



New Waxman School Director's Goal: Engaging More Students



Waxman High School Director Danny Mishkin. *Voice photo by Dr. Robert Lopatkin*

After a national search during which more than 50 candidates were considered for the position, Temple Israel has appointed Danny Mishkin as the new director of the Waxman High School and Youth Engagement.

He comes to Temple Israel from Temple Emanu-El of the City of New York, with over a decade of experience working with teens in school, camp and non-profit settings. Mr. Mishkin succeeds Interim Director Rabbi Seth Adelson who, during his tenure, led 35 Temple Israel teens to Israel last February.

"I want to have our teens contribute positively to their community, to be positive members of Temple Israel, the

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Temple Schools Conclude School Year With Ceremonies

Temple Israel's three schools conducted special ceremonies recently, wrapping up their academic year.

A large turnout of parents and more than 30 members of the Waxman High School student body showed their support for two students who have completed religious studies—which began in Beth HaGan and concluded this year—by attending a program held on the front lawn outside the Sanctuary amid festively colored tables and chairs and brightly colored balloons.

Graduates Alessia Grunberger and Louis Pearlman were hailed for their accomplishment by Rabbis Howard Stecker and Seth Adelson, who served as the director of the school during the past year. Veteran teacher Moji Pourmoradi also spoke to the students, telling them their accomplishment was "all the more sweet, because they stuck it out despite a great deal of adversity. This was one of the nicest graduations I have attended," she said, "and I have participated in many."

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Jubilant Waxman High School students, classmates and teachers posed for an official class portrait on the steps to the Sanctuary following their recent graduation ceremony.

The Experience of a Lifetime

By Arielle Sasson

EDITOR'S NOTE: Arielle Sasson, the daughter of synagogue members Romina and Dr. Homayoun Sasson, recently returned from a trip to Europe's concentration camps and a visit to Israel as part of the March of the Living. This Voice Guest Column is her report on the trip.

The little boy stirred from his deep sleep, feeling a heavy body heaving on top of his back and an arm stuffing a piece of stale bread in his dry mouth. The man on top of him

*I am
back home now,
but my heart
resides in Israel...*

violently pulled the little boy's trousers down, but the boy did not dare resist; his starving body needed the nourishment and he allowed himself to be raped because of the little bread he was given. The man who raped the boy was actually a prisoner of the Birkenau camp in which they worked, and was chosen to be

the leader of his barrack. The leader of the barrack continued to do this every single night, and so every single night the little Jewish boy was taken advantage of in this way because he was so dehumanized and brutalized by the Nazis' regime of extermination.

After one night of this cruelty, the little boy realized that his cap, the cap that he needed to survive roll call, had been stolen by another prisoner. In a true act of desperate determination, the boy quietly snuck to the barrack leader's sleeping body, snatched his hat stealthily, and wore it during roll call that morning. With a sheer stroke of luck, the little boy was fortunately not murdered during roll call. But he and thousands of other prisoners watched the heartless barrack leader being shot to his death.

Almost 65 years later, I had the opportunity to see with my own eyes the wooden board this little boy slept on with five other

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FROM THE RABBI

Novel Recommendations

By Howard Stecker

Summertime generally offers us more opportunities to read for pleasure than the rest of the year. Perhaps like me, you've found yourself wondering, on occasion, what book you should read next. Most people I know don't like to begin a book only to discover, a hundred pages into it, that it has all the excitement of a humid summer haze. Since I find that I benefit greatly from the recommendations of others, I'd like to suggest a few books that were recommended to me that I've enjoyed.

I recently read and liked two novels by the British author Howard Jacobson. While several of his books focus on British Jewry, the color and insights they offer have more universal appeal. "Kalooki Nights" concerns a post-war Jewish community in Manchester, England. The story, told from the perspective of a Jewish cartoon artist, depicts several widely diverse Jewish families as they come to terms with Jewish history and interact with the wider society. Jewish identity and memory impact each individual's thinking and actions in powerful, though profoundly

different, ways. With humor that is often fierce and sometimes gentle, the narrator explores the deep ambivalence of the Jewish characters as they confront the impact of the Holocaust, engage Gentile society, and struggle to understand what it means to be Jewish.

