



# The Shofar

October, 2018

Congregation House of Israel

22 Tishri - 22 Cheshvan, 5779

## Yom Kippur, 2018



High Holiday services featuring veteran shofar blower Ira Kleinman, and his new partner, Louis Reagler. And a magnificent job by both.

# Thank You

We would like to thank the following donors (as of September 20, 2018)

## General Fund

### Mark and Patti Fleischer

*In honor of Cynthia Rephan's 90th birthday  
In honor of the birth of Blakely Marjorie Waxler*

### David and Karen Reagler

*In honor of CHI for all their support to the Reagler family relative to the B'not Mitzvah of Hannah and Mimi*

### Shelly and Carol Kleinman

*In beloved memory of Shelly's father, Seymour Kleinman  
In beloved memory of Jean Gershner*

### Suzanne Burnett

*In beloved memory of Abe and Daisy Aronoff*

### Bill Ginsburg

*In beloved memory of his parents Lois and Al Ginsburg  
In beloved memory of his brother George Ginsburg*

## Sisterhood Fund

### David and Karen Reagler

*Thank You to the CHI Sisterhood for sponsoring the Oneg on Erev Shabbat before the B'not Mitzvah of Hannah and Mimi*

### The Shofar

Published monthly by:

Congregation House of Israel

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Submissions due the 15th of the prior month.

Distributed free to members, prospective members, local clergy and other interested parties.



*Mazel Tov*  
מזל טוב

*To Sharon and Michael Waxler on the birth of their granddaughter Blakeley Marjorie Waxler (L) and to the happy parents, their son Brian and his wife Tori (R).*



## Reb Shelly's Desk



I want to talk about the slippery slope. The slippery slope is defined by Webster's Dictionary as: "a course of action that seems to lead inevitably from one action or result to another with unintended consequences." Jewish tradition describes it a bit differently, with the classic story about the man

who, before his wedding, goes and asks the rabbi just what is permissible between him and his soon-to-be wife. "Go ahead, ask, ask," the rabbi said. The man asked question upon question, about whether one thing or another was okay. To each inquiry the rabbi responded, "Yes, that is fine, between a man and his wife, it's all fine." The man was relieved and so he asked about more and more erotic things; about each, the rabbi said it was fine. It was all fine until the man mentioned one last thing that he assumed would be fine like all the previous questions he asked. But, surprisingly, the rabbi said: "No, halachikly that is forbidden!" "Tell me, rabbi, why is this last thing not permissible if all the other things were?" The rabbi replied, "That last one is no good because it can lead to mixed dancing!"

The concept of the slippery slope has important ramifications. It plays a role in American law and in Jewish law. Examples in American law is the law that a policeman should not go into a diner and take a free cup of coffee, with the idea being that accepting even the smallest token gift can start an inevitable slide toward serious corruption. As soon as an officer accepts something for free, it's easier later on to accept a large bribe.

As Americans, gun control always becomes an issue when a mass killing takes place. And Lord knows, there has been more mass killings than anyone could ever, ever have imagined. There have been 30 mass killings in the U.S. since the beginning of 2018. That's killing 4 people or more in 30 out of 50 days. I am a strong believer in gun control – very strong. But I've read enough about the culture in our country to understand that possessing a gun is very much part of the culture of our country.

A 6-bullet gun can kill six people within minutes, and then the shooter has to reload. Do you have

any idea how many people an AR-15 rifle can kill given that it can fire 40 rounds every three seconds? And yet, you have to be 21 to buy a handgun ... but only 18 to purchase an AR-15. And you can get an AR-15 even if you are on the government's "travel watch" list for fear of being a terrorist! Does this make any sense? The response of the NRA and others is "the slippery slope." Wayne LaPierre said it loud and clear. His words: "The elites don't care not one whit about America's school system and schoolchildren ... they care more about gun control and more of it. Their goal is to eliminate the Second Amendment and our firearms freedom so they can eradicate all individual freedoms." That's it! That if we ban the rifle, it will inevitably lead to banning other guns and other of our freedoms in violation of the Second Amendment.

But has anyone stopped to think that there is a slippery slope in the other direction? The U.S. leads the world in homicides, suicides and accidental deaths involving guns. The U.S. leads the world in the number of children killed by guns, every year.

