Temple Israel to Host Teens From Throughout Long Island For USY Kinnus February 2-4

Jewish teens from throughout Long Island will converge on Temple Israel next month when the congregation’s Waxman Youth House hosts a USY divisional kinnus. More than 250 students in grades 8-12 will spend the weekend of February 2-4 getting to know Temple Israel, each other, participating in discussions, and worshipping together.

“It is quite an honor to be a host congregation and I am thrilled we were selected,” said Youth House Director Avi Siegel. He said it is a sign that Temple Israel’s USY chapter is gaining momentum and recognition in the region. The Waxman USY chapter had been highly acknowledged in the past, but has not been active in recent years.

“It is quite magical to see 250 teenagers enjoying each other’s company and doing things together, and when that thing is singing with emotion, praying with sincerity and experiencing the joy of Shabbat and community together, it is truly inspirational,” he said.

Mr. Siegel has been busy planning logistics for the 54-hours the teens will spend in Great Neck. He has arranged discussion programs on Israel, social action, and a variety of Shabbat service formats. The teens will join the congregation for the Mincha afternoon service. “In addition,” he said, ‘there will be ‘ice breakers’ and a chance to just hang out and enjoy the Waxman Youth House.” Most meals will be served at the Youth House.

Hosts for Teens Needed

Members of the congregation will be needed to host the visiting teens for the weekend, provide a sleeping area in their homes (“Floors are OK, beds are not required.”), and supervise activities at the Youth House. For information about hosting or to volunteer as a host family, call Mr. Siegel at 482-7800 or email him at asiegel@tign.org.

Temple Israel’s revitalized USY chapter recently hosted a laser tag event and several lounge nights. The chapter has an active social action group and recently participated in a Midnight Run to Manhattan. One member, Jacob Lurvey, the son of Veronica Bisek Lurvey and Jon Lurvey, represented Temple Israel at the International USY Convention, held recently in Chicago.

The congregation last hosted a kinnus in 2012. “Temple Israel was chosen as the host congregation for the kinnus,” Mr. Siegel said, “because USY wants to support our growing chapter and show us the vibrancy the youth movement can bring to our teens.”

Women and Mitzvot: Scholar-In-Residence Topic

By Marc Katz, Editor

It took millennia for women and men to be seen as equals in Judaism. Conservative Judaism’s Committee on Jewish Law and Standards ruled that women were equally responsible for mitzvot as men only three years ago. Rabbi Pamela Barmash, the author of the teshuvah, will discuss how the ruling was formulated when she is Temple Israel’s scholar-in-residence on the weekend of January 19-20.

She will give a talk at a congregational dinner on Friday evening titled “Spiritual Transformations in Jewish Observance,” where she will discuss what the Committee on Jewish Law and Standards does and, she said, “why I, as a rabbi and spiritual seeker, care.” The cost of the dinner, catered by Lederman, is $30 per person and reservations are required. RSVP to Jodi at 482-7800 ext. 1105 by January 18.

On Saturday morning, at a “Shabbat Talk” beginning at 12:45 P.M., her topic will be “Women and Mitzvot.” She will explain why she wrote the teshuvah, what false ideas about women and mitzvot she had to argue against, and how mitzvot and spirituality are intertwined.

“When I first read Rabbi Barmash’s teshuvah...I was ecstatic,” said Rebecca Yousefzadeh Sassouni, an organizer of the presentation. “As a woman raised in the Conservative movement my entire life, and as an attorney trained to rely on principles, precedent, and analysis, I was blown away by the simple elegance of Rabbi Barmash’s argument that women are equal to men, equally bound to the mitzvot, including those interpreted by male rabbis as time-bound.”

The January weekend coincides—Continued on page 11
**Candy Man Celebrates 90 Years of Sweetness**

**A Voice Guest Column** by Alise Kreditor

EDITOR’S NOTE: Alise Kreditor, a regular attendee of Temple Israel’s daily minyan, recently was on hand for the 90th birthday celebration of another minyan “regular,” Ed Goldfeder. This Guest Column has her report of the festivities.

If you ask any child in our congregation from toddler and up who their favorite person is at Temple Israel, the answer will undoubtedly be “The Candy Man!” A nickname earned from years of providing sweets to the children of Temple Israel, Eddie Goldfeder is beloved by all as evidenced by the huge crowd of well-wishers who turned out to celebrate his 90th birthday on November 26. His four children generously hosted a lavish brunch following Sunday morning minyan which was standing room only, as everyone wanted to be present to honor such a special Temple Israel member.

Eddie, who always has Shirley, his wife of 66 years, by his side, is as dependable as sunrise! He attends services seven days a week, partaking in morning minyan Sunday through Friday, and always occupies his special place in the back of the sanctuary during Shabbat services. His seat on the aisle makes it easy for children to stop by for a special treat. But, what one soon realizes is that Eddie isn’t only handing out candy. He is also providing important life lessons on shaking hands and saying thank you when receiving a gift. Children as young as two and three regularly stop by to say “Shabbat Bar Mitzvot.” Rabbi Barmash will draw upon her own professional and personal experience to address Conservative Judaism and Jewish law in general and the relationship between gender and observance specifically.

**Deepening Our Understanding**

**From the Rabbi** by Rabbi Howard Stecker

Over the next several months, Temple Israel will be hosting three guests who will deepen our awareness regarding several important issues.

Dr. Pamela Barmash, JTS-ordained rabbi and associate professor of Hebrew Bible and Biblical Hebrew, served for several years as a pulpit rabbi and currently teaches at Washington University in St. Louis. In addition to writing extensively in areas pertaining to scripture, history of law and ancient Near Eastern religions, Rabbi Barmash has served on, and authored numerous responsa for, the Rabbinical Assembly’s Committee on Jewish Law and Standards. When she visits us from January 19-20, she will offer an insider’s perspective in how this committee functions, both the underlying philosophy of how Conservative Jewish leaders make decisions about Jewish law and the practical ways that this works regarding specific issues. She will also speak in detail about a seminal paper she wrote called “Women and Mitzvot.” Rabbi Barmash will draw upon her own professional and personal experience to address Conservative Judaism and Jewish law in general and the relationship between gender and observance specifically.

