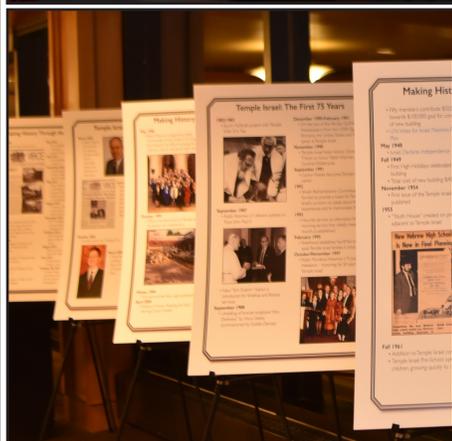


### Temple Israel Turns 75!



Temple Israel celebrated its 75th anniversary in grand style last Saturday evening at a record-setting gala, organized by a large committee chaired by Linda and Brent Greenspan. In addition to lots of singing and dancing, the history of the congregation was compiled by Vice President Veronica Lurvey in a timeline displayed on large posters and in the journal, and the large crowd was entertained by the Temple Israel Players.

### Kristallnacht Topic: Jews Helping Jews During the Holocaust

Brave Jewish men and women risked their lives to save thousands of their fellow Jews during the Holocaust. Their largely untold story will be the subject of Temple Israel's Kristallnacht commemoration, open to the community, on Sunday evening, November 5.

Dr. Mordecai Paldiel, the author of a book titled "Saving One's Own," will recount largely neglected stories including telling of his own family's survival, at the program which begins at 7 P.M. in the Blue Room.

Dr. Paldiel is the former director of the Righteous Among the Nations Department at Yad Vashem, and teaches "Holocaust and Rescue" and "History of Zionism" at Yeshiva University-Stern College, as well as "Modern Jewish History" at Touro College. He has written extensively on "the Righteous during the Shoah."

During the Holocaust he and his family fled Belgium to France, and after a great deal of wandering to elude Germans who had occupied France, they crossed into Switzerland with the help of a French priest, Simon Gallay, who has been honored by Yad Vashem as "a Righteous."

In 2013 he was the keynote speaker at the UN's Annual Holocaust Commemoration Ceremony.

Kristallnacht, known as "The Night of Broken Glass," was a pogrom against Jews by the Nazis in Germany on November 9-10, 1938. Jewish shops and synagogues were smashed, many Jews were murdered, and tens of thousands were deported to concentration camps.

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## Finding Our Power

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**A Voice Guest Column** by Rabbi Howard Stecker

EDITOR'S NOTE: This Voice Guest Column contains excerpts from Rabbi Stecker's High Holy Day sermon.

Roughly ten years ago I was sitting at our dining room table, opposite Deanna, when the phone rang. It was one of our son's high school teachers. He said, "Hi Mr. Stecker. It's Mr. So-and-so, your son's teacher." I said, "Hi Mr. So-and-so. So nice to hear from you."

He said, "I want you to know that your son is a really great guy, Mr. Stecker." I said, "Thanks, Mr. So-and-so." He went on, "But the thing is, Mr. Stecker... there are a bunch of assignments that he didn't hand in. And if he doesn't get them in, it's definitely going to affect his final grade. So hopefully you and Mrs. Stecker can talk to him and encourage him. Remember I'm here to help." I said, "Thanks, Mr. So-and-so."

I got off the phone. I summarized the

conversation to Deanna and I said, "You know, this is frustrating. But let's look on the bright side. If our son keeps going in this direction, we'll be able to save a whole lot of college tuition." And then I said a few more things that, of course, I

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**We could mope around feeling powerless. But, that's not the Jewish way.**

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shouldn't have said. At that point I heard a voice from the kitchen, which is right next to the dining room. "Thanks a lot, Abba."

It was our son. It seems he had heard what I said. I felt terrible. I walked into the kitchen and apologized. I told him how much I love him, how much I regret what I said, how much faith I have in him. But of

*—Continued on page 6*

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## What We Do

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**From the President**  
by Rob Panzer

EDITOR'S NOTE: This column contains excerpts from President Panzer's High Holy Days address.

About a year and a half ago, our executive director, Leon Silverberg, received a call from someone, not from Great Neck, with an unusual request. The woman on the other end of the phone was in an interfaith marriage. The couple's daughter, who I will call Annie, was then 12 years of age. Annie was halachically Jewish, as her mother was, but had no exposure to Judaism to that point. She had expressed to her mom an interest in learning about her heritage and wanted to become a Bat Mitzvah.

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**...this is why we  
—Temple Israel—exists.  
This is what we do.**

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Annie's mom had been rebuffed by several other congregations. Upon hearing her story, Leon felt it would be best to refer the mother to Rabbi Stecker, who took the time to find out more about this request. He spoke with her and felt there was sincerity and genuine interest behind the request. A plan was forged with this young adolescent. Rabbi Schweber began to meet regularly with her, teaching and preparing Annie. When Rabbi Schweber was satisfied with the effort and the ongoing learning, a date was discussed for the Bat Mitzvah candidate to be called up to read from the Torah. The non-Shabbat morning options were appropriate and so a Saturday afternoon Mincha service was assigned with Rabbi Schweber standing in as both rabbi and cantor for this service. A few weeks before the bat mitzvah date, Rabbi Schweber asked if Ofra and I could attend in order to help by assigning the honors and serving as gabbaim for the Torah service.

