



### *The Passing of Past President Mordecai Gabriel*

Mordecai Gabriel, one of Temple Israel's oldest past presidents, died December 14, just a few days after the passing of another elder statesman of the congregation, Jacob Stein.

"Dr. Gabriel led a life of tremendous accomplishment," said Rabbi Howard Stecker, who officiated at the funeral, held in the Sanctuary. "Mordy was a professor, noted biologist, contributor to Encyclopedia Judaica, vice president and associate provost of Brooklyn College, president of the Shalom Club—and president of Temple Israel of Great Neck. And when I spoke to Mordy I always learned something new from him."

Dr. Gabriel, who was 94, is survived by his wife of 67 years, Elinor, two daughters and four grandchildren. The Gabriels belonged to Temple Israel for 50 years. He served as president of the congregation from 1977-1979. Extremely active

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## Dinner Dance Honors Werbers and Eshaghoffs



Temple Israel's 48th Annual Journal Dinner Dance, attended by more than 200 celebrants on December 16th, honored members Bracha and Martin Werber, above right, who were presented with artwork, a gift from the congregation, by Ruthe Golden and Anne Lupkin. Also honored were Joanna and David Eshaghoff, below right, who received a gift of art from congregants Bita Peykar Hendizadeh, left, Mrs. Eshaghoff's sister, and Ashley Emrani, her cousin. The theme of the gala celebration was "Building Our Kehillah Together."



## My Medical Mission to Haiti

By Dr. Michael Ziegelbaum

**EDITOR'S NOTE:** Former Temple Israel Vice President Dr. Michael Ziegelbaum, a urologist, recently returned from a doctor's mission to Haiti, bringing improved medical care to the nation's poor. He describes his experiences in this Voice Guest Column and will speak about his trip at the next Men's Club meeting—open to the congregation—on Thursday, January 24.

*"We sustain the non-Jewish poor with the Jewish poor, visit the non-Jewish sick with the Jewish sick and bury the non-Jewish dead with the Jewish dead for the sake of peace." (Gittin 61A-Babylonian Talmud)*

On November 10, 2012 I departed with 21 other physicians and nurses to Cap

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to Haiti  
is the abject poverty...*

Haitien, Haiti, for what proved to be a life changing experience dedicated to assisting the Haitian medical providers of that city in the care of their patients. What differen-

tiated these efforts from so many others is the goal of providing sustainable changes in their medical delivery system that would reach well beyond our one-week sojourn.

The trip was organized under the auspices of the Association of Haitian Physicians Abroad (Association Mediciens Haitiens a l'Etranger or AMHE). The organization of the trip was tirelessly coordinated by Dr. Louis Auguste through hours of work as well as a large personal expense on his part. Dr. Auguste is a general/oncologic surgeon who practices at Long Island Jewish, North Shore and St. Francis hospitals and lives in Thomaston. A native of Cap Haitien, he has been 'giving back' to his native country with medical relief since 1999.

What most impresses a first time visitor to Haiti is the abject poverty that is so evident from the moment one walks out of

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FROM THE RABBI

## Avodah Shebalev: Service of the Heart

By Rabbi Seth Adelson

"Our Sages said, "Which is the service of the heart? This is prayer." (Maimonides, Mishneh Torah, Hilkhos Tefillah 1:1) This is the year of *tefillah*, of serving God with our hearts.

If you prefer to call it "prayer," that's fine, although to my ear the English sounds, well, *goyish*. "Worship" suggests High Church. Methodists pray; Anglicans worship; Jews engage in *tefillah*.

Except when they don't. For many of us, that includes much of the time that we are sitting in *Shabbat* morning services, passively listening or texting or staring off into space. Some of us come regularly to synagogue to sing, to feel the holy moments of *tefillah*, to meditate, to do all the things that one who is *mitpallel* (praying, although literally it means "judging oneself") does; many more seem to feel no connection whatsoever.

At my previous synagogue, we once hosted a prominent Jewish politician. He came to speak after services on a *Shabbat* morning, but vehemently refused to attend the service be-

forehand. "No *shul!* I don't do *shul!*" he reportedly insisted to the synagogue president.

Perhaps this JVIP did not want to enter the sanctuary because he was afraid of judging himself, or perhaps (as for so many of us) *tefillah* simply did not resonate as the "ser-

*Let's face it:  
tefillah is difficult.*

vice of the heart" that Maimonides indicates. If a primary goal of synagogue services is to touch participants spiritually and to help them feel holy, I am afraid that we are doing a particularly lousy job. Studies have shown that among American religious groups, Jews are the least likely to attend a house of worship regularly. Maybe if they felt something positive and warm and reassuring in synagogue they would come more often.

