

INSIDE THE TRUMPET

RABBI'S COLUMN	pg 2
CONCERT PREVIEW	pg 4
SISTERHOOD SAYS	pg 5
CALENDAR & YAHRZEITS	pg 6
DONATIONS	pg 7
SCHOLARSHIP INFO	pg 12



Mishkan Torah Synagogue, Greenbelt, Maryland

February 2011

USE (AND MISUSE) OF LISTSERVE AND SHUL LOBBY

by Steven Mirsky, President

Dear Friends,

We live in a nation with so many rights and freedoms, it is easy to take them for granted. We can quickly forget that our freedom of speech and our freedom of the press come with accompanying responsibilities and consequences.



Our synagogue is also unique. Our members socialize, know each other's families, support each other's businesses. And all this is in spite of a wide variety of lifestyles, levels of religious

observance, and political opinions. Everyone respects each other's beliefs as we have skillfully navigated the waters of dual affiliation with both the Reconstructionist and Conservative movements.

Technology has made so many things in our lives faster and simpler, but it, too, comes with responsibilities and consequences.

Our synagogue maintains a Listserv for e-mail notices to the membership. It is an electronic venue for the specific purpose of communicating Mishkan Torah information to members, such as cancellations or upcoming events sponsored or recommended by our committees (e.g. Ways and Means and Social Action). It is also to be used for alerting members to emergencies that require quick response. It is not appropriate to use the Listserv to market a business or to distribute articles that promote a political agenda or opinion. Recently, a round of Listserv entries

occurred related to the terrible events in Arizona. Whether you agreed with the statements in these e-mails or not is immaterial. These are not acceptable uses of our listserv. The MT Listserv is not a political platform; it is not Twitter; it is not LinkedIn. It is neither an Op-Ed section nor a place for commentary on current events. Please refrain from placing anything on our Listserv that is not directly related to Mishkan Torah.

These guidelines apply to our synagogue lobby as well. It is difficult to maintain a Shabbat feeling when confronted by unnecessary messages, either posted or piled on a table. It is also inappropriate to place advertisements for anyone's business or for events that are not related to Mishkan Torah on the window outside the office or on the table at the entrance to the sanctuary. An appropriate place will be designated for the placement of such material in the entrance lobby in the near future.

Continued on page 12

COMING EVENTS

- February 6: Yiddish Club Meeting
- February 6: Super Bowl Party
- March 13: Sarah Saviet Concert
- March 19: Megillah Reading
- April 3: Chesapeake Celebration
featuring honoree Dan Lowery
- April 10: Vintage Jewelry Sale
- May 7: *Keter Shem Tov* honoring
Dick Rosenzweig

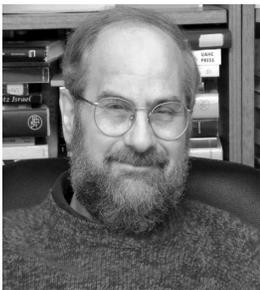
RABBI'S COLUMN

The poet-laureate of the Jewish people, Chaim Nachman Bialik, once wrote a poem in which he extolled someone who died “before his time and before anyone’s time. He had one more song to sing, but now that song is stilled forever.” That’s how many feel about the untimely death of Debbie Friedman, perhaps the foremost composer of synagogue music of our generation. It is sadly ironic that she died – at the age of 59 – at the beginning of the week that Jews mark as *Shabbat Shira*: the Sabbath of song. It is the *Shabbat* in which we sing of the crossing of the Sea of Reeds and of how Miriam led the women in joyous singing. Of course, as anyone who has attended a Mishkan Torah Sisterhood seder knows, one of Debbie Friedman’s most famous compositions celebrates Miriam and the women dancing with their timbrels in the wake of their miraculous deliverance.



