

Learning the Legacy of Martin Luther King *Temple Israel Teens Participating In a Day of Learning, Service*

By Marc Katz, Editor

Temple Israel Waxman Youth House teens will join with a cross-section of Great Neck students to participate in a community day of service on January 21 honoring the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

“Martin Luther King Day does not have to be just a day off for students,” said Temple Israel Programming Vice President Veronica Bisek Lurvey. “It can be a day on, too—on for learning about identity and bias, and on for performing service for the community.”

Joining with Temple Israel 6-12 grade students will be teens from Temple Beth-El, the First Baptist Church, and SHAI, the Sephardic Heritage Alliance. The efforts are being coordinated with the UJA Federation’s Time for Good MLK Day of Service program, designed for “Jewish New Yorkers to seize the moment to do as much good as they can in the world.”

Planned are small workshop “learning-seminars” with ADL facilitators discussing modern day social issues including racism, anti-Semitism, and economic injustice. “They will be looking at social inequities of race, religion, and economic class,” according to Waxman Youth House Director Avi Siegel. “We will be talking about what teens can do to make a difference in the world.”

In addition, participants will see a screening of Martin Luther King’s famous “I Have a Dream” speech.

The service component of the program,



Temple Israel Waxman Youth House teens participate in a wide range of tikkun olam programs, including a recent Midnight Run, above, and are preparing for a day of learning and service in honor of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. later this month.

still being formulated, will bring seminar participants together to prepare and pack lunches, bake cookies and collect clothing for area needy.

The day of activities is being funded by a grant from UJA Federation, New York and is limited to 75 teens. All workshops will be held at the Waxman Youth House and Multipurpose Room.

“With the recent rise in anti-Semitic incidents and increasing tensions around identity and bias, this day of service and learning will provide our teens a valuable opportunity to reflect on identity and to internalize Dr. King’s message of human dignity,” said SHAI President Rebecca Yousefzadeh Sassouni.

The program is an outgrowth of Temple Israel’s newly formed Repair the World Committee, chaired by Larry Greengrass.

Following a review of the committee’s recently concluded successful food drive, member Karen Ashkenase suggested a program of teen activities on Martin Luther King Day. The committee, along with the other participating organizations, applied for the UJA funding grant.

The Waxman Youth House sponsors a monthly Teen Tikkun Program whose participants are excited to be part of the Martin Luther King Day activities, according to Mr. Siegel. “There is a strong ethos within the committee,” he said. “Our teens are excited about opportunities to participate in social action programs.”

Last month Youth House teens joined with Temple Sinai of Roslyn to pack more than 10,000 meals being distributed by an international hunger relief non-profit called Rise Against Hunger.

Beyond Bitterness

From the Rabbi by Rabbi Howard Stecker

Maya Angelou wrote that bitterness “eats upon the host.” Indeed you may have observed that the times that you act bitterly toward someone, it damages you at least as much as the other person.

We have just completed the portion of the Torah dealing with Joseph and his brothers, an extended window into the corrosive effects of bitterness. Joseph’s bitterness toward his brothers for how they treated them as a youth carries into his young adulthood, prompting him to want to take revenge on them at the earliest opportunity.

He receives the perfect opportunity for revenge when his brothers face him

subsequently in desperate need of food and he decides to retaliate. What he does not anticipate as he turns the tables on his brothers is how much his revenge on them will intensify his own

How often do we become prisoners of our own bitterness?

isolation. Turns out, he suffers at least as much as his brothers; his bitterness consumes him.

How often do we become prisoners of our own bitterness? We say I’m not going to go to the simcha because of what he or she did or said. “I won’t give

him or her the satisfaction.” Or, “I’ll go, but I’ll sit on the side and broadcast my unhappiness.”

Or, more broadly and tragically, we don’t allow ourselves to soar because we are dragged down by animosity over what other people did to us.

Dr. Edith Eva Eger, a survivor of Auschwitz, is a trained therapist who continues to work with patients at the age of 90. In a TED talk she gave recently, she spoke of lessons she learned during the Shoah that she has carried into her personal and professional life. Chief among them is the importance of not succumbing to bitterness. As she puts it, we can choose “to become bitter in our grief and fear...or to hold on to the childlike part of us, the lively and curious part, the part that is innocent.”

She identified a seminal moment in her experience of the horrors of Auschwitz when she realized that, rather than asking “why me,” she would devote her emotional energy to asking “what now?” “What am I going to do today?” “What am I going to do tomorrow?”