Let's face it: *tefillah* is difficult. To do it well, one must not only be very good with

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## Our Kehillah

By Alan Klinger

**EDITOR'S NOTE:** This column contains excerpts from President Alan Klinger's welcome at the congregation's Dinner Dance.

It is truly a pleasure to see you here to honor two outstanding couples from our congregation. Before getting to them, I'd like first to thank the members of the Dinner Dance Committee, who worked hard under time constraints imposed by the storm, to make this event a success.

I would also like to thank Ronnie and Marc Katz, who put in a great effort to bring our good-looking journal to fruition in a short amount of time.

For the synagogue to function successfully, we need talented and dedicated volunteers to advance our mission. Much of our work this past year has been devoted to enhancing the range and quality of our programs and the physical plant in which they are offered. What makes this event so

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meaningful is that each of our honorees has contributed significantly to these efforts.

Starting with the Werbers, Bracha, a Jewish educator by training and current trustee, has strived to improve our educational programming, whether participating in search committees for heads of schools, playing a major role in our ReImagine Project, or offering her knowledge and guidance to the Educational Vision Team. Marty, a former trustee and chair of the Ritual Committee, now heads the House Committee, lending his professional expertise to the maintenance and improvement of our buildings. Beyond matters of educational and physical structure, we benefit from the Werbers' involvement in the larger Jewish world, including most recently as our representatives at the United Synagogue convention. Through these efforts they bring home to us current thinking in our movement.

Turning to the Eshaghoffs, Joanna, a current trustee, has worked tirelessly to improve our Beth HaGan program, leading efforts to increase parental and family participation in the nursery school activities. She was the prime mover for its re-

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## IN MEMORIAM

Temple Israel extends condolences  
to the families of:

**FLORENCE RAVITZ**

wife of Herbert Ravitz and  
esteemed member of Temple Israel

**LEONARD RAM**

brother of Carol Bourne

**EUGENE ARONS**

father of Roni Schloss

**SOL SHERMAN**

father of Nancy Sherman

May their memories be for a blessing.

## UPCOMING EVENTS AT TEMPLE ISRAEL

Jan. 13	<i>B'nai Mitzvah</i> Workshop Led by Rabbi Adelson	10:30 A.M.
13	Temple Israel Players Auditions	2:00 P.M.
13	TILL Dinner and Movie	6:30 P.M.
14	Temple Israel Players Auditions For Children	7:00 P.M.
14	Temple Israel Players Auditions For Adults	7:30 P.M.
15	Temple Israel Players Call-Backs	7:30 P.M.
16	Am HaSefer: People of the Book: "Inheriting Abraham: The Legacy of the Patriarch in Judaism, Christianity and Islam"	8:15 P.M.
17	Board of Trustees Meeting	8:15 P.M.
18-20	Waxman High School and Youth House USY Trip	
19	<i>Shabbat</i> Game-a-Palooza	
20	Community Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial Service	3:00 P.M.
21	Waxman High School Holocaust Museum Trip	
24	Men's Club Meeting Featuring Presentation on Haiti by Dr. Michael Ziegelbaum	7:30 P.M.
25	Congregational Tu B'Shevat Dinner	7:30 P.M.

## CANDLE LIGHTING TIMES

*Kindle the Sabbath Lights!*

Friday, Jan. 11.....	4:29 P.M.
Friday, Jan. 18.....	4:37 P.M.
Friday, Jan. 25.....	4:45 P.M.

## DAILY MINYAN TIMES

*Attend the Daily Minyan!*

Mon. & Thur.	6:45 A.M.	8:00 P.M.
Tues. & Wed.	7:00 A.M.	8:00 P.M.
Friday, Jan. 11	7:00 A.M.	4:30 P.M.
Friday, Jan. 18	7:00 A.M.	4:45 P.M.
Friday, Jan. 25	7:00 A.M.	6:30 P.M.
Saturday, Jan. 12	8:45 A.M.	4:10 P.M.

## Next Voice Issues, Deadlines

The next issue of The Voice will be published in three weeks, on Thursday, January 31. The deadline for that issue is Friday, January 18.

The following issue, The Voice Purim issue, will be published on Thursday, February 14. The deadline for the issue is Friday, February 1.

## The Great Neck Clergy Association invites the community to Celebrate & Honor The Life of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

at a program featuring readings and art  
prepared by children from the Great Neck  
synagogue and church schools,  
and members of the clergy of the community.

