



Celebrating Shabbat Together



Great Neck's Shabbat Project—which brought the community's many Jewish congregations with widely divergent forms of religious practice together for the first time—drew a huge number of participants, many from Temple Israel.

"It was very beautiful," said Temple Israel Vice President Rebecca Yousefzadeh Sassouni, an organizer of the project. "When you saw this great number of people putting their cultural differences aside and come together just to be Jewish, it was beyond anything we expected." Temple Israel participation was coordinated by Robin Fleishman and Lisa Goodwin.

More than 600 attended a Great Neck *Shabbat* dinner at Temple Israel, more than 1,000 attended a community challah bake at Leonard's, and more than 140 participated in a *Shabbat* afternoon study session about parenting led by the Temple Israel clergy in Allenwood Park.

Shabbat concluded with a packed concert at Great Neck North Middle School, which began with *Havdalah* led by Rabbi Seth Adelson. He invited all clergy in the audience to join him, marking the first time a Great Neck religious service was conducted by Reform, Conservative, and Orthodox rabbis, both male and female, from Ashkenazi and Sephardic congregations.

"The overall message was that we are one community," Mrs. Sassouni said. "When we were together our differences seemed to diminish."



Creation Is Topic Of New Adult Ed Discussion Series

Did God really create the universe?

The Torah says God created the universe, but what about the Big Bang Theory?

The conflict between religion and science will be explored in a new Temple Israel Lifelong Learning series being conducted monthly in congregants' homes, led by Rabbis Howard Stecker and Seth Adelson.

"These are questions I have been wrestling with my whole life," Rabbi Adelson said. "I have to confront these questions head-on and feel good about the answers in order to do my work as a rabbi.

"When the topic was suggested by the adult education committee I thought it would be a good opportunity to widen the discussion with the congregation. We're all rational people and many of us have a scientific background, which provides knowledge which differs from what is in the Torah."

The provocative discussion series will be held on Tuesdays November 18, December 9, and January 6, at 8:15 P.M. Participants can attend all or any of the discussions. For further information and to make reservations for the discussions, call the Temple Israel office, 482-7800. There is no charge for the program.

TILL Chair Rebecca Friedman-Charry posed additional questions: How do we account for wonders in science, technology and medicine? Are we challenging our notions of God? The series will look at classical Jewish approaches to the intersection of faith and science and examine these questions through a contemporary lens.

Rabbi Adelson said: "My short answer to these questions is that it is possible to believe different things in different contexts. It is possible to hold two conflicting stories in your head and not be bothered by it. I invite everyone to join us and explore the answers to these very difficult questions."

Have a Good Year!

By Rabbi Abraham B. Eckstein

EDITOR'S NOTE: Rabbi Abraham B. Eckstein, the former rabbi of the Little Neck Jewish Center, delivered a High Holy Day sermon at Temple Israel with his usual sense of humor—and with an important message. Excerpts from his sermon are this issue's Guest Column.

We have come together once again to welcome a New Year. We are admonished to reflect upon our achievements and shortcomings during the past year, to atone for our sins and to make plans for the coming year. Happily we recite *Shehecheyanu* and thank God that we were blessed with another year.

*Do good
and you will be happy.*

For the past few weeks, everyone I met kept wishing me “a happy new year.” It's a polite and affectionate greeting, but I am constantly irked by the words. They mean well, but I feel compelled to correct them. “Happy New Year” is the appropriate wish on December 31st. For knowledgeable Jews, our correct wish at this season of the year is “*L'Shanah Tovah,*” may it be for you a good year. Or, as my mother said in Yiddish, “*ah gut yahr.*”

Naturally to pray for a happy year is an uplifting and joyous wish. But Judaism stresses that to be good takes precedence

over being happy. Let me highlight the contrast between these two blessings with some specific details.

May you be blessed with a happy new year. May it be filled with *simchas*, may your daughter finally meet someone of whom you approve, may your son find a good job, may the stock market reach new highs, may you only speak to your doctor when you meet him at a wedding, may you win a raffle for a free cruise, may your children and grandchildren bring back good grades from school, etc.

This is a happy landscape I have painted for you and your family. But all these happy events do nothing to shape your character or strengthen your value system. They do nothing to encourage me to emulate you. Now let me describe my vision for you to have a good year.

