

Making the Minyan Work: Temple Israel Offers Free Rides for Morning and Evening Services



Vice President
Brent Greenspan

by Marc Katz
Want to attend Temple Israel's daily morning or evening minyan, but don't have a way to get there?

"There seem to be a significant number of people in our community who want to participate in an

egalitarian minyan," Brent Greenspan, a congregation vice president, told a recent Ritual Committee meeting, "but they do not have a way to get to Temple Israel."

He suggested a plan, later adopted by the committee as well as the Executive Committee, which could help meet the religious needs of those seeking a minyan as well as helping to insure that the Temple Israel minyan has the required ten members to conduct the full service.

Anyone in the community can now call a taxi to take them to the minyan and Temple Israel will pay for the ride, as well as a gratuity for the driver. The congregation has made arrangements with Friendly Taxi to transport minyan-goers, and the ride will be paid for by the congregation. Return rides back home will be arranged by the minyan leader.

Those needing a ride should call a special

number, 466-0066, and give the Temple Israel account number, 32562, at least 20 minutes before they would like to be picked up. Rides to the minyan will be available from all parts of Great Neck, Lake Success, and North Shore Towers.

Funding for the rides will come from Rabbi Stecker's Discretionary Fund. "Our vision," Rabbi Stecker said, "is all about embracing people and giving them the opportunity to participate in our Temple Israel family. I am glad donations made to the Discretionary Fund can be used to bring our community together for worship."

The minyan ride program is a three-month pilot project. Following that time
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Rabbi Stecker Will Travel to Guatemala as Part Of an American Jewish World Service Fellowship

Rabbi Howard Stecker will join 16 fellow rabbis on a mission to Guatemala next summer as part of an American Jewish World Service fellowship program.

The initiative, a selective program, is designed to "inspire, educate and train American rabbis to become activist leaders in support of global justice," according to the AJWS website.

AJWS is the only Jewish organization dedicated solely to ending poverty and promoting human rights in the developing world. According to the group, "through philanthropy and advocacy, we've addressed some of the gravest global problems of our time—genocide, AIDS, violence against women and girls, hatred of LGBT people, and the horrific consequences of natural and human-made disasters."

In Guatemala, AJWS focuses on ending violence and discrimination against women, youth and indigenous people, and protecting the land and natural resources that farmers need to survive. A brutal civil war raged in the country from 1960 to 1996.

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Rabbi Howard Stecker: Guatemala bound

Marking 30 Years of Tot Shabbat

A Voice Guest Column by Elle Lebowitz-Becker

EDITOR'S NOTE: Temple Israel's popular Tot Shabbat service, for preschool and kindergarten children has been led for almost 30 years by congregant Ronnie Katz. To mark the occasion, parents of participating children, past and present, will dedicate a plaque in her honor and sponsor this weekend's kiddush, as described in this Voice Guest Column by an organizer of the event, Elle Lebowitz-Becker.

One day, while kibitzing on the playground after Shabbat services, a group of Tot Shabbat parents decided that we wanted to honor Morah Ronnie

past and present. The response was tremendous and an outpouring of love beyond heartwarming. No surprise at all considering the honoree!

Morah Ronnie Katz has devoted her time... leading the tot service and instilling her love of Torah and Judaism into our children's hearts.

Katz for helping to create the weekly service and leading it for almost 30 years.

A humble email appeal was sent to a handful of Tot Shabbat families,

The Temple Israel tot service was founded by Ronnie and her dear friend, Sherry Husney, through necessity and design when they themselves had preschoolers, but no age-appropriate service existed for them to experience. So, they did what any good, ambitious, balaboosta-type Jewish mothers would do. They created the exact program their children needed!

With careful editing and a focused selection of songs, prayers and stories,
—Continued on page 6

The Hole In the Soul

From the Rabbi by Rabbi Howard Stecker

A few weeks ago Rabbi Schweber and I saw an unusual performance at the Sid Jacobson JCC. The performers were all recovering addicts who had received treatment at Beit T'Shuva, a residential recovery program in Los Angeles based on Jewish values.

The performance, called "Freedom Song," depicts the causes and effects of addiction on addicts and their families. In one scene, a family whose daughter caused them significant pain as a result of her drug addiction, appears at the Passover seder seeking reconciliation. In another, a young man participating in a 12-step program confronts his wife over the devastating impact of his addiction on their marriage.

At the end of the performance, Rabbi Mark Borovitz, co-founder of Beit T'Shuva, spoke to the audience about the "hole in the soul," the feeling of emptiness, longing and disappointment that many addicts experience and try to fill with things that are ultimately fleeting

and damaging. Addiction has social, emotional and chemical components that must be addressed. And the "hole in the soul," while intangible, is a critical element that also requires exploration.

...Jews are just as susceptible to addiction as anyone else.