Our three guests will deepen our understanding of one another...

Beth Steinberg, co-founder of Shufat in Jerusalem, will be our guest from February 9-10. Shufat provides “quality, inclusive services to all children, teens and young people with disabilities, regardless of labels and perceived functioning differences, while inspiring and educating others towards the acceptance and inclusion of all members of the community.” Inspired by the circumstances of one of her own children, Beth helped to establish an organization that meets the needs of children who are often marginalized.

Learning from Others

**From the President** by Rob Panzer

Last month Temple Israel members Bracha and Marty Werber, Susan Wagner and Alan Klinger, Rabbi Schweber, and Ofra and I attended the United Synagogue Biennial Convention in Atlanta. A few more members registered, but had to change their plans as other things came up. This was an opportunity for everyone to meet new people, see old friends (Rabbi Adelson sends regards), and for congregations to share experiences. Participants offered both new ideas that were instituted and working well in their communities and experiences that may not have gone as well as planned.

Participants offered both new ideas that were instituted and working well... and experiences that may not have gone as well as planned.

The first part of the convention was a Shabbaton, with a spiritually moving Friday Mincha, Kabbalat Shabbat, and Maariv services that were different from those we are accustomed to. There were several choices for Shabbat morning services, ranging from very traditional to one featuring mostly communal singing, and one that was more contemplative. We had the opportunity to try them all.

United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism (USCJ) has undergone a strategic planning and rebranding. Revised Mission and Vision Statements acknowledge our Conservative movement’s struggles and opportunities for a bright future. For more information visit the website, uscj.org. The theme for the convention was “Dare Together” with the message: “Seek Meaning together.” Printed on the hot beverage cups was the message: “Seek Meaning together.”

It is important to recognize the changing landscape of American Jewry in general and Conservative Jewry specifically. Standing in the same spot will leave...
In Memoriam
Temple Israel extends condolences to the families of:

WERNER STEIN
husband of Helga Stein,
father of Barbara Katz
and esteemed member of Temple Israel

ARLEEN GINGOLD
sister of Laurie Frankel

SYLVIA K. SALZBERG
mother of Barry Salzberg
and the late Lani Salzberg Hopp,
and esteemed member of Temple Israel

RUTH RADER
mother of Judy Vine

May their memories be for a blessing.

Upcoming Events

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>January 18</td>
<td>Board of Trustees Meeting</td>
<td>8:15 P.M.</td>
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<tr>
<td>January 19</td>
<td>Scholar-in-Residence Weekend Dinner with Rabbi Pamela Barmash</td>
<td>7:00 P.M.</td>
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<tr>
<td>January 20</td>
<td>“Shabbat Talk” with Rabbi Pamela Barmash</td>
<td>12:45 P.M.</td>
<td>Temple Israel Film Series:</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Temple Israel Film Series:</td>
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<td>“Norman: The Moderate Rise and Tragic Fall of a New York Fixer”</td>
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<td>January 25</td>
<td>Men’s Club Meeting</td>
<td>7:30 P.M.</td>
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<td>January 26</td>
<td>Tu B’Shevat Dinner and Celebration</td>
<td>6:00 P.M.</td>
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<td>January 31</td>
<td>Tu B’Shevat</td>
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<td>February 1</td>
<td>Beth HaGan Torah Science Fair</td>
<td>5:30 P.M.</td>
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<td>February 4</td>
<td>USY Kinnum at Temple Israel</td>
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<tr>
<td>February 9</td>
<td>Scholar-in-Residence Weekend with Beth Steinberg</td>
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<tr>
<td>February 10</td>
<td>“Shabbat Talk” with Beth Steinberg</td>
<td>12:45 P.M.</td>
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<td>February 11</td>
<td>Shalom Club Meeting</td>
<td>6:00 P.M.</td>
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<td>February 15</td>
<td>Board of Trustees Meeting</td>
<td>8:15 P.M.</td>
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Temple Lites...

- Rebecca Yousefzadeh Sassouni was recently elected president of the Sephardic Heritage Alliance, SHAI. She is also a member of the Great Neck Board of Education and a former Temple Israel vice president.
- Josh Charry has been elected Chief of Department of the Vigilant Fire Company. He has held a number of positions with Vigilant, most recently Assistant Chief from 2011-2017. He twice led the departments EMS operation and is the first paramedic to serve as chief. He was sworn in by his father, Rabbi Marim D. Charry. Chief Charry succeeds Josh Forst, also a Temple Israel member.
- Joseph Oginski, son of Wendy and Gerald Oginski, was elected Vigilant Fire Company EMS Captain.

Mazal Tov To...

Rebecca and Malcolm Phillips on the birth of their grandson, Alexander Dov Fogelman.
Rusti and Alex Rothstein on the birth of their great-granddaughter, Andi Reese Rothstein.
Rabbis Amy Roth and Noam Marans on the engagement of their son, Aaron, to Allie Shafran.
Doris and Norman Delman on the marriage of their granddaughter, Rebecca, to Jordan Stufflebeam.
Lois and Gary Sazer on the marriage of their son, Jonathan, to Yearit Izhak.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2018
SHAWNEE MOUNTAIN, POCONOS, PA

Bus will depart Temple Israel at 7:00 AM SHARP!
(return to Temple Israel approx. 6:30 PM)

KIDS UNDER 18 YRS. OF AGE MUST BE ACCOMPANYED BY AN ADULT

PRICING
(all prices are per person)

- Lift ticket only: $40
- Ski/Snowboard rental only: $27
- Helmet rental: $10

Value Package including lift ticket, ski or snowboard rental, and 1.5 hour lesson:
- $70 (add $10 for a helmet rental)

(Minimum age of 6 for ski lesson or 7 for snowboard lesson)
Lessons at 9:45 AM (first timers only) & 11:45 AM (all levels)

- Tubing: $30/two hour session; $45/4 hour session
(these are based on availability, no advance reservations)

- Coach bus transportation from TIGN: $35

Bring your own food or purchase at the resort (resort is not kosher supervised).

