



THE SCRIBE

Monthly Newsletter of Temple B'nai Abraham
Now Celebrating its 128th Year
Affiliated with the United Synagogue
Of Conservative Judaism

127 EAST MAIN STREET
MERIDEN, CT 06450

203-235-2581 FAX 203-235-2582

December, 2017

Kislev - Tevet 5778

From Rabbi Michael G. Kohn

Hanukkah

We will light the first candle for Hanukkah this year on Tuesday evening, December 12. The Annual Hanukah party will take place at the synagogue at 5:30 pm, on Tuesday evening, December 19, when we will light the 8th Hanukkah candle. We will have a mass Hanukkiot lighting (remember to bring your own Hanukiah and we will provide the candles) with songs, activities, a light dinner with latkes, and ice cream sundaes.

On Friday night, light the candles, which must burn for 90 minutes BEFORE lighting the Shabbat candles. On Saturday night, light the candles AFTER havdalah. In the synagogue, we reverse the order on Saturday night.

The United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism

The United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism (“USCJ”) is the congregational arm of the Conservative Movement. This past year, following extensive market studies, the USCJ has rebranded itself as “envision[ing] and pursu[ing] an authentic and dynamic Judaism that inspires today’s and tomorrow’s generation of Jews to seek meaning, find connection, and experience wholeness (shleymut) in a world that is complex and ever evolving.” In my view, it has yet failed to define what constitutes an “authentic and dynamic Judaism” and how that differs from what the Movement was 60 years ago when I became a bar mitzvah. In fact, it asks those who log onto its website to answer that question for themselves and the Movement’s CEO admits that it “no longer means what was meant when it was coined for our movement, which was to conserve tradition and change.”

The theme of this year’s convention is “Dare Together” — Create New Paradigms; Elevate Key Jewish Moments; Renew Our Fire. The Board is trying to decide whether continued membership is worth our dues. Look for reports from Convention in next month’s Scribe and at the monthly Lunch and Learn after Shabbat services on December 9.

Israel Trip

A number of our members met with me to explore a congregational trip to Israel. Those who attended have tentatively decided to leave for Israel the week of March 24, 2019 and return 10-14 days later. Because we will be going over a year from now, there is plenty of time to plan our itinerary and for others to join us. I will be checking with the Israeli Shaliah (emissary) in West Hartford and then with several tour companies to obtain proposals for an itinerary. We will meet afterwards to discuss and refine the proposals in an attempt to meet the needs of each of our participants. If you are interested in joining us and haven’t yet added your name to the list, please let me, or the office know.

B'Shalom,
Rabbi Michael G. Kohn



CALENDAR EVENTS  DECEMBER 2017

1 Friday

6:30 pm Shabbat Evening Services

2 Saturday

9:30 am Shabbat Morning Services

3 Sunday

9:30 am Jewry Duty

8 Friday

6:30 pm Shabbat Evening Services

9 Saturday

9:30 am Shabbat Morning Services
Luncheon to follow

10 Sunday

9:30 am Jewry Duty

10:00 am Chanukah Gift Fair

10:30 am Congregational Meeting

12 Tuesday

Erev Chanukah - Light 1st Candle

14 Thursday

7:30 pm Finance Committee Meeting

15 Friday

6:30 pm Shabbat Evening Services

17 Sunday

NO JEWRY DUTY

19 Tuesday

5:30 pm Chanukah Celebration

Light menorahs, enjoy a light dinner and
make your own ice cream sundaes

21 Thursday

7:30 pm Board of Directors' Meeting

22 Friday

6:30 pm Shabbat Evening Services

23 Saturday

9:30 am Shabbat Morning Services
Luncheon to follow

24 Sunday

NO JEWRY DUTY

29 Friday

6:30 pm Shabbat Evening Services

30 Saturday

9:30 am Shabbat Morning Services

31 Sunday

NO JEWRY DUTY



Thank you to the congregation for their generous donations to the Hurricane Relief Fund.

Our apologies to Ruth and Sherwin Borsuk, who are sponsoring the 2nd luncheon each month. We thank them for their generosity and are sorry for any confusion we may have caused.

מזל טוב – Mazal Tov

To **Jan & Jay Weiss** on the engagement of their son **Michael to Kelly McIntyre**.

