

## Temple Israel Players Sailing Through Broadway With Original Musical Revue



An original musical revue—"Broadway Sail Away"—will be the latest stage production of the Temple Israel Players, the congregation's theater troupe. A large cast of congregants will be presenting the show on Saturday, March 18, at 8:30 P.M. and Sunday, March 19, at 4 P.M.

The show will feature musical numbers from many Broadway hits, and is a collaboration of the show's producers, new Stage Director JoJo Conley and Music Director Debbie Tartell. Among the productions being highlighted are *Hairspray*, *Chicago*, *Miss Saigon*, *Aladdin*, *The Book of Mormon*, *Fiddler on the Roof*, *The Sound of Music*, *Thoroughly Modern Millie*, and *Newsies*.

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A large cast of congregants are is now in rehearsal for the next Temple Israel Players production, an original musical revue called "Broadway Sail Away," to be staged on Saturday evening, March 18, and Sunday afternoon, March 19. *Voice* Photo by Bob Lopatkin

## Waxman Youth House Teens Visit Israel



Teens from Temple Israel's Waxman High School and Youth House have just returned from a 10-day whirlwind tour of Israel, on a trip led by School Director Danny Mishkin. Accompanying them

were teachers Moji Pourmoradi and Tsiona Kamel. According to Rabbi Daniel Schweber, who also led the group, the teens left their mark on Israel, and Israel certainly left its mark on the teens.

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## Visit the Temple Israel Library

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### **A Voice Guest Column** by Rona Lupkin

EDITOR'S NOTE: Temple Israel's growing library has a wealth of Jewish literature. Head Librarian Rona Lupkin invites you to visit in this Voice Guest Column.

We seem to be living in an era of collectables and nostalgia.

Antiques are not in the realm of the possible for most people, so a hundred years of use is no longer the criteria for veneration of objects. For those who have reached a half century or more of living, the everyday objects of childhood—movie glass, costume jewelry, vintage clothing, Barbie dolls, baseball cards and comic books from the 40s and 50s have become the stuff of dreams. No matter how carefully grown men and women generally abide by the Fifth Commandment, parents and mothers especially find themselves berated for the unthinking disposal of those aforementioned treasures. Both nostalgia and increasing material worth leave people wishing they had

the foresight to hang onto yesterday's commonplace.

When much of today's "fine china" is plastic and disposable, when even relationships are easily disposable, something lasting has added value. A 75-year old history for a synagogue in Great Neck falls within this category. Temple

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**The library now has a reference and circulating collection comprised of more than 8,500 books...**

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Israel's story is well documented, but I want to indulge in a little nostalgia about one of my favorite "commonplaces" in the synagogue—the library.

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## The Power of the People

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### **From the Rabbi** by Rabbi Howard A. Stecker

Let's assume we're not in "the room where it happens." Let's assume we are not serving in one of the three branches of national government, that we are not in a position that gives us access to certain halls of power.

How do we face each day, take our temperature, assess ourselves and our surroundings and determine what we

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**Like our ancestors, we have the power of the people.**

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want to say and do, given national and international events as they unfold?

The story of the Exodus describes the showdown between two main characters, leaders on the world stage whose actions impact entire nations. Moses and Pharaoh have a dance of ego, will and destiny that the Torah describes in dramatic detail.

But, of course, most of the people were neither Moses nor Pharaoh. They weren't the leading actors in the showdown. They were figuring out how to manage each day, how not to be literally and figuratively beaten down, whether or not to take risks to challenge the status quo.

Eventually the people were prepared to participate in their own redemption, to speak to their children about it and to anticipate how the story would be told to future generations.

We who are "neither Moses nor Pharaoh," we whose influence may not extend to the national or international halls of power, nevertheless have much power of our own. Like our ancestors, we have the power of the people.

So what should we do, we who constitute today's children of Israel, to

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## The Rabbi's Contract

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### **From the President**

by Rob Panzer

As most have heard by now, the congregation has approved a new contract for Senior Rabbi Howard Stecker. This was the first time the congregation was required to approve a contract, based on a change in New York State Not-For-Profit Guidelines.

With permission from our Board of Trustees, the Executive Committee—as is our responsibility—undertook the task of gathering information and negotiating a new contract. Vice-President for Legal Affairs Seth Horowitz, and Vice-President for Finance Brent Greenspan were designated to negotiate with Rabbi Stecker. We owe them a debt of thanks for the professional and respectful way they conducted themselves and brought the process to a

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**...the congregation has approved a new contract for Senior Rabbi Howard Stecker.**

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satisfactory conclusion. Of those who took the opportunity to vote, either by proxy or by attending the special congregational meeting, 83 percent voted in favor of the new contract.

The congregational meeting was also a first for this purpose. Everyone was given the opportunity to speak, as should be the case. Some expressed concern about the terms of the contract. What is most important is that everyone has to be able to express an opinion.

There was passion shown at the meeting on both sides of the issue. Although I certainly tried to maintain my composure, as did everyone attending, there are probably some who felt they weren't heard. I would like to extend my apologies to anyone who, at any point in the process, felt they weren't treated fairly or properly. It is never my intent to disenfranchise or belittle.

With this now behind us, it is once again time to join as one Conservative Jewish community to do the good work of our congregation, with our spiritual leader, Rabbi Howard Stecker firmly at the helm.

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## In Memoriam

Temple Israel extends condolences to the families of:

**ILENE SOSHNIK**

mother of Harold Soshnik

**ROBERT MONES**

father of Karen Mones Levy

**WARREN GLASNER**

husband of Diane Glasner and esteemed member of Temple Israel

**ANIESSE ALAGHBAND**

mother of Mina Frouzan

**SION BAKHSHI**

father of Daniel Bakhshi and Roya Shavolian

*May their memories be for a blessing.*

## Daily Minyan Times

**Friday, March 3 & 10**

7:00 A.M. 5:45 P.M.