We were happy to help. With friends and family attending, the service proceeded. Annie acquitted herself beautifully, chanting the entire Torah portion and by leading Havdalah.

After our roles were completed, my

*—Continued on page 8*

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## Reinventing Ourselves

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**From the Rabbi** by Rabbi Howard Stecker

Reality changes constantly. In order to keep up, and ideally to thrive, we need to learn how to reinvent ourselves.

The concept of reinvention has deep roots in our tradition. Beginning with the Biblical Abraham and Sarah, who left the city they were living in to journey toward a new life in ancient Canaan, we have been called upon to readjust where

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**Our capacity for reinvention is stronger than we might imagine.**

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and how we fulfill our destiny. Rabbinic leaders who lived during the destruction of the Temple refashioned a religious tradition, enabling it to continue and even to thrive without the centrality of the Temple. Their descendants ensured that Judaism would remain portable throughout a long exile. Today, with Biblical and Rabbinic precedents in mind, we navigate how best to bring

Judaism to bear on the complex realities of contemporary life.

We frequently need to reinvent ourselves as individuals. To be sure, we go through circumstances that require minor adjustments. And then there are the life-changing events that demand a major overhaul. We move from one part of the world to another. We lose a job or experience a major financial reversal. We face our own illness or that of a loved one. We sustain the death of a family member or friend. We transition from being single to being coupled or, painfully, from being coupled to being single.

Our capacity for reinvention is stronger than we might imagine. Who would have thought that an ancient people could refashion themselves so successfully, over and over? On the personal front, we often surprise ourselves by the strength and creativity we bring to reinventing our own lives.

*—Continued on page 8*

## In Memoriam

Temple Israel extends  
condolences to the families of:

### SHARON LEEDS

mother of Stacy Weisser  
and esteemed member of Temple Israel

### SEYMOUR COHN

esteemed member of Temple Israel

### FARIDEH BAKHSHI

mother of Roya Bakhshi Shavolian,  
Daniel Bakhshi  
and the late David Bakhshi

*May their memories be for a blessing.*

## Mazal Tov To...

### Sarah and Bruce Rothstein

on the engagement of their daughter,  
Isadora (Izzy), to Adam Riesenber.

### Veronika and Alex Freundlich

on the birth of their daughter, Elinor.

### Ellen and Martin Domnitch

on the birth of their grandson,  
Cooper Blake Angrist.

### Ilana and Eugene Gillman

on the birth of their grandson,  
Louis Simon Gillman.

### Susan Jarolem

on the birth of her granddaughter,  
Jade Rose LeRea.

## Upcoming Events

### November 4

Celebration of the 60th Anniversary of  
Rabbi Eckstein's Ordination  
9:00 A.M.

Shabbat Talk 12:45 P.M.  
with Rabbi Eckstein

### November 5

B'nei Mitzvah Workshop 10:30 A.M.  
Mixing Bowl with Great Neck 3:30 P.M.  
Chinese Association  
Kristallnacht Commemoration 7:00 P.M.

### November 6

Waxman Youth House  
Midnight Run 7:30 P.M.  
Congregational Meeting 8:30 P.M.

### November 7

Adult B'nei Mitzvah 8:15 P.M.  
Information Session

### November 9

Kristallnacht  
Beth HaGan 9:30 A.M.  
Parenting Workshop

### November 12

B'nei Mitzvah Workshop 9:30 A.M.  
Shalom Club Meeting 6:00 P.M.

### November 13

Sisterhood Board Meeting 10:00 A.M.

### November 14

Adult B'nei Mitzvah Class Begins 7:00 P.M.

### November 16

Board of Trustees Meeting 8:15 P.M.

### November 19

Men's Club Blood Drive 8:30 A.M.  
B'nei Mitzvah Workshop 10:30 A.M.

### November 30

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

### December 3

Temple Israel Film Series:  
"The Zookeeper's Wife" 7:00 P.M.

### December 9

Game of Temples 7:00 P.M.

### December 10

Shalom Club Meeting 6:00 P.M.

### December 11

Sisterhood Board Meeting 10:00 A.M.

### December 13 – 20

Hanukkah

### December 14

Men's Club 7:30 P.M.  
Vodka and Latkes Program

*Get your copy of Temple Israel's 75th Anniversary Gala Journal?  
Copies are available at the Temple Israel office!*

## Rabbi Eckstein: Marking 60 Years As a Rabbi

Rabbi Abraham B. Eckstein—who served as the spiritual leader of the Little Neck Jewish Center for 26 years—recalls that he had a special relationship with Rabbi Mordecai Waxman, his colleague from neighboring Temple Israel of Great Neck.

"Rabbi Waxman had a unique gift," Rabbi Eckstein said. "When he would speak to you, you would feel that his eyes were completely focused only on you. You were the complete center of his attention."

Rabbi Eckstein will recall his relationship with Rabbi Waxman, as well as many of

his other experiences in the rabbinate, when he is recognized for serving 60 years as a rabbi during Shabbat services at Temple Israel on November 4. A Shabbat Talk with Rabbi Eckstein will take place in the Blue Room following Kiddush.

"People don't want to hear about my achievements," Rabbi Eckstein said while planning his presentation. "What they want to hear are stories about my experiences as a rabbi. I don't want to disappoint."