Debbie Friedman, Z"L

Friedman’s gentle, folk-based melodies were shaped by the “singer-songwriter” generation of the 1960s and early 1970s. And her lyrics reflected the egalitarianism and feminism of liberal Judaism. Although her roots were in the Reform movement, the authenticity of her spiritual search – a journey of deep religious conviction and healing – touched anyone who



sought a connection with Judaism, no matter where they found themselves on the spectrum of observance. Indeed, she was able to cross over denominational lines in a way that no one but the late Rabbi Shlomo Carlebach was able to do. An article that appeared in *Moment* magazine in 1996 wrote of one Orthodox woman who, after hearing Friedman perform at a concert, said, “I’ve been praying all my life, but today was the first time I felt like I was really *dahvening*.” For her part, Orthodox Jewish feminist Blu Greenberg noted that Debbie Friedman “was a religious bard and angel for the entire community.”

In some circles Friedman came to be known as the “high priestess of Jewish healing.” It was a title brought upon her by fate, not by calculation. For more than twenty years, she battled dysautonomia, a relentless neurological illness one of whose long-term effects was the pneumonia that caused her death. She was bedridden for weeks at a time and occasionally

confined to a wheelchair. Confronting her own physical debility and limitations brought her an exquisite appreciation for everyday blessings. “In many ways it’s given me a gift,” she explained in the article in *Moment*. “Healing is about what the illness teaches us. I’ve never had more clarity or understanding. ... I’ve really been forced to feel illness, and life, and death. I’ve learned that I can be damaged or impaired and still have those spiritual experiences.”

The third of four children, she spent the first five years of her life in Utica, New York, where her father worked as a butcher and her mother as a homemaker. The family moved to St. Paul, Minnesota. As a 16-year-old working as a babysitter at Camp Herzl in Webster, Wisconsin, she picked up a guitar and began picking out the song a group of campers were singing. “It took a couple of notes, but I played it by ear,” she recalled. “I started playing Peter, Paul and Mary songs, and Judy Collins.” Several months later she went to a Reform youth group retreat and brought along the guitar she’d purchased in the meantime. “They didn’t have a song leader, so I was elected by default,” she admitted.

When she was 18, she went to Israel to learn Hebrew at an *ulpan* on Kibbutz Yifat, in the Jordan Valley. She soon realized she wasn’t going to learn much Hebrew hanging out with other Americans, so after the first day she asked to work with someone who spoke no English. Accordingly, she was sent to the kitchen to work with a woman “who was just a loon. I was totally motivated to learn

Continued on page 3

RABBI'S COLUMN . . . from page 2

Hebrew faster so I could know what she was saying about me," Friedman recalled. On her second day at the kibbutz, the loony cook and her colleagues wheeled in a crate of onions for Friedman to peel and clean. Her eyes stinging and tearing, Friedman protested, "Loh! Loh! Loh! [no, no, no], I can't do this." So the kitchen ladies took away the onions and replaced them with a cart of dead chickens for Friedman to pluck. "I laid them side by side on the table with their arms around each other, their legs crossed like they were Rockettes," recalled Friedman, laughing. The kitchen ladies "started cackling like chickens and laughing hysterically, and then they invited me to their homes. That's when I really started to learn Hebrew."

When she came back to the States she began working at Reform synagogues and camps, leading songs and teaching music and prayer. Soon she was composing original music. Her first song came to her on a bus. "A melody came into my head," she explained, "so I put it to my favorite prayer, the *v'ahavta*," which says 'And you shall love God with all your heart.' " She taught it to the children at a Reform retreat, who responded by standing up, putting their arms around one another, and singing along. "I realized that something important was happening," she said.

Friedman led a revolution that shifted the role of the synagogue cantor from that of a performer to that of a participant in the congregation's worship. Though it took time for the musical establishment to appreciate her, the common people rapidly elevated her to the status of a living legend. Between 1971 and 2010 she recorded more than 20 albums which together have sold half a million copies. In 2007, she joined the faculty of the School of Sacred Music at Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion in New York, where she taught Reform rabbinical and cantorial students; she later taught at Hebrew Union College's Los Angeles campus. Her appointment was striking for two reasons: first, because she was a largely

self-taught musician who did not know how to read music, and second, because her work – inclusive, progressive and strongly feminist – was perceived as a threat to established cantorial tradition when she began her career in the early 1970s.