Deadline to register by January 25 (full payment required to hold spot)
RSVP to Jodi Engel at the synagogue office or jengel@tign.org
Make checks payable to: Temple Israel of Great Neck

Feel free to bring your own ski/snowboard equipment on the bus if you’d like.
(storage available underneath the bus)

Questions? Contact Seth Kurpiel at skurpiel@gmail.com or (Cell) 718-578-7363
B’nai/B’not Mitzvah In Our Temple Israel Family

Rebecca Bernstein
Rebecca Bernstein will be called to the Torah as a Bat Mitzvah on January 20. She is the daughter of Sharon and Larry Bernstein, granddaughter of Susan and Cyrus Kahn and Maxine and Terry Bernstein, and great-granddaughter of Sylvia Rieders. She has a brother, Jeremy, 15, and a sister, Abigail, 8. Rebecca is a seventh grade honor student at Great Neck North Middle School. She is a competitive figure skater and has received many medals including a bronze medal in the New York State Empire Games. Rebecca has also been the recipient of the Judaic Scholar Award for several years from the Temple Israel Religious School. She also enjoys playing the violin. She is currently attending the Waxman High School and plans to visit Israel with her family in February.

Evan Youssefi
Evan Youssefi will be celebrating his Bar Mitzvah on January 27. He is the son of Deborah and Albert Youssefi and has a sister, Ashley, 18, and a brother, Ethan, 16. Evan is a seventh grade student at Great Neck North Middle School. Evan plans to attend the Waxman High School and Youth House following his Bar Mitzvah.

Justin Farajollah
Justin Farajollah will be called to the Torah as a Bar Mitzvah on February 3. He is the son of Navid and Ramin Farajollah and has a sister, Ariana, 19, and a brother, Brandon, 15. Justin is a seventh grade student at Great Neck North Middle School. Justin will be attending the Waxman High School and plans to celebrate his Bar Mitzvah with his family in Israel next summer.

Matthew Shavolian
Matthew Yekhezkel Shavolian will be celebrating his Bar Mitzvah on February 10. He is the son of Roya and Binesh (Joe) Shavolian and has two brothers, Zachary, 21, and Jordan, 17. Matthew is a seventh grade student at Great Neck North Middle School. Matthew is currently attending the Waxman High School and Youth House and plans to visit Israel next summer.

POWERFUL WOMEN IN THE BIBLE
Intrigue, intellect, heroics and even murder!
This is not a headline from a tabloid - this is from the Tanakh (Bible)!
Join us as we study, analyze and discuss biblical texts relating to several powerful women in the Bible.

Wednesdays, January 24, 31 & February 7
11:00 AM - 12:00 Noon
Alef Room (301)
Taught by Rabbi Amy Roth

To RSVP, please contact Karel at (516) 482-7800 ext. 1134 or Kตาnenaβam@tign.org.

REBECCA
RACHEL
SARAH
RUTH
MIRIAM
ESTHER
Congregation Thanks Its Kiddush Sponsors

Start Super Bowl Sunday With the Men's Club’s World Wide Wrap

Temple Israel members will join thousands of Conservative Jewish men and women around the world who will mark the mitzvah of putting on tefillin on Sunday, February 4, beginning at 9:30 A.M., by participating in the Men's Club’s annual World Wide Wrap.

Led by Rabbis Howard Stecker, Daniel Schweber, and Amy Roth, as well as Cantor Raphael Frieder, the congregation is invited to put on tefillin together. The clergy will be joined by Religious School sixth grade students and their parents for the service, to be held in the Crystal Ballroom.

There will be extra sets of tefillin available, as well as trainers, if needed, from the Men’s Club. Afterwards, participants are invited to a complimentary breakfast sponsored by the Men's Club.

Religious School Torah Troupe Readers

Religious School Torah Troupe Readers have an opportunity to read from the Torah on a Shabbat once a month. Recent Torah Troupe readers, above with Rabbi Amy Roth, include, left to right, Liana Kase, Kayle Kahen, Harrison Albin, Cecelia Albin, Alex Gottlieb, Eliot Ganjian, Ariel Kermani, and Raphi Kermani. Earlier Torah Troupe readers, below left to right with Rabbi Roth, are Zachary Dorf, Alec Blumberg, Jessica Tamari, Elizabeth Matalon, Natalie Schweber, Matthew Esrail, and Jackie Matalon. Torah Troupe is open to students in grades two to six. For further information about the Torah Troupe program call Rabbi Roth at 482-7800.

Religious School Torah Troupe Readers

December Torah Troupe readers, left to right, were Elliot Tabaroki, Noah Scheidt, Ella Covitt, Brian Scheidt, Brandon Reed, Shira Khoda, and Sam Bagon.

Daily Minyan Times

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Morning</th>
<th>Evening</th>
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<tr>
<td>Friday, January 12</td>
<td>7:00 A.M.</td>
<td>4:40 P.M.</td>
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<td>Friday, January 19</td>
<td>7:00 A.M.</td>
<td>4:45 P.M.</td>
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<td>Friday, January 26</td>
<td>7:00 A.M.</td>
<td>6:00 P.M.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday, February 2</td>
<td>7:00 A.M.</td>
<td>5:00 P.M.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday, February 9</td>
<td>7:00 A.M.</td>
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<td>Sunday</td>
<td>8:15 A.M.</td>
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<td>Monday</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>7:00 A.M.</td>
<td>8:00 P.M.</td>
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<td>Wed., Jan. 17 (Rosh Hodesh Shevat)</td>
<td>6:45 A.M.</td>
<td>8:00 P.M.</td>
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<td>Wed., Jan. 24, 31, Feb. 7 &amp; 14</td>
<td>7:00 A.M.</td>
<td>8:00 P.M.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>6:45 A.M.</td>
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Candle Lighting Times

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<td>Friday, January 26</td>
<td>4:46 P.M.</td>
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<td>Friday, February 2</td>
<td>4:55 P.M.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday, February 9</td>
<td>5:03 P.M.</td>
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Inclusiveness Is ‘Shabbat Talk’ Topic

Being inclusive of others with disabilities is the message Beth Steinberg, executive director of Jerusalem-based Shutaf Inclusion Programs, will bring to Temple Israel on Saturday, February 10.