Happy Anniversary to our couples celebrating an anniversary in December:

7th - Susan & Ken Teller
17th - Richard & Laurie Katz
17th - Sanford & Rebecca Sheftel
22nd - Jon & Adrienne Palley
30th - Yakov & Raisa Filler

Happy Birthday to our members celebrating a birthday in December:

2nd - Sheila Nemeth
5th - Esther Smith
7th - Joseph Langner
10th - David Nemeth
17th - Bob Axelrod
30th - Judie Landsberg

Happy Birthday to our next generation:

11th - Jonathan Goodman

רפואה שלימה

Wishing a Speedy and Complete Recovery to:

Helene Koenig
H. Robert (Bub) Grossman

We regret to inform you of the passing of:

Frederick Fenzel
father of Joan Goodman
and

Robert Grossman
father of David and Mark Grossman

המקום ינחם אתכם בתוך שאר אבילי ציון וירושלים.
May the Lord comfort and sustain
all the mourners of Zion and Jerusalem.



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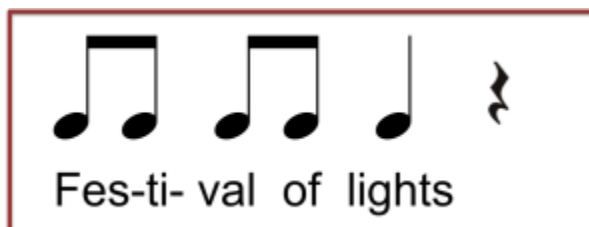
Tuesday December 19th
Come and Light Your Menorah
Celebrate Hanukkah

**Bring your Hanukkah Menorah and
we will supply the candles**

5:30 pm - We will light the menorah and recite the blessings.

6:00 pm - We will enjoy a light dairy dinner, with potato latkes, followed by make your own ice cream sundae.

**Please RSVP to the Temple office (203-235-2581)
by Thursday, Dec. 14th and let us know how many
of you are planning to attend.**





Chanukah Gift Shoppe Sale

Chanukah is coming. First Night Dec. 12th.
Don't miss out on the opportunity to get your
holiday shopping done early at our Gift Shoppe.

The Gift Shoppe will be open:

**Sunday: December 10th
from 10:00 am – 12:00 noon**

****Special arrangements**** can be made to view our holiday
merchandise by contacting the Temple office.

**We have many new items to offer,
so come visit us for your holiday purchases!!!!**

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Yahrzeits Observed During the Month of December

Dec. 1	Gary Limon Charles Hatten	Dec. 13	Benjamin Limon Philip Shefkowitz	Dec. 24	David Rubin Martha Bittman
Dec. 2	Meyer Cheikin Frieda Goldstein		Sallye Katrosar		Max Bichunsky
Dec. 3	Doris Katz Anna Hagenauer William Mark Anna Arlook Cecelia White	Dec. 14	Herbert Sperling Becky Zimmerman Ceil Bolton Florence Kaye		Natalie Bogatz Goldman Kayla Nissenson Bernice Friedman
Dec. 4	Ethel Tonkonow Doris Parmett Charles Perlmutter	Dec. 15	Murray Levine Lillian Shulkin Herman Sheftel	Dec. 25	Sherman Tonkonow
Dec. 5	Jack Finkel Barnet Taitz	Dec. 16	Carl Limon Morris Goldstein Mordecai Dickter Marcia Cheikin	Dec. 26	Philip M. White Beatrice Reich Rose Hyman Mildred Goralnik Max Hertzmark
Dec. 6	Norman Ash Alexander Reger	Dec. 17	Meyer White Jacob Gerber Morris Wilder Esther Goldberg Sophie Barker	Dec. 27	Molly Bogatz Breindel Katz Jerry Kosofsky Rivke Perecman Paulette Shulkin Oscar Goldner
Dec. 7	Rachel Shoag Nathan Cherniack				
Dec. 8	Yetta Gerstenblatt Louis Steinfeld Ted Pollans Arthur Kruh Dr. Morris Sugarman Alan Katten	Dec. 18	Sophia Jacobson Charles Hasburg David Caplan Sidney Kaye	Dec. 28	Rachel Shorr Pamela Fine Arthur Pierson Rose Sperling Dorothy Seaman
Dec. 9	Pearl Burwick Morris Simonowsky Abraham Winkleman	Dec. 19	Eva Jacobson Miller Freda Cohen Yetta Waxman Isaac Shapiro Frances Dubrow Grace Snyder	Dec. 29	Herman Sodel Abram J. White Robert Rovinsky Beatrice Zempsky Stephen Sheftel Samuel Silverman
Dec. 10	Fannie Silverman Anna G. White Isaac Hyman Harry Goodman Ruth Klamkin Mary Sigmond	Dec. 20	Alter J Simonowsky Louis (Zelig) Kessler	Dec. 30	Milton Silver Milo Levin Charles Harris Fanny Byer
Dec. 11	Murray Schutz	Dec. 21	Jacob Cohen		
Dec. 12	Rose Rozen Meyer Hasburg Rhea Kaye Hirshorn	Dec. 22	Herman Weinberg Etta Lang	Dec. 31	Martin Beloff Anna Weiss
		Dec. 23	Samuel Umansky Elsie Cherniack Beatrice Sadowsky		