**Sunday, January 20 at 5 P.M.**

St. Paul A.M.E. Zion Church  
119 Steamboat Road, Great Neck

## IN QUOTES

**EDITOR'S NOTE:** "In Quotes" calls attention to passages from Jewish prayers and writings frequently overlooked or said by rote, but profoundly written.

This issue's quote is taken from the Amidah prayer. What is your favorite quote? Send it to The Voice, Temple Israel of Great Neck, 108 Old Mill Road, Great Neck, NY 11023.

*"Your love sustains the living...  
You support the falling, heal the ailing,  
free the fettered. You keep Your faith  
with those who sleep in dust.  
Whose power can compare with Yours."*

# B'NAI/B'NOT MITZVAH IN OUR TEMPLE ISRAEL FAMILY



## Jacob Botesazan

Jacob Botesazan will be called to the Torah as a *Bar Mitzvah* on January 19. He is the son of Nazeer and Parviz Botesazan and has two sisters, Amanda, 25, and Michelle, 17, as well as a brother, Joshua, 22. Jacob is a seventh grade student at Great Neck North Middle School. He enjoys playing basketball, baseball and ping pong. Jacob is currently attending the Waxman High School and Youth House and this past December he had his *tefillin* ceremony at the Kotel.



## Roger Hyman

Roger Hyman will be celebrating his *Bar Mitzvah* on January 26. He is the son of Sheila and Douglas Hyman and has a brother, Nathaniel, 10, and a sister, Julia, 7. Roger is a seventh grade honor student at Great Neck North Middle School. He is on his school's travel basketball and soccer teams. Roger is currently attending the Waxman High School and Youth House and plans to visit Israel in the near future.



## Gabriel Lefkowitz

Gabriel Lefkowitz will be called to the Torah as a *Bar Mitzvah* on January 26. He is the son of Donna and Lawrence Lefkowitz and has three sisters, Anna, 30, Jodi, 25, and Amy, 23, and a brother, Joel, 28. Gabriel is a seventh grade student at Great Neck South Middle School, where he is on the Honor Roll. He has been a recipient of the Judaic Scholar Award from the Religious School. Gabriel is on his school's soccer and travel basketball teams. He is also on the staff of his school newspaper. Gabriel visited Israel last summer.



## Zachary Neman

Zachary Neman will be called to the Torah as a *Bar Mitzvah* on February 2. He is the son of Mitra and Said Neman and has three sisters, Aviva, 28, Daniela, 24, and Rona, 16, and a twin brother, Nathaniel, 13. Zachary is a seventh grade student at Great Neck North Middle School. He is currently attending the Waxman High School.



## Nathaniel Neman

Nathaniel Neman will be celebrating his *Bar Mitzvah* on February 2. He is the son of Mitra and Said Neman and has three sisters, Aviva, 28, Daniela, 24, and Rona, 16, and a twin brother, Zachary, 13. Nathaniel is a seventh grade student at Great Neck North Middle School. He is currently attending the Waxman High School and Youth House.

## *Am HaSefer: People of the Book*

Announces The Next  
Book Selection Launch Event

**Wednesday, January 16  
8:15 P.M.**

All Temple Israel members are invited to read the same book and engage in online and in-person discussions.

The next selection is the provocative book:

**"Inheriting Abraham"  
By Jon D. Levenson**

**For further information contact:  
Jodi at: 516-482-7800 ext. 1105**

## *Justice: What's the Right Thing to Do?*

Join Rabbi Stecker in a class patterned after Harvard Professor Michael Sandel's course on PBS, which explores the moral decisions we face in our everyday lives.

Meet with fellow congregants over scotch and snacks to compare secular and Jewish approaches to timely concepts including: the rights of the individual vs. the group, redistribution of wealth, the morality of meritocracy and the limits of free choice.

**Classes will be held**

**on Tuesdays:**

**January 22 & 29**

**February 5 & 12**

**at 8:15 P.M.**

## Study that Leads to Action

By Danny Mishkin

Our Talmud teaches, "Rabbi Tarfon and the Elders were once reclining in the upper story of the Nithza's house, in Lod, when this question was posed to them: 'Which is greater, study or action?' Rabbi Tarfon answered, saying: 'Action is greater.' Rabbi Akiva answered, saying: 'Study is greater.' All the rest agreed with Akiva that study is greater than action because it leads to action" (Talmud, Kiddushin 40b).