*...I'd like
to suggest
a few books...*

"The Finkler Question," also by Jacobson, focuses on the musings and adventures of a small group of sophisticated, contemporary Londoners. Most of them are Jewish and one of them, the protagonist, has an enormous affinity, laced with ambivalence (no surprise), with Jews and Judaism. Also ripe with humor, the book explores what it

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Another Frontier

By Alan M. Klinger

"Architecture is really about well-being. I think that people want to feel good in a space..."

—Walter Gropius
architect and founder, Bauhaus

This column seeks to update the congregation on changes being made or considered—some temporary, some permanent—that affect the use of our building in ways that hopefully will enhance your synagogue experience.

The first involves the reconfiguration of our Sanctuary. The clergy suggested a "summer experiment," moving the *bimah* down to the congregation area (though raised on a

*...we are working
towards advancing
the ways our
building can serve
the needs...of our
congregation.*

platform to elevate the Torah reading and sightlines), surrounded on three sides by benches to provide a more intimate setting for worship. Our thanks to the House Committee—a plug for congregational participation in committees—for its work in implementing the realignment. For those who have not yet seen the redesign, you still have a few weeks to test it and let us know how you experience it.

Our second configuration involves the Grand Ballroom for the High Holy Days services. While still some two months away, planning has started, complicated this year by the newly renovated ballroom. While the ballroom has been beautifully redone, the caterer's redesign requires us to shift the *bimah* from its familiar placement (itself not the original location in that room). Various alternatives were considered, all of which produce a reduced head-count for the room, likely requiring us to reassign some congregants to other services. The Sanctuary and Crystal Ballroom should absorb those that need be relocated and we ask for your understanding in that effort, much as we

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IN MEMORIAM

Temple Israel extends condolences to the families of:

NANETTE RAAB
mother of Patty Schneider

SARAH M. GRANOFF
esteemed member of Temple Israel

JACK WEISSBLUTH
father of Jill Klein

DR. STANLEY SCHIOWITZ
esteemed member of Temple Israel

May their memories be for a blessing.

TO THE EDITOR:

Another bin Laden View

Fanny and I just returned from an extended trip to Europe and, as usual, after going through my business mail I settled down to reading all of the past issues of *The Voice* which I missed. Upon reading a number of issues, it became clear to me that *The Voice* not only has articles relating to our Temple activities and religion, but there are also political issues raised. I have no problem with this, but try as I could, I couldn't find the "Letters to the Editor" column which would have given the members a chance to express their opinion on an issue raised. So, in the hope that this letter does find its way into such a column, I would like to refer to an article written by Rabbi Adelson in the May 12th issue.

The article was entitled "Judgment" and its theme was that he "would rather have seen a trial of a live bin Laden at the hands of American jurisprudence. Surely." In this article he said: "we will never hear the painful testimony of those who lost family members, we will never watch the details of the destruction of that day reexamined in court," etc. etc. etc.

I would like to add to these observations that we will never have to see American hostages taken by Al Quida terrorists being subjected to torture and being beheaded if we would not release our captive, bin Laden. We would not have to see Americans all over the world having to watch their every move for fear of being kidnapped.

In an ideal world, the ideas presented by Rabbi Adelson are something to be greatly desired. Unfortunately, we do not live in such an ideal world and sometimes we just have to make compromises in order to survive. I also have to report that every Jew that I spoke to in Munich, Germany, where I spent most of my time while in Europe, belonged to that group that rejoiced in bin Laden's demise and didn't worry too much about the lack of niceties.

Yes, I do, as Rabbi Adelson says, "acknowledge the true judge," but in this case, we just had to give him a little help.

Warmly,
Alfie Narotzky

UPCOMING EVENTS AT TEMPLE ISRAEL

August 8-9	Tisha B'Av	
18	Board of Trustees Meeting	8:15 P.M.
23	Waxman High School and Youth House Geniza Project	2:00 P.M.