But notwithstanding this professional recognition, she always felt that her soul was especially nourished when she stood on stage watching hundreds or thousands of people open up before her eyes and find something they weren't even sure they were looking for. "I live for those moments when people sing out and connect and create this sense of community and camaraderie," she said. "That's where it's at. That's the best part."

But unlike many successful performers Debbie Friedman pursued her art with a fantastic sense of humor, never taking herself too seriously. She was also a gracious and generous friend who treated her fellow musicians and composers with love and care. At every concert, she encouraged cantors and rabbis – and audience members – to sing along with her. Many also danced in the aisles. She nurtured countless protégés and she reveled in their success. As her friend and colleague Rabbi Daniel Frelander eulogized, her greatest gift was how she helped us to sing our souls, confronting our fears, declaring our values, and affirming our hopes. *Zichrona livrachta*. May our memories of this exceptional woman continue to bless us.

DAN LOWERY TO BE HONORED

Mishkan Torah's Dan Lowery will be among those honored at the Chesapeake Annual Celebration, which will be held on Sunday, April 3 at 4 p.m. at Oseh Shalom in Laurel.

Please plan to join with others from our congregations and the region to honor members of our Reconstructionist community.

VIOLINIST SARAH SAVIET TO PRESENT 2ND YOUNG PERFORMERS' CONCERT

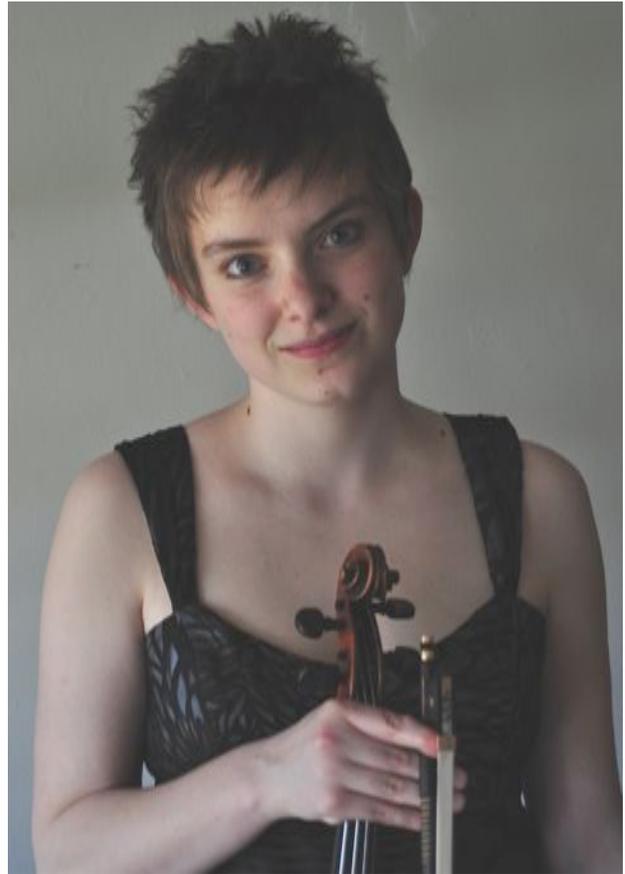
by Jeffrey Rosen

The Ways and Means Committee is excited to announce that violin virtuoso Sarah Saviet will return to Mishkan Torah to present the second concert in the Young Performers' Concert Series on Sunday, March 13, at two in the afternoon. Sensational Sarah will transform Mishkan Torah into Carnegie Hall by performing an electrifying program of violin favorites at a special matinee. The gala event will conclude with light refreshments, and promises to feature a surprise or two.

The concert will mark the second event in the Young Performers' Series which the Committee is presenting as the capstone of the From Generation to Generation theme for this year. In keeping with the theme, Mishkan Torah's own Ben Greenfield, who gave the unforgettable first concert in the series, will be the Master of Ceremonies. The Young Performers' Concert Series has been one of the major cultural highlights in the history of Mishkan Torah.

