



Ten Waxman High School Students Graduate *Religious School Students Receive Recognitions*



Celebrating the Waxman High School graduation with parents and friends recently are, left to right in rear, faculty member Joe Pearlman, grads Jason Hoffman and Josh Ratner, and Youth Activities Director Adam Gindea. In the center row, left to right, are

students Tamar Panzer, Danielle Polland, Sheila Sohayegh, Amanda Boltax, Mandy Mazel, Isaiah Levy, Elana Eyal, and Maxine Pearlman. Seated in front are faculty members Moji Pourmoradi and teacher Siona Kamel.

Ten students graduated from Temple Israel's Waxman High School recently in a ceremony at the Youth House, completing four years of advanced Jewish studies. The students had previously completed the curriculum in the Temple Religious School and the Beth HaGan Nursery School.

In addition, scores of students in the Temple Religious School, who now complete their last year of study at the Waxman High School, received certificates for participation in the Family Education Program and for outstanding attendance.

Waxman High School

The Waxman High School graduation ceremony was "a beautiful reminder of family,

community and Jewish identity, ideas that are never lost among the supporters and students of Temple Israel's greatest treasure, our youth," said school faculty member Joseph Pearlman, a graduate of the school himself, who coordinated the program with popular school instructor Moji Pourmoradi. Completing their studies were Amanda Bolax, Elana Eyal, Jason Hoffman, Isaiah Levy, Mandy Mazel, Maxine Pearlman, Tamar Panzer, Danielle Polland, Joshua Ratner, and Sheila Sohayegh.

Mrs. Pourmoradi presented each graduate with a gift selected specifically for them, a book reflecting their Jewish interests. Students then spoke about their experiences and memories of their years of involvement in the Youth House.

Two past Youth House student body presidents, now in college, returned to speak to the school's graduating class. Sarah Levy, now a student at McGill University, and Jamie Sherman, now a student at Washington University in St. Louis, told how their experiences at the Youth House led to a more meaningful Jewish college involvement.

Jonah Klempner and Hally Silberg were named "Keshet Members of the Year," a recognition presented to 8th grade students entering the school. The Jacob Julius Mensch Award, presented in memory of a beloved former school teacher, went to Mandy Mazel. The Dr. Milton Rosen Jewish Identity Award,

Continued on page 4

Finding Ourselves In a New World

By Sarah Levy

EDITOR'S NOTE: Sarah Levy, daughter of Temple Israel members Drs. Karen and Daniel Levy, addressed Waxman High School graduates recently, speaking about "Life After the Youth House." This Guest Column contains excerpts from her presentation.

Comfort, stability and a sense of belonging are all things craved by those thrust into a whole new world. Going off to college is

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one of the many changes that shapes a person's character. The opportunity to simultaneously move on presents a challenge faced by all of us. Going to a new place (in my case, Montreal) was a culture shock and a fresh start. What did I want?

As it turns out, like many others, I didn't

quite know. I changed my major about three times my first semester. I needed to seek out an entirely new group of friends for the first time since elementary school. With a curiosity inspired by the shift in scenery, I shied away from the Jewish community. I wondered what it would be like outside the environment I've always known.

What I didn't realize was that in doing this, I was setting myself up to need to explain why I keep kosher, what that "thing" in my doorway is, what "those candles" are for, and so on. After my entire life of living in such an incredibly strong Jewish community, being involved through Camp Ramah and at the Youth House here, parts of my life that were always accepted blindly became defining parts of myself that I had to justify, to explain, and to reason with.

The Youth House was a pivotal part of making me comfortable with myself. It was where I was secure, where I could be a leader,

— Continued on page 6

Our Strength

By Hon. Richard Kestenbaum

This month I received a note from the daughter of a former congregant and a note from a current congregant, each of which made me proud to be a member of Temple Israel of Great Neck.