**Friday, March 17, 24 & 31 & April 7**

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

**Sunday, March 5, 12 19, & 26 & April 2 & 9**

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

**Monday, March 6, 13, 20 & 27 & April 3**

**Tuesday, March 28 (Rosh Hodesh Nisan)**

**Thursday, March 2, 9, 16, 23 & 30 & April 6**

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

**Monday, April 10 (Erev Pesah)**

6:30 A.M. 6:30 P.M.

**Tuesday, March 7, 14 & 21 & April 4**

**Wednesday, March 8, 15, 22 & 29 & April 5**

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

## Candle Lighting Times

**Friday, March 3**

5:30 P.M.

**Friday, March 10**

5:37 P.M.

**Friday, March 17**

6:45 P.M.

**Friday, March 24**

6:53 P.M.

**Friday, March 31**

7:00 P.M.

**Friday, April 7**

7:07 P.M.

## Upcoming Events

**March 4**

Shabbat Talk: "Removing the Stigma of Mental Illness" 12:45 P.M.

**March 5**

Men's Club Rabbinic Dialogue Breakfast 9:00 A.M.

Men's Club Rabbinic Dialogue 10:00A.M.  
TILL Film Series: "Out of Faith" 7:00 P.M.

**March 7**

TILL iEngage Israel Series: "A Shared Homeland for Divided People" 8:15 P.M.

**March 11**

Erev Purim  
Community-Wide Purim Celebration 5:40 P.M.

**March 12**

Purim  
Purim Carnival 10:00 A.M.

**March 13**

Sisterhood Board Meeting 10:00 A.M.

**March 16**

Board of Trustees Meeting 8:15 P.M.

**March 18**

Temple Israel Players Present "Broadway Sail Away" 8:30 P.M.

**March 19**

Family B'nei Mitzvah Workshop 10:30 A.M.  
Temple Israel Players Present

"Broadway Sail Away" 4:00 P.M.

Temple Israel Players Cast Party 6:00 P.M.

**March 26**

Family B'nei Mitzvah Workshop 10:30 A.M.  
New Temple Israel Member

Dinner 6:00 P.M.

**March 27**

Sisterhood Presents: "An Evening In Persia" 7:00 P.M.

**March 30**

Men's Club Scotch and Seder 6:30 P.M.

**April 2**

Men's Club Blood Drive 8:30 A.M.

Family B'nei Mitzvah Workshop 10:30 A.M.

Pesah University 11:00 A.M.

**April 3**

Sisterhood Board Meeting 10:00 A.M.

**April 7**

Shabbat Hagever Service 6:30 P.M.

Men's Club Shabbat Dinner 7:30 P.M.

**April 8**

Shabbat Hagever Service 9:00 A.M.

## Next Jewish Film Series Feature On March 5 Looking at Conflicts of Interfaith Marriage

Out of Faith, the next feature in Temple Israel's Jewish Film Series, intimately follows three generations of a family torn apart by conflicts over interfaith marriage.

The family's matriarch and her husband both survived nearly three years in Auschwitz. In their minds, their grandchildren marrying non-Jews represents a posthumous victory for Hitler.

The documentary follows the family for three years as they grapple with the memory of the Holocaust, interfaith marriage, and family love and loyalty. The film goes beyond Jewish questions to explore what it means for the United States to be a country of immigrants.

The movie will be shown free-of-charge at 7 P.M. in the Crystal Ballroom on Sunday, March 5, followed by a lively discussion with the audience led by



A scene from "Out of Faith," the next presentation in the Temple Israel's TILL Jewish Film Series, will be shown on Sunday, March 5, at 7 P.M.

Rabbi Daniel Schweber. Complimentary movie snacks will be served.

The series is sponsored by TILL, Temple Israel Lifelong Learning, Temple Israel's adult education program. It regularly features movies and stimulating discussions afterwards. Further information about the film series and other TILL programs is available by calling 482-7800.

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## B'nai/B'not Mitzvah in Our Temple Israel Family

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### **Karina Makhani**

Karina Makhani will be celebrating her Bat Mitzvah on March 11. She is the daughter of Linda and Kamran Makhani and has a sister, Limor, 15, and a brother, Ethan, 8. Karina is a seventh grade student at Great Neck North Middle School. She enjoys reading, writing and computer programming, as well as playing tennis and the piano. Karina will continue attending the Waxman High School following her Bat Mitzvah. She visited Israel this past summer and hopes to return in the near future.



### **Jared Ohebshalom**

Jared Ohebshalom will be called to the Torah as a Bar Mitzvah on March 25. He is the son of Tina and David Ohebshalom and has a sister, Daniella, 17, and a brother, Dylan, 8. Jared is a seventh grade student and class president at Great Neck North Middle School. He enjoys playing basketball, soccer, tennis and volleyball. Jared plans to attend the Waxman High School and Youth House.



### **Amanda Volk**

Amanda Paige Volk will be celebrating her Bat Mitzvah on April 1. She is the daughter of Deborah and Judd Volk and has two brothers, Ethan, 20, and Brian, 17. Amanda is a seventh grade honor student at Great Neck South Middle School and enjoys acting, singing, dancing, television production, basketball and baseball. She also plays the saxophone. Amanda will continue attending the Waxman High School following her Bat Mitzvah.

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### *It is Time to Enroll in the Beth HaGan Summer Program*

It might be March, but it is time to be thinking about the summer program at Beth HaGan. Discounts are available for early registration through March 15.