The concert will mark Sarah's first performance at Mishkan Torah since her legendary appearance early in 2007 before an enthralled audience at a High Tea sponsored by the Sisterhood. Sarah is the daughter of Mishkan Torah members Elizabeth Ahmann and Richard Saviet. She took confirmation classes at Mishkan Torah, and played a recital at the Synagogue to raise money for the Peace Room in the District of Columbia, which is an afterschool program for children in the Sursum Corda housing project. Sarah taught music classes there during her senior year in high school. Sarah has performed a number of times at the Synagogue in talent shows and similar occasions in addition to giving full recitals at Sisterhood and Sursum Corda events.

Sarah is currently a senior majoring in musical performance at Indiana University as a student of Jorja Fleezanis. A National Merit Scholar in high school, Sarah was one of only 24 freshmen to be named a Wells Scholar upon entering Indiana University in 2007. Prior to going to Indiana, Sarah studied music at Peabody Preparatory, where she won the full concerto competition. She has been a prize winner in other musical competitions as well, including the MTNA National String Competition, ASTA String Competition, Friday



Morning Music Club Competition, and the Washington Performing Arts Society's Feder Competition. In addition to previously mentioned appearances, Sarah has soloed frequently in the metropolitan area, including performances with the Peabody Sinfonietta and the Landon Symphonette. Sarah has performed in the Kennedy Center's Concert Hall as a winner of the National Symphony Orchestra's Young Artists Competition, and at no less a venue than New York's celebrated Carnegie Hall as a member of the New York String Orchestra under the baton of Jamie Laredo. At Peabody Preparatory, Sarah served as the concertmaster of the Sinfonietta as well as playing with the Conservatory's Symphony Orchestra.

Continued on page 10

SISTERHOOD SAYS

by Irene Spector

Sunday, January 9 proved to be a wonderful beginning of 2011 for Sisterhood. Thanks to Niki, Eva and Linda thirty of us were treated to an excellent tour of the Women's Heritage Center in Baltimore. What a joy it was to see the museum and hear Linda's enlightening presentation. How everything was collected and set up was truly a labor of love.

Then, twenty of us proceeded to Attman's Deli for a delicious lunch where we met Robin's school days chum Eileen Attman, who told us that the restaurant is a third generation family business. Our thanks to all who made this a memorable activity.

But there is still more to come:

Sunday, February 27: 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. Book Discussion led by our own librarian, Barbara Shansby. The book will be *This is Where I Leave You* by Jonathan Tropper. Barbara assures us that this is a fun book to read and discuss.

Sunday, March 13: 2 p.m. Young Performers' Concert Series featuring Sarah Saviet on violin. Sarah has shared her talent with us before and her delightful manner and extraordinary skill are sure to make this a most enjoyable afternoon.

Sunday, March 27: 12 noon - 2 p.m. Exercise and "Energy Work" Class. More information will be available shortly.

Saturday, April 2: 6 p.m. *Havdallah* Dinner. Please call Eva Garin (301 474-6400) to

participate in the service or assist in the preparation.

Saturday, April 9: after Shabbat. Set up for the Jewelry Sale.

Sunday, April 10: Fifth Annual Vintage Jewelry Sale. Eva Choper needs your donations as most of the inventory was depleted last year. So gather your donations and call Eva to offer your help. Please note the change in date for the sale.

Thursday, May 26: evening. Ice Cream Social, Elections and Tzedakah Activity (Linus Blankets). Call Niki or Eva for more information.

Sunday, June 5: Donor Event, TBD. Call Phyllis Oresky at 301 622-2928 for information

Friendly Reminders

Mitzvah Cards: Call Robin Olson (301 345-7975) for her always speedy, efficient service. Remember that donor credit is given for all cards bought or sent.

Catering: Call Alyce Strasser, our very knowledgeable catering maven (301 441-1353 after 10:30 a.m., please) She is always ready to help you as you plan your *simcha*.

Gift Shop: Call Alyce Strasser to arrange an appointment for you to shop for jewelry, ceramics, glassware, and ritual objects for any special occasion or just for a "feel good" feeling. Watch the display windows for *Purim* and *Pesach* items. You will find it difficult to resist these beautiful items.

Linda Shevitz, (right) director of the Women's Heritage Center in Baltimore, captivated thirty Sisterhood members during their trip to the museum January 9.

