

## Temple Israel Players Performing ‘Joseph And the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat’

by Marc Katz, Editor

Award-winning Broadway musical “Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat” has been selected as the next production by the Temple Israel Players, to be staged on Saturday evening, March 28, and Sunday afternoon, March 29 in the Crystal Ballroom.

“This is a feel-good show,” said Debbie Volk, one of the producers of the show. “Most people know the story of Joseph from the Book of Genesis,” she said, “but this show brings it to life and puts a smile on your face. It is upbeat, catchy and fun—a musical comedy told completely through song.”

More than 30 congregants appear in the show, including 11 children ages 7-16, and a number of parent-child performers. A nine-piece live orchestra—the largest in The Players’

more than 40-year history—includes five Temple Israel members.

The musical was the first collaboration between composer Andrew Lloyd Webber and lyricist Tim Rice. It is based on the “coat of many colors” story of Joseph from the Book of Genesis. The musical was first mounted on Broadway in 1982, followed by several major revivals, national tours, and a 1999 film starring Donny Osmond. It is reported that more than 20,000 schools and amateur theatre groups have staged the production.

“Joseph” has been nominated for numerous recognitions, including six Tonys and three Drama Desk Awards. The show has received Tony nominations for Best Musical, Best Original Score, and Best Book of a Musical, and features many diverse styles of music ranging as

wide as Calypso and Country-Western, among many others.

The producers of the Temple Israel show, along with Ms. Volk, are Amy David, Ron Klempner and Mark Putter. The stage director is JoJo Conley and the musical director is Chris McKee.

Ms. Conley, who is returning to direct a Temple Israel Players’ production for a fourth consecutive year, “has a clear vision of where she wants to take our group,” Ms. Volk said. “She knows the types of skills we have and how to best use them.”

Ms. Volk continued, “This show is perfectly suited for us for a few reasons. The Players have been building their repertoire of skills and now are ready for a new

—Continued on page 8



A large cast and crew is now at work preparing to stage “Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat” on March 28 and 29.

---

---

## Planning a Temple Israel Bar or Bat Mitzvah

---

---

A Voice Guest Column by Marc Langsner

EDITOR'S NOTE: The Bar and Bat Mitzvah program at Temple Israel offers a multi-level curriculum of training, as detailed in this Voice Guest Column by Bar/Bat Mitzvah Committee Chair Marc Langsner.

As I have just completed my 25th year as the chairperson of Temple Israel's Bar/Bat Mitzvah Committee, I thought it would be an appropriate time to

---

**...the B'nei Mitzvah Program at our synagogue is quite comprehensive and taken very seriously.**

---

summarize our B'nei Mitzvah Program. Hopefully, this column will prove helpful, especially to those families who haven't yet had the experience.

Becoming a Bar or Bat Mitzvah is a spiritual rite of passage. It is not a single event, but a milestone in a child's ongoing religious education and life-long engagement with a commitment

to living as a Jew. Temple Israel's clergy, educational directors, administrative staff, and lay leadership take great pride in preparing our children for their Bar or Bat Mitzvah. Once your child has become a Bar or Bat Mitzvah, the next step in the life-long process of learning and living Jewishly is to continue his or her Jewish education at our Waxman High School and Youth House.

Families will receive their B'nei Mitzvah dates two to three years prior to the ceremony at the annual Parent's B'nei Mitzvah Orientation. Rabbis Stecker, Roth, and Schweber, Cantor Frieder, Waxman High School Director Avi Siegel, congregation President Burton Weston, and I will speak at the orientation. The B'nei Mitzvah

—Continued on page 8

---

---

## Difficult Conversations

---

---

From the Rabbi by Rabbi Howard Stecker

Without much effort, you can probably think of a conversation that you are having, or should be having, that's a difficult conversation.

Perhaps you have been, or should be, talking to your child about a challenge he or she is having socially in school. Perhaps you have been, or should be, talking to your aging parent around issues of independence. Perhaps you have been, or should be, talking with a partner about emotional or physical intimacy in your relationship. Perhaps you have been, or should be, talking with someone you supervise at work about how their performance has been problematic or you have been, or should be, talking to your supervisor about receiving greater responsibility and compensation.

"Difficult Conversations," an insightful book by Douglas Stone, Bruce Patton and Sheila Heen, offers helpful

advice about how to have the kinds of conversations that we often prefer to avoid. The authors identify that every difficult conversation has three dynamics going on for both parties. The first dynamic is "what happened/

---

**Most of what's really going on remains hidden...**

---

what should happen." Both parties in the conversation have their own version of what's going on and what should be going on. "I think I am a great driver and should continue to drive;" "You think my reflexes aren't what they used to be and I should hand over the keys."

The second dynamic has to do with the feelings each person has around the conversation. "I feel frustrated that I'm losing control over my life." "You feel sad that I'm growing older."