The program, for 2-5 year-olds, now features flexible hours. Participants can be enrolled with variable hours, days or weeks to meet the schedule of parents and children. Sessions run from June 25-August 18.

Lots of fun is planned, including outdoor activities, science, baking, nature study, puppet shows, visits with live animals, movement, and dance. In addition, there is a weekly celebration of Shabbat.

For further information and enrollment details contact program Director Gina Giuffre at 732-1975 or [TIGNSummer@gmail.com](mailto:TIGNSummer@gmail.com).

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## From the Rabbi: The Power of the People

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the extent that we are mindful of the evolving courage of our ancestors?

We should speak to subsequent generations—our children and grandchildren, our nieces and nephews—to hear their perspective on current events and to offer our own. We should speak with family members, especially those who have different political and ideological views, about their perspectives.

We should advocate when we feel it is necessary in service of the Jewish and American value of liberty and justice for all. The ongoing demonstrations for women's rights and on behalf of refugees to the United States are strong examples of this, and there are others.

And day-to-day, in our own realms, we should strive to behave decently toward one another, to model dignified behavior as a Jewish and American value regardless of the behavior that we witness on the national and international stages.

Our ancestors overall were not Moses or Pharaoh. They were the people. And so are we. Like our ancestors we may have doubts about what to do in a variety of situations and we may disagree with one another about content and approach. And yet, like our ancestors, we also have the capacity to behave decently toward one another, to frame a message for future generations, to protest injustice when we see it, to move together toward a future that we will help to shape.

We still have the power of the people.

# Chag Purim Sameach, Happy Purim!

## Celebrate Purim With a Visit To the Temple Israel Museum

by David Feingold

The joyous holiday of Purim is being celebrated with a topical exhibit in the front case of the Temple Israel Museum.

Several megillot on view range from a large silver elaborately decorated case with scroll from 19th century middle Europe, a silver gilt Torah ark case with removable gilt megillah within, a gold megillah case studded with paste “gems,” and a miniature ivory case with silver closing from 19th century Turkey.

Silver groggers on display include one from central Europe circa 1920 with an elaborate and pierced design and one with silver letters that say “Megilat Esther,” “Mordecai,” “Esther,” and “Haman.” A rare miniature noisemaker in silver from 18th century Germany has a cherub with bow and arrow on top.

On display are two Persian scribe sets, one brass and the other silver, with beautiful Hebrew inscriptions on them. They would hold pens for writing a megillah.

Not to be missed inside the museum is a decorative Purim print for the home. The center depicts two fish (the zodiac sign for Adar) facing each other, with the Hebrew inscription “Adar—the sign of the fishes,” and “from the beginning of Adar our joy is increased.” This very unusual piece was printed in Oradea, Romania, by Abraham Schacter, circa 1930.

## Purim Services, Celebrations

**SATURDAY, MARCH 11**

### PRE-SCHOOL & KINDERGARTEN SERVICE

**6:45 P.M. - 7:15 P.M.**

In the Crystal Ballroom led by Morah Mojdeh and Morah Yve. There will be singing and stories followed by refreshments.

### COMMUNAL MEGILLAH READING 6:45 P.M.

There will be a Megillah Reading in the Sanctuary led by Rabbi Stecker and Rabbi Schweber, which will include participation by students of the Waxman Youth House, a sing-a-long, a video presentation, costume parade for children and costume contest for adults.

### MINHAH, MA'ARIV, THE WHOLE MEGILLAH • 5:40 P.M.

Minhah, Ma'ariv and a full Megillah reading will be held in the Blue Room. Cantor Frieder will lead the service, with participation by students from the Waxman Youth House. Following the Blue Room and Sanctuary services, there will be refreshments and music.

### SUNDAY, MARCH 12 • 8:15 A.M.

Morning service and full Megillah reading.

### PURIM CARNIVAL FOR CHILDREN • 10:00 A.M. - Noon

Join the fun, games and karaoke led by Youth House teens.

## Hamantaschen: From a Pun to Hundreds of Varieties

by Rabbi Daniel Schweber

Before chocolate dominated the dessert table other things like poppy seeds held sway. In Germany, during the Middle Ages, there was a popular pastry made with rolled-out dough and filled with poppy seeds. The German word for this pastry is mohn taschen, literally “poppy pockets.”

German Jews soon got creative, perhaps after a few drinks on Purim, and noticed a similarity between the word mohn and Haman. This is especially the case because the Ashkenazi pronunciation of Haman is more like homon, with a short “o” sound. So the cookie was adopted as the Purim cookie, called hamantaschen.

Soon, more symbolism was attached to the cookie—again, perhaps after a round of drinks. MyJewishLearning.com writes: “The most common interpretation is that they resemble the three cornered hat worn

by Haman. In Hebrew, the cookies are called “ozney Haman,” which means “Haman’s ears” and refers to the custom of cutting off a criminal’s ears before his execution.

A third idea suggests that each corner of a hamantasch represents one of the ancestors of Judaism—Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob—whose “power” weakened Haman and gave strength to Esther to save the Jews (incidentally, tash in Hebrew means “weaken”).

One more thought is that because the German word tasche means “pouch” or “pocket,” the cookies could signify Haman’s pockets and the money he offered to the king for permission to kill the Jews.

Like many things, by making hamantaschen a symbol, they are no longer just simple poppy seed filled cookie pockets. There are literally hundreds of varieties of hamantaschen. The dough recipes vary greatly. There are

doughs with yeast and others without. A friend of mine made gluten free and vegan hamantaschen. And, do not forget the fillings. The sky is the limit when it comes to possible fillings for hamantaschen. Besides the traditional poppy seed, apricot, prune and raspberry, you can use almost any fruit jam or pie filling. There is Nutella or Israeli chocolate spread. I’ve seen a recipe for hamantaschen filled with brisket!