May it be a year in which we tear down the walls that exist between family members and we rebuild broken relationships. If someone is sitting *shiva* and you help out with a *minyán*, even if you don't know the

—Continued on page 4

FROM THE RABBI

Our Promises to the Soldiers of the IDF

By Rabbi Howard Stecker

Several weeks ago, I had the privilege of being honored at the Annual Dinner for the Long Island Chapter of Friends of the IDF. I am grateful to the leadership of FIDF and Temple Israel for the opportunity to support this impressive organization that funds social and educational programming for Israel's soldiers. I will be posting the full text of my comments on my blog, “*Torah for our Day.*” Here is a summary of what I said:

A well-known Israeli song called “*Winter 1973*” presents the perspective of the children who were born following the Yom Kippur War. The song was written in 1994 and therefore the “*children*” of 1973 are now young adults, themselves serving in the army. They turn to their parents and say, “*You promised a dove. You promised peace.*” When we were born, 20 years ago, you promised us that there would be no more war. And yet here we are, still fighting.

Clearly the parents of 1973 had every desire to keep their promise, but circumstances beyond their control made that impossible.

Twenty years after this song was written, we should think carefully about what we wish to promise the soldiers of the IDF.

But first, a few words about why the soldiers of the IDF are inspirational and deserving of our support.

*We must promise to
support those whose
sacrifices preserve
Israel as a Jewish
Democratic state.*

IDF soldiers are inspirational because they serve capably and at great personal sacrifice during a time in their lives when most of their Western counterparts are preparing for careers and having a good time.

—Continued on page 4

Future Planning

By Alan Klinger

EDITOR'S NOTE: This column is adapted from remarks made by Temple Israel President Alan Klinger at the opening of the Congregational meeting earlier this week.

I'd like to briefly touch on our agenda items for the current synagogue year—items that have a longer span than the more specific programs you will hear about from our clergy, school leaders and committee heads.

First, as you know, we have been working to make our religious services more meaningful and participatory. We have benefited from more *Kavanot* in the *Shabbat* program, have instituted monthly use of a Sephardic Torah and have added monthly group *aliyahs* to celebrate birthdays and anniversaries, all to enhance the feeling of

*We need to respect
the essence of
our traditions,
but not to let that
bind us to practices that
no longer make sense.*

relevance and family. We will be working this fall on adding a lay participation component to the services to increase congregant involvement in our activities. We need to respect the essence of our traditions, but not to let that bind us to practices that no longer make sense. Remember the maxim of Rabbi Waxman: “*tradition and change.*” For me, one facet of that teaching is the fact that because we have done something for 40 years doesn't mean that it is wrong, but that also doesn't mean that it is right for our community today. We should be willing to periodically assess this important part of synagogue life and try new things—if they work, fine; if not, we recognize it and return to prior ways.

Second, we all know the demographics of Great Neck are changing in ways that increase our challenge. We will be working with our Membership Committee to see if there are better ways to attract new members, whether through directed outreach or a broader advertising campaign. We also will explore how best to engage those members currently with us, with enhanced clergy interaction, targeted programming and greater social interaction. We must, in this environment, maximize our effort to retain those we have.

Third, we will be examining the priorities for our Religious School education. We

—Continued on page 7

IN MEMORIAM

Temple Israel extends condolences
to the family of:

MARVIN KURFURST
father of Susan Tillem

May his memory be for a blessing.

MAZAL TOV TO...

- **Barbara and Harvey Choit** on the engagement of their son, Jeffrey, to Jamie Pearlman.
- **Karen and Daniel Covitt** on the marriage of their daughter, Betsy, to Andy Field.
- **Bobette and Martin Bergstein** on the birth of their grandson, Mack Bergstein.

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.
Fri., Nov. 7 & 14	7:00 A.M.	4:30 P.M.
Sat., Nov. 8	9:00 A.M.	4:05 P.M.
Sat., Nov. 15	9:00 A.M.	4:00 P.M.
Sunday	8:15 A.M.	8:00 P.M.

CANDLE LIGHTING TIMES

Kindle the Sabbath Lights!

Friday, Nov. 7.....	4:27 P.M.
Friday, Nov. 14.....	4:20 P.M.

Men's Club Blood Drive

November 16
8:30-1 P.M.

Crystal Ballroom

For information
call Dr. Charles I. Adler
482-4421

Calling all...

