

Selihot Signalling Start of High Holy Days



Cantor Raphael Frieder



Cantor Farid Dardashti

Selihot—the evening of prayers which signal the approach of the High Holy Days—will be marked at Temple Israel on Saturday, September 16, when Cantor Raphael Frieder is joined by noted guest Hazzan Farid Dardashti. The inspirational service will feature both Ashkenazi and Sephardi melodies and prayers from around the world.

The evening begins with refreshments in the Blue Room at 8:45 P.M., followed by the service in the Sanctuary at 9:30 P.M. The service will feature prayers never recited at Temple Israel before, according to Ritual Committee Chair Brent Greenspan. “Cantor Dardashti’s chanting will certainly enhance the service.”

Cantor Dardashti holds the distinction of being the first Iranian born international concert artist and hazzan in the Western world. He comes from a long line of classical Iranian vocal

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Men’s Club Is Recognized for Its Programs

Temple Israel’s Men’s Club received two major awards at the biennial convention of the Federation of Jewish Men’s Clubs, held late last month in Washington, D.C. On hand to accept the recognition were Men’s Club Co-President Jack Guberman and Past Presidents David Scherr and Marc Langsner.

For the sixth year in a row the Men’s Club received the Quality Club Award in recognition of its many activities throughout the year. In addition, the Men’s Club received the Torch Award, given to member clubs for innovative programming, in the category of “Jewish Observance.”

The Quality Club Award is given to clubs satisfying six required activities as well as at least ten out of 19 optional activities during the year. Only four of 28 clubs in the New York Metropolitan Region received the award for their activities during the past year.



Men’s Club members proudly display their awards: left to right, minyan app developer Brent Greenspan, Past President David Scherr, Co-President Jack Guberman, and Past President Marc Langsner.

The Torch Award was presented for the congregation’s innovative smartphone minyan notification app, designed by Men’s Club member Brent Greenspan, a Temple Israel vice president. The recognition was titled “Gathering a Minyan Using Smartphone

Technology.” The app enables instant communication among members of a group of volunteers who sign-up in advance to be notified when they are needed at the minyan. There is a notification group for the morning

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Planning for the Dinner Dance

A Voice Guest Column by Linda and Brent Greenspan

EDITOR'S NOTE: Linda and Brent Greenspan have been named chairs of this year's Temple Israel Journal Dinner Dance. They explain their plans for the event in this Voice Guest Column.

President Robert Panzer presented the proposal to hold the Temple Israel Journal Dinner Dance to the Board of Trustees at its last meeting on July 20. The theme for this event will be to honor the congregation on the occasion of its 75th anniversary. The Journal Dinner Dance Committee will be chaired by my wife, Linda, and me.

In the past, the Journal Dinner Dance featured honorees who had made significant contributions to the congregation. For this coming event the theme will focus on retelling the Temple Israel story over the years. Individuals and families who joined the congregation in each decade since its inception will be approached in order to collect their stories about how Temple Israel impacted their lives throughout

their membership experience. During the program, attendees will experience the telling of the Temple Israel story from its early days to the present as seen through the eyes of its members. A key feature of this event is the

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Journal. The Dinner Dance is an opportunity for the Temple Israel community and its extended family to express support for the congregation, its leadership, and its programs. This coming program is especially significant
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Know Yourself In Prayer

From the Rabbi by Rabbi Daniel Schweber

"Know before whom you stand." You might have seen this phrase above the ark in some synagogues. The phrase is a variation on Pirke Avot 2:19 "Know before whom you labor." The reworked phrase was coined as a meditation to

As we prepare for the
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prayer. T'filah, Jewish prayer especially the Amidah, the standing prayer, imagines people standing before or in front of God as they pray. The meditation urges us to know about God before we rise to pray to God.

The challenge is that no one really knows about God or how to stand before God. Judaism teaches that God's true nature is beyond our comprehension. In Exodus we read that even Moses, God's

closest friend, could only come close to God's presence while hidden under a rock.

This fact has not stopped people from making attempts to know before whom we stand. Theologians, philosophers and others have proposed theologies to explain how God created the world, the existence of evil and to give answers to many other questions about God.

