



# The Scroll

## Congregation Shaara Tfile

84 Weibel Avenue, Saratoga Springs, NY 12866

Phone: 518-584-2370 Fax: 518-584-5226

E-mail: saratogajcc@albany.twcbc.com

### Calendar of Events

#### March

- 3-Family Services.....7:00pm
- 5-Four Chaplains Memorial Service.....2:30pm
- 6-Light Dinner(reservation required).....5:30pm
- 6-Reading of the Megillah.....6:00pm
- 7-Sisterhood Meeting.....5:30pm
- 10-Friday Family Shabbat Service.....7:00pm
- 14-Board Meeting.....5:30pm
- 16-Tefillin Class.....9:00am
- 21-Havurah Vatik(reservation required).11:00am

#### April

- 4-Sisterhood Meeting.....5:30pm
- 5-CST Seder via Zoom.....6:30pm
- 7-Family Service.....7:00pm
- 11-Board Meeting.....5:30pm
- 13-Yizkor Service.....9:00am
- 17-Yom Hashoah Program.....6:30pm
- 18-Havurah Vatik(reservation required).11:00am
- 26-Israel 75<sup>th</sup> Birthday Program.....5:30pm

#### Regular Services

- Mondays & Thursdays.....7:30am
- Saturdays.....9:30am

#### Office Hours\*

- Monday-Friday.....9:00am-1:00pm

#### Hebrew School\*

- Mondays & Wednesdays.....5:30pm-7:15pm

#### Adult Ed

- See Below.....4:00pm-5:00pm

\*See calendars for planned cancellations

**The office will have limited hours during the month of March. Please call 518-584-2370 before coming over.**

**Please maintain caution on walkways and the parking lot. All reasonable efforts are made to remove snow and ice, but the weather gets ahead of us at times.**

### *From the Desk of Rabbi Marmon*

The spring holiday season is upon us! Though not nearly as concentrated or intense as their fall counterparts, the spring holidays – from Purim in early March this year to Shavuot falling in late May – are easily the busiest such an extended period on the Jewish calendar. In addition to the venerable biblical holidays above, and with them Passover and the period of counting the Omer (including within it the occasion of Lag Ba’Omer), this stretch of the calendar includes a number of modern additions to the lineup. Specifically, the period of the Omer now includes:



1. Yom HaShoah, the Israeli/Jewish Holocaust memorial occasion, based on the timing of the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising (as opposed to the UN’s International Holocaust Memorial Day on January 27th, based on the date the liberation of Auschwitz – and it must be said that overruling the Jews on the proper date to memorialize the Holocaust is what the kids call a “weird flex.” One could also argue that both dates are somewhat misguided in emphasis, as most Shoah victims had no opportunity to experience either armed resistance or liberation).

2. Yom Ha’Atzma’ut, Israel’s Independence Day, which is exactly what it sounds like.

And 3. Yom HaZikaron, Israel’s Memorial Day, which the state’s founding generation cleverly and movingly placed on the day before Yom Ha’Atzma’ut so that Israelis never celebrate their continued existence and sovereignty without first remembering and acknowledging those who sacrificed to make it possible.

If you’ve lost count, this totals up to six yontov days (outside Israel), a chol hamo’ed week, four non-yontov sacred occasions plus the bonus day of Shushan Purim (in ancient walled cities, i.e. Jerusalem), Lag BaOmer (however you want to characterize it), two minor fasts (the days preceding Purim and Passover), and an entire 49-day span of unique character and practices, within a space of slightly less than three months. On top of all that, the latter end of the season includes the end of the modern school year and Confirmation programs, often on Shavuot, in many communities. It’s a lot. I haven’t even mentioned tax day! Fair enough, not a Jewish holiday, but I like to stay on Mike’s good side when I’m late with my Scroll article.

Needless to say, there is more material here than I could ever cover in one article, and in most years Passover, as the literal and figurative centerpiece of the season, gets the most attention. This year, I would like to put the focus elsewhere, and a little math will partly explain why. For once, the math is easier on the Jewish calendar: this year is 5783, and the State of Israel was founded in 5708 (1948), making it Israel’s 75th birthday! The miraculous accomplishments of the state and its citizens within one human lifespan are undoubtedly worthy of celebration.

We all know that the first miraculous accomplishment of the state, achieved at great human cost in the aftermath of the destruction of roughly 40% of the global pre-Holocaust Jewish population, was simply to survive the threat of physical eradication, particularly in the state’s first thirty years when literally every neighbor was formally, and often concretely, at war with her. Today, despite the perpetual threat of destructive conflict with powerful foes like Iran, and the abiding reality of an unabated terrorist assault on the peace and security of Israelis (and Jews around the world), we can say that with the help of God and a Qualitative Military Edge, the State of Israel is not realistically in danger of physical annihilation on an imminent basis. (Continued on Page 8)

**From 4:00 to 5:00 pm every Monday, we will continue studying the biblical historical books which follow the Torah. If you like action, intrigue, or adventure, pathos, bathos, and deep layers of subtext – well, whatever you like, there is something for you. See you Mondays in the new year!**