Al Fresco Minyan



Regular attendees of Temple Israel's Wednesday morning *minyan* enjoyed an impromptu outdoor service in the synagogue's courtyard recently during an air conditioner malfunction. The service was led by Marty Werber, right. Congregants are urged to insure that the daily *minyan* takes place, especially during the summer months, by regularly attending.

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 taken from the Aleinu prayer. Send your favorite quote to the Temple Israel office c/o "The Voice."

“Know this day and take it to heart that Adonai is God in heaven above and on earth below; there is no other.”

Temple Schools Conclude With Ceremonies

—Continued from front page

Alessia, an 11th grade student at Great Neck North High School, is on the regional Board of USY and participated in the USY Pilgrimage to Poland and Israel last summer. She returned to Israel last February as part of the school's trip led by Rabbi Adelson. Louis, also an 11th grade student at Great Neck South, participates in both sports and art programs at the school. He also was part of the Temple Israel trip to Israel earlier this year and is the youngest of a family of six children, all graduates of the school, as is his mother, Amy Pearlman.

A number of students were recognized for their work, including student body President Ari Panzer, who received the Jacob Julius Mentch Award; Michael Greener was presented with the Benjamin Ziegelbaum Memorial Award for Individuality; Alan Farkas was named Student of the Year; Maxine Pearlman and Jason Hoffman were given the Milton Rosen Jewish Identity Award; and John Windsor received the Justin Ressler Attendance Award.

Named to the Student Board for the coming year were Juliet Freudman, Ben Hoffman, Ari Panzer and Avir Waxman.

Rabbi Adelson bid farewell to the student body as he concluded his year as director of the school. He quoted from the Talmud, when he told the students: "Much have

B'NAI/B'NOT MITZVAH IN OUR TEMPLE FAMILY



Malka Nebro

Malka Nebro will be called to the Torah as a *Bat Mitzvah* on August 27. She is the daughter of Karen Bardash and Jose Nebro and has a sister, Marina, 17, and a brother, Marcus, 15. In September Malka will be entering the eighth grade at Great Neck North Middle School where she sings in the chorus. She is the recipient of the Judaic Scholar Award and is a member of the Chai Club in the Temple Israel Religious School. Malka enjoys drawing, seeing shows and travelling to Europe with her family. Malka plans to attend the Waxman High School and Youth House following her *Bat Mitzvah*.

I learned from my teachers, more from my peers, but most of all from my students."

Temple Israel Religious School

Many Temple Israel Religious School students have earned special school recognitions. Following is a list of award-winning students, as submitted by School Director Rabbi Tracy Klirs.

Judaic Scholars

Judaic Scholar is the highest honor a student can achieve in the Religious School. It is awarded by the METNY (Metropolitan New York) District of the United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism only to those students who demonstrate outstanding academic achievement, behavior and class attendance, and who meet or exceed the school's requirements for participation in services and Family Education programs.

Recipients include Natalie Aminzadeh, Sophia Askari, Jared Astrof, Amelia Blumberg, Michael Cohenmeh, Aliza Fine, Simona Fine, Emily Gal, Hannah Gal, Aaron Geula, Alexander Geula, Emily Greiff, Delilah Harounian, Joseph Harounian, Spencer Horowitz, Barrett Kanfer, Talia Katz, Leah Klempner, Gabriel Lefkowitz, Elizabeth Lev, Jacob Leventhal, Mikaela Lipp, Malka Nebro, Benjamin Newman, Joshua Putter, Jonathan Rothbaum, Joshua Rothbaum, Emma Sassouni, Leila Sassouni, Maya Somekh, Joseph Taied, Brian Volk, and Matthew Weinstein.

13 Mitzvot Club

Students must attend a minimum of eight services and five Family Education Programs with a parent or grandparent to be in the 13 Mitzvot Club.