"It is a discussion about how people who are not necessarily typical fit in," said Rabbi Amy Roth, director of congregational schools, a colleague and friend of Ms. Steinberg who invited her to speak at Temple Israel. She said: "We as a community need to become more aware of the ways in which, both consciously and unconsciously, we may fail to create an atmosphere that fully embraces people of differing abilities and needs."

Ms. Steinberg will speak during the Shabbat service and present a "Shabbat Talk" following the kiddush. She will participate in the Shabbat Hamishpaha service, which begins at 4 P.M., addressing parental issues and challenges. In addition, she will be available to meet privately to discuss issues with members.

Rabbi Stecker said, “Beth Steinberg’s visit is fully aligned with our vision of Temple Israel as a community where everyone is welcomed to discover the beauty and power of Judaism. With her vast experience in inclusion, Ms. Steinberg will help us find concrete ways to extend a welcoming embrace to people with physical, cognitive and emotional challenges.”

Addressing the needs of members with disabilities was first addressed in Temple Israel’s recently completed Strategic Plan.

Ms. Steinberg, the Brooklyn-born mother of a special needs child, moved to Israel in 2006. There she co-founded Shutaf, which has spread rapidly throughout Israel addressing the country’s residents with special needs.

"At Temple Israel," Rabbi Roth said, "we have children who have differences in learning." The congregation has consulted with Matan, a Jewish educational agency that supports children with special learning needs. "The Temple Israel schools try to be as flexible and as accommodating as possible," she said.

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Men’s Club Shabbat HaChodesh March 16

Shabbat HaChodesh, the annual Friday evening service conducted by members of the Men’s Club, will be held this year on March 16. Congregants are invited to volunteer to lead parts of the service, according to Sam Husney, who is coordinating the event.

"We would like to offer you an opportunity to participate in what promises to be an enjoyable and fun evening for all of us," he said. "I know that many of you had a part in last year’s Shabbat HaGever service, so I’m sure that this would be something you’d definitely like to do. You can try a new part—which we encourage—or do the same part again. Your kids or grandkids can join you when you do your part and there is plenty of time to practice and learn between now and the time of the service."

Rabbi Mark Borovitz, senior rabbi and co-director of the Elaine Breslow Institute of Congregation Beit T'Shuvah will be the featured speaker at a dinner following the service. He will discuss using the wisdom of Judaism to fight addiction and provide rehabilitation.

For further information about the service contact Mr. Husney at 972-3890 or SamHusney@gmail.com, or email Ezra Kassin at Kassin.Ezra@gmail.com or Harold Citron at HaroldCitron@gmail.com.

Deepening Our Understanding

—Continued from page 2

while advocating for understanding and outreach by the broader community. She will be addressing the congregation in various settings, including a conversation with parents in our religious school, on the imperative and challenges of creating truly inclusive settings for children and adults.

Rabbi Mark Borovitz, co-founder of Beit T'Shuvah in Los Angeles, will join our community from March 16-17. Beit T'Shuvah was established to treat addiction using a 12-step program and Jewish values. Rabbi Borovitz’s own personal experience with addiction drew him to this important, life-saving work.

Learning from Others

—Continued from page 2

congregations behind. Outreach to the unaffiliated and in-reach to our own congregants is vital; both may look different than what has “worked” in past decades. Innovation is critical, and we have to accept that change is inevitable. “Because this is how we have always done it” is not a recipe for future success.

An example for Temple Israel would be for us to look at alternative services, not to replace what we currently have, but in addition to what we do now. We have to look at different staffing possibilities to meet the needs of the future, not of the past. As well, we have to look into funding the future, so development, planned giving, and capital improvement are connected to a successful future.

The entire congregation will have several opportunities to hear him over the course of Shabbat, including the Men’s Club sponsored service and dinner on Friday night. In addition, he will be speaking to our teens on the previous Thursday. He will also make himself available to any individual or family that wants to meet with him confidentially while he is here. Beit T'Shuvah is predicated upon the core Jewish value that every human being has the “right to redemption” and can learn to make lasting positive changes in his or her life.

Socrates famously observed that the unexamined life is not worth living. From the Torah’s repeated injunctions to pursue knowledge to the gratitude we express daily to God for our innate awareness and curiosity, our people have championed the importance of broadening our perspective on a whole host of issues. If this is true of academic matters, how much more crucial is it when it comes to deepening our understanding of the concrete needs of the people in our midst?

All of this is fully aligned with our congregational vision as we strive to be a community “where everyone is welcomed to discover the power of Judaism to bring blessing to our lives and to our world.”

Our three guests will deepen our understanding of one another and thereby enable us to strengthen our engagement with one another. I hope that you and your loved ones will be able to join us for these important conversations.
By Rabbi Daniel Schweber

In January we observe a national holiday in honor of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. As Jews we also mark the yartzeit of Rabbi Abraham Joshua Heschel. We also celebrate Tu B’Shevat, the new year of the trees, observed in January or early February. For this month’s column I challenged myself to create a teaching weaving in all three observances.

This April will mark 50 years since Dr. King’s assassination. This milestone is an opportunity to reflect on how far we have come in fulfilling Dr. King’s vision of justice in the world and how far we still have to go.

Defining justice is difficult. The following metaphor might help. Imagine a large forest with different terrain and different species of trees. The goal is for all of the trees to thrive. For the different trees in different terrain and climate to thrive they need varying amounts of light, water and care. A tree perched on a hill might get plenty of light, but require measures to prevent and combat soil erosion. A tree in the shade might need a nutrient rich soil to thrive. Some trees will require irrigation and others will need measures to dry the soil.

