TEMPLE ISRAEL OF GREAT NECK





Vol. LVI, No. 6 January 9, 2014 8 Shevat 5774



Temple Israel's first librarian, Eva Yarett, left, and current head librarian Rona Lupkin, view the new plaque dedicated to Mrs. Yarett on the wall between them.

Library Plaque Dedicated In Honor of Founder and First Librarian Eva Yarett

Eva Yarett, the founder and first librarian at the Temple Israel Library, was recognized recently when a plaque was dedicated in her honor in the library.

Signed by Temple Israel President Alan Klinger and Rabbi Howard Stecker, the plaque is now at the entrance to the library. It reads: "In honor of Eva Adler Yarett for her tireless work in promoting Jewish education for 'The People of the Book' as the founder, developer and first librarian of the Library at Temple Israel on the occasion of her special birthday, with gratitude from the congregation of Temple Israel of Great Neck."

On hand for the dedication were many congregants, friends, and family, including Mrs. Yarett's two children, Jordan and Debbie, who made the plaque and program possible through a generous contribution to Temple Israel.



A large number of supporters were on hand to express appreciation for the work done by Temple Israel Library founder Eva Yarett, third from left.

Jewish Movie Series Is Coming to Temple Israel

Jewish movies are coming to Temple Israel for three months this winter as part of "Movie Night," a free program for the congregation sponsored by Temple Israel Lifelong Learning, TILL, the Sisterhood and Men's Club.

"These are outstanding films and will each be followed by a discussion led by our clergy," said Susan Wagner, who is chairing the series. "I have screened each of the films and found them to be thought provoking, provocative, intriguing, and raising interesting issues."

Starting the series on January 26 is "The Other Son," a story of two young men, one Israeli and the other Palestinian, who discover that they were accidentally switched at birth. It is followed by the complex repercussions facing them and their families. When the mistake is discovered, how do the families react? What disturbs them more: that their son has been raised as an enemy or that he has been raised in another religion?

On February 9 the film will be "The Gatekeepers," a documentary about Israel's war on terror by the Shin Bet, the country's secret service. For the first time, six former heads of the agency agreed to share their insights and reflect publicly on their actions and decisions. It validates the reasons that each man individually and the six as a group came to reconsider their hard-line positions and advocate a conciliatory approach toward their enemies based on a two-state solution.

The final film, "No Place On Earth," tells the true story of the experience of 38 Ukrainian men, women and children, ages 2-76, who go into hiding in an underground cave to escape the Nazis. They emerge after 511 days blinded by a sun some forgot existed—but despite all odds they survived. Their experience wasn't discovered until the 1990s, when an American stumbled upon their cave.

"There are many good films people intended to see," Ms. Wagner said, "but never got to it. That was my basis for choosing these films."

——Continued on page 5

A Men's Club Invitation

- By Jeffrey Fleit and Ken Kobliner

EDITOR'S NOTE: Men's Club Co-Presidents Jeffrey Fleit and Ken Kobliner are encouraging all Men's Club members ("you already paid your dues, why not get your money's worth") and non-members (dues are only \$36 per year—certainly an enjoyable, oftentimes informative and certainly "comaraderic" bargain) to participate in Men's Club activities, as described in this Voice Guest Column.

The Temple Israel Men's Club, made up of a multi-generational group of men, sponsors and organizes programs in religion, public affairs, education and social activities throughout the year. Our monthly membership meetings, which are typically held on the fourth Thursday of each month,

Whether you are a member or not, please come to an event or meeting...

consists of a light pizza and salad dinner, a $D'var\ Torah$, a short business meeting and a guest speaker—topics being relevant to the needs and interests of our membership.

Our Men's Club coordinates the 9/11 Memorial Service on the Saddle Rock Bridge; labels the seats, distributes pledge cards and provides ushers for the High Holy

Days; sponsors the Yom Kippur Break-Fast; packages and mails Yom HaShoah Yahrzeit candles to all members of our congregation each year; and supports the Hatzilu Rescue Organization, helping the Jewish poor and elderly in Nassau County.

