

# KESHER

Our Seventy-Sixth  
Year!

## FROM RABBI SAM Trees of Life

Leviticus 9:23-25 states, "When you enter the land and plant any kind of fruit tree, you shall regard its fruit as forbidden. For three years it is forbidden; it must not be eaten. In the fourth year all its fruit will be holy, an offering of praise to the Eternal. But in the fifth year you may eat its fruit. In this way your harvest will be increased. I am the Eternal your God."

In Rabbinic times this was expanded to include all food bearing trees in all places, not just in Israel at the time of the settlement of the land. There are writings that state that this is sound agricultural practice, especially for fruits most common to Biblical Israel (grapes, almonds, and dates).

Since the practice included an offering (read tree tax) as later interpreted, it became necessary to determine a communal way to measure the age of trees. The most accurate way was to read the rings but this was not the most beneficial to the life and health of the tree.

The Mishna, therefore, in the opening passage of Rosh Hashanna discusses and sets a date for the birthday of trees. This date is the 15th day (the time of the full moon) of the mid-winter month of Shevat (the peak of the rainy season in Israel). Trees planted the day before the 15th are one year old the next day. Trees planted the day of or the day after are not one year old for another 12-13

months (depending on whether it is a leap year or not).

While one might think it is a great idea to rush out and plant trees during the first week or so of Shevat and, thus, get the "tax benefit" of a full year out of a week or so; the Rabbis teach just the opposite. Planting of trees on or shortly after the 15th is considered to be the highest ideal. Trees become a symbol of delayed (and therefore heightened) gratification in life. Trees teach us to slow down, relax, and enjoy the times of life as they unfold.

One classic Tu BiShevat story brings this message from the Rabbis:

"The king was traveling one day when he spotted an old man planting a carob tree. [Carob trees take 30-40 years to produce edible fruit] 'Old man,' the king said, 'Do you expect to live long enough to reap and enjoy the bounty of your labor?' The old man put his shovel down and looked up at the king. 'Certainly not, your majesty! This tree will be enjoyed in fullness by my grandchildren. When I was young, I ate from that tree over there that my grandfather planted. And my children benefited from that tree there planted by my father. Now it is my turn to prepare the way for the generations that will come.'"

As we move our community forward let us remember what those before us did for us as they created trees of life in their generation. May we plant, always, for the generations that will follow after us.

## Temple Israel Board of Trustees—2014-2015

Steve Brody, President

Jeff Segil , Vice President

Marc Weinstein, Treasurer

Cathi Cherry-Liston, Corresponding Secretary

Andy Diengott, Paul Pasternak, Peter Pastor, Stan Robbins

Stacey Segil & Karen Mott, Sisterhood Representatives

### **TEMPLE OFFICE HOURS:**

**Monday through Friday 9:00 am – 1:30 pm**

#### **KESHER**

*Kesher*, Connection,  
is the newsletter  
of Temple Israel  
Dover, NH.

Ideas for submissions and/or letters to the editor may be submitted by members of the Temple Israel family and all others who would like to share news or information with the Temple community.

All communication with the Editor should be by e-mail. Publication of any flyer or any other article or submission is limited by editorial and space considerations.

The deadline for submission is the twentieth (20th) of the month for the following month's issue of *Kesher*.

**mail to:**

Tammy Faschina  
TempleOffice  
@dovertemple.org

or

Rabbi Sam Seicol  
rabbisam@dovertemple.org

## **Shabbat**

### **@Temple Israel**

**Friday night service 7:00**

**Saturday mornings 10:30**

**Fri Feb 6              7:00 First Friday Shabbat Service**  
**Sat Feb 7              10:30 Shabbat Morning Service**

**Fri Feb 13              7:00 Shabbat Evening Service**  
**Sat Feb 14              10:30 Shabbat Torah Study**  
**11:30 Tot Shabbat Program**

**Fri Feb 20              7:00 Third Friday Service**  
**Sat Feb 21              10:30 Shabbat Torah Study**

**Fri Feb 27              7:00 Shabbat Evening Service**  
**Sat Feb 28              10:30 Shabbat Torah Study**

# News from the Board

Blizzard Juno is winding down this evening. Perhaps Juno was one of Mother Nature's 'gifts' to help remind us, as we are unable to get to work, school, luncheons, or other planned activities, that every now and then we need to take a break from our hectic lives and take a day off. No, not to shovel or snowblow, or clear the car, necessities as they might be, but to take a look around and enjoy the beauty in it all. Days like this I wished I had learned to ski or snowshoe when I was growing up, but living in Brooklyn in the 50's and 60's did not necessarily lend itself to those activities.

