TEMPLE ISRAEL OF GREAT NECK





Vol. LVI, No. 10 April 3, 2014 3 Nisan 5774

Temple Israel Players Going to Oklahoma This Weekend



All is ready for the Temple Israel Players latest production, performances of "Oklahoma!" this Saturday, April 5, at 8:45 P.M., and Sunday, April 6, at 2 P.M. For tickets, call 482-7800.

In intensive rehearsals in recent weeks, the large cast includes Robert Aizer, Amy David, Daniel Frankel, Van Frankel, Keyvan Frouzan, Marilyn Goldberg, Kim Kaiman, Jon Kaiman, Abe Kanfer, Kenneth M. Leff, Jacob Mamiye, Andy Nadler, Gary Noren, Ofra

Panzer, Harriet Picker, Mark Putter, Eileen Putterman, Mickey Putterman, Lillian Rokhsar, Alex Rothstein, Rusti Rothstein, Carol Smolinsky, Steven Smolinsky, Diana Stein, Debbie Volk, Dan Wotman, and Rebecca Wotman. Children in the cast include Zara Clayden, Ava Hoffman, Iyana Kaiman, Amanda Putter, Nancy Schoen, Amanda Volk, and Sophia Wotman.

Voice photo by Bob Lopatkin

Passover Service Schedule

Monday, April 14		Saturday, April 19	
Fast of the First Born		Morning Service	8:45 A.M.
Morning Service, Siyyum and Breakfast	6:30 A.M.	Waxman High School Students will lead the service in th	eSanctuary
Evening Festival Service	6:30 P.M.	Sabbath Service Officers:	Ĭ
•		Miriam Kobliner and Dr. Michael Ziegelbau	n
Tuesday, April 15 - First Day of <i>Pesa<u>h</u></i>		Afternoon and Evening Service	7:00 P.M.
Morning Service	8:45 A.M.	•	
Afternoon and Evening Festival Service	6:45 P.M.	Sunday, April 20 - Hol Hamoed	
•		Morning Service	8:15 A.M.
Wednesday, April 16 - Second Day of Per	sa <u>h</u>	Afternoon and Evening Festival Service	6:30 P.M.
Morning Service	8:45 A.M.	•	
Afternoon and Evening Service	7:30 P.M.	Monday, April 21 - Seventh Day of Pesah	
•		Morning Service	8:45 A.M.
Thursday, April 17 - Hol Hamoed		Afternoon and Evening Festival Service	7:30 P.M.
Morning Service	6:45 A.M.	•	
Evening Service	8:00 P.M.	Tuesday, April 22 - Eighth Day of <i>Pesa<u>h</u></i>	
•		Early Morning Service	6:30 A.M.
Friday, April 18 - Hol Hamoed		Morning Service	8:45 A.M.
Morning Service	6:45 A.M.	Yizkor Memorial Prayers and Dedication of Memoria	ıl Plaques
Evening Service Welcoming Shabbat	6:30 P.M.	Afternoon and Evening Service	7:40 P.M.

Our Partner in Israel

By Jackie Einstein Astrof and Rebecca Yousefzadeh Sassouni

EDITOR'S NOTE: Temple Israel's relationship with our sister congregation in Israel has blossomed, as described in this Voice Guest column by Jackie Einstein Astrof and Rebecca Yousefzadeh Sassouni, who have spearheaded the effort.

Two and a half years ago, members of Temple Israel's Israel Affairs Committee set out to find a partner Masorti synagogue in Israel. Kehillat Netzach Israel in Ashkelon was identified as a complement to Temple

Kehillat Netzach Israel and Temple Israel have been trading experiences, hospitality and gifts...

Israel—a vibrant multi-ethnic, multi-generational congregation. Kehillat Netzach Israel and Temple Israel have been trading experiences, hospitality, and gifts ever since.

Temple Israel continues to strengthen its partnership with Netzach Israel. This autumn, we jointly completed an eyeglasses drive for the needy. Together, we collected more than 100 pairs of glasses that were donated to eyes for the needy causes both here and in Ashkelon. In fact, several of the monthly *mitzvah* projects undertaken by youth at Netzach Israel have been modeled after what is done here at Temple Israel.