He said he always had a great deal of respect for Rabbi Waxman. "Within the rabbinate, Temple Israel was always known as 'Waxman's Shul.' Now, when I attend services at Temple Israel, I always stand at his portrait and say "Good Shabbos, Morty."

During his many years in the clergy, Rabbi Eckstein served in Harrisburgh, Pennsylvania, followed by Utica and Cedarhurst before his tenure in Little



Rabbi Abraham B. Eckstein

Neck. For two years he served as an Army chaplain, reaching the rank of Captain. During the past nine years he has been part of the Temple Israel clergy on the High Holy Days.

"During all these years I've had so many different experiences," he recalled fondly. "And through it all, I can say I always enjoyed my role as a rabbi."

## Next Voice Issues, Deadlines

The next issue of The Voice, the Hanukkah issue, will be published on Friday, December 1. The deadline for that issue is Wednesday, November 15.

The following issue will be published on January 12. The deadline for that issue is December 27.

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



**Samantha Becker**

Samantha Becker will be called to the Torah as a Bat Mitzvah on November 11. She is the daughter of Elana Mourtil and John Becker and has a sister, Elissa, 8. Samantha is an eighth grade student at Great Neck North Middle School. She enjoys singing and musical theater. Samantha is currently attending the Waxman High School and Youth House.



**Jamie Khezri**

Jamie Khezri will be celebrating his Bar Mitzvah on November 11. He is the son of Dalida and Roozbeh Khezri and has two sisters, Michelle Daniels, 29, and Lana Khezri, 25. Jamie is an eighth grade student at Great Neck North Middle School. He is the captain of the traveling soccer team and MVP of morning basketball. He will continue attending the Waxman High School and plans on taking a trip to Israel with his family.



**Isabella Frankel**

Isabella Frankel will be called to the Torah as a Bat Mitzvah on November 19. She is the daughter of Lynn and Alan Frankel and has a sister, Sarah, 15. Isabella is an eighth grade student at Great Neck North Middle School. She enjoys helping animals. Isabella plans to visit Israel with her family.

## Congregational

**Blood Drive  
Sunday  
November 19  
8:30 A.M. - 1 P.M.**

**Crystal Ballroom  
SPONSORED BY  
THE MEN'S CLUB**

**To make an  
appointment or for  
further information  
contact**

**Charles Adler at  
516-482-4421 or  
ciadler@aol.com**



**Zachary Astrof**

Zachary Astrof will celebrate his Bar Mitzvah on November 25. He is the son of Jackie Einstein Astrof and Joshua Astrof and has a brother, Jared, 15. He is the grandson of Temple Israel members Irene and Fred Einstein. Zachary is a seventh grade student at Great Neck North Middle School. He is on his school soccer and travel teams. Zachary travelled to Germany this past summer on a family heritage trip where he laid tefillin at the newly rebuilt synagogue in his grandfather's home town of Ulm. The synagogue was recently built next to where the synagogue had been before Kristallnacht and where his great-grandparents were married. He also visited the town of Buchau, home to the Einstein family since 1655.



**Angelina Dayani**

Angelina Dayani will be called to the Torah as a Bat Mitzvah on December 2. She is the daughter of Farsima and Nader Dayani and has a brother, Ethan, 11, and three sisters, Simona, 23, Isabella, 15, and Juliana, 9. Angelina is an eighth grade student at Great Neck North Middle School. She plays the piano, the violin in her school orchestra and is a member of the school field hockey team. Angelina plans to visit Israel in the near future.

# A USY Chapter Returns to Temple Israel

**From the Waxman High School and Yourh House** by Avi Siegel

We have had an incredible start to our Youth House year. In the past month we kicked off our school, had four weeks of holiday programs, and began engaging teens in meaningful ways.

The large focus this year is on bringing back our award winning USY youth chapter. In years past we had been involved with the organization and connected to the larger framework of our youth movement. With a few strategic implementations we are excited to recharge the program and bring more teens into the fold of Great Neck USY, providing them the opportunity for social action, social engagement, religious affinity, and positive self-growth.

The three aims we are focusing on are:

- Creation of our own local chapter of USY. The structure of the youth group is for all teens to have a place they can call home in their backyard. Our Youth House is that home for Great Neck Jewish teens.
- Giving the experience of Jewish life and teen community outside of Great Neck. This will be done by sponsoring a December break trip to Chicago that will coincide with the USY International Convention.
- Bringing the larger network of Long Island teen Jewry to Great Neck. We are going to be host to 250 Long Island teens this coming February 2-4. We are going to house USYers for the weekend as they come to pray, learn, and have fun.

We were proud to have a passionate USYer in our own midst, as Jacob Lurvey steps up and becomes the president of our USY chapter. He spoke eloquently on the High Holy Days about his summer trip with USY to the Dominican Republic. The following are his remarks. I hope his words will inspire you as they did me.

## A Student Reflects on USY

I'm up here on this special day to speak about USY and my experiences with it. For the lucky few of you who haven't heard people push it a hundred times before, USY stands for United Synagogue Youth and it is the youth

movement affiliated with the United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism. Today, there are over 15,000 teens who are registered members of USY, from all over the U.S.A. and Canada, and I am very happy to count myself as one of them. In addition, even though I count myself very fortunate to be a part of thriving Jewish communities such as Schechter and Temple Israel, USY allows me to connect with Judaism and other Jewish teens on an even broader and deeper level.

