

## **Temple Israel of Great Neck**

Where tradition meets change

a Conservative egalitarian synagogue

## Israeli Ambassador Speaking at Temple Israel

## Will Discuss Israel's Relations With Its Arab Neighbors on April 14

Ambassador Dani Dayan, Israel's Consul General in New York, will be the featured speaker at Temple Israel's Waxman Memorial Program on Sunday, April 14. The congregation is invited to attend.

His talk, titled "Challenges and Opportunities for Israel in a Changing

Middle East," will discuss Israel's growing diplomatic and economic relationships with its neighboring countries and address the main challenge the country is facing today: Iran. In addition, he will speak about the state of the Israel-Palestinian conflict.

"Once Israel was surrounded by neighboring countries calling for its destruction," he said. "Today Israel enjoys unprecedented relations with many Arab and Muslim countries in the region. Although distant," he added, "Iran poses a direct threat to the security of Israel."

The program, co-sponsored by the congregation's Israel Affairs Committee, will include an exclusive reception with the ambassador before his talk and a question and answer session following his presentation.

"Ambassador Dayan, known personally by many in our congregation, will be able to provide unique insight into current issues facing the State of Israel," said Rabbi Howard Stecker. "Given our synagogue's long-standing commitment to supporting Israel in every possible way, I am thrilled that we are able to bring the community together to honor Rabbi Waxman's legacy and to hear this important speaker."

Temple Israel member Mitch Koeppel was instrumental in securing the speaker. "We are fortunate to have a



Ambassador Dani Dayan, Israel's Consul General in New York

leading spokesman for Israel coming to our congregation," said Marc Katz, chair of the Waxman Committee. "His conversation with us will take place only a few days after Israel's heated election, so I am sure this will be a talk not to miss. The community is invited to hear Mr. Dayan."

Invitations are about to be sent to the congregation. There is no charge to attend the ambassador's presentation, which begins at 7 P.M. in the Sanctuary. However, tickets are required and can only be obtained by using the link on Temple Israel's website, www.tign.org.

The congregation is also invited to attend a reception that begins at 5:15 P.M. in the Grand Ballroom for \$36 per person, \$180 for patrons and \$360 for sponsors. Patrons and sponsors will receive two tickets to the reception and be listed in the event program. Those attending the reception will receive reserved seating in the Sanctuary.

Reservations for the reception are necessary and can be made by calling 482-7800.

The ambassador, once the leader of the Israeli settlement movement, is related to legendary Israeli General Moshe Dayan. Born in Buenos Aires, he and his family immigrated to Israel in 1971 when he was 15, settling in a Tel Aviv neighborhood. He spent more than seven years in the Israeli army and is a major in the Israel Defense Forces.

He holds degrees in economics and computer science from

Bar llan University and a Masters in finance from Tel Aviv University. In 1982 he established an information technology firm, which he headed first as CEO and later as chairman. In 2005 he sold his interest in the firm, although he continues to invest in high-tech companies.

He is noted for leading a settler's movement against the freeze on new settlements starting in 2010. He was defeated in a bid for a Knesset seat in 2015, but was appointed by Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu as Israel's consul general in 2016.

## **Navigating Today's Headlines**

From the Rabbi by Rabbi Howard Stecker

Many of today's headlines are disturbing, for Jews specifically and for others. We are witnessing a rise in anti-Semitism in Europe and in the United States from the right and the left. We are also witnessing a violation of human rights expressed, among other settings, at our border and in our military. As Jews, how should we respond to discrimination against us and others? How do we navigate all of this?

I am seeing two trends in the Jewish community that disturb me. One is a universalist trend that registers human rights violations in general, but fails to give proper attention to the legitimate dangers that face the Jewish people. Regarding this trend, I invoke the words of a rabbi I heard speak over 30 years ago when I was studying in England. He said, "Sometimes we are so openminded that our brains fall out."

We must not ignore or downplay hatred toward Jews, no matter the religion, ethnicity or political leaning of the hater. Moreover, we must be prepared to denounce criticism of Israel when it is, in fact, anti-Semitism. Invoking Alan Dershowitz's "three D's," when Israel is demonized, delegitimized, or treated with a double standard, that's anti-Semitism.

The other trend that disturbs me is a self-preservationist trend that cares only about Jews and fails to apply appropriate Jewish values of justice and compassion to others. Our ancestors, upon leaving Egypt, were commanded to treat the stranger justly because they knew what it was like to be strangers. They journeyed toward the Promised Land with the understanding that their suffering should inspire sensitivity to the suffering of others.

So, regardless of what our opinion might be on the intricacies of immigration, when parents and children are separated at our border, when many still haven't been reunited, we must

protest because such behavior is un-Jewish and inhumane. When people are disqualified from serving in our military because of their gender identity we must

We must protect ourselves while also protecting others.

protest as well. And the list goes on. We must protect ourselves while also protecting others. The two are not mutually exclusive; more often than not, they are mutually reinforcing.