- > Actors > Singers
- > Dancers > Set Designers
- > Set Builders

**You are invited to a
Wine & Cheese Party
with the Temple Israel Players!**
November 19 • 7:30 P.M.
Crystal Ballroom

UPCOMING EVENTS AT TEMPLE ISRAEL

Nov.	9	Kristallnacht	
	9	Family <i>B'nai Mitzvah</i> Workshop III Led by Cantor Frieder	9:45 A.M.
	10	Sisterhood Board Meeting	10:00 A.M.
	10	TILL Author Discussion with Rabbi Marvin Tokayer	8:15 P.M.
	13	Beth HaGan Parenting Workshop	9:30 A.M.
	15	"Shabbat Talk"	12:45 P.M.
	16	Men's Club Blood Drive	8:30 A.M.
	16	Shalom Club Dinner Meeting	6:00 P.M.
	17	Sisterhood Program: "Heroes to Heroes"	Noon
	18	TILL Program: "Did God Create the Universe? The Conflict Between Religion and Science"	8:15 P.M.
	19	Temple Israel Players Wine and Cheese Party	7:30 P.M.
	20	Board of Trustees Meeting	8:15 P.M.
	21	<i>Kabbalat Shabbat</i> Service and Dinner For College Grads and Friends	7:30 P.M.
	24	Great Neck Community Thanksgiving Service	
	26	Beth HaGan Sing-a-Long and Turkey Feast	
	26	Waxman Youth House "Bounce It" Event	6:00 P.M.
Dec.	4	Men's Club Meeting	7:30 P.M.
	6	Temple Israel Bonds Beit Cafe Coffee House	8:00 P.M.
	7-8	Temple Israel Players Auditions	7:30 P.M.
	9	TILL Program: "Did God Create the Universe? The Conflict Between Religion and Science"	8:15 P.M.
	10	Temple Israel Players Auditions	7:30 P.M.
	15	Beth HaGan Hanukkah Program	
	15	Sisterhood "Brave New World Series" Part II	Noon

A Pioneer Offering Spiritual Support to Israelis: Rabbi Miriam Berkowitz

A Special Shabbat Talk
Saturday, November 15
12:45 P.M.

Wounded soldiers, an increasing elderly population, and children and adults with with terminal illnesses throughout Israel now have an address for their spiritual concerns, thanks to Rabbi Miriam Berkowitz and the chaplains at her organization. Chaplaincy is not part of regular medical services, and Rabbi Berkowitz is among the pioneers bringing hospital-based spiritual support to Israeli society.

Learn what inspired this Conservative rabbi to found this new service organization. Rabbi Berkowitz lives in Israel and will only be in Great Neck on this *Shabbat*. Don't miss this opportunity to learn how this North American rabbi is enhancing the lives of Israelis.

Sponsored by Temple Israel Lifelong Learning. For further information call 482-7800.

Guest Column: Have a Good Year!

—Continued from page 2

family. If Israel is attacked, may you support her generously. May you begin each day by reciting the *Sh'ma* at home or on the LIRR. May you study Torah at least once a week. If you or your children shovel your walk when the snow falls, may you go over and do the same for your neighbor. May you and your family come together and have a Friday night Sabbath meal together, may you study a new language, may you begin each meal with *Hamotzi*, and I could go on. But next year, God willing, when we assemble again and you reflect on the past year, may you sense a great inner worth and declare, "That was a good year."

When we are happy, we are happy and that's it. Happiness is personal and ephemeral. Our feeling of joy is ours alone. Others cannot share or pledge to be happy, as well.

But as Jews, our mission is to be a good people, to perform good things and *mitzvot*, and to serve as God's partner in making this world better than how we found it. Even learning of someone who did something good makes us feel good, and we bask in the warmth of that good feeling. His goodness transforms us.

That's why we have a Torah. Follow it, use it as your compass and follow the right path. For many of us we encounter difficulties in living a good life. That is because our secular society stresses the message of being happy. Remember that song, "Don't Worry, Be Happy?" I would change the lyrics to, "If all you want is to be happy, start worrying."

To hope for a happy new year alone is to indicate that the blessing of life is to have a good time. But, to strive and seek and pray for a good year is to wish that we have a year of achievement, growth, fulfillment, a year of giving rather than taking.

How do we learn to be good? I disagree with Anne Frank in that people are basically good. If we are basically good we would not have to keep reminding our children over and over again to say "thank you," and "please," and "don't hit the other child," and "it's good to share."

We have to learn to be good. We learn from others, good friends who have good values. We learn from the wisdom and experience of previous generations through their books. We can learn from our Torah, which lays out the principles by which to live, but most significant is what we learn from our parents.

If you were blessed by good parents and grandparents, they set an example of righteous living and their values are written on your

heart. My father, born in Jerusalem, became a kosher butcher in America because it was the only occupation that didn't require working on *Shabbat*. From him I learned the importance of *Shabbat*. A more important lesson I learned was when I was in my 20s going to college and yeshiva. Every weekend I would return home to spend Sabbath with my parents.

One Friday afternoon, my father told me that I should call the President of the *shul* we attended. He had a job for me. It seems the Rabbi suffered a heart attack and would not return for several months. He wanted me to conduct Sabbath services, read Torah, and deliver a brief *d'var torah*. But I protested, "I'm

not a Rabbi yet." My father assured me that I could handle it. When he told me how much I would be paid, I jumped for joy. Now I could have

money and take a girl out on a fancy date. I did the job until June and I was informed the Rabbi would return for the High Holy Days. In August, the President contacted me and reported the Rabbi had a setback, and they wanted me to officiate for the entire year. My heart pounded when I learned how much I would be paid. I became financially secure, could buy good clothes, and take a girl out to a Broadway show and dinner. This continued for a few months until November, when my father sat me down for a serious talk.