It is entirely natural to harbor bitterness toward people and situations that cause us grief, to bemoan our fate, to seek to get back at the people who have done us harm. But just because all of this is natural doesn’t mean it’s healthy. I don’t suggest that we necessarily forgive people who have wronged us. Maybe we should, maybe we shouldn’t; it depends on the situation. I do believe, however, that “what now” tends to be a healthier question than “why me” or “how can I get back at whomever.”

Joseph ultimately learns that transcending his bitterness will allow him to move forward with his life. It has the additional effect of allowing his family to embrace the next chapter of their collective destiny.

As we face a new secular year, I invite us to confront the bitterness in our souls that harms us most of all. I hope we can put it in its proper place so that it doesn’t take over our lives, so that we can face each day with the most empowering question of all: What now?

Our Stories

From the President by Rob Panzer

Approximately once a month Temple Israel has a “Shabbat Talk.” This after-kiddush program, most often held in the cozy Blue Room, consists of a short presentation, followed by the audience asking questions. The subject matter and speakers have varied greatly, from information on the National Alliance

If you have an interesting story to tell, why not share it with the rest of your Temple Israel family.

on Mental Illness to the importance of Camp Ramah as a tool in forming children’s meaningful (and fun) Jewish memories. Our most recent Shabbat Talk was led by two of our members, Ariel Albin and Veronica Bisek Lurvey, speaking about their respective paths to joining the Jewish people.

Their stories differ in the onset, but ended with the same result: they are each proud members of our Jewish faith and involved members of Temple Israel. One spiritual journey turned

toward Judaism in the formidable college years while the other was drawn to her personal journey as a parent learning alongside her own children. These personal stories were sometimes matter-of-fact, sometimes humorous and sometimes poignant. For those of us born into our Jewish families, it can be hard to imagine what might be involved in making such a life-changing choice. It was gratifying to hear them say that they feel right at home as part of the Temple Israel family. It fulfills our mission: Temple Israel is a place where all are welcome to feel the power of Judaism to bring blessing to their lives.

Thanks to Ariel and Veronica for being willing to share their stories with us. If you have an interesting story to tell, why not share it with the rest of your Temple Israel family? There are a number of avenues for that: a guest column in The Voice, a Shabbat Talk, a presentation for the Men’s Club, Sisterhood, or maybe another venue. Contact Veronica, Temple Israel’s Vice President for programming, with your suggestion or email vlurvey@hotmail.com.

In Memoriam

Temple Israel extends condolences
to the families of:

NORBERT TODTENKOPF
brother of Bela Schoenfeld

ALBERT KENT
father of Audrey Kent Itzkowitz

May their memories be for a blessing.

Letter to the Editor

Remembering Susan Smith

To the Editor:

I am writing to thank the Sisterhood of Temple Israel for their fitting tribute to my late wife, Susan.

Working with the women of the Sisterhood for almost three decades was one of Susan's passions. Her friends at the Sisterhood were her best friends. That Temple Israel provided Susan and the rest of the Sisterhood with the resources to help ensure the continuity of our community's traditions, both outwardly and behind the scenes, added immense meaning and fulfillment to Susan's life.

The object the Sisterhood chose to dedicate to Susan—a challah cover and wooden plate—adds to the appropriateness of the Sisterhood's tribute. Susan's enthusiastic sense of style made an impact on everyone who knew her, and it would have brought her joy to be honored with such a beautiful, colorful object that will be used weekly in our Sanctuary. And, I know that in her role as treasurer, to which she diligently devoted herself for 25 years, she would have appreciated the practical benefit of the tribute to the community every Shabbat.

—Dr. Arden Smith

Next Voice Issues

The next issue of The Voice will be published on Friday, February 1. The deadline for that issue is Wednesday, January 9.

The following issue will be published on March 1. The deadline for that issue is February 6.

Upcoming Events at Temple Israel

January 12

"Shabbat Talk" – Positive Aging: 12:45 P.M.
How to Get Better with Age

January 13

Family Challah Braid Fundraiser Noon
Temple Israel Film Series
Presents "Ida" 7:00 P.M.

January 21

Tu B'Shevat
Martin Luther King 11:00 A.M.
Day of Service

January 22

Board of Trustees Meeting 8:15 P.M.

January 24

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

January 25

Tu B'Shevat Seder 7:00 P.M.

January 26

Comedy Night at Temple Beth-El 7:30 P.M.

January 28

Sisterhood Board Meeting 10:00 A.M.

February 2

Temple Israel Film Series 7:00 P.M.
Presents "Eyes Wide Open"

February 3

Men's Club World Wide Wrap 8:15 A.M.

February 4

Sisterhood Board Meeting 10:00 A.M.

