



Temple Israel Players Presenting New Musical



The Temple Israel Players in rehearsal.

Photo by Dr. Robert Lopatkin

Jews have traditionally played major roles in the world of music, and the Temple Israel Players newest production—"Jewsical the Musical"—will highlight some of those remarkable music makers.

The show, to be staged on Saturday evening, April 28, and Sunday afternoon, April 29, in the Crystal Ballroom, will feature music composed, performed or produced by Jews.

"The Temple Israel Players production of 'Jewsical the Musical' is a dynamic review which will not only entertain each and every ticket holder, but in the process they will be engaged in a short doctorate about the Jewish impact on the American musical scene of the 20th century and its inspiring impact today," said one of the show's producers, Eileen Putterman.

"The recognition of how much Jews have contributed to the stage and screen, and as recording artists, musicians, and producers, will all be presented in our production," she said. "The music evolved from our history, the enormous impact of the different cultures we came from, what we dreamed, and what we have created together in America. There are, in

fact, thousands of Jews involved in the music world. With so many famous names to choose from, the decision had to be a little bit of this and a little bit of that. With this show, we are aware that you will at times hum, at times sing and at times get up and sing out loud! I

can just see you nudge your partner and say 'I didn't know she was Jewish, or 'I didn't know that song was written by a Jew,' or 'I didn't know a Jew made that artist famous.'"

The production will feature rock, folk, popular and Hebrew music, as well as several Broadway show tunes of today and yesterday. A cast of more than 40 congregants will perform in the show, with many more involved in scenery design, script writing, playbill preparation and as members of the stage crew.

The show's producers are Eileen Putterman, Lois Sazer, Carol Smolinsky and Bar-bara Spun, in conjunction with Abe Kanfer, Ron Klempner and Bob Lopatkin, with additional support from Mark Putter and Howard Spun. Returning as the stage director is Dr. Linda Burson, along with Music Director Richard Bock.

The Temple Israel Players include Rabbi Seth Adelson; Robert Aizer and his son, Noah; Mark Cwern; Danny Frankel; Cantor Raphael Frieder; Lori Freudman; Marylin Goldberg; Stan Goldfarb; Anne Hirsh; Sherry Husney; Kim and Jon Kaiman;

—Continued on page 5

Temple Israel Planning Service And Dinner for College Grads

College grads and their friends will have an opportunity to meet over good food and wine when Temple Israel holds its first *Kabbalat Shabbat* service and dinner for 22 to 30-year olds on Friday evening, February 10, at 7:30 P.M.

This is an opportunity for post-college grads to meet up with old friends and make new ones," said Cheryl Eisberg Moin, who said the idea for the service was the result of a conversation she had with a number of congregants. They brought the idea to Temple Israel President Alan Klinger and the Executive Committee, who enthusiastically endorsed the event.

Director of Youth Engagement Danny Mishkin is helping a number of participants plan the service and dinner, which is completely free. "It will be very informal," he said. "This is an age group which is exploring its identity and it is a perfect time to reach out to them."

For further details about the event, contact Mr. Mishkin at <dmishkin@tign.org>. For reservations call Susan at 482-7800 or <smundhenk@tign.org>.

Men's Club: Service, Fun, Tikkun Olam Holding Out Hope

By Gary Sazer and Seth Moin

By Alan Klinger

Editor's Note: Men's Club Co-Presidents Gary Sazer and Seth Moin are out to encourage every member of the congregation to join and participate in Men's Club activities, as described in this Voice Guest column.

The Men's Club is a multigenerational synagogue arm meeting regularly, providing a variety of services to Temple Israel and enjoying every minute we spend together! Our regular meetings are typically the fourth Thursday of each month. We

*The most important
part of the Men's Club
is its membership.*

generally have a light dinner, a *D'var Torah*, a short business meeting and an interesting speaker or discussion on topics ranging from men's health to our financial health or the status of important issues, led by guest speakers or knowledgeable members (like Ron Klempner's analysis of the now settled

NBA strike), often followed by a friendly card game.

We have a number of programs that have become important elements of synagogue life. We have a congregational breakfast and speaker every fall. We organize the annual World Wide Wrap to teach our young people to wrap *tefillin* and join with Jews worldwide in putting on *tefillin* this one day each year as a sign of commitment to Judaism. We sponsor the Rabbinic Dialogue, along with Temple Beth-El and Great Neck Synagogue. With the much needed assistance of Cantor Frieder, we sponsor a Men's Club *Shabbat*, this year being held on March 23rd. At our *Shabbat*, the Men's Club actually runs the entire Friday evening service followed by a sumptuous dinner. Right before Passover, we have a Scotch 'n Seder program with Rabbi Stecker,

—Continued on page 5

FROM THE RABBI

Born Again and Again

By Rabbi Howard Stecker

Many of us remember the first academic paper we got back from a college professor. Accustomed to a more glowing reaction from our high school teachers, we may well have sadly surveyed a sea of corrections and a grade that we didn't rush to share with our parents.

