

New leader at Adat Shalom

Rabbi Daniel Nevins has been named Mara D'Atra of Adat Shalom Synagogue in Farmington Hills, succeeding Rabbi Ely Spectre as rabbinic leader of the 1,300 member family congregation.



Rabbi Daniel Nevins

In accordance with a board of trustees decision made in December 1997, Rabbi Nevins was named the new Mara D'Atra (the individual who makes decisions on Halakha - Jewish law and practice). The change became effective on Oct. 11, when Rabbi Spectre began a sabbatical year and became rabbi emeritus.

On Sunday, April 30, 2000, Rabbi Nevins will be officially installed in his new capacity, and the entire community will be invited to share in this joyous milestone in the life of Adat Shalom.

Served five years here

During the five years he has served the congregation, Rabbi Nevins has functioned in a thoughtful, creative manner to complement the leadership of Rabbi Spectre. He has worked closely with congregants of all ages and has been responsive to a variety of interests and needs.

He has provided strong leadership in the area of adult and teen education offering "standing room only" evening and lunch and learn programs. He and Rabbi Herbert Yoskowitz, who joined the staff last year, recently created the new Adat Shalom Torah Institute.

At the same time, Rabbi Nevins is a familiar figure to the synagogue's nursery school and religious school youth and has developed strong ties with its teenagers, teaching in the Noah 'n Drash program and leading buses on both of the Israel Teen Missions.

He initiated the Young Adult

clergy groups and was recently seated as a member of the Conservative Movement's committee on Jewish Law and Standards.

"Rabbi Nevins demonstrates a wealth of talents and personal attributes which his congregants have come to treasure," said Teran Leomis, president of the congregation. "His sincerity and caring manner complement well his zeal for the great Michigan outdoors, a new computer program, or a musical jam session. His knowledge and exuberance for Judaism intensifies his commitment to his congregants and those of the greater Jewish community. There is no doubt that Rabbi Nevins is a uniquely caring human being and a very fine role model for our children. Adat Shalom is indeed fortunate that he is here to lead us and them now and in the years to come."

Rabbi Spectre has led the congregation for the past 22 years.

Conservative movement leader

"Under his leadership since 1978, the synagogue has become one of the leading congregations in the Conservative Movement," said Leomis. "He has made an indelible impression on this congregation as the Adat Shalom family has shared our lives with him. He has led us in daily prayers and High Holiday services. He has led us in singing and dancing for Sukkot, Simchat Torah and Purim. He has stood under the chuppah with many of our children and has consecrated new Jewish homes. He has also been there for us in times of sickness and sorrow."

"On each occasion, he has taught us and led us toward more meaningful and spiritual lives, demonstrating a single-minded commitment to Jewish values, to Jewish observance and to the Conservative Movement."

Shabbat Service, hosted by Adat Shalom, and through his participation in YASS since 1995, he has bonded with numerous young adults in the community.

The Nevins family includes the Rabbi's wife, Lynn, and daughters Talya and Loora. Their participation has enhanced the spirit of Adat Shalom family activities - winter family camp, a family mission to Israel, Minyan Chadash and more. The Nevinses are expecting another child this winter.

Community activist

Since his arrival in Detroit, Rabbi Nevins has become a very active member of the Jewish and general communities, teaching each year at Hillel Day School and serving on the board of the Jewish Community Council and on the Federation Education Division. He is currently vice president of the Michigan Board of Rabbis and vice president of the Farmington-area Interfaith Association. He participates in numerous local and national



Festival of Trees set to begin soon

Get into the holiday spirit this season with one of Michigan's premier annual charitable events - the Festival of Trees - the single largest annual fundraiser for Children's Hospital of Michigan.

Festival of Trees is a public display of more than 100 professionally designed holiday trees, vignettes, gingerbread houses and wreaths. It also offers entertainment, a festive gift shop, a Santaland with children's activities, photos with Santa and a Secret Santa Shop just for kids.

All proceeds benefit the Evergreen Endowment Fund for Pediatric Research at Children's Hospital.

Jack Nasser, president and CEO of Ford Motor Co., and wife Jennifer are serving as honorary chairmen for the 1999 Festival of Trees.

"There are tremendous obstacles facing health care funding. That makes it all the more important to maintain support for pediatric health care and research," Jack Nasser said. "We look forward to helping Children's Hospital of Michigan continue with the important work of finding cures and treatments for diseases that afflict children."

Gate tickets for the Festival of Trees, which will take place at Cobo Center in Detroit Nov. 21-28 are \$7/adult, \$5/seniors and \$3/children (2-12). Advance tickets are \$8/adult, \$4/seniors and \$2/children.

Among the glittering events planned for this year's event are: a Gala Preview Party on Nov. 20; Teddy Bear Brunch on Nov. 27; and a Swing Dance on Nov. 27 - all being held at Cobo Center. Tickets will be sold separately for each activity.

For more information, call (313) 745-0178, or visit the web site at www.fot.org.

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Zonta nut sale under way

Zonta Club of Farmington has begun its annual sale of Kosher nuts. Containers of cashews, mixed nuts and mixed nuts with macadamias are available. The profit from the sale of these items is donated to First

Step Project Against Domestic Violence. First Step serves 35 communities. For information contact Donna Johnson at 477-7538. Delivery will be available prior to Thanksgiving and Christmas.

Players stage benefit to help fight cancer

The Farmington Players present Clare Boothe Luce's classic stage production "The Women" at 8 p.m. Friday, Nov. 5 at the Players Barn Theater, 22322 West 12 Mile Road, in Farmington Hills.

Proceeds will benefit the breast cancer program at Henry

Ford Health System's Josephine Ford Cancer Center. More than 3,000 newly diagnosed cancer patients visit the center annually.

Following the 8 p.m. performance, playgoers are invited to attend an afterglow reception. Ticket prices are \$50, which

includes admission to the play and afterglow, program recognition and a breast cancer awareness pin. To receive tickets by mail reservations must be made by Friday, Oct. 29. Reserved tickets will also be held at the box office's will call window. Call (313) 876-9269.

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