February 6

Beth HaGan Torah Science Fair 5:30 P.M.

February 11-14

Beth HaGan Book Fair

February 24

Men's Club Blood Drive

February 26

Board of Trustees Meeting 8:15 P.M.

February 28

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

Put On Tefillin at Men's Club's World Wide Wrap

Start Super Bowl Sunday with a Wrap and Roll! Join the Temple Israel Men's Club on Sunday, February 3, when thousands of Conservative Jewish men and women around the world will celebrate the mitzvah of tefillin at the annual World Wide Wrap.

At 8:15 A.M., member Charles Adler, joined by Rabbi Howard Stecker, will lead a complete service in the Chapel. Men's Club members will be available to assist individuals in putting on Tefillin, if needed. Following the service, a breakfast will be available in the Blue Room.

At 9:30 A.M., sixth grade Religious School students and their parents will put on tefillin in the Crystal Ballroom at services led by Rabbi Stecker, Rabbi Daniel Schweber, and Rabbi Amy Roth. There will be extra sets of tefillin, and trainers from the Men's Club and clergy to help you through the process. Then join the Men's Club for a breakfast.

Nominating Committee Seeking Candidates

Temple Israel's Nominating Committee has begun meeting to select candidates for positions on the Board of Trustees. The committee is currently accepting the names of interested individuals for review. A recommended slate of candidates will be presented to the general membership at its semi-annual meeting in June.

A trustee is expected to:

- Have a strong commitment to Conservative Judaism,
- Attend a majority of board meetings,
- Attend Shabbat and Yom Tov services,
- Serve periodically as Shabbat officer,
- Participate on a committee and/or a project activity, and
- Act as a liaison to other congregants.

If you or a member of the congregation you know is interested in being a candidate for the Board, contact Leon Silverberg at 482-7800.

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



Alec Blumberg

Alec Blumberg will be called to the Torah as a Bar Mitzvah on January 19. He is the son of Nataly and Stephen Blumberg and has a sister, Amelia, 16. Alec is a seventh grade honor student at Great Neck North Middle School. He enjoys photography and playing basketball. Alec plans to visit Israel this summer.



Jacob Shirazi

Jacob Shirazi will be celebrating his Bar Mitzvah on February 2. He is the son of Michelle and Michael Shirazi and has a brother, Ethan, 10, and a sister, Eva, 5. Jacob is a seventh grade student at Great Neck North Middle School. He enjoys playing tennis and swimming and plans to visit Israel in the near future.

Mazal Tov to . . .

- **Lisa and Daniel Glassman** on the birth of their son, Ethan Henry.
- **Rena and Jonathan Horwitz** on the birth of their granddaughter, Eden Batya Horwitz.
- **Eva and Carlos Bolanos** on the engagement of their daughter, Michelle, to Samuel Fuchs.

Learning Science Through Torah

From the Beth HaGan Nursery School by Rachel Mathless, Director

Now that we have returned to school for the new year, we are very focused on Beth HaGan's Annual Torah Science Fair.

Two toddler classes have chosen the theme of Joseph and his Coat of Many Colors. Each class has devised a different and unique approach to this topic, one studying primary and secondary colors and one cooking all kinds of vegetation to create dyes and colors.

Another toddler class is working on what was created on the third day and will plant and "build" a rain forest, studying climate, plant growth and animal life in the rain forest.

One three-year old class will study the fourth day of creation and has plans to visit the planetarium at the Cradle of Aviation museum to get a better understanding of the stars, the planets and their rotations.

Another three-year old class is emphasizing the sun and restorative properties of the sun in relationship to Avraham's weakness after his Brit Milah at the age of 99. They will learn all the benefits the earth derives from the sun.

All classes are at work now and will display what they have learned together with delightful and imaginative art projects on Thursday, February 7, in the Crystal Ballroom beginning at 5:30 P.M. Everyone is invited to stop by and view the amazing creativity of our students!

Please note that registration for our 2019-2020 school year is now open.



Torah Troupe is back! Religious School children in third through sixth grades (and sometimes second grade) are encouraged to read from the Torah once a month at a Shabbat HaMishpachah program or Junior Congregation. They practice at home and during school hours, and many sign up for several Torah reading opportunities during the year. Interested? Contact Rabbi Amy Roth at rabbiroth@tign.org to find out which dates are available.

Recent Torah Troupe readers with Rabbi Amy Roth, left to right, are Natalie Schweber, Abby Bernstein, Zach Dorf, Elliot Ganjian, and Elliot Kassin.