Installed were Noah Aizer, Natalie Aminzadeh, Nicole Aminzadeh, Matthew Bloom, Emily Citron, Lauren Farkas, Matthew Farkas, Emily Gal, Sophia Gal, Ariel Gold, Benjamin Goodwin, Charles Goodwin, Eli Goodwin, Amanda Homapour, Elliot Horowitz, Jillian Horowitz, Spencer Horowitz, Barrett Kanfer, Elizabeth Lev, Martin Lev, Evan Lipp, Mikaela Lipp, Hannah Nahavandi, Kelsey Nathan, Benjamin Newman, Joshua Putter, Kimberly Shokrian, and Matthew Weinstein.

Chai Club

Students must attend a minimum of 13 services and five Family Education Programs with a parent or grandparent to be in the Chai Club.

Installed were Sophia Askari, Jared Astrof, Zachary Astrof, Jeremy Bernstein, Rebecca Bernstein, Amelia Blumberg, Samuel Chiche, Ethan Citron, Michael Cohenmeh, Cyrus Eshaghoff, Juliet Eshaghoff, Aliza Fine, Simona Fine, Hannah Gal, Joshua Gal, Aaron Geula, Alexander Geula, Clara Goldberger, Eli Goldberger, Emily Greiff, Jordan Greiff, Delilah Harounian, Joseph Harounian, Leila Hawa, Yoel Hawa, Daniel Itzkowitz, Galia Jadidian, Jeremiah

Jadidian, Eden Katz, Talia Katz, Kevin Khadavi, Leah Klempner, Benjamin Kobliner, Joshua Kobliner, Sarah Kobliner, Jessica Lalehzar, Michelle Lalehzar, Gabriel Lefkowitz, Jacob Leventhal, Natasha Mahfar, Malka Nebro, Emanuel Nysenbaum, Samantha Parnes, Jonathan Rothbaum, Joshua Rothbaum, Scott Rothbaum, Emma Sassouni, Leila Sassouni, Nancy Schoen, Arriel Shirazi, Sam Silberg, Matthew Somekh, Maya Somekh, Benjamin Taied, Joseph Taied, Brenda Tehrani, Kate Tehrani, and Brian Volk.

Recipients of Religious School Attendance Awards will be listed in the next issue of The Voice.

Beth HaGan Nursery School

The Beth HaGan Butterflies and Dolphins classes concluded their studies at the school at a ceremony held in the Crystal Ballroom.

The students marched in as music teacher Ruthe Golden played "Pomp and Circumstance" and friends and parents stood and applauded. School Director Rachel Mathless welcomed everyone and recognized Butterflies teachers *Morah* Rebeka and *Morah* Ety and Dolphin teachers *Morah* Connie and *Morah* Hilda.

The Butterflies class showed what they had learned during the school year by singing "Henay MaTov" and "Anachnu Ma'amenim." The Dolphins entertained the audience by singing "Vha'ir Aynanu" and "Halleluya." Both classes then sang "Todah," "Semaan Tov" and "Amen."

The Butterflies students included Emily Beyda, Cody Dilmanian, Joseph Edelman, Ryan Ellis, Kellen Hakimi, Gabrielle Kashani, Michael Manouel, Lucas Modlin, Emily Noghrei, Samuel Rahmani, Simone Shatzkes, Elliot Tabaroki, Natalie Terrani, and Ella Yerushalmi.

Members of the Dolphins class were Serena Askari, Joshua Davidson, Ethan Davoudi, Mikaela Imani, Binyamin Kohan, Liona Kohansieh, Sasha Livian, Jacob Malekan, Molly Nasiri, Noah Scheidt, Jacob Shirazi, Ethan Tamari, and Sigal Weitzman.

The Beth HaGan PTA generously provided the reception for the graduates following the ceremony.

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., August 6	9:00 A.M.	7:30 P.M.
Sat., August 13	9:00 A.M.	7:20 P.M.
Sat., August 20	9:00 A.M.	7:10 P.M.
Sunday	8:15 A.M.	8:00 P.M.

CANDLE LIGHTING TIMES

Friday, August 5.....	7:48 P.M.
Friday, August 12.....	7:40 P.M.
Friday, August 19.....	7:30 P.M.

Tisha B'Av Observance

*Commemorating the Destruction
of the First Temple (in 586 BCE) and
the Second Temple (in 70 CE) 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 in America.