USY runs many divisional, regional, and international events throughout the year, but the places where the goals of the organization really shine through are in its summer programs. USY is best known for programs such as Wheels, where groups of teens travel across the country in a coach bus, visiting various locations along the way and connecting with both their country and their Judaism, and Pilgrimage, where USYers visit both Eastern Europe and Israel. Last year, I myself went on one of USY's lesser-known programs, "DREAM USY."

DREAM consists of a two-week trip to the Dominican Republic, with emphasis on community service and Jewish life in the area, and of course a good amount of sightseeing and general fun. I was nervous about it at first, because there would be only one person out of 27 on the trip who

I knew beforehand, but my fears were assuaged very quickly. Within the first day, I felt at home within the group, and now that it's over, I can confidently say that I made more than a couple of friends who I look forward to seeing at this year's international convention in Chicago.

While the whole trip was amazing, some parts really stood head and shoulders above the rest. One of the most powerful moments was on Tisha B'av, when our group visited the Jewish cemetery in Sosua. There we prayed Mincha, and commemorated the holocaust survivors who came to the Dominican Republic, one of the only countries to offer sanctuary for Jews at the time. This moment really spoke volumes to me about what USY is about. For a group of Jewish teens in a cemetery in a foreign country to find something to connect them so powerfully to Judaism is truly special. However, the trip wasn't all solemn moments. We experienced the joy of helping Dominican children learn English and painting in their school, the fun of swimming in a beautiful secluded river on the edge of a rural village, and the disappointment of hearing that dinner was yet again going to be fish and rice.

As USY can truly be a life-changing program, and without it I would not be the person I am today. I'd like to thank Temple Israel for being the place where I pray and where I come to express my Judaism, and with the hope that one day more people will have experienced USY and the joy that comes from it.

**A NIGHT OF FRIENDS - FOOD TRIVIA - FUN**

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 9, 2017**  
6:30 PM Pizza Dinner  
7:00 PM Game

\$25/Family  
\$40/Family at door  
Ages 10 and Up

Pre-Register Required  
[tign.org](http://tign.org)

Temple Israel  
of Great Neck  
Crystal Ballroom

**GAME OF THRONES**  
WHO WILL REIGN OVER OLD MILL ROAD?

**CHALLENGE IS COMING**  
**TIGN vs TBE**

Temple Israel of Great Neck

Temple Beth-El of Great Neck

# Finding Our Power

—Continued from page 2  
course, I couldn't take back the words.

At that moment I understood something that I want to reflect on for all of us. I have more power than we realize. We all have more power than we realize. Power to do harm. And power to do good.

Lately I've been hearing people say that they feel powerless. And it's understandable. We can't control so much of what happens to us. We wonder if people listen to us. We know that we can't change so much of the troubling things going on in the world. Between natural disasters and human inflicted misery, the world is quite a mess. The waters are rising. Hatred is rising.

At the beginning of the New Year, I bring us good news and here it is. Our tradition, our people, our Creator, all want us to know that we have more power than we realize. And that we can use our power to make things better. Where does our power come from?

First of all, it comes from doing something that we believe is important, from having a sense of purpose. When we have a sense of purpose, it gives us a foundation.

What do we do each day that gives us a sense of purpose? Perhaps we find it in our professional work. Perhaps we find it as a volunteer. Perhaps we find it when we help take care of someone. When we have a sense of purpose, it gives us a positive kind of power. If, for example, we believe that what we're doing makes a difference in someone's life, then we will have the guts to do what we need to do.

By extension, power comes from the words we use. "Maybe we'll save on college tuition," I said sarcastically ten years ago. Those were powerful words coming from a father regarding his son and the son heard those words and they were hurtful. We can hurt each other deeply with our words.

When I was in high school I acted in a show and at one point during a performance I messed up. I forgot a line or I was standing in the wrong place—I don't even remember. But I'll tell you what I do remember.

After the show was over, with the whole cast gathered around, the director said, looking

right at me, "A show is only as good as its weakest link." That was 35 years ago and I still remember his words. His message was unmistakable. I was the weakest link. We have the power to cut people down with our words, but we also have the power to raise people up.

When I first got to Temple Israel, a longstanding member of the congregation introduced herself and spoke a bit to me about Rabbi Waxman's great legacy. She then said, "Some people will say you have big shoes to fill. But I say—you'll find your own shoes." She has since passed on. Fourteen years later I well remember her words. They were a beautiful, empowering blessing.

Let's not forget how powerful our words are. Because the people we are talking to will remember. They will remember when we brought them down and when we raised

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**We all have more power  
than we realize.  
Power to do harm.  
And power to do good.**

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them up. At the beginning of this New Year, I ask us to consider how we can use the power of our words to lift up the people around us.

As an extension of the power of our purpose and the power of our words, we have the power of our actions. We can't tell hurricanes where to make landfall. But we can, as we are doing as a synagogue, raise funds and donate goods to communities that have been devastated by storms and other natural disasters.

We can't tell illness whom to affect and whom not to affect. But we can support those who are challenged by illness. We can visit and love and cook and listen and hug. Our actions can be quite powerful.

Given everything going on, I must talk about the power of our people. You are probably as worried as I am about the rise in hate crimes we are seeing. Hate crimes are on the rise. We are also witnessing rising racism, rising homophobia, rising Islamophobia, rising misogyny. This is not surprising. When hatred of one group rises, it usually accompanies hatred of another.