Remembering Rabbi Isaac: A Non-Judgmental Concern for Jews—And for Temple Israel Members

The cheery Chasidic rabbi with a long beard, black hat, and long black coat seemed out of place at Temple Israel of Great Neck, known as a leading congregation in the Conservative movement.

Despite that, Rabbi Yitzchak Meir Paltiel Borzikowsky—simply “Rabbi Isaac” as he preferred to be known—made himself at home at Temple Israel. And, the congregation felt at home discussing a wide range of topics with him.

Rabbi Isaac died in November of a heart attack in Ashdod, Israel, but Temple Israel members only recently learned of his passing. He was 75.

Officially, Rabbi Isaac served a lengthy tenure as the mashkiah for Lederman Caterers. But for many members of the congregation, he was almost a part of the Temple Israel clergy.

He retired to Israel with his wife, Tziporah, who passed away two years ago. The couple, long-time Brooklyn residents, settled in Ashdod, Israel’s sixth largest city and largest port.



Rabbi Howard Stecker said: “Rabbi Isaac possessed a range of qualities that you don’t often see in one human being: a brilliant analytical mind, a natural empathy for people in need, and a phenomenal sense of humor. Heir to an august rabbinic tradition which he treasured, he also managed to find his own unique spiritual voice. I loved to be with him and learned so much from him. Like many who were fortunate enough to know him, I will miss him a great deal.”

Temple Israel President Rob Panzer recalled that “Rabbi Isaac used to say that there is an extra book of the Shulchan Aruch called The Book of Common Sense. It shows his acceptance of belief systems that might have differed from his own. In addition, he often came to our egalitarian minyan to make sure we had enough people present so Kaddish could be said. We didn’t need his permission to have a minyan, but his presence clearly indicated he accepted our ways and beliefs.”

Former congregation President Steven Markowitz, moved by the passing of Rabbi Isaac, said: “For many years Rabbi Isaac was a constant presence and influence at Temple Israel. Although he was an employee of the caterer, and

his official duties were related to food supervision, Rabbi Isaac managed to involve himself in many activities of the synagogue and was not shy about offering his opinion about matters large and small. He was driven by his love of the Jewish people and his non-judgmental respect and concern for our members, clergy and staff. His advice and counsel were invaluable. We loved the man and missed him from the day he retired.”

Many Temple Israel members felt comfortable consulting Rabbi Isaac on Jewish matters. Rebecca and Sasson Sassouni, for example, turned to Rabbi Isaac when they decided to commission a Torah to mark the Bar and Bat Mitzvah of their children in 2009. “He found a scribe in Israel for us to use, arranged to have it transported to his home so he could check it out, and invited us to his Borough Park home to pick it up,” recalled Mrs. Sassouni. “It was especially moving when Rabbi Isaac—an Orthodox rabbi—said it would be alright for me to hold the Torah as my husband drove us back to Great Neck.”

Moshe Shayesteh, one of the principals of Lederman Caterers, said Rabbi Isaac was employed by them for many years, “but worked at Temple Israel as far back as two previous caterers. He had knowledge of the members of the congregation and how things worked at Temple Israel. He used that experience to guide us to do things correctly. He not only advised us on kashrut, but also on our dealings with the synagogue.”

Marc Katz, a former president of the Men’s Club, recalled the year during his leadership of the group that the organization decided to honor Rabbi Isaac at their annual dinner. “He loved the recognition that Temple Israel was giving him,” Mr. Katz said. “His sense of humor kept everyone laughing and it was probably the largest crowd to ever attend our dinner.”

Daily Minyan Times

Friday, January 11

7:00 A.M. 4:30 P.M.

Friday, January 18 & 25

7:00 A.M. 4:45 P.M.

Friday, February 1

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

Sunday

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

Monday

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

Tuesday, January 15, 22 & 29

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

Tuesday, February 5

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

Wednesday, January 16, 23 & 30

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

Wednesday, February 6

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

Thursday

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

An Invitation From The Sisterhood

A Voice Guest Column by Karen Ashkenase

EDITOR'S NOTE: The "proud president of our terrific Sisterhood," (as she says) Karen Ashkenase, invites you to join the group, in this Voice Guest Column.

Yes, you know us here at Temple Israel as the Sisterhood who created Yad B'Yad, which runs a wonderful Judaica Shop, which prepares fabulous schalach manot bags, which provides flowers on the bimah each Shabbat, which sends our college students delightful holiday packages, which enjoys a stimulating book club, which offers lovely honey jars to the congregation for Rosh Hashanah, and which presents engaging programs throughout the year.

**We would love to
have you join
our Sisterhood "family."**

But, did you know that our Sisterhood is part of a much larger organization—the International Women's League for Conservative Judaism?