Temple Israel travelers of all ages have found a welcome respite in Ashkelon thanks to the gracious hospitality of Overseas Coordinator Terri Davis. Waxman High School and Youth House graduate Ben Zander was recently hosted for *Shabbat* at Netzach Israel. Past presidents Eileen and Mickey Putterman enjoyed a delightful afternoon at Netzach Israel during their last visit to Israel. Students on the previous Youth House trip to Israel experienced a *Shabbaton* with Netzach Israel's *kehillah*. In 2012, a group of Temple Israel families sang and danced with Netzach Israel's preschool

——Continued on page 7

FROM THE RABBI-

Beyond Threats and Avoidance

- By Rabbi Howard Stecker

When it comes to instilling commitment, religious communities often succumb to two pitfalls. We either demand certain religious behavior through threats and intimidation or we hesitate even to urge compliance with any behavior altogether.

Frankly, the "threaten and intimidate" mode is seldom practiced any more, certainly not in our circles. Most rabbis I associate with cringe at the thought of telling people they must do this or that on penalty of whatever. We cringe, possibly because we remember such tactics being used on us and possibly because we recognize that such an approach is likely to fall on deaf ears. We understand that American Jews increasingly are being welcomed into larger society and invited to construct lives based on personal meaning, rather than fear of threatened consequences.

More likely, we tread super lightly on using words like "ought" and "should." The "fire and brimstone" sermons that rabbis and priests gave a generation or two ago have yielded to the "everything's cool" attitude that religious leaders often project today.

That would be well and good, except that most of us don't think that everything that everyone chooses to do is equally cool. I, for example, see enormous value in people choosing to live ritually and ethically com-

...we tread super lightly on using words like "ought" and "should."

mitted Jewish lives with Jewish partners. I have engaged, and will continue to engage, those who have made different choices in each of these realms. But that doesn't diminish my advocacy for people to commit to the ideals that I believe strengthen Judaism in particular and humanity overall.

—Continued on page 7

On Being Missed

By Alan Klinger

As president of the synagogue, I have tried to attend most *Shabbat* services, believing attendance an important part of the "job." This allows me (along with the other officers who are regular attendees) to share the prayer experience and allows congregants the opportunity to express their views (Complaints are, as you can imagine, freely offered.).

For the first time in my now three years holding this position, I missed four weeks of the morning services—with the standard trip to Florida to visit a parent, a family *Bat*

...I want to recognize certain congregants who are important parts of our community...

Mitzvah in New Jersey and some weekends of work mixed in. To my surprise (since I was not a regular attendee prior to joining the Executive Committee), I missed the experience. But what was truly heartening was that, upon returning this past Shabbat, a number of congregants came up, commented on not having seen me, and inquired as to what had been going on and whether everything was OK. These included both people I know fairly well and those who are shul acquaintances. It was, actually, quite nice to see that people recognize the efforts we, as lay leaders, make to advance the interests of the congregation. (And, not to worry, mixed in during the four week period were Board and Executive Committee meetings which were attended so that a fair share of views across the spectrum was received.) For me, the take-away is evidence of our continuing progress towards being a kehillah—a community—where people care about each other.

In this vein, I want to recognize certain congregants who are important parts of our community, and who, by their deeds, demonstrate such caring. And while that list could fill up this issue of The Voice, there are two groups that are timely to identify at this point. The first are those being honored by the Men's Club Metro Region as Man and Youth of the Year on Sunday, April 6, at Crest Hollow. Our honorees this year are Jeffrey Fleit, the outgoing Men's Club copresident, and Amy Pourmoradi and Jonah

——Continued on page 7

In Memoriam

Temple Israel extends condolences to the families of:

ELAINE MALMAN

esteemed member of Temple Israel

RABBI STANLEY GREENSTEIN

husband of Judy Greenstein and esteemed member of Temple Israel

May their memories be for a blessing.

Daily Minyan Times

Attend the Daily Minyan!

Mon. & Thur.	6:45 A.M.	8:00 P.M.
Tues. & Wed.	7:00 A.M.	8:00 P.M.
Fri., April 4 & 11	7:00 A.M.	6:30 P.M.
Fri., April 18	6:45 A.M.	6:30 P.M.
Sat., April 5	8:45 A.M.	6:45 P.M.
Sat., April 12	8:45 A.M.	6:50 P.M.
Sat., April 19	8:45 A.M.	7:00 P.M.
Sunday	8:15 A.M.	8:00 P.M.