Most of these theologies do not really discuss prayer as the mode to discover and interact with God. The reason is that there is no way to devise a systematic method of describing how prayer works. Prayer is communication from the heart on the inside, not external communication.

How should we understand the phrase "Know before whom you stand?" One of the wonders of Hebrew is that phrases can often be parsed in several ways, yielding different meanings. I would like
—Continued on page 7

New Windows

From the President
by Rob Panzer

Those stopping by Temple Israel for classes, minyan, or information will soon see a different kind of activity. We will be replacing all of the windows in the original part of the building.

That part of our facility was constructed nearly 70 years ago and much of it is in need of significant upgrading. Replacing windows seems like a minor project, but it is symbolic of the work we need to do.

Our congregation recently concluded its 75th year in existence. In recognition

The needs are great,
the opportunities abundant.

of that accomplishment, our dinner dance, scheduled for Saturday evening, October 28, will celebrate our first 75 years and look forward to our next 75. We will be recognizing people who have been instrumental in building our community and continue to do so.

We will be talking about opportunities to support the work that needs to be done on our physical plant, to support programming, both new and continuing, ways to support programs for our teens and our seniors, and ways in which we can leave legacy gifts to support our congregation in the future. The needs are great, the opportunities abundant.

Dinner dance invitations will be out soon, so please reserve the date. You can contact the office to place an ad in our journal at your earliest convenience.

For information on giving opportunities please contact our executive director, Leon Silverberg, at 482-7800 or Lsilverberg@tign.org.

As always, I can be contacted at robpanzer18@gmail.com

Office Summer Hours

The Temple Israel office will be closed on Sundays for the summer. The office will resume regular hours on Sunday, August 27.

In Memoriam

Temple Israel extends
condolences to the families of:

ELSA PINCUS

esteemed member of Temple Israel

ALEXANDER SHEFFY

brother of Abraham Sheffy

DAVID RACHMAN

husband of Barbara Rachman
and esteemed member of Temple Israel

May their memories be for a blessing.

Candle Lighting Times

Friday, August 4

7:50 P.M.

Friday, August 11

7:41 P.M.

Friday, August 18

7:32 P.M.

Friday, August 25

7:21 P.M.

Mazal Tov To . . .

Nancy and Larry Greengrass

on the birth of their granddaughter,
Scarlett Avery Greengrass.

Donna Lefkowitz and Brian Smith

on the marriage of their daughter,
Jodi Smith, step-daughter of
Larry Lefkowitz and Sue Smith,
to Aaron Feinstein.

Temple Lites . . .

• **Leya Essex**, granddaughter of
Johanna and Harold Essex, and
daughter of Laura and Joseph Essex,
won four gold medals in the 2017
Maccabiah games U.S.A. track and
field junior division. Her father ran in the
games 32 years ago in the open track
and field division, and also brought home
several medals.

Temple Lite: A Clarification

A recent Voice Mazal Tov congratulated
Rebecca Yusefzadeh Sassouni on her
election to the Great Neck School Board.
It pointed out that she is the second
member of the congregation serving
on the board. Another Temple Israel
member, Fran Langsner, had previously
served on the board. Ms. Sassouni is
the second Temple Israel member to
currently hold a seat on the board.

Upcoming Events

August 17

Board of Trustees Meeting 8:15 P.M.

August 18

Last Day Beth HaGan Summer Program

August 27

Synagogue office Re-Opens on Sundays

August 29

Sisterhood Lunch and Read Noon

September 5

Waxman Youth House Registration
and BBQ 5:30 P.M.

September 7

Men's Club Opening Meeting 7:30 P.M.

September 10

First day of Sunday/Tuesday

Religious School Classes

Shoah Committee

Opening Breakfast 10:00 A.M.

Family Fun Fair 11:45 A.M.

September 11

9/11 Memorial Service at the
Saddle Rock Bridge Sponsored
by the Men's Club 7:00 P.M.

First day of Beth HaGan

Nursery School

September 14

Waxman Youth House

Open House

5:30 P.M.

September 16

Selihot Service

8:45 P.M.

September 20

Erev Rosh Hashanah

September 21-22

Rosh Hashanah

September 23

Celebration of Rabbi Eckstein's
Ordination 60th Anniversary

September 25

Sisterhood Luncheon

Noon

September 28

Board of Trustees Meeting 8:15 P.M.