This fall our guest speakers included Joseph Levy, who gave a most informative presentation on "Jewish Refugees from Arab Countries;" our own Cantor Raphael Frieder, who spoke (over vodka and latkes) about how his background in music helped lead to his chosen profession; and our annual Men's Club Breakfast, featuring First Lieutenant Nitzan Elimeleh of the IDF who gave us fascinating insight into the creation and operation of Israel's Iron Dome Anti-Missle Defense System.

Our upcoming events for winter/spring 2014 include:

• The World Wide Wrap (Sunday, February 2), where we join with Conservative Jews worldwide to teach our young people how to wrap *tefillin*.

——Continued on page 5

FROM THE RABBI -

All Things Great and Small

- By Rabbi Howard Stecker

Our family visited the Kennedy Space Center in Florida over winter break. It's a fascinating place, the site of rocket and shuttle launches for the last half a century and the repository of parts of actual aircraft, as well as detailed explanations about space exploration.

We saw an IMAX movie about the Space Shuttle Atlantis, which was launched on a mission to repair the Hubble space telescope in May of 2009. As I've shared, I have some discomfort with extreme heights such that I would not be considered as, say, the resident chaplain for a shuttle flight crew.

But I found it amazing to watch as the crew of the Atlantis left the shuttle and, while tethered to it, emerged into the weightlessness of space to repair the telescope which had, among other things, been photographing the births of stars on galaxies millions of light years away. One of the astronauts on that mission described how he replaced a portion of the telescope which required him, suspended in space, to remove many small screws and then refasten them.

He said that in order to be successful,

...the realization of life's vastness is meant to inspire our focus.

he just focused with Zen-like precision on the task at hand.

It's easy to feel a kind of vertigo when we consider the larger implications of our lives and our world. Who depends on us?

——Continued on page 4

Entry Portals

- By Alan Klinger

Welcome back and happy (secular) New Year. With the close of the holiday season, which extended longer than usual with the "early" Hanukkah, it is time to turn to ways you can (re-)connect to the synagogue in 2014. This column will focus on our affinity groups as potential portals for your entry into our *kehillah*.

We start with the Men's Club. As set out in the Guest Column in this issue, they present a diverse array of programs and support for the synagogue, ranging from presenting speakers on issues of religion, politics and health to sponsoring the annual World Wide Wrap involving our Religious School students (February 2 this year) to cohosting the annual Rabbinic Dialogue (this

It truly is our hope that you will find one or more of these activities of interest...

coming March). Recent speakers included Joseph Levy on Jewish refugees from Arab countries and IDF First Lieutenant Nitzan Elimelech on Israel's Iron Dome anti-missile defense program. They also know how to have fun with card games and pizza dinners.

Sisterhood functions in a similar vein for the female set. They support numerous synagogue activities, including the Judaica Shop, Yad B'Yad, and JTS Torah Fund, sponsor luncheon speakers and lead book groups. The current book is Harold Kushner's "Who Needs God," which will be discussed on the evening of January 21—still time to grab the book and join the discussion. Sisterhood also has begun a "Brave New World" series. The members recently heard its first speaker, Dr. Todd Lencz of the Feinstein Institute for Medical Research, who spoke on studies of the Jewish gene pool in the search for clues to cancer, diabetes and other afflictions. They, too, sponsor social gatherings and monthly meetings that foster community building.

Next up is the Shalom Club, some 50 years strong. This group, which has spawned generations of leaders of Temple Israel, brings in speakers on diverse topics as part of regular warm dinner gatherings. Their members regularly come together for

---Continued on page 4

IN MEMORIAM -

Temple Israel condolences to the families of:

RUTH KURTZ

esteemed member of Temple Israel

DR. HAGHNAZAR KASHANIAN father of Shohreh Waxman

LEONA FASMAN

sister of Helen Davis

SAMUEL YAFEH

father of Shahram Yafeh

NADJI AZIZFARD

father of Karen Torkan

SAMUEL WALTON

esteemed member of Temple Israel

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father of Ilana Kessler

NATHAN ECKSTEIN

brother of Rabbi Abraham B. Eckstein

SHELDON SHAKTMAN

father of Dr. Barry Shaktman

ALBERT WARREN

father of Jack Warren

DR. WILLIAM ROSS

husband of Cheryl Ross and esteemed member of Temple Israel

DR. SHMUEL ESHAGHPOUR

father of David E. Pour and brother of Victoria Kalimian

BERNARD SCHULTZ

father of Leonard Schultz and Dr. Roberta Trachtman

May their memory be for a blessing.