So, when you join the Sisterhood at Temple Israel you are part of a worldwide women's movement supporting Conservative Judaism in our homes, synagogue, community, and in Israel. We are equally concerned about those

around the globe and are active on their behalf.

- Women's League maintains a non-governmental observer at the U.N.
- We are active in the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations, Jewish Council for Public Affairs, World Jewish Congress, Leadership Council of Conservative Judaism, MERCAZ, Masorti Olami, Israel Bonds, Coalition to Stop Gun Violence, Religious Coalition for Reproductive Choice, Religious Network for Equality for Women, and the list goes on.

We are strong and effective when we have numbers. So, we invite you to join the wonderful group of Sisterhood members at Temple Israel and be part of a worldwide effort to educate, support and heal the world.

At the same time, come join us for our very interesting, unusual and enjoyable programs. We would love to have you join our "Sisterhood Family."

Moshe Zabari Exhibit at Temple Israel Museum

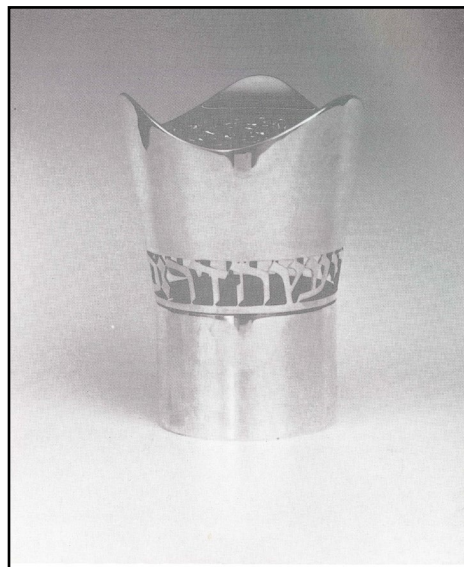
Moshe Zabari is the foremost Judaica silversmith of the 20th century. He was born in Jerusalem in 1935 to a Yemenite family. He studied at the Bezalel Academy in Jerusalem, and in 1961 came to New York to work with Ludwig Wolpert at the Tobe Pascher workshop in the Jewish Museum. He became director there in 1982 and is now retired in Jerusalem.

His work is in major museums, Jewish museums, synagogues, and private collections throughout the world.

The Temple Israel Museum is fortunate to own six of his pieces in its collection. They include a silver Hanukkah menorah in a very sculptural form, a silver Yahrzeit memorial lamp with hands in the priestly blessing, a silver etrog holder with openwork top set with stones, a silver charity box in the form of a pouch, and a small pair of candle holders in a modernist design which turn over to become two kiddush cups! Also, a mezzuzah in brass to form the word "Shaddai" with the letter "shin" as an abstract crown.

These pieces are currently on view in the front case of the museum.

To make an appointment to visit the Museum, call 482-7800.



An esrog box by Moshe Zarabi is part of the exhibit now at Temple Israel's Museum.

THREE WOMEN 'BEHIND KING DAVID' *A presentation by Rabbi Amy Roth* **Wednesday, January 16, 23 & 30** **11 A.M. - Noon • Board Room**

The Bible tells about three of King David's wives: Michal, Avigail and Batsheva. All three women were strong, resilient and complicated. Each of them also found ways to wield power in a world where men were kings.

RSVP to 482-7800 ext. 1134
or ktanenbaum@tign.org

Tu B'Shevat, The Torah and The Trees

By Rabbi Daniel Schweber

Tu B'Shevat, the 15th day of the Hebrew month Shevat (this year it corresponds to January 21) is a minor holiday about trees. The day's origins are humble and practical. Coming in the mid-winter, the date was used

By making us be sensitive to trees, the Torah hopes to make us sensitive about human life.

to calculate the age of trees for ritual purposes. The 16th century Jewish mystics turned Tu B'Shevat into a day to think about trees and our relationship to them, as well as how trees can teach us a lot about ourselves. There are traditions to eat various fruits and to hold a special seder ritual for the day.

The Torah mentions our relationship to trees in a very interesting context: the rules of warfare. "When in your war against a city you have to besiege it a long time in order to capture it, you must not destroy its trees, wielding an ax against them. You may eat of them, but you must not cut them down. Are trees of the field human to withdraw before you into the besieged city?" Much has been written about the last verse comparing trees to humans. What is the meaning and purpose of this verse? One meaning that I like very much is that the question is a rhetorical and subtle condemnation of warfare. If we are commanded to keep trees—God's creations—alive, should we not also keep humans alive?

