Fleck, Sara Graf, Robert Galumbeck, Isaak Gekhtin, Detlef Gerlach, Ariella Green, Sharon Hemond, Suzan Katzir, Michael Kendall, Lynn Kaduson, Linda Koskela, Henry Lefkowitz, Michelle Lemieux, Lee Leveille, Bruce Meyer, Sandy Miller, Alice Richman, Joel Salberg, Bob Scott, Sandy Traister, Neal Weiner, William White**, and all others who are not well at this time. *We like to hear good news! Whenever you request that a name be put on this list, please let Temple Shalom know when it can be removed.*



*Wishing you a speedy
and complete recovery.*

CONTRIBUTIONS

GENERAL FUND

Cathy & Stan Tetenman
In memory of Stephen Wilner
Speedy recovery to Scott Shapiro
Speedy recovery to Joel Goodman
Speedy recovery to Harvey Bell
Speedy recovery to Babs Shapiro
In memory of Lizzy Johnson
Babs & Michael Shapiro
In memory of Stephen Wilner
Bertha Bodenheimer
In memory of Stephen Wilner
In memory of Lizzy Johnson
Estelle Rubinstein
In memory of Hyman Rubinstein
In memory of Stephen Wilner
Joan Levenson
In memory of Sadie Baker
In appreciation of receiving Ma Chadash
The Bell Family
In memory of Reva Finks Roth
In memory of Irving Bell
Robert Scott
In memory of John H. Scott
Phyllis Bell
In memory of Sina Amsel
Bonnie & Larry Faiman
In memory of Stephen Wilner
Speedy recovery to Estelle Rubinstein
In memory of Lizzy Johnson
Michael Gagne
In memory of Stephen Wilner
Speedy recovery to Joel Goodman
Speedy recovery to Babs Shapiro
Harriet & Behzad Fakhery
Speedy recovery to Joel Goodman
Speedy recovery to Babs Shapiro
Tom & Paula Marcus-Platz
In memory of Stephen Wilner
In memory of Lizzy Johnson
Robert Rovner
In appreciation to Rabbi Sruli
Anne & David Allen
In memory of Lizzy Johnson



ABROMSON MEMORIAL FUND

Judy Abromson
In memory of Stephen Wilner
In memory of Michael Abromson
Speedy recovery to Joel Goodman
Speedy recovery to Babs Shapiro
In memory of Lizzy Johnson

COHEN/LEVOY GARDEN FUND

Helene & Lewis Perry
In memory of Stephen Wilner

MITZVAH FUND

Phyllis Graber Jensen
In memory of Stephen Wilner

NUSSINOW EDUCATION ENRICHMENT FUND

Amy & Scott Nussinow
In memory of Ecie Nussinow
In memory of Abraham Krasner

PRAYER BOOK/PULPIT FUND

Sandra & Allen Miller
In memory of Abraham Miller

RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

Karen Brooks
In memory of Susan Warschauer
Nancy & Ken Levinsky
In memory of Adele Silverman
Phyllis Graber Jensen
In memory of Lizzy Johnson

RANDALL SILVER LIBRARY FUND

Phyllis Wilner
In memory of Stephen Wilner
Marianne Wise
In memory of Stephen Wilner
Estelle Rubinstein
In honor of Malca Wilner's 90th birthday

BELL MEMORIAL CHAPEL FUND

BODENHEIMER PASSOVER FUND

CEMETERY FUND

ENDOWMENT FUND

EVE & GEORGE SHAPIRO MEMORIAL FUND

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MARCUS MEMORIAL GARDEN FUND

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Friday Night Live!

**Friday, December 2nd, at 7:00 P.M.,
at Temple Shalom**

Musical Candle Lighting, plus:

“A Volunteer in Israel” by Whitney Smith

A Brand-New Memoir by Rebbetzin Lisa

A Celebration of Malca Wilner’s 90th Birthday!

Oneg to Follow