**The Board of Congregation Shaara Tfillle**

**Rabbi**.....Rabbi Boaz Marmon

**Board of Directors**

Linda Bertrand.....President  
 Pamela Polacsek.....Vice President  
 Ted Orosz.....Treasurer  
 Deborah Sabin.....Secretary

**Board Members**

Eileen Woodcock.....Youth Education  
 Allen Kasin.....Cemetery  
 Allen Kasin.....Gabbi Liaison  
 Robert Katzman.....Legal Advisor  
 Sharon Dunn.....Board Position  
 Larry Paltrowitz.....Board Position  
 Piper Lutbak.....Board Position  
 Judith Ehrenshaft.....Past President

**Committee Chairs**

Religious.....Allan Polacsek  
 Membership.....Seth Rosner  
 Fundraising.....  
 Budget.....Ted Orosz  
 Strategic Planning.....Pamela Polacsek  
 Sisterhood Liaison.....Judith Ehrenshaft  
 Men's Club Liaison.....Allan Polacsek  
 House and Grounds.....Skip Woodcock  
 Bingo Liason.....  
 Pull Tab Liaison.....Carole Polacsek  
 Endowment Fund.....Robert Katzman  
 Scroll.....Michael Fischer  
 Facebook Liaison.....Deborah Sabin  
 Web Liaison.....Deborah Sabin  
 Office Administrator.....Carole Leakakos

**Rabbi Marmon's office hours:**

To reach the Rabbi, you may either call the office or call the Rabbi directly at his number listed in the synagogue directory.

**Office Hours:** Office hours are 9:00am-1:00pm. The office will be closed April 6, 7, 12 and 13. The office will have limited hours during the month of March. Please call 518-584-2370 before coming over.

**Carole's Request:** Email communications to the office and for Scroll submittals are requested to be sent to the synagogue email address at [saratogajcc@albany.twcbc.com](mailto:saratogajcc@albany.twcbc.com) . The deadline for Scroll submittals of text is the 10<sup>th</sup> of the month prior to the next Scroll (i.e. April 10<sup>th</sup> for the May/June Scroll).

**Covid Controls:** If you will be attending services in-house, we ask that you bring your own Tallis and Yarmulka. Proof of vaccination is required to enter the building. Masks are optional.

*Communications*

- We are trying to communicate more with our members and friends by email. We have been sending out weekly if not more often, email messages. If we do not have your email address please send it to [saratogajcc@albany.twcbc.com](mailto:saratogajcc@albany.twcbc.com) so we can add it to our contacts.
- We have a phone tree that sends out messages from the synagogue. If you are not receiving the messages, please call the office and provide Carole with your phone number.

*When You Need Something*

- If you know of a congregant who would like a home or hospital visit, call Carole in the office. Cynthia Flax and Roberta Gottesman have generously started a sunshine outreach to our friends in the synagogue.
- Call the office at 518-584-2370 if you have any questions about any of our programs.

*Memorial Candles & Birthday Greetings*

- The Congregation sends out a reminder letter with a memorial candle when you have a yahrzeit for a loved one. We also send annual birthday greetings. Let the office know if you would prefer to not receive candles, or are not receiving reminder letters/ birthday greetings.

*Remembrance/Dedications*

- If you would like to honor your loved ones who have departed, we offer Memorial Plaques in the Sanctuary. They are a permanent remembrance for those who are no longer with us. The cost is \$500 per plaque. In addition, one can dedicate a Prayer book to honor a special occasion (\$36) or a gold leaf in the vestibule's Tree of Life (\$200). For more information, please call Carole in the office.
- As our Mi Sheberach list grows, we are not sure if some of our congregants and friends still need to be on the list. Please call Carole so that we can update our list and keep it current.

*Cemetery*

- The Cemetery Rules and Fees document of Congregation Shaara Tfillle spells out eligibility, rights, and fees. It also sets guidelines for use of the building and sanctuary during funerals. Call the office at 518-584-2370 if you wish to receive an electronic copy of the document.
- Our Cemetery is open year round. We ask that you be careful when visiting. The walkway can be slippery.