—Continued on page 11

---

---

## Conservative Judaism

---

---

From the President by Burton Weston

During the first week of December, I, together with our rabbis, executive director, members of our lay leadership, and congregants—12 strong from Temple Israel—participated in United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism's biannual convention captioned "2020 Judaism." Done for the first time in conjunction with the Rabbinical Assembly's annual meeting, the conference brought together over 1,200 conservative Jews, including more than 200 rabbis and representatives of more than 250 synagogues across

---

**The most important takeaway ...is that the movement is alive, thriving, and willing to work through its challenges.**

---

the country to explore the issues confronting the movement today, the joys of our faith, and innovative approaches to some of the challenges we collectively face. The Conference brought together an extraordinary array of thought leaders, committed learners, and a solid core of next generation youth who together demonstrated that Conservative Judaism is alive, responsive, innovating, and rich. Praying together, singing together, exploring together, and dreaming together, the Conference lifted spirits and minds and provided a forum to make new, and build on, existing relationships.

There were a number of takeaways from the Conference. One thought provoking one is that Judaism is counter-cultural in the context of America's focus on competition, individualism, personal success and achievement. Judaism, in turn, is community-based—collective success, a feeling of belonging, and community responsibility for economic and social improvement—all hallmarks of Jewish thought. Another counter-cultural trait of Judaism is our focus on compassion, our collective obligation to help those in need. This contrasts with the

—Continued on page 10

## In Memoriam

Temple Israel extends condolences  
to the families of:

### MAXINE FELDMAN

sister of Berle Berger

### FERESHTEH AND PARVIZ SHENASSA

parents of Philip Shenassa,  
David Shenassa, Nazila Rastegar  
and Dalia Naim

### DIANA DOLGIN

mother of Neil Dolgin, Kalmon Dolgin,  
and the late Gail Dolgin  
and Stuart Dolgin  
and member of Temple Israel

### HOWARD KRIMKO

husband of Andrea Krimko  
and father of Stuart Krimko

### ADELE ZIMMERMAN

mother of Michael Zimmerman,  
Robert Zimmerman and Susan Hirsch

### MICHAEL FISHMAN

husband of Marilyn Schneider  
father of Melanie, Dominick  
and Brett Schneider

### ABI KALIMIAN

brother of Minu Ohebshalom  
and Elias Kalimian

### MILTON ROSEN

husband of Ellen Rosen  
father of Leslie Levy, David Rosen  
and Craig Rosen  
and member of Temple Israel

### EDWARD GOLDFEDER

husband of Shirley Goldfeder  
father of Debra Goldfeder Nusbaum  
and Allan, Perry and Samuel Goldfeder  
and member of Temple Israel

### MOUSSA DAYAN

father of Marjan Taied

### ASHRAF KAHEN

mother of Robert Kahen, Roya Delshad,  
Nazy Cohen, and Romina Pour

*May their memories be for a blessing.*

## Upcoming Events at Temple Israel

### February 26

"Coffee and Conversation" 7:15 P.M.  
with Rabbi Schweber at  
Crawford Coffee Café

### February 27

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

### February 29

Shabbat Talk 12:45 P.M.

Guest speaker:  
Assemblyman Anthony D'Urso

### March 1

Hamantashen Workshop Noon

Temple Israel Film Series 7:00 P.M.

presents "The Wedding Plan"

### March 3

Sisterhood Luncheon Noon

### March 6

Congregational Dinner 6:30 P.M.

### March 7

Shabbat Talk: 12:45 P.M.

Women in Judaism"

### March 8

Waxman Youth House 10:00 A.M.

Purim Carnival

### March 9

Purim Celebrations 6:15 P.M.

### March 10

Purim

### March 15

B'nei Mitzvah 10:30 A.M.

Family Workshop

### March 19

Board of Trustees Meeting 8:15 P.M.

### March 20

Men's Club Shabbat 6:30 P.M.

Hahodesh Service followed

by dinner featuring

Cantor Frieder and Avi Siegel

### March 21

Shabbat Talk 12:45 P.M.

### March 22

B'nei Mitzvah 10:30 A.M.

Family Workshop

### March 23

Gentle Yoga 9:00 P.M.

Baby and Me Yoga 10:15 A.M.

### March 26

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

### March 28

Temple Israel Players 8:30 P.M.

present: "Joseph and the  
Technicolor Dreamcoat"

### March 29

B'nei Mitzvah 10:30 A.M.

Family Workshop

Temple Israel Players 2:00 P.M.

Present: "Joseph and the  
Technicolor Dreamcoat"

Temple Israel Players 5:00 P.M.

Cast Party

### March 30

Gentle Yoga 9:00 P.M.

Baby and Me Yoga 10:15 A.M.

## UNLOCKING THE MYSTERIES OF THE SIDDUR

Led by Rabbi Amy Roth

Wednesdays

February 26

March 4, 11, 18 & 25

April 1 & 22

11:00 AM

Together we will navigate the siddur (prayer book),  
figure out its geography, the details and themes of our  
prayers, while practicing Hebrew reading and identifying  
root words and concepts.

We will also learn the choreography of the service and  
gain a familiarity with the siddur that we use here at  
Temple Israel.

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



**Elizabeth Matalon**

Elizabeth Matalon will be celebrating her Bat Mitzvah on February 29. She is the daughter of Natali and David Matalon and has two sisters, Jacqueline, 11, and Danielle, 3, and a brother, Solomon, 9. Elizabeth is a seventh grade honor student at Great Neck North Middle School. She performs with the Temple Israel Players and enjoys playing tennis. Elizabeth's Bat Mitzvah project involved stroke awareness. She currently attends the Waxman High School.