Our ancestors trekking through the wilderness had a pillar of cloud to guide them by day and a pillar of fire to guide them by night. We don't have that any more. In order to navigate properly, we must rely on our collective wisdom.

The sage Hillel understood that we must defend ourselves and defend others when he said, "If I am not for myself, who will be for me? And if I am only for myself, what am I?"

Such wisdom must continue to guide us.

## **Meeting Our Future**

#### From the President by Rob Panzer

Several weeks ago, Ofra Panzer, Vice President Burt Weston and I attended the biennial United Synagogue Large Congregations Conference. These conferences are an opportunity for leaders of congregations to meet, share ideas, issues, problems, and hopefully solutions.

A number of things quickly became apparent for all congregations represented: Where is the Conservative movement going? How can we address membership issues? How can we address financial issues? And many more.

What also quickly becomes apparent is that creativity and innovation help to answer these questions and more. Membership needs to be looked at creatively, evaluating how we attract new members and maintain existing ones. This leads us to asking ourselves important questions, such as do our religious services meet the needs of our community, or do we need to offer alternatives in addition to what we currently provide?

Do our educational programs meet our needs, and will they meet our needs in the future, or do we need to look at alternatives in this arena as well?

Do we need to create greater opportunities for development and fundraising to invest in and protect our future?

The key to our future is our willingness to face it.

Do we need to evaluate how we staff our congregation and consider what skill sets might be needed to ensure that we remain a thriving congregation?

As we can see, the issues are large and complex, with no easy solutions, but that can't prevent us from beginning meaningful conversations about all of them. The key to our future is our willingness to face it.

As always, I can be reached at robpanzer18@gmail.com

The Voice Guest Column: 'Making Temple Israel Green' is now located on page 9.

#### In Memoriam

Temple Israel extends condolences to the families of:

#### **HAKIMEH RASHTIAN**

mother of Elahe Rashtian

#### **VIOLA ESIKOFF**

mother of Laura Esikoff and Stanley Esikoff and esteemed member of Temple Israel

#### **EVELYN GOLBERT**

esteemed member of Temple Israel

May their memories be for a blessing.

### Temple Lites...

- Paula Charry, Renee Altman Fleischer, Lori Freudman, Judy Greenstein, Hermine Plotnick, Muriel Pfeifer, and Ellen Doree Rosen are the Temple Israel members who are part of the 12 active singers from Queens and Long Island in the Na'aleh Women's Ensemble. The chorus, which has been performing for the past 15 years, will give their final performance on May 19 at 4 P.M. at Temple Israel. Tickets, priced at \$18, will be available at the door.
- Former Temple Israel President Alan Klinger, the co-managing partner of Stroock & Stroock & Lavan, was named to City & State magazine's third annual "50 Over 50" list of New Yorkers "who have committed decades of their life to making New York a better place." The dignitaries on the list were honored at a reception at Sony Hall, New York, last month.
- Temple Israel Vice President Veronica Lurvey, co-chair of North Shore Action, was appointed to fill a vacancy on the North Hempstead Town Board. She took office on February 28.

#### Mazal Tov To...

- Ellen and Mark Birnbaum on the birth of their granddaughter, Mia Adrianna Birnbaum.
- Karen and Daniel Covitt on the birth of their granddaughter, Sophie Lillian Field.
- Suzanne and Howard Weitzman on the birth of their granddaughter, Ema Skye Diamond.

## **Upcoming Events at Temple Israel**

#### March 17

Waxman High School 10:00 A.M. and Religious School Purim Carnival

#### March 18

Board of Trustees Meeting 8:15 P.M. **March 20** 

Erev Purim

Temple Israel Purim Celebrations 5:45 P.M.

#### March 21

Beth HaGan Nursery School 10:00 A.M. Purim Ball

#### March 24

Temple Israel Film Series 7:00 P.M. and Shoah Committee present:

"Leaving Memel-Refugees from the Reich"

#### March 25

"Why is the Women's Seder 7:00 P.M. Different from All Other Seders?"

#### March 28

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

March 30

Pesach University 12:45 P.M.

#### March 31

Family B'nei Mitzvah Workshop 10:30 A.M.
Federation of Jewish 12:30 P.M.
Men's Clubs Regional Awards
Reception at Temple Beth Sholom

#### April 1

Sisterhood Board Meeting 10:00 A.M.

#### April 5

Men's Club Shabbat 6:30 PM. HaHodesh Service and Dinner

#### April 6

"Shabbat Talk" 12:45 P.M. featuring Scholar in Residence Alan Gersch, Ph.D.

Temple Israel Players 8:30 P.M. Production of "My Fair Lady"

#### April 7

Family B'nei Mitzvah Workshop 9:30 A.M.
Temple Israel Players 1:00 P.M.
Production of "My Fair Lady"

#### April 8

Men's Club Scotch and Seder 7:00 P.M. Program

Temple Israel of Great Neck
JOURNAL DINNER DANCE
honoring Ofra & Rob Panzer
Saturday, June 1, 2019
invitation & details to follow

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



#### Noah Bernstein

Noah Bernstein will be called to the Torah as a Bar Mitzvah on March 16. He is the son of Wendy and Benjamin Bernstein and has two brothers, David, 11, and Sam, 8. Noah is a seventh grade honor student at Great Neck South Middle School, where he is the vice president of the Greenhouse Club and treasurer of his school's store. He enjoys reading, baking, skiing and music. Noah is a madrich in the Temple Israel Religious School. He plans to visit Israel with his family this summer.