We have the power to fight this. We have the power to fight discriminatory hatred that's directed against anyone. Our power comes from the eternal message of the

Jewish people, which is prominently displayed toward the beginning of the Torah. The message is that all human beings are created in God's image. And therefore, everyone is deserving of equal love and respect, equal rights and opportunity. When people are being discriminated against based on race, religion, ethnicity, sexuality and gender, we have the power—because of our history and our message—to speak out and to advocate for fair and just treatment for everyone. Jews are perfectly situated to do this. We are vulnerable enough to know the difference and we are powerful enough to make a difference.

You will recall that when the neo-Nazi white supremacists were marching through Charlottesville this summer, they were chanting the same thing over and over again. "Jews will not replace us!" "Jews will not replace us!"

The statement is deeply offensive. It's also dead wrong. We will replace them. We, and our many allies, will replace their message with our message. We will replace their vision of America only for people who look a certain way and act a certain way with our vision of America as a place with liberty and justice for all.

We will replace their grotesque worship of uniformity with a genuine celebration of diversity because we acknowledge God as meshaneh et habriyot, the Creator who makes one human being different from another while all contain God's image.

We must continue to find allies who preach acceptance over rejection, love over hate. We must join with them, march with them, pray with them, and advocate together with them for an America that reflects our deep, powerful vision.

We could mope around feeling powerless. But, that's not the Jewish way. Instead, we say to God, Hayom t'amtzeinu. Help us today to discover our power.

Help us today to tap into the power of our purpose. Help us today to discover the power of our words. Help us today to realize the power of our actions. Help us today to harness the power of our people to ensure dignity and decency for everyone.

We are hardly powerless. Dear God, help us today to recognize our power and to use it for good.

# Honoring Jewish Armed Service Past and Present

**By Rabbi Daniel Schweber**

I enjoy reading stories about Jews in the U.S. Armed Forces, past and present. There is the story about 20 Jewish Union soldiers during the Civil War who put an actual brick on the seder plate because they didn't have charoset ingredients. There are stories about High Holiday services during World War II both in Europe and in the Pacific. Sometimes a bugle was used because there was no shofar. Today, I have colleagues who are chaplains in

**About 10,000 Jews served in the Civil War, 3,000 for the Confederacy and 7,000 for the Union.**

the Armed Services who share their experiences such as holding seders on Navy ships and lighting Hanukkah candles on bases.

During much of the 2,000-year-long exile of the Jews, we were often a nation without a country and considered resident aliens at best. No matter what Jews did to show loyalty, including serving in the armed forces and giving of their lives, the loyalty of Jews in most countries was suspect. It was believed by many that Jews could not be loyal to Judaism and to one's country of citizenship.

Since its founding in 1776, Jewish citizens of the U.S.A. have been treated as full citizens and Jews have fulfilled their responsibilities as citizens, including serving in the Armed Forces. We know from George Washington's letter to the Jewish community of Newport, Rhode Island that Jews helped fund the revolutionary effort. About 10,000 Jews served in the Civil War, 3,000 for the Confederacy and 7,000 for the Union. That fact, alone, displays Jewish loyalty. 250,000 Jews served in World War I and a whopping 550,000 served in World War II. 150,000 served in the Korean War and 30,000 Jews fought in Vietnam.

It is difficult to determine how many Jews are presently serving in the U.S. Armed Forces. But, we know Jews are serving and all of the Armed forces

employ Jewish chaplains to serve them. In today's Armed Forces, the JWB provides things for all of the holidays, including seder kits with charoset!

The Veterans Day holiday originates from the World War I armistice on November 11, 1918. This Veterans Day marks the 99th year since the end of World War I. Veterans Day is an opportunity to honor all those who serve and have served to uphold and protect our values. We can also use Veterans Day to commit ourselves to uphold our values. The following is an excerpt from the the Jewish War Veterans mission statement; "To maintain true allegiance to the United States of America; to foster and perpetuate true Americanism; to combat whatever tends to impair the

efficiency and permanency of our free institutions; to uphold the fair name of the Jew and fight his or her battles wherever unjustly assailed; to encourage the doctrine of universal liberty, equal rights, and full justice to all men and women; to combat the powers of bigotry and darkness wherever originating and whatever their target."

I think the words speak for themselves. It is up to all of us, those who serve, and those who don't, to protect and uphold these values.

To all in our Temple Israel community who have served and are presently serving, we salute and honor you. You deserve a true and heartfelt yasher koach and chazak, u'baruch.

## Polishing Up for the High Holy Days



Getting ready for the High Holy Days is a lot of work, but a crew of members went to work making sure all religious silver was nicely polished. The volunteers were, above left to right, Ofra Panzer, Brenda Kopelowitz, Alicia Lev, Raeann and Ashley Nemiroff, and Sherry Husney.

## Temple Israel Film Series Resuming Dec. 3



The Temple Israel Film Series resumes with a showing of "The Zookeeper's Wife," based on the true story of Antonia and Jan Zabinski, the keepers of the Warsaw Zoo. In 1939 the Zabinskis choose to resist the Nazis and put plans into action to save the lives of people in what became the Warsaw Ghetto. The picture, complete with movie snacks, is sponsored by TILL, Temple Israel Lifelong Learning, and begins at 7 P.M. in the Crystal Ballroom.



Rabbi Myron Fenster, left, and his wife, Ricky, were honored recently by the Holocaust Memorial and Tolerance Center. With them is Temple Israel Past President Steven Markowitz.