We know that addictions of all kinds are widespread and opioid addictions in particular are being addressed as a growing national crisis. Recently, the Great Neck community held a significant, informative program about opioid addiction. Co-sponsored by SHAI (Sephardic Heritage Alliance, Inc.), UPTC (United Parent-Teacher Council), and North Shore Action, the program featured a panel of experts in the fields of mental health and opioid addiction. The program was entitled "Not My Child" to reference the denial that many

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Member Funerals

From the President by Rob Panzer

A new Temple Israel policy is in place regarding the use of our Sanctuary for funerals. A task force was created to explore the issue. Our previous "policy" stated that presidents and clergy were entitled to have a funeral service in our building, as well as people who had made some sort of "arrangement." The task force recognized that, in essence, we had no policy at all.

This group explored the issue, looking into what policies other synagogues followed.

Their recommendations to the Board of Trustees were to open the Sanctuary for use to any member family who might choose to use it, a policy similar to that which calls for our clergy to officiate at lifecycle events for family members.

As you can see from the details following this column, there are limitations on when the Sanctuary may be used. The guidelines, approved by the Board, limit the days and times such services may be available. Scheduled synagogue activities will take precedence. If there are any questions regarding this policy change, please feel free to contact Executive Director Leon Silverberg.

If we endeavor to be truly egalitarian, our actions have to extend beyond recognizing women and men equally. It involves equal access to all that our community has to offer.

As always, I can be reached at Robpanzer18@gmail.com.

Temple Israel Funeral Policy

The Board of Trustees has amended a longstanding policy regarding funerals held at Temple Israel. That policy permitted funerals of clergy, past presidents and founding members only, to be held in the Sanctuary.

The Board has decided, on a trial basis for a one-year period beginning January 1, 2018, to allow funerals to be held at Temple Israel for synagogue members and their immediate family.

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In Memoriam

Temple Israel extends
condolences to the families of:

PHILIP KAYE

father of Ellen Warnerl

HERBERT FRANK

father of Cindy Soshnick

PAULINE MATTANA

mother of David Mattana

ALAN WEISFELD

father of Norman Weisfeld

BATTIA BEROOKHIM

mother of John Berookhim

May their memories be for a blessing.

Daily Minyan Times

Fridays, December 1, 8, 22 & 29

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

Friday, December 15

6:45 A.M. 4:15 P.M.

Fridays, January 5 & 12

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

Sunday

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

Mondays, December 4, 11 & 18 & January 8, 15

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

Mondays, December 25 & January 1

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

Tuesdays, December 5, 12 & 26 & January 2 & 9

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

Tuesday, December 19

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

Wednesdays, December 6 & 27 & January 3 & 10

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

Wednesday, December 13

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

Wednesday, December 20

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

Thursdays, December 7, 14 & 21 & January 4 & 11

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

Thursday, December 28

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

Next Voice Issues, Deadlines

The next issue of The Voice, the Tu B'Shevat issue, will be published on Friday, January 12. The deadline for that issue is Wednesday, December 27.

The following issue will be published on February 9. The deadline for that issue is January 24.

Upcoming Events

December 3

Temple Israel Film Series presents
"The Zookeeper's Wife" 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 Meeting and
Vodka and Latkes Program 7:30 P.M.
Board of Trustees Meeting 8:15 P.M.

December 17

Hanukkah Celebration with Noon
Ventriloquist Jonathan Geffner

Community Hanukkah

Candle Lighting 6:30 P.M.

January 14

Shalom Club Meeting 6:00 P.M.

January 18

Board of Trustees Meeting 8:15 P.M.

January 20

Temple Israel Film Series
presents "The Norman" 7:00 P.M.

January 25

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

Candle Lighting Times

Friday, December 1

4:10 P.M.

Friday, December 8

4:09 P.M.

Friday, December 15

4:10 P.M.

Friday, December 22

4:13 P.M.

Friday, December 29

4:17 P.M.

Friday, January 5

4:23 P.M.

Friday, January 12

4:30 P.M.

Temple Lites...

• **Ellen Birnbaum** was re-elected to another term as a Nassau County Legislator representing the Great Neck peninsula.

• **Renee Altman Fleischer, Elsa Friedman, Lori Freudman, Judith Greenstein, Muriel Pfeifer, Hermine Plotnick, and Ellen Doree Rosen** will be participating in the Na'aleh Women's Ensemble concert, titled Prelude to the Festival of Lights, to be held at Temple Israel at 3 P.M. on Sunday, December 10. Admission is \$18. For further information and tickets call Mrs. Fleischer at 466-8428 or Mrs. Rosen at 482-7480.

You are invited to a Community Hanukkah Candle Lighting

Sunday, December 17 6:30-7:30 P.M.

