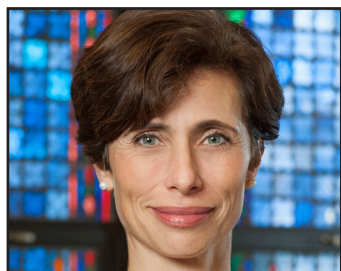




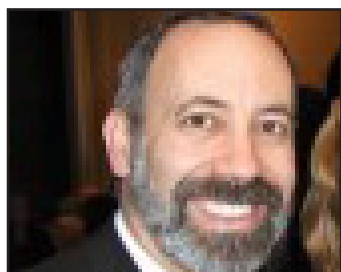
Temple Beth-El: Rabbi Meir Feldman



Temple Beth-El: Rabbi Tara Feldman



Temple Israel: Rabbi Howard Stecker



GN Synagogue: Rabbi Dale Polakoff



Beth Hadassah: Rabbi Yamin Levy

## Great Neck's Rabbis Holding Annual Rabbinic Dialogue At Temple Israel On March 5

By Marc Katz, Editor

Five Great Neck rabbis with widely differing points of view on many issues will meet to address the question "Are We Still One People?" at their annual Rabbinic Dialogue. The discussion brings together the religious leaders from the community's largest Reform, Conservative and Orthodox congregations, and this year will add the rabbi of a major Iranian synagogue.

"I'm excited about the discussion," said Rabbi Howard Stecker of Temple Israel, which will host the get-together this year. "I think it will be a lively exchange." The community is invited to ask questions following the rabbis' discussion, to be held in Temple Israel's Sanctuary on Sunday, March 5, at 10 A.M. A free breakfast for all members of Temple Israel will precede the program at 9 A.M. in the Crystal Ballroom.

Subtitled "A Frank Look at the Political, Religious and Social Issues That Are Dividing the American Jewish Community," the program will feature Rabbis Tara and Meir Feldman of Reform Temple Beth-El, Rabbi Stecker of Conservative Temple Israel, Rabbi Dale Polakoff of Orthodox Great Neck Synagogue, and Rabbi Yamin Levy of the Iranian congregation Beth Hadassah. The rabbis selected the topic and say they welcome comments from the audience.

The program, started many years ago by the Men's Club of Temple Israel and the Brotherhood of Temple Beth-El, originally featured Rabbi Mordecai Waxman of Temple Israel and Rabbi Jerome Davidson of Temple Beth-El. Drawing big crowds over the years, the annual program expanded to include the other rabbis, as well.

Rabbi Meir Feldman, who came to Temple Beth-El in 2009, shares the pulpit with his wife, Rabbi Tara Feldman. Meir Feldman began his career as an associate at a prestigious Wall Street law firm and then as a federal prosecutor in Los Angeles. "If someone had told me then what my life would be like now, I would never have believed it," he said. He attended Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion and, in 2001, started a bi-weekly Park Slope Friday Night Minyan. From 2002-2004 he served as a Rabbinic Fellow at the Upper West Side's B'nai Jeshurun.

Rabbi Tara Feldman earned a B.A. in Russian Language and Literature from Vassar College, an M.A. in Elementary Education from Lesley College, and was ordained by Hebrew Union College in 2001. She held a number of associate positions before becoming co-senior rabbi with her husband. A Jew-by-choice, she is the mother of two and a lifelong exercise enthusiast, with interests in yoga, meditation and storytelling.

Rabbi Stecker has served as the senior rabbi of Temple Israel since the end of 2003, and his contract with the congregation was renewed earlier this week. He has served as president of

*—Continued on page 11*

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## Sisterhood Welcomes You!

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### **A Voice Guest Column** by Karen Ashkenase

EDITOR'S NOTE: Sisterhood President Karen Ashkenase relays the 100-year history of the organization and invites you to join in this Voice Guest Column.

The Sisterhood of Temple Israel is proud to be part of the Women's League For Conservative Judaism.

Over its 100 year history, the organization has expanded well beyond its early mission as described by founder Mathilde Schechter to "perpetuate Judaism in the home, synagogues and communities" and has become the network for all Conservative Jewish women who join through a sisterhood or as individual members.

Today's members range from those who are highly skilled in Jewish rituals and knowledge, to those who are new to Judaism, from stay-at-home moms to accomplished professionals in every field and includes those who are single by choice or circumstance, LGBT and women of all ages.

Women's League has had a prominent presence in dealing with many of the issues that have faced women, the Jewish community and the world at large throughout its history.

We are particularly proud of the role we have played in advancing the status of women in Jewish life, religious equality

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**This July we will be celebrating our 100th birthday at a convention in Virginia.**

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and pluralism with the Conservative movement, the success and security of the State of Israel and our commitment to the health and well-being of women.

*—Continued on page 6*

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## Kiddush Can Save Us

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

Imagine a world where everyone sees things more or less the way you do. You share an opinion and people say "right on." Your narrative, your sense of right and wrong, your prescription for what should be done in a given situation, are echoed and amplified by the people around you.

This is the way life on social media can be. We tend to be friends with people

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**How fortunate we are... that we are not an echo chamber.**

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who see the world the way we do. We reinforce one another's perceptions. We gain comfort and resolve from our sense of solidarity with others of like mind.