# Contributions

## Memorial Candles

Rhoda and Avram Freedberg in memory of Melvin Freedberg  
 Helen and Sid Gordon in memory of Lawrence Gordon  
 Helen and Sid Gordon in memory of Naomi Gordon  
 Ellen Messing in memory of Lillian Rosenblatt  
 Ellen Messing in memory of Eli Rosenblatt  
 Ellen Messing in memory of Abe Messing  
 Ellen Messing in memory of Lee Messing  
 Paula and Jonathan Fishbein in memory of Nathan Goldsmith  
 Paula and Jonathan Fishbein in memory of Pearl Goldsmith  
 Paula and Jonathan Fishbein in memory of Fanny Greenblatt  
 Sharon Liese and Barry Potoker in memory of Renee Potoker  
 Dede Gamar Hirsch in memory of Lori Hirsch Burbank  
 Dede Gamar Hirsch in memory of Howard Hirsch  
 David Kieserman in memory of Benjamin Kieserman  
 Carole and Allan Polacsek in memory of Otto Silverhart  
 Felice Karlitz and Jerry Grodin in memory of Nathan Karlitz  
 Jack Mintzer and Adena Wirkerman in memory of Walter Levy  
 Fran and Howard Zuckerman in memory of Abraham Schapiro  
 Fran and Howard Zuckerman in memory of Mary Zuckerman  
 Patricia Bruder in memory of Herbert Rothman  
 Dianna and Eugene Nachamkin in memory of Elle Nachamkin  
 Marcia Snyder in memory of Rose Snyder  
 Rhoda and Avram Freedberg in memory of Sidney Bernstein  
 Rhoda and Avram Freedberg in memory of Stanley Freedberg  
 Linda Bertrand in memory of Phyllis Laike  
 Susan and Mitchell Frost in memory of Annette Reeder  
 Susan and Mitchell Frost in memory of Murray Frost  
 Wilma and David Koss in memory of Max Koss  
 Norman Mann in memory of Harry Mann  
 Norman Mann in memory of Roberta Mann  
 Norman Mann in memory of Yetta Mann  
 Roberta and Leonard Mintzer in memory of Jennie Sherman  
 Roberta and Leonard Mintzer in memory of Abraham Schechter  
 Sondra Silverhart in memory of Mae Goldman  
 Sondra Silverhart in memory of Peter Silverhart  
 Sondra Silverhart in memory of Otto Silverhart  
 Terry and Harold Weinstein in memory of Isadore Leiberson  
 Dede Gamar Hirsch in memory of Paul Hirsch  
 Rhoda and Avram Freedberg in memory of Max Padell  
 Ruth and Edward Dweck in memory of Sophie Dweck  
 Ruth and Edward Dweck in memory of Jacob Dweck  
 Helen and Sid Gordon in memory of Morris Gordon  
 Helen and Sid Gordon in memory of David Gordon  
 Judith Ehrenshaft in memory of Murray Linden  
 Sharon Dunn and Harvey Zirofsky in memory of Bessie Dunn  
 Sharon Dunn and Harvey Zirofsky in memory of Irving Dunn  
 Roberta and Leonard Mintzer in memory of Charles Mintzer  
 Roberta and Leonard Mintzer in memory of Julius Mintzer

## Cemetery Upkeep Fund

Everett Aison  
 Howard Aison  
 Judith Okun

## Yom Kippur Appeal

Norman Mann  
 Robert and Ellen Messing  
 Irving Metzger

## Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

Susan and Philip Weissman

## General Contributions

Pamela, Carole and Allan Polacsek sending get well soon wishes to Marsha Katzman  
 Rabbi Linda Motzkin and Rabbi Jonathan Rubenstein in memory of Dr. Donald Motzkin  
 Helen and Sid Gordon in fond memory of Mae Tanenbaum Feluren, sister of Jay  
 Tanenbaum  
 Judith Thomas and Rabbi Josef Solomon in honor of Piper Lutbak with thanks for her  
 many kind deeds shown to our family  
 Dr. Richard Reisman in memory of Jane Weiskopf Reisman  
 PAL'S ALLIANCE, LTD  
 Erik Simon  
 Kenneth Sider  
 Barry Sanders  
 Jane and Garry Sanders  
 Helen and Sid Gordon for prayers being said for Rhonda and Maureen  
 Judith Thomas and Rabbi Josef Solomon with sincere thanks for the delicious surprise  
 meal delivered to them on January 15<sup>th</sup>  
 Jay Portnoy-Jean Stamm Saratoga Charitable Trust  
 Steven Goldberg in honor of Tu B'Shvat  
 Ilene Angarola  
 Carole and Bill Leakakos Mazel Tov to Marilyn Shapiro and Howard Stark on the marriage  
 of their daughter Audra to Allin Hedge

## In Memory of Marcia Metzger

Judy and Allan Korot  
 Rabbi Linda Motzkin and Rabbi Jonathan Rubenstein  
 Jay Goldman  
 Michael Litz/Angers & Litz Associates Inc.  
 Shirley Schultz  
 Lauren and Scott Henkin  
 Susan and Philip Weissman  
 Sondra Silverhart  
 Rhoda and Avram Freedberg

## Kiddush Fund

Rabbi Linda Motzkin and Rabbi Jonathan Rubenstein in honor of their 40<sup>th</sup> wedding  
 anniversary  
 J. Lawrence Paltrowitz  
 B. Minde Kornfeld in loving memory of Irma and Dr. Joseph Mintzer

## Mitzvah Club 2022-2023

Anonymous  
 Linda Bertrand and Bert Isen  
 Patricia Bruder  
 Carol and Steven Chudy  
 Sharon Dunn and Harvey Zirofsky  
 Judith Ehrenshaft and Seth Rosner  
 Rita and Michael Fischer  
 Lorraine and Steven Hammer  
 Judith and Martin Kaplan  
 Bunny and Allen Kasin  
 Marsha and Robert Katzman  
 Diane White and Ted Orosz  
 Loretta and Arthur Ostrov  
 J. Lawrence Paltrowitz/PAL's ALLIANCE, LTD.  
 Richard Reisman  
 Ronnie and Lester Rosenberg  
 Bernard Singer  
 Kim and Matt Stein