MONDAY EVENING, AUGUST 8

in the Crystal Ballroom

The Fast begins at 8:03 P.M.

Mincha, Ma'ariv and the reading of Eikhah
(the Book of Lamentations) 8:00 P.M.

Rabbi Seth Adelson and Cantor Raphael Frieder
and members of the congregation will lead the
service. Participants will join in readings from
the Book of Lamentations and other selections.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 9

in the Chapel

Shaharit 6:45 A.M.

(without tallit and tefillin).

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

Mincha 1:00 P.M. (with tallit and tefillin)

Ma'ariv 8:00 P.M.

Fast ends at 8:32 P.M.

Tisha B'Av: Loss and Transition

By Rabbi Seth Adelson

Tisha B'Av represents the most fundamental loss that the Jewish people have suffered—the destruction of the Temple in Jerusalem—not once, but twice. It is a reminder of our national incompleteness, of the missing piece of ourselves that was taken away, first by the Babylonians in 586 B.C.E. and then by the Romans in 70 C.E. With both destructions, we suffered not only the denial of the religious practice mandated by the Torah, the ability to sacrifice to God, but also the land of Israel, our national homeland. And we continue to mourn to this day, even though the latter has been restored.

There is in this tale a hint of irony. The system of religious and cultural traditions that we call Judaism was hatched only after the Second Temple was destroyed. Leaving aside the sacrificial cult (which is by far the most extensive part of the Torah's vision of religious practice), what we do today is derived from the Torah, but is not really described therein. It is only through the rabbinic lens, through centuries of interpretation and re-interpretation, that we arrive at today's Judaism.

Tisha B'Av therefore marks a transition—the stimulus for the most comprehensive religious retrofit ever undertaken by a people. We moved from a centralized, hierarchical, religious tradition headed by the *Kohanim*, the priests, to a democratic, personal, and portable tradition based on learning and maintained by rabbis, who are scholars, not priests.

Frankly, the system we have had for the last 1,900-odd years seems to me superior. Even if I were not a rabbi, the idea that I can communicate with the Divine directly through prayer rather than through a priestly mediator seems far more sophisticated, far more civilized than the ancient practice of sacrificing animals.

The Temple is a symbol, a powerful reminder of our history and the glory days of our ancient sovereignty over the land. (It is for this very reason that when you visit the Temple Mount, the Islamic Waqf gives you a pamphlet that claims that the Jewish Temple was never located on that site.) In recalling its destruction on the ninth day of the month of Av, we are not only invoking our historical roots and our incompleteness, but we are also reminding ourselves that this is, ultimately, a transition for the better.

From the President: Another Frontier

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needed with the successful reassignment of those from the tent. Please contact Executive Director Leon Silverberg <lsilverberg@tign.org> should you be willing at this stage to relocate and we will make every effort to meet your preference for an alternative site.

As to the ballroom itself, with the assistance again of the House Committee, Richie Kestenbaum, Steve Smolinsky, Sherry Husney and Sid Freedman, representing various constituencies of the synagogue, and in consultation with the clergy, we have determined to utilize the caterer's new stage as the *bimah* and to set up the room theater-style. We are taking bids on a new sound system and will be working with the ushers group to streamline flow into and out of the new room (possibly using multiple en-

trances/exits), all to foster an atmosphere conducive to meaningful worship.

The next reconfiguration involves consideration of alternative uses of our main building and that of the Youth House. As discussed at our recent Board meeting, our Strategic Planning Group (final plug for congregant membership in committees), together with lay leadership, will examine possible new uses for our space. While we

MAZAL TOV TO . . .

- **Roberta and Herb Selzer** on the marriage of their son, Brian, to Jenna Febesh.
- **Barbara and Leonard Schultz** on the birth of their grandson, David Ryan Schultz.
- **Rachel Mathless** on the birth of her grandson, Nachman Aryeh Abrams.

anticipate a thorough process for prioritizing needs and a concomitant effort to raise funds to satisfy them, some more immediate improvements should be considered to better utilize our space, with initial attention to the third floor of our main building, formerly part of the Religious School. In a building as large as ours, there should not be a time when we cannot accommodate meetings, lectures or social events. Please e-mail Leon Silverberg should you have a suggestion of needs that could be satisfied with new uses of space.