Though social media can exacerbate our polarization, we do a fine job self-segregating in "real life" as well. While engaging predominantly with like-minded individuals and avoiding

difficult topics with those who have different perspectives can be beneficial in some ways, it's ultimately damaging. It's damaging because it gives us a false sense of the world around us and because it deprives us of the beneficial perspective that those who disagree with us can bring.

Our congregation is unusually diverse in many respects, including ideological and political perspective. Though there are many issues about which we agree, there are other issues regarding which we hold passionately divergent viewpoints. It's tempting to wish that we were one large echo chamber. In some respects it would be easier that way.

How fortunate we are, however, that we are not an echo chamber. When we walk into the kiddush on Shabbat, we are likely to be socializing with people who see things differently than we do. We can view that as a liability or we can view that as an opportunity.

*—Continued on page 6*

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## Following Dreams

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### **From the President**

by Rob Panzer

A few weeks ago, our Adult B'nei Mitzvah class led Friday evening Kabbalat Shabbat services, read Torah, chanted the haftarah, and delivered a D'var Torah. This cohort, in fact, was honoring the mission of our congregation: lifelong learning.

Among our adult membership we have those who did not have the opportunity to fully experience a formal Jewish education as a youth. This B'nei Mitzvah group, spanning two generations, different levels of comfort with Hebrew, even coming from different countries, supported each other with the common goal of completing a two year journey to enrich their lives.

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**They found the time for study and practice and were rewarded with new skills and friendships.**

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The members of the class, Lila Bernstein-Schoen, Carol Braksmajer, Mino Dilmanian, Josephine Haghani, Maurice Harounian, Natali Matalon, Barbara Schultz, and Marjan Taied, felt that now the time was right for them. They found the time for study and practice and were rewarded with new skills and friendships.

The Adult B'nei Mitzvah program is just one of the many opportunities to learn and enrich your own life.

If you take a moment to check our weekly emails or visit our website at TIGN.org, you will see weekly classes in current events, history, Israeli dancing, and many other subjects.

Our next group project will be preparation for Shabbat Hagever, in which the men of the congregation will conduct services from Friday evening through Havdalah Saturday evening. This will be done in conjunction with the Men's Club Shabbat, when members of

*—Continued on page 6*

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## In Memoriam

Temple Israel extends  
condolences to the families of:

**DIANE F. WEISMAN**

mother of Ellen F. Gottlieb

**DR. NORMAN GOLDFARB**

brother of Carol Schreiber  
and uncle of Merrill Schneiderman

**MEIR BEN ELIEZER SOBOL**

father of Cantor Mordechai Sobol

*May their memories be for a blessing.*

## Daily Minyan Times

**Friday, February 3**

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

**Friday, February 10**

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

**Friday, February 17**

7:00 A.M. 5:15 P.M.

**Friday, February 24**

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

**Friday, March 3**

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

**Sunday and Monday,**

**February 5, 12, 19, 20, & 26 & March 5**

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

**Monday, February 6, 13, & 27 & March 6**

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

**Tuesday and Wednesday**

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

**Thursday**

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

## Candle Lighting Times

**Friday, February 3**

4:56 P.M.

**Friday, February 10**

5:05 P.M.

**Friday, February 17**

5:13 P.M.

**Friday, February 24**

5:22 P.M.

**Friday, March 3**

5:30 P.M.

## Upcoming Events

**February 5**

Men's Club World Wide Wrap 9:00 A.M.

**February 6**

Sisterhood Board Meeting 10:00 A.M.

**February 7**

Sisterhood Lunch and Noon  
Read Program

**February 10**

Congregational Tu Bishevat Seder 7:15 P.M.  
and Waxman High School  
Family Dinner

**February 11**

Tu Bishevat

**February 12**

TILL Jewish Film Series 7:00 P.M.  
Presents "Above and Beyond"

**February 13**

Sisterhood Lunch and Lecture Noon

**February 14**

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

**February 15**

Board of Trustees Meeting 8:15 P.M.

**February 23**

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

**March 4**

"Shabbat Talk" Discussion on 12:45 P.M.  
Mental Illness

**March 5**

Men's Club Rabbinic Dialogue 9:00 A.M.  
TILL Film Series 7:00 P.M.

**March 7**

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

**March 11**

Erev Purim

## Tu Bishevat and Shabbat Shirah Celebrated With Dinner and Services February 10-11

Tu Bishevat and Shabbat Shirah will be celebrated at Temple Israel on Friday and Saturday, February 10-11, with a weekend of song and festivity. A N'Ranenah service and communal Shabbat dinner is planned for Friday night and special musical presentations will be featured during the Shabbat service, known as Shabbat Shirah, when "The Song of the Sea" is read.

It has become a tradition to add additional singing to the Shabbat Service when the Song of Moses is read from the Torah. That Shabbat is called Shabbat Shirah, Shirah meaning "song." Cantor Raphael Frieder has composed new melodies for Kedusha and has recruited a quartet of professional singers to join him at the service. They will perform traditional cantorial pieces and will invite the congregation to join in, according to Cantor Frieder. In addition, they will be joined in singing by children from the Religious School.

Medieval Spanish kabbalists saw the 15th day of the month of Shevat—known as the birthday of the trees—as a time to renew lives by celebrating the Tree of Life. Festivities begin on Friday evening with the N'Ranenah service at 6 P.M. in the Multipurpose Room. It will be followed by the Shabbat Dinner at 7:30 P.M. in the Crystal Ballroom. Separate activities for children will be conducted by teens from the Waxman High School. In addition, the school's Junior Israel Affairs Committee will lead a discussion for adults on the recent fires in Israel, the devastation it has created, the Jewish National Fund, and efforts to preserve Israel's environment.