### Mazal Tov To...

- **Elissa and Dr. Joel Schiff** on the birth of their granddaughter, Olivia Jade Schiff.
- **Alise Kreditor and Jeffrey Englander** on the birth of their grandson, Lorenzo Cole Davis.
- **Helene Schachter** on the birth of her twin great-grandsons, Damian Shay and Gavin Noah Lozada and her great-granddaughter, Ella Stagliano.
- **Linda and Brent Greenspan** on the engagement of their daughter, Amanda, to Matthew Ackerman.
- **Vivian and Yuval Brash** on the engagement of their son, Andrew, to Samantha Netkin.
- **Sarah and Bruce Rothstein** on the birth of their grandson, Jay Darius Riesenbergl.
- **Mitra Mirjani** on the engagement of her son, David, to Shereen Rashidi.
- **Laurie and Van Frankel** on the engagement of their son, Daniel to Nicole Adhami.
- **Mitra Mirjani** on the engagement of her daughter, Nicole, to Daniel Frankel.
- **Farnaz and Shahram Delafraz** on the marriage of their daughter, Shauna, to Daniel Gabay.

## A B'nai/B'not Mitzvah for the Grown Ups!



A new class of congregants celebrated their adult B'nai Mitzvah at Temple Israel last month, culminating 18 months of intense study of Hebrew reading, ritual chanting and Jewish texts. Mahvash Abitbol, David Eshaghoff, Nahid Mashihi, and Nellie Mizrachi were called to the Torah on January 25. They were taught by Rabbis Howard Stecker and Daniel Schweber, Cantor Raphael Frieder, and Rahel Musleah.

## Vav 6th Grade Family Retreat

May 15-17, 2020

*Join fellow 6th Grade Families (including siblings of all ages) for group bonding, great food, along with the great outdoors – all in the serenity of the camp experience!*

Family Bonding! Relaxation! Under two hours away!

- Camp Fire with **S'mores** and "Sing - Along"
- **SPORTS** and Outdoor Activities
- **Nature Walks**
- Stargazing
- **Joyous Shabbat Celebration**
- **Outdoor Amidah**
- Child Care if needed



#### Location:

Camp Ramah in the Berkshires  
[www.ramahberkshires.org](http://www.ramahberkshires.org)  
 Wingdale, New York

#### Accommodations:

Private Rooms with Private Bathrooms for Each Family, in the Camp's "Guest Accommodations"

#### Cost for 2 Nights:

\$195/Adult  
 \$140/Child (5-13 year olds)  
 Free for children under 5



**SPACE IS LIMITED! Reserve your spot no later than March 27th!**

**Call 482-7800 or Email [ktanenbaum@tign.org](mailto:ktanenbaum@tign.org)**

Organized and Run By Rabbi Amy Roth & Avi Siegel

# Waxman Youth House Brings Generations Together Through Midnight Run to Help New York's Homeless

by Marc Katz, Editor

Midnight Run—one of the long running pillar chesed projects of Temple Israel's Waxman Youth House—brings together children, teens, parents, and grandparents in service to “make the world a better place.” They organize clothing, prepare meals and create hygiene kits to take with them as they set out to better understand the homeless population of New York City.

More than 35 participants formed a caravan in eight cars, making three midtown stops to distribute coats, hats, gloves, scarves, sweaters, sweatshirts, shoes and boots, socks, blankets, and toiletries they had collected for the upcoming winter. In addition, they gave out meal kits, coffee, tea, hot chocolate, hot soup, and water bottles.

“The engagement connects people on a humane level which fosters trust, sharing, understanding and affection,” said Waxman Youth House Director Avi Siegel. “It is a real human exchange, not just an exchange of goods.”

In advance of the trip to New York, Mr. Siegel talks with the teen participants to discuss what they might see and encounter. “We talk about what people could be going through and what privilege we hold when meeting them, which play into how they might receive us and react,” he said, “I also share stories of past Midnight Run trips. It is amazing the legacy that this has created and how it has the real power to change the lives of people.”

This year Midnight Run welcomed former Youth House members Zach Leventhal and Eric Delafraz to join them, along with their colleagues at the Donation Initiative. This brought another layer of connection to both the community and Youth House members.

Midnight Run also brings families together, with some spanning three generations. Teens who participated include Alexandra Ahdoot, Juliette Ahdoot, Noah Ahdoot, Jared Astrof, Zach Astrof, Ethan Bloom, Matthew Bloom, Alexis Dorf, Joey Eshaghoff, Sophia Gal, Sophia Hendizadeh, Mikayla Hendizadeh, Julia Hyman, Margalit Jacobi, Gabby Kashani, Jared Kimiabakhsh, Zak Kimiabakhsh, Chloe Mizrahi, Aaron Ohebshalom, Josh Ohebshalom, Maya Ohebshalom, Amanda Putter, Amanda Roth, Garrett Roth, Amanda Volk, Liam Weinberger, Julia Weinreich, Elie Weitzman, Sigal Weitzman, and Eric Yachbes.