Some of us will embrace this expansion and others of us will prefer the traditional. The essence is the symbolism we now attach to this cookie. Haman is no longer here (yay), and Germans no longer eat mohn taschen in quantity. But we Jews are still here.

So, in celebration of Purim, find a dough recipe on the Internet and choose a few fillings and bake some hamantaschen. Next year we can debate whether one should fold or pinch the corners.

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# Temple Israel Players Sailing Through Broadway With Original Musical Revue

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"It is nice to stage a musical revue," said Debbie Volk, one of the show's producers. "It gives everyone in the cast their shining moment." The other show producers are Eileen Putterman, Ron Klempner, Mark Putter, and Lois Sazer.

Many new congregants have joined the cast of 37 performers, including five children. The cast includes Robert Aizer, Meredith Bachrach and her daughter, Mia, Shoshana Cellers, Harold Citron, Lauryn Covitt and her daughter, Ella, Mark Cwern, Amy David, Bill Dunckley, Daniel Frankel, Van Frankel, Lori Freudman, Marylin Goldberg, Matthew Hoffman and his daughter, Kylie, Jon Kaiman, Kim Kaiman, Ron Klempner, Kenneth M. Leff, Elizabeth Matalon, Lisa Mattaway, Ofra Panzer, Elaine Paris, Harriet Spitzer and her son, Josh, Mark Putter, Eileen Putterman, Milton Putterman, Lillian Rokhsar, Al Rothstein, Rusti Rothstein, Lois Sazer, Ruth Schelberg, Diana Stein, Maxine Vogel, and Debbie Volk. Working behind the scenes are Alex Schoen, Garry Cellers, Bob Lopatkin, and Sherry Modlin.

Director JoJo Conley has been involved with musical theater in Great Neck since 1991, when she was recruited to be the choreographer for Great Neck North Middle School productions. That same year she began helping to rebuild the musical

theater program at Great Neck South Middle School. She has also worked with the Great Neck Park District to produce Summerfest, an annual musical evening at Steppingstone Park.

Music Director Debbie Tartell has been directing musicals and teaching music for 35 years, and has coordinated music for a number of past productions of the Temple Israel Players. She is also a piano teacher, vocal coach, and accompanist for singers and instrumentalists, as well as a NYSSMA adjudicator. She and her husband, Jay, and their three children are longtime members of Temple Israel.

Tickets to the Saturday performance range from \$20-\$50, and from \$10-\$36 for the Sunday show. Most tickets on Sunday are half price for children under 13. Saturday Patron tickets are priced at \$50 and Saturday Sponsor tickets are \$36, and include a listing in the playbill and an invitation to a champagne reception cast party following the Saturday performance. Ads congratulating the cast can also be purchased in the playbill by contacting Debbie Volk at 466-1227 or [info@morethanpaper.com](mailto:info@morethanpaper.com).

To purchase tickets and for further information about the show, contact Kathy Recckia at 482-7800 or [krecckia@tign.org](mailto:krecckia@tign.org).

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## Guest Column: Visit the Temple Israel Library

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There can be no doubt, in the abstract, that a Temple library is an asset to the synagogue, a place to check out recipes or customs as a holiday approaches, a place to check out procedures as a marriage approaches, a place to check out names as a birth approaches or, unfortunately, a place to check out what to do when a death occurs. Add to these occasional needs a visit to satisfy the requirements for a student's research paper, an adult education class or even a doctoral dissertation. Even a more regular visit to find current fiction best sellers or reviewed non-fiction work is a possibility. A daily stop to check periodicals as one sits on a comfortable sofa or uses elegant library tables is not out of the question.

We are not living in the abstract, however, and reality is not always what it could be. In the beginning, the library was a vision of Ephriam Warshaw, a former Hebrew High School principal

who wanted a real synagogue library as part of a new Youth House.

He asked Eva Yarett, who had experience in library work as well as a deep Judaic background, to undertake the creation

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of a library. She spent 1970 deep in the attic of the old "White House" (the original home that once occupied the synagogue property and metamorphosed as the Waxman Hebrew High School) gathering and cataloging the books that had been accumulated in the synagogue and had been casually stored in the Board Room. She visited other Judaic libraries and reviewed different cataloging systems, keeping in mind the unique requirements of a specialized Judaic library (such as

having a large percentage of books on Judaism).

Eva and the 100 to 150 books moved into the library in 1971. In five short years the library had taken shape. Its excellence was recognized in 1976 when it was awarded the coveted "Citation" from the Jewish Book Council. The library now has a reference and circulating collection comprised of more than 8,500 books, many periodicals and dozens of pamphlets on a variety of Jewish subjects.

The remarkable thing about the library is that books for the library have never had a line in the budget. All are either donated or purchased with donated funds.

Why not make the reality of the library the fulfilling experience it could be? Visit us during library hours: Tuesday and Wednesday from 2-5 P.M. and Sunday from 9 A.M.-Noon.

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# Men's Club Honoring High School Director Danny Mishkin And Waxman Students Leah Klempner and Elliot Horowitz

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Waxman High School Director Danny Mishkin

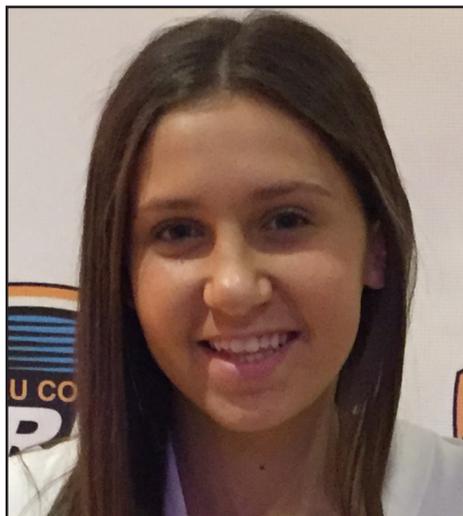
by Marc Katz

Waxman High School and Youth House Director Danny Mishkin will be named the Men's Club's Man of the Year at the Federation of Jewish Men's Clubs' annual dinner at the Crest Hollow Country Club on March 19.