#### Tyler Zargari

Tyler Zargari will be called to the Torah as a Bar Mitzvah on April 6. He is the son of Melissa and Bobby Zargari and has a sister, Victoria, 10, and a brother, Mason, 7. Tyler is a seventh grade student at Great Neck North Middle School where he is in advanced placement math. He enjoys playing basketball, lacrosse, football, tennis and volleyball. Tyler plans to visit Israel this summer.



#### Cayla Mirjani

Cayla Mirjani will be celebrating her Bat Mitzvah on March 23. She is the daughter of Elana and Babak Mirjani and has two sisters, Michelle, 19, and Talia, 17. Cayla is a seventh grade student at Great Neck North Middle School. She enjoys playing tennis and swimming. Cayla plans to visit Israel this summer.



#### Lauren Kohanim

Lauren Kohanim will be called to the Torah as a Bat Mitzvah on March 30. She is the daughter of Parnaz and Mehran Kohanim and has a brother, Dylan, 14. Lauren is a seventh grade student at Great Neck North Middle School. She is on her school volleyball and soccer teams and enjoys playing tennis and swimming. Lauren plans to visit Israel with her family this summer.



#### Benjamin Landerer

Benjamin Landerer will be celebrating his Bar Mitzvah on April 6. He is the son of Michelle and Golan Landerer and has two brothers, Sam, 22, and Jacob, 18 and a sister, Raquel, 11. Benjamin is a seventh grade student at Great Neck North Middle School. He enjoys playing chess, learning Latin, sailing, and skiing. Benjamin plans to continue attending the Waxman High School.

## (Color) War In the Religious School From the Religious School by Rabbi Amy Roth

With the cold winter weather, it must be time for Maccabiah in the Religious School! This year's Maccabiah (color war) theme was biblical heroes; each team was a color (in Hebrew and English, of course) and an important biblical personality. Cheers of "Adom (red)!," "Melech Shlomo (King Solomon) rules!" "Let's go Kachol (blue)" were part of the ambience of this year's Religious School Maccabiah.

And again, to beat out the mid-winter doldrums, Religious School children competed, played, drew, sang and cheered their way through our annual color war—Jewish style! Be it cheering, singing and yes, even learning about Deborah, the prophet and judge, Joshua, the leader of Israel, who fought the battle of Jericho, or wise King Solomon, our children were enthusiastic about "their" heroes and their colors. Wearing colorful bandanas, they competed in relay races where they identified Hebrew letters or words, de-coded a Shabbat themed scavenger hunt and played the Israeli version of dodge ball (machanayim). What does pasul mean? Ask any of the children! Anyone in the building during Maccabiah could hear the cheering as they moved from place to place; the enthusiasm and spirit was palpable. They created songs with both Hebrew and English words, extoling the virtues of "their" biblical hero.

Part of the magic of the Maccabiah experience is in how much it has become an accepted part of the culture of the Religious School. Students in Hay and Vav classes take on leadership roles on their teams; younger children expect to learn cheers and songs from their older friends. It is so gratifying to watch the Hay and Vav children immerse themselves in creating the precise song lyrics and choreography, and then stand in front of the younger children to inspire and lead. Children who are not necessarily academically inclined or are more reserved during regular class, blossom and flourish in front of the whole group. Learning and leading can take place through many different modalities. Maccabiah is one of our most effective (and fun) learning opportunities.

## A Temple Israel Scrapbook

The Beth HaGan Nursery School conducted their annual Torah Science Fair in the Crystal Ballroom recently, featuring the artwork of students culminating a unit of study of Torah combined with study of science concepts.

Class projects include the Dolphins class, at right, in front of their exhibit of the "Water Cycle," in conjunction with "Kind Little Rivka at the Well," who draws water for Eliezer's ten camels.

The Ducks class, right center, studied the fourth day of creation, as well as space flight.

Primary colors was the subject of the Kittens class, bottom right, which studied primary and secondary colors in conjunction with "Joseph and his Coat of Many Colors."

The Kangaroos, below, studied Joseph and His Coat, and made paint and dye from vegetables and roots.

Other class projects included the Lambs class, which studied the third day of creation. They created their own rainforest with running water and exotic plants. The Lions class studied about lions and tigers, the Giraffe class studied the human eye with the help of a guest mommy optometrist. The Butterflies class studied survival in hostile environments and how Rabbi Shimon Bar Yochai and his son hid from the Romans in a cave for 13 years.









