

Temple Israel Players Will Perform 'Beauty and the Beast' March 24-25

by Marc Katz

Disney movie and Broadway hit musical "Beauty and the Beast" is coming to Temple Israel in March.

The show—selected as the latest production by the Temple Israel Players—will feature a cast of more than 30 congregants, including five children and several parent-child teams of performers. In addition, numerous other congregants will be working in the show orchestra, behind the scenes, building sets, and designing scenery.

Tickets will go on sale shortly for the show, which will be staged on Saturday evening, March 24, and Sunday afternoon, March 25, in the Crystal Ballroom.

"When people hear the word 'Disney' they may think this is a kid's show," said Debbie Volk, one of five producers of the production. "But it really is an adult love story put to beautiful music that appeals to everyone. The tale speaks to people of all ages on so many different levels."

She said "the story is in part about Belle, a woman who is comfortable with who she is and accepting of people with differences, unlike the villagers in her 'poor, provincial town.' Yet it is also about The Beast who, in contrast to Belle, begins the story judging people solely by appearances and eventually learns to be kind and to care for another more than he cares about himself."

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Temple Israel Team Studying Innovative Techniques

Five representatives of Temple Israel will be taking part in a program sponsored by CLAL, termed "a Jewish think tank," dedicated to learning and developing innovation for congregations. Eight area synagogues will be participating in the project, funded by UJA Federation.

"We will learn how to bring and manage change to our congregation," said Rabbi Daniel Schweber, who applied for Temple Israel to join the program. "We will discuss what we want Temple Israel to look like in five to ten years from now and how to implement it."

Joining him in regular sessions of the group will be Vice Presidents Rachel Geula and Veronica Lurvey, along with Lauren Juceam and Executive Director Leon Silverberg.

CLAL, the Hebrew word for inclusiveness, is an acronym for The National Jewish Center for Learning and Leadership, a New York City-based inter-denominational leadership training organization and resource center. The program is known as their SPARK Fellowship to Ignite Synagogue Innovation. According to their website, "It is a 12-month learning and practical experience for synagogues in the New York area designed for synagogues that seek to cultivate a culture of innovation and experimentation, and that can identify eager and committed teams of three to five professionals and lay people to work on the early stages of developing such a culture."

Team members commit to full and enthusiastic participation at two one-

day gatherings, in February and April, and a final two-day gathering in June, as well as ongoing interaction with coaching, learning and training, team meetings, prototyping, and implementing innovations through the fall.

"We are going to be trained on how to listen and engage the needs of the congregation and how to implement those changes," Rabbi Schweber said. "Temple Israel wants to stay ahead of the curve and wants to be proactive to the needs of our community. This program will allow us to do just that."

Other participating Reform, Conservative, and Orthodox congregations are in New York City, Suffolk, and Westchester counties.

Shabbat Koleinu Celebration May 18-19

A Voice Guest Column by Sam Husney

EDITOR'S NOTE: Temple Israel Vice President Sam Husney invites the congregation to participate in Shabbat Koleinu in this Voice Guest Column.

Temple Israel's Shabbat Koleinu, (the Shabbat of Our Voices), will be celebrated on May 18 and 19. Men, women and children, ages 13 to 80 plus, are invited to lead the services, beginning with a spirited N'ranenah Kabbalat

This has been an opportunity...to form new friendships and strengthen existing ones.

Shabbat on Friday evening. They will also lead the Shabbat morning Shacharit and Musaf services and Mincha on Shabbat afternoon.

The timing of Shabbat Koleinu this year is unique, as Shabbat leads to the beginning of Shavuot, which starts on Saturday night, May 19. Therefore,

Shabbat Koleinu will conclude with Maariv for the festival, and Tikkun Leil Shavuot, the traditional evening of study, in celebration of Chag Mattan Torah, the festival of the receiving of the Torah.

Shabbat Koleinu this year marks the conclusion of the third cycle of the three congregational Shabbatot, starting with Shabbat Kol Ishah (Shabbat of the Voice of Women) and Shabbat HaGever (the Men's Shabbat). During the past nine years we've been dedicating one Shabbat every year to one of these events, which our members have found rewarding both educationally and socially. This has been an opportunity for the participants to form new friendships and strengthen existing ones.

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Why I Was In Guatemala

From the Rabbi by Rabbi Howard Stecker

I recently returned from a trip to Guatemala sponsored by American Jewish World Service (AJWS). I joined Ruth Messinger, former head of AJWS, and over a dozen colleagues for a week-long journey that took us to three major Guatemalan cities: Guatemala City, Quetzaltenango and Antigua. Many people have asked me, "What exactly was this trip and why did you go?"

First I'll say what the trip was not. It was not a mission of solidarity with the Jewish community in Guatemala. There is a small Jewish community in Guatemala, but we did not meet with them, by no means out of a deliberate effort to avoid them, but because that wasn't our primary purpose. It also wasn't a service trip. We didn't bring food or clothing to needy local communities, though there is no shortage of need in Guatemala.

So what exactly did we do there?