There are times in our lives when we need to "kick it up a notch." Personally and professionally, we are challenged today in ways that defy yesterday's solutions. It sometimes feels like we're in a giant video game. The moment we think we've mastered one level, we find ourselves adrift in the next.

The Torah's description of the Exodus from Egypt is replete with birth and birthing. The midwives defy Pharaoh's orders and save the male children whom they deliver. The Hebrew word for Egypt, *mitzrayim*, implies a narrow place. The Israelites' departure from Egypt through the Sea of Reeds depicts the birth of a nation.

I don't think that birthing is a one-time event. Various life changes require us to reinvent ourselves. When young children reach physical maturity, when high school students get a rude awakening in college, when a per-

son experiences a change in personal status, when one's work environment changes drastically, it can call for a kind of reinvention.

Reinvention often means finding a path to move forward when initially it appeared that no such path existed. The individual who suffers the loss of a longtime mate discovers that life without the mate is possible, if painful. The family that faces a tumultuous transition realizes they can,

*Birth is hard
but also
hard wired...*

and will, adjust to a new reality. The 60-year old body is different than its 30-year old version, but the differences can often be managed with a combination of self-care and good humor.

We left Egypt. We crossed the Sea. We faced new adventures as individuals and as a people. Birth is hard but also hard wired into the human experience and it happens

—Continued on page 7

This can be a depressing time of the year, when many depart for work and arrive home in the dark (speaking literally here). While I'm sure there is some psychological explanation for why the shortage of daylight so affects us, events of this season have produced their own sobering aspects.

I remember distinctly one of Rabbi Waxman's High Holiday sermons in which he observed that, after decades of Jews suffering from prejudice, the United States had seen a great decline in anti-Semitism. While celebrating that progress, he expressed concern that the ties that bound Jews together in defense against vitriol would vanish. Rabbi Waxman posited that the Jewish community would need to find some other unifying theme to bridge the differences between the

*...tougher economic
times tend to trigger
hateful conduct.*

branches of Judaism. Rabbi Waxman's feeling about the potential for disharmony within *Klal Yisrael* has proven prescient. Unfortunately, the demise of anti-Semitism, even in the New York metropolitan area—home to so many Jews and long-established Jewish entities—seems to have proved short-lived.

We have recently witnessed increasing reports of swastikas being painted on synagogues, homes and cars (with one incident right here at the Babylonian Jewish Center on Great Neck Road), along with the fire-bombing of synagogues in northern New Jersey communities. Many had thought we were beyond this, but, as we've seen in the past, tougher economic times tend to trigger hateful conduct. Susan and I recently heard Abe Foxman, national director of the Anti-Defamation League, speak about the current state of Jewish affairs in the United States. He reported an increase in anti-Semitic occurrences in the United States, the first increase in years. This is indeed sobering and points to the need for the continued teaching of tolerance (as promoted, for example, by the activities of the Nassau County Holocaust and Tolerance Center). But, to return to Rabbi Waxman's concern, it also highlights the need for Jews of all denominations to band together in pursuit of common interests and goals.

There are real differences among Jews in beliefs and practice, but some seem to

—Continued on page 7

IN MEMORIAM

Temple Israel extends condolences
to the families of:

OSCAR ALBERT

father of Dr. David Albert

MARCIA WEISS

wife of Leonard J. Weiss,
mother of Freddi Kadden
and Jonathan Weiss
and esteemed member of Temple Israel

FRANK SESKIN

brother of Dr. Leonard Seskin

FRIEDA LONDON

mother of Stephen London

May their memories be for a blessing.

DAILY MINYAN TIMES

Mon. & Thur.	6:45 A.M.	8:00 P.M.
Tues. & Wed.	7:00 A.M.	8:00 P.M.
Friday	7:00 A.M.	5:00 P.M.
Saturday, Jan. 28	8:45 A.M.	4:25 P.M.
Saturday, Feb. 4	8:45 A.M.	4:35 P.M.
Sunday	8:15 A.M.	8:00 P.M.

CANDLE LIGHTING TIMES

Friday, January 27.....	4:47 P.M.
Friday, February 3.....	4:56 P.M.

MAZAL TOV TO . . .