In order for Rabbi Akiva to actually be correct, studying must, in fact, lead to action. It is my understanding that the "action" this text is referring to are the *mitzvot* that make the world a better place. In modern Jewish terminology we would call these "actions" acts of *tikkun olam* (repairing the world) or *g'millut chassadim* (acts of lovingkindness). Either way it seems clear that study that does not lead to action is incomplete study.

We at Temple Israel should be honored by the way our 8th grade Mitzvah Corps students live out this text and turn meaningful, text-based learning into hands-on, *tikkun olam* action. Throughout the semester, our students studied the story of Abraham in relation to welcoming the stranger, the Talmud as it teaches us to visit those who are sick, and various Chassidic Tales that teach us the value of each and every human being. Respectively, each text and unit of study led to a trip to a homeless shelter, children's hospital, or special needs residence. The basic premise of this 8th grade program argues that it's not enough to just study text, and it is not enough to just volunteer. It is imperative to combine study and action, so that studying is immediately relevant and most importantly, that volunteering is actually full of impact.

Hear directly from our students how this program has impacted them:

Ben and Matt reflected after the trip to Homes for the Homeless: "Just like Abraham, who refreshed his visitors, we must refresh and reinvigorate members of the homeless community. We should also teach people that homeless people are not crazy. Most of them are regular people who got a rough start."

Josh observed on his trip to St. Mary's Children's Hospital: "There is a very calm, peaceful feel in the room. All of the patients seem to be having a blast. Although it was a little awkward at first, I think that we are very comfortable with the patients now."

In preparation for our trip to meet adults with special needs, Rachel stated this blessing: "*Baruch ata Adonai* for making

people different, because the world is better from the uniqueness of everyone and life would be boring if everyone were exactly the same."

As you can see, our students were impacted and full of impact. Our next trip takes us to the Atria Senior Center for a unit on "Respecting our Elders." Following that trip we will literally put our money where our mouth is by participating in the Stepping Up: Jewish Teen Philanthropy Across Long Island Initiative. Our students will learn to raise money and thoughtfully study and discuss how our donation could be most beneficial to those in need.



Youth House students brought smiles to the kids at St. Mary's Children's Hospital.



Young patients at St. Mary's Children's Hospital were shown how to make a pillowcase by members of the Waxman High School.

## Congregation Thanks Kiddush Sponsors

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

Contributions toward the *kiddush* on December 1 were made by Nina Mogilnik and Leonard Gold in honor of the *Bat Mitzvah* of their daughter, Ariel, and Sayeh and Vahid Khorshad in honor of the baby naming of their daughter, Emily.

The congregational *kiddush* on December 8 was sponsored by Barbara and Harold Citron in honor of the *Bat Mitzvah* of their daughter, Emily. Contributions toward the *kiddush* were made by Susan and Dr. Dennis Brustein in honor of the *Auf Ruf* of their son, Evan, and Rachel Wolff, and by Carol and Dr. Sheldon Rabin in honor of the *Auf Ruf* of their son, Michael, and Marina Jeval.

## MAZAL TOV TO . . .

- **Carol and Dr. Sheldon Rabin** on the marriage of their son, Michael, to Marina Jeval.
- **Susan and Dr. Dennis Brustein** on the marriage of their son, Evan, to Rachel Wolff.
- **Drs. Madelyn and Robert Gould** on the marriage of their son, Dr. Stephen Gould, to Dr. Sara Chidester.
- **Drs. Ana and Ira Cohen** on the engagement of their son, Toby, to Brooke Peltz.
- **Rachel and Norman Lee** on the birth of their granddaughter, Talia Eve Goldberg.
- **Drs. Maxine and Allan Fried** on the birth of their great-grandson, James Peter Yecies.
- **Donna and Larry Ludwig** on the birth of their granddaughter, Lila Galit Ludwig-Brown.

## TEMPLE LITES . . .

- **Steven Markowitz** has been elected to a two-year term as chairman of the Board of the Holocaust Memorial and Tolerance Center of Nassau County. Mr. Markowitz, a past president of Temple Israel and former chair of the congregation's Shoah Remembrance Committee, becomes the third chair of the Holocaust Center, which has as its mandate the teaching of the history of the Holocaust and its lessons through education and community outreach. Mr. Markowitz had been the Center's vice-chair for six years and Strategic Planning Committee chair.
- **Lauren Phillips**, the daughter of Temple Israel members Becky and Dr. Malcolm Phillips, is a candidate for cantorial ordination from the Debbie Friedman School of Sacred Music at Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion, One West Fourth Street, New York, NY. She will present her senior recital, free and open to the public, on February 20 at 10:45 A.M. The program will feature the work of prominent composers commissioned to arrange Israeli folk songs that were printed on postcards by the Jewish National Fund to inspire Jews in the Diaspora to make *aliyah* during the 1930s.