September 29

Kol Nidre

September 30

Yom Kippur

Save the Date

Temple Israel Celebrates 75 Years

at its Journal Dinner Dance

Saturday, October 28

Watch for details soon!

Temple Israel

*and the Great Neck Chinese Association
are proud to be holding a*

Community Connection Day

August 27 3-5 P.M.

Steppingstone Park

(Rain Location: Crystal Ballroom)

Get to know our Chinese neighbors and build community

Casual Attire • For All Ages

RSVP to Jodi at 482-7800 by August 23

B'nai/B'not Mitzvah In Our Temple Israel Family



Natalie Aminzadeh

Natalie Shana Aminzadeh will be celebrating her Bat Mitzvah on August 26. She is the daughter of Sherly and David Aminzadeh and has two sisters, Nicole, 16, and Sophia, 8. Natalie is an eighth grade student at Great Neck North Middle School. She is the recipient of a NYSSMA award and enjoys dancing, swimming and playing tennis. She plans on attending the Waxman High School and Youth House.

Selihot Signalling the Start of High Holy Days

—Continued from front page
artists including his acclaimed father, who was known as the “Nightingale of Iran.”

He is hazzan emeritus of Beth El Synagogue, White Plains, where he served as the congregation's cantor for 14 years. As a teenager in his native Teheran, he was the featured artist on a weekly TV show.

The beautiful special prayers recited on Selihot were composed by the greatest ancient and medieval poets to introduce the themes of the upcoming High Holy Days and intensify anticipation of their arrival. The word Seliha (the plural is Selihot) means forgiveness in Hebrew. Seliha means pleading for forgiveness for one's sins. In the plural, Selihot stands for a prayer service in which the participants ask for forgiveness for their sins.

Beth HaGan Students Conduct Book Art Fair



The Giraffes toddler class, led by Morah Yve and Morah Minoo, illustrated “The Torah Book of Opposites” and “Color Books.”



The Pandas toddler class, with Morah Merrie and Morah Elizabeth illustrated “Caps for Sale” and “The Underpants Zoo” and “Have You Seen a Dinosaur.”



The Lambs, with Morah Dinah and Morah Shira, presented “Red Ball of Yam.”



Beth HaGan Summer Program Breaking Attendance Records

Temple Israel's Beth HaGan Nursery School summer program is wrapping up a record breaking year.

Enrollment is up 93 percent over last year. In addition, a new Mommy and Me program has been introduced. It is a big hit, with enrollment at full capacity.

Now is the time to enroll in next summer's program, designed for children ages 2-4. Parents enrolling their children now for next year receive this year's tuition rate. For details and enrollment information email TIGNSummer@gmail.com.



Children enjoy music with Morah Gina, above, where "The Wheels On the Bus" was a favorite.



The Beth HaGan summer program included the "Chemistry of Cooking," at left, where participants baked a birthday cake for America for the Fourth of July, as well as banana bread and delicious cookies. Above, children visited farm animals, and said the lamb was their favorite.

Temple Israel of Great Neck
Where Tradition Meets Change



FAMILY FUN FAIR

Free and Open to the Community



SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 10
11:45 AM—1:15 PM
(rain or shine)
Meet and Greet
TIGN Clergy & Community



Ask the Rabbi: Is An Eclipse a Good Omen?

EDITOR'S NOTE: Everyone is welcome to submit questions that they think should be addressed in this new Voice feature to Rabbi Schweber at rabbischweber@tign.org.

Question: On Monday, August 21 a solar eclipse will occur. It can be seen as a total eclipse in part of the U.S.A. in a 70-mile band stretching from Oregon to South Carolina. The rest of the country will view a partial eclipse. In New York, about 77 percent of the sun will be covered at 2:40 p.m. that day. What does Judaism have to say about eclipses? Does one recite a blessing?

Discussion: The ancient rabbis of the Mishna and Talmud knew their astronomy and even considered the validity of what we call astrology. Can the predictability of the heavenly bodies inform us and guide us in a very uncertain universe? For reasons that we will explore, the early rabbis were of the opinion that solar and lunar eclipses were bad omens. They therefore do not include them on the list of natural phenomenon that warrant the recitation of a blessing. Sunrise, shooting stars, thunder and lightning, and rainbows all have blessings because they are good omens.