- **Maxine and Terry Bernstein** on the *Bar Mitzvah* of their grandson, Michael McCabe.
- **Elaine Paris Dunckley and William Dunckley** on the engagement of his son, Matthew Dunckley to Hillary Cowan.
- **Alexander Smith**, son of Susan and Dr. Arden Smith, received his Juris Doctor and Master of Laws in Taxation, Summa Cum Laude, from the University of Miami School of Law. Alex was Articles and Comments Editor of "Law Review." He will be clerking for the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Florida.

UPCOMING EVENTS AT TEMPLE ISRAEL

Jan.	29	Presentation and Discussion of the film "Glass House"	11:30 A.M.
Feb.	2	Beth HaGan Science Fair	5:00 P.M.
	3	Congregational Tu B'Shevat <i>Seder</i>	7:30 P.M.
	4	<i>Shabbat Shirah</i>	
	5	Men's Club World-Wide Wrap	9:00 A.M.
	7	Sisterhood Lunch and Read Club	Noon
	8	Tu B'Shevat	
	8	New York Metro Region Meeting of the Federation of Jewish Men's Clubs at Temple Israel	7:00 P.M.
	10	<i>Kabbalat Shabbat</i> Service and Dinner for College Grads	7:30 P.M.
	16	Board of Trustees Meeting	8:15 P.M.
	23	Men's Club Meeting	7:30 P.M.
	27	Sisterhood Board Meeting	10:00 A.M.
March	1	Beth HaGan Book Fair	
	2	Shabbat Across America	
	3	Comedy Night	
	6	Sisterhood Preparation of <i>Shalach Manot</i>	
	8	Purim	
	10	Midnight Run	7:30 P.M.
	11	Men's Club Blood Drive	8:15 A.M.
	11	Men's Club's Annual Rabbinic Dialogue	9:15 A.M.

SHABBAT MORNING TEFILLOT: THE WHYS AND WHEREFORES

*Join Rabbi Adelson on the first Shabbat
of each month to learn, discuss and daven*

No matter how familiar you are with Jewish prayer,
you might still wonder about the meaning,
context and personal relevance of tefillah.

Seasoned and novice daveners are welcome.

Siddur Or Hadash will be used

which is the regular Siddur Sim Shalom with commentary

Shabbat Mornings:

February 4, March 3, April 7

May 5 and June 2

10:30 A.M. • Blue Room

IN QUOTES

EDITOR'S NOTE: "In Quotes" calls attention to passages from Jewish prayers and writings frequently overlooked or said by rote, but profoundly written. This issue's quote is from second century Rabbi Meir ben Isaac Nehorat. It was submitted by Past President George Abrahams. What's your favorite quote? Send it to the Temple Israel office, c/o The Voice.

““ *Could we with ink the ocean fill, were every blade of grass a quill,
Were the world of parchment made, and every man a scribe by trade,
To write the love of God above would drain that ocean dry;
Nor would the scroll contain the whole,
Though stretched from sky to sky!* ””

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

FROM THE RELIGIOUS SCHOOL

Religious School Classes Are Busy

By Rabbi Tracy G. Klirs



Jonathan Farkas

Jonathan Farkas will be called to the Torah as a *Bar Mitzvah* on February 4. He is the son of Andrea and Jeffrey Farkas and has a brother, Steven, 16, and a sister, Carly, 18. Jonathan is a seventh grade student at Great Neck South Middle School. He enjoys baseball, basketball, soccer, tennis and snowboarding. Jonathan is a member of the soccer and basketball travel teams. He is currently attending the Waxman High School. Jonathan has visited Israel with his family and looks forward to returning soon.



Jared Schwartz

Jared Schwartz will be celebrating his *Bar Mitzvah* on February 11. He is the son of Jutta and Paul Schwartz and has a sister, Elena, 15. Jared is a seventh grade honor student at Great Neck North Middle School. He is on his school and travel soccer and basketball teams. Jared is a member of two baseball leagues. He also plays the saxophone in the school band. Jared will be attending the Waxman High School and plans on visiting Israel with his family in the near future.

Gimmel Students Overflow the Bimah!

On *Shabbat* morning, January 7, the Religious School Gimmel (3rd grade) students and their families crammed into the Chapel for Junior Congregation. It was the Gimmel students' turn to lead the Junior Congregation service and to make an appearance on the *bimah* in the Sanctuary. This is our largest grade, with four classes, and the Chapel quickly filled up, with standing room only. The Gimmel students had been exceptionally well prepared by their teachers, and demonstrated their proficiency in all of the *t'fillot*. At the end of the main congregational service, over 30 Gimmel students tramped into the Sanctuary and onto the *bimah*—taking up every inch of space - where they enthusiastically led the congregation in "*Ein Keloheinu*," "*Aleinu*" and "*Adon Olam*," to the delight of their parents and the entire congregation. The next grade to be featured in Junior Congregation and on the *bimah* will be the Bet (2nd grade) classes, on February 4. Come join us to get your daily dose of *nachas*!