# Men's Club Honoring Outgoing President Harold Citron, Waxman Youth House Students Sari and Molli Mamiye

Men's Club President Harold Citron, as well as two Waxman Youth House students, will be honored by the Temple Israel Men's Club at the New York Metropolitan Region of the Federation of Jewish Men's Clubs Annual Dinner, to be held on Sunday, March 31.

Being named "Youths of the Year" are Waxman High School students and sisters Molli and Sari Mamiye. Each men's club in the Metropolitan Region honors members of their congregation as well as students at the reception, to be held this year at Temple Beth Sholom, Roslyn, beginning at 12:30 P.M.

Admission is \$95 per person to the awards ceremony, dinner and dessert reception. A journal is being published in coordination with the event. For ticket and journal information contact Marc Langsner at marclangsner@gmail.com or 356-4067. Registration and ads can also be placed at wizadjournal.com/nymfjmc2019.

#### **Harold Citron**

Mr. Citron has served as president of Temple Israel's Men's Club for the past two years and is currently serving on the synagogue Board of Trustees. Last year he attended the AIPAC national convention in Washington, D.C. and recently reported on the convention at a Men's Club meeting and in a Voice Guest Column. He has served on the Religious School and Waxman High School Education Committees, organized Temple Israel's participation in the Israel Day Parade for several years, and has participated in a number

of Temple Israel Players productions. He has spent eight years as an equity analyst with several Wall Street firms and more than 15 years as a credit analyst. He and his wife, Barbara, have two children, Ethan and Emily.

#### Sari and Molli Mamiye

Twins Sari and Molli Mamiye, the daughters of Bonnie and David Mamiye, were selected for recognition due to their exceptional work at the Waxman Youth House.

Sari became part of the Youth House Mitzvah Core, which focuses on social action and tikkun olam. She has volunteered to participate in Midnight Run, and at homeless shelters and children's hospitals and was named a Midnight Run All Star for participating in every Youth House Run. She also recently participated in the Temple Israel Youth House trip to Israel. In high school she is an officer of multiple clubs, is a varsity athlete, and assists with the Great Neck Spirits Special Olympics Team.

Molli has been an active Waxman Youth House member for the past six years. In eighth grade she joined the Mitzvah Core program, volunteering at homeless shelters, children's hospitals, soup kitchens, and old-age homes. She has attended the Sababa Surf Camp, led by former Youth House Director Danny Mishkin, for four years and plans to be a counselor there next year. She is in multiple AP classes, fluent in Spanish, and participates in varsity track. She was accepted to Muhlenberg College, early admissions.



Harold Citron



Sari Mamiye



Molli Mamiye

## Religious School's Latest Torah Troupe Readers





Religious School children are encouraged to read from the Torah. At left, with Rabbi Amy Roth, are the January Torah Troupe readers, left to right, Brian Scheidt, Elizabeth Matalon, Abby Bernstein, Elliot Kassin, Raquel Landerer, Jackie Matalon, Noah Becker, and Shira Khoda. The Torah Troupe readers for February, with Rabbi Roth, are, at right, left to right, Sean Shamooil, Julia Miriam Reed, Molly Zeitlin, Alex Gottlieb, Elliot Ganjian, and Zach Dorf. Not in the picture are Brandon Etan Reed and Jessica Tamari.

## The Purim Contradiction

#### by Rabbi Daniel Schweber

Haman said to King Ahasuerus: "There is a certain people, scattered and dispersed among the other peoples in all the provinces of your realm, whose laws are different from those of any other people and who do not obey the king's laws; and it is not in Your Majesty's interest to tolerate them. If it please Your Majesty, let an edict be drawn for their destruction, and I will pay 10,000 talents of silver to the stewards for deposit in the royal treasury."

"Written instructions were dispatched by couriers to all the king's provinces to destroy, massacre, and exterminate all the Jews, young and old, children and women, on a single day, on the 13th day of the 12th month—that is, the month of Adar." (Esther 3)

"For an edict that has been written in the king's name and sealed with the king's signet may not be revoked." (Esther 8:8)

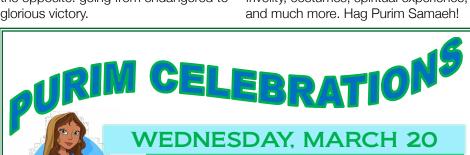
Is Megillat Esther, the Book of Esther, a tragedy focusing on human suffering or a comedy focusing on a happy ending? If you focus on the beginning of the story it is guite a tragedy. For not the first and unfortunately not the last time, Jews are singled out as different and deserving of genocide. In the Megillah, Haman, the archenemy, is able to use power and quile to get an irrevocable decree to kill all Jews. Only with permission to fight back with strength could the Jews overcome this decree. Especially with the contemporary rise of anti-Semitism, it is tempting to consider the megillah a tragedy.

In favor of comedy, we could argue that the megillah is a book about hope and an example of the seemingly impossible becoming possible. The Jews of Persia thought that they were doomed and through Esther and Mordechai's faith and action the Jews were saved. As we say at the Passover seder, though enemies rise in every generation, salvation is possible.