## Yahntzeit List for March/April

<b>MARCH 2023 (Adar 8 – Nisan 9, 5783)</b>						
MAR	DAY	HEB DATE	MEMBER'S NAME	DECEASED (ENGLISH)	DECEASED (HEBREW)	REL
1	W	Adar 8	Richard Chait	Samuel Chait		F
1	W	8	Dorothy Deutsch	Ernest Deutsch	Nussan	F/L
1	W	8	Sharon Dunn	Irving Dunn		F
3	F	10	Felice Karlitz	Freida Karlitz		M
3	F	10	Piper Lutbak	Ray Perlman		M
8	W	15	Carole Leakakos	Asher Hurwitz		U
8	W	15	Marilyn Shapiro	Asher Hurwitz		U
10	F	17	Avram Freedberg	Max Padell	Natan Michael ben Shimon David	GF
11	Sat	18	Arthur Ostrov	Etta Ostrov	Yente vat Menachem Mendel	M
11	Sat	18	Jerome Ostrov	Etta Ostrov	Yente vat Menachem Mendel	M
11	Sat	18	Richard Ostrov	Etta Ostrov	Yente vat Menachem Mendel	M
12	Sun	19	Carol Anne Chait	Louis Pies		F
12	Sun	19	Barbara Opitz	Mildred Lupian	Mindle bat Binyomin	M
12	Sun	19	Susan Weissman	Ruth Butler		M
13	M	20	Philip Weissman	Mildred Weissman	Miriam bat Yitzhak	M
15	W	22	Ronni Rosenberg	Samuel Roth		F
16	Th	23	Allen Kasin	Syde Kasin	Sarah bat Khat	M
17	F	24	S. Sidney Gordon	David Gordon	Dovid ben Moshe	B
18	Sat	25	Judith Ehrenshaft	Murray Linden		U/L
18	Sat	25	S. Sidney Gordon	Morris Gordon	Moshe ben Dovid	F
20	M	27	Rabbi Josef Solomon	Judith Solomon Kravetz		S
21	T	28	Harvey Kalish	Ruth Kalish		M
22	W	29	Richard Chait	Florence Chait		M
23	Th	1	Susan Weissman	Al Butler		F
24	F	2	Dede Hirsch	Benjamin Hurwood	Benyamin	F
24	F	2	Seth Rosner	Oscar Rosner	Osher ben Avraham	F
25	Sat	3	Arthur Ostrov	Rebecca Resnick	Rivka bat Yitzhak	GM
25	Sat	3	Jerome Ostrov	Rebecca Resnick	Rivka bat Yitzhak	GM
25	Sat	3	Richard Ostrov	Rebecca Resnick	Rivka bat Yitzhak	GM
27	M	5	Sondra Silverhart	Sylvia Silverhart	Tzvi bat Dovid	S/L
29	W	7	Sharon Dunn	Bessie Dunn		M
29	W	7	Miriam Messinger	Abraham Steuer	Avraham Moshe ben Menachim	F
30	Th	8	David Kieserman	Esther Kieserman	Esther bat Lazur	M
<b>APRIL 2023 (Nisan 10 – Iyar 9, 5783)</b>						
APR	DAY	HEB DATE	MEMBER'S NAME	DECEASED (ENGLISH)	DECEASED (HEBREW)	REL
1	Sat	Nisan 10	Leonard Mintzer	Ida Schecter	V'hair bat Chaim	GM
1	Sat	10	Roberta Mintzer	Ida Schecter	V'hair bat Chaim	M
1	Sat	10	Gene Salemi	Ellen Salemi		W
2	Sun	11	Avram Freedberg	Avraham Chaim Rogovin	Avraham Chaim ben Yochanan Meir	GGF
4	T	13	Loretta Ostrov	Viola Roston	Verqa bat Yitzhak	GM
6	Th	15	Marsha Katzman	Dorothy A Jacobs	Devorah	M
7	F	16	Susan Edwards	Harry Britt		GF
8	Sat	17	Jay Goldman	Sol Goldman	Shmuel ben Yosef	F
8	Sat	17	Sondra Silverhart	Sol Goldman	Shmuel ben Yosef	F
8	Sat	17	Marcia Snyder	Mary Tabachnick	Miriam	M
9	Sun	18	Philip Weissman	Woodrow Weissman	Velvel	F
12	W	21	Judith Ehrenshaft	Joseph Ehrenshaft		F/L
12	W	21	Edward Greenberg	Roseann Greenberg		W
13	Th	22	Michael Fischer	Eduard Fischer	Elyahu ben Yakov	F
18	T	27	Avram Freedberg	Seymour Leff	Shamai ben Ben Tzion	C
18	T	27	Marc Robin	Ann Robin		M
20	Th	29	Marsha Katzman	Simon Jacobs	Shimon ben Mordechai	F
20	Th	29	Loretta Ostrov	Lisa Mintzer	Lisa Miriam bat Chaim Yosef	S
21	F	30	Patricia Balasuriya	Enid Wiiesekera		M
22	Sat	Iyar 1	Arthur Ostrov	Annie Ostrov	Chana bat Yisroel	GM
22	Sat	1	Jerome Ostrov	Annie Ostrov	Chana bat Yisroel	GM
22	Sat	1	Richard Ostrov	Annie Ostrov	Chana bat Yisroel	GM
24	M	3	Milli Macy	Joseph Marks	Yosef ben Moshe	F
26	W	5	Ted Orosz	Tillie Zanoff		GM
29	Sat	8	Harold Weinstein	Martin Weinstein		F
30	Sun	9	Barbara Opitz	Jacob Lupian	Yaakov ben Yosef	F
30	Sun	9	Ken Ritzenberg	Madeleine Peggy Ritzenberg		M