While space may not be our "final frontier," it is a crucial part of how we experience the synagogue, and we are working towards advancing the ways our building can serve the needs, both spiritually and physically, of our congregation.

Waxman Director's Goal: Engaging More Students

—Continued from front page

Great Neck community, the greater Jewish community and society in general," he said shortly after starting his new position last month. "When teens are involved in Jewish life in this way, they feel good about themselves."

The husband of a Great Neck public school kindergarten teacher and father of a two-year old son and nine-week old daughter, he said he grew up in a typical Jewish family which was not particularly observant, but which made regular trips to Israel every three years. A graduate of Riverdale's Horace Mann High School and Tulane University with a B.A. in philosophy, he said he always wanted to be a teacher.

Mr. Mishkin's friendship with a White Plains rabbi led to a position as a congregation youth advisor. "I loved it," he said. "I loved working with teenagers and I loved learning more about Judaism." With the rabbi's encouragement, he enrolled in Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion, earning a M.A. in Jewish education in 2007.

Specializing in teen programming, he said he found a niche he truly finds rewarding. He has led two teen trips to Israel, as well as two "social justice trips" to El Salvador with the American Jewish World Service. Another trip, to Cuba, visited the Jewish community there and brought needed supplies. In addition, he says he invented a trip, "a volunteer stay-cation."

As coordinator of youth and young adult learning at Temple Emanu-El, his "stay-cation" led the congregation's teens to volunteer in response to poverty in their own backyard. They worked at city locations like soup kitchens and shelters, then came back and talked about responding to poverty from a Jewish perspective.

Just before beginning at Temple Israel, Mr. Mishkin participated in the Leadership Institute for Jewish Educators, a UJA sponsored program jointly run by the Jewish Theological Seminary and Hebrew Union College. Mentors were paired with 40 noted Jewish educators for a program that will last for two years. "We learned how to mobilize a synagogue for educational initiatives, how to implement a vision and how to think outside the box."

Mr. Mishkin plans to bring that training to a Temple Israel Teen Engagement Committee, which is now in formation. He invites members of the congregation to contact him at <dmishkin@tign.org> or 482-7800, ext. 2106 to make suggestions and get involved.

He said he envisions core weekly academic classes to be taught by Rabbis Howard Stecker and Seth Adelson, among others. Rabbi Stecker's planned class will be titled "Holy Texts, Tough Decisions." Rabbi Adelson's class will be called "Judaism's Love Affair With Food." Mr. Mishkin also plans to implement a "Mitzvah Corps program for eighth and ninth graders to learn about different ethical *mitzvot* and then actually perform them during hands-

on volunteer programs."

Electives could include a greening initiative and a Holocaust Adopt-A-Survivor program, he said. Mr. Mishkin is hopeful that the various electives offered throughout the year will prepare teens to assume leadership roles in many Temple Israel programs. As part of youth activities programming, he said, "I want our students to enjoy being at the Youth House, have fun with their friends and contribute positively to their community—all through a Jewish lens."

Mr. Mishkin will be collaborating with Religious School Director Rabbi Tracy Klirs, Beth HaGan Director Rachel Mathless and Toddler Shabbat service leader *Morah* Ronnie Katz to work on creating family engagement opportunities for congregants. In addition, Mr. Mishkin will be helping *Bar* and *Bat Mitzvah* students prepare their *D'verei Torah* as well as teaching at some Shabbatot Hamishpachah events. Mr. Mishkin proudly notes that his children are already regulars at the weekly Tot Shabbat and that his son, Derek, enjoys Temple Israel's Beth HaGan summer camp.

He has recently been named the recipient of the Grinspoon-Steinhardt Award for Excellence in Jewish Education. The award recognizes educators whose outstanding work enhances the engagement of their students and elevates the profile of Jewish education.