The first note, from the daughter of the former congregant, related a story about a time many years ago when she was in college and her father took sick. The Temple apparently lent her money some years ago to pay a semester of her college tuition. Although the loan no longer appeared on the Temple books, she was finally able to repay the loan and did so with an additional amount to show her appreciation for our past kindness and enclosed a generous check as an additional contribution from her mother, as well. I am proud that we were able to help her then and I am equally proud that she was kind enough to repay us when she could.

Now, fast forward to the fall of last year when we participated in the Business and Job Networking effort with other synagogues in Great Neck. I remember at that time encouraging a member's son to attend the first meeting, which was held at Temple Israel. Although he did not get a job as a result of his visit, his brother did!

The story, as it unfolded, is quite convoluted and is based on many lucky coincidences. However, at the center of this story is Vice President Cheryl Moin, who never misses an opportunity to help someone. She is the ultimate networker for others, always trying to help any Temple member in any way she can. The net result is that our member's son got a job that she brought to his attention. Together with his twin brother, who got a job on his own, they are now living in Manhattan in their own apartment.

Each of these stories illustrates what we already knew—we are here to help our congregants any way we can. Of course, we provide a spiritual home for our members, but our members are family to us and to each other. As an institution, we have tremendous resources available to bring to bear on nearly every type of problem. We recognize that not everyone wants to share their personal woes with us and we understand that, but our Rabbis are trained to listen and help and our leadership has a broad view of the resources we have available to deploy when needed. Our human capital is our greatest strength. Our finances are secondary to the warmth, caring and concern we have for each other that truly makes Temple Israel our home.

Enjoy your summer!

FROM THE RABBI

No Sleeping

By Rabbi Howard Stecker

When I was a junior in college, I backpacked through Europe with a friend. To conserve our limited financial resources, we decided to sleep overnight in a few Italian train stations. This was not as easy as we might have imagined. In Florence, we were prodded all night long by police officers saying, "No sleeping!"

Never mind that I didn't understand, at 20, the legal difference between my sitting upright all night on a bench and lying horizontal, especially if my eyes were closed either way. The phrase, "no sleeping," delivered with European panache, became part of my personal soundtrack.

When I think about what it means to be a committed Jew and human being in the 21st century, I frequently recall the policemen's words as an apt directive. With all of the particular and universal challenges we face, we can't afford to let things slide.

Notwithstanding the low-key summer months that are upon us, I'd like to emphasize three areas that require our ongoing vigilance.

Insofar as our brothers and sisters in Israel don't get a long vacation from the existential realities they face, we need to remain supportive of Israel's efforts to ensure her security while reengaging talks aimed at a peaceful outcome to the Israeli-Palestinian

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conflict. Support, in my understanding, involves keeping abreast of news developments and advocating for Israel when we feel her position is misunderstood or misrepresented. It also involves visiting Israel if possible. Toward that end, we are planning two trips so far—one for our teens in February and one for our congregational families next August.

— Continued on page 5

IN MEMORIAM

Temple Israel extends condolences to the families of:

MALIHESH TAIED KASHANI

mother of Elias Taided and Shahram Taided

EVA KAWALEK

mother of Fanny Narotzky

BETTY NUSSBAUM

sister of Malkah Schulman

RUTH HECHT

mother of Beth HaGan Director Rachel Mathless

May their memories be for a blessing.

UPCOMING EVENTS AT TEMPLE ISRAEL

July	15	Temple Board of Trustees Meeting	8:15 P.M.
	19	Erev Tisha B'Av	
	20	Tisha B'Av	
	29	Men's Club Meeting	7:30 P.M.
Aug.	8	Shoah Remembrance Committee Picnic	
	19	Temple Board of Trustees Meeting	8:15 P.M.
	26	Men's Club Meeting	7:30 P.M.

Stories From Both Sides Of the Ocean

led by Rabbi Howard Stecker

A discussion of a range of classic and contemporary Jewish short stories written in Europe, Israel and the United States.

Authors to include S. W. Agnon, Cynthia Ozick, Amos Oz, Thane Rosenbaum and Etgar Keret.