An early reservation dinner discount is being offered until Friday, February 3, of \$25 for adults and \$12 for children age 12 and under. Children two and under are free. After February 3 the cost for dinner is \$35 for adults and \$20 for children 12 and under. Reservations will not be taken after February 8.

The Shabbat morning service begins at 8:45 A.M. For further information about Shabbat Shirah and the Tu Bishevat dinner, and to make dinner reservations, call Jennifer at the Temple Israel office at 482-7800.

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

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### Dana Yadidi

Dana Yadidi will be celebrating her Bat Mitzvah on February 11. She is the daughter of Negin and Jack (Pajman) Yadidi and has three sisters, Desiree, 18, Deborah, 17, and Danielle, 7. Dana is a seventh grade student at Great Neck North Middle School. She enjoys playing tennis, soccer and gymnastics, as well as dance. In her free time she works with special needs children, which brings her much joy. She will continue attending the Waxman High School and hopes to visit Israel in the near future.



### Jessica Harouche

Jessica Lauren Harouche will be called to the Torah as a Bat Mitzvah on February 25. She is the daughter of Holly (Hollis) and Jeffrey Harouche. Jessica is a seventh grade student at Great Neck South Middle School. She enjoys playing soccer. She is currently attending the Waxman High School and Youth House and plans to visit Israel in the near future.



### Isabella Rastegar

Isabella Rastegar will be celebrating her Bat Mitzvah on March 4. She is the daughter of Desiree and Rodney Rastegar and has a sister, Sasha, 8, and two brothers, Coby, 11, and Rex, 5. Isabella is a seventh grade honor student at Great Neck North Middle School. She enjoys playing tennis and the piano. Isabella also enjoys pilates. She plans on attending the Waxman High School and Youth House following her Bat Mitzvah, and visit Israel this summer.

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## Next Up In the Jewish Film Series: The Story of the Founding of the Israeli Air Force

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In 1948, just three years after the liberation of Nazi death camps, a group of Jewish American pilots answered a call for help. In secret and at great personal risk, they smuggled planes out of the United States, trained behind the Iron Curtain in Czechoslovakia and flew for Israel in its War of Independence. This ragtag band of brothers not only turned the tide of the war, they also embarked on personal journeys of renewed Jewish pride.

Their story will be told in the next presentation in Temple Israel's Jewish Film Series, "Above and Beyond," on Sunday, February 12, at 7 P.M. in the Crystal Ballroom. It will be followed by a lively discussion led by Rabbi Daniel Schweber. Snacks will be served.

"Above and Beyond" is the first major feature length documentary about the

foreign airmen in the '48 war and brings together new interviews as well as stunning aerial footage to present this little-known tale. "This is a beautiful film about the founding of the Israeli Air Force and the Israeli fight for independence," said Rabbi Schweber. "I urge everyone to see the picture and

participate in the discussion."

The film, the third in the series, is presented free of charge to Temple Israel members and their guests by Temple Israel Lifelong Learning, TILL, the adult education program. The next movie presentation will be on Sunday evening, March 5.



A scene from "Above and Beyond," the next movie in Temple Israel's Jewish Film Series, to be shown on Sunday, February 12, at 7P.M. It tells the story of the founding of the Israeli Air Force.

## Learning About Torah and Science

**From the Beth HaGan Nursery School** by Rachel Mathless

Beth HaGan students held their 16th annual Beth HaGan Torah Science Fair this week in the Crystal Ballroom. Teachers and children decided on a class topic in both Torah and in science. They did the research, read books and experimented to test their hypothesis. They made charts of what they learned and what they now know. They have worked on myriad projects to demonstrate how knowledgeable they have become on the topics they have chosen.

The Giraffes class chose to study the very beginning of creation, when God moved away the darkness and "let there be light." They differentiated between natural light such as sunlight, moonlight and stars and manmade light coming from bulbs, flashlights and fire.

The Penguins class has been very involved in studying Rosh Chodesh and how the new month was determined in biblical times by charting the stages of the moon. The children learned about crescent, gibbous and full moons and how they affect our environment and nature's cycles. They learned the special prayer for Rosh Chodesh and are celebrating Rosh Chodesh Shevat with a birthday party.

The Butterflies class learned the story of King David's victory over Goliath, which engendered much jealousy from King Saul. David was forced to flee many times and took refuge in caves all over Israel. The children learned about the many different types of caves, cave life and survival in a cave. They made a cave, complete with stalagmites and stalactites, and all sorts of bugs and animals that live there.

The Pandas class presented a safari, a journey to the wilds of Africa to discover all the large animals, which were created on the sixth day of creation. Visitors to the fair were able to ride the safari bus and meet the tigers, lions and elephants, and see all the exciting facts that the Pandas have learned.

All 12 Beth HaGan classes exhibited their projects. Some were interactive, and children served as guides to explain their projects to family and friends.



The Pandas painted the trunk of a tree, part of their safari study.



The Penguins painted the sun, part of their study of Rosh Chodesh.



The Dolphins learned how paper is made as their class project.



The Seals Class made snow, part of their science fair glacier project.