"Rabbi Adelson stepped in admirably to help us stabilize the functioning of the high school," said Temple President Alan Klinger. "We now look forward to Danny reaching out to the broader Great Neck teen community to involve them in Jewish learning, community service and social activities. We want the Youth House to be part of the core of our children's lives."

The Search Committee, which considered applicants ultimately leading to the hiring of Mr. Mishkin, included Rabbi Seth Adelson, Karen Bardash, Farnaz Delafraz, Eve Keller, Richard Kestenbaum, Alan Klinger, Leon Silverberg, Eileen Putterman, Zina Rutkin-Becker, Rabbi Howard Stecker, and Bracha Werber, and was chaired by Rebecca Yousefzadeh Sassouni.

Next Voice Issue And Deadlines

The Voice will resume its regular every-other-week publication schedule with the next issue, which will be published on Thursday, August 25. The deadline for that issue is Friday, August 12.

The following issue, the Rosh Hashanah issue, will be published on Thursday, September 8. The deadline for that issue is Friday, August 26.

D'VAR TORAH

—Continued from back page

senting 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.*"

Ekev

Saturday, August 20

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.

Novel Recommendations

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means to be Jewish in today's multi-cultural, morally complex milieu. The characters in "The Finkler Question" engage Jewish identity and Israeli politics in dramatic ways. While the novel derives much of its power from the dynamics of London Jewry, it nonetheless offers a starkly intelligent perspective on the vast, ambiguous political and social tapestry that confronts any modern Jew.

A slightly older book, which many are likely to have already read, is Michael Chabon's "The Amazing Adventures of Kavalier and Clay." The sweeping novel tells the story of the professional partnership between two cousins who ultimately help revolutionize the comic book business. Joe Kavalier, an artist who escapes from Prague just in time, and Sam Clay, a Brooklyn comic book writer, collaborate professionally as their lives intersect on multiple levels. "Kavalier and Clay" tells a fascinating tale of Jewish suffering and power, love and loss, and the elusive quest to understand and accept one's own identity.

I wish everyone a pleasant summer, filled with the right mix of relaxation and stimulation. If you decide to read any of the books above, let me know what you thought of them. And if you read anything you'd like to recommend, by all means speak up! Interesting books should not remain a secret.

TEMPLE ISRAEL FUND

In honor of:

Elise and Hon. Richard
Kestenbaum being the 2011
Journal Dinner Dance
honorees

Amy and Craig Singer
and family

Gary Sazer's special
birthday

Dr. Michael Ziegelbaum
and Wendy Carnel

In memory of:

Max Lewis

Mildred Lewis

Levi Monahemi
Sharona Shirazi

Jean Glasner

Warren Glasner

Mollie Unger

Bernice Katelansky

Jack Bauman

Martin Bauman

Max Rosenthal

Ruth Rosenthal

Samuel Kiperman

Harry Chaityn

Linda Kiperman

From Generation to Generation



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Chaia Rivkin

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Oskar Oppenheimer

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Carmela and

Dr. Victor Mandon

Sylvia Okun Bernstein

Allen Bernstein

Estelle Wortzman

Ruth Kurtz

Norman Friedman

Drs. Victoria and

Marius Pessah

Simone Wolf

Rita Ortner

Dr. Steven Goodstein

Susan Goodstein Stein

Guest Column: The Experience of a Lifetime

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prisoners. Words cannot describe the emotions that rushed through my body when I saw this little boy's barrack, when I saw the place where this child was tortured and victimized for so long, when I saw the place where he forced himself to go through pain in order to receive sustenance for his starving body. This is but one of millions of Holocaust survivors' stories that need to be retold to the ensuing generations and forever remembered by everyone who has had the opportunity to hear it.