Some things you have control over, and some you don't.

Which brings me to my topic this month.

In a month or so we will be forming a Nominating Committee in advance of the June Annual Meeting and Board Elections. According to the By-Laws our Board should be made up of 15 people: President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Corresponding Secretary, Recording Secretary, Past-President, and 9 trustees. Officers are a 2 year term and trustees are a 3 year term. Each year 3 of the nine have their term expire so we elect 3 trustees every year.

Currently we are missing a vice-president, recording secretary, and 5 trustees. These positions are open as people have resigned for one reason or another, and no one has expressed interest in filling the empty slots.

Prior to the Annual Meeting the Board can elect the vice-president who will serve until June 2016; two trustee who will serve until June 2017; one trustees who will serve until June 2016; and two trustees who will serve until June 2015.

This is where your choice comes in. The future of the Temple needs new people and fresh ideas to help guide decisions and actions. If you are among the younger members and families, whether you have children in the Religious School or not, this can be an opportunity to have your voices heard, to represent your age group and your children to help ensure you and they are getting the education and activities beneficial to them and most desired by you.

The Board meets once a month, currently on Sunday mornings, for about an hour. Some business is taken care of by email or phone, with the decisions and votes done at the meetings. Even if the Board is not for you, consider joining one or more of our Temple committees. Your help is needed there as well.

I urge you to give serious consideration to helping to guide the future of our Temple and community. Feel free to call or email me, or any board member, to discuss this further.

Next month we'll talk about our new relationship with COASTY, our Temple's NFTY Youth Group.

L'Shalom

As always please feel free to contact me with any thoughts, concerns, or feedback.

Steve Brody, President

[President@DoverTemple.org](mailto:President@DoverTemple.org)

603 868 7810



## Honey Tree Learning Center

A state of the art child care center of excellence that is fully committed to helping each child succeed. Experienced and caring staff help children gain confidence in themselves, as well as in their academic abilities, to lay the foundation for a future of social and academic success.



## THANK YOU TO OUR ONEG HOSTS

### February

- 6 Hebrew I & II families
- 13 Glicka & Michael Kaplan  
Maschia & Stephen Kaplan
- 20 Mary & David Kaye  
Carolyn Anderson and Phil Ginsburg
- 27 Pot-luck style: February vacation

### March

- 6 Pot-luck style: Vacation week
- 13 Patty & Andy Diengott  
Stacey & Jeff Segil
- 20 Sara Anderson  
Julie Serrano
- 27 Beth & James Krzanowski  
Julie Low & Jim Weiner

### ONEG SHABBAT HOSTS

If you are unable to host the Oneg Shabbat on the night assigned to you, please find a substitute by trading with another family from the membership directory. If you need to change your assigned date, please notify Cathi Cherry-Liston  
603-312-0152, 603-269-4888,  
ccherryliston@yahoo.com



Please consider marking special occasions and milestones along the path of life for you or members of your family by purchasing a leaf on the Tree of Life. The rocks in the Sanctuary can also celebrate joyous occasions or honor the memory of a loved one. For more information, contact:



## Mazal Tov

to our members who are celebrating happy occasions in January!

**Join us at Friday Services  
February 6, 7:00 PM  
as we offer our wishes for  
your special day.**

## Birthdays

Haley Shine(2), Heidi Kotlus (5), Jonathan Harris (11), Ruth Saunders (15), Sonia Ginsburg (21), Rabbi Sam Seicol (23), Rachel Farber-Caracoglia (24), Jonathan Flagg (25), Bruce Samuels (26), Carol Birch (28)

## Anniversaries

Lessa Brill & John Wallace (7), Marc & Lisa Weinstein (16), Colin & Eve Edelstein Williams (21), Stefanie Diamond (28)

## Please Welcome Our New Member

Mary Alice Prenaveau

# We have not moved

*We are thriving and growing  
Tell your friends*

We now share the building with  
Honey Tree Learning Center

## 36 Olive Meadow Lane

Our mailing address remains:  
**P.O. Box 254 Dover, NH 03821**

We celebrate the memory of Ann Isacoff  
From her tribute book — pick up your copy at the office  
(donations in Ann's memory are welcome)

### **Taken from Students' Papers (History of the World) - Part 1**

1. Adam and Eve were created from an apple tree.
2. Jacob, son of Isaac, stole his brother's birthmark.
3. The mother of Achilles dipped him in the River Styx until he became intolerable.
4. In the Olympia games, Greeks ran races, jumped, hurled the biscuits and threw the java.