*Sisterhood Presents:*  
**How Will the  
White House  
Govern in 2017?**

Guest Speaker: Dr. Meeena Bose  
Executive Dean for Public Policy  
and Public Service Programs,  
Hofstra University

**Monday  
February 13  
Noon**

Lunch at Noon

Free for Paid-Up  
Sisterhood Members

Guests: \$18.00

**RSVP BY  
THURSDAY,  
FEBRUARY 9**

**Advance Reservations Required**

Contact:  
Karen at 487-3048  
or Laura at  
laurab44@optonline.net

Friends & family welcome!

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## Kiddush Can Save Us

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—Continued from page 2

I urge us to view it as an opportunity. In the relative safety of our congregational community, we can talk about political, economic and social issues with people of different viewpoints. If we do this respectfully, we will likely find ourselves enriched by the exchange. Perhaps we will revise our views; perhaps we will strengthen them.

The best possible outcome, which is not an unrealistic one, is that we find common cause regarding critical Jewish values based on our willingness to listen to one another. As but one example, the controversial cluster of issues around immigration would benefit from a respectful exchange between people of divergent views. Sure, we can stand on “opposite sides of the room” talking at one another, accusing one another of misunderstanding and worse.

But imagine the positive outcome that could emerge from conversations that acknowledge the Jewish imperative to welcome others along with the legitimate fears that we may have. Such conversations could potentially yield a broader, more powerful consensus on how we might choose to advocate as a community. That’s not possible if we only post and chat with people in our own ideological neck of the woods.

The action item I recommend is that we use kiddush time, and other occasions as well,

to talk respectfully with people who may have different views than we do. It’s not easy, and I don’t recommend jumping in all at once. But slowly, respectfully, we can open doors that may expand our understanding and have positive repercussions within and beyond our community.

When Moses first appeared to the enslaved Israelites to speak about redemption, they did not listen to him. The Torah says that their “shortness of spirit” prevented them from listening.

The world is rife with significant challenges that demand our attention, challenges that impact human beings of all backgrounds and the future of our shared planet. We can’t afford to allow our own shortness of spirit to prevent us from listening to one another. We can’t afford to retreat into our own echo chambers.

We need to meet, greet and hear one another whenever and wherever we have the chance.

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## Following Dreams

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—Continued from page 2

the Men’s Club lead Kabbalat Shabbat. This is an opportunity to learn something new, meet up with old friends, and make some new friends. (Last year it was the women and in the next cycle we look forward to the men and women together leading the services in 2018.)

I would like to thank the members of the B’nei Mitzvah class. Individually and as a group, they demonstrated a number of important things: that it is important to persevere even though the task at hand may seem daunting, to recognize that it is never too late to learn and that there is always more to learn. Finally, what was most important to me was that this cohort served as a reminder of why we do what we do, and what it is that Temple Israel stands for. Kol Hakavod and thank you all for following your dreams.

As always, I can be reached at  
robpanser18@gmail.com

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## Sisterhood Welcomes You!

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—Continued from page 2

This July we will be celebrating our 100th birthday at a Convention in Virginia. For the past several conventions we have been immensely proud of our social action projects designed to help local communities. With Convention 2017, we are starting a particularly fitting project that will continue long past July.

Called Mathilde’s Mentionables, in honor of our founder, Mathilde Schechter, we will collect new and gently worn bras to distribute to women in homeless and battered women’s shelters in the Seaboard Region. All types of cleaned and new looking bras are welcome. I will be glad to pick up any contributions.

Thank you for helping us celebrate 100 years of activism and commitment to the Jewish people. We welcome you to join us once a month for our board meetings and to our on-going exciting, timely and important programs.

I welcome your calls about membership at 487-3048.

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## Ask the Rabbi: The Environment: Who Cares?

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**A New Voice Feature** by Rabbi Daniel Schweber

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

**Question:** Protecting our environment and the effects of global climate change are all over the news. What does Judaism and Jewish texts have to say about the environment?

**Discussion:** The first mitzvah in the Torah is the commandment to procreate and fill the earth. The second mitzvah is the commandment to work and guard the land, as we read in Genesis 2:15: "The Lord took the human and placed the human in the garden to till and tend it." Based on this verse, we have an ancient and fundamental responsibility to the earth and its environment.

The Torah text does not have many specific commandments related to being stewards of the earth. However, the ancient rabbis cleverly used other

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### ...the Torah commands us to help feed the world.

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commandments to tease out various values of guarding the environment.

Here are few examples.

- **Conservation of Resources:** In the laws on warfare in Deuteronomy 20 we read that if a city is being besieged to basically starve the people to submission it is forbidden to cut down the fruit trees. The rabbis cleverly used this verse to make the argument that if it is forbidden to destroy natural resources at a time of war, all the more so during times of peace. Based on this verse the ancient rabbis established that it is a Jewish value to conserve and protect the natural resources that God has given us.

- **We Share the Earth with All Creatures:** There are several commandments in the Torah that take into account the idea that animals have feelings. As humans, we have mastery over the earth and the Torah allows us to take the eggs or hatchlings from a nest. However, we are commanded to shoo the mother bird away so she does not witness the taking of her young. While animal offerings

were part of the worship of God in the Temple, a mother and its young could not be slaughtered in the same day. If you see your adversary's donkey falling from a heavy burden, you are required to help that donkey. From these mitzvot we can generalize that it is a Jewish value to be concerned with the welfare of animals. As Jews we should support animal shelters and have robust concern for endangered species and maintaining of natural habitats.