CANDLE LIGHTING TIMES

Kindle the Sabbath Lights!

T . 1	0 = 04 B) f
Friday, April 4	7:04 P.M.
Friday, April 11	
Friday, April 18	

Mazal Tov To . . .

- Merrill and Dr. Mel Schneiderman on the birth of their grandson, Daniel Sidney Glazer.
- Carol Schreiber on the birth of her greatgrandson, Daniel Sidney Glazer.
- Jane and Stanley Blum on the birth of their granddaughter, Ava Rachel Arbusman.
- Thelma and Jack Sahn on the birth of their great-granddaughter, Hannah Sahn.

Temple Lites . . .

- Parvaneh Khodadadian and Rebecca Yousefzadeh Sassouni were named to the 21st Annual Women's Roll of Honor by the Town of North Hempstead at a breakfast in their honor last week. North Hempstead Town Clerk Wayne Wink, the event chair, said: "I am proud to honor these outstanding women for their great contributions to North Hempstead. Each of these women has worked for the betterment of our community and deserve to be recognized for their efforts."
- Cheryl Eisberg Moin will be receiving the National Hadassah Leadership Award from Yashar, the attorneys' and judges' chapter of Hadassah, at a dinner in her honor on May 6 at Westbury Manor. For reservations call (516) 759-7940.
- Nancy Greengrass will be honored by the Lulav Group of Great Neck Hadassah at their annual dinner, to be held May 15 at the Glen Head Country Club. For further information call (516) 829-8742.

	·I Ipc	OMING EVENTS AT TEMPLE ISRAE	т ——
A 121111	5		12:30 P.M.
April	3	"Shabbat Talk" Led by the Waxman High School	12.50 F.WI.
	F	Students Discussing Their Trip to Israel	8:45 P.M.
	5 6	Temple Israel Players Performance of "Oklahoma!" Pesa <u>h</u> University	6:45 P.M. 11:00 A.M.
	6		2:00 P.M.
	6 7	Temple Israel Players Performance of "Oklahoma!"	
		Beth HaGan Nursery School Matzah Factory	10:00 A.M.
	9	TILL Movie Night: "No Place on Earth"	7:30 P.M.
	10	Men's Club Scotch and Seder	6:30 P.M.
	11	Pre-Pesah Congregational Dinner	7:30 P.M.
	14	Fast of the First Born (Siyyum) Service and Breakfast	6:30 A.M.
	14 15-16	Community <i>Hametz</i> Burning at Kings Point Park Pesa <u>h</u> – First and Second Days	8:00 A.M.
	15 16	Congregational Second Night Seder	7:15 P.M.
		Sponsored by the Men's Club	
	20	Shalom Club Dinner Meeting	6:30 P.M.
	21-22	Pesa <u>h</u> – Seventh and Eighth Days	
	24	Board of Trustees Meeting	8:15 P.M.
	25	Beth HaGan Nursery School Shabbat Dinner	5:00 P.M.
	27	Yom HaShoah	
	27	Temple Israel Bonds Event	9:45 A.M.
	27	Family B'nai Mitzvah Workshop	10:30 A.M.
		with Rabbi Adelson	
	27	Yom HaShoah Remembrance Service	7:30 P.M.
	28	Sisterhood Board Meeting	10:00 A.M.
May	2	TEP/Shabbat HaMishpachah Dinner	7:30 P.M.
-	3	"Shabbat Up Close and Personal"	10:30 A.M.
	4	Family B'nai Mitzvah Workshop	10:30 A.M.
		with Rabbi Adelson	
	5	Yom Hazikaron	
	5	Israel Bonds Dinner	7:30 P.M.
	6	Yom Ha'atzmaut	
	9	Beth HaGan Nursery School Mother's Day Shabbat Lunch	
	9	Shabbat HaGever Service Followed by Dinner	6:30 P.M.
	10	Shabbat HaGever Congregational Service	8:45 A.M.
	11	Family B'nai Mitzvah Workshop	9:30 A.M.
		with Cantor Frieder	
	13	Sisterhood Luncheon	Noon

'No Place On Earth' Movie, Discussion Is Rescheduled For Wednesday, April 9th

Movie nights at Temple Israel wrap-up for the season with a presentation of the acclaimed film "No Place On Earth" on Wednesday, April 9, at 7:30 P.M.