RHYME TIME

So many events are planned, and time moves by so very fast;

I want to take part in everything, but will my energy last?

Get out the oatmeal with raisins mixed in;

Now we'll be ready, so. . . LET THE FUN BEGIN!



FEBRUARY CALENDAR OF EVENTS

4	<i>Erev Shabbat Family Services</i>	7:30 p.m.
5	<i>Shabbat Terumah</i>	9:30 a.m.
6	Yiddish Club	10 a.m.
6	Super Bowl Party	5:30 p.m.
11	<i>Erev Shabbat Services</i>	8 p.m.
12	<i>Shabbat Tetzaveh</i>	9:30 a.m.
18	<i>Purim Katan</i> (Little Purim)	
18	<i>Erev Shabbat Services</i>	8 p.m.
19	<i>Shabbat Ki Tissa</i>	9:30 a.m.
21	Presidents' Weekend Observed	
25	<i>Erev Shabbat Services</i>	8 p.m.
26	<i>Shabbat Va Yakhel</i>	9:30 a.m.

FEBRUARY YAHRZEITS

February 4 Bertha Millison* Adele Mund* Edith Ratzkin* Estelle Oresky Hyman Goldfine Bertha Rosenzweig* Miriam Payne* Sam Brown Nancy Saviet S. Jack Glassman Herbert Schwartz* Julius Pines* Miriam Glick February 11 Milton Mortman Mavis Katz Brown*	Anna G. Hirsch* Adele K. Gurman* Elinore Feinberg Rose Dorfman* Otto Schlesinger Samuel Oresky Bessie Chasanow* Muriel Levinson Barbara Ratzkin Kaul* Mortimer A. Brown* Carl Shinderman* Benton Parks Tillie Herman* Leonard Silverman Hyman Gerson* Morris Sackel	Seymour Rogal February 18 Anna Scotkin Yetta Steinman* Warren Broughton* Isaac Victor Algaze* Morris Dorfman* Rebecca Altman Karp* Morris Chasanow* Richard M. Rosen* Samuel Pearlman Jacob P. Goldstein* Alfred Skolnik* February 25 Louis Gurman* Larry Epstein*	Sophie Wodak* Josrph Moses Juran Nathan Weiss Anna Hilda Stamler Yale Williams Lillian Chernikoff* Benjamin Rosenzweig* Tillie Rubin Harry Goldberg Joseph Steinman* Lillian Shachat Martha Shapiro* Herman Cohen Bernard Norvid* Milly Jenkin*
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MARCH PREVIEW

4	<i>Erev Shabbat Family Services</i>	7:30 p.m.
5	<i>Shabbat Pekudei</i>	9:30 a.m.
11	<i>Erev Shabbat Services</i>	8 p.m.
12	<i>Shabbat Vayikrah</i>	9:30 a.m.
13	Sarah Saviet in Young Performers' Concert #2	2 p.m.
17	<i>Ta'anit Esther</i> (The Fast of Esther)	
18	<i>Erev Shabbat Services</i>	8 p.m.
19	<i>Shabbat Tzav</i>	9:30 a.m.
19	<i>Megillah</i> Reading	
20	<i>Purim</i>	

MISHKAN TORAH GRATEFULLY ACKNOWLEDGES THE FOLLOWING DONATIONS

Yahrzeits

Paul Architzel for Howard Architzel
 Yvette Boldt for Alice Boldt-Shifman
 Susan Bregman for Ralph Bregman
 Nicole Burton for Philip Minson
 Gladys Chasnoff for Mollie Kramer
 Joel Cohen & Ethel Harris for Aveve Cohen
 Steven Davidson for Miriam Davidson
 Karen Friedman for Gertrude Alster
 Judy Gallant & Stan Stern for Martha Gallant & Sylvia Stern
 David & Joan Goldenberg for Judith Goldenberg
 Arlene Gottlieb & Chaz Miller for Harold Gottlieb
 Drs. David Granite & Mary Lou Oster-Granite for Raymond Oster
 Raphael, Susette & Billy Panitz for Rabbi David H. Panitz
 Steve & Linda Shevitz for Dorothy Bloom Polack
 Robert Wetter for Tillie Wetter
 Gil Weidenfeld for Saul Weidenfeld