"Avram, I want you to quit the job in the *shul* right away. I have heard from my customers that the Rabbi is very upset at your success in the synagogue. I am afraid that he might not recover and may, God forbid, die. If that happens, people will say

he died because of you and the aggravation you caused. Give up the job!"

I argued with him for an hour, telling him how vital the income was to me and I was getting so much experience and how silly to think that people would blame me. To no avail. He said, "Avram, your good name is worth more than a few dollars." I quit and never forgot that lesson. His words have constantly guided me in my entire Rabbinic career.

Have you learned wisdom and goodness from your parents? Did they teach you that the main thing in life is to be a *mentsch*? An *adameh choob*, a good person? If you are a parent or a grandparent, are you setting an example of *chesed*, of love, of caring, of growing closer to God, of supporting our synagogue, of supporting Israel, of studying Torah?

I was fortunate to have a number of outstanding teachers who inspired me in my school days. One was my high school English teacher, who every Monday would write on the board some line of poetry. The month before graduation he wrote this on the board and we had to recite it every day before our studies began. These words are my benediction as we greet the New Year:

"Do all the good you can
To all the people you can
In every way you can
As long as ever you can."

May this be a *shanah tovah*, a good year, a year of fulfillment, a year filled with meaning and purpose, a year of *mitzvot*, a year of spiritual growth, a good year for you and your loved ones and for all Israel. May you bring good to all whom you meet on life's way. And then you will be rewarded with true happiness.

Our Promises to the Soldiers of the IDF

—Continued from page 2

This past summer, nearly 70 soldiers gave up their lives in service to the State of Israel.

IDF soldiers are inspirational because they commit to a more stringent code of ethics than the soldiers of any other national army of which I'm aware. IDF soldiers are inspirational because they model diversity in the service of a shared cause. Israel's soldiers are male and female, right-wing to left-wing, straight and gay, secular to *Haredi*, Ashkenazic and Sefardic. And they all fight together to defend Israel as a Jewish Democratic State that preserves human rights for everyone as a foundational value.

Twenty years after the song about promises was written, the dove of peace has not yet landed. And, to be sure, the IDF has its flaws, now as always. What army is perfect?

But the IDF's inspiring achievements deserve our support and the soldiers, who are responsible for these achievements at a very tender age deserve to have us make promises that we can keep.

We must promise to support those whose sacrifices preserve Israel as a Jewish Democratic state. We must promise to ensure that their service is a bit less painful and lonely. We must promise to support their educational and professional training so that their lives will be more productive and meaningful during and beyond their time of service. We must promise to help Israel and her neighbors work toward peace so that the next generation of young Israelis will not have to risk their lives to defend *Medinat Yisrael*.

God bless the soldiers of the IDF and the friends of the soldiers of the IDF for many years to come. Thank you for your pledge to keep our promises.

B'NAI/B'NOT MITZVAH IN THE TEMPLE FAMILY



Nicole Victory

Nicole Sharona Victory will be celebrating her *Bat Mitzvah* on November 15. She is the daughter of Orly and Ebi Victory and has a sister, Lauren, 11, and a brother, Alex, 8. Nicole is an eighth grade student at Great Neck North Middle School. She enjoys horseback riding, acting, and kickboxing. Nicole will continue attending the Waxman High School and Youth House following her *Bat Mitzvah* and plans to visit Israel with her family next summer.



Jordan Seidenberg

Jordan Matthew Seidenberg will be called to the Torah as a *Bar Mitzvah* on November 22. He is the son of Carol and Marc Seidenberg and has a sister, Rachel, 17, and a brother, Jacob, 16. Jordan is a seventh grade student at Great Neck North Middle School. He plays baseball and is the pitcher on his team. He also enjoys writing short stories and playing drums in his school band. In addition, Jordan enjoys working with animals and does charity work at a local animal shelter. He plans to continue attending the Waxman High School and Youth House following his *Bar Mitzvah* and hopes to visit Israel in the near future.

FROM THE WAXMAN HIGH SCHOOL AND YOUTH HOUSE

Youth House Students Help the Homeless

By Danny Mishkin, Director

At the Youth House, helping the homeless is not an event, it's the curriculum. In the last month all eighth through twelfth graders enrolled in our Tuesday program have learned from Jewish teachings about homelessness, volunteered in response, and have reflected about how they can continue to make a difference.

The homeless community is as diverse as any, and therefore our *tikkun olam* efforts need to be diverse, too. Our eighth grade Mitzvah Corps volunteered at an after school children's program for the Saratoga Family Inn, and the ninth through twelfth grade Jewish Bucket List Program participated in a Midnight Run, delivering essentials to adults living on the streets. Youth House programs are unique in that volunteering is only part of how we help.