# Condolences

Congregation Shaara Tfillle sends its deepest condolences to Dick Chait on the recent passing of his sister Betty Ann Lansky

Congregation Shaara Tfillle sends its deepest condolences to Diane White on the passing of her mother Grace Lee White

# Mazel Tov & Thank You

## *March Birthdays & Anniversaries*

- 03 Marcia Snyder
- 04 Harold Weinstein
- 05 Joanne Levine
- 07 Susan Weissman
- 10 Marc Barr
- 10 Marc Weinstein
- 16 Cynthia Flax
- 19 Nathan & Jessica McCullen
- 26 Patricia Balasuriya
- 26 Nathan McCullen
- 28 Felice Karlitz
- 29 Mitchell & Susan Frost
- 31 Rhoda Freedberg

## *April Birthdays & Anniversaries*

- 02 Brian Lee
- 03 Helen Gordon
- 06 Philip Weissman
- 10 Ted Orosz
- 11 Ruth Doyle
- 16 Mark Doyle
- 16 Carole Leakakos
- 19 Allen & Bunny Kasin
- 21 Susan Edwards
- 21 Stuart Mintzer
- 22 Patricia Carson
- 24 Deborah Sabin
- 27 Susan Greenbaum
- 27 Elizabeth McCullen

Congregation Shaara Tfillle would like to say Mazel Tov to Marilyn Shapiro and Howard Stark on the marriage of their daughter Audra Stark to Allin Hedge

Congregation Shaara Tfillle would like to welcome new member Rachel Baum

## *Our Ongoing Appreciation Abounds!*

We want to express our utmost gratitude to the Alfred Z. Solomon Charitable Trust for a generous grant which will let us purchase and install 2 commercial quality web cameras in the sanctuary and 1 in the social hall. This will allow people to experience improved access both in the building and virtually to our services and programs.

We also extend our continuous appreciation to the Jewish Federation of Northeastern New York, as well, for their generosity in awarding a substantial grant allocation to us. These funds give us the ability to host educational, informative and entertaining programs and events that enhance Jewish culture, history, traditions, holidays and more.

Supported by  
Jewish Federation  
OF NORTHEASTERN NEW YORK



Thank you to Skip Woodcock and Bill Leakakos for replacing our American Flag at the entrance of the synagogue.

# 2023 Shalach Manot

*In celebration of the Purim miracle, Mordachi declared that each family should send gifts to their neighbors. This custom has continued for generations. This year, as in years past, we invite you to participate in the Shaara Tfillle Shalach Manot project. Each member family of our Synagogue will receive a Shalach Manot bag delivered to their home. A card enclosed with each bag will list those families who have sent their holiday blessings through the Synagogue. If you wish to send holiday greetings to the entire Congregation, the cost is \$36. We will be sending about 100 bags, so don't miss this great opportunity!*



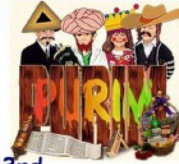
**Packers Needed**

**Wednesday, February 22nd**

**Drivers Needed**

**Beginning Thursday, February 23rd**

**Please call the office at 518-584-2370 to arrange a time**



✂


Yes, I would like to send holiday greetings to the entire Congregation!  
 Enclosed please find my check for \$36.

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 (Please fill in as you would like it to appear on the greeting card enclosed with each bag)

Yes, I can help with:

Packing \_\_\_\_\_ Delivery \_\_\_\_\_

Please return this form with payment before **February 17th**, to:  
 Congregation Shaara Tfillle, 84 Weibel Avenue, Saratoga Springs, NY 12866




**Please Join Us as We Celebrate Purim  
 Come in Costume!**

**When... Monday, March 6**  
 Light Dairy Dinner at 5:30pm  
 Megillah Reading at 6:00pm

There is no cost for this dinner, but we ask that you RSVP to the office by **Wednesday, March 1**, so that we can prepare accordingly.



The Sisterhood of Congregation Shaara Tfillle, in its ongoing projects of Tikkun Olam, partnered with the Mechanicville Area Community Services Center to once again collect and donate much needed items. This winter, in addition to unexpired food products, we will also collect personal care items, first aid products, paper goods, pet food, diapers, gift cards, etc.

Your support and generosity helps families and seniors in need of assistance during difficult times. Please bring your donations to the office during business hours 9AM to 1PM or call 518.584.2370, if you have any questions. **The deadline for donation dropoffs is March 15. Items will be packaged and delivered to Mechanicville by March 20.**

***Havurah Vatik - March 21 and April 18***



Havurah Vatik will resume its monthly meetings, with a presentation and luncheon, on Thursday, March 21 and Thursday, April 18, starting at 11:00. Program details will be provided in upcoming communications.

