

Thursday, January 9

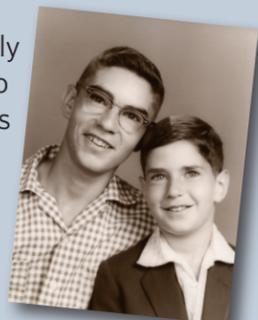
10 a.m. Check-in, coffee

10:30 a.m. Shared Memories: Heart to Heart



Rabbi Eli Herscher is the Senior Rabbi Emeritus of Stephen Wise Temple, serving the congregation over the span of four decades. **Dr. Uri Herscher** served as Executive Vice President and Dean of Faculty at the Hebrew Union College, and is the Founder and President of the Skirball Cultural Center.

Join us as Uri and Eli engage in a conversation of how autobiography influenced the lives of two brothers, shaping their visions and values, as well as passions. In significant and powerful ways, Uri and Eli Herscher's story begins well before their birth. Their parents fled Nazi Germany in 1935, finding refuge in British Mandate Palestine. Born in Tel Aviv, always conscious of their family losses in the Holocaust, the young brothers immigrated to the United States with their parents in 1954. Their story is a microcosm of the two most important Jewish historical events of the past 2000 years and, at the same time, the most deeply personal of stories, one that ultimately unfolds on the mountaintop that holds Stephen Wise Temple and Skirball.



11:30 a.m. What to Know in 2020 about New Voting Procedures & the Census

Changes can be challenging. Let the **League of Women Voters of Los Angeles** speaker ease you into the new voting system that will be introduced to Los Angeles County in March 2020. This timely presentation will provide information you'll need to know to vote with the new electronic system:

- 30,000 local polling places will be replaced by 3,000 voting centers.
- Polls will be open 11 days from February 26 to March 3.
- You can vote at any voting center.
- Local, state and federal elections will be combined on a single ballot.

Our speaker will discuss the one and only state proposition on the ballot.

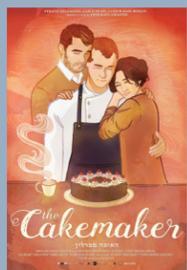
We will also learn how the 2020 US Census will be conducted by phone, by mail or on-line. We'll find out why "on-line" is preferable.

We look forward to an important educational and informational morning!

12:30 p.m. Lunch

1:15 p.m. Movie: *The Cakemaker*

Thomas, a young German baker and Oren, an Israeli married man are having a secret affair. When Oren dies in a car crash in Israel, Thomas travels to Jerusalem seeking answers regarding his death. Thomas infiltrates the life of Anat, Oren's widow, who owns a bakery. What started as a lie soon becomes something much more powerful. *Drama, 109 minutes, 2018.*



Thursday, February 13

10 a.m. Check-in, coffee

10:30 a.m. Sonenshein on Politics, Take Four



We are delighted to welcome back **Dr. Raphael J. Sonenshein** for an unprecedented 4th presentation to Wise Years. Dr. Sonenshein is the Executive Director of the Pat Brown Institute for Public Affairs at CSU Los Angeles. Previously, he was Chair of the Division of Politics, Administration, and Justice at CSU Fullerton. He received his B.A. from Princeton, and his M.A. and Ph.D. from Yale. He is the author of three books on Los Angeles politics and government. His insights into the political

scene are always refreshing and enlightening. As we write this in November, there's no predicting what tumultuous events Dr. Sonenshein will comment on in February.

11:30 a.m. Stories on Rye - A Collection of Memories Shared at Canter's Deli Since 1931



Alex and Gina Canter are 4th Generation Canter's family members. They have collected more than 100 stories from the famed LA deli's patrons and employees, capturing their experiences and memories at Canter's since it first opened nearly 90 years ago. Gina Canter's beautiful illustrations celebrate both the place and its patrons, as voices from the past join the present to demonstrate that nostalgia can be very much alive. Like the Canter's booths that have welcomed movie stars and presidents alongside countless everyday people, the book contains a vast range of memories. Hilarious, touching, perhaps a little magical, with connections to its Jewish heritage, these stories are a testament to the human spirit, and to a restaurant that shares its legacy with each of its patrons. Alex is currently the co-founder of Ordermark and was recognized for his achievement in building enterprise technology. Gina recently graduated from the University of Michigan and is a local LA artist whose work has been featured internationally.

12:30 p.m. Lunch

1:15 p.m. Movie: *The Farewell*

In this funny and heartfelt story, Billi's (played by Awkwafina) family returns to China under the guise of a fake wedding to stealthily say goodbye to their beloved matriarch—the only person that doesn't know she only has a few weeks to live. *Drama, 99 minutes, 2019.*



Thursday, March 12

10 a.m. Check-in, coffee

10:30 a.m. Political Potpourri



Bob Stern is past President of the Center for Governmental Studies, a Los Angeles based group that for 30 years wrote model laws to improve the government process. He was a principal co-author of the Political Reform Act of 1974, Proposition 9, passed by 70% of California voters, an initiative measure called one of the 12 most important election results in California history.

He currently teaches at UCLA's Osher Program and Santa Monica College's Emeritus Program.

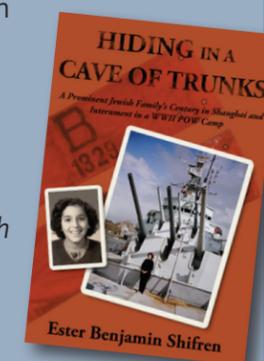
Our speaker will discuss the results of the March 3 primary election and comment on the Presidential election, U.S. Senate contests, key House races, as well as California's ballot measures and initiative process. There will be time for questions and answers.

11:30 a.m. A Jewish Family's Century in Shanghai



Author, artist, and musician **Ester Benjamin Shifren** was born in China to a prominent British Jewish family that had flourished in Shanghai for five generations. They were interned for three years by the Japanese during World War II, and in the Communist era were forced to relocate to Hong Kong and then Israel. She served in the IDF, married, and lived in South Africa for 36 years and Canada for five years before moving to Los Angeles. Ms. Shifren

has spoken internationally to numerous groups about the history of the Jewish community and multi ethnic groups in Shanghai, the "Paris of the Orient". In 2005 Ester was a guest in a BBC One program, "We'll Meet Again", and lectured at the Imperial War Museum in London. She is the author of "*Hiding in a Cave of Trunks: A Prominent Jewish Family's Century in Shanghai and Internment in a WWII POW Camp.*"



12:30 p.m. Lunch

1:15 p.m. *The Catcher Was a Spy*

This gripping, stranger-than-fiction espionage thriller brings to life the incredible true story of Moe Berg, the professional baseball player who became a World War II spy working for the Office of Strategic Services. Starring Paul Rudd. *Drama, 94 minutes, 2014.*

