

Voice

MARCH/APRIL 2026
ADAR/NISAN/IYYAR 5786
VOL. LXVIII, NO. 4

published by TEMPLE ISRAEL of Great Neck



Purim 5786



TEMPLE ISRAEL
of Great Neck

JOIN US FOR MINYAN

Monday through Friday mornings at 7:30 a.m.
Sunday morning at 9:00 a.m.
Sunday through Thursday evenings at 8:00 p.m.

JOIN US FOR SHABBAT

Friday evenings: check website or call office.
Saturday mornings at 9:15 a.m.
Tot Shabbat & Jr. Congregation at 10:30 a.m.

www.TIGN.org

from the rabbi

Rabbi Howard Stecker

rabbistecker@tign.org



Protection and Identity

In a recent address at the 92nd Street Y, *New York Times* columnist Bret Stephens opined that the ADL should be dismantled with the goal of investing more heavily in Jewish identity. He claimed, "The fight against antisemitism, which consumes tens of millions of dollars every year in Jewish philanthropy, is a well-meaning but mostly wasted effort. We should spend the money and focus our energy elsewhere."

In response, Jonathan Greenblatt, CEO of the ADL, asserted that protecting the Jewish people and strengthening Jewish identity are not mutually exclusive.

"Security and identity aren't competing priorities; they're inseparable preconditions for Jewish flourishing in an open society," he insisted. "Shutting down the Anti-Defamation League or other Jewish organizations is not some magic formula

"We can protect ourselves and chew hamantaschen at the same time.."

that promises self-reliance; it's a disastrous prescription for unilateral disarmament."

Throughout our history, we Jews have managed to protect ourselves while

also inculcating a rich, positive Jewish identity. The holiday of Purim, which we recently celebrated with great panache, shows how this can be done. The array of Purim traditions demonstrates that we can, to riff off of a well-known phrase, protect ourselves and chew hamantaschen at the same time.

There are four *mitzvot* associated with Purim which, combined, provide a template for self-protection and the strengthening of identity. The first *mitzvah*, the reading of *Megillat Esther*, ensures that we tell the story about how two individuals harnessed their resources in order to subvert the homicidal intentions of their enemies. As the story shows, Mordecai and Esther use their wits, their influence and, as many believe, divine intervention to overturn the evil decree that Haman had promulgated. Their efforts offer an inspiring example of how the Jewish people can successfully oppose those who seek our destruction.

The second *mitzvah*, *mishloach manot*, sending festive treats to family and friends, helps build social cohesion within the Jewish community. The third, *matanot la'evyonim*, providing for the needs of the poor, ensures that Jews fulfill their responsibility to address poverty within and beyond the Jewish community.

Finally the fourth *mitzvah*, indulging in a festive *seudah* or meal, provides a context for joyful celebration. Indeed joy is a prominent part of Jewish life all year round, notwithstanding the many challenges that Jews have always faced.

In our schools, synagogues and other Jewish institutions, we must avoid the unnecessary and ultimately damaging binary choice between protecting ourselves and strengthening an identity suffused with a sense of responsibility and joy. Our ancestors knew how to do both and so do we. We will continue to fight our enemies without letting them define us. And we will continue to ensure our bodily safety while training our souls to sing a uniquely Jewish song. ■

Ring in the Persian New Year

NOWRUZ

Join us for an evening of joy, togetherness, and delicious Persian cuisine as we celebrate the arrival of spring and the Persian New Year

Friday, March 27, 2026

6:15 p.m.

Kabbalat Shabbat Service in the Sanctuary conducted in Persian Nusach

7:00 p.m.