Succah 29a: Our Rabbis taught, when the sun is in eclipse, it is a bad omen for the whole world. This may be illustrated

by a parable. To what can this be compared? To a monarch who made a banquet for his or her subjects and had servants put up a lamp for them. When he became wroth with them he said to his servants, "Take away the lamp from them, and let them sit in the dark"

We do not know if the rabbis knew that eclipses are predictable and caused by the natural rotations of the sun, earth and moon. We also have to wonder how literally did the ancient rabbis take this teaching. What are

The ancient rabbis saw eclipses as symbols and reminders of God's absence...

we supposed to make of this teaching now? If the Talmud didn't ordain a blessing for eclipses, can we recite one anyway?

In other parts of the Talmud, the ancient rabbis express a healthy skepticism for the literal belief that our lives are determined by the observed positions of astronomical bodies. Nevertheless, they do talk about astrological signs and the good and bad omens they predict.



These contradictions lead me to believe that these teachings are symbolic. I think the above parable about the lantern is our clue to the symbolism. Dark periods in our history, such as the Holocaust, have been described as times when God was absent from our lives. The ancient rabbis saw eclipses as symbols and reminders of God's absence, and that is why they were seen negatively.

Later commentators, though, have noted the hopeful aspects of eclipses. First, they point out that the sun or moon never really disappear. They are just temporarily blocked. Second, they note that especially in solar eclipse, the outer part of the sun, the corona, still gives off light. This is symbolic of the fact that God never leaves us entirely. God is always "shining."

If you are fortunate to travel to witness the total eclipse or go out that afternoon to see the partial eclipse, please remember to take proper precaution for your eyes. And then, experience the eclipse as the wonder of nature that it is. In my opinion you may recite the blessing oseh maaseh breisheet - recognizing God as the creator of the universe.

You may also choose to recite prayers about God's closeness. One possibility is Psalm 27, which we will recite for 40 plus days starting August 23, Rosh Hodesh Elul: "Hide not from me, reject not Your servant. You have always been my help, do not abandon me. Forsake me not, my God of deliverance."

Know Yourself In Prayer

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to suggest changing the parsing of the phrase with the addition of one preposition. The original Hebrew of the phrase is da'a l'finei mi ata omed. The phrase can be parsed in the following manner with my added word in parentheses: da'a lifnei, mi ata, (v'az) omed, know before (you pray), who you are, (and then) rise.

This new reading makes more sense as a meditation for prayer. The new reading asks us to think about ourselves and what we bring to the relationship with God. Only once this is accomplished can we rise before God to pray.

The simplest way we learn about ourselves is by describing how we feel. What are you feeling today? Happy, sad, angry, hungry etc... There are thousands of emotions. One way to relate to God is through emotion.

On August 23 we will welcome in the month of Elul, which marks the 40 day period leading to Yom Kippur, the day when we all stand before God. As we prepare for the High Holy Days, and any time we engage in prayer, we should think about the emotions we feel. We should get to know ourselves and when we have become more aware, we are now ready to rise and pray in God's presence.

From Generation to Generation

Temple Israel Gratefully Acknowledges The Following Contributions

RELIGIOUS SCHOOL FUND

In honor of:

Sima Delafraz, recipient of the Albert Schweitzer Leadership Award
 Rabbi Amy Roth's superb leadership
 Neda and Farid Sedgh

RABBI STECKER'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

In appreciation of:

Rabbi Stecker officiating at the wedding of their daughter, Shari, and Jake Goodstein
 Wendy Fried Oginski and Gerald Oginski
 Rabbi Stecker's kind expression of sympathy
 The Tanenbaum family

In honor of:

Their 67th wedding anniversary
 Janice and David Epstein

Contributions:

Diane and Martin Kanefsky
 Margot Solomon
 Howard Boris
 Susan Buckler

In memory of:

Aghajan Taied
 Shahram Taied
 Milton Posner
 Beverly Sternlieb
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 Shirley Kobliner
 Beth and David Shaw
 Fay Leff
 Beverly Katzenberg

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In honor of:

The birth of their grandson, Raphael Yishai Horwitz
 Rena and Jonathan Horwitz

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In honor of:

Irene and Fred Einstein's 50th wedding anniversary
 Myrna and Max Spinrad
 Allan Fried's 80th birthday
 Esther and Bob Greenberg

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 The Oppenheimer family
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 Elissa and Joel Schiff
 Rose Unger
 Joseph Unger
 Paula Gershenson
 Suzette Gray

DAILY MINYAN FUND

In honor of:

The engagement of Stefanie Lopatkin, daughter of Susan and Robert Lopatkin, to Mark Garibyan
 The engagement of Jonathan Sazer, son of Lois and Gary Sazer, to Yearit Izhak Alise Kreditor and Jeffrey Englander and family

In memory of:

Alexander Sheffy
 Alise Kreditor, Jeffrey Englander and family

For the recovery of:

Steve Smolinsky
 Alise Kreditor and Jeffrey Englander and family
 Edward Goldfeder
 Toby Katz

SAMUEL BARON MUSIC FUND

In memory of:

Effie Apelast Weinberg
 Manijeh and Jack Moallem
 Zissa Kreditor
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In memory of:

Helen Altman
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 Renee A. Fleischer

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Daniel Mishkin
 Jason Sender
 Jordan Shavolian
 Abigail Friedman becoming a Bat Mitzvah
 Mickey and Allan Greenblatt

In memory of:

Blanche Moskowitz
 Jean Gelbard
 Parvaneh and Parviz Khodadadian
 Masha Cohen
 Elaine Paris Dunckley and William Dunckley

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In memory of:

Shirley Kobliner
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 Harold Kobliner
 Elayne Debaets
 Rose Goldberg
 Allan Goldberg

YAD B'YAD FUND

In appreciation of:

Rabbi Stecker's support during Walter Leavitt's funeral and shiva
 The Leavitt family

In memory of:

Ethel Hecht
 Gilda Hecht
 Walter Leavitt
 Sara and Greg Angrist
 Helen and Eric Beroff
 Marci Schleifer Briskin
 Gloria and Stuart DeLott
 Ida Bobrow
 Pearl Hammer Hymes

PRAYER BOOK FUND

In honor of:

Stanley Lavin's 90th birthday
 Maxine Vogel

In memory of:

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 Jessica Jarolem
 Susan Jarolem
 Ilene LeRea
 Norma Cohen
 Nathan Cohen
 Ellyn Sheidlower
 Jack Choit
 Harvey Choit

LIBRARY FUND

In honor of:

The marriage of Ian Yarett, grandson of Eva Yarett, to Minna Trang
 Adele and Sheldon Lobel
 Toby Katz

In memory of:

Sandra Brenner
 Rhoda Michaels
 Mickey and Allan Greenblatt
 Samuel Sandrowitz
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In memory of:

Arthur Amster
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In memory of:

Ralph Kanders
 Emile Somekh
 The Kanders family
 Evelyne Somekh

From Generation to Generation

Temple Israel Gratefully Acknowledges The Following Contributions

ISRAEL SOLIDARITY FUND

In honor of:

The Celebrate Israel Parade
Sassan and Rebecca
Sassouni

In memory of:

Alexander Sheffy
Cheryl Eisberg Moin
and Seth Moin

Contribution:

Patty Schneider

CANTOR FRIEDER'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

In appreciation of:

Cantor Frieder officiating at
the wedding of their daughter,
Shari, and Jake Goodstein
Wendy Fried Oginski and
Gerald Oginski

Cantor Frieder's assistance
in preparing their son, Sam, for
his Bar Mitzvah
The Lurvey family

For the recovery of:

Juliet Freudman
Steve Smolinsky
Lois and Gary Sazer

Contribution:

Howard Boris

RABBI SCHWEBER'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

In appreciation of:

Rabbi Schweber's help in
preparing their son, Adam, for
his Bar Mitzvah
Nina and Paul Wright and
family

In honor of:

Sam Lurvey's Bar Mitzvah
The Lurvey family

In memory of:

Shirley Kobliner
Beth Kobliner Shaw and
David Shaw
Lillian Brucker
Mitchell Brucker
Karen Covitt

TEMPLE ISRAEL FUND

In appreciation of:

The nominating committee
nominating him to the Board
of Trustees
Jeffrey Fleit

In honor of:

Irene and Fred Einstein's 50th
wedding anniversary
Nancy and Sidney
Freedman
The birth of their grandson,
Landon Rhys Nejat
Alieh and Iraj Nejat
Manny Alani
Anonymous

Contributions:

Annette Nager
Muriel Hyman
Howard Boris

In memory of:

Ralph Penberg
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Julius Dember
Seymour Dember
Rena Safir
Vicky Mouallem
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ANNE AND MILTON SNITKOFF EDUCATION FUND

In honor of:

Mickey Greenblatt's
dedication to Queens College
Beverly Sternlieb

KIDDUSH FUND

In memory of:

Jurga Kulsyte
The Berookhim family

Support Temple Israel Funds!

Temple Israel welcomes your support of a wide variety of funds which enhance congregational activities. Contributions can be made by contacting the Temple Israel office. Here are some of the funds:

- **Israel Solidarity Fund:** Supports various Israeli causes identified by the Israel Affairs Committee.
- **Museum Fund:** Used for the acquisition of new items and upkeep of the Temple Israel Museum.
- **Religious School Fund:** Used to provide additional funding for equipment, technology and special programming.
- **Scholarship Funds:** Donations provide financial aid to Religious School and Waxman High School and Youth House students unable to afford the full cost of tuition. Contributions can be earmarked for a specific school.
- **Shalom Club Library Fund:** Used to expand the Temple Israel collection of literature about the Jewish world and/or publications written by Jewish authors.

Shoah Committee Is Planning Opening Breakfast September 10

Temple Israel's Shoah Remembrance Committee invites committee members, prospective members and friends of the congregation's Holocaust survivors to an opening breakfast on Sunday, September 10, at 10 A.M.

For further information about the program and for complimentary rides to the breakfast, contact Committee Chair Lori Oppenheimer at shoahcommitteeign@gmail.com or 448-2084. To make reservations for the breakfast, which are required by September 6, contact Jennifer at 482-7800 or jmarks@tign.org. The cost of the breakfast is \$10 per person.

Daily Minyan Times

Friday

7:00 A.M. 6:30 P.M.

Sunday

8:15 A.M. 8:00 P.M.

Monday

6:45 A.M. 8:00 P.M.

Tuesdays, Aug. 8 & 15

7:00 A.M. 8:00 P.M.

Tues., Aug. 22 & Wed., Aug. 23 (Rosh Hodesh Elul)

6:45 A.M. 8:00 P.M.

Wednesday, Aug. 9 & 16

7:00 A.M. 8:00 P.M.

Thursday

6:45 A.M. 8:00 P.M.

Dinner Dance Planning

—Continued from page 2

in that its purpose is to honor the congregation. In setting the goals for the committee, we feel that while it is important to ensure the attainment of the financial target, it is equally important to attain a 100 percent participation rate due to the special nature of the program. Every member should feel a personal connection to this event.

Planning and executing a Journal Dinner Dance is a huge undertaking and requires many volunteers. Anyone in the congregation is welcome to participate. Feel free to call or text us at 516-456-9865 if you would like to participate.

MEN'S CLUB TRIP



SUNDAY, OCTOBER 29

8:30 AM - 6:00 PM

All men and women are welcome.

Cost: \$180/person

(includes round trip bus from Temple Israel, tailgate BBQ, upper level and zone tickets to the game)

Questions?

Contact Rabbi Schweber at RabbiSchweber@tign.org

To RSVP and make payment, contact Jodi

at 516-482-7800 ext. 1105 or jengel@tign.org

Make checks payable to Temple Israel of Great Neck

HEBREW CLUB

NEW FOR CHILDREN IN GRADES K-6!

Learn Hebrew slang, everyday spoken

Hebrew through games, song & art

- 3 six-week sessions taught by a dynamic, experienced Hebrew teacher
- Cost: \$108 per six-week session

• Meets on Wednesday afternoons (starting in Nov.) from 4:30 - 5:30 P.M.

For more information contact: Rabbi Amy Roth rabbiroth@tign.org or Karel

Tanenbaum in the Religious School Office ktanenbaum@tign.org

Open to the community - membership at Temple Israel not necessary

Men's Club Is Recognized For Programs, Minyan App

—Continued from front page

minyan and another for the evening. To join either group contact Mr. Greenspan at greb46@optonline.net. The app was well received at the convention when demonstrated by the Men's Club members.