In seven days, the March of the Living allowed me to see this and so much more. In seven days, I saw the horrors that the Nazis perpetuated on all of Europe in the span of three years. In seven days, I witnessed the concentration, death and work camps that millions of people were subjected to. In seven days, I felt the desperation and hopelessness that the Jewish prisoners sensed not long ago as I duplicated their march from Auschwitz to Birkenau. In seven days, I saw the old fingernail scratches on the walls of Auschwitz's gas chambers as its prisoners attempted to claw themselves out and away from the Zyklon B gas that took their last breaths. In seven days, I saw the crematoriums where countless Jews, homosexuals and political enemies were shoved into ovens by their own friends and family members and quickly burned into ashes—and were wiped out of existence. In seven days, I gazed at

Majdanek's huge marble dome containing the black mound of bone-flecked human ash, the cinders of 360,000 people who were forced to perish in the camp. In seven days, I changed within, aiming to make this a better world and to work to make the Jewish heritage and culture flourish for as long as possible.

There is honestly no way to accurately describe how I felt while seeing these horrors. Saying I was upset is an understatement. I became petrified at the idea of millions being gassed to death and burned to literally nothing, scared at the thought that there were and might still be villains in this world who actually had the ability to act so cruelly, and hopeless feeling that the core of the Jewish people was almost fully exterminated within Europe. But I was calmed at the idea of having so many of my friends, so many people around me to comfort me, embrace me and show me that the soul of the Nazis has been destroyed throughout the world.

I continued to feel this comfort throughout the next seven days we spent traveling through Israel. As over 15,000 Jewish teenagers from around the world joined together in song and dance in Jerusalem, I was reassured that the nucleus of both the Jewish people and humanity has remained alive despite the vicious attempts of the Nazis. As we marched the length of the trek the Jewish prisoners were forced to make over 65 years ago, from Auschwitz to Birkenau, throughout Jerusalem I felt a sense of pride, inspiration and relief as I observed that we as Jews have grown and flourished into a

force that has proved stronger than the Nazis. And, as I stood with thousands of Israelis for two minutes on Yom Hazikaron (Israeli Memorial Day), I realized the importance of the Israeli state to the Jewish people and the magnitude of their presence throughout the entire world.

The March of the Living has impacted me in a way that I never believed possible. I will never forget the horrors I observed, the terrors I heard about from the Holocaust survivors I traveled with, and the fumes I smelled as I marched through the deserted camps of Auschwitz, Birkenau, Treblinka and Majdanek. This trip has provided me with the responsibility of a lifetime, the duty to constantly retell the stories I have heard and share the pictures I have taken with everyone around me, the obligation to proudly keep the torch alive that has been passed down to me by those who have survived the Holocaust, the job to forever remember the six million who perished and the task to instill hope of surviving and determination to flourish into the next generation of Jews.

I am back home now, but my heart resides in Israel, where the Jewish people are growing, flourishing and still triumphing over the villainous core of anti-Semitism and the Nazi regime. And, even after becoming so unbelievably proud of how the Jews have succeeded these past few years, the story of the little boy still haunts me every night and constantly reminds me of the horrors that should never be forgotten.

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OBSERVE TISHA B'AV: SEE PAGE 5

D'VAR TORAH

By Rabbi Marim D. Charry

Devarim

Saturday, August 6

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 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 his 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, August 13

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, pre-

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SABBATH SERVICES

Friday, August 5

Evening Service 6:30 P.M.

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Saturday, August 6 - *Shabbat Hazon*

Morning Service 9:00 A.M.

Weekly Portion: *Devarim*

Deuteronomy 1:1 – 3:22

Haftarah: Isaiah 1:1 – 27

Junior Congregation 10:30 A.M.

Toddler Service 11:15 A.M.

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Friday, August 12

Evening Service 6:30 P.M.

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Saturday, August 13 - *Shabbat Nahamu*

Morning Service 9:00 A.M.

Weekly Portion: *Vaethanan*

Deuteronomy 3:23 – 7:11

Haftarah: Isaiah 40:1 – 26

Junior Congregation 10:30 A.M.

Toddler Service 11:15 A.M.

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Friday, August 19

Evening Service 6:30 P.M.

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Saturday, August 20

Morning Service 9:00 A.M.

Weekly Portion: *Ekev*

Deuteronomy 7:12 – 11:25

Haftarah: Isaiah 49:14 – 51:3

Havurah Service 10:00 A.M.

Junior Congregation 10:30 A.M.

Toddler Service 11:15 A.M.