Supplies were packed by the Astrof, Bloom, Gal, Delafraz, Doustan, Ohebshalom, Volk, and Weitzman families.

“At the end of the night we held a meeting in the heart of Times Square to discuss what we just experienced,” Mr.

—Continued on page 11



# PURIM CELEBRATIONS



**MONDAY, MARCH 9**

**Purim Pre-School & Kindergarten Service  
6:30 PM - 7:30 PM**

A service will be held for **Pre-Schoolers, Kindergartners** and their **families** in the **Crystal Ballroom** led by **Morah Mojdeh** and **Morah Yve**. There will be singing and stories followed by refreshments.

**Communal Megillah Reading  
7:00 PM**

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  
6:15 PM**

**Minhah, Ma'ariv** and a **Full Megillah Reading** will be held in the **Blue Room**. **Cantor Frieder** will lead the service, with participation of students from the **Waxman Youth House**.

Following the **Blue Room** and **Sanctuary** services, there will be refreshments and music.



**SUNDAY, MARCH 8  
10:00 AM - 12:00 PM**

**Purim Carnival for children** led by **Waxman Youth House** teens. Join us for fun, games and karaoke.

**TUESDAY, MARCH 10**

**6:30 AM  
Morning Service &  
Full Megillah Reading in the Chapel.**

## Adult Purim Party

# PUB TRIVIA NIGHT

**Saturday, March 7 8:00 PM**

**Hosted by Rob Panzer & Leon Silverberg**



## Temple Lites...

• Rabbi Myron Fenster and his wife, Ricki, will receive the **Keter Shem Tov** award from the **Schechter School of Long Island** at their annual gala, to be held on **March 19**. For further information about the event call **935-1441**.

## Candle Lighting Times

**Friday, February 21**

5:17 P.M.

**Friday, February 28**

5:25 P.M.

**Friday, March 6**

5:33 P.M.

## Daily Minyan Times

**Friday, February 21 & 28**

7:00 A.M. 5:30 P.M.

**Friday, March 6**

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

**Sunday**

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

**Monday, February 24 & March 2**

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

**Monday, March 9**

6:45 A.M. 6:15 P.M.

**Tuesday, March 3**

**and Wednesday, March 4 & 11**

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

**Tuesday, February 25**

**& Wednesday, February 26**

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

**Tuesday, March 10 (Purim)**

6:30 A.M. 8:00 P.M.

**Thursday**

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

## Congregation Says Thanks To Recent Kiddush Sponsors

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

A contribution towards the kiddush on **November 2** was made by **Joni** and **Peter Scheidt** in honor of the **Bar Mitzvah** of their son, **Noah**.

The congregational kiddush on **November 9** was sponsored by **Sharona** and **Alan Lipp** in honor of the **Bar Mitzvah** of their son, **Zachary**. A contribution towards the kiddush was made by **Roberta** and **Eric Delson** in honor of the **Auf Ruf** of their son, **William**, and **Lisa Levy**.

# A Temple Israel Scrapbook

## Rabbi Roth Receives Honorary Doctor of Divinity Degree From Jewish Theological Seminary



Temple Israel Director of Congregational Schools Rabbi Amy Roth was recently awarded an honorary Doctor of Divinity degree from the Jewish Theological Seminary, above, from Seminary Chancellor Arnold Eisen, left.

Below, celebrating with the new “rabbi-doctor” are members of her extended family, including her husband, Rabbi Noam Marans, to her right, and their parents, seated.



Hanukkah at Temple Israel was celebrated in grand style at a party in the Crystal Ballroom led by Rabbi Daniel Schweber. It featured the lighting of menorahs, top, lots of dancing, singing, and—of course—mounds of latkes!



# Temple Israel Players Performing 'Joseph' Weekend of March 28-29

—Continued from front page

challenge. Joseph is an operetta, a type of musical which we have never done before. We are also singing in multiple-part harmonies throughout the entire show, which has been fun to learn, expands our abilities and will be a real treat for the audience."

The cast includes George Abrahams, Robert Aizer, Amy Cantos, Shoshana Cellers, Harold Citron, Mark Cwern, Amy David, Daniel Frankel, Van Frankel, Edith Goody, Jon Kaiman, Kim Kaiman, Jennifer Khoda, Ron Klempner, Kenneth M. Leff, Nelly Mizrahi, Toby Nemiroff, Rob Panzer, Ofra Panzer, Mark Putter, Lillian Rokhsar-Cohen, Diana Stein-Smolon, and Debbie Volk.

Children and teens in the show are Isaac Bakhchi, David Goldberg, Jacob Goldstein, Phoebe Hoffman, Iyana Kaiman, Lily Kase, Shira Khoda, Elizabeth Matalon, Amanda Putter, Amanda Volk, and Melanie Weinreich. The cast, which considers itself one big family, also features many real family combos: Kim and Jon Kaiman will be performing with their daughter, Iyana; Debbie Volk will be on stage with her daughter, Amanda; Mark Putter will be joined by his daughter, Amanda; Jennifer Khoda will be with her daughter, Shira;

and Van Frankel will perform with his son, Dan. Working backstage will be Alex Schoen and his daughter, Nancy.