In order to have meaningful responses to such a large problem, we need a change in priorities, not a one-time event. Inspired by Abraham's "running to greet three strangers" (Genesis 18:2) and several quotes that remind all Jews to take the homeless into our home, Youth House teens hope to be lifelong responders to those in need. Our teens have learned that homeless people have names, families, stories, and, hopefully, a brighter future.

At the Saratoga Family Inn, eighth grade Mitzvah Corps students partnered one-on-one with a temporarily homeless child. Our teens went around with their assigned five to nine year old to teach physical fitness exercises and help the children complete a physical fitness regimen. Since the Saratoga Family Inn takes care of shelter and food, and all the kids go to public school, the needs of these children concern after school care, healthy living, and learning to socialize. Our students represented our *shul* and our religion with pride. One of the professionals at Saratoga marveled at how well our teens connected and cared for each student they worked with. It was wonderful to watch our eighth graders work hard to connect and teach.

The Jewish Bucket List Midnight Run, worked with minority public homeless people who live on the street. After three hours of making 100 bag lunches, sorting through piles of clothes, and creating toiletry kits, the teens loaded a van for Manhattan. Thanks to Rob Gal, Yve Fouladi, Abe Kanfer, and Debbie Volk we were able to deliver clothes, food, and other essentials to more than 50 homeless men and women spending time on the street.

However, the most important thing we delivered that night was ourselves. Each teen volunteer asked the person they met their name and a few things about them. Our teens showed that they valued each person's story and needs, and that is why we were happy volunteers, providing that personal touch.

*...helping the homeless
is not an event,
it's the curriculum.*



Helping the underprivileged is part of the curriculum Waxman students embrace.

YAD B'YAD FUND*In honor of:*

Rayma Feldman
 Paula and Rabbi Marim
 D. Charry
 Brenda and Natie Kopelowitz's
 50th wedding anniversary
 Noelle and Robert Parket
 Bunny North
 Carole and Arthur
 Anderman
 Irene Wachter Kahn and
 Leslie Kahn
 Rita and Mel Ortner
 Pam and Berle Berger
 Irene and Hilton Silver
 Emily and James Levin
 Faye and Joseph Rokhsar
 Miriam and Mark
 Fingerhut
 Marilyn and George
 Torodash
 Emily and Isaac Taitz
 The birth of Ari Grayson
 Jacobson, son of Jana and
 Todd Jacobson
 Daryl Schulman
 Simhat Torah honorees Iris
 and Charles Adler
 Helen and Joseph Sholler

In memory of:

Jerome Smolinsky
 Irene Kanfer
 Samuel Dyckman
 Lori and Paul Freudman
 Siegfried Bachenheimer
 Bunny North
 Marilyn Leavitt
 Elizabeth Leavitt
 Helen and Joseph Sholler
 Warren Rodnick
 Emily and James Levin
 Daryl Schulman

For the recovery of:

Natie Kopelowitz
 Gloria and Stuart DeLott
 Ronnie Katz
 Rita and Mel Ortner
 Gloria and Stuart DeLott

LIBRARY FUND*In honor of:*

Simhat Torah honorees Alicia
 Lev, and Iris and Charles Adler
 Anne and Stanley
 Lupkin

In memory of:

Anna Epstein
 Harriet Rosenbaum
 David B. Lupkin
 Stanley Lupkin
 Sha Moallem
 Jack Moallem
 Yetta Schapiro
 Marcia Shapiro
 William Toby Lichtman
 Rona Lupkin

For the recovery of:

Violet Esikoff
 Ronnie Katz
 Rona and Joseph Lupkin

From Generation to Generation



Temple Israel Gratefully Acknowledges The Following Contributions

WAXMAN HIGH SCHOOL AND YOUTH HOUSE FUND*In memory of:*

Lester Zander
 Denise and Sanford
 Ratner
 Audrey Kent Itzkowitz
 and Eric Itzkowitz
 Frances Sherman
 Audrey Kent Itzkowitz
 and Eric Itzkowitz
 Rachel Rahimi
 Madelyn and Robert
 Gould
 Gilan-Joon
 Jason Soleimani
 Ashraf Botesazan
 Parvenah and Parviz
 Khodadadian
 Meyer Savitzky
 Denise Ratner
 Shahab Homapour
 Ashraf Botesazan
 Jason Soleimani
 Moji and Omid
 Pourmoradi
 Anita Freudman
 Denise and Sandy Ratner
 and family
 Moji and Omid
 Pourmoradi