High Holiday President's Club

Arlene Gottlieb & Chaz Miller
 Richard & Ellen Rubin

High Holiday Pledge

Yvette Boldt
 Nicole Burton
 Susan Stregack
 Joe Tulman & Deborah Greenfield

Sustaining Fund

Helen & Neil Garson in memory of Ruth Cohen
 Steve & Susan Weiss
 Lois, Sam & Mimi Fields in honor of Lois Darr's birthday

In Memory of Roslyn Blum

Judy Gallant & Stan Stern
 Marsha & Alan Goldfine

In Memory of Seymour Oresky

Muriel & Jules Asher
 Congregation Beth Israel Ocala
 Lois Darr
 Janet Davis (to the Scholarship Fund)
 Shirley & Norman Deutsch
 Wallace & Jane Dix
 Karen Friedman & Stephen Passman
 Lois, Sam, & Mimi Fields

Marsha & Alan Goldfine
 Arlene Gottlieb & Chaz Miller
 Eileen Marcos
 Jan & Al Grubman
 Sid & Michelle Kandel
 Paula Levine & Stuart Metro
 Gail Phillips
 Linda & Ron Schoolnick
 Steve & Linda Shevitz

In Memory of Cecile Spiegel

Walterena Clack

Bonnie & Ed Sands

E. Louise Tatspaugh

Derek & Paddy Walker

Matching Fund/Homeland Security

Andrea Weiss & John Green

Sidney Kirschner & Lynne Masterson

Matching Fund/Chairs

Sidney Kirschner & Lynne Masterson

Young Performers' Concert Series

Sarah Saviet *Impresario*

Jeffrey, Sara, Armin, Louis, & Joshua Rosen

THANK YOU

To Our Mishkan Torah Family:

My family and I want to express our deepest gratitude for the outpouring of love and support that we received following the death of my father. When we decided to sit *shiva* for the whole week, we were concerned that we might not always get a *minyan*, but our friends and family came through, and a lot of that support was from Mishkan Torah.

We are grateful for the many meals and other gifts of food from our generous members, for the meals from the Shiva Committee, for all of the Sisterhood and other sympathy cards, for the donations in my Dad's memory to the shul and elsewhere, and for all who attended the *shiva minyanim*. This was a wonderful tribute to my Dad, who also loved Mishkan Torah. Thank you all so much.

Saul and Phyllis Oresky and Family

SOCIAL ACTION IN ACTION

by Andrea Weiss

The Social Action Committee is sponsoring a potluck dinner and speaker on Friday, February 11. Please join us at 6 p.m. with your dairy dish in hand. The Hon. David Norken will educate us about the impact on the community at large of the housing foreclosure crisis. In addition, please bring a nonperishable food donation that will be forwarded to Greenbelt Pantry.

Please also continue to remember the children at Springhill Lake Elementary School. Hats, gloves, and winter coats are still needed. The school is very appreciative of what we have donated so far. Look for their letter of thanks on the office window.

As always, we encourage your nonperishable food donations for the Greenbelt Food Pantry any time.

Your Social Action Committee
presents a
POTLUCK DINNER
Featuring
The Hon. David Norkin
speaking on the
HOUSING FORECLOSURE CRISIS
Friday, February 11
In addition to your
potluck dairy dish
to share, please bring a nonperishable
food donation
for the Greenbelt Pantry.

Mishkan Torah's SOCIAL ACTION COMMITTEE'S CHILDREN'S WINTER OUTERWEAR DRIVE

Please donate new and gently used children's
coats, hats, scarves and gloves
Collection box in the coat room
Or send a donation check payable to Mishkan Torah
with "Social Action" in the memo line
and we will purchase the clothing for you.

Donations will go to the children of
Spring Hill Lake Elementary School



SAVE THESE DATES – SAVE THESE DATES – SAVE THESE DATES

SATURDAY, MAY 7
Mishkan Torah will honor
Dick Rosenzweig
with the *Keter Shem Tov* award.