Musical Director Chris McKee leads the orchestra, which includes Sharon Bernstein, Barbara Dicker, Dan Dicker, Laura Ferrandina, Alicia Lev, Connor Martin, Teddy Motz, and Deanna Stecker.

The set production manager is Alex Schoen. The set/backstage crew includes Robert Lopatkin, Gary Cellers, Lisa Mattaway, Gary Noren, Nancy Schoen, and Steve Tasch.

Tickets for the show range from \$20-\$50 for the Saturday performance, which begins at 8:30 P.M. Tickets purchased at the \$36 and \$50 tier on Saturday include a dessert reception with the cast following the show. Tickets to the Sunday show at 2 P.M. are priced at \$10-\$36. Children 12 and younger will be admitted at half price for most seatings during the Sunday show. Tickets can be purchased from the Temple Israel Box Office by calling Kathy at 482-7800 or by visiting the all new online ticketing site, [templeisraelplayers.tix.com](http://templeisraelplayers.tix.com).

Why come to the show? Stage Director Conley simply said: "because it will be the best two hours of your week!"

## Guest Column: Planning a Temple Israel Bar or Bat Mitzvah

—Continued from page 2

chairperson assigns the dates, in consultation with the rabbis, cantor, and the director of congregational schools. Every effort is made to schedule a Bar and Bat Mitzvah on or very near your child's 13th birthday, according to the Hebrew Calendar.

The B'nei Mitzvah Program Parent's Handbook is handed out at the orientation. It serves as an easy-to-read guide, detailing the entire program, from obtaining the Bar or Bat Mitzvah date through the ceremony. Included in the handbook are summaries of the various B'nei Mitzvah programs of study: trope classes, family workshops, tefillah sessions, and the Tefillah Enrichment Program. These programs are designed to help prepare the students before they start their individual training and to continue to develop the children's language and Bible knowledge. During the year, students also engage in mitzvah and tzedakah projects, paving the way for them to be committed to a lifetime of gemilut hasadim (deeds of loving kindness).

About eight months before the ceremony students begin being tutored by one of our instructors, learning the Hebrew chanting of their Haftorah, the Blessings, and the Maftir. The synagogue encourages students to learn to read as much Torah as they are capable of reading. If any family members would like to participate in the service by reading from the Torah, they may contact the Cantor. Students who participate in the Tefillah Enrichment Program will be offered the opportunity to lead the Kabbalat Shabbat Service on the Friday night preceding their Bar or Bat Mitzvah.

About three months before the ceremony, with either Rabbi Schweber or Avi Siegel, students begin preparing their D'var Torah, a short speech in which he or she will tell the lessons of their Torah portion. Parents are encouraged to participate, but the work should reflect the student's own thinking and ideas.

Information relating to the ceremony including a Voice article and photograph, scheduling photography in the Sanctuary, final rehearsal with the Cantor, meeting with Rabbi Stecker, aliyot (honors), kippot, flowers, and kiddush may all be obtained from the synagogue office. Executive Director Jamey Kohn and his staff work very hard in helping families prepare for their child's Bar or Bat Mitzvah. Please feel free to contact me with any questions or issues you may have through the synagogue office.

As you can see, the B'nei Mitzvah Program at our synagogue is quite comprehensive and is taken very seriously. Many people are involved in making the experience educational as well as rewarding for our children and their families. Personally, I would like to sincerely thank our clergy, educators, administrators, and our Board of Trustees for their continually strong support of this program. And, I also want to sincerely thank our maintenance staff for the wonderful job they do in preparing the Shabbat kiddush, during which our congregation has the opportunity to celebrate with our Bar/Bat Mitzvah and his or her family.

For those who will be having this experience, I want to wish you a mazel tov on your forthcoming simcha. We are delighted to share with you the excitement of your child attaining the status of Bar/Bat Mitzvah.

# From Generation to Generation

Temple Israel Gratefully Acknowledges The Following Contributions

## TEMPLE ISRAEL FUND

In honor of:

The marriage of Alizah Scherr, daughter of Suanne and Dave Scherr, to Greg Demczak  
Joyce and Burton Weston

In appreciation of:

Howard Spun, Robert Lopatkin and Seth Horowitz for leading the shiva minyan  
The Klinger family  
AG Media Solutions, Inc.'s filming of Fanny Narotzky's Shoah Remembrance talk  
Fanny and Al Narotzky

In memory of:

Isaac Taitz  
Gloria and Leo Slawin  
Brenda and Lance Greiff and family  
Simmy-Lou and Bob Atkins  
Mickey and Allan Greenblatt  
Liz and Eric Alderman and family  
Ann Bernstein  
Harriet Lubin  
Beatrice Bloom  
Beverly Horowitz  
Moosa Neydavood  
Maneijeh Gabbay  
Belle Arkin  
Andrea Bloomfield  
Shaul Marcus  
Jack Mellin  
Yuri and Segal Moshell  
Harold Denner  
Sharon Horowitz  
Eric Zielenziger  
David Zielenziger  
Alfred Davis  
Fay Zelin  
Helen Davis  
Alvin Harris  
Maryann Harris  
Joe Paul Schindler  
Deborah Schindler  
Herbert Rieders  
Susan Kahn  
Arnold Schussheim  
Joan Schussheim  
David H. Cohen  
Sally Cohen  
Harold Adler  
Stacey Jayne Bernstein