A Candle or Yahrzeit Light should be lit at sundown the night before these dates.

Tzdukah to perpetuate the memory of a loved one is a Mitzvah.

Your contribution to the Yahrzeit Fund would be greatly appreciated.

תודה רבה - THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROUS DONATIONS TO OUR VARIOUS FUNDS

Yahrzeit Fund: In Memory of:

Abraham Katz by Richard A. Katz

Frances Pollack Rothfarb by Ruth Kahn

Yetta Gerstenblatt by Ines Gerstenblatt

David Caplan by Marcia Caplan

General Temple Fund

In Memory of **Charlotte Brick** by Mark Burwick & Myra Skluth.

In Honor of the wedding of **Shelli & Bryan Koenig** by Susan Croog.

In Memory of **Frederick Fenzel** by Ruth & Sherwin Borsuk.

In Memory of **Frederick Fenzel** by Natalie & Lenny Cheerman.

Get Well Wishes to **H. Robert Grossman** by Natalie & Lenny Cheerman.

In Memory of **Robert Grossman** by Natalie & Lenny Cheerman. (2 cards sent)

In Memory of **Frederick Fenzel** by Jan & Jay Weiss.

In Memory of **Robert Grossman** by Bonnie & Michael Sperling.

In Memory of **Robert Grossman** by Ines Gerstenblatt. (2 cards sent)

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

In Appreciation of **Rabbi Kohn**, for unveiling of Etoile Shemkovitz, by Saul & Anne Shemkovitz.

Sarah Zietz Pierson Scholarship Fund

Mazal Tov to **Helene & Howard Koenig**, on the marriage of Bryan and Shelli, by Risa & Fred Zierler.

In Memory of **Arline Widrow** by Risa & Fred Zierler.

In Memory of **Frederick Fenzel** by The DeFrancesco Family.

Cemetery Fund

In Memory of **Gloria Barker** by Ruth & Sherwin Borsuk.

In Memory of **Elsie & Harry Goodman** by Richard Goodman.

Temple B'nai Abraham Endowment Fund

In Memory of **Etoile Shemkovitz** by Saul & Anne Shemkovitz.

B'nai Abraham Auxiliary

In Memory of **Frederick Fenzel** by Sue & Roy Massicott & family.

Get Well Wishes to **Helene Koenig** by Sue & Roy Massicott & family.

Sophie & Julius Barker Scholarship Fund

In Memory of **Robert Grossman** by Shelley & Michael Barker.

Gift Cards & Certificates – Order Form

Name _____ Phone # _____

Address _____

Enclosed is my check for \$ _____

I'd like the following certificates:	<u># Wanted</u>	<u>Denom.</u>	<u>Store Name</u>
	_____	\$ 25	Shop Rite
	_____	\$ 50	Shop Rite
	_____	\$ 25	Stop & Shop
	_____	\$ 50	Stop & Shop
	_____	\$100	Stop & Shop

___ I will be in on _____ to pick up my order.

___ Please mail the certificates to me.

Please call ahead and place your order – they will be ready when you come for them, or mail in this form and receive your certificates by mail.