Daily N	1 INYAN	Times
Mon. & Thur.	6:45 A.M.	8:00 P.M.
Tues. & Wed.	7:00 A.M.	8:00 P.M.
Fri., Jan. 10 & 24	7:00 A.M.	6:30 P.M.
Fri., Jan. 17	7:00 A.M.	4:45 P.M.
Sat., Jan. 11	8:45 A.M.	4:10 P.M.
Sat., Jan. 18	8:45 A.M.	4:15 P.M.
Sat., Jan. 25	8:45 A.M.	8:00 P.M.
Sunday	8:15 A.M.	8:00 P.M.
~ · -		

Voice Publication Schedule

The Voice schedule for the balance of this year has been revised. The next issue will be published on Thursday, January 30. The deadline for that issue is Friday, January 17. For a copy of the new publication schedule, call 482-7800.

——Upcoming Events at Temple Israel ——				
OPCOMING EVENTS AT TEMPLE ISRAEL				
Jan.	12	Benei Mitzvah Parent Orientation	9:30 A.M.	
	12	Family Benei Mitzvah Workshop	10:30 A.M.	
	13	Sisterhood Board Meeting	10:00 A.M.	
	14	Sisterhood "Lunch and Read"	12:00 P.M.	
	16	Tu B'Shevat		
	16	Board of Trustees Meeting	8:15 P.M.	
	19	Interfaith Martin Luther King Service		
		at St. Paul AME Zion Church		
	19	Shalom Club Meeting	6:30 P.M.	
	21	Sisterhood Discussion Group:	7:30 P.M.	
		"Who Needs God" by Harold Kushner		
	21	TILL Program: Tradition and Change in the 21st Century:	8:15 P.M.	
		Facing the New Challenges of Our Time		
	23	Men's Club Meeting	7:30 P.M.	
	23	Waxman Youth House Israel Trip Orientation	7:30 P.M.	
	24	Waxman Youth House Family Friday Dinner	7:30 P.M.	

Discussion Series About Contemporary Judaism Will Begin Tuesday, January 21

A groundbreaking new book on the Conservative Movement will be the subject of a series of upcoming discussions presented by Temple Israel's adult education program, TILL.

The programs, titled "Tradition and Change In the 21st Century: Facing the New Challenges of Our Time," will explore the development of Conservative Jewish attitudes and practice since Rabbi Mordecai Waxman's landmark work, "Tradition and Change." The presentations will be based on the book "The Observant Life: The Wisdom of Conservative Judaism for Contemporary Jews."

The series will be led by the Temple Israel clergy on Tuesdays beginning at 8:15 P.M. and is free and open to the public.

The first program, on January 21, is titled "Crime and Punishment, Jewish Style" and will explore Jewish views on corporal punishment, imprisonment, and

capital punishment. Led by Rabbi Howard Stecker, the discussion will focus on what has inspired generations of American Jews to pursue justice.

"You Look Great! and Other Lies With Good Intentions" is the subject of the January 28 presentation, led by Rabbi Seth Adelson. From the "white lie" of an undeserved compliment to the loving decision to withhold information from a terminally ill loved one, the program will discuss Judaism's guidance.

Another program, on February 4, is called "Wall Street and Old Mill Road." With Rabbi Adelson, the discussion will examine the Jewish views of ethical investing, consumer responsibilities, and the responsibilities of business owners.

Other discussions are planned for February and March. For further information about the series, call the Temple Israel office at 482-7800.

Talk Topic: Jewish 'Special Needs' Children

Jewish children with special learning needs will be the subject of a presentation by Dr. Ora Horn Prouser, author of "Esau's Blessing: How the Bible Embraces Those With Special Needs." The Temple Israel Lifelong Learning program will be held in the Crystal Ballroom at 10 A.M. on Sunday, January 26.