Mondays: August 9, 16 & 30
8:15 P.M. in the Blue Room

Copies of the stories will be available from the Temple office and on the Temple's website <www.tign.org>

To RSVP:

Call Kathy in the Temple office or e-mail <krecckia@tign.org>

CANDLE LIGHTING TIMES

Friday, July 16.....	8:07 P.M.
Friday, July 23.....	8:02 P.M.
Friday, July 30.....	7:56 P.M.
Friday, August 6.....	7:48 P.M.
Friday, August 13.....	7:39 P.M.

DAILY MINYAN TIMES

Mon. & Thur.	6:45 A.M.	8:00 P.M.
Tues. & Wed.	7:00 A.M.	8:00 P.M.
Friday	7:00 A.M.	6:30 P.M.
Sat., July 17	8:45 A.M.	7:45 P.M.
Sat., July 24	8:45 A.M.	7:40 P.M.
Sat., July 31	8:45 A.M.	7:35 P.M.
Sat., August 7	8:45 A.M.	7:30 P.M.
Sat., August 14	8:45 A.M.	7:20 P.M.
Sunday	8:15 A.M.	8:00 P.M.

Next Voice Issue, Deadline

The next issue of The Voice, the Rosh Hashanah and You Kippur issue, will be published on August 19. The deadline for the issue is August 6.

IN QUOTES

EDITOR'S NOTE: "In Quotes" calls attention to passages from Jewish prayers and writings frequently overlooked or said by rote, but profoundly written.

This issue's quote is an excerpt taken from the Ashrei prayer. Do you have a favorite quote? Send it to The Voice, c/o the Temple office.

“
*Adonai supports all who stumble,
and uplifts all who are bowed down.
The eyes of all look hopefully to You,
and You provide their food in due time.*”

Ten Waxman High School Students Graduate

Religious School Students Receive Recognitions



Temple Israel Religious School Hidon HaTorah Team members competed with other METNY United Synagogue sixth grade students. The Temple team included, left to right, Yael Lissack, David West, Perry Spector, Michael Hershenhorn and Jonathan Perlman.

—Continued from front page

presented by Temple member Dr. Milton Rosen to encourage students to continue Jewish studies in college, was given to Zoe Oppenheimer. The Shalom Club Award, presented by Shalom Club President Mickey Putterman, was given to Jessye Waxman. Elana Eyal was named “Youth House Member of the Year.” “Student of the Year Awards” went to Alessia Grunberger and Emily Shokrian.

During a candle lighting ceremony, outgoing student body President Mandy Mazel “passed the light” to incoming President Ari Panzer, symbolic of passing the torch from generation to generation.

“All of these students have a few things in common,” Mr. Pearlman said. “They have all been involved with athletics at their public school, they have all been involved with the arts, particularly their school’s music program, and they have all been heavily involved with school clubs and philanthropic programs.” He then introduced student Allison Rosenbaum, who played the acoustic guitar and sang the Bob Dylan hit “Forever Young.”

The program was organized by a committee of school parents. School graduate Ben Ratner recorded the entire ceremony. It will become part of a collection in the Temple Israel Library.

METNY Judaic Scholars

A number of Temple Religious School students were named METNY Judaic Scholars by United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism because of their

outstanding record of academic achievement, class attendance, participation, effort, behavior and *Shabbat* attendance. They included: Sophia Askari, Ethan Citron, Michael Cohenmeh, Aliza Fine, Simona Fine, Aaron Geula, Alexander Geula, Charles Goodwin, Benjamin Kobliner, Sarah Kobliner, Gabe Lefkowitz, Benjamin Newman, Joshua Putter, Jonathan Rothbaum, Joshua Rothbaum, Emma Sassouni, Leila Sassouni, Ethan Shaktman, Joseph Taied, and Matthew Weinstein.

Family Education Certificates

Religious School students earning Family Education Certificates for attending five or more Family Education programs included: Noah Aizer, Sophia Askari, Cara Becker, Lily Becker, Katie Berman, Spencer Berman, Jeremy Bernstein, Matthew Bloom, Amelia Blumberg, Rachel Breidbart, Samuel Chiche, Emily Citron, Ethan Citron, Michael Cohenmeh, Michael Dadi, Maya Emanuel, Cyrus Eshaghoff, Juliet Eshaghoff, and Ariana Farajollah.