- **Safe Drinking Water:** After crossing the Sea of Reeds, Israel comes to a place called Marah because the water there is bitter. The Israelites cry out to Moses and God and God shows Moses a piece of wood that sweetens the water. Water is one of the essentials of life and we have an obligation to ensure that every person has access to clean potable water.

- **The Earth Can and Should Feed all People:** Regardless of whether it is observed in its fullness or not, the Torah commands that farmers let the land lay fallow every seventh year. During that year there is no such thing as private property and everyone shares the natural growth. There are many values behind this mitzvah of the Sabbatical year, including the idea that the earth can and should feed all people. While the world's population keeps soaring, the technology exists to feed each and every person. However, the world's rich residents, including ourselves, have not taken enough steps to make this happen. We should know that the Torah commands us to help feed the world.

Tu B'shevat, the holiday of the trees has become a Jewish environmental holiday of sorts. As we celebrate Tu B'shevat I encourage you to think about the Jewish values and I urge us to take actions to care for the environment. There are many Jewish organizations doing great things including Hazon, Coalition on the Environment and Jewish Life, Jewish National Fund, and Society for the Protection of Nature in Israel. All of these organizations and others are worthy of our support.

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## Mazal Tov To . . .

**Sherry and Sam Husney**

on the birth of their granddaughter,  
Shira Karen Saat.

**Karen Lewkowitz-Miller and Monte**

**Miller** on the engagement of their son,  
Jeremy, to Jordana Imersheim.

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## Congregation Thanks Its Kiddush Sponsors

A contribution toward the kiddush on October 29 was made by Cherie and Jon Kahen in honor of the Bar Mitzvah of their son, Michael.

The congregational kiddush on November 5 was co-sponsored by Mersedeh and Farid Aminzadeh in honor of the Bar Mitzvah of their son, Ryan, and Mar and Jonathan in honor of the Bar Mitzvah of their son, Ilan.

The congregational kiddush on November 26 was sponsored by Moji and Omid Pourmoradi in honor of the Bat Mitzvah of their daughter, Dayna. A contribution towards the kiddush was made by Alfred Sedaghat in memory of his father, Mansour Sedaghat.

The congregational kiddush on December 3 was sponsored by Jodi and David Harouche in honor of the Bar Mitzvah of their son, Jordan.

The congregational kiddush on December 10 was sponsored by Pargol and Steven Khadavi in honor of the Bar Mitzvah of their son, Kevin.

A contribution toward the kiddush on December 17 was made by Nazila and Daniel Bakhshi in honor of the Bar Mitzvah of their son, Kyle.

A contribution toward the kiddush on December 24 was made by the Shahmoon family in memory of Edward Jacob Nissan.

The congregational kiddush on January 7 was sponsored by Rosett Hendizadeh in honor of the Bat Mitzvah of her granddaughter, Mikayla. A contribution toward the kiddush was made by Susan and Dr. Arden Smith in honor of Arden's laying of Parashat Vayiggash in commemoration of the 52nd anniversary of his Bar Mitzvah.

# From Generation to Generation

## Temple Israel Gratefully Acknowledges The Following Contributions

### ISRAEL SOLIDARITY FUND

In honor of:

Lila Bernstein-Schoen  
Jacqueline Einstein-  
Astrof and Joshua  
Astrof

In memory of:

Mouness Khorshad  
Cheryl Eisberg Moin  
and Seth Moin  
Anita Rudo  
Audrey Kent Itzkowitz  
and Eric Itzkowitz

Contributions:

JNF Fire Fighting Campaign  
Janet and Kombiz  
Kahen  
Adele Warren  
Jane and Barry  
Salzberg  
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### YAD B'YAD FUND

In memory of:

Adele Horton  
Viola Esikoff  
Stuart Roth  
Libby Weston  
Meyer Hammer  
Pearl Hammer Hymes  
Jenny Bachenheimer  
Jules North  
Bunny North  
Sylvia Hymes  
Kenneth Barry Hymes  
Milton Levenson  
Gilda Hecht

### WAXMAN HIGH SCHOOL AND YOUTH HOUSE FUND

In appreciation of:

Sherry Husney's help in  
preparing Kevin for his Bar  
Mitzvah  
Pargol and Steven  
Khadavi

In honor of:

Lexi Pour, daughter  
of Romina and David Pour,  
becoming a Bat Mitzvah  
The engagement  
of Rachel Kreditor, daughter  
of Alise Kreditor and Jeffrey  
Englander, and Adam Davis  
The engagement of Samuel  
Kreditor, son of Alise Kreditor  
and Jeffrey Englander,  
and Lauren Weisskirk  
Mikayla Hendizadeh, daughter  
of Bita and Pedram  
Hendizadeh and  
granddaughter  
of Mina and Alex Peykar  
becoming a Bat Mitzvah  
Parvaneh and Parviz  
Khodadadian  
Dayna Pourmoradi, daughter  
of Moji and Omid Pourmoradi,  
becoming a Bat Mitzvah  
Sheila and Douglas  
Hyman and family  
Rita and Mel Ortner  
The birth of their  
granddaughter, Penelope  
Blake Middleman  
Rita and Mel Ortner

In memory of:

Mouness Khorshad  
Parvaneh and Parviz  
Khodadadian  
Valentine Nazarian Wolly  
George Naim  
Sharon Kovacs Gruer  
Rosalinde Liebowitz  
Anita Rudo  
Moji and Omid Pourmoradi