*Enjoy a complimentary light supper,
candle lighting, singing, dancing, music
and teen participation*

Free of Charge!

but reservations are needed
RSVP to Jodi Engel at 482-7800

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



Dylan Kohanim

Dylan Kohanim will be called to the Torah as a Bar Mitzvah on December 9. He is the son of Parnaz and Mehran Kohanim and has a sister, Lauren, 11. Dylan is a seventh grade honor student at Great Neck North Middle School. He is on his school soccer team and the Great Neck travel soccer team. Dylan also plays tennis and basketball. He will continue attending the Waxman High School following his Bar Mitzvah and plans to take a trip to Israel with his family in the near future.



Adam Ohebshalom

Adam Ohebshalom will be celebrating his Bar Mitzvah on December 9. He is the son of Sharon and David Ohebshalom and has two sisters, Ashley, 14, Brooke, 6, and a brother, Jacob, 9. Adam is an eighth grade student at Great Neck North Middle School. Adam volunteers at Friendship Circle. He plans to continue studying Torah after he becomes a Bar Mitzvah. Adam has visited Israel once and plans to return in the near future.



Amanda Putter

Amanda Putter will be called to the Torah as a Bat Mitzvah on December 16. She is the daughter of Mark and Ellen Putter, and has two brothers, Alex, 21, and Joshua, 18. Amanda is a seventh grade honor student at Great Neck South Middle School. She is a member of her school's swim team and theater group, and plays the trumpet in the school band. Amanda is currently attending the Waxman High School and plans on traveling to Israel for the second time with her family this summer.

You're Invited...

**As the Men's
Club Celebrates
Hanukkah
with it's annual**

*Vodka &
Latkes
Meeting*

**Thursday, December 14
7:30 P.M.**

Crystal Ballroom

rsvp to Jack Guberman
at ajackny@aol.com



Jessica Nahavandi

Jessica Nahavandi will be celebrating her Bat Mitzvah on January 6. She is the daughter of Ellen and Babak Nahavandi and has two sisters, Hannah, 17, and Jessica, 14, and a brother, Joshua, 6. Jessica is a seventh grade honor student at Great Neck North Middle School. She enjoys playing volleyball, lacrosse and swimming. Jessica also plays the piano and clarinet. She is currently attending the Waxman High School and Youth House.



Iyana Kaiman

Iyana Rose Kaiman will be called to the Torah as a Bat Mitzvah on January 13. She is the daughter of Kim and Jon Kaiman and has two brothers, Shaun, 21, and Jared, 18. Iyana is a seventh grade student at Great Neck North Middle School. She plays the flute and likes to play basketball and softball. Iyana enjoys performing in theatrical shows, and especially with the Temple Israel Players. Last year in the middle school play, she played the role of the sour kangaroo in Seussical the Musical, and had also played Gurtrude in another production of the same show. Iyana has been in many other shows including Annie (Annie), and The Lion King (Timone).

Learning About Thanksgiving, Veterans Day and Shabbat

From the Beth HaGan Nursery School by Rachel Mathless

November has been a very busy month at Beth HaGan. We began by doing our civic duty and voting. Teachers explained the concept of voting and what democracy and freedom to choose means to us (a great segue into Thanksgiving). Some classes voted for favorite activities, for favorite lunch, or for the particular carpet they wanted for their classroom. FYI, pizza won as the most popular lunch in a landslide victory, with fish sticks as a close second.

To celebrate Veterans Day, the children learned about the sacrifice men and women of the armed forces have made in the past, and continue to do everyday. Some classes made American flags and marched in a parade.

Thanksgiving was in the air, with the gobble gobble songs and the beautiful colorful turkeys that practically jump off the wall. The Native American costumes came along quite nicely, and each class worked on its iteration of teepees, totem poles, headdresses, beaded necklaces, drums, the Mayflower, and girl and boy Pilgrim costumes. We made corn bread, cranberry sauce, and pumpkin mash, and had a great Thanksgiving feast.

The scope of knowledge and the understanding the children are acquiring is just amazing. The children are understanding concepts like freedom, and gratitude to God, and friends and family, the reasons behind the journey to the new world, the struggle for survival of the early settlers, and the kindness of the Native Americans to the pilgrims.

Morah Gina came to entertain us, and we were so proud to display our beautiful hand-crafted Thanksgiving costumes.

We are deep into the study of the Parsha of the week. The children are knowledgeable regarding Noah and the flood and ensuing Parshiot about Avraham, his unique tent, his love of the Mitzvah of Hachnasat Orchim, inviting guests and about the birth of Itzchak and the kindness of Rivkah. We encourage parents to have children share with

them all the wonderful lessons and songs learned during the week.

Friday continues to be a magical time at Beth HaGan. From the moment the fresh dough is brought into school until the last child leaves, the spirit of Shabbat

transcends into our building, inspiring and exciting and permeating the environment, bombarding the senses. Come join us and experience the joy!

Registration for 2018-2019 is open now. Please call the office for information.

Mazal Tov To...

Alise Kreditor and Jeffrey Englander
on the marriage of their daughter, Rachel,
to Adam Davis.