Back in 2013, the New York Times

Candle Lighting Times

Friday, January 11
4:28 P.M.

Friday, January 18
4:36 P.M.

Friday, January 25
4:44 P.M.

Friday, February 1
4:53 P.M.

published an article by David Barash, an evolutionary biologist and psychologist asking if we humans are hardwired for war. There is much archaeological evidence of a long history of human brutality. In the Torah, murder comes in just the second generation. Barash, however, is able to show that we are also wired for peacemaking. Barash concludes with a Cherokee parable with the lesson that we have war-like and peace-like tendencies within us. The side we "feed" is the side that wins.

However you look at it, warfare is brutal.

The Torah knows that we cannot get rid of warfare entirely. However, this verse about the trees wants us to think twice (or three times) about the reasons to go to war. By making us be sensitive to trees, the Torah hopes to make us sensitive about human life.

During the Vietnam War the motto "make love not war" became popular. On Tu B'Shevat we can say "eat fruit, not war." After all, what comes from love? Children, the fruit of the womb!

Join us on Friday, January 25, for our congregational Tu B'Shevat celebration.

**The almond tree is blooming, the golden sun is shining,
birds atop each roof announce the arrival of the festival.
Tu Bishevat has arrived, the festival of trees.**

TEMPLE ISRAEL OF GREAT NECK
presents

Tu Bishevat Dinner & Celebration Friday, January 25

An enhanced *N'Ranenah* service at 6:00 P.M.
in the Multipurpose Room
followed by a
Communal Shabbat Dinner in the Crystal Ballroom
(catered by Aron's)

Featuring separate celebrations for adults, teens and children.



Cost for the dinner:
\$22/adult
\$15/child(ren) 12 & under
(Children 2 and under are free)

(Reservations will not be taken after Wednesday, January 23)

To RSVP, please call Jennifer in the synagogue office at 482-7800.

ALL ARE WELCOME!

From Generation to Generation

Temple Israel Gratefully Acknowledges The Following Contributions

TEMPLE ISRAEL MUSEUM FUND

In appreciation of:

The contribution of an antique shofar by Guy, Ross and Brooke Feingold for their 50th wedding anniversary
Nadine and David Feingold

In memory of:

Muriel Hyman
The family of Muriel Hyman
Alys Horwitz
Rena and Jonathan Horwitz
Greta Melnick
Edward Melnick
Nadine Feingold
Susan Smith
Karen and Donald Ashkenase
Hersh Becker
David Feingold

RABBI STECKER'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

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Jill Friedman
Muriel Hyman
Joan Konas
Anita Oberman
Linda Handsman
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Fred Handsman

In appreciation of:

Rabbi Stecker for officiating at the wedding of their son, Michael, and Helen Schnaper
Madelyn and Robert Gould
Rabbi Stecker's support when Phyllis Weinberg passed away and during Alan Weinberg's mourning period
Alan Weinberg

Rabbi Stecker's support during the loss of her mother, Muriel Hyman
Joan Konas
Rabbi Stecker's sympathy during the passing of Franklin Spitzer
The Spitzer and Picker families
Rabbi Stecker's support and guidance
The Leder family
Rabbi Stecker's kindness and support at the funeral of Khanom Agha Sarraf
The Sarraf and Pollack families

In honor of:

Eileen and Mickey Putterman's extraordinary efforts on behalf of the Shalom Club
The Shalom Club of Temple Israel
Receiving aliyot on Yom Kippur and for their anniversary
Maxine Vogel's special birthday
Marylin and Allan Goldberg
Emily and Isaac Taitz's 60th wedding anniversary
Carole and Arthur Anderman
Officiating at the wedding of their daughter, Dana Cheryl and Robert Sperber

Contributions:

Renata Farahnik
Ellen Heimberger-Kalison
Muriel and Allan Greenblatt

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Emily and Isaac Taitz' 60th wedding anniversary
Fanny and Alfie Narotzky
Juliette Ahdoot, daughter of Michelle and Allen, becoming a Bat Mitzvah
Shahram Delafraz
Simhat Torah Honorees
Robert Aizer, Emily and Jim Levin, and Harriet Spitzer-Picker and Neal Picker
Rebecca and Sassan Sassouni

In memory of:

Khanom Hana Sarraf
Eva and Alan Litt
Lillian Silverberg
Marylin and Allan Goldberg
Youssef Ohebsion
Khanom Hana Sarraf
Cheryl Eisberg Moin and Seth Moin

Contributions:

For the emergency in Ashkelon
Rebecca Yousefzadeh
Sassouni and Sasson
Sassouni
Helping our sister congregation, Netzach Yisrael, build a secure shelter for their pre-school
The Brash family
Eve Keller and David Waxman