Also, Matthew Farkas, Brett Figelman, Aliza Fine, Simona Fine, Isabella Frankel, Sarah Frankel, Emily Gal, Hannah Gal, Joshua Gal, Nicole Gany, Aaron Geula, Alexander Geula, Clara Goldberger, Eli Goldberger, Benjamin Goodwin, Charles Goodwin, Eli Goodwin, Emily Greiff, Jordan Greiff, Delilah Harounian, Amanda Homapour, Elliot Horowitz, Jillian Horowitz, Katrina Itchkow, Jared Kaiman, Barrett Kanfer, Solly Kasab, Talia Katz, Kevin Khadavi, Leah Klempner, and Benjamin Kobliner.

Also, Joshua Kobliner, Sarah Kobliner, Jessica Lalehzar, Michelle Lalehzar, Gabe Lefkowitz, Elizabeth Lev, Hannah Levy, Talia

Levy, Rachel Linden, Evan Lipp, Mikaela Lipp, Natasha Mahfar, Malka Nebro, Benjamin Newman, Joshua Putter, Joshua Rothbaum, Scott Rothbaum, Jonathan Rothbaum, Emma Sassouni, Leila Sassouni, Harry Scheidt, Daria Scolnick, Ethan Shaktman, Kimberly Shokrian, Benjamin Taied, Joseph Taied, Brian Volk, Matthew Weinstein, Sophia Wotman, and Amanda Zeitlin.

Outstanding Attendance Awards

The following students earned Outstanding Attendance Awards: Alexandra Ahdoot, Natalie Aminzadeh, Nicole Aminzadeh, Alexis Asherian, Sophia Askari, Cara Becker, Samantha Becker, Katie Berman, Jeremy Bernstein, Matthew Bloom, Ashley Chaman, Samuel Chiche, Emily Citron, Ethan Citron, Michael Cohenmeh, Michael Dadi, Samantha Damaghi, Max Dienes, Sara Dienes, Ashley Epstein, Juliet Eshaghoff, Ariana Farajollah, Jonathan Farkas, Aliza Fine, Simona Fine, and Emily Gal.

Also, Hannah Gal, Joshua Gal, Aaron Geula, Alexander Geula, Nathan Gilardian, Ariel Gold, Eli Goldberger, Benjamin Goodwin, Charles Goodwin, Eli Goodwin, Aaron Hakimi, Aaron Harouche, Noah Harouche, Delilah Harounian, Alexis Hedvat, Ashley Hedvat, Allyson Hendler, Amanda Homapour, Jillian Horowitz, Spencer Horowitz, Nathaniel Hyman, Roger Hyman, Katrina Itchkow, Daniel Itzkowitz, Joshua Kahen, Michael Kahen, Jared Kaiman, Talia Katz, Kevin Khadavi, and Zoe Khorshad.

Also, Jonathan Kirshner, Leah Klempner, Benjamin Kobliner, Joshua Kobliner, Sarah Kobliner, Gabe Lefkowitz, Elizabeth Lev, Martin Lev, Jacob Leventhal, Talia Levy, Charles Linden, Evan Lipp, Mikaela Lipp, Ari Lissack, Natasha Mahfar, Karina Makhani, Limor Makhani, Dylan Meirowitz, Harry Meirowitz, Malka Miller, Morgan Miller, Michelle Mirjani, Talia Mirjani, Layla Modlin, Hannah Nahavandi, Rebecca Nahavandi, Malka Nebro, Benjamin Newman, Alexis Noghreh, Chloe Noghreh, Aaron Ohebshalom, Jonathan Perlman, and Lauren Perlman.