Religious School parent Neda Sedgh reported on Dr. Prouser's book at a meeting of the Religious School Education Committee. "People present said they wanted to read the book and hear more about Dr. Prouser," Ms. Sedgh said. Director of Congregational Schools Rabbi Amy Roth invited Dr. Prouser to speak and arranged for the program.

Dr. Prouser, the executive vice president and academic dean at the Academy of Jewish Religion, is said to offer a provocative new interpretation of the Torah that applies a contemporary "special needs" perspective to the sacred texts.

"Perhaps Esau had ADHD," Mrs. Sedgh said. "He was impulsive and did things on a whim. After all, he gave up his birthright for a bowl of red lentil soup. He was thinking of his immediate needs rather than the long-term, characteristic of someone with ADHD.

"And many believe Isaac had mild mental retardation. His father, Abraham, and his son, Jacob, accomplished much more than he did."

The audience will be invited to ask questions as part of the interactive presentation. There is no charge for the program, which includes a light breakfast. Dr. Prouser's book will be available for purchase following the presentation.

For further information about the program, call Rabbi Roth at 482-7800.

Mazal Tov To . . . B'NAI/B'NOT MITZVAH IN OUR TEMPLE ISRAEL FAMILY

- Noushin and Fred Botesazan on the engagement of their daughter, Nicole, to Alex Shaoulpour.
- Elizabeth and Bijan Shaoulpour on the engagement of their son, Alex, to Nicole Botesazan.
- Ofra and Dr. Robert Panzer on the engagement of their daughter, Aviva, to Abraham Katz.
- Barbara and Henry Katz on the engagement of their son, Abraham, to Aviva Panzer.
- Nelly Mizrahi and the late Dr. Leon (Aslan) Mizrahi, on the marriage of their son, Daniel, to Hanna Wimbauer.
- Jennifer and Shawn Khoda on the birth of their daughter, Sarah Malka.
- Elisabeth Frankel Reed and Colin Alexander Reed on the birth of their daughter, Sarah Charlotte
- Rita and Mel Ortner on the birth of their grandson, Hudson Dylan Middleman.
- Evelyn Golbert on the birth of her great-grandson, Guy Brikman.



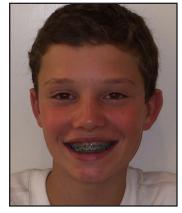
Benjamin Ajodan

Benjamin Ajodan will be celebrating his *Bar Mitzvah* on January 11. He is the son of Regina and Shaun Ajodan and has two sisters, Sara, 18, and Danielle, 15, and a brother, Jonathan, 10. Benjamin is a seventh grade honor student at Great Neck North Middle School and enjoys playing basketball and tennis. He will be attending the Waxman High School and Youth House and plans to visit Israel in the near future.



Jacob Landerer

Jacob Landerer will be called to the Torah as a *Bar Mitzvah* on January 25. He is the son of Michelle and Golan Landerer and has two brothers, Sam, 17, and Benjamin, 7, and a sister, Raquel, 5. Jacob is a seventh grade student at Great Neck North Middle School. He enjoys playing soccer, track, snowboarding, and working with robotics, as well as playing drums in the school band. Jacob plans to attend the Waxman High School.



Elliot Weissman

Elliot Weissman will be celebrating his *Bar Mitzvah* on February 1. He is the son of Diane Weissman and Ian Weissman and has two sisters, Sophie, 11, and Brooke, 9, and a brother, Zachary, 2. Elliot is a seventh grade student at Great Neck South Middle School. He enjoys playing baseball, basketball, golf, and traveling, as well as the stock market. He attends the Waxman High School and plans to visit Israel in the near future.

From the President: Entry Portals

——Continued from page 2

outings and have even been known to vacation together. They truly are the heart and soul of our history and have served as a role model for our two newest groups.

The first of these are the EmptiNesters. Formed as a way to promote community-building for those who have moved to the next phase of life, they held a most enjoyable Hamptons outing this fall, complete with a wine tasting and museum visit. More recently, they sponsored a discussion series with our rabbis, addressing issues of inter-faith families. Coming up is a theater trip to Carole King's "Beautiful," a progressive dinner on March 15 (volunteer homes welcome) and in the works is a trip to the Lower East Side's Tenement Museum.