Elise and Richard Kestenbaum
on the marriage of their son, Jonathan,
to Lindsay Kriger.

Lida and Dr. Moosa Nejat
on the birth of their granddaughter,
Ava Atara Nejat.

Susan and Homayoon (Henry) Ajodan
on the birth of their granddaughter,
Ava Atara Nejat.

A U D I T I O N S

for

Temple Israel Players'

Spring 2018 production of



Choose a night to come down to the Crystal Ballroom
and sing us a song of your choice!

Sunday, December 3, 4:30 pm - 6:30 pm

-- or --

Monday, December 4, 7:00 pm - 9:30 pm

(select callbacks Wednesday, December 6 starting at 7:00 pm)

Show Dates

Saturday evening, March 24, 2018 & Sunday afternoon, March 25, 2018

Plenty of parts for everyone!

Adults and children who are TIGN Members are welcome to audition
(Children must be at least 8 years old and in 3rd grade or above)

Questions?

Eileen Putterman: MPutterman@aol.com/516-482-6527 or Mark Putter: MPutter@gmail.com/917-855-4182

The TIGN Players was founded 40+ years ago and is a performing troupe featuring members from 8 to 88 years of age!

Temple Israel Museum Featuring Special Hanukkah Menorah Exhibit

Hanukkah is one of the most joyous holidays, and to celebrate the Temple Israel Museum has on view a selection of beautiful and unusual menorahs dating from ancient Israel to the 20th century.

In the front case is an oblong stone with carved indentations for oil which dates from the Tannaitic period. A brass bench-form menorah from 19th century Italy, a chased and embossed silver menorah from 18th century Breslau, and a silver 20th century example by Moshe Zabari are also on display.

An usual small travelling menorah from Poland, circa 1900, is in the form of a book which opens to reveal eight small square containers for oil and a wick, two of which swing open on each side!

Several silver menorahs are too large to fit in the front case, but should be noted. They include a huge synagogue menorah in silver in the form of a tree with leafed arms, in front of which stands a roaring lion (Germany late 19th century). A large silver menorah from Warsaw, circa 1890, fits into a Shabbat candlestick and is removable.

Also not to be missed is a very large silver menorah in the display case to the right side of the seating area in the Temple Israel lobby. The chasing and workmanship on this piece is amazing.

If you would like to arrange a visit to the museum, contact the Synagogue office.

The museum has several pieces that are available for dedication in honor of a special life-cycle event, or in memory of loved ones. Costs are moderate, and terms can be arranged. Contact Executive Director Leon Silverberg for details.

Guest Column: Marking 30 Years of Tot Shabbat

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they designed a program that would comfortably usher children into the world of Judaism in an inviting, playful environment, all the while capturing their attention, forming deep rooted memories and connections, and instilling Jewish values into their hearts. Ronnie and Sherry truly put some love into their “chicken soup pot,” stirred it up, and voila! These two amazing Jewish mothers got what they wanted and “cooked up” what our community needed for future generations to come.

For the past 29-plus years Morah Ronnie Katz has devoted her time nearly every Shabbat morning, leading the tot service and instilling her love of Torah and Judaism into our children's hearts. With an uncanny ability to hold the attention of preschoolers and parents alike, Ronnie lays the groundwork of common Jewish beliefs by teaching our children the fundamentals of tefillah, Torah, Shabbat and our myriad of holiday traditions.

Whether visitors and attendees attend Tot Shabbat weekly, monthly or just a few times annually, they will be greeted like family and leave feeling the love of one of the brightest and best in our congregational family.

The Tree of Life in Temple Israel's lobby is for celebratory and honorary purposes, so the Tot Shabbat families both past and present will do just that as we unveil a pomegranate plaque honoring a true eishet chayil, a woman of valor, Morah Ronnie Katz. A festive kid-dush will follow in her honor. Please join us.

The plaque reads: “For your time, love and devotion to our children, we thank you. Your dedication has been instrumental in fostering their strong Jewish roots.”

Stay strong, focused and amazing, Morah Ronnie. With love and sincere gratitude to you from the Tot Shabbat families.



A menorah, part of the Temple Israel Museum's special Hanukkah exhibit.

Rabbi Stecker Will Travel to Guatemala

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Today, Guatemala is a major corridor for smuggling drugs from South America to the United States. The country has experienced a surge in violence from both street gangs and organized crime.

Rabbi Stecker said he was “thrilled to have this opportunity to travel to Guatemala and experience first-hand the work that AJWS does to empower human rights activists in that country.” He said he would report his findings to the congregation upon his return.

The fellowship includes a seven-day educational trip, followed by the opportunity to advocate for laws and policies in Washington, D.C. that will promote human rights. “Participants experience the power of grassroots efforts to overcome injustice and then use their moral authority to influence national decision makers and mobilize their own communities to take action,” according to AJWS.