Also, Joshua Putter, Sharon Roofeh, Jonathan Rothbaum, Joshua Rothbaum, Scott Rothbaum, Jonathan Sasson, Emma Sassouni, Leila Sassouni, Harry Scheidt, Jared Schwartz, Daria Scolnick, Alexandra Sedgh, Daniel Sedgh, Victoria Sedgh, Ethan Shaktman, Sally Shamouilian, Jordan Shavolian, Eric Shirian, Sam Silberg, Jesse Smith, Rubin Smith, Dylan Solomon, Matthew Somekh, Maya Somekh, Benjamin Taied, Joseph Taied, Lauren Victory, Nicole Victory, Brian Volk, Matthew Weinstein, Carly Weisen, Elliot Weissman, David West, Sophia Wotman, Adam Wright, Amanda Zeitlin, and Shayna Zeitlin.

Temple Lites . . .

• **David DeLott**, son of Stuart and Gloria DeLott, has been promoted to vice president, financial reporting, at PepsiCo, Inc. He will be responsible for all of PepsiCo's internal, international and external financial reporting.

MAZAL TOV TO . . .

• **Roberta and Herb Selzer** on the birth of their granddaughter, Remi Jayde Kraver.
• **Roberta and Herb Selzer** on the engagement of their son, Brian, to Jenna Febesh.
• **Rhoda and Dr. Craig Smolow** on the engagement of their son, Michael, to Rachael Gordon.
• **Marie and Robert Contento** on the birth of their twin grandchildren, Grace Marie and Preston Alexander Sotirhos.

No Sleeping

—Continued from page 2

The oil disaster in the Gulf is likewise not taking a vacation, though it is destroying the vacation plans and the livelihoods of many visitors and locals. It relentlessly reminds us of the danger of economic opportunity pursued at the expense of proper concern for the environment. All year round, summer months included, we can take small measures to be more energy efficient. Temple Israel's Green Committee continues to meet and offer new initiatives for our congregation. Be on the lookout for updates of their progress.

Finally, the summer months, no less than the rest of the year, provide opportunities for us to expand our Jewish knowledge and commitment. We are offering classes in the weekly Torah portion and Jewish short stories and have engaging *Shabbat* services each week, including Friday night services held outdoors when the weather permits. As many of us have discovered, the summer is also a great time to catch up on reading and an opportunity to read books of Jewish interest, specifically. Our Temple Israel library has many outstanding books, including new biographies as part of the Adele Eckstein collection.

The Psalmist described God as one who "neither slumbers nor sleeps." (Psalm 121). Our theological reactions to that statement would be interesting to entertain. For now, however, I would simply look to that image as a potential source of comfort and motivation. We can't achieve the degree of vigilance we ascribe to God, but we can see it as our task to confront challenges and embrace opportunities with all the energy we can muster.

"No sleeping" altogether, of course, is neither realistic nor healthy for a human being, not to mention that even God got to rest at the end of the first work week. In that spirit, I wish everyone a summer that is restful as well as productive. Let's not lose track of our essential obligations. And if you happen to find yourself in Florence, try to find different sleeping arrangements than I did.

Destruction and Rebuilding: A Tisha B'Av Thought for 5770

By Rabbi Seth Adelson

"Free Gaza!" proclaimed many of the signs carried by the anti-Israel protesters awaiting the arrival of Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu to address the Council on Foreign Relations on the East Side of Manhattan. "Free Gaza from Hamas," remarked a woman standing near me, wearing a "Stand With Us Israel" tee shirt.

I had come to join with the ranks of Israel supporters, who turned out in much greater numbers than the Neturei Karta (an anti-Zionist sect of Satmar Hasidim) and other anti-Israel activists across 68th Street. The police kept us neatly collected in our separate groups, behind blue barriers, and each side chanted slogans and sweated through what must have been the hottest hour of the day.

My thoughts ran to the new reality of the Palestinian territories—rapid economic growth in the West Bank, easier movement for those Palestinians living there, and a new era of cooperation between Israeli and American authorities and the Palestinian Authority led by President Mahmoud Abbas and Prime Minister Salam Fayyad.