In my mind, justice for all is similar to the metaphorical forest. Justice is not necessarily everybody receiving everything in equal amounts. Justice is creating environments: social, economic, legal, educational, etc. where everyone can thrive.

In early December I attended the United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism’s (USCJ) convention in Atlanta. The evening program was held at the Ebenezer Baptist Church where Dr. King Jr. and his father were both pastors. Rabbi Steven Wernick, USCJ’s CEO, facilitated a discussion between one of the church pastors and Temple Israel’s own Jonathan Greenblatt, CEO of the Anti-Defamation League. The discussion naturally began with a celebration of, and reflection on, the close relationship between Dr. King and Rabbi Heschel. Both of the revered leaders heeded the Bible’s call to pursue justice.

Deuteronomy is where we can find what connects Dr. King, Rabbi Heschel and Tu B’Shevat, the holiday of the trees. Deuteronomy 20:19 rhetorically compares humankind to the tree of the field. Deuteronomy 16:20 commands us “justice, justice you shall pursue.” Deuteronomy 15:7 teaches that there will never cease to be poor people, through no fault of their own. These three verses teach that it is our obligation to open our hands freely and do justice for all helping people based on their needs so they can thrive. Humankind is an “ecosystem” not unlike a forest.

At the time of his death, Dr. King was preparing an advocacy campaign for economic justice. Dr. King’s vision was that everyone would be given the opportunity to support themselves and their families. Like helping a forest thrive, people need different resources to provide economic opportunity. In Dr. King and Rabbi Heschel’s memory, we should ask ourselves what we can do to bring more justice into the world.

The mystical Kabbalists turned the 15th of Shevat from a calendar date for certain tree rituals into a day to think about trees and ourselves. Join us on Friday, January 26, for a Tu B’Shevat celebration where we will eat fruit, sing songs and learn about our connection to trees.

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Tu B’Shevat: Justice for the Trees

The almond tree is blooming, the golden sun is shining, birds atop each roof announce the arrival of the festival. Tu Bishevat has arrived, the festival of trees.

Temple Israel of Great Neck presents

Tu Bishevat Dinner & Celebration
Friday, January 26

An enhanced N’Ranenah service at 6:00 P.M. in the Multipurpose Room followed by a Communal Shabbat Dinner in the Crystal Ballroom (catered by Lederman Caterers)

Featuring separate celebrations for adults, teens and children.

Cost for the dinner:
$20/adult
$13/children 12 and under
(children 2 and under are free)

(Reservations will not be taken after Wednesday, January 24)

To RSVP, please call Jennifer in the synagogue office at 482-7800

ALL ARE WELCOME!
From Generation to Generation
Temple Israel Gratefully Acknowledges The Following Contributions

PRAYER BOOK FUND
In honor of:
Simhat Torah honorees,
Lila Bernstein-Schoen and Alexander Schoen
Susan and Robert Lopatkin
The marriage of Rachel Englander, daughter of Alise Kreditor and Jeffrey Englander, to Adam Davis
Simhat Torah honorees
Manny Bardash and Van Frankel
Barbara and Leonard Schultz
Ed Goldfeder’s 90th birthday
Edith and Leonard Kliger
Ronnie Katz
Sherry and Sam Husney

ABRAHAM ROSENFELD MEMORIAL FUND
In memory of:
Jean Rothbaum
Paul Rothbaum
Rosalind Forgasch
Susan Lopatkin
Jack Rosenbaum
Harriet Rosenbaum
Edwina Goldberg
Maurice Goldberg
Rabbi Geoffrey Goldberg
Betty Horowitz
Maxine Vogel
Henry Sheidlower
Ellyn Sheidlower
Yaacov Yahid
Jack Moallem

DAILY MINYAN FUND
On the occasion of:
The end of the 11 month mourning period of Helen Frank
Cathy, Eric and Adam Miller
Kim, Andy, Sydney and Ethan Dymond

In appreciation of:
Jack Moallem for giving Alise Kreditor an honor on the yahrzeit of her father
Alise Kreditor, Jeffrey Englander and family

In honor of:
Ed Goldfeder’s 90th birthday
Naomi and Bob Lippet
Marlene Kreditor
Marilyn Torodash
Anita Mosten
Suanne and David Scherr
Rhoda Kaufman
Cheryl Eisberg Moin and Seth Moin
Manny Bardash
Rena and Jonathan Horwitz
The marriage of Jonathan Kestenbaum, son of Elise and Richard Kestenbaum, to Lindsay Kriger
The marriage of Jonathan Sazer, son of Lois and Gary Sazer, to Yearet Izhak Alise Kreditor, Jeffrey Englander and family

In memory of:
Marvin Kurfurst
Susan Tillem

RELIGIOUS SCHOOL FUND
In honor of:
The Auf Ruf of Jeffrey Choit, son of Barbara and Harvey Choit, and Jamie Pearlman
Jacqueline and Harold Lamkay
Ronnie Katz
Neda and Farid Sedgh

In memory of:
Farideh Bakhshi
Shohreh and Mark Naim

USHERS FUND
In memory of:
Farideh Bakhshi
Manijeh and Jack Moallem

TORAH FUND
In memory of:
Samuel Mirkin
Naomi Schulman

ISRAEL SOLIDARITY FUND
In honor of:
Ed Goldfeder’s 90th birthday
Eileen and Joe Unger

MUSEUM FUND
In memory of:
Greta Melnick
Edward Melnick
Nadine Feingold

SAMUEL BARON MUSIC FUND
In memory of:
Rita Emanuel
David Emanuel
Julius Moskowitz
Lawrence Kreditor
Beatrice Herskovitz
Marlene Kreditor