Rabbi Stecker said AJWS works differently from other Jewish relief organizations. “They are trying to empower organizations on the ground to help their own citizens and are active in 19 countries around the world. They look to apply Jewish values of equality and justice for all inhabitants of a country, regardless of their religion. As a positive side effect,” he explained, “countries get a favorable impression of the greater Jewish community, as well.”

Hanukkah 5778: Celebrating Judaism Inside and Out

By Rabbi Daniel Schweber

One of my favorite lessons to conduct as a teacher is when I dress up as an alien named Zabar. (I must have had Zabar's lox and coffee the day a student asked me the alien's name!) Zabar tells the students that he has come to Earth to learn about humankind and is spending time studying religion. Zabar proceeds to ask the class to summarize what Judaism is and what it is like to be Jewish.

The lesson's purpose is what educators call a "values clarification exercise." The alien act is supposed to motivate and help the students consider what the essence of Judaism really is. The exercise's goal is to help the students be proud of their Jewish identity. Of course, it is also fun to interact with Zabar even when the students wonder why Rabbi Schweber and Zabar can never be in the same room!

I invite you all to consider what the essence of Judaism is. Some possibilities include studying Torah, connection to a nation and people, one's soul and spirituality and inner life, or a contrast to the dominant culture. There are many answers to the question; in many ways the question is more important than the answer.

As an educator, I take advantage of how much of the holiday of Hanukkah is about embracing one's Jewish identity in bad times and in good times. In the years leading up to the Hasmonean revolt in 167 B.C.E. Jews were under tremendous pressure to assimilate into the Hellenistic culture. This fact produced a spectrum of responses. Some Jews fully assimilated externally and internally, as they began worshipping the Greek gods. Other Jews tried a middle path where they gave up the external Jewish practices including kashrut and circumcision, but tried to remain Jewish on the inside. There were also Jews who wanted to preserve Jewish practice in its entirety. When the Assyrian Greek leadership forbade Jews from keeping kosher and circumcision, those who wanted to remain Jewish

at all costs revolted. We know what happened! The Hasmoneans won, and externally, Judaism was allowed to survive.

There are too many times in history when Jews faced similar choices as they were coerced, in varying degrees, to give up their Jewish practice and identity. The Hanukkah story gave people the strength and resolve to maintain their Jewish identity.

Today, Hanukkah remains a holiday about Jewish identity. Thankfully it comes from a position of choice and not coercion. Christianity and Christmas clearly dominate American culture and there is some sociological pressure to perhaps conform. Hanukkah being

in December has provided Jews with an alternative. We Jews can have "our jelly donuts and eat them too." We can celebrate in December in a Jewish way.

The symbolism of light overcoming darkness takes on yet another meaning. Throughout history, various forces have tried to extinguish the light of Judaism. The Hanukkah lights are symbolic of the miracle of Judaism's survival. It is a miracle that we should celebrate with joy and pride.

Wishing you and yours a Chag Urim Sameach.

For a brief guide to candle lighting and more about Hanukkah visit:
<https://www.myjewishlearning.com/article/hanukkah-candle-lighting-ceremony/>

COMMUNITY HANUKKAH CELEBRATION

Sunday, December 17, 2017

12:00 PM
Join us for lunch

pizza
beverages
snacks



12:30 PM
We will be entertained with
a ventriloquist show by
JONATHAN GEFFNER

Jewish Ventriloquist Show for All Ages



FREE OF CHARGE

To ensure we have enough food for everyone, please RSVP to Jodi Engel at (516) 482-7800 ext. 1105 or jengel@tign.org

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and serve as the prelude to the drama of oppression and redemption which is the heart of the Biblical narrative.

Mikkets

Saturday, December 16

In this portion the Joseph narrative is continued after two years. Pharaoh has two dreams which no one can interpret. The cup-bearer finally remembers Joseph, who is called from jail and interprets the dreams to mean that there will be seven years of plenty, followed by seven years of famine. Joseph advises Pharaoh to store up food during the years of plenty, as a reserve for the famine. Pharaoh designates Joseph to implement such a plan. When the famine comes, Jacob sends his sons to Egypt for food. By way of testing their character, Joseph, whom they don't recognize, although he recognizes them, puts his brothers through a series of tests involving their father and youngest brother, Benjamin. In these episodes we see the prediction of Joseph's dreams realized as God moves His plan inexorably forward through human agency.

Vayigash

Saturday, December 23

The Joseph narrative is continued as Judah makes a moving appeal to Joseph, still unrecognized by his brothers, on behalf of his brother, Benjamin, who had been accused of stealing

From the Rabbi

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parents have about the possibility that this issue can affect their own family. Sadly, an increasing number of families are affected by this epidemic that transcends religious, ethnic, racial, and socio-economic boundaries. Fortunately the program was recorded and can be viewed by accessing PATV (Public Access Television Corporation) on youtube.