## Honoring Rabbi and Ricky Fenster

Rabbi Myron Fenster and his wife, Ricky, were honored at the Holocaust Memorial and Tolerance Center of Nassau County's 25th Annual Tribute Dinner, held last month at the Old Westbury Hebrew Congregation.

Rabbi Fenster, who served as Temple Israel's interim rabbi following the retirement and passing of Rabbi Mordecai Waxman, received the Holocaust Center's "Legacy Award." He was instrumental in the creation of the Center and has been involved with it ever since. Prior to coming to Temple Israel, Rabbi Fenster was for many years the senior rabbi at the Shelter Rock Jewish Center.

Temple Israel Past President Steven Markowitz is chairman of the Holocaust Memorial and Tolerance Center.

## From the President: What We Do

—Continued from page 2

wife and I took seats in the back. Annie's mother gave a brief speech, talking about how proud she was of her daughter and thanking Temple Israel for helping her reach this milestone.

Annie spoke next. She told of her yearning to learn about her Jewish roots, to become a Bat Mitzvah, and to be a part of the Jewish community. There is no way I can do this speech justice, but suffice it to say that this was one of the most moving B'nei Mitzvah speeches I ever heard. It moved my wife to tears and I was getting choked-up myself.

At the conclusion of the service we went up to congratulate the family. They thanked us over and over and could not have been more grateful. I said to her Mom, this is why we—Temple Israel—exists. This is what we do.

We, as a community, enabled this young woman to reach for her goals, to learn about her Judaism, to experience what all of us Jewish adults have done for generations—be the Jewish people. That is why we do what we do.

And, if you were wondering, there was no after party planned for Annie's coming of age, as the service was the highlight and the music was her voice chanting the blessings. It is our communal responsibility to teach those who seek to be taught—to offer support, financial, emotional, and spiritual—to those in need.

And it is our communal responsibility to financially support our synagogue. If you have contributed to our High Holy Days Appeal in the past, we thank you for your contribution and ask that you consider increasing it this year. If you haven't participated, please consider joining us this year. Pledges made for our High Holy Days need only be paid by the end of our fiscal year in June.

## Reinventing Ourselves

—Continued from page 2

I watched my own parents reinvent themselves at various points in their lives. My father, who commuted daily for decades to a job an hour and a half from our house, reconstituted his post-retirement life around impactful volunteer work and auditing classes in subjects he had always wanted to pursue. Following my father's death, my mother stepped into numerous roles that had previously been filled by my father.

Sometimes we reinvent ourselves in response to external changes, sometimes as a result of evolving inner dynamics. Whatever the motivation, we are asking a similar question: At any point in time, how do we bring the essence of who we are to our surroundings? My parents were the same people they always were following their respective reinventions, but they learned new ways of facing new situations. We should always be mindful of who we are essentially, of what constitutes our core identity, as we face the challenges of adaptation.

In an interview with journalist Oriana Fallaci, Golda Meir said the following about growing older: "Old age is like a plane flying through a storm. Once you're aboard, there's nothing you can do. You can't stop the plane, you can't stop the storm, you can't stop time. So one might as well accept it calmly, wisely." (Fallaci, *L'Europe*, 1973)

Even a casual analysis of Golda Meir's later life suggests that along with accepting the reality of growing older, she continued to meet new realities with creativity and resolve.

From Abraham and Sarah onward, we have chosen to meet life's challenges, and to maximize life's opportunities, through the process of reinvention. Let each of us continue to have the courage and creativity to bring the essence of who we are to the mandate of each moment in our lives.

### New Temple Israel Office Hours

Beginning Friday, November 10, the Temple Israel Friday office hours will be 9:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M.

# From Generation to Generation

## Temple Israel Gratefully Acknowledges The Following Contributions

### ISRAEL SOLIDARITY FUND

In honor of:

The birth of Lexington Wells Smolinsky, grandson of Carol and Steve Smolinsky  
 Bilha and Abraham Sheffy  
 Shahram (Mike) Delafraz for organizing the Sukkah Caravan  
 Rebecca and Sassan Sassouni  
 Josh Forst, for his exemplary service in the aftermath of 9/11 and his moving words at the Temple Israel 9/11 Memorial Service  
 Elissa and Joel Schiff  
 Jennifer Khoda  
 Lila Bernstein-Schoen and Alexander Schoen  
 Rachelle and Ebby Ohebshalom  
 Manny Bardash  
 Van Frankel  
 Rebecca and Sassan Sassouni

In memory of:

Ruth Danis  
 Lori and Paul Freudman  
 Touran Amirian  
 Behrooz Khodadadian  
 Marjan and Shahram Taied

### TEMPLE ISRAEL FUND

In appreciation of:

Being honored on Simḥat Torah  
 Rachelle and Ebby Ohebshalom

In memory of:

Anette Fischer  
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 Marta Oppenheimer  
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 Lori Stein Freudman

Contributions:

Ellayne Ganzfried  
 Monica Abitbol  
 Anonymous

### SHALOM CLUB LIBRARY SHELF FUND

In honor of:

Manny Bardash being honored on Simḥat Torah  
 Carol and Steve Smolinsky

### PRAYER BOOK FUND

In memory of:

Dora Rosenbaum  
 Anna Epstein  
 Harriet Rosenbaum  
 Mildred Kleinhaus  
 Barbara Choit