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Rabbi Schweber for joining the Torah completion ceremony
Roberta and David Harounian
Rabbi Schweber for officiating at the funeral of Marilyn Glaser
Susan and Steven Glaser
Rabbi Schweber's kindness and compassion and officiating at the funeral of Khanom Agha Sarraf
The Sarraf and Pollack families

In honor of:

Harold Kobliner
Beth Kobliner Shaw and David Shaw

In memory of:

Sylvia Greenspan
Lillian Silverberg
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Suzette Gray
Khanom Hana Sarraf
The LeRea and Jarolem family

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Joelle and Geoff Serota

Contribution:

Wendy and Bernard Gold

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In honor of:

Maxine Vogel's 90th birthday
Osnass Shein and family
Kenneth M. Leff

In memory of:

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Emery Lauber
Carmella, Victor and Alexis Mandon
Sylvia Greenspan
Leonard Abrams
Susan Smith
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DAILY MINYAN FUND

In honor of:

The birth of Walden June Englander-Weisskirk, granddaughter of Alise Kreditor and Jeffrey Englander
Debbie and Steve Shepsman and family

In memory of:

Iris Pertofsky
Barbara Forst
Daryl Schulman, Jana, Todd, Ari Jacobson

For the recovery of:

Terry Bernstein
Cheryl Eisberg Moin and Seth Moin

From Generation to Generation

Temple Israel Gratefully Acknowledges The Following Contributions

ADULT EDUCATION LECTURE SERIES FUND

In appreciation of:

The Yossi Klein Halevi and Imam Abdullah Antepli event

Joel Kirman
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Mina and Keyvan Frouzan
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Emily and Isaac Taitz's 60th wedding anniversary
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In honor of:

Emily and Isaac Taitz's 60th wedding anniversary
Laura and Manny Bardash

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In memory of:

Ida Bobrow
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Meyer Hammer
Pearl Hammer Hymes
Fritzie Fink
Esther Mandel
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In honor of:

The 50th anniversary of Karen and Donald Ashkenase
Iris and Charles Adler
Hon. Richard Kestenbaum being chosen to be honored by the Nassau County Magistrate
Carol and Steve Smolinsky

The upcoming marriage of Elizabeth Atkins, daughter of Simmy-Lou and Robert Atkins, and Jeff Feith
Monika and Paul Bloom

TEMPLE ISRAEL FUND

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The 91st birthday of Ed Goldfeder
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Deborah and Judd Volk
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Congregation Thanks Its Kiddush Sponsors

A contribution towards the kiddush on October 13 was made by Nazy and Richard Solomon in honor of the Bar Mitzvah of their son, Jaren.

A contribution towards the kiddush on October 20 was made by Anna and Joseph Nehmadi in honor of the baby naming of their daughter, Aria.

The congregational kiddush on October 27 was sponsored by Irene and Jack Yachbes in honor of the Bar Mitzvah of their son, Eric. A contribution towards the kiddush fund was made by Jill and Andrew Klein in honor of the Auf Ruf of their son, Kevin, and Samantha Slomowitz.

Contributions toward the kiddush on November 3 were made by Deborah Heiser and Joel Weinberger in honor of the Bar Mitzvah of their son, Aiden, and by Vivian Brash in memory of her father, Joseph Katz.

Contributions toward the kiddush on November 10 were made by Evin and Faramarz Sachmechi in honor of the Auf Ruf of their son, Justin, and Meredith (Spirgel) Sachmechi, by Emily and Isaac Taitz in honor of their 60th wedding anniversary, by Alfred Sedaghat in memory of his father, Mansour Sedaghat, and by the entire Berookhim family in memory of Battia Berookhim.

A contribution towards the kiddush on November 17 was made by the Greenspan family in memory of Mr. Greenspan's mother, Sylvia Greenspan, to mark the end of sheloshim.

A contribution towards the kiddush on November 24 was made by Niloofar and Amir Haghani in honor of the Bar Mitzvah of their son, Joshua.

A contribution towards the kiddush on December 1 was made by Orly and Ebi Victory in honor of the Bar Mitzvah of their son, Aaron.

A contribution towards the kiddush on December 8 was made by Rebecca and Joe Mashieh in honor of the Bar Mitzvah of their son, Joshua.



In 1962 Poland, Ida is a young postulate training to be a nun. She grew up in the convent orphanage and knows little of the outside world. Mother Superior informs her that she has an aunt that she should visit before taking her final vows. Her aunt, Wanda, informs her that she is Jewish.