The film, rescheduled due to a snow storm last month, tells the true story of the experience of 38 Ukrainian men, women and children, ages 2-76, who go into hiding in an underground cave to escape the Nazis. They emerge after 511 days, blinded by a sun some forgot existed. But, despite all odds, they all survived. Their experience wasn't discovered until the 1990s when an American stumbled upon their cave.

The movie will be followed by a discussion, led by Rabbi Howard Stecker.

The series, presented by the congregation's adult education program, TILL, is sponsored by the Men's Club and Sisterhood. There is no charge for members of the congregation and movie snacks will be served during the showing.

TI Bonds Topic: Fitness and Nutrition Myths

The ten most common fitness and nutrition myths will be the subject of a wellness event sponsored by Temple Israel Bonds, the congregation's organization of parents of school age children, on Sunday, April 27, at 9:45 A.M.

Guest speakers Steve Satz, an exercise psychologist, and Lisa Kaplan, a nutrition counselor, will discuss how to nourish your body to achieve leanness, increase energy and diminish cravings. Another topic, proper exercise methodology, will cover muscle tone, strength and bone density.

Healthy snacks will be served during the program, of course. According to a Temple Israel Bonds member, there is no cost for attending, but the cost for not attending is priceless. To attend the program, rsvp to <tibonds@gmail.com>.

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



Emma Young

Emma Young will be celebrating her *Bat Mitzvah* on April 12. She is the daughter of Linda and Dr. Joshua Young and has two brothers, Aaron, 15, and Noah, 10. Emma is a seventh grade honor student at Great Neck North Middle School. She enjoys epee fencing, performing in school plays, traveling to Europe and cooking. Emma plans to visit Israel in the near future.



Nicole Aminzadeh

Nicole Aminzadeh will be called to the Torah as a *Bat Mitzvah* on April 26. She is the daughter of Sherly and David Aminzadeh and has two sisters, Natalie, 9, and Sophia, 6. Nicole is a seventh grade student at Great Neck North Middle School. She enjoys playing tennis, piano, swimming, and ballet. Nicole plans to continue her Jewish studies at the Waxman High School.

CALLING ALL HAFTARAH READERS

and those who want to learn to chant BE INSPIRED, BE UPLIFTED

If you haven't chanted the Haftarah at Temple Israel in the past few years and would like to, contact Kathy Recckia at 482-7800 or email krecckia@tign.org

Classes are Preparing for Passover

- By Rachel Mathless

At Beth HaGan, we made the transition from Megillah to matzah quite smoothly. The mellifluous sounds of "Ma Nashtana," "Dayanu," and "Let My People Go" fill the classrooms as we joyously prepare for *Pesach*.

From our unique "Baby Moses" in the basket, to the rambunctious frogs, to the exquisitely crafted matzah covers and *afikomen* bags, the bejeweled cups of Elijah to the decorative seder plates, our school is permeated with the sights and sounds of *Pesach*. Our main corridor has been transformed into the Red Sea, with the Jews crossing, and Moses as well as Pharaoh overseeing the exodus from Egypt.

We hope the wealth of knowledge imparted to the children through music, role playing, drama and edible experiences will be shared by everyone at their personal seder. The Matzah factory visited and taught us what happens when flour mixes with water. We all were involved in the process from grinding wheat, to mixing, to rolling, to baking matzah and eating it. What fun! Our model *sedorim* are scheduled for April 8 and 9.



Beth HaGan's pre-school Kangaroo Class studied baby Moses, afloat in a basket—and then made their own floating baskets for Moses. Mural in the background is the Nile River.



The Beth HaGan Bears Class learned the meaning of objects on a traditional Passover table. Note baby Moses in the basket, who observed, at left.