### JEWISH IDENTITY FUND

In memory of:

Fannie Rosen  
Jane Rogoff  
Milton Rosen

### PRAYER BOOK FUND

In honor of:

The Torodash family  
Marcia Baskin  
The engagement  
of Rachel Kreditor, daughter  
of Alise Kreditor and Jeffrey  
Englander, and Adam Davis  
The engagement of Samuel  
Kreditor, son of Alise Kreditor  
and Jeffrey Englander,  
and Lauren Weisskirk  
Barbara and Leonard  
Schultz

In memory of:

Valentine Nazarian Wolly  
Paula and Ron Crane  
Henry Sheidlower  
Ellyn Sheidlower  
Rosalinde Liebowitz  
Rita and Martin Kroll  
David Rothbaum  
Paul Rothbaum  
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Elissa Schiff

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In memory of:

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Joseph Unger

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Seth Moin  
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### ETHEL AND JACK ACKERMAN FUND

In memory of:

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### LIBRARY FUND

In honor of:

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Daum, to Naomi Berkowitz  
The birth of Noa Everly Zinger,  
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Kopelowitz  
Manijeh and Jack  
Moallem  
Barbara Schultz becoming a  
Bat Mitzvah  
Bari and Marty Fagin

In memory of:

Yaacov Yahid  
Jack Moallem  
Elma Gilbert  
Mickey and Alan  
Greenblatt  
Sylvia Lupkin  
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For the recovery of:  
Paula Charry  
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### CANTOR FRIEDER'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

In appreciation of:

Cantor Frieder's presence at  
the shiva for his  
brother, George Naim  
Mark Naim  
Cantor Frieder for all he does  
Yvonne and Frederic  
Rakowitz

### BUILDING FUND

In memory of:

Gerda Schoen  
Mina and Keyvan Frouzan



# From Generation to Generation

## Temple Israel Gratefully Acknowledges The Following Contributions

### USHERS FUND

In appreciation of:  
 Manny Alani's help during the shiva for her uncle, Edward Jacob Nissan  
 Yvonne Shahmoon

In honor of:  
 The birth of Penelope Blake Middleman, granddaughter of Rita and Mel Ortner  
 The birth of James Nouriel Shamsian, grandson of Farnosh and Joseph Chadi Manijeh and Jack Moallem

In memory of:  
 Khanbaba Rokhsar  
 Edward Jacob Nissan  
 David Hamid Bakhshi Manijeh and Jack Moallem  
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In memory of:  
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 Lawrence Kreditor  
 Marlene Kreditor

### DAILY MINYAN FUND

In appreciation of:  
 The gift he received from minyan attendees  
 Terry Bernstein

In honor of:  
 The engagement of Scott Kestenbaum, son of Elise and Richard Kestenbaum, to Lindsey Cohen  
 Marilyn Torodash finishing her 11 months of mourning for her husband, George Alise Kreditor and Jeffrey Englander and family  
 Ed Goldfeder's birthday Alise Kreditor and Jeffrey Englander and family  
 Marilyn Torodash  
 Simhat Torah honoree Toby Katz Neda Sedgh  
 Arden Smith  
 Alise Kreditor and Jeffrey Englander

In memory of:  
 Mouness Khorshad  
 Stacey and Jeffrey Bernstein  
 Alison Goldsmith Masry  
 Alise Kreditor and Jeffrey Englander  
 Stanley Wallens  
 Elsie Wallens

### RABBI STECKER'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

In appreciation of:  
 Rabbi Stecker's presence at the shiva for his brother, George Naim  
 Mark Naim  
 Rabbi Stecker's support of their family following the passing of their father, Khanbaba Rokhsar  
 Guity Rokhsar and Arman Rokhsar  
 Rabbi Stecker for officiating at their wedding  
 Amanda Teitelman and Jacob Katz  
 Rabbi Stecker's presence and participation at the funeral of his mother, Gerda Schoen  
 Alexander Schoen  
 Rabbi Stecker's support during the past year  
 Yvonne Shahmoon

In honor of:  
 Barbara Schultz becoming a Bat Mitzvah  
 Marlene and Morty Leichter  
 Arnold Gussin's 80th birthday  
 Madeline and Martin Krause

In memory of:  
 Barbara Lurvey  
 The Lurvey family  
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 Laura and Scott Bodner  
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In honor of:  
 The birth of Ethan James Stagliano, great-grandson of Helen Schachter  
 Ellen Cooper

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 The Bat Mitzvah of Danielle Blu Gantcher  
 Elizabeth Atkins

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 Ida Wolsky  
 Fannie Rosen  
 Carolyn Fried

### SHALOM CLUB LIBRARY SHELF FUND

In honor of:  
 Their great-grandchildren and grandchildren: Abby and Sam Tannous, Max and Maya Tannous, Lisa Panisch, Chelsey and Jeremy Spangler, Mark Putterman, Serena Putterman, Rebecca and Jordan Lawrence, Sarah and James Lebeau, Jessica and Reuben Pearlman, Laura Putterman, Noah Putterman, Jonathan Putterman, Rose and Harry Summers, Max Summers, Morit Summers, Joseph Sidney Pearlman, Rena Pearlman, Louis Pearlman, Maxine Pearlman, Mollie and Chris Correia, and Miriam and Matthew Putterman  
 Eileen and Mickey Putterman

In memory of:  
 Melvin Goldstein  
 Eileen Putterman  
 Benjamin Cohen  
 Harold Kobliner  
 Max Putterman  
 Mickey Putterman

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## D'var Torah

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—Continued from back page

given here are by way of assuring that we remember God's role as redeemer to eternity.