PRAYER BOOK FUND*In memory of:*

Jack Soshnick
 Cindy and Hal
 Soshnick
 Warren Rodnick
 Fredda Stimell
 Mildred Kleinhaus
 Barbara Choit
 Jerome Smolinsky
 Maxine Vogel
 Irene Kanfer
 Mindy and Rich
 Rosenfeld and family
 Marvin Kurfurst
 Mindy and Rich
 Rosenfeld
 Jackie and Hal Lamkay
 and family
 Grace Barkas
 Wendy and Jeffrey
 Maurer
 Carole Schwartz
 Mark Molbegat and
 Louise Cohen
 Jack Sahn
 Elissa and Joel Schiff

USHERS FUND*In memory of:*

Anita Freudman
 Ashraf Botesazan
 Manijeh and Jack
 Moallem
 Esther Moallem
 Yehuda Moallem
 Jack Moallem
 Anna Davis
 Jack Sahn
 Bruce Pernick
 Nancy and Sidney
 Freedman
 Sali Yahid
 Jack Moallem

SCHOLARSHIP FUND*In honor of:*

Asher Smith, son of Susan
 and Arden Smith, graduating
 from Yale Law School
 The Frankel family

In memory of:

Herbert Cohen
 Susan Smith
 Ray Smith
 Arden Smith
 Arthur Bruckner
 Susan and Arden Smith

ESTHER AND SAMUEL BROCHSTEIN MEMORIAL FUND*In memory of:*

Arnold Illman
 Ann Kerchner
 Lois B. Illman

ETHEL AND JACK ACKERMAN FUND*In honor of:*

Murray Seeman's 100th
 birthday
 Barbara and Jerry
 Ackerman

SHALOM CLUB LIBRARY SHELF FUND*In honor of:*

Libby and Lewis Weston
 special anniversary
 Marilyn and Allan
 Goldberg

In memory of:

Louis Goldstein
 Eileen Putterman

ISRAEL SOLIDARITY FUND*In appreciation of:*

Rabbi Adelson for doing
 a wonderful job in leading
 the services for the Empti-
 Nesters Retreat Weekend
 Lois and Gary Sazer

In honor of:

Brenda and Natie
 Kopelowitz's 50th wedding
 anniversary
 Marlene Handelman
 Joyce and David Scheinman's
 50th wedding anniversary
 Shirley and Edward
 Goldfeder
 Anne and Allan
 Goldfeder
 The birth of Livia and Noa
 Alani, twin granddaughters of
 Nancy and Manny Alani
 Lois and Gary Sazer
 Their son, Wayne Salit,
 being appointed Deputy
 Head of AML Compliance for
 Wealth Management at
 Deutsche Bank
 Ana Maria and Malcolm
 Salit

In memory of:

Pearl Waxman
 Maxine Vogel
 Jerome Smolinsky
 Lois and Gary Sazer
 Alise Kreditor and
 Jeffrey Englander and
 family
 Anne and Jerry Hirsh
 Irene Kanfer
 Lois and Gary Sazer
 Eugene Vogelmann
 Alise Kreditor and
 Jeffrey Englander and
 family

BETH HAGAN NURSERY SCHOOL FUND*In honor of:*

The birth of William Gould,
 grandson of Madelyn and
 Robert Gould
 The birth of Drew Jack Sahn,
 great-grandson of Thelma
 Sahn
 Rena and Jonathan
 Horwitz

RUTH AND RABBI MORDECAI WAXMAN MEMORIAL FUND*In memory of:*

Jerome Smolinsky
 Laura and Manny
 Bardash
 Mildred Puro Pittman
 Laura and Manny
 Bardash

SAMUEL BARON MUSIC FUND*In memory of:*

Jerome Smolinsky
 Elise and Richard
 Kestenbaum

From the President: Future Planning

—Continued from page 2

need to assess whether the re-ordering of priorities from the original Re-Imagine program have proved out. Are we obtaining the right balance between Hebrew study, religious teaching, Israel and culture? For the High School program, are we offering the proper range of activities—academic, social action and fun—to attract teenagers to be part of synagogue life? And, with respect specifically to *Bar* and *Bat Mitzvah* training, are we educating our students in the best way to achieve a successful experience, with part of “success” being not just the performance that day, but whether the children have learned about Judaism and are incentivized to stay with Jewish learning?

Fourth, as mentioned above, we are working with a willing clergy to increase interaction with the congregation. Much of Ron Wolfson’s teaching on relational Judaism is focused on personal outreach by the clergy. We believe this also has been the clear message of the reviews undertaken concerning Cantor Frieder and Rabbi Adelson where, following the protocols outlined for such reviews by United Synagogue, congregants spoke of the desire to have direct connection with their spiritual leaders. We found the exercise productive and rewarding. Since that time, we have had Cantor Frieder’s expanded work with student choirs, adult learning and affinity group interaction, most recently with Rabbi Adelson leading the program for the EmptiNesters retreat. In that light, we now are undertaking the review of Rabbi Stecker with his full participation, again following USCJ guidelines. This process is being led by Temple Israel Vice President Maddy Gould, assisted by former Board members Larry Greengrass and

Sam Husney, and they will be reaching out to various segments of our community for their thoughts. We are confident that this, too, will produce positive results. Should you not be part of the first wave of outreach, feel free to contact any of the three of them to share your views.