We met with representatives of organizations whose human rights efforts AJWS supports. These include a group of independent community journalists, a cohort of midwives,

Again and again I was inspired by the courage of the people we met.

and a legal aid organization. All of the organizations are advocating for basic human rights in an effort to improve the lives of the people in their communities. The journalists are telling stories that local and national authorities often wish would remain untold, issues that involve corruption and exploitation. The midwives are working to expand quality healthcare for women who, due to their ethnic and socioeconomic backgrounds, are often snubbed by local hospitals. The legal aid organization is providing

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Turning Green

From the President

by Rob Panzer

With Tu B'Shevat having just passed, I've been thinking about some of the initiatives we've taken to help reduce our environmental impact.

Hopefully, everyone has noticed the new replacement windows in the older part of the building. There is no question that our energy use, both gas for heating and electric for air conditioning, will be reduced.

In addition, we will be having an energy audit, evaluating all of our equipment, looking for ways to have them work more efficiently and reduce our carbon footprint. We have started a paper-recycling

...we are responsible for taking care of our world and doing what we can to help heal it.

program in our offices, which will help reduce our waste stream. We also recently acquired recycling bins, which will make it easier for us to gather recyclable cans and bottles. Both of these efforts are very simple, but very effective in reducing our waste stream.

We have several composters outside our Youth House. Our staff has started to fill them with compostable vegetable scraps that are generated when they prepare our weekly kiddush. We also hope to start a vegetable garden on our grounds, the products of which can be used to enhance the kiddush or can be donated. The compost will be used to enrich the soil of our yet to be named "Gan."

These things are a start. In the spirit of tikkun olam, we are responsible for taking care of our world and doing what we can to help heal it.

Anyone interested in joining our newly reconstituted Green Committee can contact the office at 482-7800, or as always, can reach me at robpanzer18@gmail.com.

In Memoriam

Temple Israel extends
condolences to the families of:

LEONARD PICKARD

father of Janet Kremenitzer and
esteemed member of Temple Israel

RACHEL HERSONSKY

esteemed member of Temple Israel

ADOLFO REINER

brother of Ana Maria Salit

ROUHOLLAH GABBAY

brother of Henry Gabbay

FRANCES TREBATCH

mother of Perry Trebatch

May their memories be for a blessing.

Candle Lighting Times

Friday, February 9

5:03 P.M.

Friday, February 16

5:12 P.M.

Friday, February 23

5:20 P.M.

Friday, March 2

5:28 P.M.

Friday, March 9

5:36 P.M.

Daily Minyan Times

Friday, February 9

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

Friday, Feb. 16

6:45 A.M. 5:15 P.M.

Friday, February 23

7:00 A.M. 6:30 P.M.

Friday, March 2

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

Friday, March 9

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

Sunday

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

Mon., Feb. 12 & 26, March 5 & 12

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

Monday, February 19

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

Tuesday

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

Wed., Feb. 14, 21, March 7 & 14

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

Wednesday, February 28

6:45 A.M. 6:30 P.M.

Thurs., Feb. 15, 22, March 8 & 15

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

Thursday, March 1 (Purim)

6:30 A.M. 8:00 P.M.

Upcoming Events

February 10

"Shabbat Talk"
with Beth Steinberg 12:45 P.M.

February 11

Beth HaGan Book Fair 9:00 A.M.
Temple Israel Film Series 7:00 P.M.
Presents: "The Women's
Balcony"

February 12

Beth HaGan Book Fair 9:00 A.M.
Sisterhood Board Meeting 10:00 A.M.

February 13

Beth HaGan Book Fair 9:00 A.M.
Board of Trustees Meeting 8:15 P.M.

February 24

"Shabbat Talk" 12:45 P.M.
with Rabbi Geoffrey Goldberg

February 28

Erev Purim

March 1

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

March 5

Religious School Purim Carnival

March 6

Sisterhood Program 7:30 P.M.

March 11

Sisterhood and Men's Club
Program 10:00 A.M.

Temple Israel Ice Skating 2:00 P.M.

Event with the Great Neck
Chinese Association

Temple Israel Film Series 7:00 P.M.
Presents: "The Band's Visit"

March 12

Sisterhood Board Meeting 10:00 A.M.
Women's Seder 7:00 P.M.

March 15

Board of Trustees Meeting 8:15 P.M.

March 16

Men's Club Shabbat 6:30 P.M.
HaHodesh

March 22

Men's Club "Scotch and Seder"

March 24 & 25

Temple Israel Players
present "Beauty and the Beast"

March 25

Pesah University 11:00 A.M.