Rhea Poserow  
Sam Poserow  
Harriet Becker  
Aaron Schwartz  
Lewis Schwartz  
Lee Mestel  
Beth Schwartz  
Beatrice Feder  
Jane Dellsy  
Sydney Benamy Shalita  
Gloria Markfield  
Joseph Katz  
Vivian Brash  
Roslyn Lynn  
Leslie Giglio  
Albert Hirsh  
Jerry Hirsh  
Joe Tune  
Marilyn Gessin  
Esther Adler  
Clara Adler  
Jeffrey White  
Nanci Roth  
Rebecca Jungreis  
Jacob Jungreis  
Sara Weiner  
Maurice Goldberg  
Rabbi Geoffrey Goldberg  
Judith Greenstein  
Lou Becker  
Robert Rutkin-Becker  
Mendel Green  
Gloria Nachmanoff  
Alois Stark  
Garry Stark  
Bertha Kopelowitz Levy  
Natie Kopelowitz  
Ida Sharkey  
Burton Weston  
Jennie Leibowitz  
Annette Nager  
Hanni Rosenbaum  
Susan Mayer  
Daniel L. Lieberfarb  
Warren Lieberfarb

Contribution:

Martin Edelstein

## SAMUEL BARON MEMORIAL MUSIC FUND

In memory of:

Beatrice Herskovitz  
Marlene Kreditor

## SHALOM CLUB LIBRARY SHELF FUND

In memory of:

Meyer Kobliner  
Harold Kobliner

## RABBI STECKER'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

In appreciation of:

Rabbi Stecker's support in connection with the passing of David Klinger  
The Klinger family

## ABRAHAM ROSENFELD MEMORIAL FUND

In memory of:

Madlen Kimiabakhsh  
Roberta and David Harounian

## ISRAEL SOLIDARITY FUND

In memory of:

Isaac Taitz  
Rosalind Silk

## WAXMAN HIGH SCHOOL AND YOUTH HOUSE FUND

In honor of:

Alexis Dorf, daughter of Andrew and Amy Dorf, becoming a Bat Mitzvah  
Ed Goldfeder's 92<sup>nd</sup> birthday  
The birth of Miles Henry Katz, grandson of Ronnie and Marc Katz  
The engagement of Jacob Englander, son of Alise Kreditor and Jeffrey Englander, to Alexandra Tawfik  
The birth of Brody Max Kestenbaum, grandson of Elise and Richard Kestenbaum  
Parvaneh and Parviz Khodadadian  
In memory of:  
Madlen Kimiabakhsh  
Jackie Einstein Astrof and Josh Astrof

## PRAYER BOOK FUND

In memory of:

Irving Block  
Charles Gingold  
Joseph R. Block  
Laurie Frankel

## JEAN WALTON SCHOLARSHIP FUND

In memory of:

Harry Wolsky  
Janice Genser  
Susan Tomback

## DAILY MINYAN FUND

In honor of:

The birth of their first granddaughter, Ileana Zahav Talavera  
Janet Esagoff Goldfarb and Zachary Goldfarb  
Simhat Torah honorees  
Ronnie and Marc Katz, Parvaneh and Parviz Khodadadian and Ofra and Rob Panzer  
Kate and Keith Sazer  
Alise Kreditor and Jeffrey Englander  
Ed Goldfeder's 92<sup>nd</sup> birthday  
Renita Horowitz  
Marilyn Torodash and Leon Flax

In memory of:

Meyer Hammer  
Pearl Hammer Hymes  
Walter Hodes  
Pearl Hammer Hymes and Debbie Hodes  
Prevor  
Esther Mandel  
David Mandel  
Isaac Taitz  
Fanny and Alfie Narotzky  
Linda and Bill Ackerman  
Paul Liebowitz  
Carol and Arthur Anderman  
Ruthe and Ronald Golden  
Brenda and Natie Kopelowitz  
Madelaine Senter and Mitchell Koepfel  
Pamela and Ben Boal

## MUSEUM FUND

In memory of:

Gertrude Gross  
Elise Tepper  
Greta Melnick  
Edward Melnick  
Nadine Feingold

## LIBRARY FUND

In memory of:

Irwin Rudich  
Rose Rudich

PLEASE JOIN US FOR

# Coffee & Conversation



with Rabbi Schweber

**Wednesday, February 26**

**7:15 pm**

**Crawford's Coffee Café  
2 S. Station Plaza, Great Neck**

An opportunity to reflect on current events with a Jewish lens and connect with others in fellowship, all over a cup of coffee.

*\*No charge for the event.*

*Attendees may purchase what they wish.*

## From the President: Conservative Judaism

—Continued from page 2

unfortunate tendency in American culture to demonize those not like us or who think or worship differently. The argument was made—I think meaningfully—that as Conservative Jews we need to work to preserve the counter-cultural aspects of our faith.