Fifth, we believe it is important for Temple Israel to be part of the larger Jewish community. We have brought in speakers from Mercaz, FIDF and UJA among others. We have leaders from USCJ and ADL on tap for this coming year, with outreach to JTS as well. Please contact us should you have ideas for speakers from other Jewish organizations.

Finally, we mentioned above the need to maximize our efforts to recruit new members and retain those we have. While not the only concern in this regard, we need a building that is better suited for our programs and other activities to reach this result. Going back to membership, when do we lose members? Besides death (beyond our control), we tend to lose people when their kids have celebrated their *Bar* or *Bat Mitzvah* or when their children leave their house. Recognizing this, we believe that the synagogue needs to have fashioned programs and connections so that the synagogue remains relevant to them. We need to incorporate more JCC-like activities into Temple Israel life. To accomplish this, we will soon be rolling out a campaign to revitalize the building. We have met with synagogue groups to discuss needs and we are working with the architect Mark Stumer to arrive at a plan to satisfy hopefully many of them.

As always, we welcome your comments and suggestions. I may be best reached at aklinger@stroock.com to share your thinking.

Congregation Thanks Its 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 June 14 were made by Dalia and Mozaffar Roofeh in honor of the *Bar Mitzvah* of their son, Jonathan, by Michele and Farshad Tabaroki in honor of the *Bat Mitzvah* of their daughter, Maya, and Fran and Marc Langsner in honor of the *Auf Ruf* of their son, Howard Matthew, and Lisa Michelle and for Mr. Langsner celebrating his 20th year as *Bar/Bat Mitzvah* Committee Chairperson.

Contributions toward the *kiddush* on June 21 were made by Mojdeh (Kathy) and Arman Noghreh in honor of the *Bat Mitzvah* of their daughter, Chloe, and Alexander Schoen, Lila Bernstein-Schoen and Nancy Schoen in celebration of the Sulam participants.

A contribution toward the *kiddush* on June 28 was made by Noushin and Fred Botesazan and Elizabeth and Bijan Shaoulpour in honor of the *Auf Ruf* of their children, Nicole Botesazan and Alex Shaoulpour.

A contribution toward the *kiddush* on July 5 was made by Varda Solomon in appreciation of the many *kiddush* luncheons enjoyed by her mother, the late Anna Davis.

Contributions toward the *kiddush* on July 19 were made by Flora and Frank Lalezarian and Nina and Abner Ohebshalom in honor of the baby naming of their granddaughter, Mika Ahava Lalezarian, by Jaclyn and Brian Gabel in honor of the baby naming of their daughter, Zoe Misha, and Rabbi Seth and Judy Adelson in honor of the *Bar Mitzvah* of their son, Oryah.

Honoring Memories. Celebrating Lives.

Riverside-Nassau North Chapel

- Funerals • Advance Funeral Planning
- Monuments & Inscription Services

www.riversidenassauorthchapels.com

516.487.9600

55 North Station Plaza, Great Neck



Apple
Psychological

www.APPLEPSYCHOLOGICAL.com

STACI WEINER PSY.D
LICENSED CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGIST
Children - Adolescents - Family Therapy
Established Groups for Teens
45 N. STATION PLAZA - SUITE 206
GREAT NECK, NY
drstaci@applepsychological.com
(917) 526-0766

**BETTER
PHOTOGRAPHY!**
GARY GERSHON RABENKO
RABENKO.COM

888 722 3656
888 RAB-ENKO

GREAT NECK WOODMERE
NYC

GARY@RABENKO.COM

*There is nothing like a
Lederman Party!*

CALL US TO FIND OUT WHY

Lederman Caterers

at Temple Israel of Great Neck

516-466-2222

www.ledermancaterers.com

Shastone Memorials

~ MORE THAN A CENTURY OF SERVICE ~

MEMORIALS OF DISTINCTION ERECTED AT ALL CEMETERIES

112 Northern Boulevard • Great Neck, New York 11021

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

www.ShastoneMemorials.com

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

CUSTOM DESIGN and SHOP AT HOME SERVICES

MONUMENTS - FOOTSTONES - PLAQUES - MAUSOLEUMS - CLEANING - REPAIRS

TEMPLE ISRAEL VOICE

Marc Katz, Editor

Associate Editors:

Rabbi Marim D. Charry, Paula Charry, Angela Jones, Ronnie Katz
Photographers: Robert Lopatkin, Ofra Panzer, Milton Putterman

TEMPLE ISRAEL OF GREAT NECK

108 Old Mill Road, Great Neck, NY 11023

Phone: 516-482-7800 • Fax: 516-482-7352 • E-Mail: info@tign.org

Web: www.TIGN.org

Published bi-weekly by Temple Israel of Great Neck, New York, from mid-August to mid-June. Periodicals postage paid at Great Neck, NY. Postmaster: Send address changes to Temple Israel Voice at address above. Publication No. USPS 078-740. Subscription \$5.00 per annum.