Yes, it's possible that if we ban the AR-15 and others like it, the slippery slope may lead to other gun prohibitions. It may ... but we already know what affect the slippery slope is having in the other direction by not banning these guns. We have already seen the results. We've seen the results in Las Vegas and at an Orlando nightclub and Virginia Tech and Sandy Hook Elementary School... and on and on and on. You know where this slippery slope has taken us? To an advertisement I saw on Amazon where parents can buy their children a bullet-proof backpack. That's the way we now have to protect our children. That's how far we have slipped as a society.

More than 3000 years ago, the Jews were told to slaughter a lamb and place its blood on their doorposts. This was a great challenge to the Jewish people. The lamb was worshipped by the Egyptians. Such an act of defiance could have had a slippery slope affect, and caused the Egyptians to make the slavery of the Jews even longer and more painful. But there was also the possibility that such an action on the Jewish people's part, such an act of faith in God, would inevitably lead to their redemption and salvation. The Jews were wise enough when confronted with a slippery slope in both directions, to choose the correct path. Today as Americans and Jews, may we choose wisely as well.

## ARZA - World Union

### Where Were You When?



September 13, 1993, will always remain etched in my memory as a ‘where-were-you-when’ moment. Standing in my high

school classroom watching a live news feed of the famous handshake on the White House lawn as Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin, with evident hesitation, grasped the hand of his arch-enemy, Yasser Arafat.

This was a moment of elation and celebration. I imagined that this must have been what it felt like for previous generations to listen to the famous UN vote on November 29, 1947, or the live declaration of independence on May 14, 1948. I almost pinched myself in realizing the importance that my generation would be the first to know peace and to witness the End of Conflict (EOC) between Israel and her neighbors.

This peace process, which began with a summit in Madrid in 1991 following the Intifada of the late 1980s, served as an acknowledgment by Israelis that they could not have all the land in addition to peace. This equation of Land in exchange for Peace = End of Conflict had worked previously with Egypt after Israel withdrew from the Sinai Peninsula and (literally) drew a line in the sand. Could it work with the Palestinians too?

Twenty five years later, after thousands of articles, books, movies, a Broadway play, and graduate courses have been taught on the subject, we sadly are no closer to an E.o.C. than we were before Oslo. The assassination of Yitzhak Rabin and the subsequent failed attempts to reach a final peace deprived the generation born after 1993 of the hope I felt that day. The years that were so hopeful ended in a return to violence.

The subsequent failure of the process provoked strong reckoning among those on the Left and Right, which led to a mutual game of “I told you so,” as Yossi Klein Halevi often says. The Right

vindictively said, “See, we told you that there is no partner for peace and if we give an inch they’ll want a mile.” While the Left retorted that, “See, we told you that we cannot try and make peace while keeping our boots on the necks of another-people, and that there is no military solution to this conflict.” And so on...

A quarter of a century later many have tried to envision what it would look like had the process not failed, and many look at the far-reaching outcomes influenced by the peace process, such as Israel becoming a “Start-Up Nation” and improved relations with other countries.

Today, there is no lack of people who are resigned to the fact that we will forever live by our swords, and there are still others who see the world through the lens of the Oslo process and are pushing for a negotiated two-state arrangement with a Jewish and democratic Israel alongside an independent Palestine.

Some have also questioned the entire narrative of peace and wonder why we ever hoped at all. As Nathan Thrall writes, “The history of these doomed efforts plainly shows that compromise on each side has been driven less by the promise of peace than the aversion of pain.”

While the promise of peace still eludes us, we do know one thing: while the previous generation was not able to complete the work, ours is not free to desist from it. For those born after 1993, the current reality of Israel is often defined by conflict, as violence over the past 18 years has come to be the only image of Israel many of them know. Growing up amidst an unending entanglement with little signs of hope, too many of us have wrung our hands in exasperation and despair.

As Jews, we cannot sit by and allow pain and bloodshed to determine our next steps.

As we prepare to go into Yom Kippur, each one of us must atone for our wrongdoings, for the places where we missed the mark, and finally dedicate ourselves to the ultimate goal of Peace.

Josh

*Rabbi Josh Weinberg is the President of ARZA, the Association of Reform Zionists of America. He was ordained from the HUC-JIR Israeli Rabbinic Program in Jerusalem, and currently lives in New York.*

## Sisterhood

**We Can Do It!**



First of all, THANK YOU to everyone who participated in making our High Holidays so lovely, from everyone who baked lovely sweets for Rosh Hashanah, to all the deliciousness for our annual Yom Kippur Break Fast. And a special thank you to Patti

for organizing the Break Fast, the Fleischner family for donating the Rosh Hashanah bimah flowers, and the Koppel family for the Yom Kippur flowers. Also a special thank you to Rabbi Shelly and to our Cantor Lex for such beautiful services!