### RABBI SCHWEBER'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

In appreciation of:

Rabbi Schweber officiating at the funeral of her husband,  
 David Rachman  
 Barbara Rachman

In memory of:

Joseph Shahmoon  
 Yvonne Shahmoon  
 Touran Amirian  
 Behrooz Khodadadian  
 Karen and Dan Covitt  
 Rose Danzig  
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 Carole and Arthur Anderman  
 Alexander Sheffy  
 Abe Sheffy

### LIBRARY FUND

In memory of:

William Litner  
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 Judith Litner  
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 Rose Rudich

### DAILY MINYAN FUND

In honor of:

Lila Bernstein-Schoen and Alexander Schoen on being honored on Simḥat Torah  
 Carol and Steve Smolinsky  
 Gerri Shapiro-Berkman  
 Marilyn Torodash  
 Alise Kreditor, Jeffrey Englander and family  
 Barbara and Leonard Schultz

### WAXMAN HIGH SCHOOL AND YOUTH HOUSE FUND

In honor of:

The engagement of Michael Gould  
 Parvenah and Parviz Khodadadian

### RABBI STECKER'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

In appreciation of:

Rabbi Stecker's support and for officiating at funeral services  
 Mark Berkman  
 The complete recovery of their daughter-in-law, Helene Wasserman, from a horrible accident  
 Dorisanne and Jack Wasserman

In honor of:

Her son, Brent Greenspan, receiving a High Holy Day Honor  
 Sylvia Greenspan

In memory of:

Joseph Shahmoon  
 Yvonne Shahmoon  
 Rose Danzig  
 Morris Danzig  
 Carole and Arthur Anderman

Contribution:

Ellen and Roger Roisman

## D'var Torah

—Continued from back page

### Toledot Saturday, November 18

In this portion we follow the events in the lives of Isaac and Rebekah. Twin sons, Esau and Jacob, are born and their struggles before birth foreshadow later conflicts between the nations they are to find. Although Jacob is the younger, he tricks Esau out of his birthright. Isaac, like Abraham, meets a number of challenges and is assured by God that he will have many descendants and possess the land of Canaan. When Isaac feels his end approaching and arranges to pass the blessing of concession on to Esau, Rebekah connives to have Jacob trick his father and receive the blessing for himself. Jacob must then flee to the ancestral homeland to escape Esau's wrath, but before he leaves Isaac intentionally passes on to him the blessing of Abraham. This action attests that the leadership of the Jewish people depends on God's plan, not an accident of birth.

### Vayetze Saturday, November 25

We follow the fortunes of Jacob as he leaves the land of Canaan to travel to the ancestral home in Mesopotamia, spends 20 years there and leaves to return to Canaan in this portion. Jacob, fleeing for his life, stops for a night at a place near the border and has a dream in which the angels ascend and descend a ladder to heaven. God confirms the blessing of Abraham for Jacob, and Jacob, upon awakening, names the place Beth El, the House of God. Arriving in Mesopotamia, Jacob encounters Rachel, his cousin, at a well and falls in love with her. He negotiates with his uncle, Laban, for Rachel's hand, is tricked by Laban, and then decides it is time to return home. He leaves with two wives, two concubines, 11 sons, one daughter and much livestock. These events show how Jacob begins to become worthy of the blessing he has been given and of being a successor to Abraham and Isaac.

### Vayishlah Saturday, December 2

In this portion we conclude the independent stories about Jacob. In the remainder of the Book of Genesis his life is intertwined with the biography of Joseph. Jacob prepares to encounter Esau by dividing his camp as a safety

precaution and sending a large gift of livestock to his brother. He wrestles all night with a mysterious assailant from whom he wrests a blessing at daybreak in the form of a change of name from Jacob to Israel. Following the successful meeting with Esau, Jacob travels on and settles down. His daughter, Dinah, is ravished by a local prince, and two of her brothers take fearful revenge. Other events serve to sever decisively the connection of the patriarchs with Mesopotamia. By the end of this portion, our focus is shifted from the lives of individuals to the emerging people of Israel.

### Thanking the Helpers For the High Holy Days

Temple Israel thanks the Men's Club members who labeled High Holy Day seats and distributed Kol Nidre Pledge Cards. They include Charles Adler, Robert Aizer, Michael Becker and his son, Harold Citron, Jack Guberman, Sam Husney, Marty Kanefsky, Ken Kobliner, Robert Lopatkin, Marc Langsner, Jack Moallem, Seth Moin, Gary Sazer, David Scherr, Abe Sheffy, Steve Smolinsky, and Howard Spun.

## Daily Minyan Times

### Friday, November 3

7:00 A.M. 4:40 P.M.

### Friday, November 10 & 17

7:00 A.M. 4:30 P.M.

### Friday, Nov. 24 & Dec. 1 & 8

7:00 A.M. 4:15 P.M.

### Sunday

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

### Monday

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

### Tuesday & Wednesday

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

### Thursday, Nov. 9, 16 & 30 & Dec. 7

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

### Thursday, November 23

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

## Candle Lighting Times

### Friday, November 3

4:32 P.M.

### Friday, November 10

4:24 P.M.

### Friday, November 17

4:18 P.M.

### Friday, November 24

4:13 P.M.

### Friday, December 1

4:10 P.M.

## Sabbath Services

—Continued from back page

### Friday, November 24

Evening Services 4:15 P.M.