Temple Israel Players 1:00 P.M.

present "Beauty and the Beast"

Film Series Presenting 'The Women's Balcony'

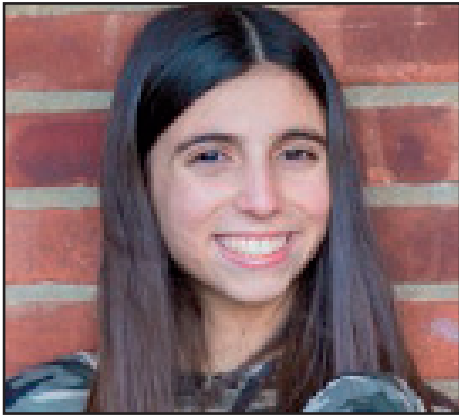


Israeli hit movie "The Women's Balcony" will be the next presentation in Temple Israel's Jewish Film Series, to be shown Sunday, February 11, at 7 P.M. in the Crystal Ballroom. Rabbi Daniel Schweber will lead a discussion about the picture following the showing.

"This is an award winning film about gender equality and Israel that everyone will enjoy," Rabbi Schweber said. "It should lead to an interesting discussion afterward."

The series continues on March 11 with a showing of "The Band's Visit," the film that was the basis for the hit show now on Broadway. "Both the live show and the film version compliment each other very well," Rabbi Schweber said. "You should see both, and can start with the showing at Temple Israel."

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



Julia Hyman

Julia Hyman will be called to the Torah as a Bat Mitzvah on March 3. She is the daughter of Sheila and Douglas Hyman and has two brothers, Roger, 18, and Nathaniel, 16. Julia is a seventh grade student at Great Neck North Middle School. She enjoys gymnastics and playing volleyball and basketball. She received an award for her participation in the All County Chorus. She is currently attending the Waxman High School and Youth House.



Eli Newman

Eli Victor Newman will be celebrating his Bar Mitzvah on March 10. He is the son of Claudia and Bruce Newman and has two brothers, Benjamin, 18, and Aaron, 16. Eli is a seventh grade student at Great Neck South Middle School. He enjoys playing the piano and is a tournament level tennis player. He also enjoys theater and participates in the school newspaper. Eli is currently attending the Waxman High School and Youth House.

Celebrating Israel with Fun and Games

From the Religious School by Rabbi Amy Roth

Although we find ourselves in the dreary days of winter, we found a way to create warmth, fun and light: the annual Religious School Maccabiah (think “color war”) filled the halls of the Temple Israel Religious School with cheers about Israel, Hebrew colors and team ruach (spirit).

Our Maccabiah opened with a video featuring Rabbis Stecker and Schweber, Cantor Frieder, Avi Siegel and myself all wondering why the number 70 is important this year. The Religious School faculty answered the question and began celebrating through dancing on the video! Each of the four teams represents a color (in Hebrew) and a region in Israel (Galilee, Golan Heights, Negev and Coastal Plain). Can you imagine a group of school-aged children, clad in colorful bandanas, marching through the halls chanting “Katom, Katom (orange)” or “Negev is best!”?

Children instantly immerse themselves into their team, the competitions and the cheering. And our school community becomes immersed into the culture of cheering (for all teams) and showing how much we have learned and continue to learn.

During the Maccabiah days, children compete and participate in a variety of activities, ranging from trivia contests to basketball relays where they counted in Hebrew, to “fill the falafel,” to Hebrew word relay (identify the word by running up to the board and taking the correct word from the board) to a game with our larger-than-life size map of Israel. Each team creates a banner (in the team color!) according to specifications of including Hebrew and facts and pictures about the team region. Our fifth and sixth graders take on leadership roles within their teams: they create songs and cheers incorporating Hebrew and important facts about their assigned region. Then they teach the younger children the cheers and songs. Watching the fifth and sixth graders stand in front of the younger members of their team—they exhibit such maturity and pride—is among my favorite and most heart-warming moments of Maccabiah.

Our two-day extravaganza of intensive experiential learning came to a crescendo as each team proudly presented its banner, cheer and songs. The ruach in the room was palpable, as the entire Religious School community joined together in song, anticipating the close of a special, spirited two days. They sing, they cheer, they present; the day ends with our community joining together as one through song, and the knowledge that the acquisition of knowledge comes in many forms. Maccabiah is one effective form that creates lasting, powerful memories.



Hay and Vav students teaching orange/Galil teammates their song and cheer.

The Midnight Run Youth House Experience

by Avi Siegel, Waxman High School and Youth House Director

The midnight Run was an incredible night at the Youth House that started several weeks before. We began a drive to collect men's and women's clothing, shoes, hats, coats, toiletries, etc. The outpouring of support from the community was inspiring to witness.

We then came together to sort through the donations, make kits, and provide homemade lunches for those in need. Watching families come with children of all ages made me see that chesed is not something that just begins when we are adults, but is something anyone can do. We had more than 50 volunteers help us that evening. Once all was ready to go, we had six parents chaperone and drive our 23 teens to three different locations in New York City to make a mobile "pop-up and take what you need center." The teens not only handed out physical items to help the homeless, but they "handed out themselves" in order to make a connection and let complete strangers know that they were seen, heard, and appreciated. What transpired next was truly inspiring.

One of our teens met a middle-aged man from the Pacific Islands. He seemed to be in okay spirits, just walking down the street. When the teens offered the man some clothing he wasn't sure if he wanted to step up and take it. It was then that the teen said that's all right, just know that we are here in case you change your mind. The man continued down the line and picked out some other things and got some food. As he came back down the street to leave he turned to the teen that first engaged him and said, "You made my day, I smile to see you." The student's small action had a big impact!