Our most recent entry is TI Bonds, a group featuring those with their children still residing within (enjoy it—goes fast). They started with a summer barbecue and continued the food theme in November with a Saturday night kosher dinner. Current plans call for an April 27 brunch. Reports are that the gatherings are quite successful and all in this demographic are encouraged to participate.

And while not an affinity group per se, no group promotes togetherness better than the Temple Israel Players. This year they will put on "Oklahoma." There are plenty of ways to participate should you desire—just call the office and they will put you in touch with one of the "directors."

If group activities are not your thing, TILL offers the return of last year's well-received Israeli Film Series. The first is Sunday evening, January 26, with the showing of "The Other Son," a tale of two young men—one Israeli, the other Pales-

tinian—who discover they accidentally were switched at birth and the ramifications that flow therefrom. Movie refreshments will be available and a discussion will follow.

It truly is our hope that you will find one or more of these activities of interest and join us in making your synagogue experience more rewarding.

From the Rabbi: All Things Great and Small

—Continued from page 4

What are the repercussions of our successes and our failures? Though we aren't literally dangling by a cord in outer space, we likely have felt some measure of disorientation when we take the time to consider the larger context in which we "eat, pray and love."

Though the astronaut repairing the space telescope described his focus as "Zenlike," it also strikes me as being authentically Jewish. In our morning prayers, we are encouraged to focus on the small things that add up: opening our eyes, standing up, putting on *tallit* and *tefillin*. In addition, the various *mitzvot* that we are asked to perform focus us on our responses in the moment, whether giving *tzedakkah* to someone in need or expressing appreciation for a meal.

To be sure, we are encouraged to confront the depth and grandeur of the larger picture. Each day we acknowledge the creation of the cosmos in multiple prayers and on *Shabbat*, specifically, we echo the words of the Psalmist: "How vast is Your creation, O God!" (Psalm 92)

But a Jew is not to remain dumbstruck or paralyzed by the grandeur. My sense is that the realization of life's vastness is meant to inspire our focus. What small thing should we do now? And then, what do we do next?

A few days after our son was born, I somehow started thinking ahead to his wedding day. What would I say to him under the *chupah*? I wondered as I watched him in his cradle. I shared that with Deanna and she said, "That's really nice. While you're thinking about that, please go to CVS and pick up some diapers. The smallest size."

One small step at a time we confront the grandeur.

Youth House Teens Raise Funds to Assist Typhoon Victims

Teens at the Waxman High School and Youth House have turned holidays into holy days.

They recently hosted a Hanukkah carnival to raise money for Philippine communities devastated by Typhoon Haiyan. During the congregation's celebration of Hanukkah the teens set up games for younger children to play, with all proceeds donated to American Jewish World Service's Urgent Aid to the Philippines program.

The students in the program wrote a "Connection Presentation," to help connect the ritual of lighting Hanukkah candles to the American Jewish World Service efforts. "Just like on Hanukkah, we light one candle at a time. Through AJWS we can help one family at a time," the Waxman students wrote to the aid service. "We hope our Hanukkah celebration can shed light for their cause. In the wake of Typhoon Haiyan, the Philippine people have been left devastated, and many have been demoralized. Upon hearing about this tragedy and learning more about the humanitarian crisis that it presents, the Chag Squad deemed it necessary to donate the proceeds from this community-bonding carnival to our broth-

Jewish Movie Series

—Continued from front page

In addition, lots of movie snacks will be available at no charge, she said.

"Instead of sitting at home on a Sunday evening," she said, "come and see a great movie with friends and have an interesting conversation afterwards."

ers and sisters in the Philippines."

Their efforts are an outgrowth of participation in a program called the Chag (Holiday) Squad, a group of 9th and 10th grade students who meet weekly with Rabbi Howard Stecker for a sophisticated discussion of holiday celebrations and to organize holiday programs for other teens.