In case you missed it, we announced our Woman of the Year Award. Congratulations to SUE KOPPEL!!! We are so grateful for all she does to keep our Sisterhood and congregation going strong! And yes, she does a lot more than make a mean brisket!!!

Please mark your calendars for our next meeting on Monday, October 1st at 11:00. Karen Reagler & Anita Williams will be our hostesses so I'm sure it will be a lovely lunch, plus plenty of opportunities to sign up for more activities! See you there!

*Millie*

## From the CHI "Woman of the Year"

I want to thank the Sisterhood members for voting for me as Woman of the Year for Sisterhood. It is an honor and a blessing for me to be chosen. I do however, have one rebuttal. They say "It takes a village" and that is a saying that I truly understand because I DID NOT run the Sisterhood all year, do everything all by myself such as changing the torah covers for the High Holy days, organizing an Oneg after Rosh Hashanah, organizing the Break-the-Fast, plan for Sukkot, organize and run the Hanukkah dinner, plan the annual Congregation Meeting, do the Passover Seder (ok, I made the briskets), have a party for an incoming or outgoing rabbi, organize the Oneg hostesses for the year, and organize hostesses for each Sisterhood meeting.

I'm sure I've forgotten something but it shows that there are many, many Sisterhood members that dig in and help with all of the functions that the Temple provides every year. If I was the only one responsible, we would have peanut butter and jelly sandwiches for all dinners and lunches and cheese and crackers for every other function. We are ALL sisters in our Sisterhood and without everyone going over and aboveboard, our Temple family would be much poorer.

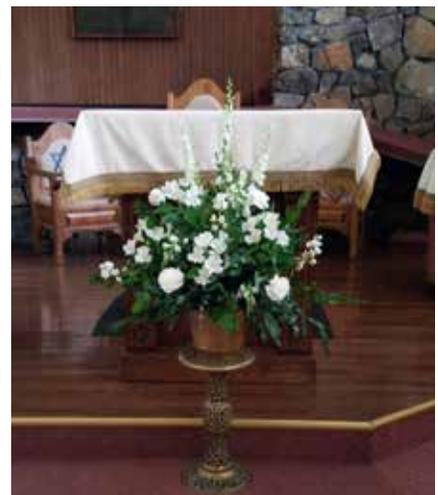
Thank you Sisters for making me look good and all I can say is "keep it up". You're doing a great job!!!

*Sue Koppel*



### *"A Sheynem Dank"*

"Thank You Very Much" to Mark and Patti Fleischner who brought the beautiful floral bouquet for Rosh Hashanah service (left) and Hal and Sue Koppel for the Yom Kippur bouquet (right).



*Mazel Tov*  
מזל טוב

## Reagler B'Not Mitzvah



Congratulations to David and Karen Reagler on the B'not Mitzvah of their twin girls, Hannah and Miriam (Mimi).

*Photos*

*Top left; Hannah and Mimi with Rabbi Richard Chapin*

*Top right: Mimi with Cooper Bull*

*Bottom left: Hannah with Cooper Bull*

*Bottom right: Proud grandparents Annette and Ken Baim*

## JEWISH TRIVIA FOR SEPTEMBER AND OCTOBER

### September

- September 1, 1939 Germany invades Poland, beginning World War II
- September 5, 1972 Palestinian terrorists kill eleven Israeli athletes at the Munich Olympics. Five terrorists are killed. Israeli warplanes retaliate against Lebanon and Syria.
- September 9, 1965 Sandy Koufax of the L.A. Dodgers pitches a perfect game against the Chicago Cubs.
- September 15, 1934 Nuremberg Laws enacted in Germany, restricting Jews from a wide range of businesses and resulting in their loss of citizenship.
- September 22, 1964 Fiddler on the Roof opens on Broadway at the Imperial Theater
- September 24, 1950 With "Operation Magic Carpet" the Israeli Air Force begins airlifting the entire Jewish community of Yemen, numbering 50,000, to Israel.
- September 27, 1954 The Tonight Show makes its debut, hosted by Steve Allen.