Another one of our teens had the opportunity to meet a young woman who was recently out on the street. She seemed smart and was engaging, but somehow down on her luck. She mentioned that this coming week she had an interview for a job that she was hoping would turn things around for her. When the teen heard this she went into the bags of clothing and grabbed specific matching items that she knew would make a great outfit for her. With all the clothes in the bag it would have been nearly impossible for the woman to do this on her own. After handing her the clothing the teen said, "You will look amazing and do great on your interview." Her small action had a big impact, too.

Lastly, one of the teens met an older man who had been a criminal and substance abuser for a long time. He had a son who he never saw and lost his daughter at a young age. He was a spiritual man who somehow believed that the path of the righteous is littered with road bumps. As their conversation grew, the teen began to listen more than ask questions. The gentleman began to open himself up and share that his life didn't have to end up this way, that there were so many moments when he could have done better. The man told the teen "You cannot let bad things or people bring you down, you need to keep going and always rise above." His small action had a big impact, too.

After spending the evening with our teens and helping them see the world in a whole new way, I am reminded how fortunate we are to have been bestowed the blessings in our lives. It helps me muster the courage to go out and help make the world a better place by making small changes. I encourage all of you to see what small thing you can do to make someone's world a little bit better. As the Talmud says, "And whoever saves a life, it is considered as if he saved an entire world."



Mazal Tov To...

Susan and Dr. Dennis Brustein
on the birth of their granddaughter,
Samantha Alexa Brustein.

Jacqueline and Bert Eshaghpour
on the birth of their grandson,
Ryan Mordecai Shimon Waxman.

Shohreh and Hillel Waxman on the
birth of their grandson,
Ryan Mordecai Shimon Waxman.

Havdalah Exhibit Now At Temple Israel Museum

For the first time, the Temple Israel Museum is now exhibiting pieces relating to Havdalah in its front case.

A rare and unusual porcelain Havdalah plate from Sighet, Romania, was given by the Chevrah Kadisha Society in the Jewish year 5686 (1925-6).

Several unusual spice containers include an Italian silver filigree pomander form, which opens to six hinged sections, each inscribed with the name of the spice within. A tower form silver spice container is from Nuremberg, Germany, circa 1790. It has four round windows and four twisted poles with pennants. An unusual silver example from 19th century Ottoman, Turkey, sits on an oval base with two fruit forms with hinged lids, which open to reveal the spices within.

A rare silver Havdalah candleholder, also from Nuremberg, circa 1680, has a push up candle socket over a small drawer for



spices, all over a domed circular base. A modern American 20th century silver Havdalah set is a cup and cover on a stem base. The cover has a petal form finial to hold a small candle.

Many other examples can be found at the museum. To schedule a visit call 482-7800.

Shabbat Koleinu May 18-19

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Led by Cantor Frieder, the participants in Shabbat Koleinu are encouraged to learn parts of the services that are new to them, so that they can expand their knowledge. Members who participate in a few of these Shabbatot significantly will expand their skill of leading t'fillah. There are small and big parts to fit everyone's comfort level.

According to Bob Lopatkin, a member of the steering committee, "We are thrilled with the continued enthusiasm of both men and women of the congregation. This event has energized our members and motivated them to expand their knowledge of leading t'fillah. It is a program that builds community spirit and is a joy to all who participate."

Please come to feel it out, express your interest in participation and sing together with other members. Rehearsals will be held every Wednesday evening. While we strongly encourage all participants to attend rehearsals regularly, if you can't make the scheduled sessions you can still participate in Shabbat Koleinu. You just have to let us know that you are interested in participating. Once the assignments are made by Cantor Frieder, you can also go over them with him at different times.

If you would like to participate, please come to one or both of the orientation sessions, or contact anyone on our steering committee and let them know. They include Deanna Stecker (dstecker@gmail.com), Maddy Gould (gould.madelyn@gmail.com), Marc Langsner (mlangsner@sheldongraphics.com), Howard Spun (hspun25@aol.com), Neda Sedgh (nedfar25@optonline.net), Alicia Lev (alicialev@gmail.com), Bob Lopatkin (rlopatkin@optonline.net), Sherry Husney (sherryhusney@gmail.com) or Cantor Frieder (CantorFrieder@TIGN.org).



The Sisterhood of Temple Israel is pleased to announce that its Mishloach Manot project will continue to go 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 imported from Israel (except the hamentashen). A lovely note from the sender will be included.

Cost: \$18/package

(All proceeds go to support Sisterhood's Yad B' Yad program which helps Temple Israel families in times of need)

Baskets will still be available for \$10/each but must be picked up at the Temple.



If you would like to order Mishloach Manot, please send a list with the names and addresses (including zip code and apartment numbers) and include a check for \$18 for each package.