And then the contrast with Gaza, where Hamas ousted the Fatah-led government, and thereby condemned itself to international isolation. The Qassam rockets are not falling on southern Israel as they were a year and a half ago, but the economy is not improving in Gaza, as it is in Ramallah. The difference is stark, and we can only hope that the people of Gaza will hear from their cousins in Bethlehem and Jericho that cooperation yields good fruit, and choose a new path.

The overarching theme of the month of Av is destruction and rebuilding. The ninth day of Av is the day upon which we commemorate the destruction of the First and Second Temples in Jerusalem, and as we approach that day, we begin to recall those tragedies with liturgy, music and custom, echoing the ancient, two-fold descent into the chaos wreaked by the Babylonians in 586 BCE, and then the Romans in 70 CE.

The period following Tisha B'Av is about consolation, featuring seven dedicated *haftarot* from the book of Isaiah for the seven weeks between the Ninth of Av and the first of Tishrei, also known as Rosh Hashanah. We call this month "*menahem Av*," the comforting Av, because the latter two-thirds of the month remind us that after destruction there is rebuilding.

It is this cycle that prepares us ritually for the High Holidays. It is the breaking and healing of the Jewish soul, the mental deconstruction and reconstruction of our historic and spiritual center that girds us for the "Big Ask" of Yom Kippur.

As the tumultuous year of 5770 enters its final, steamy months and we begin the

descent and ascent to the High Holidays, I cannot help but put this rally in Jewish perspective appropriate to the month of Av: I very much want Gaza to be rebuilt, and for it to be a thriving, cosmopolitan city wherein people can travel freely and worship as they choose, like Tel Aviv, or better yet, Jerusalem. I want the people of Gaza to get a fair shake, but not at the expense of the people of Sderot or Ashkelon. I want the powers that be in Gaza to renounce terrorism, acknowledge Israel's right to exist, and dedicate themselves to rebuilding their lives and their land.

In *Megillat Eikhah*, the book of Lamentations, which we read on Tisha B'Av, we chant the following in mournful tones: "For these things I weep, my eyes shed tears... My children are desolate, for the enemy has prevailed." We know that the enemy of all good intentions in Israel and the Palestinian territories is Hamas; let us hope that rebuilding Gaza, in cooperation with Israel and the West, occurs speedily, in our day.

OBSERVE TISHA B'AV

Monday, July 19 • 8:00 P.M.

in the Crystal Ballroom

Mincha, Ma'ariv & the reading of Eikhah (The Book of Lamentations)

Rabbi Seth Adelson & Cantor Raphael Frieder & others will lead the service

Participants will join in readings from The Book of Lamentations and other selections.

Tuesday, July 20 in the Chapel

Shaharit 6:45 A.M.

without tallit & tefillin

including Torah reading and kinot (special liturgical poems for Tisha B'Av)

Minhah 1 P.M.

without tallit & tefillin

Ma'ariv 8 P.M.

Observe Tisha B'Av commemorating the destruction of the First Temple (in 586 B.C.E.) and the Second Temple (in 70 C.E.) in Jerusalem, and the exile of the Jewish People.

This solemn day reflects the greatest tragedies of Jewish history (including the Holocaust), but also serves as a reminder that the Jewish tradition of renewal is alive in Israel and America.

DAILY MINYAN FUND

In honor of:

Rabbi Marim D. Charry's
50th anniversary of his
rabbinic ordination
Shirley and J. Leonard
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TEMPLE ISRAEL FUND

In honor of:

Rabbi Marim D. Charry on
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Lois Wagreich
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From Generation to Generation



Temple Israel Gratefully Acknowledges The Following Contributions

Alfred Bromberg
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RABBI STECKER'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

In appreciation of:

Rabbi Stecker's warmth
and kindness at the
unveiling of her mother,
Clara Mirkin

Naomi Schulman
Rabbi Stecker's visit

Marlene and Larry
Kreditor

Rabbi Stecker for
participating in the
Auf Ruf of Elissa and
Danie Braff

Marlene and Morton
Leichter

Rabbi Stecker's support
through their mourning
period

Freddi and Harvey
Kadden

Contribution:

Alise Kreditor and Jeffrey
Englander

In honor of:

Alan Sternlieb on Father's
Day

Joanne, Michael,
Michelle and Sarah

Finding Ourselves In a New World

—Continued from page 2

and where I strengthened my Jewish identity. The Youth House is a huge reason why leaving Great Neck didn't mean changing what I believed in and how I wanted to live because it would be easier. Leaving just meant I had to do it on my own and for myself!