SUNDAY, MAY 14
Ways & Means presents the final
Young Performers' Concert featuring
Joshua Rosen on the French horn.

Mishkan Torah

Proudly presents the SECOND of our L'Dor V'Dor (Generations) Showcases

AND

YOUNG PERFORMERS CONCERT SERIES

Sarah Saviet

**March 13,
2 p.m.**

**at Mishkan Torah
Greenbelt, MD**

**\$15 R.S.V.P. Admission
\$18 at the door**

R.S.V.P. by March 9 for discount.



Be a supporter of our Young Performers Concert Series. It is an ideal way to be included in this wonderful program – whether or not you can attend! All donations will be listed in the Program Book if received by March 6, 2011. We have the following level choices:

- Contributor/\$18
- Benefactor/\$36
- Patron/\$54
- Impresario/\$72+

I would like to reserve _____ tickets @ \$15/ticket \$ _____

I would like to make a donation (see the levels above) \$ _____

Names to be listed in the Program Book _____

Total enclosed: \$ _____

For more info and R.S.V.P. www.mishkantorahsynagogue.org/ypcs

The Mishkan Torah office (301) 474-4223

WAYS & MEANS

by Angie Carmel

We are presently working on our second Young Performers' Showcase to take place on Sunday, March 13 at 2 p.m., starring Sarah Saviet. As we all know, Sarah is an award-winning and highly talented classical violinist. See the article by Jeff Rosen describing Sarah's achievements. You can also listen to a brief excerpt of a performance by Sarah on the Mishkan Torah website.

Elsewhere in this *Trumpet*, you will find a reservation form giving information as to how you can make reservations to attend what is going to be another remarkable concert. If you make your reservation by March 9 (on-line or through the office), the cost is \$15 per ticket, or \$18 at the door. You will also find flyers in the lobby for your convenience.

MAY EVENTS

Please mark these dates on your calendars.

This year's *Keter Shem Tov*, honoring Richard Rosenzweig, will be held Saturday, May 7.

Our third and final Young Performers' Showcase, starring Joshua Rosen, will be held on May 14 at 7:30 p.m.

In addition Ways & Means Committee has already begun making plans for next year's events.



Our next meeting will take place on February 6, 2011 (snow date February 13, 2011) at 10 a.m.

SARAH SAVIET CONCERT PREVIEW . . . from page 4

She has also participated in many summer festivals including the Sarasota Music Festival, ENCORE School for Strings, and the Orford Arts Center. Sarah currently plays a violin which has been loaned to her by the Washington Performing Arts Society.

This spectacular event marking Sarah's triumphant return to Mishkan Torah and the continuation of the mesmerizing Young Performers Series is not to be missed! Tickets for the gala event are only fifteen dollars if ordered before March 9, 2011. Tickets may be purchased afterwards or at the door for eighteen dollars in the unlikely event the concert does not sell out beforehand. Tickets may be ordered directly from the Synagogue or on line on the Synagogue's website. To facilitate the ticket purchase process, there is a Flyer which serves as an order blank elsewhere in this issue of *The Trumpet*.

In addition, there will be a beautiful souvenir program book for the occasion as there

was at the prior concert. People can become supporters of the Young Performers Concert Series and be listed in the program book by making a donation, whether or not they actually attend the concert. There are four donation levels: Contributor @ \$18; Benefactor @ \$36; Patron @ \$54; and Impresario @ \$72 or more. The donations may be made by using the Flyer or otherwise contacting the Synagogue, or conveniently online through the Synagogue website.

People can sample Sarah's artistry by contacting the Synagogue's website, hitting the listing on the upper left on the home page marked "Violin Recital," and following the prompt to a recording of a segment from Sarah's recent recital. The snippet will whet the appetite for the full concert, live and in person. Sarah and the Ways and Means Committee look forward to an exciting and memorable concert, which will be a major highlight of the year. Plan on attending; we hope to see you there!