# Religious School Classes

# *Religious School Supported Events*

## *All ages are welcome at all events*

# February      (*Shevat/Adar*)

- |                    |  |  |
|--------------------|--|--|
| <b>1(12)</b>       | <b>9:30</b>                                  | <b>Religious School Classes</b>              |
| <b>6(18)</b>       | <b>7:00</b>                                  | <b>Shabbat Service led by Hebrew 1&amp;2</b> |
| <b>7(18)</b>       | <b>12:00</b>                                 | <b>Hebrew enrichment drop-in program</b>     |
| <b>8(19)</b>       | <b>10:00</b>                                 | <b>Community Tu Bish'vat celebration</b>     |
| <b>14(25)</b>      | <b>12:00</b>                                 | <b>Hebrew enrichment drop-in program</b>     |
| <b>15(26)</b>      | <b>9:30</b>                                  | <b>Religious School Classes</b>              |
| <b>21/22(2/3)</b>  | <b>No Religious School—February Vacation</b> |  |
| <b>28/01(9/10)</b> | <b>No Religious School—February Vacation</b> |  |

# Tu BiShevat Celebration

Sunday February 8 10:00 – 11:00  
Celebration of Tree Foods  
(Social Hall)



## *Please Note Service Times*

### **Friday nights all services will begin at 7:00 PM**

- First Friday will **either be** an earlier ending service 7:00 — 8:15  
**or** a home-style dinner service with all blessings 6:30 — 8:00
- Third Friday will focus on music and meditations for Shabbat

### **Saturday mornings will begin at 10:30 AM**

- First Saturdays and Bar/Bat Mitzvahs will be a full service
- All other Saturdays will be Torah Study
- 2nd Saturday tot-Shabbat program at 11:30 AM (Oct-May)

# Temple Israel in the Community

## The Dover Food Pantry

Items can be donated to the Food Pantry any time.  
Drop off may done at the Temple.

The Food Pantry is open  
Tuesdays 3-5PM and Thursdays 9-11AM

**In addition to donations of food and/or personal items volunteers are always welcome to help work at the Dover Food Pantry. Please contact Karen Robichaud at (603) 749-4235 or [blrklr2@aol.com](mailto:blrklr2@aol.com)**

## The Dover SHARE Fund

directly assists local residents with needs that are not met through other helping agencies, providing them with shelter and support for utilities and medical care.

Your support is appreciated!

[www.dovershare.org](http://www.dovershare.org)

## Dover Friendly Kitchen

**MORE VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!!!  
PLEASE JOIN THE COMMUNITY!!!**

Temple Members help serve dinner at the Dover Friendly Kitchen on the first Tuesday of each month at St. Thomas Church Parish Hall on Locust Street. Temple Israel's effort needs people to help cook, serve and clean. We are there from 3:45 until around 6:15. Volunteers do not need to come for the whole time. For more information or to let me know if you plan to attend, please contact me.

We welcome everyone's help!

Thank you!

*Andra Welch, Coordinator*

[abbwelch@yahoo.com](mailto:abbwelch@yahoo.com) or 534-4142

## Dover Chapter of Hadassah

The Dover Chapter of Hadassah is offering greeting cards and certificates for purchase to help Hadassah fund the various charities and educational opportunities that they provide in Israel and elsewhere. Both cards and certificates come in a variety of styles. A sample is pictured here.



We have many to others choose from. Cards are \$2.50/each; small certificates sell for \$5.00/each; and the trees are \$15/each. There are also Water Certificates (helping to keep the Israeli desert irrigated) cost \$18/each.

Please consider purchasing a card or certificate to mark a special occasion, offer get-well wishes, honor or congratulate someone, or offer expressions of sympathy. Small certificates and tree and water certificates can be inscribed with your wishes to the recipient; cards will be signed as you wish.

You may purchase the cards by calling Donna M. Goldfarb at (603) 674-9168.

Please have the name and address of recipient, as well as any message you would like to have on the card/certificate readily available when you call.

Checks for the purchase should be made out to The Dover Chapter of Hadassah and sent to: Iliese Stevens at 4 Razorbill Circle, Durham, NH 03824. )

**In most cases, cards will be sent out the day they are ordered.**

**NOVEMBER DONATIONS**

*All are encouraged to honor the memory of loved ones and/or to offer tributes to friends, relatives and community members through a donation to one or more of the funds. We express our appreciation to:*

**General**

Mr & Mrs Earl Prolman –  
Donation gift from  
Polly & John Flagg's Parents

***Yahrzeit Donation***

Cathi Cherry Liston –  
In memory of  
Lessa Brill's mother

**Hospital Visits:****Please keep us informed!**

If you or someone you know will be or is in the hospital please call the Temple office. You can also ask a nurse to see the hospital chaplain, who can call the Temple to let us know that you are there. Rabbi Sam and the Temple Israel community would like to be able to offer support and comfort to you and your family as you may desire.