"Teens love doing community service, so we combine our teen holiday celebrations with meaningful projects that easily relate to the theme of the holiday," said Waxman Youth House Director Danny Mishkin.

He said this is the second year Waxman High School students have taken on community service projects. Last year, teens and parents hosted special needs adults to celebrate Simhat Torah. "The pure joy of the celebration was multiplied many times by welcoming others," Mr. Mishkin said. The event activities included bingo, Torah reading, and lots of dancing.

Another group project was an "Anti-Bullying Sabbath," a dinner that helped raise awareness for people who feel bullied at school. "The Sabbath is a time for reflection," Mr. Mishkin said. "Students wrote and recited beautiful words to help guests see each Sabbath symbol as a reminder to respect all human life and to speak up when witnessing bullying."

For further information about the Chag Squad, call Mr. Mishkin at 482-7800.

Guest Column: A Men's Club Invitation

——Continued from page 2

- The annual Rabbinic Dialogue with the clergy from Temple Beth-El and Great Neck Synagogue, as well as our own Rabbi Stecker.
- Men's Club *Shabbat* Service (Friday, March 28), where our members lead the *Kabbalat Shabbat* and Friday night service (under the watchful eyes and instruction provided by Cantor Frieder);
- Spring Blood Drive (Sunday, March 30);
- Scotch and Seder with Rabbi Stecker (April 10);
- Congregational Second Night Passover Seder (Tuesday, April 15);
- Beer and Wine Tasting program with Rabbi Adelson (May 22);
- North Fork of Long Island Winery Tour (Sunday, June 8); and
- Our final meeting of the year (June 26), featuring our annual Texas Hold-em Tournament

Whether you are a member or not, please come to an event or meeting and see what the Temple Israel Men's Club is all about. If you are not on our e-mail list, please send your e-mail address to Mark Putter at <mputter@qwestinternet.net>. We will keep you informed about our activities, and we hope to see you soon!

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Mishpatim

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From Generation to Generation

Temple Israel Gratefully Acknowledges The Following Contributions

Rose Fruchtman

Dr. Bernard Fruchtman

Moshe Khodadadian

Joyce and Burton Weston

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D'var Torah

-Continued from back page

Saturday, January 25

We find details of the covenant entered into between God and Israel in this portion. 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 stop will be to create a physical institution that will serve as the embodiment and reminder of the experience at Sinai.

SABBATH SERVICES

-Continued from back page

Waxman High School Family Friday Dinner

Friday, January 24

6:30 P.M. 7:30 P.M.

Saturday, January 25

Morning Service 8:45 A.M. Weekly Portion: Mishpatim; Exodus 21:1 - 24:18

Sabbath Service Officers: Ron Klempner and Eleanor Askari Bar Mitzvah

> JACOB LANDERER son of Michelle and Golan Landerer

Haftarah: Jeremiah 34:8 - 22; 33:25, 26

Machon Family Service 10:30 A.M. Junior Congregation 10:30 A.M. Toddler Service 11:00 A.M. Minhah and Ma'ariv 4:25 P.M. Havdalah 5:45 P.M.

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Drs. Jack Moallem and Leonard Seskin for giving him a special Kol Nidre honor Dr. Arden Smith

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Wendy Carnel becoming a Bat Mitzvah

> Nancy and Sidney Freedman

Sassan Sassouni becoming a Bar Mitzvah

> Manijeh and Dr. Jack Moallem

In memory of:

Moshe Khodadadian

Nancy and Sidney

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Dr. Haghnazar Kashanian

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Laura and Manny

Bardash

Abraham Damast

Sherry and Sam Husney

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In memory of:

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Sherry and Sam Husney

and family

Hy Bursky

Lilo Rothschild

Mickey and Allan Greenblatt

From Generation to Generation

4,4,4,4

Temple Israel Gratefully Acknowledges The Following Contributions

RELIGIOUS SCHOOL FUND

In honor of:

The engagement of Josh Smolinsky, son of Carol and Steve Smolinsky, to Emily

Goldberg

The engagement of Keith Sazer, son of Dr. Lois and Gary Sazer, to Kate Thoman The engagement of Rachel