## Our Kehillah

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cent 50th anniversary celebration and it is no exaggeration to say the new playground never would have resulted without her focus and dedication. David, a member of the House Committee, brings his real estate and management knowledge to its activities, providing a practical approach to the myriad matters before it. Both Joanna and David participate actively in synagogue functions and, in so doing, bring others with them to further our goal of greater congregant involvement.

These two couples, different in age and background, but each committed to the improvement of our *kehillah*, showcase the beauty and strength of our congregation. We thank them for the way they brighten our lives.

## From the Sisterhood

### Now Is The Time To Prepare for Purim!

Dear Friends,

The Sisterhood of Temple Israel is pleased to announce that its Mishloach Manot project is going Nationwide. We will be mailing (instead of hand delivering) the packages to friends and family in Great Neck and anywhere in the US.

They will receive an elegant assortment of goodies (including hamentashen). A lovely note from the sender will be included.

The cost will be \$15 per package. All proceeds go to support Sisterhood's Yad B' Yad program which helps Temple Israel families in times of need.

If you would like to order Mishloach Manot, please send a list with the names and addresses (including zip code). Please include a check for \$15 for each package to be sent.

Mail the list and check to: Iris Adler

35 Warwick Rd.  
Great Neck, NY 11023  
Phone #: 482-4421

Or you can e-mail the order to: [irisdadler13@gmail.com](mailto:irisdadler13@gmail.com)

Orders MUST be received by Friday, February 8, 2013 to allow time for mailing.

As always cards will still be available at \$5.00 each. Orders of 5 or more will be mailed out for you. Please contact Stacey Bernstein to order cards: 516 773-4316 or via e-mail: [sbernst458@aol.com](mailto:sbernst458@aol.com).

Thank you for your continued support and wishing you a Happy Purim.

## Calling All Thespians!

### The Temple Israel Players are preparing for their fourth production of **Fiddler On the Roof**

**Now Is The Time to Audition!**  
**All who audition will be in the play!!!**  
**New Cast Members Welcome!**

<b>Opening Audition</b>	<b>January 13</b>	<b>2-4 P.M.</b>
<b>Auditions for Second Graders &amp; Older</b>	<b>January 14</b>	<b>7 P.M.</b>
<b>Auditions for Adults</b>	<b>January 14</b>	<b>7:30 P.M.</b>
<b>Call Backs</b>	<b>January 16</b>	<b>7:30 P.M.</b>

**Also Needed: Stage Crew, Props & Costume People, Set Designers**

**For Further Information Call Eileen Putterman Now: 482-6527**

TEMPLE ISRAEL OF GREAT NECK  
presents

**A Celebration of Shabbat Shirah  
&  
Tu Bishvat  
Friday Evening, January 25, 2013**

A musically enhanced *N'Ranenah* service begins at 6:30 P.M.  
in the Multipurpose Room  
followed by a  
Tu Bishvat Seder and Shabbat Dinner  
in the Crystal Ballroom  
consisting of a traditional fruits and nuts,  
wine, readings and songs.

\* \* \*

Cost for the dinner is  
\$27 for adults; \$16 for children 12 and under  
(children 2 and under are free)



**Saturday morning, January 26, 2013**

8:45 A.M. in the Sanctuary  
in celebration of

**Shabbat Shirah, "The Shabbat of Songs,"**

Cantor Raphael Frieder will be joined  
by a quartet of JTS cantorial students during  
Friday evening and Saturday morning services  
for a special musical celebration.

**RSVP for Friday night dinner is a must  
by Wednesday, January 23.**  
Call Marion at 482-7800 ext. 1106.

All are welcome!

108 Old Mill Road • Great Neck • N.Y. 11023  
(516) 482-7800 • [www.tign.org](http://www.tign.org)

# My Medical Mission to Haiti

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the Port au Prince airport. Once the richest place in the Caribbean, Haiti has descended to being the poorest country in the Western Hemisphere. Despite that it remains a beautiful tropical land with lush mountains, gorgeous beaches and has one of the richest cultures and histories of the Islands. Its people are welcoming, friendly and cannot do enough for a visitor. Unfortunately, Haiti has been the recipient of Western exploitation, poor internal leadership, ineffective central government and, of course, recurring natural disasters, including its well known recent earthquake.