### Deceased

- September 22, 1989 Irving Berlin, composer
- September 8, 1997 Zero Mostel, actor
- September 4, 1986 Hank Greenberg, baseball player
- September 22, 2007 Marcel Marceau, mime
- September 22, 2001 Isaac Stern, violinist
- September 29, 2009 Tony Curtis, actor
- September 22, 2010 Eddie Fisher, singer
- September 4, 2014 Joan Rivers, comedian
- September 28, 2016 Shimon Peres, politician

### October

- October 13, 1843 Bnai Brith founded in New York City.
- October 6, 1927 Release of *The Jazz Singer*, the first talking picture, starring Al Jolson.

- October 1941 Birkenau Concentration Camp (also known as Auschwitz-Birkenau) opened by the Nazis.
- October 1, 1946 Sentences announced as the Nuremberg Trials end. Seventeen Nazi war criminals receive death sentences, seven are imprisoned and three acquitted.
- October 27, 1967 Jerusalem is reunited under Israeli control.
- October 6, 1973 Yom Kippur War begins with a sneak attack on Israel by Egypt, Jordan and Syria.
- October 6, 1981 Anwar Sadat, Egyptian President, is assassinated in Cairo by a Muslim extremist.
- October 14, 1994 Yitzhak Rabin, Shimon Peres and Yasir Arafat are awarded the Nobel Peace Prize.
- October 25, 2009 Jared Kushner marries Ivanka Trump, who had converted to Judaism.

### Deceased

- October 5, 1941 Louis Brandeis, Supreme Court Justice
- October 23, 1950 Al Jolson, singer
- October 29, 1957 Louis B. Mayer, Hollywood mogul
- October 16, 1981 Moshe Dayan, soldier and politician
- October 26, 1990 William Paley, President of CBS
- October 21, 1994 Shlomo Carlebach, rabbi and musician
- October 30, 2000 Steve Allen, television personality
- October 3, 2004 Janet Leigh, actress
- October 23, 2004 Robert Merrill, opera singer
- October 9, 2005 Louis Nye, actor
- October 17, 2007 Joey Bishop, comedian
- October 22, 2009 Soupy Sales, comedian
- October 24, 2010 Joe Stein, playwright

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## Oneg Thanks



Thank you to the following  
for sponsoring an Oneg  
during the month of  
October:

- |        |                                  |
|--------|----------------------------------|
| Oct 5  | Clarissa Kirsch<br>Glenda Kirsch |
| Oct 12 | Goltz/Siegel/Bull families       |
| Oct 19 | Cynthia Rephan<br>Fran Rephan    |
| Oct 26 | Jodi Chalmers<br>Lynda Kass      |

**Reminder:** If you are scheduled for an upcoming Oneg and need to change dates, please find someone to switch with and then let Carol Kleinman know so the information printed in the bulletin will be correct.

## Refuah Shelemah

*The following people are in our thoughts and prayers:*

- Louis Kleinman
- Imy Marcus
- Robert Burns
- Jerry Tanenbaum

Please offer prayers that they all have a full and speedy recovery.

If you are aware of anyone needing spiritual or any sort of assistance, please let Barbara Morgan know. Our Caring Committee is here to help all of our members in any way we possibly can.

## October Jahrzeits

### Kaddish Recited October 5

**Helen Poncher Newman**

*Grandmother of Brad Wolken*

**Abraham Taub**

*Grandfather of Betty Feir*

**Carrie Karnofsky Davis**

*Grandmother of Rachel Schulman  
Grandmother of David D. Reagler*

**Laura Fleischner**

*Mother of Mark Fleischner  
Mother of Stuart Fleischner*

**Seymour Kleinman**

*Father of Sheldon Kleinman*

### Kaddish Recited October 12

**Robert Fields**

*Great Uncle of Mark Fleischner  
Great Uncle of Stuart Fleischner*

**Rosalind Goltz Hudson**

*Mother of Madeline Bull  
Sister of Diane Goltz  
Sister of Susan Siegel*

### Kaddish Recited October 19

**Scott Douglas Bull**

*Uncle of Cooper Bull*

**Nellie Kaufman**

*Mother of Barbara Bushee*

**Alice Wolken**

*Grandmother of Brad Wolken*

**Dale Tollefson**

*Father of Sharon Waxler*

**Bernard Levi**

*Father of Larry Levi*

### Kaddish Recited October 26

**Rachel Zucker Reagler**

*Grandmother of David D. Reagler  
Grandmother of Rachel Schulman*

**Stuart Klompus**

*Husband of Mary Klompus  
Father of Ben Klompus  
Father of Melissa Klompus Casteel*