Men's Club Honoring President Jeff Fleit, Two Waxman Students, April 6



Men's Club Co-President Jeffrey Fleit

MEMORIAL PLAQUES To Be Dedicated Tuesday, April 22

LILLIAN BRUCKER

Mother of Karen Covitt Grandmother of Adam Covitt

LELAH ABEL FLEISCHERWife of Steven D. Fleischer
Mother of Adam Salomon

SHIRLEY S. FLEISCHER

Mother of Steven D. Fleischer

Grandmother of Adam Salomon

BETTY E. HERMELE Wife of Cyril Hermele

ARNOLD M. ILLMAN Husband of Lois Illman

SEYMOUR LINELL

Father of Vic Linell Husband of Phyllis Linell

FRIEDA LONDON Mother of Stephen London

FRANCES ROGERS

Mother of Barbara Lebensfeld

SOLOMON SCHULMAN

Husband of Naomi Schulman Father of Linda Schulman and Jack Schulman

LILA SCHWARTZ

Wife of Jay Schwartz Mother of Lynn Zwecker

STANLEY SCHLEGER

Father of Melissa Newman and Randy Schleger

LIBBY SESKIN

Sister-in-law of Dr. Leonard Seskin

MEYER TEITELBAUM Husband of Miriam Teitelbaum



Student Honoree Amy Pourmoradi

Outgoing Temple Israel Men's Club Co-President Jeffrey Fleit, along with two students from the Waxman High School, Amy Pourmoradi and Jonah Klempner, will be honored by the Men's Club at the New York Metro Region of the Federation of Jewish Men's Clubs' Annual Chavayrim Kol Israel Dinner, being held Sunday evening, April 6, at the Crest Hollow Country Club in Woodbury.

The dinner, held each year by the regional Men's Club organization, gives each member club an opportunity to recognize outstanding members and students within their congregation. The dinner includes an open bar, sit-down dinner, music and dancing and begins with a cocktail hour at 5 P.M.

Mr. Fleit, the co-president of the Men's Club since March of last year, had previously served as the recording secretary for four years. He was instrumental in having the club recognized as a "Quality Club" by The Federation of Jewish Men's Clubs last year, a recognition that is expected again this year. He helped to organize a new club activity, an outing to North Fork vineyards this June. In addition to his club activities, he has served on the congregation's Membership Committee and is an active member of the daily *minyan*.

Amy Pourmoradi is the founder and president of the Teens for Fund-raising



Student Honoree Jonah Klempner

Club, a new student-run group that raises money for *tzedakah* projects. "She has put her blood, sweat, tears, and most importantly, her winning smile towards ensuring the success of this new endeavor," according to Danny Mishkin, the school director. The club started out as a way to bring teens together for fund-raising events, and it has turned into a yearlong fund-raising effort for the Peres Center for Peace in Israel.

Mr. Mishkin said Amy is "an inspirational young woman who has worked hard to bring new students into this Youth House project, and the group has raised more than \$2,000 for an incredible organization. On our recent trip to Israel, our group visited the Peres Center for Peace and Amy was presented with a special gift for her efforts."

Jonah Klempner is the current president of the Waxman Youth House USY program. Mr. Mishkin called him "an exceptional young man with a magnetic quality. Since Jonah has taken a leadership role not only are more students attending, but more importantly students return and serve on his board. It is obvious that other teenagers love to work with him and he has instilled a great deal of positive energy into our teen community.

"He is a wonderful ambassador for the Youth House and has helped our community grow year after year. Jonah is genuine, kind and the true definition of a *mentch*."

Annual Siyyum, Breakfast Begins Passover With Service for First Born Monday, April 14

The Board of Trustees and officers express thanks to Mahin Shahnaz Ohebsion and Jack Sassouni for their generosity in sponsoring the annual *Siyyum* and breakfast, following the Service for the First Born on Monday, April 14, in loving memory of Eli Sassouni.

Because the first-born Israelites were saved during the Tenth Plague, all first-born men and women are required to fast on <code>erev Pesah</code> until the seder. This fast is called <code>Taanit Bechorot</code>. However, the fast is not required when one performs a <code>mitzvah</code>, such as a <code>siyyum</code>, the completion of a portion of study. It is then customary to celebrate with a <code>seudat mitzvah</code>, a meal that accompanies an important religious duty. Rabbi Howard Stecker will be leading the study session on that morning and is studying <code>Seder Nashim</code> of the <code>Mishnah</code> in preparation for the <code>siyyum</code>.

The service, beginning at 6:30 A.M. in the Sanctuary, is not limited to the first-born. All children are welcome, together with their parents. Adults without children are also welcome to attend.