Mail the list & check (made out to Sisterhood of Temple Israel) to:

Iris Adler, 35 Warwick Road, Great Neck, NY 11023

Phone: (516) 482-4421 or you can e-mail the order to: irisdadler13@gmail.com

Orders MUST be received by Wednesday, February 14, 2018 (to allow time for shopping and mailing)



As always cards will still be available at \$5/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.



*We will be packing the gift boxes on **Wednesday, February 21** from **9:00 AM** to about **Noon**. If you are able to help at all, please come for as long as you can.*

Vashti, Esther and #MeToo

by Rabbi Daniel Schweber

The wisdom of the Bible and a source of its timelessness is that it brings up questions without prescribing answers. On Purim we read megilat Esther (Scroll of Esther) which is brief but brings up many questions, including “is megilat Esther supportive or against the cause of women?”

One can easily say that Megilat Esther is against women with its objectifying of women and refusing its women characters any agency. Vashti refuses the king’s decree and she loses all of her power and perhaps her life over it. The king decrees that all women must fully obey their husbands. Esther is pressed into the king’s harem where women literally spend a year with makeup and are all forced to sleep with the king.

On the other hand, Megilat Esther can be seen as supportive of women because despite their powerlessness and lack of agency, the women of the story were powerful and used their agency for good. Mordechai could not approach the king and tell him about Haman’s plot. Only Esther has the ability and power to go to the king and save the Jewish people. There is still the decree that wives obey their husbands, but perhaps that is satire. If wives must listen to their husbands, how does the king who offers his wife, Esther, up to half his kingdom listen to her when she accuses Haman.

As Purim approaches, I cannot help but notice the connection between the megillah and #MeToo movement. Both the megillah and the #MeToo compel us to think about gender as it relates to many aspects of our world and lives, including power, justice, and dignity and self worth.

Both Sharifa Stevens, a Christian blogger and author, and Dr. Vanessa Avery, a Bible scholar, connected the megillah with #MeToo. In making the connection they suggest ways to respond positively. Avery challenges us to create a “co-authored gendered narrative” where women and men

recognize “the interdependence of our narratives upon each other.” Avery encourages us to “learn how to grant dignity and how to be dignified; and we must learn how to properly share authorship and power.” If men and women were to co-author a new megillah what might that look like?

Sharifa Stevens suggests that we respond to #MeToo and to the megillah through concrete religious action. Her suggested actions are:

- Embrace Love
- Prayer and Fasting
- Donate and Educate Yourself

Lastly, Shafira Stevens implores us to pursue justice. Regardless of whether you or someone close has experienced #MeToo, we are all obligated to care and speak up. Just as Esther could not be silent and indifferent to Haman’s decree, we cannot be indifferent to assault and harassment of anyone regardless of gender and sexual orientation.

Enjoy Purim by all means and make all of the noise you want at the mention of Haman’s name and then remember it makes more than a noise maker to combat the Haman’s of the world.

PURIM CELEBRATIONS

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 28



Purim Pre-School & Kindergarten Service

6:45 PM - 7:15 PM

A service will be held for **Pre-Schoolers, Kindergartners** and their **families** in the **Crystal Ballroom** led by **Morah Mojdeh** and **Morah Yve**. There will be singing and stories followed by refreshments.

Communal Megillah Reading

6:45 PM

There will be a **Megillah Reading** in the **Sanctuary** led by **Rabbi Stecker** and **Rabbi Schweber**, which will include participation by students of the Waxman Youth House, a sing-a-long, a video presentation, costume parade for children and costume contest for adults.





Minhah, Ma'ariv & the Whole Megillah

6:00 PM

Minhah, Ma'ariv and a **Full Megillah Reading** will be held in the **Blue Room**. **Cantor Frieder** will lead the service, with participation of students from the Waxman Youth House.

Following the Blue Room and Sanctuary services, there will be refreshments and music.

THURSDAY, MARCH 1

6:30 AM

Morning Service & Full Megillah Reading.

SUNDAY, MARCH 4

10:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Purim Carnival for children led by Waxman Youth House teens. Join us for fun, games and karaoke.



Temple Lites...

• **Steven Markowitz**, a past president of Temple Israel, was elected a Vice Chairman by the Nassau County Democratic Committee. He is also the president of the Great Neck Democratic Club.

'Beauty and the Beast' Is Next Show By the Temple Israel Players

—Continued from front page

The story was originally published in France in 1740, but the tale is said to have originated long before that. There were several movie adaptations before it was made into the popular Disney-produced Broadway show.

"The story is timely," Producer Volk said. "It is not only about father-daughter relationships but also speaks to what is going on in current events—female empowerment—and at the same time it is a touching love story appropriate for all ages set to lovely music."

Among the many memorable songs in the show are large ensemble numbers including "Belle" and "Be Our Guest" and the beautiful ballads "If I Can't Love Her" and "Is This Home?"

The producers of the show are Eileen Putterman, Ron Klempner, Mark Putter, Lois Sazer, and Debbie Volk.