Another thought provoking discussion was what our purpose is as a movement and Conservative community? Who would miss us if we were gone, who do we want to serve and what is the measure of our success? Obviously, none of these have easy answers. Perhaps it is our urgent need to preserve faith and spirituality in a modern changing world, the importance of providing a community for people to remain connected, a platform to advocate for change as social norms evolve, while at the same time affording a set of legal and philosophical precepts to live a rich and meaningful life.

The most important takeaway, however, is that the movement is alive, thriving, and willing to work through its challenges. The best evidence was the 1,200 committed folks attending the Conference, who are representative of the thousands who populate our synagogues across the country and live the counter-cultural ways advocated by Conservative Jewry. It is evidenced by the committed youth who populate our camps, USYs and Hillels. It is evidenced by our rabbis and professional leaders who breathe life into our religion and institutions every day. We are blessed.

## D'var Torah

—Continued from back page

to remain there for 40 days and nights for the purpose of writing down the specific details. Thus, the freedom gained at the Exodus has now been confirmed and institutionalized in law. The next step will be to create a physical institution that will serve as the embodiment and reminder of the experience at Sinai.

**Terumah**

**Saturday, February 29**

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

**Tetzavveh**

**Saturday, March 7**

In this portion we move from instructions for the creation of the physical Mishkan to details concerning the officiants. 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.

## Sabbath Services

—Continued from back page

Junior Congregation	10:30 A.M.
Toddler Service	11:00 A.M.
Shabbat Talk	12:45 P.M.
Featuring Rabbi Rebecca W. Sirbu	
Afternoon Service	5:15 P.M.
Se'udah Shelishit	5:45 P.M.
Evening Service	6:18 P.M.
Havdalah	6:34 P.M.
Religious School Pajama Havdalah Movie Night	6:45 P.M.
Waxman High School and Youth House Party	10:00 P.M.

# From the Rabbi: Difficult Conversations

—Continued from page 2

The third dynamic has to do with our sense of identity, how we each perceive ourselves. “I see myself as a strong supporter and protector.” “You see yourself as kindhearted and well-meaning.”

The problem is that often when we have difficult conversations with one another, most of what’s really going on remains hidden beneath the surface. We don’t often reveal our feelings to one another during difficult conversations and we often aren’t even aware of the aspects of the conversations that touch on our identities.

## Midnight Run Bringing Chesed To New York City’s Homeless

—Continued from page 5

Siegel said. “Standing in the middle of one of the most electrifying places in the world, surrounded by scores of tourists and well-off shoppers, it is easy to overlook the people sleeping on cardboard boxes and under awnings.”

One first-time participant said: “I never realized that homeless people are just like us. They just experienced some bad breaks. I am fortunate that I don’t need help like this, and even luckier that I can help someone who does.”

Another teen called the Midnight Run “a no-brainer. All I am giving up is three hours of my life that I would not be using productively. What are the homeless getting from us? Things that will change their lives for the better.”

The essential message of the book is that we need to prepare ourselves before we start, or continue, difficult conversations. We prepare ourselves through self-reflection, by asking ourselves probing questions. What feelings in me are aroused by this conversation? What does this conversation suggest about my identity, about how I perceive myself? Sometimes we need to go deeper than the obvious feelings like anger and frustration to recognize that we are also feeling sadness or regret. Sometimes the conversation threatens the way we perceive ourselves. We think of ourselves as generous and the conversation makes us feel selfish. We think of ourselves as strong and the conversation makes us feel helpless.

When our ancestor Jacob was about to meet up with his brother, Esau, 20-years after they parted on bad terms, he wrestled all night with a mysterious individual. Commentators disagree regarding who this individual was. Was he Jacob’s guardian angel sent to strengthen him? Esau’s guardian angel sent to weaken him? Some other figure?

In keeping with the insights of numerous ancient and modern scholars, I maintain that Jacob’s iconic nightlong encounter can be viewed as a manifestation of his internal struggle. Before he meets his brother, he needs to have a clearer sense of himself. What is he feeling? Who is he meant to be in the world? What steps and missteps has he taken? Ultimately, Jacob is pleasantly surprised by the encounter he has with Esau.

Before we begin, or continue, a difficult conversation with someone else, we might want to consider having a difficult conversation with ourselves. As we ultimately proceed to speak with the other person, we will hopefully discover, as Jacob did, that we are pleasantly surprised with the results.

*Honoring Memories. Celebrating Lives.*

### Riverside-Nassau North Chapel

- Funerals • Advance Funeral Planning
- Monuments & Inscription Services

[www.riversidenassauorthchapels.com](http://www.riversidenassauorthchapels.com)

**516.487.9600**

**55 North Station Plaza, Great Neck**

### Bar & Bat Mitzvah Invitations

*See the great selection at...*

### KC GRAPHICS

*Personalized Service*

*Calligraphy, too!*

25 Cutter Mill Plaza, Great Neck

**516-466-2434**

### YOUR WAY FORWARD

**Abraham Kanfer, CBR**

Associate Real Estate Broker

Great Neck Office

516.466.4036, c.917.797.9466

[abrahamkanfer@danielgale.com](mailto:abrahamkanfer@danielgale.com)



Daniel

Gale

Sotheby's  
INTERNATIONAL REALTY

Each Office Is Individually Owned And Operated.