TEMPLE ISRAEL STAFF

Howard A. Stecker.....Senior Rabbi
Raphael Frieder.....Cantor
Seth Adelson.....Associate Rabbi
Mordecai Waxman*.....Rabbi Emeritus
Leon Silverberg.....Executive Director
Rabbi Amy Roth.....Director of Congregational Schools
Rachel Mathless.....Director, Beth HaGan
Daniel Mishkin.....Director, Waxman High School

OFFICERS

Alan M. Klinger.....President
Shahram Delafraz.....Vice President
Daniel Goldberger.....Vice President
Madelyn Gould.....Vice President
Seth Horowitz.....Vice President
Robert Lopatkin.....Vice President
Zina Rutkin-Becker.....Vice President
Rebecca Yousefzadeh Sassouni.....Vice President
Irving H. Lurie*.....Honorary President
*Deceased

AFFILIATED WITH

THE UNITED SYNAGOGUE OF CONSERVATIVE JUDAISM

TEMPLE
ISRAEL
OF
GREAT
NECK



VOICE

108 OLD MILL ROAD, GREAT NECK, NY 11023

Periodicals
Postage Paid
at Great Neck, NY

SABBATH SERVICES

Friday, November 7

Evening Service 4:30 P.M.

Saturday, November 8

Morning Service 9:00 A.M.

Weekly Portion: *Vayera*;

Genesis 18:1 - 22:24

Haftarah: II Kings 4:1 - 37

Sabbath Service Officers and Greeters:

Toby Katz, Andrea Katz, Ellen Birnbaum

Bat Mitzvah

PELLEGRIA CRONIN

daughter of Joanna and Steven Cronin

Havurah Service 10:00 A.M.

Junior Congregation 10:30 A.M.

Toddler Service 11:00 A.M.

Minhah 4:05 P.M.

Se'udah Shelishit 4:35 P.M.

Ma'ariv 5:11 P.M.

Havdalah 5:26 P.M.

Friday, November 14

Evening Service 4:30 P.M.

Shabbat HaMishpachah 6:00 P.M.

Saturday, November 15

Morning Service & *Shabbat* Morning Group *Aliyah* 9:00 A.M.

Weekly Portion: *Hayyey Sarah*; Genesis 23:1 - 25:18

Haftarah: I Kings 1:1 - 31

Sabbath Service Officers and Greeters:

Madelyn Gould, Shahram Delafraz, Leonard Schultz, Laura Gal

Bat Mitzvah

NICOLE VICTORY

daughter of Orly and Ebi Victory

Junior Congregation 10:30 A.M.

Toddler Service 11:00 A.M.

"*Shabbat Talk*" 12:45 P.M.

Minhah 4:00 P.M.

Se'udah Shelishit 4:30 P.M.

Ma'ariv 5:04 P.M.

Havdalah 5:19 P.M.

D'VAR TORAH

By Rabbi Marim D. Charry

Vayera

Saturday, November 8

In this portion Abraham is informed by angels that he and Sarah will have a son and that the wicked cities of Sodom (where Lot lives) and Gomorrah are to be destroyed. Abraham argues with God about justice and God agrees to spare the cities if there are at least ten righteous men among them. Lot turns out to be the only righteous man and the cities are destroyed, but Lot and his families are saved. Sarah gives birth to the long-awaited son, Isaac, and demands that Abraham expel Hagar's and her son, Ishmael. God further tests Abraham's faith through the near sacrifice of Isaac. These incidents serve to illustrate Abraham's expanding concept of God and also reveal his human failings.

Hayyey Sarah

Saturday, November 15

We conclude the cycle of Abraham and Sarah stories, Sarah dies at the age of 127, and Abraham purchases a burial site, the Cave of Machpelah in Hebron, from the local Hittite inhabitants, in this portion. This cave becomes the burial place for the patriarchs, Abraham, Isaac and Jacob and their wives, Sarah, Rebekah and Leah. As Abraham faces the prospect of his own death, he arranges a marriage for Isaac by sending his chief servant back to the family homeland to negotiate for the hand of a family member. When the servant returns with Rebekah, Isaac installs her in Sarah's tent and marries her, and in their love he finds comfort after his mother's death. Thus, God's plan of history unfolds through a series of commonplace and natural events.