Together they set off to learn what happened to Ida's parents during the war and where they might be buried—a trip that has a profound effect on both of them. "Ida" was the first Polish film to win the Oscar for Best Foreign Film in 2014.

Join us for Shabbat Talk on

Saturday, January 12

following kiddush in the Blue Room

POSITIVE AGING - HOW WE GET BETTER WITH AGE

featuring

DEBORAH HEISER PH.D.

a TIGN member who holds a degree in Applied Developmental Psychology with a specialty in helping redefine what aging really means.



Dr. Heiser will share her insight that our emotional development increases with age, never to decline.

D'var Torah

—Continued from back page
 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.

Beshallah **Saturday, January 19**

In this portion we follow the Israelites journey to the Red Sea, where they find themselves trapped by pursuing Egyptian forces. God affects the miraculous crossing of the sea and the destruction of the Egyptians, and the Israelites rejoice singing the "Song of the Sea." The journey to Sinai may now be resumed, but three challenges are immediately encountered. The people complain that they have no bread. In response, God

provides manna and gives directions for gathering it during the week and for the Sabbath. They further complain that they have no water, and God provides it from a rock. Finally, when the people are attacked by the Amalekites, Joshua heads a band of soldiers who defeat the attackers while Moses holds up the staff of God to encourage the Israelites. These incidents all serve to highlight the difficulty of transforming slaves into free men who can rely on God, yet act on their own behalf.

Yitro **Saturday, January 26**

We read of the greatest event in the entire history of the people of Israel- the revelation at Mt. Sinai in this portion. The portion opens with an account of the visit of Jethro, Moses' father-in-law,

to the Israelite camp just after they have crossed the Sea. Jethro suggests an administrative arrangement to Moses which significantly enhances Moses's 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.

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D'var Torah

By Rabbi Marim D. Charry

Bo Saturday, January 12

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

—Continued on page 11

Temple Israel of Great Neck

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Sabbath Services

Friday, January 11

Evening Service 4:30 P.M.

Saturday, January 12

Shaharit Morning Service 8:45 A.M.

First Mourner's Kaddish 9:25 A.M.

Weekly Portion: Bo

Exodus 10:1 - 13:16

Haftarah: Jeremiah 46:13 - 28

Sabbath Service Officers and Greeters:
Deanna Stecker, Audrey Kent Itzkowitz,
Mark Birnbaum, Lisa Goodwin,
and Andi Katz

Havurah Service 10:00 A.M.

Junior Congregation 10:30 A.M.

Toddler Service 11:00 A.M.

Shabbat Talk: 12:45 P.M.

"Positive Aging: How to
Get Better with Age"

Afternoon Service 4:10 P.M.

Se'udah Shelishit 4:40 P.M.

Evening Service 5:13 P.M.

Havdalah 5:29 P.M.

Friday, January 18

N'Ranenah/Evening Service 6:30 P.M.

Saturday, January 19 Shabbat Shirah

Shaharit Morning Service/ 8:45 A.M.

Group Aliyah

First Mourner's Kaddish 9:25 A.M.

Weekly Portion: Beshallah

Exodus 13:17 - 17:16

Haftarah: Judges 4:4 - 5:31

Sabbath Service Officers and Greeters:
Harold Citron, Toby Katz,
Patty Schneider, and Joyce Weston

Bar Mitzvah: Alec Blumberg
son of Nataly and Stephen Blumberg

Junior Congregation 10:30 A.M.

Toddler Service 11:00 A.M.

Niggun Circle following kiddush

Afternoon Services 4:15 P.M.

Se'udah Shelishit 4:45 P.M.

Evening Service 5:21 P.M.

Havdalah 5:37 P.M.

Friday, January 25

Tu B'Shevat/N'Ranenah/
Evening Service 6:00 P.M.

Tu B'Shevat Seder/
Religious School

Shabbat HaMishpachah 7:00 P.M.

Saturday, January 26

Shaharit Morning Service 8:45 A.M.

First Mourner's Kaddish 9:25 A.M.

Weekly Portion: Yitro

Exodus 18:1 - 20:23

Haftarah: Isaiah 6:1 - 7:6; 9:5 - 6

Sabbath Service Officers and Greeters:
Neda Sedgh, Jeffrey Fleit, Andi Katz,
and Ellen Birnbaum

Havurah Service 10:00 A.M.

Junior Congregation 10:30 A.M.

Toddler Service 11:00 A.M.

Afternoon Service 4:25 P.M.

Se'udah Shelishit 4:55 P.M.

Evening Service 5:30 P.M.

Havdalah 5:46 P.M.