Our team included anesthesiologists, cardiologists, urologists, general and vascular surgeons, surgical and pediatric nurses, a public health nurse, a radiologist and primary care physicians. Eight of the team of 22 were from the NS/LIJ Health System. A huge amount of medical supplies were collected during the fall and prepared to arrive for our visit, but due to the arrival of "Sandy" the materials left late and arrived after our return home. "Sandy" greeted us in Haiti as well where it left mudslides and water damage everywhere prior to finding its way to the metropolitan New York area. Critical equipment was carried in extra suitcases by the team, leaving us to rely largely on the inadequate and technically backward and often broken resources at Justinien Hospital, the main if not only hospital in Cap Haitien.

Justinien is a 200-bed teaching hospital servicing over 250,000 people. Due to inadequate budgeting, as well as strong black market and less than ethical entrepreneurial practices that divert money and supplies, the hospital is threadbare. Bedding and food must be brought by families. Toilet and bathing facilities are horrific. The wards are open-air with animals (dogs, cats and even poultry) freely roaming in and out of patient areas. The operating rooms are inadequate, with leaking roofs, high humidity and poor lighting. We operated with miners lights affixed to our heads. Instruments are poorly maintained and the most basic monitoring equipment to ensure surgical safety is broken or nonexistent. With only one pathologist in the entire country and only 35 radiologists, follow up care is almost impossible as is diagnostic treatment planning.

In addition to helping out with the surgical loads, we focused on teaching. We set up Journal reviews, which are critical to our U.S. residency programs to develop critical thinking. Didactic lectures were also provided on a variety of topics. My experience with the urology team (an

attending who was just one year out of training, his chief resident and 7th year medical students who provided much of the perioperative care) was exhilarating. The thirst for any academic discourse is amazing. Through the American Urologic Association we were able to bring many much needed educational resources to the physicians. Accompanying me was Dr. Arvin George, a former LIJ urology resident and current fellow, who did much of the lecturing and operated with me and the Haitian urologists. His dedication and passion for the mission was truly contagious.

The general surgeons also gave an Advanced Trauma Life Saving (ATLS) course both in Port au Prince and Cap Haitien. Haitian medical care is often marked by emergent and trauma cases and learning the ABC's of trauma care and triage is critical. Over 40 Haitian doctors completed the course and materials were left behind to train others.

There are currently multiple NGO's and charitable organizations providing assistance to the Haitian people. Despite their good intentions, the help lasts only so long. What has been left out of the formula is involving the Haitians, especially those with education and leadership skills, out of the process. Central organization and coordination is lacking. The government has been weak and often panders to special interests. From the days of the Duvalier dictatorship to the current crop of ineffective democratically elected presidents, Haiti is an example of trickle down economy in its purest and most dysfunctional form.

Medical care is only one of Haiti's many problems. Our solution is to provide help that transfers to Haitians learning to help themselves. To that end, I am currently communicating with my urologic organizations. There are now plans to involve the American Urologic Association and the International Volunteers in Urology, along with the AMHE leadership to coordinate efforts to raise-up the standards of urologic care in Haiti. It is my hope that other specialties will do the same.

The well-known saying 'give a man a fish and he eats for a day. Teach a man to fish and he eats well forever' sums much of it up. My goal is to continue to work with my Haitian friends so that some time in the future I will be able to travel there for the simple enjoyment of a Caribbean holiday, eating their delicious cuisine, drinking their potent rum and buying the beautiful crafts that they are so well-known for. And if and when I have a medical emergency while on vacation, I hope to have the confidence that I will receive top-notch care from their medical establishment.

# Service of the Heart

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Hebrew, but also familiar with the structure, choreography, music (known in Hebrew as "nusah"), and appropriate customs and laws. There is a very steep bar to entry, and most of us are ill-equipped.

We would like that to change. Temple Israel is beginning, this month, a long-term communal discussion about *tefillah*: not only why and how we do it, but also what are the ways within a traditional framework that we can make our *tefillah* experience more engaging. Rabbi Stecker, Cantor Frieder and I, along with a newly-formed lay task force, are embarking on a course of learning about and discussing the theoretical and actual aspects of our communal *tefillah*, and considering possible ways to forward Maimonides' goal of making our synagogue ritual *avodah shebalev*, the service of the heart.

# Mordecai Gabriel

—Continued from front page

in congregational life, he also served on numerous Temple committees.