Watching this year's Youth House class at their graduation was heartening for so many reasons that resonate inside and outside of the Youth House walls. In the last few years, the changes in directors and the accommodation of the Religious School after the fire hurt the Youth House, and this year's class bore the brunt of the struggle. They have shone through the obstacles and have provided a brightness whose nature is invaluablely precious to all of us. The Youth House kids represent everything a Jewish community like ours should put incredible effort in, to maintain and build.

Moji Pourmoradi, upon facing a major bump in the road that the Youth House Board had to overcome a few years ago, told us, "you are the Youth House." The kids who show up every Tuesday and Thursday, despite the difficulties in the past few years, want to be there and love it and put their hearts into it, beginning with their presence. One of the graduates this year could barely get through her speech, laughing to the point of near tears at the memories she is walking away with. A realization that comes after leaving is how much of a part of you the Youth House truly becomes. Where we grow up has the invaluable positive potential to shape, challenge, and inspire us to be in a similar community later on, and there is no doubt the Youth House has done that for so many of us already.

At the Youth House, we questioned, we adjusted and we molded ourselves. Karma, women's rights, politics and chocolate frosting were all heated topics of debate, and then we ate pizza and built some of the strongest friendships we'll ever have. That opportunity does not come along every day. For everything that Youth House was to me, it was a home. The kind of place that, no matter where I am in my life, no matter what I'm doing, is always there. That knowledge in and of itself has been enough for me to live my life as I love to, and explaining myself to new people has just helped me thrive.

At the end of the day, the pressure of circumstances is not the defining features of our lives. Once we've left the nest—as long as we've been brought up strongly—who we are becomes something much, much more than where we are.

D'VAR TORAH

—Continued from back page

Ekev

Saturday, July 31

We continue the section of Moses' second discourse, in which he sets forth the religious foundations of the covenant at Mt. Sinai in this portion. He reminds the Israelites that during the entire period of the wilderness wandering, they enjoyed God's care, as witnessed by the fact that their clothing did not wear out or their feet swell and they were provided with manna for food. Moses cautions the people about what is likely to happen to them when they come into the good fruitful land that they are about to enter. He reminds them that they must never assume that it is by virtue of their own hands that they will enjoy the produce of the land, but it is God who gives it to them. Moses then returns to history and recalls to the Israelites all their acts of defiance: the making of the Golden Calf, the complaints about lack of food and water, and the incident of spies. He points out that it is only because he interceded for them with God that they are able to enter Canaan.

Re'eh

Saturday, August 7

In this portion, we conclude the section of Moses' second discourse, in which he sets forth the religious foundations of the covenant at Sinai. He lays before the Israelites two possibilities: obedience to God, which would bring blessing, or disobedience which would bring a curse. The choice is theirs to make, but it is clear that in order to possess the land they must choose to follow God's laws. The next section of the discourse comprises a detailed listing of the laws that are to govern the lives of the Israelites in the Promised Land. The first area dealt with its religious institutions and worship, including, among other things, directions for the establishment of a central sanctuary, rules for maintaining distinctiveness in worship, warnings against the heathen rites and religious seducers, and regulations concerning permitted and forbidden foods, tithes and the year of the release. The portion ends with laws detailing the observance of *Pesach*, *Shavuot* and *Sukkot*, indicating that time also is to be sanctified.

SABBATH SERVICES

—Continued from back page

Saturday, August 7

Morning Service 9:00 A.M.
 Weekly Portion: *Re'eh*; Deuteronomy 11:26 - 16:17
Haftarah: Isaiah 54:11- 55:5

Friday, August 13

Evening Service 6:30 P.M.