Being recognized as the congregation's Youths of the Year at the dinner will be Waxman High School students Leah Klempner, daughter of Rochelle and Ron Klempner, and Elliot Horowitz, son of Linda and Seth Horowitz.

Each year the Men's Club selects someone to recognize who has significantly impacted our congregation, explains Temple Israel Men's Club Past President David Scherr, the treasurer of the New York Metropolitan Region of the Federation of Jewish Men's Clubs, which sponsors the event. The Men's Club also honors outstanding Waxman High School students.

The congregation is invited to support the honorees by attending the event, which includes a cocktail hour, full dinner, open bar, music, and dancing. Admission is \$95 per person. Support can also be shown by placing ads in a journal, to be distributed at the dinner. To make dinner reservations and to place ads, visit [www.wizadjournal.com/nymfjmc2017](http://www.wizadjournal.com/nymfjmc2017) or email Mr. Scherr at [dsactuary@aol.com](mailto:dsactuary@aol.com) or call him at 516-487-1053.



Waxman High School student Leah Klempner

Danny Mishkin has led the congregation's teen activities as the director of the Waxman High School and Youth House and the congregation's director of youth engagement for the past six years. He has brought a mission of tikun olam to all teen activities, including the Mitzvah Corps, travel experiences and a variety of holiday programs. He says that he "loves helping teens recognize that Judaism can be immediately relevant to one's life as a child, teen or adult. If teens do not find Jewish practice to be meaningful now, they will not search for its meaning as an adult."

Leah Klempner has attended all of the Temple Israel schools and celebrated her Bat Mitzvah in Jerusalem at Robinson's Arch with Rabbi Howard Stecker at the conclusion of the synagogue's trip to Israel in 2012. She is an active Waxman Youth House member, serving as a Temple Israel Leadership Teen. She has participated in the Mitzvah Corps, where she has played with homeless children, and spent time with mentally disabled and disadvantaged local residents. Through the Youth House she has "adopted" a Holocaust survivor and has learned his story. With the assistance of Youth House Director Danny Mishkin, this year she established a new High School group called the Junior Israel Affairs Committee. Leah recently won the Belfer Merit Fellowship Award from UJA, which included a scholarship for her trip to Israel last summer with Young Judea. She is also involved in Ronald McDonald House of Long Island, where she volunteers once a week. Leah is a senior and AP Scholar at Great Neck North High School. She is captain of her school's soccer team and recently earned County All-Conference honors for the second time.



Waxman High School student Elliot Horowitz

Elliot Horowitz has been heavily involved with the Waxman Youth House since his Bar Mitzvah. He participates in the Mitzvah Corps and is a member of the Temple Israel Leadership Team, which plans youth activities. At the Sid Jacobson JCC, Elliot serves as a lifeguard and swim instructor at Camp Jacobson. He is a senior at Great Neck South High School, where his favorite activity is Science Olympiad. The club's advisor refers to Elliot as the team's "Master Builder," and he has received numerous medals at New York State, Nassau Regional, and invitational competitions. He also serves as president of the school Astronomy Club and vice president of the Electronic Athletes Club. In addition, he plays both the baritone saxophone, for which he has twice been selected to participate in the New York State Honor Band, and the tuba. He will be attending Lehigh University next year, where he plans to study mechanical engineering.

# From Generation to Generation

## Temple Israel Gratefully Acknowledges The Following Contributions

### TEMPLE ISRAEL FUND

In appreciation of:

Robert Panzer's help during the shiva for her uncle, Edward Jacob Nissan  
 Yvonne Shahmoon  
 Everyone's kindness during a difficult time  
 The Oppenheimer family

In honor of:

Burton Weston's special birthday  
 Marjorie and Melvin Siegel  
 The baby naming of Danielle Jasmine Matalon, daughter of Natali and David Matalon  
 Josephine Haghani becoming a Bat Mitzvah  
 Natali Matalon becoming a Bat Mitzvah  
 Dava Berkman  
 The birth of Benjamin Alexander Ruben, grandson of Karen Lewkowitz-Miller and Monte Miller  
 Madelaine and Mitch Koeppel  
 The engagement of Rachel Englander, daughter of Alise Kreditor and Jeffrey Englander, and Adam Davis  
 The engagement of Samuel Englander, son of Alise Kreditor and Jeffrey Englander, and Lauren Weisskirk  
 Dayna Pourmoradi, daughter of Moji and Omid Pourmoradi, becoming a Bat Mitzvah  
 The engagement of Scott Kestenbaum, son of Elise and Richard Kestenbaum, to Lindsey Cohen  
 The engagement of Jonathan Kestenbaum, son of Elise and Richard Kestenbaum, to Lindsay Kriger  
 The marriage of Madelaine Senter and Mitchell Koeppel

The birth of Noa Everly Zinger, granddaughter of Ronni Birnbaum and Wally Kopelowitz  
 Joyce and Burton Weston  
 Michael Sloyer and Adam Bloom  
 Barbara and Myron Bloom  
 The birth of Ethan James Stagliano, great-grandson of Helene Schachter  
 Harriet Seiler  
 Barbara Schultz becoming a Bat Mitzvah  
 Susan Chartan-Kaplan  
 Elaine Sands