Reservations are requested by email at [havurahvatic@gmail.com](mailto:havurahvatic@gmail.com) by the prior Thursday, so that appropriate food preparations can be made. Cancellations are also requested, since the caterer charges based upon the number of people attending the luncheon.

**Authorization to Sell Chametz**

I, undersigned, hereby authorize Rabbi Boaz Marmon of Congregation Shaara Tfillle to sell all chametz and/or other food items in my possession which are forbidden during Passover, according to my practice. I pledge that all included items will be stored at the address(es) below by noon on 5 April 2023(14 Nissan 5783) pending delivery to the purchaser. I further authorize Rabbi Marmon to repurchase these items on my behalf, effective 8:30on on 14 April 2023(23 Nissan 5783) if delivery is not completed by that time.



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

I enclose a contribution of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ as a token "agency fee".

Please return this form with payment made payable to: Congregation Shaara Tfillle, 84 Weibel Ave., Saratoga Springs, NY 12866

**This form must be received by Friday, March 31, 2023**

**Please note:** The kitchen will be closed during Passover. Do not bring in or take out any food during this period. Do not bring any chametz into the kitchen until after Passover.

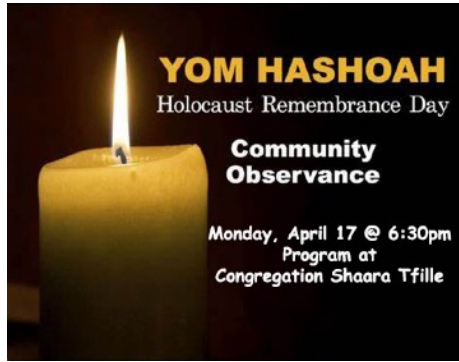
**Erev Pesach  
April 5th**



**Congregation Shaara Tfillle's Seder will be virtual, starting at 6:30 pm, on Wednesday, April 5th. The Zoom link will be provided.**

*Learn to Put on Tefillin-  
9:00 Thursday, March 16*

Immediately after the 3/16 Thursday minyan breakfast, Rabbi Marmon will lead a class on putting on tefillin. In the Conservative movement, tefillin may be worn by both women and men.



*From the Desk of Rabbi Marmon (Continued from page 1)*

This will not be Israel's last birthday! However, it could be Israel's last birthday as a liberal democracy and the nation-state of the Jewish People. Some explanation is in order.

For clarity and simplicity, by liberal democracy, I mean a political system where a majority governs, but various kinds of minorities – ethnic, political, religious – nonetheless enjoy respect and protections under the rule of law. The greatest guarantor of such protection is a court system with the power to compel adherence to the rule of law – and the adherence of the law to the rule of justice – even against the will of the political majority. Among the proposals of the new Israeli government are to strip the courts of the power of judicial review (the power to rule on whether new laws are themselves legal) and/or to permit the Knesset to overrule the High Court on a simple majority vote. These proposals would permit the slimmest of parliamentary majorities – which may or may not actually represent the majority of citizens on any given issue – to, for instance: declare parties in the minority illegal or ineligible for election; change other electoral rules to favor their own continued rule; immunize their own members from prosecution for political misdeeds such as corruption, or even from simple crimes like assault or fraud; declare minority religious practices illegal; and many other abuses. Whether or not any government takes advantage of such malignant opportunities, a political system without structures to prevent or impede such conduct by the ruling power is not a liberal democracy.

By nation-state of the Jewish People, I mean a state which is not only the spiritual homeland of Judaism, but also a representative of the Jewish People as a whole on the world stage, and a welcoming home to any Jew who comes to make Israel their home, whether by purely free choice or because their former home was hostile to Jews. The most obvious and direct threat to this principle are proposals to change Israel's Law of Return to apply only to Jews as defined by Halacha. There are two major problems here: first, the law as presently formulated is largely an intentional counter to the Nuremberg Laws, which discriminated against Jews and their descendants based on ancestry, not Halacha. If the State of Israel had existed during the Holocaust, should it have (סך וּנְחִילָהּ!) forced Jewish men to abandon non-Jewish wives and children to the Nazis as the price of their own rescue?! Second, if the law should be formulated to recognize only Jews according to Halacha, then we must ask, whose Halacha? Should Conservative and Reform converts – and indeed many Modern Orthodox converts – be ineligible for rescue in future emergencies, or to choose to live their lives as Jews in the Jewish State? Happily, altering the Law of Return looks out of reach at the moment, but see above.


Even so, this points to a broader prospective problem for non-(ultra-)Orthodox Jews in and out of Israel. To keep it simple, let's talk about our own community. We are a Conservative shul. We drive to shul on Shabbat – there is literally no one who walks to our shul. We call women up to the Torah, allow women to read Torah or lead davenning or sing, and women may wear a tallit or kippah if they choose; we even let men and women sit together during prayer! Let's imagine for a moment that we, as a community, picked up and made aliyah to Israel for whatever reason. In Israel today, Conservative rabbis can't legally perform marriages, burials, or conversions. So if you or your children want to be married in your shul by your rabbi, no dice – you can have a state-approved Orthodox rabbi marry you according to their customs, or go to Cyprus to be married. Suppose that we decide to take a communal trip to the holiest accessible place in our tradition, the Kotel (the Western Wall), and once there, of course we want to pray together according to our own usual customs. Well, at the Kotel it is illegal for women to wear a tallit, read Torah, or pray alongside men. These are laws in Israel now. There are members of the present government who would like to extend an ultra-Orthodox halachic penumbra over the civil laws of the state beyond just the Law of Return, rendering our theoretically transplanted community even more fully second-class citizens. At some point, even assuming we remain eligible under the Law of Return, does Israel cease to be a welcoming home for us as Jews?