Third Game-A-Palooza a Big Success

Last January we launched our first *Shabbat* Game-A-Palooza, the brainchild of Rebecca Sassouni. Dozens of kids and adults gathered at the Youth House on the Martin Luther King weekend for a fun afternoon of games, snacks, socializing and *havdalah*. It was so well received that we decided to try it twice more this school year. We held the second one in early December and the third one on January 14, again on the MLK weekend. The event included a variety of board games, healthy snacks and a very imaginative interactive family program created and led by Rabbi Adelson, in which families were invited to imagine the ideal *Shabbat*. At the end of the event, Rabbi Adelson led everyone in a spirited *Havdalah* service. *Todah rabbah* to Rebecca Sassouni for coordinating and overseeing the entire program, including procuring the delicious snacks.

Shabbat Ha-Mishpachah

Shabbat Ha-Mishpachah meets once a month, alternating between Friday evenings, *Shabbat* mornings and *Shabbat* afternoons. Each time we meet we enjoy a lively, age-appropriate, participatory service, fun, educational activities for kids and engaging learning for parents. On Friday nights we join together for a traditional *Shabbat* dinner, and on *Shabbat* afternoons we share in a *S'udah Sh'lishet* (third meal) before concluding with *Havdalah*. Our curriculum

writer, Rahel Musleah, designs unique, dynamic programs for each of three different age cohorts every time we meet. Program coordinator Jennifer Khoda keeps the machinery well-oiled to make sure everything runs as smoothly as possible; and Jennifer, along with our rabbis (and sometimes Cantor Frieder), Michael Sloyer, Donna Lefkowitz and myself, are on board to lead the services and implement the program. The most recent program took place *Shabbat* afternoon, January 21. Our next one will be *Shabbat* morning, February 11, from 10:15 A.M.-12:15 P.M. in the Youth House. Everyone is always welcome, whether or not you have school-aged children. We hope you'll be able to join us at a future *Shabbat* Ha-Mishpachah!

Hay Tallit Project

Each year our Hay (5th grade) students design and make their own beautiful *tallitot*, under the guidance of art teacher Lisa Weinblatt. Parents are invited to join their children at an initial workshop in December in which I teach them about the biblical basis for the *tallit* and its significance, and then they are instructed on how to design and decorate their *tallitot*. Parents then attend a second workshop where they and their Hay children learn about the symbolism of the *tzitzit* and how to tie their own *tzitzit* to complete the *tallit*. The *tzitzit*-tying workshop was held on Sunday, January 22. The final products are very impressive. The Hay students should be very proud of their accomplishments, and we encourage them to wear their colorful creations during *t'fillah* in school and on *Shabbat*.

Time for Tefillin

In conjunction with the World Wide Wrap, which is scheduled for Sunday, February 5, the Youth House and Religious School run parallel programs to teach the origin and significance of *tefillin* to our Vav (6th grade) and Zayin (7th grade) students and to teach and review how to put on *tefillin*. On Tuesday, February 2, together with other volunteers, I will help the Zayin students put on *tefillin* during their class time at the Youth House. On Sunday, February 5, immediately following the World Wide Wrap, we will teach our Sunday/Tuesday Vav students how to put on *tefillin*, and on Monday, February 6, we'll teach the Monday/Wednesday Vav class. I am in need of volunteers who lay *tefillin* and can help teach, those who wrap Ashkenazi style, those who wrap Sephardi style, both right and left-handed. Please let me know right away

—Continued on page 7

Celebrating Tu B'Shevat

Where There's a Will: A Tu B'Shevat Wish

By Rabbi Seth Adelson

You might be aware of a problem in *halakhah* or Jewish law, related to marriage—that a woman cannot initiate divorce. The difficulty arises when a man is unable or refuses to grant a divorce to his wife, and as such there are a couple hundred women in North America (according to a recent survey by the Jewish Coalition Against Domestic Abuse) that are called “*agunot*,” literally, chained women. They are unable to divorce and therefore forbidden from marrying others, and are likely stuck without financial support as well.