What are we to make of these contradictory messages? What is the megillah teaching us? The megillah is a glimpse of real life where everything is grey. To survive in this real world one needs to know right from wrong and good from evil, but you must also navigate real life. On Purim we have to remember to be vigilant because things can change quickly. History has shown us that Jews can feel secure one day and suddenly become targets of hatred and violence. History has also shown the opposite: going from endangered to glorious victory.

Purim celebrates the grey in our life. That is why it is celebrated a little differently. We recognize that sometimes we do need to 'let our hair down.' Sometimes we need to poke fun at the values we hold and make sure our actions have the proper intention. We hide behind masks only to discover our real selves that lie beneath. But the costumes do not completely blind us. On Purim we are commanded to think about the poor and misfortunate among us.

Purim is celebrated for just one day, but has a myriad of themes. Join us at Temple Israel for the entire Purim experience: food, drink, laughter, frivolity, costumes, spiritual experience, and much more. Hag Purim Samaeh!



#### Purim Pre-\$chool & Kindergarten \$ervice 5:45 PM - 6:45 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 5:45 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 21 6:30 AM Morning Service & Full Megillah Reading in the Chapel.



#### **SUNDAY, MARCH 17**

10:00 AM - 12:00 PM
Purim Carnival for children led
by Waxman Youth House teens.
Join us for fun, games and karaoke.

## From Generation to Generation

Temple Israel Gratefully Acknowledges The Following Contributions

#### **CANTOR FRIEDER'S DISCRETIONARY FUND**

In memory of:

Eva Englander

Sharon and Frank

Horowitz

Contribution:

Yvonne and Frederick

Rakowitz

In appreciation of:

Cantor Frieder's

dedication to the

synagogue

The Frankel family

#### **MUSEUM FUND**

In memory of:

Jesse Feingold

Hersh Becker on his 100th

yahrzeit

David Feingold

Thelma Sahn

Rena and Jonathan

Horwitz

#### **GEMILUT CHESED FUND**

In memory of:

Eva Englander

Eve Keller and David

Waxman

#### **TORAH RESTORATION FUND**

In honor of:

Risa Goldman's birthday

Shahnaz and Neil

Goldman

The marriage of Daniel

Fishman, son of Rabbi

Yale and Sherry Fishman,

to Sari Hirsch

Parvaneh and Parviz

Khodadadian

#### **ABRAHAM ROSENFELD MEMORIAL FUND**

In memory of:

Victoria Khakshouri

Rabbi Aghajan Shimon

ben Binyomin Assil

Roberta and David

Harounian

#### **SHALOM CLUB LIBRARY SHELF FUND**

In memory of:

Benjamin Cohen

Harold Kobliner

Clara Mirkin

Naomi Schulman

#### **ADULT EDUCATION FUND**

In honor of:

The Yossi Klein Halevi and Imam Abdullah

Antepli Dialogue

Eileen and Steven

Walk

Susan and Sidney

Krugman

Leon Silverberg

Eileen and Steven

Walk

#### **USHER'S FUND**

In memory of:

Rabbi Isaac Yitzchak Meir

Paltiel Borzikowsky

Bunny North

Manijeh and Jack

Moallem

Yaacov Yahid

Soufer Frouzan

Jack Moallem

#### **TORAH FUND**

In memory of:

Thelma Sahn

Ellen Cooper

Betty Lager

#### RITUAL KIDDUSH FUND

In honor of:

Arden Smith chanting the Vayiggash Torah portion on the anniversary of his

Bar Mitzvah

Arden Smith

In memory of:

Susan Smith

Arden Smith

#### **RABBI STECKER'S DISCRETIONARY FUND**

In appreciation of:

Rabbi Stecker and

Temple Israel

Shahnaz Goldman

#### **BEN ZION ALTMAN SENIOR** MITSVA FUND

In memory of:

Bunny North

Renee and Elliot

Fleischer

#### **WAXMAN HIGH SCHOOL** AND YOUTH HOUSE FUND

In memory of:

Louis Berman

Irene Ashery

#### YAD B'YAD FUND

In memory of:

Bunny North

Pearl Hymes

**GREEN FUND** 

Contribution:

Glenda Becker

#### **TEMPLE ISRAEL FUND**

In memory of:

Robert Beiner

Amy David

Beatrice Miller

Monte Miller

Sylvia Rieders

Susan Kahn

Yehuda Soleymani

Yosef Soleymani

Anita Edelstein Haas

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Sam Menies

Helen Menies Diane Lichtenstein

Gertrude Yares Joan Schussheim

James Adler

Clara Adler

Philip Kramer

Noelle Parket

William Turetzky

Stephen Schweber Shabatai Marcus

Segal Moshell Jules Edward Orenstein

Michael Orenstein Irving Mirsky

Norman Mirsky

Anna Lillian

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William Achenbaum

Anna Lattner

Saul Lattner

Bernard Schultz

Leonard Schultz

Martin Hoffman

Jonathan Hoffman

Herman Epstein

David J. Epstein

Renee Ross Giddings

Wendy Gold

Albert Kent

Linda and Brent Greenspan

#### **PESAH UNIVERSITY**

Saturday, March 30

12:45 P.M. • Blue Room following Kiddush

Rabbi Stecker and Rabbi Schweber will share tips and methods to lead and participate in

> meaningful Seders. All are welcome!