RABBI STECKER'S **DISCRETIONARY FUND**

In appreciation of:

Rabbi Stecker officiating at the funeral of her husband, Yoram (Jerry) Stein Marion Stein

In memory of:

Bernard Schultz

Perry Trebatch Mitchell Koeppel Jill and Nils Flanzraich Gloria and Harold Rabinowitz

Samuel Walton

Barbara and Andy Cohen

Nathan Eckstein

Mitchell Koeppel

Alice Brustein

Dr. Dennis Brustein

Sheldon Shaktman

The Fried-Oginski family

Emma Scheiner

Leonard Schultz

Goldie Levenson

Gilda Hecht

Dr. Shmuel Eshaghpour

Romina and David Pour

HARRIET SCHIFF EXECUTIVE **DIRECTOR'S FUND**

In memory of:

Yoram (Jerry) Stein

Iris and Dr. Charles

Adler

Elise and Hon. Richard

Kestenbaum

Joyce and Burton Weston

Great Neck College

Grads and Friends Marilyn and George

Torodash

Manijeh and Dr. Jack

Moallem

Vivian and Yuval Brash

Drs. Madelyn and Robert

Cheryl Eisberg Moin and

Seth Moin

Toby Katz

Nancy and Sidney

Freedman

Jackie and Joshua Astrof Audrey Kent Itzkowitz

and Eric Itzkowitz

Simone and Robert

Kahen

Eileen Bowman

Sisterhood

Karen and Donald

Ashkenase

Rona and Joseph Lupkin

Karen and Daniel Covitt

Alise Kreditor and

Jeffrey Englander and

family Evie and Dr. Robert

Linden

THE KELLER FAMILY **EDUCATION FUND**

In memory of:

Yoram (Jerry) Stein Dr. Sharon Keller

From Generation to Generation



Temple Israel Gratefully Acknowledges The Following Contributions

PRAYER BOOK FUND

In honor of:

Her grandson, Noah Sheidlower,

becoming a Bar Mitzvah

Ellyn Sheidlower

Rebecca Sassouni and

Parvaneh Khodadadian

being named to the Town of

North Hempstead Women's Roll of Honor

The birth of Yael Alani,

granddaughter of Nancy and

Manny Alani

Hon. Susan and Dr. Robert Lopatkin

On the occasion of:

Leonard Schultz completing the sheloshim period for his father, Bernard Schultz

Joyce and Burton Weston

In memory of:

Bronia Rothbaum

Paul Rothbaum

Arnold Sheidlower

Edmond Cohen

Ellyn Sheidlower

Martin Kolen

Dr. Lois and Gary Sazer

Robert Dubofsky

Franceen and Scott

Silverman and family

RUTH AND RABBI MORDECAI WAXMAN MEMORIAL FUND

In honor of:

The marriage of Nicole Eshaghpour, daughter of

Jacqueline and Bert

Eshaghpour, to Ariya Waxman, son of Shohreh and

Hillel Waxman

Marilyn and Harvey

Gessin

In memory of:

Ervin Hoenig

Yoram (Jerry) Stein

William B. Scharfman Anita Koss

Nat Rutkin

Robert Dubofsky

Edith Lederman Aaronson

Laura and Manny Bardash

Thelma Green

Andre Hercz

Ellen and Arnold Gruber

ABRAHAM ROSENFELD MEMORIAL FUND

In memory of:

Marlene Harelick

Roberta Harounian

Mansour Naim

Helene Kahn

Robert Dubofsky

Ervin Hoenig

Roberta and David Harounian

WAXMAN HIGH SCHOOL AND YOUTH HOUSE FUND

In honor of:

The marriage of Nicole Eshaghpour, daughter

of Jacqueline and Bert Eshaghpour, to Ariya

Waxman, son of Shohreh and

Hillel Waxman

Moji and Omid Pourmoradi

Eva Yarett

The engagement of Meredith Koeppel, daughter of Mitchell

Koeppel, to Andrew Schwed

The engagement of Keith

Sazer, son of Dr. Lois and Gary Sazer, to Kate Thoman

The marriage of Jenny Handler, daughter of Leslie

and Dr. Martin Handler, to

Josh Glade The birth of Yael Alani,

granddaughter of Nancy and

Manny Alani

The engagement of Betsy Covitt, daughter of Karen and

Dan Covitt, to Andy Field The birth of Julia Debra

Haghani, daughter of Niloofar and Amir Haghani

The birth of Adin Yosef

Bernstein-Cohen, grandson of Maxine and Terry Bernstein The engagement of Jacob

Katz, son of Ronnie and Marc Katz, to Amanda Teitelman

Parvaneh and Dr. Parviz

In memory of:

Yoram (Jerry) Stein

Sheldon Shaktman Moji and Omid

Khodadadian

Pourmoradi Bernard Schultz

Monika and Paul Bloom

Louis I. Berman

Irene Ashery

Gertie Sherman

Ellie and Farzin

Kimiabakhsh

Denise and Dr. Sanford

Ratner

Anita Koss

Marjorie and Jonathan

Hoffman

Lillian Ratner Nat Rutkin

Denise and Dr. Sanford

Ratner Aaron Feder

Carol Glatstein

Robert Dubofsky

Mitchell Koeppel

ADELE ECKSTEIN MEMORIAL LIBRARY FUND

In memory of:

Nathan Eckstein

Drs. Madelyn and Robert

Bela and Mel Schoenfeld

CANTOR FRIEDER'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

In appreciation of:

Cantor Frieder's kindness and

support

Carole and Arthur Anderman

SAMUEL BARON MUSIC FUND

In honor of:

Jonathan Kestenbaum,

son of Elise and Hon. Richard

Kestenbaum, graduating from Hofstra Law School

Larry Kreditor's 85th birthday

Alise Kreditor and

Jeffrey Englander and

family

Jonathan Kestenbaum,

son of Elise and Hon. Richard

Kestenbaum, graduating from Hofstra Law School

Anne and Jerry Hirsh

In memory of:

Bernard Schultz

Alise Kreditor and Jeffrey Englander and

family

Helen Miller Dr. Warren Hecht

Seth Moin

Gilda Hecht

Ervin Hoenig Ruth Kurtz Cheryl Eisberg Moin and

LIBRARY FUND

In honor of:

The plague dedicated for Eva Yarett for being the

founding librarian of

the Temple Israel Library Sherry and Sam Husney

Lorraine Weissbach Hannah Berman

Toby Katz

Eva Yarett

Beyond Threats and Avoidance

-Continued from page 2

Therein lies the heart of the matter. With each passing year I am increasingly convinced that our commitment to Jewish tradition, including Shabbat, kashrut and tzedakah, has a positive impact within and beyond the Jewish community. Ultimately, the best thing we can do for the world is to be thoughtful, committed Jews.

This message is something that we try to convey in every setting at Temple Israel throughout the lifespan of our membership. When our preschoolers integrate Jewish and secular learning; when our Religious School students examine the ideas behind our prayer and customs; when high school students explore contemporary issues through a Jewish lens and when adults learn, pray and socialize in a thoughtful Jewish context, we send each other the message that Jewish learning and living benefit us and the world in which we live.

The recent Pew Report, along with ancillary articles regarding Jewish affiliation and commitment, has led to an increase in our anxiety over the future of American Jewry. I hope that our legitimate concerns will not compel us to resort to intimidation tactics out of a sense of desperation. Nor should we despair so much that we avoid these topics altogether.

Rather, let us find the words, and even more importantly set the examples, to demonstrate what our ancestors have always known: that Judaism richly observed is a source of joy, insight and blessing. At Temple Israel, we can inspire one another in this regard. Invitation, rather than intimidation or accommodation, will bring us much further along in our quest.

From the President: On Being Missed

-Continued from page 2

Klempner, both of whom are active in our Waxman High School and Youth House. Their efforts to offer diverse programming and service oriented activity at the Men's Club, and to further the tikkun olam-type activities of the Youth House, enhance our kehillah.

Similarly, this past week, two members of our synagogue, Parvaneh Khodadadian and Rebecca Yousefzadeh Sassouni, were part of the group inducted into the Town of North Hempstead's Women's Roll of Honor. This recognition is extended to those who have made a difference in the town. While Parvaneh and Rebecca have each been involved in numerous civic activities, they both have also played significant roles in our activities, ranging from the religious to educational to social. The synagogue is a richer place for their involvement.

A zissun Pesach and Moedetoon Masleeyat Basheh to all.

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Our Israeli Partner

-Continued from page 2

children. They also observed the shelters where teachers take the children during times of danger. Students in our Beth HaGan and Religious School routinely send holiday greetings to counterparts in Ashkelon, and our Youth House students have even Skyped with teens in Ashkelon.