MISHKAN TORAH CONDUCTS TU B'SHEVAT SEDER



The Tu B'Shevat seder drew participants of all ages as this picture illustrates. Everyone was able to sample fruits of the season (in Israel) and taste four cups of grape juice blends. Picture by Rabbi Jonathan Cohen.



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Logos for The Associated, JCC, and another organization.

PRESIDENT EXPLAINS PROPER USE OF LISTSERVE & LOBBY ADS . . . from page 1

Mishkan Torah is our sanctuary for Jewish observance, learning, social events, and mutual support. It must always be a safe place where all who enter feel welcome. We are an accepting congregation known for our haimishness and wide spectrum of members.

To be accepting includes not being judgmental of each other's beliefs, politics, or religious observance. To be accepting means being sensitive to each other's feelings. To be accepting means having the good sense to know that using our Listserve or our lobby for inappropriate material is a violation of the spirit of Mishkan Torah. I ask each and every member to carefully consider the ramifications of any Listserve entry or material placed in the lobby in the future. If there is a question about the

appropriateness of any item, please contact me or any other Board member.

REMEMBER WHOM WE SERVE

As a reminder, I offer the following reference to a popular science fiction TV series of the 1950s and 1960s: *The Twilight Zone*: There was an episode entitled, "To Serve Man." Before placing anything on our Listserve or in our lobby, please think, "Does this serve Mishkan Torah?" (Rod Serling would approve.) It's the right thing to do!

CALL FOR SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS

by Bill Schwartz

The Mishkan Torah Scholarship Fund was created to provide financial support to individuals who are pursuing degrees in Judaic studies. As donations accumulate in the fund, it is appropriate to make periodic disbursements to qualified applicants. If you are interested in applying for a disbursement from this fund, please read the "fine print" in the following paragraphs, and then submit your request in writing to Bill Schwartz at the synagogue office by no later than March 1, 2011. Requests should include the course of study you are pursuing, a statement from the school at which you are pursuing your studies that you are a student in good standing and are presently enrolled, and the amount you seek. If you have any questions, please call Bill in the evenings at 301-622-9353.

"The purpose of the Mishkan Torah Scholarship Fund is to provide funds to applicants at the discretion of the Scholarship committee for the furtherance of the applicants' post-secondary school religious education. In order to avoid having to report distributions to the recipients of the scholarship, Mishkan Torah must require that the amount it distributes to recipients be used only for tuition and related expenses. Tuition and related expenses are defined as tuition and fees required for the enrollment or attendance at an educational institution, as well as fees, books, supplies and equipment. The fees, books, supplies and equipment must be required of all students in the particular course of instruction. Incidental expenses, such as room and board, travel, research, clerical help, and equipment and other expenses that are not required for either enrollment or attendance at an educational organization are not considered related

expenses, and a scholarship that is used for such incidental expenses is not excluded from income.

Money donated to this fund will be held by the Special Fund Trustees. Donors to this fund shall be informed that criteria for income tax deduction for funds which may eventually be distributed to individual recipients are stricter than other donations to a house of worship. The Scholarship Committee shall be appointed by the President."

**Visit the Sisterhood Gift Shop
For All Your Purim and
Passover Needs.
Call Alyce (after 10:30 a.m.)
To Arrange an Appointment
To See Our Wonderful Collection
Of Judaica for Every Occasion.**

JEWELRY SALE TO BE APRIL 10

by Eva Choper

Because the existing calendar positions *Yom Hashoah* one week before Mothers' Day, i.e., the day that we usually have our jewelry sale, we have decided to change the date of the sale. Then we discovered that Mishkan Torah's calendar is quite full, and the best date that we could find that was not claimed by any other committee at Mishkan Torah was April 10, a date that is a bit early, but we will just deal with it. This change means that pricing will occur a week earlier, on April 3. If we determine that we have a significant increase in donations, we might need two dates for sorting and pricing; therefore, we ask that you also keep March 27 available for pricing, if necessary.

Meanwhile, please keep the Jewelry Sale in mind and bring your donations to Mishkan Torah early enough so that we can examine them and repair them, if necessary, in time to get them priced for inclusion in the sale. For further information, contact Eva Choper.

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