Personally, I don't think we are there yet. Nonetheless, it is disturbingly conceivable and painful even to contemplate. It behooves us as Jews, as Zionists, and as free and freedom-loving people to monitor this situation from afar and to give what support we can to those who are striving to maintain or even improve the existing liberal-democratic legal structure of the state. May the State of Israel greet many more years as a home of religious and personal freedom for all its citizens, and a welcoming home to every Jew – and near-Jew – who needs one.



**Shalom to all** – a cemetery report. Over one year ago, all the headstones were cleaned. Most of them now look like new. The walkways have been reconditioned and a few new ones added. All the grounds in the old and new sections have been improved. A new storage shed is in place. Some ground levels have been modified to help with water runoff after a rain. The ground is being treated to help with new grass growing. The fence on the west side of the cemetery is being treated and painted. The fence adjoining the property on the south side is being evaluated for improvement or replacement. Lots of work continues to be done - it's an ongoing job that has to be done. When you check the cemetery out you will feel proud of how it looks. It's a big mitzvah to help when you can. Thanks to our cemetery committee. The work continues in a good way. Thank you all for your help. Come take a look and see for yourself.- *Shalom, Sid Gordon*

### *Looking Ahead*



**On Sunday, May 7, 2023, 2 PM - 4 PM**, Congregation Shaara Tfille/The Jewish Community Center of Saratoga Springs will honor Sid and Helen Gordon with a festive appetizer and dessert reception. This celebration has two equally important purposes: to honor Sid and Helen for their dedication and contributions to our Congregation and to raise funds for the synagogue.

An invitation with details will be coming shortly.



The Jewish Community Centers of the Capital Region (Albany and Schenectady) are sponsoring a delegation from Northeast NY at both the Junior and Senior Games and hope there are youth outside of these two cities that would be interested in participating.

The regional Junior Maccabi competition is a one day event for youth ages 9-12 and will be in Baltimore, MD on Sunday May 7, 2023. Athletes would travel with their families to the competition site and would be responsible for travel and accommodations. Anyone interested in receiving more information or participating can reach out to [rachelc@schenectadyjcc.org](mailto:rachelc@schenectadyjcc.org).



The Senior Maccabi Games is an international competition for young ADULTS ages 14-17 and is being hosted in Israel. There is one week of competition between athletes from around the world complete with opening and closing ceremonies, days of competition and evenings full of social interaction and activities. There are a number of different sports available to compete in. Our local delegation will then explore and travel Israel for two additional weeks. Participants with the Senior Delegation will incur costs of roughly \$4,500.00 for the three weeks (full cost of trip is estimated to be near \$9,000 but there are scholarship and fundraising opportunities to participate in to reduce the cost).

Anyone interested in learning more is encouraged to contact our Delegation Coordinator Drew Katz at [andrewk@albanyjcc.org](mailto:andrewk@albanyjcc.org).



The community is invited to attend the 58th Four Chaplains Memorial Service and Brotherhood Award Program on Sunday, March 5, 2023 at 2:30pm at the First Reformed Church in Schenectady. Albany Post 105 of the Jewish War Veterans has led this effort to recognize a member of our community since 1966.

For the last half century, this event has honored the four chaplains who gave their lives in the sinking of the troopship Dorchester on February 3, 1943. It honors those whose services and devotion in the practice of brotherhood are deserving of our recognition.

The recipients for 2023 will be Rabbis Jonathan Rubenstein and Linda Motzkin.

Please RSVP your attendance by Thursday, March 2 to Richard Goldenberg at [rgoldenb@nycap.rr.com](mailto:rgoldenb@nycap.rr.com) or 518-727-7314.