### Saturday, November 25

Shaharit Morning Service 8:45 A.M.

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

Weekly Portion: Vayetze

Genesis 28:10-32:3

Haftarah: Hosea 12:13-4:10

Sabbath Service Officers and Greeters:

Dan Goldberger, Harold Citron,  
Irene Tannenholtz, and Diana Stein

Bar Mitzvah: Zachary Astrof

son of Jackie Einstein Astrof and Joshua Astrof  
and grandson of Irene and Fred Einstein

Havurah Service 10:00 A.M.

Junior Congregation 10:30 A.M.

Toddler Service 11:00 A.M.

Afternoon Service 3:55 P.M.

Se'udah Shelishit 4:25 P.M.

Evening Service 4:58 P.M.

Havdalah 5:13 P.M.

### Friday, December 1

Evening Service 4:15 P.M.

### Saturday, December 2

Shaharit Morning Service 8:45 A.M.

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

Weekly Portion: Vayishlah

Genesis 32:4 – 36:43

Haftarah: Obadiah 1:1 – 21

Sabbath Service Officers and Greeters:

Lynn Weitzman, Andi Katz, Gail Zahler,  
Sima Taeid, and Brent Greenspan

Bat Mitzvah: Angelina Dayani

daughter of Farsima and Nader Dayani

Junior Congregation 10:30 A.M.

Toddler Service 11:00 A.M.

Afternoon Service 3:50 P.M.

Se'udah Shelishit 4:20 P.M.

Evening Service 4:55 P.M.

Havdalah 5:10 P.M.

## Despite the Weather, Temple Israel Fans Enjoy a Trip to See the Jets



A little rain—or even a huge downpour—didn't dampen spirits when members of the Men's Club went to a Jets game last Sunday. The

Jets didn't win, even with Temple Israel Rabbis praying for victory, but the fans say the tailgate party was worth the trip!



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# D'var Torah

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## Hayyey Sarah November 11

We conclude the cycle of Abraham and Sarah stories, Sarah dies at the age of 127 and Abraham purchases a burial site, the Cave of Machpelah in Hebron, from the local Hittite inhabitants in this portion. This cave becomes the burial place for the patriarchs, Abraham, Isaac and Jacob and their wives, Sarah, Rebekah and Leah. As Abraham faces the prospect of his own death, he arranges a marriage for Isaac by sending his chief servant back to the family homeland to negotiate for the hand of a family member. When the servant returns with Rebekah, Isaac installs her in Sarah's tent and marries her, and in their love he finds comfort after his mother's death. Thus, God's plan of history unfolds through a series of commonplace and natural events.

—Continued on page 10

### Temple Israel of Great Neck

## Voice

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\*Deceased

## Sabbath Services

<b>Friday, November 3</b> Evening Service 5:40 P.M.	Havdalah 5:30 P.M.	Havdalah 5:23 P.M.
<b>Saturday, November 4</b> Shaharit Morning Service 8:45 A.M. 60th Anniversary of Rabbi Eckstein's Ordination First Mourner's Kaddish 9:25 A.M. Weekly Portion: Vayera; Genesis 18:1 – 22:24 Haftarah: II Kings 4:1 - 37 Sabbath Service Officers and Greeters: Ezra Kassin, Barbara Levy, Andi Katz, Mark Putter, and Susan Brustein	<b>Friday, November 10</b> Evening Service 4:30 P.M.	<b>Friday, November 17</b> N'Ranenah/Evening Service 6:30 P.M.
<b>Saturday, November 11</b> Shaharit Morning Service 8:45 A.M. First Mourner's Kaddish 9:25 A.M. Weekly Portion: Hayyey Sarah Genesis 23:1 – 25:18 Haftarah: I Kings 1:1 – 31 Sabbath Service Officers and Greeters: Neda Sedgh, Jack Yachbes, Gail Zahler, Mark Birnbaum, and Andi Katz	<b>Saturday, November 18</b> Shaharit Morning Service 8:45 A.M. Shabbat Morning Group Aliyah First Mourner's Kaddish 9:25 A.M. Weekly Portion: Toledot; Genesis 25:19-28:9 Haftarah: I Samuel 20:18 – 42 Sabbath Service Officers and Greeters: Adam Covitt, Burton Weston, Rebecca Sassouni, Edith Robbins, and Joyce Weston	
Bat Mitzvah: Maya Somekh daughter of Isabel and Ramin Somekh Bar Mitzvah: Evan Lipp son of Sharona and Alan Lipp	Bat Mitzvah: Samantha Becker daughter of Elana Mourtill and John Becker Bar Mitzvah: Jamie Khezri son of Dalida and Roozbeh Khezri	Shabbat HaMishpachah 10:30 A.M. Toddler Service 11:00 A.M. Waxman High School 11:00 A.M. Shabbat Program Niggun Circle following Kiddush Afternoon Service 4:00 P.M. Evening Service 5:02 P.M. Havdalah 5:17 P.M.
Junior Congregation 10:30 A.M. Toddler Service 11:00 A.M. Shabbat Talk: Rabbi Eckstein 12:45 P.M. Afternoon Service 4:10 P.M. Evening Service 5:15 P.M.	Havurah Service 10:00 A.M. Junior Congregation 10:30 A.M. Toddler Service 11:00 A.M. Afternoon Service 4:05 P.M. Evening Service 5:08 P.M.	

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