## Birthdays & Anniversaries

### October Anniversaries

|                           |        |
|---------------------------|--------|
| Donovan and Sharon Ball   | Oct 5  |
| Stuart and Kay Fleischner | Oct 28 |

### October Birthdays

|                  |        |
|------------------|--------|
| Betty Feir       | Oct 3  |
| Karen Reagler    | Oct 3  |
| John Blumbeks    | Oct 4  |
| Betty Forshberg  | Oct 8  |
| Jacob Kleinman   | Oct 8  |
| Zev Kleinman     | Oct 8  |
| Lenny Gartenberg | Oct 9  |
| Brad Wolken      | Oct 12 |
| Terri Gartenberg | Oct 13 |
| Steven Kirsch    | Oct 16 |
| Mick Stoyanov    | Oct 18 |
| Westley Kleinman | Oct 29 |

## 30/60/90



From Right to Left:

- Leah Fleischner, just turned 30
- Millie Baron, turning 60
- Cynthia Rephan, just turned 90

## Weekly Parshiot

### October

#### B'reishit

October 6, 2018

G-d creates the world in six days. On the first day He makes darkness and light. On the second day He forms the heavens, dividing the "upper waters" from the "lower waters." On the third day He sets the boundaries of land and sea and calls forth trees and greenery from the earth. On the fourth day He fixes the position of the sun, moon and stars as timekeepers and illuminators of the earth. Fish, birds and reptiles are created on the fifth day; land-animals, and then the human being, on the sixth. G-d ceases work on the seventh day, and sanctifies it as a day of rest.

G-d forms the human body from the dust of the earth and blows into his nostrils a "living soul." Originally Man is a single person, but deciding that "it is not good that man be alone," G-d takes a "side" from the man, forms it into a woman, and marries them to each other.

#### Noach

October 13, 2018

G-d instructs Noah -- the only righteous man in a world consumed by violence and corruption -- to build a large wooden teivah ("ark"), coated within and without with pitch. A great deluge, says G-d, will wipe out all life from the face of the earth; but the ark will float upon the water, sheltering Noah and his family, and two members (male and female) of each animal species.

Rain falls for 40 days and nights, and the waters churn for 150 days more before calming and beginning to recede. The ark settles on Mount Ararat, and from its window Noah dispatches a raven, and then a series of doves, "to see if the waters were abated from the face of the earth." When the ground dries completely--exactly one solar year (365 days) after the onset of the Flood--G-d commands Noah to exit the teivah and repopulate the earth.

#### Lech L'cha

October 20, 2018

G-d speaks to Abram, commanding him to "Go from your land, from your birthplace and from your father's house, to the land which I will show you." There, G-d says, he will be made into a great nation. Abram and his wife Sarai, accompanied by his nephew Lot, journey to the Land of Canaan, where Abram builds an altar and continues to spread the message of a One G-d.

A famine forces the first Jew to depart for Egypt, where beautiful Sarai is taken to Pharaoh's palace; Abram escapes death because they present themselves as brother and sister. A plague prevents the Egyptian king from touching her and convinces him to return her to Abram and compensate the brother-revealed-as-husband with gold, silver and cattle.



Back in the Land of Canaan, Lot separates from Abram and settles in the evil city of Sodom, where he falls captive when the mighty armies of Chedorlaomer and his three allies conquer the five cities of the Sodom Valley. Abram sets out with a small band to rescue his nephew, defeats the four kings, and is blessed by Malki-Zedek the king of Salem (Jerusalem).

#### Vayeira

October 27, 2018

G-d reveals Himself to Abraham three days after the first Jew's circumcision at age 99; but Abraham rushes off to prepare a meal for three guests who appear in the desert heat. One of the three -- who are angels disguised as men -- announces that, in exactly one year, the barren Sarah will give birth to a son. Sarah laughs but bears a son whom they name Isaac. G-d tests Abraham's devotion by commanding him to sacrifice Isaac on Mount Moriah in Jerusalem. Isaac is bound and placed on the altar, and Abraham raises the knife to slaughter his son. A voice from heaven calls to stop him; a ram, caught in the undergrowth by its horns, is offered in Isaac's place.