Saturday, August 14

Morning Service 9:00 A.M.
 Weekly Portion: *Shofetim*
 Deuteronomy 16:18 - 21:9
Haftarah: Isaiah 51:12 - 52:12

Shofetim

Saturday, August 14

We continue the listing of the laws by which the Israelites are to live in the Promised Land, in this portion. The focus here is on social organization, and consideration is given to defining the status and responsibilities of four different types of leaders: judges, the king, priest and prophets. Judges are admonished that justice must be free, accessible and absolutely impartial. If there is to be a king, he must be a native Israelite and a constitutional monarch who governs in accordance with the Torah. He is forbidden to have standing cavalry or a harem, and he must himself study and obey the law. The priests are not to have any allotment of land, but they are to be supported by the people through emoluments. The prophets will not be sorcerers, diviners or soothsayers or practice any kind of magic. They will be, like Moses, men who truly and accurately transmit God's message to the Israelites. The portion concludes with laws concerning crime and welfare. They assure that personal rights are respected and human kindness is displayed, even during wartime.

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Tisha B'Av Observance Times--See Page 5

D'VAR TORAH

By Rabbi Marim D. Charry

Devarim

Saturday, July 17

We begin the Book of Deuteronomy in this portion. The entire book takes place while the Israelites are camped, in the plains of Moab on the banks of the Jordan River, ready to cross over into the Land of Canaan. At this point, Moses is reaching the last weeks of his life and his ministry. He takes this opportunity to deliver three farewell discourses and two poems before he takes leave of his people. Since these people are not, for the most part, the ones who left Egypt, Moses begins his first discourse with a review of the events from the time of leaving Sinai to the present and the lessons to be learned from them. Thus, he does not merely recount history, he interprets it. Specifically, he emphasized that the people's fate depends on their response to God's commands and promises. The original command to proceed to the Promised Land was disobeyed when the Israelites took the negative advice of the ten scouts. This led to the wilderness wandering. The second command to proceed to the Promised Land is about to be obeyed.

Vaethanan

Saturday, July 24

This portion opens with Moses concluding his historical review by recounting how he entreated God to relent and allow him to go into the land with his people. God's response is that Moses will be permitted to see the land, but only from afar. Moses now ends his first discourse with an exhortation to obey God's laws. In his second discourse, which constitutes the bulk of the Book of Deuteronomy, Moses communicated a body of laws to the Israelites in preparation for their entry into the Promised Land. Some of these laws repeat laws given earlier in the Torah, but many of them are found only here. Before presenting the laws, Moses delivers a prologue describing the historical circumstances under which God gave them to him for transmission to the people. This section includes a repetition of the Ten Commandments, with some notable differences from the Exodus version. In addition, Moses offers a preamble, presenting the ideological basis for the laws and appealing for their observance. This section includes one of the most famous passages of the Torah: "Shema Yisrael, Adonai elohenu Adonai ehad."

—Continued on page 7

SABBATH SERVICES

Evening Service	Friday, July 16	6:30 P.M.
	•	
Morning Service	Saturday, July 17 <i>Shabbat Hazon</i>	9:00 A.M.
	Weekly Portion: <i>Devarim</i> Deuteronomy 1:1 - 3:22 <i>Haftarah</i> : Isaiah 1:1 - 27	
	•	
N'Ranenah / Evening Service	Friday, July 23	6:30 P.M.
	•	
Morning Service	Saturday, July 24 <i>Shabbat Nahamu</i>	9:00 A.M.
	Weekly Portion: <i>Vaethanan</i> Deuteronomy 3:23 - 7:11 <i>Haftarah</i> : Isaiah 40:1 - 26	
	•	
Evening Service	Friday, July 30	6:30 P.M.
	•	
Morning Service	Saturday, July 31	9:00 A.M.
	Weekly Portion: <i>Ekev</i> Deuteronomy 7:12 - 11:25 <i>Haftarah</i> : Isaiah 49:14 - 51:3	
	•	
Evening Service	Friday, August 6	6:30 P.M.
	•	

—Continued on page 7