### **Daily Minyan Times**

Fridays, March 15, 22, 29

& April 5 7:00 A.M. 6:30 P.M.

Sunday

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

Monday

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

7:00 A.M. 8:00 P.M. Wednesdays, March 13, 27

& April 3

7:00 A.M. 8:00 P.M. Wednesday, March 20

(Erev Purim) 6:45 A.M. 6:15 P.M.

Thursdays, March 14, 28 & April 4

6:45 A.M. 8:00 P.M. Thursday, March 21 (Purim) 6:30 A.M. 8:00 P.M.

### **Candle Lighting Times**

Friday, March 15 6:42 P.M.

Friday, March 22 6:50 P.M.

Friday, March 29 6:57 P.M.

Friday, April 5 7:05 P.M.

## Beth HaGan Summer Program Registration Now Going On

Registration is now going on for two, three and four year old children in Beth HaGan's Summer Program, which runs from July 1- August 16 from 9 A.M. to 2 P.M. Monday through Friday.

Back by popular demand is the Mommy and Me program. Classes run Tuesday and Thursday from 9:30-11 A.M. with lots of music, indoor/outdoor play, stories, arts and crafts and Shabbat celebration with challah baking. It's a great way to introduce children to a school setting and meet new friends. For further information contact Gina Giuffre at TIGNSummer@Gmail.com.

## **Making Temple Israel Green**

#### A Voice Guest Column by Morgan Kurpiel

EDITOR'S NOTE: Temple Israel's reactivated Green Committee, now known as the Green Team, has set ambitious goals for the congregation as detailed in this Voice Guest Column by its chair, Morgan Kurpiel.

We recently observed Tu B'Shevat, the Jewish holiday celebrating trees and the bounties that earth provides for us. Already, many of us have found ways to get around our New Year's resolutions, and some of us may even have forgotten them altogether. Yet, the feeling of starting anew is still fresh in the air; the year ahead is filled with possibility.

Wouldn't it be wonderful if, as a congregation, we made a resolution to

give back to our planet a fraction of what is has given to us? The Green Team at Temple Israel is aiming to do just that.

Many environmentally friendly changes have taken place at Temple Israel over the course of the past two years. We have installed motion sensors on many of our light fixtures so that they remain off when the halls and rooms are empty. We have recycling cans in several locations in our Temple and have switched to 30 percent recycled paper in the offices. Additionally, many windows have been replaced, making rooms less drafty and decreasing the need for extra heat to be used.

Most recently, the plastic disposable tablecloths used during Saturday afternoon Kiddush in the Crystal Ballroom were replaced with heavy-duty vinyl which can be wiped clean and reused time and time again.

These are just some of the changes that the Green Team has on its checklist. There are many more to come, including more eco-friendly plates, cups and cutlery. Our long-term goal is to drastically reduce the amount that we throw away and to incorporate composting into our day-to-day routine. But we cannot do this without your assistance.

It is important to change our mindset and every day actions—walking instead of driving, recycling instead of throwing things in the garbage, turning off lights when we leave the room. Let's make the effort, the resolution, to do tikkun olam, and strive for a more earth-friendly synagogue.

If you would like to make a donation to the Temple Israel Green Team, or if you would like to join our committee, please call the office or contact me at ballet25@ hotmail.com. Let's make becoming a greener synagogue a resolution we can all keep for years to come.

## Temple Israel of Great Neck Men's Club SHABBAT HAHODESH



Please join us on Friday Evening, April 5, 2019

For our annual
Men's Club Shabbat Service - 6:30 PM
Multipurpose Room
Open to all Temple Israel members

Dinner - 7:30 PM
Crystal Ballroom
\$30/adult ~ \$15/children 13 and under

**Guest Speaker:** 

ALAN GERSCH, PH.D.

The Lesser Light: The Moon and the Months of the Jewish Calendar

**RSVP A MUST** 

Babysitting will be available upon request Contact Jennifer in the synagogue office (516) 482-7800 or jmarks@tign.org

### D'var Torah

#### -Continued from back page

drawing near to God and, in a sense, drawing Him near to the offerer. Although we no longer offer sacrifices in the way our ancestors did, the goal of the system, to move one to a more Godly life, is still to be pursued.

#### Tsav Saturday, March 23

We find further details concerning the burnt offering, the meal offering, the guilt offering, and the peace offering, as well as details of the thanks offering, in this portion. With the types of sacrifices fully described, we now move to a description of the institution of the service in the mishkan and the consecration of Aaron and his sons to the priesthood. The ceremonies consist of dressing the priests in their special vestments, anointing the mishkan and all of its furnishings with oil, offering sacrifices and putting blood of the sacrifices upon the right ears, the right thumbs and the right toes of the priests. The aim of the entire proceedings was to highlight the special duties and responsibilities of the priests as representatives of the people before God. The pattern which is described here continued to be the manner of anointing the priests for over 1,000 years.