We need to understand the realities of this type of addiction and others so that we can address them directly, without denial or equivocation. We need to be aware of the increasingly dangerous substances that are available. We need to learn to recognize signs of addiction and to be prepared to confront loved ones when we suspect that they might be suffering from addiction. As a Jewish community, we need to recognize that Jews are just as susceptible to addiction as anyone else.

This coming March, Temple Israel will be hosting Rabbi Borovitz as scholar in residence. Himself a recovering addict, Rabbi Borovitz created Beit T'shuva with his wife, Harriet, in order to enable Jewish addicts to address their addictions from a Jewish perspective. Beit T'Shuva provides residential treatment for addicts using therapy, 12-step, and the wisdom of Jewish tradition. Rabbi Borovitz will be speaking in a variety of settings over the course of the weekend, including a special session with our teens.

In dealing with the many dimensions of this crisis, one thing which we cannot lose sight of is the "hole in the soul." It is not just something that addicts feel; it's universal. While we address specific issues like addiction, we must continue to strive, as a congregation, to create a warm, safe place where we feel comfortable bringing our anguish as well as our joy, our disappointments as well as our accomplishments.

The hole in the soul cannot be ignored.

Joseph's goblet, in this portion. Judah's words convince Joseph that his brothers truly changed since they sold him. He reveals himself to them, inquires about his father's health and assures them that their action was part of God's plan to put him in a position to save lives. He invites the entire family to come to Egypt to live out the five remaining years of the famine. When Jacob arrives, Joseph presents his father at court and settles the family in a choice area of the land. In the following years, he continues his work and brings great benefits to the crown. Jacob's journey to Egypt connects him with Abraham, who also went to Egypt because of famine, but is also the first step in the transformation of the patriarch's family into the people of Israel.

Vayehi

Saturday, December 30

In this portion we conclude the cycle of Jacob stories and the Book of Genesis. After 17 years in Egypt, Jacob feels that his end is approaching. He makes Joseph swear that he will bury him with his forebearers in the land of Israel, and he blesses Joseph's children, Ephraim and Manasseh, thereby effectively elevating them to the status of Israelite tribes. Jacob then calls in all of his sons and delivers his testament in which he characterizes them and predicts what the future will bring each of them. Upon Jacob's death, the brothers bury him in the Cave of Machpelah and return to Egypt where they beg Joseph's forgiveness for the way they treated him. Joseph reassures them again that it was all part of God's plan. The concluding verses remind us of God's promise that the Israelites would return to the land of Canaan and prepare us to move, in the Book of Exodus, with its account of the enslavement and redemption.

Shemot

Saturday, January 6

The book of Exodus begins in this portion and moves from the account of the history of a clan to the history of the Hebrew nation. A new king, who does not know Joseph, ascends the throne of Egypt and enslaves the Israelites. Moses is born to Israelite parents, but owing to a set of strange circumstances, he grows up in Pharaoh's palace as an Egyptian prince. He goes out to observe the Israelites at work and kills an Egyptian taskmaster for beating a slave. He is then forced to flee for his life to Midian where he marries and becomes a shepherd for his father-in-law, Jethro, the priest of Midian. While tending his flock at Mt. Horeb (Sinai), Moses encounters God in a burning bush and is commissioned to return to Egypt and free his people. Accompanied by his brother, Aaron, he makes an appeal to Pharaoh which is totally rejected. Events are thus set in motion which will lead to the Exodus and Moses' life-long task of bringing his people back to their land.

Va'era

Saturday, January 13

In this portion God reiterates His pledge to redeem His people from slavery and promises severe punishment for the Egyptian people. A contest then ensues between the will of Pharaoh. Moses and Aaron make another appeal to Pharaoh and in the process humiliate his magicians. The appeal, however, is again rejected. There follows the first seven of the ten plagues, which God must inflict on the Egyptians in order to achieve the release of the Israelites. The plagues of blood, frogs, lice, swarms of insects, pestilence, boils and hail (as well as locusts, darkness and the slaying of the first-born, which are related in the next portion) demonstrate God's ability to manipulate nature and to protect His people. Since a number of the plagues were directed against Egyptian divinities, also present here is the beginning of the war by the Israelites on polytheism.

Sabbath Services

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Junior Congregation	10:30 A.M.
Toddler Service	11:00 A.M.
Niggun Circle with Cantor Frieder	following Kiddush
Afternoon Service	3:50 P.M.
Se'udah Shelishit	4:20 P.M.
Evening Service	4:55 P.M.
Havdalah	5:10 P.M.

Friday, December 22

N'Ranenah/Evening Services	6:30 P.M.
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Saturday, December 23

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

Weekly Portion: Vayiggash

Genesis 44:18 – 47:27

Haftarah: Ezekiel 37:15 – 28

Sabbath Service Officers and Greeters: Toby Katz, David Eshaghoff, Jeffrey Fleit, Joyce Weston, and Diana Stein

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 29

Evening Services	4:15 P.M.
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Saturday, December 30 Shabbat Hazak

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

Weekly Portion: Vayehi

Genesis 47:28 – 50:26

Haftarah: I Kings 2:1 – 12

Temple Israel Funeral Policy

—Continued from page 2

The trial period will be used to gather feedback from our members and to determine the impact on our facilities as a result of this new policy. The Board of Trustees will then determine if this policy will be continued.