The cast includes Robert Aizer, Meredith Bachrach and her daughter, Mia, Shoshana Cellers, Harold Citron, Lauryn Covitt and her children, Ella and Max, Mark Cwern, Amy David, Daniel Frankel, Van Frankel, Marylin Goldberg, Jon Kaiman, Kim Kaiman, Abe Kanfer, Ron Klempner, Kenneth M. Leff, Elizabeth Matalon, Ofra Panzer, Mark Putter, Eileen Putterman, Mickey Putterman, Lillian Rokhsar, Al Rothstein, Rusti Rothstein, Lois Sazer, Diana Stein, Maxine Vogel, Debbie Volk, and Melanie Weinreich.

Orchestra members include Debbie Tartell, piano, Deanna Stecker, flute and piccolo, and Sharon Bernstein, cello.

Coordinating backstage operations and set construction is Alex Schoen, assisted by Gary Cellers, Gary Goldstein, Robert Lopatkin, Lisa Mattaway, Sherry Modlin, and Gary Noren.

Stage direction is by JoJo Conley and musical direction is by Debbie Tartell.

Shabbat Talk Topic: 'The Ganze Megillah'

"The Ganze Megillah: The Musical Sub-Text in the Chanting of Megillat Esther" will be the subject of a Shabbat Talk presentation on February 24 at 12:45 P.M. The featured speaker will be Rabbi Geoffrey Goldberg, who has served as the spiritual leader of several New York area congregations. He joined Temple Israel last year. His sister, Judy Greenstein, is also a member.



Rabbi Geoffrey Goldberg

Why I Was In Guatemala

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pro bono counsel to people whose rights are otherwise being ignored.

Again and again I was inspired by the courage of the people we met, some of whom have been harassed and even arrested for their efforts. One of the journalists, when asked why he does this risky work, observed that the group's Mayan ancestors taught them the importance of speaking the truth and doing what is right.

The midwives we met shared how they use scientific knowledge as well as spiritual and emotional intuition to bring quality care to their patients. They work long hours and often have to endure the dismissive attitudes of community officials and local health care workers who don't appreciate their work. A group of women's rights advocates who traveled seven hours to meet with us told us about the resistance they face while trying to increase women's influence and leadership in community governance.

So why, indeed, did I travel with a group of rabbis to Guatemala? On one level because the leaders of AJWS want rabbis to understand how the organization operates. AJWS does not impose external programs or expertise onto local communities. Rather, AJWS works carefully on the ground with the communities in 19 countries, including Guatemala, in order to support the efforts of local human rights advocates and to amplify their voices. Because of their deep respect for, and knowledge of, local dynamics and efforts, AJWS is uniquely positioned to guide initiatives that can bring about substantive and lasting positive change. Not surprisingly, when disasters strike countries where AJWS works, they are more capable of providing relief than most other organizations by virtue of the relationships they have established with local individuals and groups.

But there's a deeper rationale for our trip to Guatemala, one which transcends the time and location of this particular trip. We were in Guatemala because our ancestors taught us to care about what happens to everyone, not just to other Jews. Because going back to our Biblical ancestors, Abraham and Sarah, we have learned the importance of ensuring that everyone have equal access to tzedek, to that which is just, right, deserved.

Thankfully we are not in this alone. We have much to offer, but also much to learn, when it comes to identifying and advocating for fundamental human rights. During my week in Guatemala, I learned a lot more than I offered. I look forward to sharing more details with the Temple Israel community about this trip and other work that AJWS does. Moreover, I will encourage our congregation to discuss ways that we can all embrace our American Jewish values by supporting global efforts for justice.

Meanwhile, I am grateful to Temple Israel for giving me the time and space to undertake this journey. I got to see a country that is tragic as well as beautiful. I got to meet people who are challenged but also resilient.

Above all, I got to sense a shared destiny with women and men who are making the world better because their ancestors taught them to speak the truth and to fight for what is right. Just like our ancestors taught us.

From Generation to Generation

Temple Israel Gratefully Acknowledges The Following Contributions

SCHOLARSHIP FUND

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Van Frankel for his honor of
Hatan Maftir
Susan and Arden Smith

In memory of:

Connie Hawkins
Arden Smith

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In appreciation of:

Cantor Frieder for
officiating at the funeral
of Sylvia Salzberg
Barry Salzberg
Cantor Frieder's support
of the Frankel family
as they mourn the loss of
Laurie's sister, Arleen
Gingold
The Frankel family

Contribution:

Yvonne and Fred Rakowitz

RABBI STECKER'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

In appreciation of:

Rabbi Stecker officiating at
the funeral of Sylvia Salzberg
Barry Salzberg
Rabbi Stecker officiating at
the wedding of Jamie
Brimberg Sherman and Maor
Zeevi
Jamie and Maor Zeevi
Rabbi Stecker's support of
the Frankel family as they
mourn the loss of Laurie's
sister, Arleen Gingold
The Frankel Family
Rabbi Stecker's guidance
and leadership through their
very painful time and process
The Family of Joan Litt

In memory of:

Sylvia Salzberg
Andrea and Matthew
Bloomfield
Arleen Gingold
Diane and Elliot Polland
Steven Oberstein
Irene Wachter

For the recovery of:

Laura Reich
Helene Wasserman

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In appreciation of:

Rabbi Schweber's support
of the Frankel family as they
mourn the loss of Laurie's
sister, Arleen Gingold
The Frankel Family

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The marriage of Rebecca
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To help students go to
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afikomen gifts.