### **Beshallah Saturday, February 11**

In this portion we follow the Israelites' journey to the Red Sea, where they find themselves trapped by pursuing Egyptian forces. God affects the miraculous crossing of the sea and the destruction of the Egyptians, and the Israelites rejoice singing the "Song of the Sea." The journey to Sinai may now be resumed, but three challenges are immediately encountered. The people complain that they have no bread. In response, God provides manna and gives directions for gathering it during the week and for the Sabbath. They further complain that they have no water, and God provides it from a rock. Finally, when the people are attacked by the Amalekites, Joshua heads a band of soldiers who defeat the attackers while Moses holds up the staff

of God to encourage the Israelites. These incidents all serve to highlight the difficulty of transforming slaves into free men who can rely on God, yet act on their own behalf.

### **Yitro Saturday, February 18**

We read of the greatest event in the entire history of the people of Israel- the revelation at Mt. Sinai in this portion. The portion opens with an account of the visit of Jethro, Moses' father-in-law, to the Israelite camp just after they have crossed the Sea. Jethro suggests an administrative arrangement to Moses, which significantly enhances Moses' effectiveness as a judge. The people then proceed to the foot of Mt. Sinai where they engage in three days of purification in preparation for God's appearance. The proclamation of the Ten Commandments itself is accompanied by smoke and fire and the sound of the shofar. The effect on the people is overwhelming, so much so that they cannot bear to hear God's voice directly and Moses serves as an intermediary.

The experience of Sinai establishes a covenantal relationship between God and Israel, which is to last to eternity and put its distinctive stamp on the entire future development of the people.

### **Mishpatim Saturday, February 25**

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 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. The Exodus is the key event in all Jewish history, and the instructions given here are by way of assuring that we remember God's role as redeemer to eternity.

### **Terumah Saturday, March 4**

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.

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## Sabbath Services

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—Continued from back page

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 5:59 P.M.

Havdalah 6:14 P.M.

### **Friday, February 24**

Evening Service 5:30 P.M.

### **Saturday, February 25**

Preparatory Prayers 8:45 A.M.

Shaharit Morning Service 9:00 A.M.

First Mourners' Kaddish 9:25 A.M.

Weekly Portion: Mishpatim

Exodus 21:1 – 24:18; 30:11 - 16

Haftarah: II Kings 11:17 – 12:17

Sabbath Service Officers and Greeters:

Lynn Weitzman, Daniel Goldberger, Sima Taeid, Jeffrey Fleit, and Sherry Husney

Bat Mitzvah: Jessica Harouche, daughter of Holly (Hollis) and Jeffrey Harouche

Havurah Service 10:00 A.M.

Junior Congregation 10:30 A.M.

Toddler Service 11:00 A.M.

Afternoon Service 5:00 P.M.

Se'udah Shelishit 5:30 P.M.

Evening Service 6:08 P.M.

Havdalah 6:23 P.M.

### **Friday, March 3**

Evening Service 5:45 P.M.

Shabbat HaMishpahah 6:00 P.M.

### **Saturday, March 4**

Preparatory Prayers 8:45 A.M.

Shaharit Morning Service 9:00 A.M.

First Mourners' Kaddish 9:25 A.M.

Weekly Portion: Terumah

Exodus 25:1 – 27:19

Haftarah: I Kings 5:26 – 6:13

Sabbath Service Officers and Greeters:

Madelyn Gould, Burton Weston, Alise Kreditor, Diana Stein, and Deanna Stecker

Unlocking Tefila 10:30 A.M.

Junior Congregation 10:30 A.M.

Toddler Service 11:00 A.M.

"Shabbat Talk" – Topic: Mental Illness  
12:45 P.M.

Afternoon Service 5:10 P.M.

Se'udah Shelishit 5:40 P.M.

Evening Service 6:16 P.M.

Havdalah 6:31 P.M.

## Great Neck's Rabbis Rabbinic Dialogue at Temple Israel March 5th

—Continued from front page

the Rabbinical Assembly of Nassau and Suffolk, an officer of the New York Board of Rabbis, and as a Board member of the Solomon Schechter High School of Long Island.

Rabbi Polakoff is in his 30th year as the senior rabbi of Great Neck Synagogue. He served as president of The Rabbinical Council of America and has been deeply involved in numerous communal causes, including the Orthodox Caucus and the Beth Din of America. Before coming to Great Neck Synagogue he served as the assistant rabbi of a congregation on Manhattan's Upper East Side and the rabbi of a congregation in Morristown, New Jersey.

Rabbi Yamin Levy is the senior rabbi of Congregation Beth Hadassah, Iranian Jewish Center of Great Neck. He is also the rabbi of the Long Island Hebrew Academy in Great Neck. For the past 22 years he has held positions in the rabbinate in Highland Park, New Jersey, and Seattle, Washington, as well as Great Neck. He has also held educational positions at several yeshivas and is the author of a number of acclaimed articles.