There are specific guidelines as to when such funerals will be allowed and there is a fee for use of the facilities. Those guidelines are available on request from the synagogue office.

If you have questions or require additional information about this policy, contact Executive Director Leon Silverberg, at 482-7800.

Sabbath Service Officers and Greeters: Harold Citron, Jeffrey Englander, Ofra Panzer, Edith Robbins, and Brent Greenspan

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	5:03 P.M.
Havdalah	5:18 P.M.

Friday, January 5

Evening Services	4:30 P.M.
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Saturday, January 6

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

Weekly Portion: Shemot

Exodus 1:1 – 6:1

Haftarah: Isaiah 27:6 – 28:13; 29:22 – 23

Sabbath Service Officers and Greeters: Brent Greenspan, Ezra Kassin, Madelyn Gould, Robert Lopatkin, and Deanna Stecker

Bat Mitzvah: Jessica Nahavandi, daughter of Ellen and Babak Nahavandi

Junior Congregation	10:30 A.M.
Toddler Service	11:00 A.M.
Afternoon Service	4:05 P.M.
Se'udah Shelishit	4:35 P.M.
Evening Service	5:08 P.M.
Havdalah	5:24 P.M.

Friday, January 12

Evening Services	4:30 P.M.
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Saturday, January 13

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

Weekly Portion: Va'era

Exodus 6:2 – 9:35 Haftarah: Ezekiel 28:25 – 29:21

Sabbath Service Officers and Greeters: Moji Pourmoradi, Audrey Kent Itzkowitz, Mark Birnbaum, and Andi Katz

Bat Mitzvah: Iyana Kaiman, daughter of Kim and Jon Kaiman

Havurah Service	10:00 A.M.
Junior Congregation	10:30 A.M.
Toddler Service	11:00 A.M.
Afternoon Service	4:10 P.M.
Se'udah Shelishit	4:40 P.M.
Evening Service	5:15 P.M.
Havdalah	5:31 P.M.

From Generation to Generation

Temple Israel Gratefully Acknowledges The Following Contributions

YAD B'YAD FUND

In appreciation of:

Receiving a High Holy Day honor
Marilyn Goldberg
Sherry Husney's help in preparing their son, Reuben, for his Bar Mitzvah
Debbie and Pedram
Doustan

In honor of:

The engagement of Brandon Greenspan, son of Linda and Brent Greenspan, to Leah Bloom
Carol and Steve
Smolinsky

In memory of:

Harold Hymes
Kenneth Barry Hymes
Meyer Hammer
Pearl Hammer Hymes
Marilyn Leavitt
Helen P. Leavitt

BEN ZION ALTMAN SENIOR MITSVA FUND

In appreciation of:

Receiving a High Holy Day Honor
Renee Fleischer

In memory of:

Beverly Goldman
Elliot Fleischer

ESTHER AND SAMUEL BROCHSTEIN MEMORIAL FUND

In memory of:

Arnold Illman
Goldie Illman
Sarah Brochstein
Samuel Brochstein
Nettie Schreier
Lois Illman

ABRAHAM ROSENFELD MEMORIAL FUND

In memory of:

Pouran Sarrah Lavian
Abraham Ben Jacob
Roberta and David
Harounian

CANTOR FRIEDER'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

In appreciation of:

Officiating at the marriage of their daughter, Rachel, to Adam Davis
Alise Kreditor and Jeffrey Englander

In memory of:

Joseph Shahmoon
Linda Young
Millie Werber
Elsie and David Werber
Bracha and Martin
Werber

SHOAH REMEMBRANCE FUND

In honor of:

Van Frankel being honored on Simhat Torah
Lori Oppenheimer and her leadership of the Shoah Remembrance Committee
Carol and Steve
Smolinsky

In memory of:

Joseph Mandel
David Mandel

Contribution:

George and Judith Vine

USHERS FUND

In honor of:

Rabbi Abraham Eckstein
Simhat Torah honorees
Manny Bardash, Van Frankel, Lila Bernstein-Schoen and Alexander Schoen, and
Rachelle and Ebby Ohebshalom
Manijeh and Jack
Moallem
Van Frankel
Susan Jarolem

In memory of:

Sol Schulman
Naomi Schulman

ISRAEL SOLIDARITY FUND

In memory of:

Marion Goldmuntz
Lori and Paul Freudman

TEMPLE ISRAEL FUND

In appreciation of:

Temple Israel conducting a community Yizkor Service on Yom Kippur
Beverly Machtinger
Jack Moallem's kindness and devotion to Temple Israel
Andrea Krimko

In honor of:

The birth of their granddaughter, Dalva Krimko
Andrea and Howard
Krimko
Rabbi Eckstein for his 60 years as a spiritual leader and rabbi
Rachelle and Ebby
Ohebshalom

In memory of:

Roslyn Lynn
Lesli Giglio
Martha Epstein
David Epstein
Louis Gillman
Eugene Gillman
David Rothbaum
Lucy Gerstein
Rose Bernstein
Terry Bernstein
Nochim Shagalov
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Ruth Silverstein
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David Ain
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Adrienne Wilson
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Merrill Schneiderman
David Wolf
Rita Ortner
Irving Yates
Joan Schussheim
Drazel Penberg
Dena Hirsch

Temple Israel Offers Free Rides to Morning and Evening Minyan

—Continued from front page
 period its success will be evaluated and a decision will be made on making the program permanent.

Since July of 2016 Temple Israel has been using a minyan smartphone text messaging system developed by Mr. Greenspan. More than 50 members have signed up for the service, which notifies congregants when additional worshippers are needed at the minyan. Although participants make no commitment to attend the minyan, they are notified when additional attendance is needed.

To participate in the minyan notification system, call Kathy at 482-7800 for further details. For instructions on installing the app call Mr. Greenspan at 456-9865.

"These two programs may not in themselves insure that we have a sufficient number of participants in the minyan," Mr. Greenspan said, "but they both help increase attendance. In addition, the congregation is making it easier for the community to attend our egalitarian minyan by providing the rides."

He urged all members of the congregation to attend the minyan regularly, especially during the winter months. "There

have been too many situations where we fail to gather a minyan and as a result are unable to recite certain prayers including Kaddish and be able to read from the Torah," he said. "Ensuring that we have a minyan is tied to our communal responsibilities, yet requires personal commitment. Prayer is a mitzvah, an act required by Halakha. Making the effort to enable a minyan represents an individual act of human kindness in keeping with Jewish law."

Congregation Thanks Kiddush Sponsors

A contribution toward the kiddush on September 3 was made by Jacqueline and Maurice Harounian in honor of the Bar Mitzvah of their son, Joseph.

Contributions toward the kiddush on September 9 were made by Dalia and Mozaffar Roofeh in honor of the Bat Mitzvah of their daughter, Chloe, and by Elizabeth and Farzeen (Frank) Tehrani in honor of the Bat Mitzvah of their daughter, Kate.

A contribution toward the kiddush on September 16 was made by Mojdeh and Steven (Soheil) Moalemi in honor of the Bar Mitzvah of their son, Jonathan.


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Vayeshev

December 9

The cycle of Joseph stories begins in this portion. Joseph, Jacob's favorite, angers his brothers by tattling and by recounting dreams in which he is clearly designated lord over his family. In retaliation, the brothers sell him into slavery and he is brought to Egypt. The story is interrupted at this point to recount an incident in the life of Judah. The narrative resumes with the account of Joseph's fortunes in Egypt. He is sold to a high official and becomes his major domo, but he runs afoul of his master's wife and is jailed. There, Joseph interprets the dreams of two fellow prisoners, Pharaoh's chief cupbearer and chief baker. The cup-bearer is subsequently restored to his office, but he completely forgets about Joseph. The events of this story demonstrate the working out of God's carefully devised plan for His people

—Continued on page 8

Temple Israel of Great Neck

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Sabbath Services

Friday, December 1

Evening Services 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.

Friday, December 8

Evening Services 4:15 P.M.

Saturday, December 9

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

Weekly Portion: Vayeshev
Genesis 37:1–40:23
Haftarah: Amos 2:6 – 3:8

Sabbath Service Officers and Greeters:
Susan Brustein, Jeffrey Englander, Diana
Stein, Hal Rothbaum, and Ellen Birnbaum

Bar Mitzvah: Adam Ohebshalom
son of Sharon and David Ohebshalom
Bar Mitzvah: Dylan Kohanim
son of Parnaz and Mehran Kohanim

Havurah Service 10:00 A.M.
Toddler Service 11:00 A.M.
Afternoon Service 3:50 P.M.
Shabbat HaMishpachah 4:00 P.M.

Se'udah Shelishit 4:20 P.M.
Evening Service 4:54 P.M.
Havdalah 5:09 P.M.

Friday, December 15

Evening Services 4:15 P.M.

Saturday, December 16

Shabbat Hanukkah
Shaharit Morning Service/
Shabbat Group Aliyah 8:45 A.M.
First Mourner's Kaddish 9:25 A.M.

Weekly Portion: Mikkets;
Genesis 41:1–44:17; Numbers 7:30–41
Haftarah: Zechariah 2:14–4:7

Sabbath Service Officers and Greeters:
Veronica Lurvey, Ellen Birnbaum,
Seth Horowitz, and Jeffrey Fleit

Bat Mitzvah: Amanda Putter
daughter of Ellen and Mark Putter

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