On the eve of Purim, as rockets launched from Gaza were once again falling in Ashkelon, Temple Israel's Israel Affairs Committee authorized a gift from the Israel Solidarity Fund to purchase some new toys and games for the children of Netzach Israel for use when they are forced to take refuge in the shelters. On behalf of our congregation, Rabbi Stecker reached out to Rabbi Suraszki and the congregation of Kehillat Netzach Israel to say: "We are very sorry to hear that you are facing challenges once again in Ashkelon. The image of your school children being accompanied into bomb shelters in the middle of their Purim preparation is extremely disturbing. I want you to know that your extended Temple Israel family is thinking of you and offering our prayers that the time will soon come for you and your children when you can live peacefully and unafraid. Please let us know if there is any way we can be helpful to you at this time."

Kehillat Netzach Israel's lay liaison will be visiting Temple Israel in May. Stay tuned for more details, and please support the Israel Solidarity Fund so that we may continue to demonstrate our commitment to our extended kehillah in Israel.

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D'var Torah By Rabbi Marim D. Charry

Metzora Saturday, April 5

This portion continues the presentation of the laws of ritual purity. In particular, the priests are instructed as to the purification rites for a person determined to be afflicted with tzaraat, as described in the previous portion. Instructions are also given for dealing with tzaraat in building stones (some kind of mold, blight or rot that showed up in the plaster.) Finally, procedures are set forth which are required when an Israelite, male or female, experiences discharges from the sexual organs. The Torah here seems to be classifying illness and disease as forms of impurity. Thus, they are placed in the realm of religious concern. All these impurities threatened, directly or indirectly, the purity of the sanctuary, which was located within the area of settlement. Therefore, for all Israelites, maintaining a state of purity was of great importance.

Ahare Mot Saturday, April 12

We conclude the laws of ritual purity and begin the section known as the "Holiness Code" in this portion. The readings open with a description of the ritual of Yom Kippur. This ritual, with its distinctive rites of riddance, including the symbolic transferral of the transgressions of the Israelites and their priests onto a goat (the scapegoat) which is driven into the wilderness, never to return, is the climax of the laws of purification. In the Torah, Yom Kippur is an annual ritual of purification of the Mishkan (sanctuary). In later Judaism, however, the emphasis shifts to atonement for the sins of the people. The laws of the "Holiness Code" serve to implement the idea that the Israelite people are collectively obligated to seek to achieve holiness in order to be like God, who is holy. The Code begins with consideration of the family and details forbidden sexual unions. Whereas purity and impurity pertain to states of being, holiness has to do with interpersonal relationships and modes of behavior.

Worship at Temple Israel This Week!

SABBATH SERVICES

Friday, April 4

Shabbat HaMishpachah Service and Dinner 6:00 P.M. **Evening Service** 6:30 P.M.

Saturday, April 5

Morning Service 8:45 A.M.

Weekly Portion: Metzora; Leviticus 14:1 - 15:33 Haftarah: II Kings 7:3 - 20

Sabbath Service Officers:

Dan Goldberger and Audrey Kent Itzkowitz Bar Mitzvah

JONATHAN ROTHBAUM

son of Ellen and Dr. Steven Rothbaum

Shabbat Up Close and Personal 10:30 A.M. Junior Congregation 10:30 A.M. Toddler Service 11:00 A.M. 12:30 P.M.

"Shabbat Talk": Waxman High School Students Discuss their recent trip to Israel

Minhah 6:45 P.M. Ma'ariv 7:50 P.M.

Friday, April 11

N'Ranenah/Evening Service 6:30 P.M. Congregational Pre-Pesah Dinner 7:30 P.M.

Saturday, April 12 - Shabbat Hagadol

Morning Service 8:45 A.M.

Weekly Portion: Ahare Mot; Leviticus 16:1 - 18:30

Haftarah: Malachi 3:4 – 24; 3:23 Bat Mitzvah

EMMA YOUNG daughter of Linda and Dr. Joshua Young

Havurah Service 10:00 A.M. Junior Congregation 10:30 A.M. Toddler Service 11:00 A.M. Min<u>h</u>ah 6:50 P.M.

7:58 P.M.

Ma'ariv