In memory of:

Francine Citron  
 Harold Citron  
 Seymour Krasnov  
 Eve Keller and David Waxman  
 Beth Gerson  
 Jean Gerson  
 Max Gerson  
 Matthew Gerson  
 Laura Feld  
 Dove Spector  
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 Frank Seskin  
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 Clara Weinberg  
 Joshua Perlman  
 Shirley Perlman  
 Dotty Katz  
 Mildred Katz  
 Toby Katz  
 Natalia Wundheiler  
 Nathan Kafka  
 Fran Langsner  
 Louis Schreiber  
 Samuel Goldfarb  
 Merrill Schneiderman

Harry Gorelick  
 Michael Gorelick  
 Dora Babsky  
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 Florence Becker  
 Robert Rutkin-Becker  
 Ethel Leavitt  
 Walter Leavitt  
 Sylvia Ashkenase  
 Donald Ashkenase  
 Hushang Geula  
 Dava Berkman  
 Sandra Schames  
 Irwin Schames  
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 Judge Jules Edward Orenstein  
 Michael Orenstein  
 Miriam Rose Berger  
 Susan Krugman  
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 Melvin Ortner  
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# Ask the Rabbi: Making Non-Jews Welcome at Services

## A New Voice Feature by Rabbi Daniel Schweber

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

**Question:** A fair number of non-Jewish friends and family are going to be attending my son's Bar Mitzvah service. How can we help them feel as comfortable as possible in an unfamiliar environment? Submitted by an anonymous reader.

**Discussion:** We at Temple Israel strive to be a place where everyone feels welcome, no matter what their level of observance, background or religion.

This goal is why we have put ourselves in the shoes of the visitor, and strive to make our guests as comfortable as possible. Hopefully, we succeed in what we do. Our ushers and greeters are trained in being welcoming and answering questions. They will offer

**We at Temple Israel strive to be a place where everyone feels welcome...**

a kippah and tallit to guests and help people find their place in the prayer book and chumash, Torah reading book. You should know that transliterated prayer books are available from the ushers.

There are also resources that can help familiarize guests about us and our service before they arrive that day. We have cards in the office that you can send out with invitations summarizing the basic codes of conduct on Shabbat. We find that knowing the basic rules really helps people feel less likely to commit some faux pas.

For guests who want to know more, encourage them to become familiar with the Shabbat service a little beforehand. The fantastic website MyJewishLearning.com has a concise general description of Jewish services, and a well-done video introduction to the Saturday morning service. <http://www.myjewishlearning.com/article/>

what-a-barbat-mitzvah-guest-needs-to-know/. Some guests with Christian backgrounds may be interested to know what Torah portion will be read, because it will be familiar to them. Even those without a religious background may get caught up in the story; encourage your guests to flip through the chumash. They are welcome to do so even during prayer time.

You may be wondering whether it is possible to grant honors to grandparents or other family members who are not Jewish. It certainly is, and will enable these special people to feel more connected. We rabbis are available to discuss the options. Of course, you can and should honor family and friends if you have a party. Include them in a candle lighting or other type of ceremony. Teach them the hora and bring them into the dancing circle!

As always, you should feel free and welcome to ask me or Rabbi Stecker any questions you or your guests might have.

Note to congregation:

Try to think to when you might have attended a non-Jewish worship service. How many uncomfortable feelings did you feel? When we go to a new place, there are lots of unknowns. Because a religious service has a higher level of sanctity, there is also fear of violating that sanctity unknowingly. First and foremost, if you are ever at services and see people who seem like they feel out of place, please smile and welcome them and introduce yourself and see if they have any questions. You may brighten that person's day.

### Brief Information Guide for Guests To Shabbat Morning Services At Temple Israel

Attire: The Saturday morning service is our most formal service, with most men in jacket and tie and women wearing the equivalent in formality.



Time: Our service formally begins at 8:45am with preparatory prayers. Here are the approximate times for other parts of the service. 9 A.M. is the Shacharit morning service. 9:25 A.M. is the first Mourner's Kaddish and the Torah service. 10 A.M. is the Haftorah. We aim to end our services between 11:30 A.M. and Noon. If guests of a Bar or Bat Mitzvah arrive at 9:45 A.M. they will not miss anything.

Kippah and Tallit: At Temple Israel, we ask all men to wear a kippah in the Sanctuary. Women are welcome and encouraged to wear one, as well. We ask Jewish men over the age of 13 to wear a tallit, and again we encourage Jewish women to do so, as well.

Prayer book: Everyone is welcome to follow along in the prayer book—the siddur or the chumash. There is both Hebrew and English in them. The rabbi announces pages often.

Sanctity of Shabbat: Shabbat is a holy day and we therefore ask that people:

- Set cell phones to vibrate or turn them off.
- Not take pictures or make recordings.
- Do not write.

Decorum: Please do not chat with others during services. This can be disruptive, especially while the Bar or Bat Mitzvah student is participating in the service. It is a long service and you may leave and reenter. However, there are times when we ask people to remain in their seats or wait to enter the Sanctuary. There are greeters in the back who will gladly help you.

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## D'var Torah

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—Continued from back page

the purpose remained the same. To this day, whenever we open the ark and look upon the Torah scrolls, we stand again at Sinai.