He helped start a Jewish congregation in Woods Hole, Massachusetts, near Cape Cod, borrowing a Torah and *tallitot* from Temple Israel. It was there that he spent summers for more than 70 years, doing scientific research in the Columbia Lab at the Marine Biological Laboratories, writing, contributing to, and editing numerous publications in the sciences. He was the co-author of "Great Experiments in Biology," published in 1955.

Dr. Gabriel was associated with Brooklyn College for more than 45 years, as professor of biology, chairman of the Biology Department, dean of the School of Science, and finally as associate provost, until his retirement in 1990.

In addition to his achievements in science, Dr. Gabriel was an accomplished musician who often played clarinet or oboe in chamber music ensembles. He was also a knowledgeable Judaic scholar with a deep commitment to and abiding support of Israel. His roots were there, as his father was born in the old city of Jerusalem and numerous relatives lived and still live in Israel. "My father was fluent in Hebrew and was therefore able to lecture in Hebrew during his year-long assignment as a Fulbright Lecturer in Biology at the University of Tel Aviv from 1959-1960," recalled his daughter, Jessica Lauria. "He and my mother visited Israel numerous times and were generous in their support of Israeli causes."

Rabbi Marim D. Charry, who also spoke at the funeral, fondly recalled Dr. Gabriel's long-time participation in his adult education class. "He was a brilliant man," Rabbi Charry said. "A consummate *mensch*."



**CANTOR FRIEDER'S  
DISCRETIONARY FUND**

*In appreciation of:*

Cantor Frieder for his participation at the funeral of her father, Irwin Thrope  
Bess and Stuart Goldring

Cantor Frieder's participation in the *Bar Mitzvah* of their son, Jordan

Brenda and Dr. Lance Greiff

Cantor Frieder's participation in the funeral of her husband, Irwin Rudich  
Rose Rudich

**RABBI ADELSON'S  
DISCRETIONARY FUND**

*In appreciation of:*

Rabbi Adelson's participation in preparing their son, Jordan, for his *Bar Mitzvah*

Brenda and Dr. Lance Greiff

Rabbi Adelson for officiating at the wedding of Adrienne Husney and Aaron Rosen

Adrienne and Aaron Rosen  
The Husney family

**USHERS FUND**

*In appreciation of:*

Dr. Jack Moallem for his help during the *Bar Mitzvah* of their son, Jordan

Brenda and Dr. Lance Greiff

*In memory of:*

Elyhoo Amirian  
Nancy and Sid Freedman

Yaacov Yahid  
Dr. Jack Moallem

**RELIGIOUS SCHOOL FUND**

*In appreciation of:*

The assistance of Sherry Husney and Jennifer Khoda in preparing their family for the *Bar Mitzvah* of their son, Jordan

Brenda and Dr. Lance Greiff

*In memory of:*

Elyhoo Amirian  
Susan and Brian Smith

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# From Generation to Generation



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Rosalind Teamkin  
Marshall Butler  
Ellen and Arnold Gruber

Penny Vogel  
Elyhoo Amirian  
Laura and Manny Bardash

**YAD B'YAD FUND**

*In honor of:*

Simhat Torah honorees  
Eleanor Askari, Ellen Cooper, Dr. Madelyn Gould, Fran and Marc Langsner and Lori Oppenheimer  
Rebecca and Sassan Sassouni

Brenda Kopelowitz's special birthday  
Doris and Norman Delman  
Cheryl Sneag  
Ruthe and Dr. Ronald Golden  
Irene and Leslie Kahn  
Noelle and Dr. Robert Parket  
Iris and Dr. Charles Adler

The marriage of Seth Greengrass, son of Nancy and Lawrence Greengrass, to Cara Band  
Carol and Steve Smolinsky

*In memory of:*

Ethel Leavitt  
Walter Leavitt  
Elyhoo Amirian  
Iris and Dr. Charles Adler  
Stuart Roth  
Libby Weston

**SHOAH  
REMEMBRANCE FUND**

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Wendy Eckstein  
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The engagement of Matthew Smolinsky, son of Carol and Steve Smolinsky, to Allie Leeds  
Sherry and Sam Husney

*In memory of:*

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Suzette Gray

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The Atlas Family

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The birth of Joseph Hanbyul Werber, grandson of Bracha and Marty Werber  
The engagement of Ilan Tito, son of Tina and Sonny Tito, to Brandi Siegel  
The engagement of Matthew Smolinsky, son of Carol and Steve Smolinsky, to Allie Leeds  
The marriage of Seth Greengrass, son of Nancy and Lawrence Greengrass, to Cara Band  
Dr. Michael Ziegelbaum's philanthropic trip to Haiti  
Barbara and Howard Spun  
A special birthday  
Shirley and Edward Goldfeder