WAXMAN HIGH SCHOOL AND YOUTH HOUSE FUND
In honor of:
Ed Goldfeder’s special birthday
Ronni and Wally Kopelowitz
Zachary Astof, son of Jacqueline Einstein
Astof and Josh Astof, becoming a Bar Mitzvah
Monika and Paul Bloom
Parvaneh and Parviz Khodadadian
The Mamiye family
Isabella Frankel, daughter of Lynn and Alan Frankel, becoming a Bat Mitzvah
The marriage of Jonathan Kestenbaum, son of Elise and Richard Kestenbaum, to Lindsay Kriger
Parvaneh and Parviz Khodadadian

In memory of:
Rita Emanuel
Trudy Emanuel
Michael Greenberg
Marcia, Richard and Joshua Olarsch
Beatrice Feder
Carol Glatstein
Pauline Mattana
Farideh Bakhshi
Parvaneh and Parviz Khodadadian
Philip Kaye
Marjorie and Jonathan Hoffman

MILTON ROSEN JEWISH IDENTITY FUND
In memory of:
Jane Rogoff
Fannie Rosen
Milton Rosen

SHALOM CLUB
In memory of:
Rae Putterman
Mickey Putterman
David Sanders
Marylin Goldberg
Meyer Kobliner
Harold Kobliner
Millie Papilsky
Rena and Jonathan Horwitz

RABBI STECKER’S DISCRETIONARY FUND
In appreciation of:
Receiving a High Holy Day honor
Robert and Herbert Selzer
Rabbi Stecker officiating at the Auf Ruf of their daughter, Rachel, and Adam Davis
Alise Kreditor and Jeffrey Englander
Rabbi Stecker officiating at the wedding of their son, Jeffrey, and Jamie Pearlman
Barbara and Harvey Choit

In memory of:
Frances Pernick
Jill Friedman
Millie Werber
Bracha and Martin Werber
Elsie and David Werber
Esther Harris
Lesley Harris
William Monat
Victor Linell
Philip Kaye
Suzanne and Michael Belmont

CONTRIBUTION:
Renata Farahnik

In honor of:
Rabbi Stecker and their Temple Israel family
Rachelle and Ebbby Ohebshalom
The birth of their grandson, Louis Simon Gillman
Ilana and Eugene Gillman

In memory of:
Astrof and Josh Astrof, son of Lois and Gary Sazer, to Yearit Izhak
The marriage of Jonathan Kestenbaum, son of Elise and Richard Kestenbaum, to Lindsay Kriger
Parvaneh and Parviz Khodadadian

In memory of:
Rita Emanuel
Trudy Emanuel
Michael Greenberg
Marcia, Richard and Joshua Olarsch
Beatrice Feder
Carol Glatstein
Pauline Mattana
Farideh Bakhshi
Parvaneh and Parviz Khodadadian
Philip Kaye
Marjorie and Jonathan Hoffman

Library Shelf Fund
In memory of:
Rae Putterman
Mickey Putterman
David Sanders
Marylin Goldberg
Meyer Kobliner
Harold Kobliner
Millie Papilsky
Rena and Jonathan Horwitz

In memory of:
Rita Emanuel
Trudy Emanuel
Michael Greenberg
Marcia, Richard and Joshua Olarsch
Beatrice Feder
Carol Glatstein
Pauline Mattana
Farideh Bakhshi
Parvaneh and Parviz Khodadadian
Philip Kaye
Marjorie and Jonathan Hoffman

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Lesley Harris
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Lesley Harris
William Monat
Victor Linell
Philip Kaye
Suzanne and Michael Belmont

CONTRIBUTION:
Renata Farahnik
From Generation to Generation
Temple Israel Gratefully Acknowledges The Following Contributions

TEMPLE ISRAEL FUND
Contribution: Frances Harris
In honor of:
Isabella Frankel, daughter of Lynn and Alan Frankel, becoming a Bat Mitzvah
Hildy Sanders
Sandy Rosen
Ed Goldfeder on his special birthday
Rene Horowitz
The upcoming wedding of Rachel Perlman to Jordan Stufflebeam
Sonia Movasas

In memory of:
Max Salit
Malcolm Salit
Seymour Geller
Sandra Geller
Myron Cooper
Evan Cooper
Jean Rothbaum
Hal Rothbaum
Bernard Siegel
Robin Joan Bours
Giselle Szanto
Anne Hirsh

Anna Geller
Seymour Geller
Muriel Geller
Max Seiler
Jerome Seiler
Harriet Seiler
Isidore Rothstein
Bruce Rothstein
Gerard Bloomfield
Matthew Bloomfield
Martin Berman
Judith Litner
Morton Leibowitz
Helen Nager
Annette Nager
Abraham Goldberg
Teddy Goldberg
Samuel Youdym
Ben Youdym
Yamen Cohen Nathan
Asaad Nathan
Shirley Fleischer
Steven Fleischer
Donald Picker
Neal Picker
Muriel Moin
Seth Moin
Jeffrey White
Nanci Roth
Joe Paul Schindler
Deborah Schindler
Fay Zelin
Alfred Davis
Helen Davis
Milton Schneider
Patty Schneider
Betty Hermel
Carole Drogin
Harold Nelkin
Selma Thalheimer
Ruth Nelkin
Rebecca Jungreis
Jacob Jungreis
Sara Weiner
Seymour Klein
Leonard Klein
Jacob Bernstein
Paul Bernstein
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Alfred Katzenberg
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Solomon Kugler
Andrea Krinko
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Myrna Abrahams
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George Goldberg
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Adrienne Wilson
Parvin Sedgh
Louise Soleymani
Mac Weston
Burton Weston
Alan Weisfield
Lucy Gerstein and family
The Brash family
Lori and Howard Dorman
Edwina Goldberg
Maurice Goldberg
Judith Greenstein
Belle Arkin
Andrea Bloomfield
Moosa Neydavood
Maneijeh Gabay
Ruth Greener
Jeffrey Greener

90 Years of Sweetness: The Candy Man Celebrates a Landmark Birthday

—Continued from page 2

Shalom” and “thank you,” give him a firm hand shake, and leave with a special treat.