### **Tetsavveh Saturday, March 11**

We move from instructions for the creation of the physical Mishkan to details concerning the officiants in this portion. At the outset, Moses is directed to see to it that a light is kept burning in the Mishkan, a task that is to be performed by priests. He is then directed to appoint Aaron and his sons to the priestly office. There follows a detailed description of the vestments of the High Priest and the ordinary priests. Finally, the rituals of installation for the priests are laid out. The Mishkan, as sacred space, is differentiated from profane space by its design. In like manner, its officiants are to be distinguishable from the laity by their attire and insignia of office. In particular, the High Priest is to wear vestments which symbolize his role as representative of the entire community before God. The High Priest, who presided over sacrificial rites, evolved into the prayer leader of today's synagogue. That individual is still designated as the shaliach tzibur, the representative of the congregation.

### **Ki Tissa Saturday, March 18**

In this portion we find the final details of the instructions for building the Mishkan, the portable wilderness sanctuary. The reading actually begins with directions for conducting a census of those of military age by collecting a poll tax of

half a shekel. The money was to be used for the maintenance of the Mishkan. A reminder to keep the Sabbath serves as an indication that the sanctification of time is more important even than building a sanctuary. At this point, we read that the Israelites panic over Moses' protracted absence on Mt. Sinai and demand that Aaron make a god they can see. The outcome is the golden calf. When Moses sees this egregious breach of the covenant, he breaks the tablets of the Ten Commandments. God, for His part, wants to destroy the people. Moses punishes the people and manages to assuage God's anger. Moses then returns to Sinai to rewrite the tablets. With the covenant renewed, the construction on the Mishkan can proceed.

### **Vayakhel-Pekudey Saturday, March 25**

We conclude the account of the building of the Mishkan and the Book of Exodus with this double portion. The reading starts with a note on the Sabbath, again, emphasizing the importance of the sanctification of time. Then follows a detailed and lengthy description of the builders of the Mishkan, stressing their God-given artistic skill, followed by a listing of all the elements of the structure and its furnishings, noting that each one was actually built exactly as God had commanded. It is significant that the original instructions call for building the furnishings before the structure, and the list begins with the ark. Here, however, we are told that Bezalel and the artisans built the structure before the furnishings, in the proper practical order. The creation of the priestly vestments is also recorded in equally great detail. Finally, the Mishkan is actually erected on the first of Nisan,

thereby underscoring the idea that a new era in the life of the people has begun. With the Mishkan completed, it remains only to lay out the rituals and procedures which are to be conducted therein.

### **Vayikra Saturday, April 1**

In this portion we begin the Book of Leviticus. The last chapters of Exodus detailed the construction of the Mishkan, the portable wilderness sanctuary, and the designation of the priests who were to serve in it. Leviticus constitutes an instruction manual for the priests, as well as setting forth rules to achieve personal holiness and the sanctification of human life. The reading describes five main types of sacrifices that were to be brought: the burnt offering, the meal offering, the peace offering, the sin offering and the guilt offering. For each type, details are provided on the circumstances under which it is to be brought, who brings it and of what it consists. The Hebrew word translated "sacrifice" or "offering" is korban, from the root k-r-v, "to draw near." The offerings were a means of drawing near to God and, in a sense, drawing Him near to the offerer. Although we no longer offer sacrifices in the way our ancestors did, the goal of the system, to move one to a more Godly life, is still to be pursued.

### **Tsav Saturday, April 8**

We find further details concerning the burnt offering, the meal offering, the guilt offering and the peace offering, as well as details of the thanks offering, in this portion. With the types of sacrifices fully described, we now move to a description of the institution of the service in the mishkan and the consecration of Aaron and his sons to the priesthood. The ceremonies consist of dressing the priests in their special vestments, anointing the mishkan and all of its furnishings with oil, offering sacrifices and putting the blood of the sacrifices upon the right ears, the right thumbs and the right toes of the priests. The aim of the entire proceedings was to highlight the special duties and responsibilities of the priests as representatives of the people before God. The pattern which is described here continued to be the manner of anointing the priests for over a thousand years.

## *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 is a list of some of those funds:

- **Adult Education Fund:** Donations support adult education courses, speakers, film series, and other projects. Donors can earmark the adult education activity they are contributing to.
- **Beth HaGan Fund:** Supporting additional programming and special events in the nursery school.
- **Building Fund:** Used to fund repairs and improvements to the synagogue facilities.
- **Clergy Discretionary Funds:** Funds are used by the clergy at their discretion in support of needy causes. Donors should indicate which clergy member's fund they are donating to.