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honorees Bracha  
and Marty Werber  
Maxine Cooper  
Ethan Shokrian becoming  
a *Bar Mitzvah*  
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Judy Rubin  
Anna Rubin

# From Generation to Generation



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The *Auf Ruf* of Evan  
Brustein, son of Susan and  
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Lori and Peter  
Oppenheimer  
The birth of Joseph  
Hanbyul Werber, grandson  
of Bracha and Marty  
Werber  
The engagement of Ilan  
Tito, son of Tina and  
Sonny Tito, to  
Brandi Siegel  
The engagement of  
Matthew Smolinsky,  
son of Carol and Steve  
Smolinsky, to Allie Leeds  
Dr. Lois and Gary  
Sazer

*In memory of:*

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Elyhoo Amirian  
Dr. Lois and Gary  
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Louise Khagan's sister,  
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Jack Moalemzadeh  
Roberta and David  
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The *Auf Ruf* of Evan  
Brustein, son of Susan  
and Dr. Dennis Brustein,  
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Thelma and Jack Sahn

**SHALOM CLUB LIBRARY  
SHELF FUND***In appreciation of:*

Receiving a High Holy  
Day *aliyah*  
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Sassouni  
The birth of Max Jordan  
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Putterman  
Sherry and Sam  
Husney

*In memory of:*

Jane Desaritz  
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and Elliot Fleischer

## D'VAR TORAH

—Continued from back page

### Beshalah

Saturday, January 26

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.

## SAVE THE DATE!

*Afula students return to Great Neck  
for a community concert  
on March 9th!*

## SABBATH SERVICES

—Continued from back page

Friday, January 25

*N'ranenah* / Evening Service 6:30 P.M.  
Followed by a Congregational Dinner  
and Tu B'Shevat Seder

Saturday, January 26

*Tu B'Shevat and Shabbat Shirah*

Morning Service 8:45 A.M.

Weekly Portion: *Beshalah*

Exodus 13:17 – 17:16

*Haftarah*: Judges 4:4 – 5:31

Sabbath Service Officers: Ron Klempner and Bracha Werber

*B'nai Mitzvah*

ROGER HYMAN

son of Sheila and Douglas Hyman

GABRIEL LEFKOWITZ

son of Donna and Lawrence Lefkowitz

*Havurah* Service 10:00 A.M.

Junior Congregation 10:30 A.M.

Toddler Service 11:00 A.M.

*Mincha* and *Ma'ariv* 4:25 P.M.

*Havdalah* 5:46 P.M.

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## D'VAR TORAH

By Rabbi Marim D. Charry

### Vaera

Saturday, January 12

In this portion, God reiterates His pledge to redeem His people from slavery and promises severe punishment for the Egyptian people. 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.

### Bo

Saturday, January 19

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

—Continued on page 11

## SABBATH SERVICES

Friday, January 11

Evening Service 4:30 P.M.  
 Waxman High School Service & Dinner 6:30 P.M.  
 Kabbalat Shabbat Service & Dinner For College Grads 7:30 P.M.

Saturday, January 12 - *Rosh Hodesh Shevat*

Morning Service 8:45 A.M.  
 Weekly Portion: *Vaera*; Exodus 6:2 – 9:35; Numbers 28:9 - 15  
*Haftarah*: Isaiah 66:1 – 24

Sabbath Service Officers: Brian Zeitlin and Brent Greenspan  
*Bat Mitzvah*

LAUREN PERLMAN

daughter of Dr. Michal and William Perlman

*Havurah* Service 10:00 A.M.  
 Junior Congregation 10:30 A.M.  
 Toddler Service 11:00 A.M.  
*Shabbat HaMishpachah* 3:30 P.M.  
*Mincha and Ma'ariv* 4:10 P.M.  
*Havdalah* 5:30 P.M.

Friday, January 18

Evening Service 4:45 P.M.

Saturday, January 19

Morning Service 8:45 A.M.  
 Weekly Portion: *Bo*; Exodus 10:1 – 13:16  
*Haftarah*: Jeremiah 46:13 – 28

Sabbath Service Officers: Gary Sazer and Joanna Eshaghoff  
 Junior Congregation 10:30 A.M.  
 Toddler Service 11:00 A.M.  
*Mincha and Ma'ariv* 4:15 P.M.  
*Havdalah* 5:38 P.M.

*Bar Mitzvah*

JACOB BOTESAZAN

son of Nazeer and Parviz Botesazan

—Continued on page 11