#### Shemini Saturday, March 30

In this portion, we conclude the laws of the sanctuary. The reading opens with a description of proceedings through which the priests begin their duties. In the midst of this we find an account of two sons of Aaron, Nadab and Abihu, who take it upon themselves to bring some kind of unprescribed offering to the altar and are summarily struck down. Their death becomes the occasion for God to issue specific warnings to Aaron and all the priests to take special care in carrying out their duties. The remainder of the Book of Leviticus deals with the laws of daily life and provides rules and regulations whose purpose is to raise every aspect of human life to the level of kedusha (holiness). The first matter to be dealt with is kashrut (the dietary laws). Details are provided of permitted and forbidden quadrupeds, fish, birds, and insects. The reason given for these prescriptions is that since God is kadosh (holy) and Israelites are His people, so they also must be kadosh. However this is understood, kashrut serves to help make the basically animal function of eating something uniquely human.

#### Tazria Saturday, April 6

We deal with laws of ritual purity in this portion and the next. Such purity is conceived as a prerequisite for the pursuit of kedusha. Furthermore, because the mishkan (sanctuary) was located within the camp of the Israelites, great care had to be taken to ensure its purity. The portions deal with specific physical conditions which give rise to impurity. The first is childbirth. The next is a complex of diseases known as tzaraat (translated "leprosy," but clearly not the modern disease.) The priests are charged with the task of determining the nature of the ailment when it appears in humans or in fabrics and leather and the method of purification. Since all the Israelites were obligated to strive to be kadosh in accordance with God's demand, the matter of maintaining a state of purity was of great significance.

### Sabbath Service Schedule

Continued from back page

Saturday, April 6

Shaharit Morning Service/ 8:45 A.M.

Scholar in Residence: Alan Gersh

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

Weekly Portion: Tazria Leviticus 21:1 – 13:59; Numbers 28:9 – 15; Exodus 12:1 - 20

Haftarah: Ezekiel 45:16 - 46; 18; Isaiah 66:1 - 23

Sabbath Service Officers and Greeters: Jack Yachbes, Diana Stein, Marjorie Hoffman, Edith Robbins, and Joyce Weston

Bar Mitzvah: Benjamin Landerer son of Michelle and Golan Landerer

Bar Mitzvah: Tyler Zargari

son of Melissa and Bobby Zargari

Junior Congregation10:30 A.M.Toddler Service11:00 A.M.Afternoon Service6:45 P.M.Evening Service7:50 P.M.

## Congregation Thanks Recent Sponsors of the Shabbat Kiddush

Contributions toward the kiddush on December 15 were made by Poly and Payam Kermani in honor of the Bar Mitzvah of their son, Raphael, by Randi Barron and Alan Blondman in honor of the Auf Ruf of their son, Spencer, and Amber Paradise, and by Arden Smith in honor of laining of Parashat Vayiggash in commemoration of the 54th anniversary of his Bar Mitzvah and in memory of his wife, Susan.

A contribution towards the kiddush on December 29 was made by Nicole and Alex Shaoulpour in honor of the baby naming of their daughter, Lexy.

A contribution towards the kiddush on January 19 was made by Nataly and Stephen Blumberg in honor of the Bar Mitzvah of their son, Alec.

A contribution towards the kiddush on December 22 was made by Rachel and Kiumarz Geula in honor of the Bat Mitzvah of their daughter, Rena.

A contribution towards the kiddush on January 26 was made by the Frouzan Family in memory of the father of Keyvan Frouzan, Soufer Frouzan.

### WHY IS THIS WOMEN'S SEDER DIFFERENT FROM ALL OTHER SEDERS?

## WHY IS THIS WOMEN'S SEDER DIFFERENT FROM ALL OTHER SEDERS?



BEFORE THERE WAS THE MAXWELL HOUSE HAGGADAH, BEFORE THERE WERE CANNED MACAROONS, JEWS GATHERED THEIR FAMILY AND FRIENDS IN THEIR HOMES TO EAT THE FESTIVE MEAL, TO SING THE TRADITIONAL SONGS AND TO RETELL THE STORY OF PASSOVER AND THE EXODUS IN THEIR OWN WORDS.

MEET SERACH, JACOB'S GRANDDAUGHTER WHO PERSONALLY INSPIRED THE EXODUS; MIRIAM, THE REAL COMPOSER OF THE SONG OF THE SEA; BRING OUR FEMALE ANCESTORS BACK INTO THE SEDER.