The problem has been addressed successfully by the Conservative movement with a couple of different solutions; perhaps the best known is the “Lieberman Clause” that appears in *ketubot* used by our rabbis. Modern Orthodoxy, too, has effective ways of resolving the *agunah* problem; for much of the Jewish world, 20th-century outcry by those affected led to rabbinic solutions. As Blu Greenberg famously put it, “Where there’s a rabbinic will, there’s a *halakhic* way.”

If only that were the case with climate change. I recently saw two sets of relevant statistics. The first was that 2011 was the 11th-warmest year on record, with an average worldwide temperature of 57.9 degrees Fahrenheit. Now that does not sound so terrible, it’s true, except that this temperature is almost a full degree over the average of the 20th century, and marks the 35th year in a row that worldwide temperatures have been above average.

The second statistic was poll data that showed that while in 2001, 75 percent of Americans believed that human production of greenhouse gases contributes to global warming, only 44 percent do so today.

Regarding the second statistic, one might say, “So what?” If fewer people believed that the Earth is an oblate spheroid, would it become flat? But the difficulty is that it is ultimately public outcry that will move the hands of politicians to find solutions. If we do not care, nothing will change; the solution required is too great to be led by individual efforts, and there is probably only a narrow window of a few years before irreparable damage is done to our environment.

The Mishnah (Rosh Hashanah 1:1) tells us that Tu B'Shevat, the 15th day of the month of Shevat (which coincides this year with February 8), is the New Year for the trees. In recent times, Tu B'Shevat has become a day to remember our planet and our obligations to it.

If I had a Tu B'Shevat wish, it would be that we remember not just the trees, but the soil in which they are planted, the rain and sun that nourish them, and the air that we all share. Public interest may be on the wane, but as the mercury continues to rise and global weather disasters unfold at even greater rates, now is the time to act.

Temple Players Presenting Musical

—Continued from front page

Abe Kanfer; Andrea Katz; Past President Richard Kestenbaum and his son, Matt; Jennifer Khoda; and Ron Klempner.

Also, Kenneth M. Leff; Gary Noren; Ofra Panzer; Mark Putter; Eileen and Mickey Putterman; Mimi Rosenberg; Rusti and Al Rothstein; Lois and Gary Sazer; Carol and Steve Smolinsky; Barbara and Howard Spun; Rabbi Howard Stecker; Maxine Vogel; Deborah Volk and her daughter, Amanda; and Lois Plitt Warren.

The cast will be rehearsing several times a week leading up to the show, and every night of the week during the final week of rehearsal. “The cast is like an evolving family, we share so much together,” Mrs. Putterman said. “We range in age from 8 to 86 and have enjoyed a remarkable relationship with humor and love in abundance. Everyone in the cast and crew will tell you that the pay is not terrific, but the nachas is overwhelming.”

The Temple Israel Players have staged more than 25 productions for the congregation during the past 40 years.

Temple Israel Presents A Celebration of Shabbat Shirah and Tu B' Shevat, The New Year for the Trees

Friday Evening, February 3

A musically enhanced N'Ranenah Service
begins at 6:30 P.M.

followed by a Tu B'Shevat *Seder**
and a traditional *Shabbat* Dinner

Cost for dinner provided by Lederman Caterers:
\$27 for Adults; \$16 for Children 12 & under
(Children 2 & under are free)

RSVP is a MUST by Wednesday, February 1
Call Marion at 482-7800 ext. 1106

Saturday Morning, February 4

8:45 A.M. in the Sanctuary

Celebration of *Shabbat Shirah*

“The *Shabbat* of Songs”

Cantor Raphael Frieder will be joined by a quartet
of Jewish Theological Seminary cantorial students

*In keeping with Tu B'Shevat tradition, certain tree nuts will be served.

Men's Club: Service, Fun, Tikkun Olam

—Continued from page 2

and every so often we have a wine tasting. And, we have an annual Texas Hold'em Tournament.

The Men's Club also sponsors two annual blood drives. We send the congregation Yom HaShoah candles and help the Hatzilu Rescue Organization raise much needed community support. We coordinate the 9-11 Memorial Service. We label the seating and set out and collect the Kol Nidre Appeal Cards for the High Holy Days. We sponsor the congregational Break-Fast after Yom Kippur and a congregational Passover *Seder*. The Men's Club provides most of the ushers and room captains for the High Holy Days and ushers for other major Temple Israel events. Last fall, as a special project, we examined more than 4,000 congregational *tallit* to ensure their kosher status before the High Holy Days.

Recently, the Men's Club co-sponsored a very well attended congregational breakfast to discuss the Jewish influences on the beliefs of Martin Luther King, Jr., featuring an exceptionally knowledgeable African-American rabbi and a choir from his Queens synagogue. We are planning other co-sponsored events with congregational arms and organizations.