### ACE GARAGE DOOR

SINCE 1924

**Sales • Service • Installations**

516-593-2030

[www.AceGarageDoorNY.com](http://www.AceGarageDoorNY.com)

207 Vincent Avenue

Lynbrook, NY 11563

## Shastone Memorials

~ MORE THAN A CENTURY OF SERVICE ~

**MEMORIALS OF DISTINCTION ERECTED AT ALL CEMETERIES**

**112 Northern Boulevard • Great Neck, New York 11021**

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

**[www.ShastoneMemorials.com](http://www.ShastoneMemorials.com)**

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

CUSTOM DESIGN and SHOP AT HOME SERVICES

MONUMENTS - FOOTSTONES - PLAQUES - MAUSOLEUMS - CLEANING - REPAIRS

# D'var Torah

by Rabbi Marim D. Charry

## Mishpatim Saturday, February 22

In this portion we find details of the covenant entered into between God and Israel. Since the relationship is all-inclusive, we find rules pertaining to social conduct, morality, ethics, civil and criminal law, and ritual concerns. Like the Ten Commandments, the source of these rules is divine. The legal material set forth here is not a code in the strict sense, since there are significant subjects not touched upon. (These subjects are, however, dealt with elsewhere in the Torah.) On the other hand, the material does make clear that God's demands of His people cover matters of conscience as well as matters usually subject to juridical control. The portion concludes with an account of the ratification of the covenant, and Moses ascends Mt. Sinai

—Continued on page 10

### Temple Israel of Great Neck

## Voice

Marc Katz, Editor

### Associate Editors:

Paula Charry, Angela Jones, Ronnie Katz,  
Marion Stein, Rabbi Daniel Schweber

### Photographers:

Robert Lopatkin, Ofra Panzer

### TEMPLE ISRAEL OF GREAT NECK

108 Old Mill Road, Great Neck, NY 11023

P: 516.482.7800 | F: 516.482.7352

info@tign.org | www.tign.org

Temple Israel Voice (USPS # 078-740) is published monthly by Temple Israel of Great Neck at 108 Old Mill Road, Great Neck, NY 11023. Periodicals postage paid at Great Neck, NY 11021.

Postmaster: Send address changes to:

Temple Israel Voice, 108 Old Mill Road, Great Neck, NY 11023  
Subscription \$5.00 per annum

### TEMPLE ISRAEL STAFF

Howard Stecker, Senior Rabbi

Raphael Frieder, Cantor

Daniel Schweber, Associate Rabbi

Mordecai Waxman\*, Rabbi Emeritus

Jamey Kohn, Executive Director

Rabbi Amy Roth, Director of Congregational Schools

Rachel Mathless, Director, Beth HaGan

Avi Siegel, Director, Waxman High School

### OFFICERS

Burton Weston, President

Adam Covitt, Vice President

David Eshaghoff, Vice President

Rachel Geula, Vice President

Brent Greenspan, Vice President

Samuel Husney, Vice President

Gary Sazer, Vice President

Lynn Weitzman, Vice President

Irving H. Lurie\*, Honorary President

\*Deceased

## Shabbat Services

### Friday, February 21

Evening Service 5:30 P.M.

### Saturday, February 22

Shaharit Morning Service 8:45 A.M.

First Mourners' Kaddish 9:25 A.M.

Weekly Portion: Mishpatim

Exodus 21:1–24:18; 30:11–16

Haftarah: II Kings 12:1–17

Sabbath Service Officers and Greeters:

Lynn Weitzman, Brent Greenspan,  
Neal Picker, Deanna Stecker, and  
Ellen Birnbaum

Havurah Service 10:00 A.M.

Junior Congregation 10:30 A.M.

Toddler Service 11:00 A.M.

Afternoon Service 4:55 P.M.

Se'udah Shelishit 5:25 P.M.

Evening Service 6:02 P.M.

Havdalah 6:18 P.M.

### Friday, February 28

Evening Service 5:30 P.M.

### Saturday, February 29

Shaharit Morning Service 8:45 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:

Lisa Goodwin, Barbara Levy,  
Joyce Weston, Diana Stein-Smolen,  
and Jeffrey Fleit

Bat Mitzvah:

Elizabeth Matalon  
daughter of Natali and David Matalon

Junior Congregation 10:30 A.M.

Toddler Service 11:00 A.M.

Shabbat Talk 12:45 P.M.

Featuring Assemblyman  
Anthony D'Urso

Afternoon Service 5:05 P.M.

Se'udah Shelishit 5:35 P.M.

Evening Service 6:10 P.M.

Havdalah 6:26 P.M.

### Friday, March 6

Evening Service 5:45 P.M.

Congregational Dinner 6:30 P.M.

### Saturday, March 7

Shaharit Morning Service/ 8:45 A.M.

Women in Judaism Shabbat

Featuring Rabbi Rebecca W. Sirbu

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

Weekly Portion: Tetzaveh

Exodus 27:20–30:10;

Deuteronomy 25:17 - 19

Haftarah: I Samuel 15:2 - 34

Sabbath Service Officers and Greeters:

Andy Katz, Neda Sedgh, Gail Zahler,  
Seth Horowitz, and Ellen Birnbaum

—Continued on page 10