## Unusual Temple Museum Exhibit Featuring Rare Amulet Display

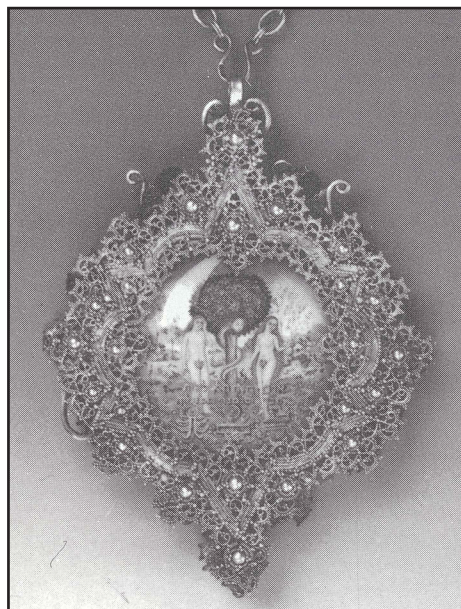
The Temple Israel Museum is proud to present—for the first time—an exhibit of Jewish amulets in its front case. Amulets were meant to protect a new mother, child or adults; and to bring good luck to the wearer or a home.

A shield-form silver amulet from 18th century Italy on display is highly decorated, including the Ten Commandments, and the word "shaddai" in Hebrew on both sides. A large gilt silver filigree piece on a chain from the Mediterranean area has enamel plaques on both sides depicting Eve, done in the 19th century.

Another, wooden home amulet from 19th century Persia, has doors that open and is colorfully decorated. A necklace with silver niello fish is significant because a fish is supposed to be immune from the "evil eye," and would thus protect the wearer!

The case also contains numerous amulets in silver to wear for protection. They are in various shapes and sizes,

with names of angels and biblical or Kabbalistic verses and are from the Middle East and North Africa. There are other pieces on display as well. For an appointment to view the display call the synagogue office at 482-7800.



One of the rare amulets now on display at the Temple Israel Museum.



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## D'var Torah

by Rabbi Marim D. Charry

**Bo** Saturday, February 4

We continue the account of the ten plagues with the last three, in this portion. The plagues of locusts and darkness are described and then the account is interpreted in order to record a detailed set of instructions, which God gives to Moses and Aaron to prepare the Israelites for freedom. They are first directed to establish a calendar starting with the month of liberation, Nisan. The calendar is meant to provide social and religious cohesion as well as to symbolize the free man's ability, indeed responsibility, to make time. Then follow directions for offering the paschal sacrifice (to be eaten in haste) and for smearing blood on the doorposts and lintels so Israelite houses will be spared the final plague. God then passes over the land and kills all the first-born sons of the Egyptians, whereupon Pharaoh finally sends the Israelites out and they begin their journey toward Sinai. The Exodus is the key event in all Jewish history, and the instructions

—Continued on page 10

### Temple Israel of Great Neck

## Voice

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## Sabbath Services

### Friday, February 3

Evening Service/TEP 5:00 P.M.

### Saturday, February 4

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

Weekly Portion: Bo  
Exodus 10:1 – 13:16  
Haftarah: Jeremiah 46:13 – 28

Sabbath Service Officers and Greeters:  
Rebecca Friedman-Charry, Jeffrey Fleit, Rebecca Sassouni, Eleanor Askari, and Brent Greenspan

"Unlocking Tefila" 10:30 A.M.  
Junior Congregation 10:30 A.M.  
Toddler Service 11:00 A.M.  
Shabbat HaMishpahah 4:00 P.M.  
Afternoon Service 4:35 P.M.  
Se'udah Shelishit 5:05 P.M.  
Evening Service 5:42 P.M.  
Havdalah 5:57 P.M.

### Friday, February 10

N'Ranenah/Evening Service 6:00 P.M.  
Congregational Tu Bishevat Seder/  
Waxman Youth House Family Friday  
Dinner 7:15 P.M.

### Saturday, February 11 (Tu Bishevat/Shabbat Shirah)

Preparatory Prayers 8:45 A.M.  
Shaharit Morning Service 9:00 A.M.  
First Mourners' Kaddish 9:25 A.M.  
Weekly Portion: Beshallah  
Exodus 13:17 – 17:16  
Haftarah: Judges 4:4 – 5:31

Sabbath Service Officers and Greeters:  
Jacqueline Harounian, Sima Taeid,  
Robert Lopatkin, Susan Brustein, and  
Jeffrey Fleit

Bat Mitzvah: Dana Yadidi, daughter of  
Negin and Jack (Pajman) Yadidi

Havurah Service 10:00 A.M.  
Junior Congregation 10:30 A.M.

Toddler Service 11:00 A.M.  
Niggun Circle with Cantor Frieder  
following kiddush  
Afternoon Service 4:45 P.M.  
Se'udah Shelishit 5:15 P.M.  
Evening Service 5:51 P.M.  
Havdalah 6:06 P.M.

### Friday, February 17

Evening Service 5:15 P.M.

### Saturday, February 18

Preparatory Prayers 8:45 A.M.  
Shaharit Morning Service/Shabbat  
Morning Group Aliyah 9:00 A.M.  
First Mourners' Kaddish 9:25 A.M.  
Weekly Portion: Yitro  
Exodus 18:1 – 20:23  
Haftarah: Isaiah 6:1 – 7:6; 9:5 – 6

Sabbath Service Officers and Greeters:  
Adam Covitt, Madelyn Gould, Sherry  
Husney, Brent Greenspan and Diana  
Stein

—Continued on page 10