The most important part of the Men's Club is its membership. We are men—young and not so young. We are Sephardic and Ashkenazi. We are American, Middle Eastern, European, Eastern European, South African and more. We are strengthened by each and every member, and if you are not already a Men's Club member join us and enjoy with us as we eat, drink, and work hard toward *tikkun olam*. Please check off the dues box when you send in your Temple Israel dues remittance. If you are not on our e-mail list, send your address to Mark Putter at <mputter@qwestinternet.net>.

**ETHEL AND JACK
ACKERMAN FUND**

In memory of:

Walter Silverstein
Stella Forer
Barbara and Jerry
Ackerman

LIBRARY FUND

In memory of:

Jack Rosenbaum
Harriet Rosenbaum
Mary Fischler
Anne Lupkin
Ingrid Epstein Elefant
Manijeh and Dr. Jack
Moallem
Cheryl Eisberg Moin
and Seth Moin
Mansour Sedaghat
Manijeh and Dr. Jack
Moallem
Sylvia Lupkin
Stanley Lupkin
Elaine Weiser
Dr. Edward Henry
Mickey and Allan
Greenblatt

**ESTHER AND SAMUEL
BROCHSTEIN
MEMORIAL FUND**

In honor of:

Lois and Dr. Arnold
Illman's 50th
wedding anniversary
Esther Vickers
Joan and Dr. Leonard
Nevins

In memory of:

Samuel Brochstein
Lois B. Illman

DAILY MINYAN FUND

In appreciation of:

The *tallit* given to him by
attendees of the daily
minyan
Terry Bernstein

In memory of:

Muriel Moin
Parvaneh and Dr.
Parviz Khodadadian
Julius Schneider
Marilyn Schneider

**RUTH AND RABBI
MORDECAI WAXMAN
MEMORIAL FUND**

In memory of:

Ingrid Epstein Elefant
Ernest Vogelmann
Muriel Moin
Laura and Manny
Bardash

From Generation to Generation



Temple Israel Gratefully Acknowledges The Following Contributions

**WAXMAN HIGH SCHOOL
AND YOUTH HOUSE FUND**

In honor of:

The marriage of Benjamin
Werber, son of Bracha and
Marty Werber, to Heather
Kang
Barbara and Howard
Spun
Joshua Kahen becoming a
Bar Mitzvah
Sherry and Samuel
Husney
The birth of Delilah Rose
Alani, granddaughter of
Nancy and Manny Alani
Parvaneh and Dr.
Parviz Khodadadian

In memory of:

Betty Horowitz
Maxine Vogel
Herbert Cooper
Jannette Meyrowitz
Ernest Vogelmann
Ingrid Epstein Elefant
Barbara and Howard
Spun

GEMILUT CHESED FUND

In honor of:

Dr. Robert Panzer
Parvaneh and Dr.
Parviz Khodadadian

For the recovery of:

Parvanah Sarraf
Rebecca and Sassan
Sassouni

USHERS FUND

In memory of:

Herbert I. Sugarman
Libby Weston

**DANA SPECTOR KIMMEL
TORAH
RESTORATION FUND**

In memory of:

Arthur Margulies
Susan and Brian
Smith

**BEN ZION ALTMAN
SENIOR MITSVA FUND**

In honor of:

Her husband, Elliot's 80th
birthday
Renee Fleischer

**RABBI ADELSON'S
DISCRETIONARY FUND**

In appreciation of:

Rabbi Adelson's help in
saying *bircat gomel*
Jeffrey Fleit

Contributions:

Sherry Husney
Nancy Bader and Michael
Leventhal

**SHOAH
REMEMBRANCE FUND**

In appreciation of:

Temple Israel members
and staff for their kindness
and support during her
shiva period for her father,
Ernest Vogelmann
Tina and Sonny Tito

In memory of:

Milton G. Gershenson
Suzette Gray
Ingrid Epstein Elefant
Ruth Adise
Ernest Vogelmann
Joan and David
Mandel
Dina Dadush

KIDDUSH FUND

In honor of:

Dr. Arden Smith chanting
Torah and *haftarah* portion
on the anniversary of his
Bar Mitzvah
Susan and Dr. Arden
Smith
Dr. Parviz Khodadadian
reading *haftarah* on
Shabbat
Parvaneh and Dr. Parviz
Khodadadian

TORAH FUND

In memory of:

Samuel Mirkin
Naomi Schulman

Contributions:

Linda and Leonard
Abrams
Marilyn Bergmann
Vivian and Yuval Brash
Paula and Rabbi Marim D.
Charry
Ellen Cooper
Doris and Norman
Delman
Jack Elefant
Jill and Mitchell Friedman
Mickey and Allan
Greenblatt
Gert Gross
Gilda Hecht
Drs. Rena and Jonathan
Horwitz
Muriel Hyman
Irene Wachter Kahn and
Leslie Kahn
Susan Wagner and Alan
Klinger
Shirley and Dr. Harold
Kobliner
Brenda and Dr. Natie
Kopelowitz
Betty Lager
Donna and Lawrence
Ludwig
Rona and Joseph Lupkin
Cheryl Eisberg Moin and
Seth Moin
Dr. Shirley Nochomovitz
Eileen and Mickey
Putterman
Ana Maria and Malcolm
Salit
Shirley Samansky
Malka Schulman
Beth and Lewis Schwartz
Elise and Marvin Tepper
Mildred Werber
Eva Yarett
Eileen Zarin
Charlotte Zavon
Dr. Ruth Zielenziger

**ADELE ECKSTEIN
MEMORIAL**

LIBRARY FUND

In memory of:

Harry Berman
Hannah Berman

PRAYER BOOK FUND

In memory of:

Murray Gruber
Roberta Russo
Muriel Moin
Jacqueline and Hal
Lamky

From the President: Holding Out Hope

—Continued from page 2

forget the fundamental tenets held in common. Yes, people can disagree on issues of Jewish law, ritual observance and Middle East politics. But we shouldn't lose sight of the need to support one another and jointly fight against the scourge of discrimination. This is not to countenance all behavior. Extreme actions, such as that witnessed in Beit Shemesh, where elements of the fanatic Sicari sect spat on an innocent young girl waking to a yeshiva, should always be condemned. Rabbi Stecker recently spoke about the need to leave the door ajar, so that dialogue can be had with all groups. While I

might not think it worth the time to keep the door open for some, I think Rabbi Stecker is on the mark for how we should interact with the wide range of mainstream groups.

While the acts of anti-Semitism are disheartening, the season hasn't been without its omens of hope. Members of our own congregation have provided sterling examples of concern for their fellow citizens. Our Chesed Committee spent weeks collecting articles of clothing, canned goods and other provisions. Some 30 volunteers sorted clothing, bagged produce and prepared sandwiches for distribution to needy families. Some 80-plus

families benefited from the contributions made by Temple Israel families and others. Our Midnight Run program continues its success. Some 60 people sorted collected clothing, food and toiletries for distribution to the needy. Some 25 of the group went into Manhattan to distribute the articles, with children participating ranging in ages from 9 to the mid-teens. Jeff Weinberger, who oversaw that night's efforts, reported on the warm interaction between the recipients and our children.

Results like these help hold promise for brighter times.

From the Religious School

—Continued from page 4

if you're available to help at any of these times: Tuesday, February 2, 4:30-5:00 P.M. at the Youth House; Tuesday, February 2, 5:40-6:40 P.M. at the Youth House; Sunday, February 5, 10:30-11:30 A.M., in the Multipurpose Room; Monday, February 6, 5:35-6:30 P.M. in the Chapel

JEA goes to Israel

I'm very excited that I'll have the privilege of traveling to Israel in February to participate in the annual professional conference of the Jewish Educators Assembly, the professional organization for educators in the Conservative movement, in which I've been a long-time member and am currently a Board member. This is JEA's 60th year and 60th annual conference. Participants will have the opportunity to meet and learn with key figures in education, politics and culture, visit the newest sites and be exposed to the latest thinking about Israel education. We will be taken behind the scenes at museums and exhibits, visit with Masorti families, explore some of Israel's newest technologies, and take time to engage in *chesed* projects. There will be opportunities to visit innovative schools and educational institutions and to choose from an array of exciting *tiyyulim* (trips) tailored to a variety of interests. Since the conference takes place the week before the February school break, my husband and I are extending our trip for a week in order to visit family and friends. I will be gone from the afternoon of February 12 through the evening of February 27. I look forward to sharing the details of my trip in an upcoming Voice column!

Born Again And Again

—Continued from page 2

again and again. Remarkably, we tend to find the strength and the resources we need to be birthed into the next phase that life throws our way.

As we continue to face our inevitable challenges, I'd like to offer the opening of the Jewish Traveler's Prayer, *T'efillat haDerekh*: "May it be Your will, Eternal One, our God and the God of our ancestors, that You lead us toward peace, emplace our footsteps towards peace, guide us toward peace, and make us reach our desired destination for life, gladness, and peace."

We are the children of Israel. We struggle with God, with others, and with ourselves. And somehow we prevail.

Honoring Memories. Celebrating Lives.