"I am pleased by the recognition the app is receiving," Mr. Greenspan said. He called the app "out of the box thinking that seems to work fairly well."

Congregation Thanks Kiddush Sponsors

Appreciation is expressed by the Temple officers and Board of Trustees to members who have generously sponsored and enhanced the Sabbath kiddush.

A contribution towards the kiddush on June 24 was made by Yas and Arman Rokhsar in honor of the Bar Mitzvah of their son, Ryan. A contribution towards the kiddush on July 8 was made by the Berookhim family in memory of Jurga Kulsyte.

D'var Torah

—Continued from back page

for their observance. This section includes one of the most famous passages of the Torah: "Shema Yisrael, Adonai elohenu Adonai ehad."

Ekev

Saturday, August 12

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

Re'eh

Saturday, August 19

In this portion, we conclude the section of Moses' second discourse in which he sets forth the religious foundations of the covenant at Sinai. He lays before the Israelites two possibilities: obedience to God, which would bring blessing, or disobedience, which would bring a curse. The choice is theirs to make, but it is clear that in order to possess the land

they must choose to follow God's laws. The next section of the discourse comprises a detailed listing of the laws that are to govern the lives of the Israelites in the Promised Land. The first area dealt with its religious institutions and worship, including, among other things, directions for the establishment of a central sanctuary, rules for maintaining distinctiveness in worship, warnings against the heathen rites and religious seducers, and regulations concerning permitted and forbidden foods, tithes and the year of the release. The portion ends with laws detailing the observance of Pesach, Shavuot and Sukkot, indicating that time also is to be sanctified.

Shofetim

Saturday, August 26

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

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D'var Torah

by Rabbi Marim D. Charry

Va'ethannan Saturday, August 5

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

—Continued on page 11

Temple Israel of Great Neck

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Sabbath Services

Friday, August 4

Evening Service 6:30 P.M.

Saturday, August 5

Shabbat Nahamu

Preparatory Prayers 8:45 A.M.

Shaharit Morning Service 9:00 A.M.

First Mourner's Kaddish 9:25 A.M.

Weekly Portion: Va'ethannan

Deuteronomy 3:23 – 7:11

Haftarah: Isaiah 40:1 – 26

Junior Congregation 10:30 A.M.

Toddler Service 11:00 A.M.

Afternoon Service 7:30 P.M.

Evening Service 8:34 P.M.

Havdalah 8:49 P.M.

Friday, August 11

Evening Service 6:30 P.M.

Saturday, August 12

Preparatory Prayers 8:45 A.M.

Shaharit Morning Service 9:00 A.M.

First Mourner's Kaddish 9:25 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 11:00 A.M.

Afternoon Service 7:20 P.M.

Evening Service 8:25 P.M.

Havdalah 8:40 P.M.

Friday, August 18

Evening Service 6:30 P.M.

Saturday, August 19

Preparatory Prayers 8:45 A.M.

Shaharit Morning Service/Shabbat

Morning Group Aliyah 9:00 A.M.

First Mourner's Kaddish 9:25 A.M.

Weekly Portion: Re'eh

Deuteronomy 11:26 – 16:17

Haftarah: Isaiah 54:11 - 55:5

Junior Congregation 10:30 A.M.

Toddler Service 11:00 A.M.

Afternoon Service 7:10 P.M.

Evening Service 8:15 P.M.

Havdalah 8:30 P.M.

Friday, August 25

N'Ranenah/Evening Service 6:30 P.M.

Saturday, August 26

Preparatory Prayers 8:45 A.M.

Shaharit Morning Service 9:00 A.M.

First Mourner's Kaddish 9:25 A.M.

Weekly Portion: Shofetim

Deuteronomy 16:18 – 21:9

Haftarah: Isaiah 51:12 – 52:12

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Bat Mitzvah: Natalie Aminzadeh,

daughter of Sherly and David Aminzadeh

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 7:00 P.M.

Se'udah Shelishit 7:30 P.M.

Evening Service 8:05 P.M.

Havdalah 8:20 P.M.