## Sabbath Services

–Continued from back page

<p>Junior Congregation      10:30 A.M.          Toddler Service            11:00 A.M.          Niggun Circle            following kiddush          Afternoon Service        6:25 P.M.          Se'udah Shelishit        6:55 P.M.          Evening Service           7:31 P.M.          Havdalah                    7:46 P.M.</p> <p><b>Friday, March 24</b>          N'Ranenah/Evening Service 6:30 P.M.</p> <p><b>Saturday, March 25</b>          (Shabbat HaHodesh)          Preparatory Prayers        8:45 A.M.          Shahrut Morning Service/Shabbat          Morning Group Aliyah      9:00 A.M.          First Mourner's Kaddish    9:25 A.M.          Weekly Portion: Vayakhel-Pekudey          Exodus 35:1 – 40:38; Exodus 12:1 -20          Haftarah: Ezekiel 45:16 – 46:18</p> <p>Sabbath Service Officers and Greeters:          Susan Brustein, Hal Rothbaum, Zina          Rutkin-Becker, and Joyce Weston</p> <p>Bar Mitzvah: Jared Ohebshalom,          son of Tina and David Ohebshalom</p> <p>Havurah Service            10:00 A.M.          Junior Congregation      10:30 A.M.</p>	<p>Toddler Service            11:00 A.M.          Afternoon Service        6:35 P.M.          Se'udah Shelishit        7:05 P.M.          Evening Service           7:39 P.M.          Havdalah                    7:54 P.M.</p> <p><b>Friday, March 31</b>          Evening Service            6:30 P.M.</p> <p><b>Saturday, April 1</b>          Preparatory Prayers        8:45 A.M.          Shahrut Morning Service    9:00 A.M.          First Mourner's Kaddish    9:25 A.M.          Weekly Portion: Vayikra          Leviticus 1:1 – 5:26          Haftarah: Isaiah 43:21 – 44:23</p> <p>Sabbath Service Officers and Greeters:          Andi Katz, Veronica Bisek Lurvey,          Rebecca Friedman-Charry, Ellen          Birnbaum, and Brent Greenspan</p> <p>Bat Mitzvah: Amanda Volk,          daughter of Debbie and Judd Volk</p> <p>Shabbat HaMishpahah      10:30 A.M.          Youth House Sababa Shabbat 10:00 A.M.          Junior Congregation      10:30 A.M.          Toddler Service            11:00 A.M.          Afternoon Service        6:40 P.M.          Se'udah Shelishit        7:10 P.M.</p>	<p>Evening Service            7:46 P.M.          Havdalah                    8:01 P.M.</p> <p><b>Friday, April 7</b>          Annual Men's Club Shabbat HaGever          Service and Dinner        6:30 P.M.</p> <p><b>Saturday, April 8</b> (Shabbat Hagadol)          Preparatory Prayers        8:45 A.M.          Shahrut Morning Service    9:00 A.M.          First Mourner's Kaddish    9:25 A.M.</p> <p>Weekly Portion: Tsav          Leviticus 6:1 – 8:36          Haftarah: Malachi 3:4 – 24</p> <p>Sabbath Service Officers and Greeters:          Jacqueline Astrof, Robert Lopatkin,          Shahram (Mike) Delafraz, Joyce          Weston, and Diana Stein</p> <p>Bat Mitzvah: Eden Katz, daughter of          Esther and Lawrence Katz</p> <p>Havurah Service            10:00 A.M.          Junior Congregation      10:30 A.M.          Toddler Service            11:00 A.M.          Afternoon Service        6:45 P.M.          Se'udah Shelishit        7:15 P.M.          Evening Service            7:53 P.M.          Havdalah                    8:08 P.M.</p>
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# D'var Torah

by Rabbi Marim D. Charry

## Terumah Saturday, March 4

In this portion we find a description of the Mishkan, the portable sanctuary which was built in the wilderness to house the ark with the tablets of the Ten Commandments. The purpose of the Mishkan was to serve as a sign that God dwelt among His people. Moses is directed to gather from the Israelites a free will offering of all manner of precious metals, jewels, fine wood, fine materials, and spices to use in constructing the Mishkan and its appurtenances. Specific instructions are then given for building the furnishings of the Mishkan and the special tent that housed them. The Mishkan, as a whole, was meant to be a symbol, a portable Sinai, reminding the Israelites on their journey through the wilderness of their unique experience at the mountain. The Mishkan evolved by way of the Temple in Jerusalem into the synagogue, but

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### Temple Israel of Great Neck

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## Sabbath Services

### Friday, March 3

Evening Service 5:45 P.M.  
Shabbat HaMishpahah 6:00 P.M.

### Saturday, March 4

Preparatory Prayers 8:45 A.M.  
Shaharit Morning Service 9:00 A.M.  
First Mourner's Kaddish 9:25 A.M.

Weekly Portion: Terumah  
Exodus 25:1 – 27:19  
Haftarah: I Kings 5:26 – 6:13

Sabbath Service Officers and Greeters:  
Madelyn Gould, Burton Weston,  
Alise Kreditor, Diana Stein, and  
Deanna Stecker

Bat Mitzvah: Isabel Rastegar, daughter  
of Desiree and Rodney Rastegar

"Unlocking Tefila" 10:30 A.M.  
Junior Congregation 10:30 A.M.  
Toddler Service 11:00 A.M.  
Shabbat Talk: Removing the Stigma of  
Mental Illness 12:45 P.M.

Afternoon Service 5:10 P.M.  
Se'udah Shelishit 5:40 P.M.  
Evening Service 6:16 P.M.  
Havdalah 6:31 P.M.

### Friday, March 10

Evening Service 5:45 P.M.

### Saturday, March 11

(Shabbat Zakhor/Erev Purim)  
Preparatory Prayers 8:45 A.M.  
Shaharit Morning Service 9:00 A.M.  
First Mourner's Kaddish 9:25 A.M.  
Weekly Portion: Tetsavveh  
Exodus 27:20 – 30:10;  
Deuteronomy 25:17 - 19  
Haftarah: I Samuel 15:2 – 34

Sabbath Service Officers and Greeters:  
Andrew Bloom, Neda Sedgh,  
Andi Katz, Patty Schneider, and  
Ellen Birnbaum

Bat Mitzvah: Karina Makhani, daughter  
of Linda and Kamran Makhani

Havurah Service 10:00 A.M.  
Junior Congregation 10:30 A.M.  
Toddler Service 11:00 A.M.  
Afternoon Service 5:40 P.M.

See Purim Times on Page 5

Evening Service 6:30 P.M.  
Havdalah 6:38 P.M.

### Friday, March 17

Evening Service 6:30 P.M.

### Saturday, March 18 (Shabbat Parah)

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: Ki Tissa  
Exodus 30:11 – 34:35; Numbers 19:1 - 22  
Haftarah: Ezekiel 36:16 – 38

Sabbath Service Officers and Greeters:  
Jerrold Schlessel, Eleanor Askari,  
Seth Horowitz, Debbie Volk,  
and Jeffrey Fleit

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