GATHER YOUR CLAN (YOUR MOTHERS, DAUGHTERS, GRANDDAUGHTERS, SISTERS, NIECES, IN-LAWS) AND JOIN US FOR A JOYOUS AND SPIRITUALLY MEANINGFUL

**EVENING.** WE'LL ENJOY A FESTIVE, MULTICULTURAL DINNER, SING AND DANCE TO LIVE MUSIC WITH MARIE MULARCZYK, RECALL THE UNIQUE WOMEN IN OUR OWN FAMILIES, IDENTIFY THE ORIGINS OF THE SEDER, AND EXPLORE THE UNTOLD AND UNDER-REPORTED STORIES OF THE WOMEN OF THE EXODUS. (**HINT:** WE DIDN'T JUST ROAST THE LAMB AND PEFL THE VEGGIES.)

### MON., MAR. 25, 2019 AT 7:00 PM

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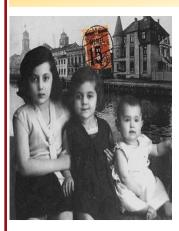
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## Temple Israel Lifelong Learning Film Series And the Shoah Remembrance Committee Present

Leaving Memel—Refugees from the Reich
Afilm by Fred Finkelstein

Sunday, March 24 - 7:00 PM - Multipurpose Room



In this 45 minute film Fred Finkelstein, who grew up at TIGN, tells the story of his mother, Frances Metric, (a TIGN member who passed away in Sept. 2018) and her family's flight from Lithuania in 1939. Who and what did they leave behind in Europe? How would their lives unfold over the next 75 years?

After the film, Fred will share some reflections in person.

View this outstanding film & participate in a discussion. The film is FREE to Temple Israel members, family & friends. Refreshments will be served.



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### D'var Torah

By Rabbi Marim D. Charry

Saturday, March 16

In this portion we begin the Book of Leviticus. The last chapters of Exodus detailed the construction of the Mishkan, the portable wilderness sanctuary, and the designation of the priests who were to serve in it. Leviticus constitutes an instruction manual for the priests, as well as setting forth rules to achieve personal holiness and the sanctification of human life. The reading describes five main types of sacrifices that were to be brought: the burnt offering, the meal offering, the peace offering, the sin offering, and the guilt offering. For each type, details are provided on the circumstances under which it is to be brought, who brings it and of what it consists. The Hebrew word translated "sacrifice" or "offering" is korban, from the root k-r-v, "to draw near." The offerings were a means of

-Continued on page 10

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#### **Temple Israel of Great Neck**



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#### **TEMPLE ISRAEL OF GREAT NECK**

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### Sabbath Services

Friday, March 15

**Evening Service** 6:30 P.M.

Saturday, March 16

Shaharit Morning Service 8:45 A.M. Shabbat Morning Group Aliyah First Mourner's Kaddish 9:25 A.M.

Weekly Portion: Vayikra

Leviticus 1:1 - 5:26; Deuteronomy 25:17 - 19

Haftarah: I Samuel 15:2 - 34

Sabbath Service Officers and Greeters: Desiree Rastegar, Neal Picker,

Rebecca Friedman-Charry,

Patty Schneider, and Jeffrey Fleit

Bar Mitzvah: Noah Bernstein son of Wendy and Benjamin Bernstein

"Machon Alone" 10:30 P.M. 10:30 A.M. Junior Congregation **Toddler Service** 11:00 A.M.

Niggun Circle with

Cantor Frieder following kiddush Afternoon Service 6:20 P.M. Se'udah Shelishit 6:50 P.M. **Evening Service** 7:27 P.M.

Havdalah 7:43 P.M.

Friday, March 22 - Shushan Purim N'Ranenah/Evening Service 6:30 P.M.

Saturday, March 23

Shaharit Morning Service 8:45 A.M. First Mourner's Kaddish 9:25 A.M. Weekly Portion: Tsav

Leviticus 6:1 - 8:36

Haftarah: Jeremiah 7:21 - 8:3; 9:22 - 23

Sabbath Service Officers and Greeters: Susan Brustein, Debbie Volk, Joyce Weston, Lisa Mattaway, Mark Birnbaum

Bat Mitzvah: Cayla Mirjani

daughter of Elana and Babak Mirjani

Havurah Service 10:00 A.M. Junior Congregation 10:30 A.M. Toddler Service 11:00 A.M. Afternoon Services 6:30 P.M. Se'udah Shelishit 7:00 P.M. Shabbat Evening Services 7:35 P.M. 7:51 P.M. Havdalah

Friday, March 29

Evening Service 6:30 P.M.

Saturday, March 30

Shaharit Morning Service 8:45 A.M. First Mourner's Kaddish 9:25 A.M.

Weekly Portion: Shemini

Leviticus 9:1-11:47; Numbers 19:1-22

Haftarah: Ezekiel 36:16 - 38

Sabbath Service Officers and Greeters: Susan Lopatkin, Ellen Birnbaum,

and Rebecca Friedman-Charry

Bat Mitzvah: Lauren Kohanim daughter of Parnaz and Mehran Kohanim

Junior Congregation 10:30 A.M. 11:00 A.M. **Toddler Service** Afternoon Service 6:35 P.M. **Evening Service** 7:42 P.M. Havdalah 7:58 P.M.

Friday, April 5

Men's Club Shabbat HaHodesh/ 6:30 P.M. N'Ranenah Evening Service

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