# March 2023














WED Mar 1	THU 2	FRI 3	SAT 4			
<p>8th of Adar</p> <p>First Day of Women's History M</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5:30pm Hebrew School</li> <li>5:45pm 3/6 Dinner Cut Off</li> </ul>	<p>9th of Adar</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>7:30am Services</li> </ul>	<p>10th of Adar</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>7pm Family Service</li> </ul>	<p>11th of Adar</p> <p>Shabbat Zachor</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>9:30am Shabbat Services</li> </ul>			
<p>5</p> <p>12th of Adar</p>	<p>6</p> <p>13th of Adar</p> <p>Taanit Esther</p> <p>Erev Purim</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>7:30am Services</li> <li>5:30pm Dinner</li> <li>6pm Megillah</li> </ul>	<p>7</p> <p>14th of Adar</p> <p>Purim</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5:30pm Sisterhood</li> </ul>	<p>8</p> <p>15th of Adar</p> <p>Shushan Purim</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5:30pm Hebrew School</li> </ul>	<p>9</p> <p>16th of Adar</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>7:30am Services</li> </ul>	<p>10</p> <p>17th of Adar</p>	<p>11</p> <p>18th of Adar</p> <p>Shabbat Parah</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>9:30am Shabbat Services</li> </ul>
<p>12</p> <p>19th of Adar</p> <p>Daylight Saving Time starts</p>	<p>13</p> <p>20th of Adar</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>7:30am Services</li> <li>4pm Adult Ed</li> <li>5:30pm Hebrew School</li> </ul>	<p>14</p> <p>21st of Adar</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5:30pm Board Meeting</li> </ul>	<p>15</p> <p>22nd of Adar</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5:30pm Hebrew School</li> </ul>	<p>16</p> <p>23rd of Adar</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>7:30am Services</li> <li>9:00am Tefillin Class</li> </ul>	<p>17</p> <p>24th of Adar</p> <p>St. Patrick's Day</p>	<p>18</p> <p>25th of Adar</p> <p>Shabbat Mevarchim Chodesh N</p> <p>Shabbat HaChodesh</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>9:30am Shabbat Services</li> </ul>
<p>19</p> <p>26th of Adar</p>	<p>20</p> <p>27th of Adar</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>7:30am Services</li> <li>4pm Adult Ed</li> <li>5:30pm Hebrew School</li> </ul>	<p>21</p> <p>28th of Adar</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>11am Havurah Vatik</li> </ul>	<p>22</p> <p>29th of Adar</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5:30pm Hebrew School</li> </ul>	<p>23</p> <p>1st of Nisan, 5783</p> <p>Rosh Chodesh Nisan</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>7:30am Services</li> </ul>	<p>24</p> <p>2nd of Nisan</p>	<p>25</p> <p>3rd of Nisan</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>9:30am Shabbat Services</li> </ul>
<p>26</p> <p>4th of Nisan</p>	<p>27</p> <p>5th of Nisan</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>7:30am Services</li> <li>4pm Adult Ed</li> <li>5:30pm Hebrew School</li> </ul>	<p>28</p> <p>6th of Nisan</p>	<p>29</p> <p>7th of Nisan</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5:30pm Hebrew School</li> </ul>	<p>30</p> <p>8th of Nisan</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>7:30am Services</li> </ul>	<p>31</p> <p>9th of Nisan</p>	

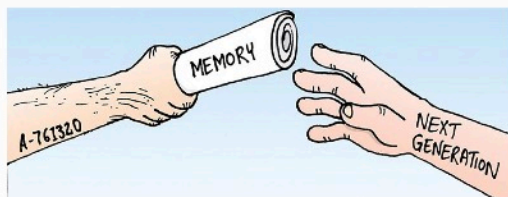
# April 2023



SAT  
Apr 1  
10th of Nisan  
Yom HaAliyah  
Shabbat HaGadol  
9:30am Shabbat Services

2 11th of Nisan	3 12th of Nisan 7:30am Services 4pm Adult Ed 5:30pm Hebrew School 	4 13th of Nisan 5:30pm Sisterhood 	5 14th of Nisan Ta'anit Bechorot Erev Pesach 6:30pm CST Seder on Zoom 	6 OFFICE CLOSED 15th of Nisan Pesach I 9am Services	7 OFFICE CLOSED 16th of Nisan Pesach II 7pm Family Service	8 17th of Nisan Pesach III (CH"M) 9:30am Shabbat Services
9 18th of Nisan Easter Sunday Pesach IV (CH"M)	10 19th of Nisan Easter Monday Pesach V (CH"M) 7:30am Services 4pm Adult Ed	11 20th of Nisan Pesach VI (CH"M) 5:30pm Board Meeting 	12 OFFICE CLOSED 21st of Nisan Pesach VII	13 22nd of Nisan Pesach VIII 9am Yizcor Services 	14 23rd of Nisan	15 24th of Nisan Shabbat Mevarchim Chodesh Iy 9:30am Shabbat Services
16 25th of Nisan	17 26th of Nisan 7:30am Services 6:30pm Yom Hashoah Prgrm 	18 27th of Nisan Tax Day Yom HaShoah 11am Havurah Vatik 	19 28th of Nisan 5:30pm Hebrew School 	20 29th of Nisan 7:30am Services	21 30th of Nisan Rosh Chodesh Iyyar	22 1st of Iyyar, 5783 Rosh Chodesh Iyyar 9:30am Shabbat Services
23 2nd of Iyyar	24 3rd of Iyyar 7:30am Services 4pm Adult Ed 5:30pm Hebrew School 	25 4th of Iyyar Yom HaZikaron	26 5th of Iyyar Yom HaAtzma'ut 5:30pm Hebrew School 5:30pm Israel 75 B'Day Prgrm  	27 6th of Iyyar 7:30am Services	28 7th of Iyyar	29 8th of Iyyar 9:30am Shabbat Services

30  
9th of Iyyar



**Congregation Shaara Tfilla**

**84 Weibel Ave.**

**Saratoga Springs, NY 12866**

**The Jewish Community Center**

March, April 2023

8 Adar 5783 - 9 Iyar 5783

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