Husney, daughter of Sherry and Sam Husney, to Jonathan Saat

Anne and Jerry Hirsh The 2013 Adult Bat/Bar Mitzvah Class

> Drs. Zina and Robert Rutkin-Becker

The 85th birthday of her father, Stanley Milavsky Shari Benmen

In memory of:

Ann-Elizabeth Hoffman Meyer Teitelbaum

Marilyn and Harvey Gessin

RABBI STECKER'S **DISCRETIONARY FUND**

In appreciation of:

Rabbi Stecker for officiating at the wedding of Ariela S. Rutkin-Becker and Harris Joseph Goldman

Drs. Zina and Robert Rutkin-Becker

Rabbi Stecker's ten years of service

Randi Zuller

Dr. Frances and Richard Tanev

Rabbi Stecker's ten years of

leadership and commitment

Sheila and Douglas Hyman and family

The work Rabbi Stecker has done for the 2013 Adult Bat/ Bar Mitzvah Class

Anne and Jerry Hirsh Rabbi Stecker's kindness in connection with the

Bar Mitzvah of their son, Ben Miriam and Dr. Kenneth Kobliner

In memory of:

Stanley Goldfarb

The family of Stanley Goldfarb

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In honor of:

Sassan Sassouni and his classmates in the 2013 Adult Bat/Bar Mitzvah Class

Rebecca Yousefzadeh Sassouni

Gail Zahler becoming a Bat Mitzvah

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Stacy and Shahram Yafeh Rabbi Stecker's ten year

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daughter of Drs. Karen Lewkowitz-Miller

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The engagement of Aviva Panzer, daughter of Ofra and Dr. Robert Panzer, to Abraham Katz, son of Barbara

and Henry Katz Jeffrey Fleit

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Arielle and Noa Daskal, daughters of Lisa and Oded

Daskal, becoming B'not Mitzvah

Benjamin Kobliner, son of Miriam and Dr. Kenneth

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Sherry and Sam Husney

The engagement of Aviva Panzer, daughter of Ofra and

Dr. Robert Panzer, to Abraham Katz, son of

Barbara and Henry Katz Parvaneh and Dr. Parviz

Khodadadian The birth of Hudson Dylan

Middleman, grandson of Rita and Mel Ortner Aileen Goldstein

Rhonda and Andrew Bloom for chairing the Journal Dinner Dance

Aileen, Barbara and David Arielle and Noa Daskal, granddaughters of Carole and Arthur Anderman, becoming B'not Mitzvah

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TEMPLE ISRAEL OF GREAT NECK

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D'VAR TORAH By Rabbi Marim D. Charry

Beshalah Saturday, January 11

We follow the Israelites' journey to the Red Sea, where they find themselves trapped by pursuing Egyptian forces, in this portion. 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, January 18

In this portion we read of the greatest event in the entire history of the people of Israel—the revelation at Mt. Sinai. 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.

——Continued on page 6

Sabbath Services

Friday, January 10

N'Ranenah/Evening Service 6:30 P.M. Tu Bishvat Seder & Congregational Shabbat Dinner 7:30 P.M.

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Saturday, January 11

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: Brian Zeitlin and Brent Greenspan

Bar Mitzvah

BENJAMIN AJODAN

son of Regina and Shaun Ajodan

Havurah Service	10:00 A.M.
Junior Congregation	10:30 A.M.
Toddler Service	11:00 A.M.
Shabbat HaMishpachah featuring Chaverim	4:00 P.M.
Min <u>h</u> ah and Ma'ariv	4:10 P.M.
Havdalah	5:29 P.M.

Friday, January 17

Evening Service 4:45 P.M.

Saturday, January 18

Morning Service 8:45 A.M.

Weekly Portion: *Yitro* Exodus 18:1 - 20:23

Haftarah: Isaiah 6:1 – 7:6; 9:5 - 6

Sabbath Service Officers: Joanna Eshaghoff and Ofra Panzer
Junior Congregation 10:30 A.M.
Toddler Service 11:00 A.M.

Minhah and Ma'ariv 4:15 P.M.
Havdalah 5:37 P.M.

—Continued on page 6