Eddie and Shirley moved to Great Neck 20 years ago while residing in Queens, where they were members of Hillcrest Jewish Center. Always one to volunteer, Eddie was a regular usher at Shabbat services and had the idea of handing out sweets to the children who came week after week. Not only did this become a ritual, but the children also began to behave a bit better after they received their treat. When the Goldfeder’s joined Temple Israel it was only natural for him to continue his ritual, which also takes place at morning minyan. Anyone who joins Eddie and Shirley at morning minyan receives multiple treats to “keep them going throughout the day.”

Eddie tragically lost both his father and brother within two weeks in 1980, which is when he started to attend the daily minyan. He soon realized that it is often difficult to have ten people attend to make up a minyan and vowed to always help others who need to say Kaddish. Many who have said Kaddish for 11 months, like temple member Karen Lewkowitz and myself have found tremendous comfort in Eddie’s cheery disposition and never ending sweet treats during a very difficult time in our lives. He is a true mensch, and always does his good deeds with a smile and a small reward just for being there.

Eddie and Shirley have also benefitted over the years from attending morning minyan and feel tremendous camaraderie with everyone who walks in the door of the chapel. They have also shared that it is a great way to meet and bond with Temple members and others in the community. Renata Farahnik, who started coming to the daily minyan in 2014, sums it up best: “Some of us initially came together at morning minyan as mourners for a loved one, but we keep coming because many of us have become friends who now share simchas and so much of our lives together. But, the one thing we all agree upon is that Eddie and Shirley provide a great deal of the warmth and glue that holds us all together.”

A Message from The Candy Man:
I would like to take this opportunity to thank the entire congregation for the outpouring of support, love, and generosity for my recent birthday and during all the years I’ve been at Temple Israel. I have enjoyed watching many of the children grow up and look forward to meeting many more children—and adults—in years to come. With much affection, Eddie Goldfeder

Eddie Goldfeder, better known to congregants as “The Candy Man.”
can rely on God, yet act on their own behalf. These incidents all serve to demonstrate God's role as redeemer to eternity. The freedom gained at the Exodus has now become a physical institution that will serve as the foundation for the entire future development of the people. The proclamation of the Ten Commandments itself is accompanied by the meticulous details with which the people then proceed to the foot of Mt. Sinai where they engage in three days of purification in preparation for God's appearance. The experience of Sinai establishes a covenantal relationship between God and Israel, which is to last to eternity and put its distinctive stamp on the entire future development of the people.

D’var Torah

Bo Saturday, January 20
We continue the account of the ten plagues with the last three in this portion. The plagues of locusts and darkness are described and then the account is interpreted in order to record a detailed set of instructions, which God gives to Moses and Aaron to prepare the Israelites for freedom. They are first directed to establish a calendar starting with the month of liberation, Nisan. The calendar is meant to provide social and religious cohesion as well as to symbolize the free man's ability, indeed responsibility, to make time. Then follow directions for offering the paschal sacrifice (to be eaten in haste) and for smearing blood on the doorposts and lintels so Israelite houses will be spared the final plague. God then passes over the land and kills all the first-born sons of the Egyptians, whereupon Pharaoh finally sends the Israelites out and they begin their journey toward Sinai. The Exodus is the key event in all Jewish history, and the instructions given here are by way of assuring that we remember God's role as redeemer to eternity.

Beshallah Saturday, January 27
In this portion we follow the Israelites’ journey to the Red Sea, where they find themselves trapped by pursuing Egyptian forces. God affects the miraculous crossing of the sea and the destruction of the Egyptians, and the Israelites rejoice singing the “Song of the Sea.” The journey to Sinai may now be resumed, but three challenges are immediately encountered. The people complain that they have no bread. In response, God provides manna and gives directions for gathering it during the week and for the Sabbath. They further complain that they have no water, and God provides it from a rock. Finally, when the people are attacked by the Amalekites, Joshua heads a band of soldiers who defeat the attackers while Moses holds up the staff of God to encourage the Israelites. These incidents all serve to highlight the difficulty of transforming slaves into free men who can rely on God, yet act on their own behalf.

Yitro Saturday, February 3
We read of the greatest event in the entire history of the people of Israel—the revelation at Mt. Sinai, in this portion. The portion opens with an account of the visit of Jethro, Moses' father-in-law, to the Israelite camp just after they have crossed the Sea. Jethro suggests an administrative arrangement to Moses, which significantly enhances Moses’s effectiveness as a judge. The people then proceed to the foot of Mt. Sinai where they engage in three days of purification in preparation for God's appearance. The proclamation of the Ten Commandments itself is accompanied by smoke and fire and the sound of the shofar. The effect on the people is overwhelming, so much so that they cannot bear to hear God’s voice directly and Moses serves as an intermediary. The experience of Sinai establishes a covenantal relationship between God and Israel, which is to last to eternity and put its distinctive stamp on the entire future development of the people.

Mishpatim Saturday, February 10
We find details of the covenant entered into between God and Israel in this portion. Since the relationship is all-inclusive, we find rules pertaining to social conduct, morality, ethics, civil and criminal law, and ritual concerns. Like the Ten Commandments, the source of these rules is divine. The legal material set forth here is not a code in the strict sense, since there are significant subjects not touched upon. (These subjects are, however, dealt with elsewhere in the Torah.) On the other hand, the material does make clear that God’s demands of His people cover matters of conscience as well as matters usually subject to juridical control. The portion concludes with an account of the ratification of the covenant, and Moses ascends Mt. Sinai to remain there for 40 days and nights for the purpose of writing down the specific details. Thus, the freedom gained at the Exodus has now been confirmed and institutionalized in law. The next step will be to create a physical institution that will serve as the embodiment and reminder of the experience at Sinai.
Women and Mitzvot: Scholar-In-Residence Topic

—Continued from front page
with women’s marches taking place
throughout the country bringing a
focus on issues affecting women.
Last year a similar weekend at Temple
Israel featured Rabbi Abby Sosland,
the spiritual advisor at Schechter
Westchester High School. Her topic
was “Building Influence, Holding Power:
The Varied Women of Our Tradition.”