Sunday, February 11

9:30 A.M.-Noon

Monday, February 12

9:30 A.M.-3P.M.

Tuesday, February 13

9:30 A.M.-Noon

Multipurpose Room

Join the Sisterhood's WOMEN'S SEDER

for a festive dinner
and multi-Cultural evening
of music, dance and song
as we tell the story of
Passover in our own voices.

Monday, March 12
7 P.M.

Reservation
Deadline: **March 7**
\$36 per person

RSVP to Jennifer: **482-7800**
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Sisterhood Presents: 'Toxins In Our Home & Surroundings'

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Tuesday, March 6 • 8 P.M.

All Welcome
for this important presentation!
RSVP to Karen Ashkenase: 487-3048 or
Laura Bardash: laurab44@optonline.net

D'var Torah

—Continued from back page

in Jerusalem into the synagogue, but the purpose remained the same. To this day, whenever we open the ark and look upon the Torah scrolls, we stand again at Sinai.

Tetsavveh

Saturday, February 24

In this portion we move from instructions for the creation of the physical Mishkan to details concerning the officiants. At the outset, Moses is directed to see to it that a light is kept burning in the Mishkan, a task that is to be performed by priests. He is then directed to appoint Aaron and his sons to the priestly office. There follows a detailed description of the vestments of the High Priest and the ordinary priests. Finally, the rituals of installation for the priests are laid out. The Mishkan, as sacred space, is differentiated from profane space by its design. In like manner, its officiants are to be distinguishable from the laity by their attire and insignia of office. In particular, the High Priest is to wear vestments which symbolize his role as representative of the entire community before God. The High Priest, who presided over sacrificial rites, evolved into the prayer leader of today's synagogue. That individual is still designated as the shaliach tzibur, the representative of the congregation.

Ki Tissa

Saturday, March 3

We find the final details of the instructions for building the Mishkan, the portable wilderness sanctuary, in this portion. The reading actually begins with directions for conducting a census of those of military age by collecting a poll tax of half a shekel. The money was to be used for the maintenance of the Mishkan. A reminder to keep the Sabbath serves as an indication that the sanctification of time is more important even than building a sanctuary. At this point, we read that the Israelites panic over Moses' protracted absence on Mt. Sinai and demand that Aaron make a god they can see. The outcome is the golden calf. When Moses sees this egregious breach of the covenant, he breaks the tablets of the Ten Commandments. God, for His part, wants to destroy the people. Moses punishes the people and manages to assuage

God's anger. Moses then returns to Sinai to rewrite the tablets. With the covenant renewed, the construction on the Mishkan can proceed.

Vayakhel-Pekudey

Saturday, March 10

In this double portion we conclude the account of the building of the Mishkan and the Book of Exodus. The reading starts with a note on the Sabbath, again, emphasizing the importance of the sanctification of time. Then follows a detailed and lengthy description of the builders of the Mishkan, stressing their God-given artistic skill, followed by a listing of all the elements of the structure and its furnishings, noting that each one was actually built exactly as God had commanded. It is significant that the original instructions call for building the furnishings before the structure, and the list begins with the ark. Here, however, we are told that Bezalel and the artisans built the structure before the furnishings, in the proper practical order. The creation of the priestly vestments is also recorded in equally great detail. Finally, the Mishkan is actually erected on the first of Nisan, thereby underscoring the idea that a new era in the life of the people has begun. With the Mishkan completed, it remains only to lay out the rituals and procedures which are to be conducted therein and then the account is interpreted in order to record a detailed set of instructions, which God gives to Moses and Aaron to prepare the Israelites for freedom. They are first directed to establish a calendar starting with the month of liberation, Nisan. The calendar is meant to provide social and religious cohesion as well as to symbolize the free man's ability, indeed responsibility, to make time. Then follow directions for offering the paschal sacrifice (to be eaten in haste) and for smearing blood on the doorposts and lintels so Israelite houses will be spared the final plague. God then passes over the land and kills all the first-born sons of the Egyptians, whereupon Pharaoh finally sends the Israelites out and they begin their journey toward Sinai. The Exodus is the key event in all Jewish history, and the instructions given here are by way of assuring that we remember God's role as redeemer to eternity.

Sabbath Services

—Continued from back page

Friday, March 2

Evening Services 5:30 P.M.

Saturday, March 3

Shaharit Morning Service 8:45 A.M.
 First Mourner's Kaddish 9:25 A.M.
 Weekly Portion: Ki Tissa; Exodus 30:11 – 34:35
 Haftarah: I Kings 18:1 – 39
 Sabbath Service Officers and Greeters: Lisa Goodwin,
 Burton Weston, Diana Stein, and Deanna Stecker
 Bat Mitzvah: Julia Hyman
 daughter of Sheila and Douglas Hyman

Friday, March 9

Evening Services 5:45 P.M.