**DECEMBER YAHRZEITS**

*NOTE: Yahrzeits are recorded according to the Hebrew date, so the English date will vary from year to year. Kaddish in the Synagogue may be recited on the Shabbat following the date of remembrance.*

*It is traditional to make a donation in memory of the Yahrzeit of a love one. To make a donation, please contact the Temple Office.*

**Week of February 7:** Alfred Anderson (2), Isadore Stack (2), Harry Goodstein (3), Issac C. Kates (3), Gertrude Baer (4), Jane Wise (5), Jacob A. Rosenberg (5), Sue Ann Katz (6), Max Becker (6), Michelle K. Robbins (7), Daniel Berman (7), Marian Ruth Frankel (7), Gertrude Berenson (7),

**Week of February 14:** Thomas Weinbaum (8), Vivian Lafargue (8), Elizabeth Schoonmaker (9), Frances Davis (9), Jacob N. Paisner (12), Abraham Levine (14), Laura Ossoff (14), Lewis J. Fisher (14)

**Week of February 21:** Jack Cook (15), Ida Siegel (15), Libby Rothstein (15), Irving Thorner (16), Milton H. Cooper (16), Ellen Silverman (16), Betty Karnefsky (17), Ree Becker (18), Jacob Potter (18), Robert Davis Jr. (18), Theodore Davis (18)

**Week of February 28:** June Singer (22), Phyllis Klaye (24), Louis H. Silverman (24), Norman Brill (24), Bruce Krassner (25), Micki Pastor (26), Peter L. Hooz (26), Joseph Nicole (26), Rachel Leah Tayyabkhan (26), Anne Gray (30)

**Memorial Wall**

Members may add the name of a loved one or reserve a space on the Memorial Wall with a minimum contribution of \$300. Please contact the Temple Office for more information.



**Temple Israel****of Dover**

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P. O. Box 254  
Dover, N. H. 03821  
(603) 742-3976  
templeoffice@  
dovertemple.org  
[www.dovertemple.org](http://www.dovertemple.org)



*Temple Israel is a vibrant Reform Jewish congregation. We welcome all who wish to participate in Jewish study, worship, and fellowship. Our mission is to be a center for Jewish tradition, Shabbat and holiday services and programs, sharing of life-cycle events, opportunities for Jewish education for all ages, connection to Israel, and involvement in the wider Jewish world and support for all who are in need.*

*Temple Israel is a proud member of the URJ (Union for Reform Judaism). We join with more than 800 congregations in the Reform synagogue movement.*

*President:  
Steve Brody  
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*Rabbi:  
Sam Seicol  
[rabbisam@dovertemple.org](mailto:rabbisam@dovertemple.org)*  
*Administrative Assistant:  
Tammy Faschina  
[TempleOffice@dovertemple.org](mailto:TempleOffice@dovertemple.org)*

# February 2015

## @ Temple Israel of Dover

- |           |  |  |
|-----------|--|--|
| <b>01</b> | 9:30   | Religious School Classes                 |
| <b>04</b> | <b>Tu BiShevat – Birthday of trees</b>         |  |
| <b>06</b> | 7:00   | First Friday Shabbat Led by Hebrew 1&2   |
| <b>07</b> | 10:30  | Shabbat Morning Service                  |
|           | 12:00  | Hebrew Enrichment Program                |
| <b>08</b> | <b>10:00</b>                                   | <b>Community Tu Bish'vat Celebration</b> |
| <b>13</b> | 7:00   | Shabbat Service                          |
| <b>14</b> | 10:30  | Shabbat Morning Torah Study              |
|           | 11:30  | Tot Shabbat Program                      |
|           | 12:00  | Hebrew Enrichment Program                |
| <b>15</b> | 9:30   | Religious School Classes                 |
| <b>20</b> | 7:00   | Third Friday Shabbat Service             |
| <b>21</b> | 10:30  | Shabbat Morning Torah Study              |
| <b>22</b> | <b>No Religious School – February Vacation</b> |  |
| <b>27</b> | 7:00   | Shabbat Service                          |
| <b>28</b> | 10:30  | Shabbat Morning Torah Study              |