Riverside-Nassau North Chapel

- Funerals • Advance Funeral Planning
- Monuments & Inscription Services

www.riversidenassauorthchapels.com

516.487.9600

55 North Station Plaza, Great Neck

*Photographer Available
for
Events, Parties,
Bar and Bat Mitzvah
or Family Portraits*

*Please call Kitty
at 646-823-3401*

**PLACE
YOUR
AD
HERE!**

**Call 482-7800
for further
information
and
rates.**

Shastone Memorials

~ MORE THAN A CENTURY OF SERVICE ~

MEMORIALS OF DISTINCTION ERECTED AT ALL CEMETERIES

112 Northern Boulevard • Great Neck, New York 11021

516-487-4600 • 1-877-677-6736 (Toll free outside NY)

www.ShastoneMemorials.com

Marvin Rosen - Laurel S. Rosen - Russell J. Rosen

CUSTOM DESIGN and SHOP AT HOME SERVICES

MONUMENTS - FOOTSTONES - PLAQUES - MAUSOLEUMS - CLEANING - REPAIRS

TEMPLE ISRAEL VOICE

Marc Katz, Editor

Associate Editors:

Rabbi Marim D. Charry, Paula Charry, Angela Jones, Ronnie Katz

Photographers: Kitty Dadi, Dr. Robert Lopatkin, Milton Putterman

Advertising Representative: Lottie Blye

TEMPLE ISRAEL OF GREAT NECK

108 Old Mill Road, Great Neck, NY 11023

Phone: 516-482-7800 • Fax: 516-482-7352 • E-Mail: info@tign.org

Web: www.TIGN.org

Published bi-weekly by Temple Israel of Great Neck, New York, from mid-August to mid-June. Periodicals postage paid at Great Neck, NY. Postmaster: Send address changes to Temple Israel Voice at address above. Publication No. USPS 078-740. Subscription \$5.00 per annum.

TEMPLE ISRAEL STAFF

Howard A. Stecker.....Senior Rabbi
Raphael Frieder.....Cantor
Seth Adelson.....Associate Rabbi
Mordecai Waxman*.....Rabbi Emeritus
Leon Silverberg.....Executive Director
Rachel Mathless.....Director, Beth HaGan
Rabbi Tracy Guren Klirs.....Director, Religious School
Daniel Mishkin.....Director, Waxman High School

OFFICERS

Alan M. Klinger.....President
Seth Horowitz.....Vice President
Dr. Parviz Khodadadian.....Vice President
Dr. Robert Lopatkin.....Vice President
Dr. Robert Panzer.....Vice President
Rebecca Yousefzadeh Sassouni.....Vice President
Gary Sazer.....Vice President
Steven Shepsman.....Vice President
Irving H. Lurie*.....Honorary President
*Deceased

AFFILIATED WITH

THE UNITED SYNAGOGUE OF CONSERVATIVE JUDAISM

TEMPLE
ISRAEL
OF
GREAT
NECK



VOICE

108 OLD MILL ROAD, GREAT NECK, NY 11023

Periodicals
Postage Paid
at Great Neck, NY

D'VAR TORAH

By Rabbi Marim D. Charry

Bo Saturday, January 28

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 interrupted 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 door posts 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.

Beshalah Saturday, February 4

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.

SABBATH SERVICES

Friday, January 27

Evening Service 5:00 P.M.

Saturday, January 28

Morning Service 8:45 A.M.

Weekly Portion: Bo

Exodus 10:1 – 13:16

Haftarah: Jeremiah 46:13 – 28

Sabbath Service Officers: Ron Klempner and Bracha Werber

Havurah Service 10:00 A.M.

Junior Congregation 10:30 A.M.

Machon Alone Family Service 10:30 A.M.

Toddler Service 11:15 A.M.

Minhah and Ma'ariv 4:25 P.M.

Havdalah 5:51 P.M.

Friday, February 3

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

Followed by Shabbat dinner and a Tu B'Shevat Seder

Saturday, February 4 - Shabbat Shirah

Morning Service 8:45 A.M.

Weekly Portion: Beshalah

Exodus 13:17 – 17:16

Haftarah: Judges 4:4 – 5:31

Bar Mitzvah

JONATHAN FARKAS

son of Andrea and Jeffrey Farkas

Sabbath Service Officers: Robert Kahen and Marc Langsner

"Shabbat Morning Tefillot: The Whys and Wherefores" 10:30 A.M.

Junior Congregation 10:30 A.M.

Toddler Service 11:15 A.M.

Minhah and Ma'ariv 4:35 P.M.

Havdalah 5:59 P.M.