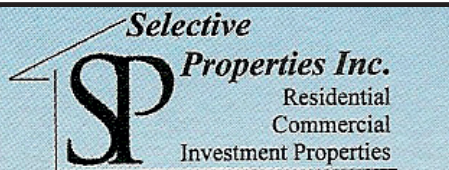
Saturday, March 10 - Shabbat Parah

Shaharit Morning Service 8:45 A.M.
 First Mourner's Kaddish 9:25 A.M.
 Weekly Portion: Vayakhel-Pekudey;
 Exodus 35:1 – 40:38; Numbers 19:1 - 22
 Haftarah: Ezekiel 36:16 – 38
 Sabbath Service Officers and Greeters:
 Seth Horowitz and Ellen Birnbaum
 Bar Mitzvah: Eli Victor Newman
 son of Claudia and Bruce Newman

Junior Congregation	10:30 A.M.	Havurah Service	10:00 A.M.
Toddler Service	11:00 A.M.	Junior Congregation	10:30 A.M.
Niggun Circle with Cantor Frieder	following kiddush	Toddler Service	11:00 A.M.
Afternoon Service	5:10 P.M.	Afternoon Service	5:15 P.M.
Se'udah Shelishit	5:40 P.M.	Se'udah Shelishit	5:45 P.M.
Evening Service	6:13 P.M.	Evening Service	6:21 P.M.
Havdalah	6:29 P.M.	Havdalah	6:37 P.M.
Waxman Youth House Havdalah Program	8:00 P.M.		

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D'var Torah

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By Rabbi Marim D. Charry
Terumah Saturday, February 17

We find a description of the Mishkan, the portable sanctuary which was built in the wilderness to house the ark with the tablets of the Ten Commandments in this portion. The purpose of the Mishkan was to serve as a sign that God dwelt among His people. Moses is directed to gather from the Israelites a free will offering of all manner of precious metals, jewels, fine wood, fine materials, and spices to use in constructing the Mishkan and its appurtenances. Specific instructions are then given for building the furnishings of the Mishkan and the special tent that housed them. The Mishkan, as a whole, was meant to be a symbol, a portable Sinai, reminding the Israelites on their journey through the wilderness of their unique experience at the mountain. The Mishkan evolved by way of the Temple

—Continued on page 10

Temple Israel of Great Neck

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Sabbath Services

Friday, February 9

Evening Services 5:15 P.M.

Saturday, February 10

Shabbat Shekalim
Shaharit Morning Service 8:45 A.M.
First Mourner's Kaddish 9:25 A.M.
Weekly Portion: Mishpatim
Exodus 21:1 – 24:18; 30:11 – 16
Haftarah: II Kings 11:17 – 12:17
Sabbath Service Officers and Greeters:
Jacqueline Harounian, Sima Taid,
Neda Sedgh, and Jeffrey Fleit

Bar Mitzvah: Matthew Shavolian,
son of Roya and Binesh (Joe) Shavolian

Havurah Service 10:00 A.M.
Junior Congregation 10:30 A.M.
Toddler Service 11:00 A.M.
"Shabbat Talk" 12:45 P.M.
with Beth Steinberg
Shabbat HaMishpacha Havdalah 4:00 P.M.
Afternoon Service 4:45 P.M.

Se'udah Shelishit 5:15 P.M.
Evening Service 5:48 P.M.
Havdalah 6:04 P.M.

Friday, February 16

Evening Services 5:15 P.M.

Saturday, February 17

Shaharit Morning Service 8:45 A.M.
Shabbat Morning Group Aliyah
First Mourner's Kaddish 9:25 A.M.
Weekly Portion: Terumah
Exodus 25:1 – 27:19
Haftarah: I Kings 5:26 – 6:13
Sabbath Service Officers and Greeters:
Michael Becker, Jeffrey Fleit
and Diana Stein

Junior Congregation 10:30 A.M.
Toddler Service 11:00 A.M.
Afternoon Service 4:50 P.M.
Se'udah Shelishit 5:20 P.M.
Evening Service 5:57 P.M.
Havdalah 6:13 P.M.

Friday, February 23

N'Ranelah/Evening Services 6:30 P.M.

Saturday, February 24

Shabbat Zakhor
Shaharit Morning Service 8:45 A.M.
First Mourner's Kaddish 9:25 A.M.
Weekly Portion: Tetsavveh
Exodus 27:20 – 30:10; Deuteronomy 25:17-19
Haftarah: I Samuel 15:2 – 34
Sabbath Service Officers and Greeters:
Lynn Weitzman, Dan Goldberger,
Sima Taid, Alise Kreditor, and
Ellen Birnbaum

Havurah Service 10:00 A.M.
Junior Congregation 10:30 A.M.
Toddler Service 11:00 A.M.
"Shabbat Talk" 12:45 P.M.
with Rabbi Geoffrey Goldberg
Afternoon Service 5:00 P.M.
Se'udah Shelishit 5:30 P.M.
Evening Service 6:05 P.M.
Havdalah 6:21 P.M.

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