Rabbi Barmash has served on the
Committee on Jewish Law and
Standards of the Rabbinical Assembly
since 2003 and on the Joint Beit Din
of the Conservative Movement since
2008. She is also the co-chair of the
new Disabilities Inclusion Committee
of the Rabbinical Assembly. She
served as the rabbi at Temple Shaare
Tefilah, Norwood, Massachusetts, for
eight years and is now a professor of
Hebrew Bible at Washington University
in St. Louis and has served as director
of Jewish, Islamic, and Near Eastern
Studies at the school.

The program is sponsored by Veronica
Bisek Lurvey and Jon Lurvey, Rebecca
Yousefzadeh Sassouni and Sassan
Sassouni, The Schiowitz Fund, Sisterhood,
and Bracha and Martin Werber. The
program was organized by Toby Katz, in
addition to Ms. Lurvey and Ms. Sassouni.

“We are immensely grateful to the
sponsors of this program, who have
the vision to see this through, and to
the clergy who strive to guide each of
us to discover the power of Judaism,”
Ms. Lurvey said. “It will be a privilege
to engage with Rabbi Barmash about
these important topics that not only
affect me as a woman, but that
really affect all of us as a family
and congregation.”

Order Sisterhood
Purim Baskets Now!
The Sisterhood is offering beautiful Purim
gift baskets filled with food items imported
from Israel. A personalized greeting card
is enclosed with each basket.

Packages can be mailed anywhere in
the United States. All proceeds from this
project go to support Sisterhood’s Yad
B’Yad program, which helps Temple
Israel families in times of need. The cost
is $18 each. Mishloach manot baskets
for $10 can also be ordered, but they
must be picked up at Temple Israel.
The deadline for package orders is
Wednesday, February 14. Call Iris Adler
at 482-4421 or e-mail at irisdadler13@gm.com to place orders.

This Sisterhood project needs your help,
too! The packages will be assembled in
the Blue Room on Wednesday,
February 21, beginning at 9 A.M.

Women and Mitzvot: Scholar-In-Residence Topic

Order Sisterhood
Purim Baskets Now!
D’var Torah

By Rabbi Marim D. Charry

Va’era  Saturday, January 13

In this portion God reiterates His pledge to redeem His people from slavery and promises severe punishment for the Egyptian people. A contest then ensues between the will of Pharaoh. Moses and Aaron make another appeal to Pharaoh and in the process humiliate his magicians. The appeal, however, is again rejected. There follows the first seven of the ten plagues, which God must inflict on the Egyptians in order to achieve the release of the Israelites. The plagues of blood, frogs, lice, and swarms of insects, pestilence, boils and hail (as well as locusts, darkness and the slaying of the first-born, which are related in the next portion) demonstrate God’s ability to manipulate nature and to protect His people. Since a number of the plagues were directed against Egyptian divinities, also present here is the beginning of the war by the Israelites on polytheism.

—Continued on page 10

Sabbath Services

Friday, January 12

Evening Services 4:40 P.M.

Saturday, January 13

Shaharit Morning Service 8:45 A.M.
First Mourners’ Kaddish 9:25 A.M.
Weekly Portion: Va’era; Exodus 6:2-9:35
Haftarah: Ezekiel 28:25 – 29:21
Shabbat Service Officers and Greeters:
Moji Pourmoradi, Audrey Kent Itzkowitz, Robert Lopatkin and Ofra Panzer

Bat Mitzvah: Iyana Kaiman, daughter of Kim and Jon Kaiman
Havurah Service 10:00 A.M.
Junior Congregation 10:30 A.M.
Toddler Service 11:00 A.M.
Afternoon Service 4:10 P.M.
Se’udah Shlishih 4:40 P.M.
Evening Service 5:15 P.M.
Havdalah 5:31 P.M.

Friday, January 19

Evening Services 4:45 P.M.
Scholar-in-Residence Dinner 6:15 P.M.
Featuring Rabbi Pamela Barmash

Saturday, January 20

Shaharit Morning Service/Shabbat Morning Group Aliyah 8:45 A.M.
First Mourners’ Kaddish 9:25 A.M.
Weekly Portion: Bo; Exodus 10:1-13:16
Haftarah: Jeremiah 46:13-28
Shabbat Service Officers and Greeters: Harold Citron, Toby Katz, Patty Schneider, Shahram (Mike) Delafraz, and Joyce Weston

Bat Mitzvah: Rebecca Bernstein, daughter of Sharon and Lawrence Bernstein, granddaughter of Susan and Cyrus Kahn and Maxine and Terry Bernstein, and great-granddaughter of Sylvia Rieders

Junior Congregation 10:30 A.M.
Toddler Service 11:00 A.M.
“Shabbat Talk” with Rabbi Pamela Barmash 12:45 P.M.
Afternoon Service 4:20 P.M.
Se’udah Shlishih 4:50 P.M.
Evening Service 5:23 P.M.
Havdalah 5:39 P.M.

Friday, January 26

N’Ranenah/Evening Services 6:00 P.M.
Communal Tu B’shevat Dinner 7:00 P.M.

Saturday, January 27 - Shabbat Shirah

Shaharit Morning Service 8:45 A.M.
First Mourners’ Kaddish 9:25 A.M.
Weekly Portion: Beshallah
Genesis 13:17–17:16
Haftarah: Judges 4:4 – 5:31
Shabbat Service Officers and Greeters: Neda Sedgh, Jeffrey Fleit, Susan Brustein, and Ellen Birnbaum

Bar Mitzvah: Evan Youseffi, son of Deborah and Albert Youseffi
Havurah Service 10:00 A.M.
Junior Congregation 10:30 A.M.
Toddler Service 11:00 A.M.
Niggun Circle with Cantor Frieder following kiddush
Afternoon Service 4:25 P.M.
Se’udah Shlishih 4:55 P.M.
Evening Service 5:31 P.M.
Havdalah 5:47 P.M.

—Continued on page 10