A traditional Nowruz meal catered by Lederman Caterers in the Crystal Ballroom

RSVP by Wednesday, March 25, 2026



TIGN members:

\$36 per person (ages 18 and up)

\$20/child (ages 5-17)

Under 5 are free

Non-members:

\$45 per person (ages 18 and up)

\$20/child (ages 5-17)

Under 5 are free

To RSVP, go to www.tign.org/Nowruzcelebration2026/ or scan the QR code

A Persian Friday Night Service in Honor of Nowruz

from the president
Rachel Geula

president@tign.org



As we enter the season of spring, many cultures around the world mark this moment of renewal with ancient traditions that celebrate light returning after darkness. One of those traditions is Nowruz—literally “new day” in Farsi — the Persian New Year, celebrated at the moment of the vernal equinox. With roots stretching back thousands of years, Nowruz has long symbolized renewal, hope, and the promise of beginnings. Today it is observed by people across Iran, Central Asia, the Caucasus, the Balkans, and well beyond — across many faiths and cultures — each community adding its own texture to this shared moment in time.

“Nowruz reminds us that light returns and hope endures.”

Last year, our synagogue was filled with the sights and sounds of a beautiful Nowruz celebration — Persian dance, piano, poetry, and an evening that ended with joyful music, dancing, and a Persian dinner shared together. It was vibrant, warm, and deeply meaningful to many in our community.

As we thought about how to approach Nowruz this year, we did so with reflection and care. The realities facing our broader region today — the war in Israel and Iran, the uncertainty across the Middle East, and the suffering so many are experiencing — cannot be ignored. Holding both pride in culture and awareness of pain is complicated. It asks us to be thoughtful about how we honor tradition in moments that are not simple.

With that in mind, I am especially proud to share that a group of dedicated congregants has come together to create a Persian Friday night service, to be held on Friday, March 27th.

Jewish prayer is largely shared across communities; what differs are the melodies, the musical traditions, and the cultural flavors we bring to those prayers. Especially now, when the Jewish people are facing profound challenges, gathering in prayer — in all our varied traditions — feels even more essential. On this evening, we will celebrate those differences — not as something that separates us, but as something that enriches us. It will be a service rooted in our shared Jewish liturgy, expressed through Persian musical traditions, followed by a festive Persian dinner.

I personally do not have memories of attending synagogue in Iran. My Jewish life was shaped here in the United States. But I do carry memories that feel deeply rooted: my grandfather's voice singing Hebrew prayers with Persian melodies, my father and uncles leading us in *Birkat Hamazon* in the Persian

tradition after family meals. Those sounds, those rhythms, are part of my Jewish story. This evening is a way of bringing those shared memories and traditions — held by many in our congregation — into our communal space together.

This program is being thoughtfully put together by a wonderful committee working closely with Rabbi Schweber. Please email Rebecca Sassouni at Rebeccasassouni@gmail.com or Jennifer Khoda at Jenniferkhoda@gmail.com by March 13th if you would like to participate in the service, whether by leading a prayer, singing, or helping to bring these melodies to life. And if you don't already know the Persian melodies but are interested in learning, Dr. Yosef Soleymani will be teaching them and helping prepare those who would like to take part.

And if participating in the service feels like more than you want to take on, I hope you will still join us. It would mean a great deal for people to come simply to sit in the pews, experience the service, and then stay to celebrate together over dinner. You are warmly invited to attend services and join us afterward for the Persian dinner (with advance registration). Being present — showing up, listening, and sharing the space — is just as meaningful as being up on the *bimah*.

At its core, Nowruz is about renewal — about light returning, about starting again, about hope rooted in continuity. In a world that often feels fractured, moments like these remind us that honoring one another's stories is not a luxury; it is essential to building a strong, connected community.

My hope is that this evening will be meaningful, joyful, and unifying — and that when we gather, we feel not only the beauty of being together, but also the strength that comes from standing together, across cultures, traditions, and backgrounds, as one community.

I look forward to sharing this special night with you. ■

save the date

**YOM HAZIKARON
YOM HA'ATZMAUT
CONCERT**

**TUESDAY
APRIL 21
7 P.M.**

details coming soon

from the rabbi

Rabbi Daniel Schweber

rabbischweber@tign.org



Coming Together at Our Second Night Seder

I remember it like it was yesterday. It was the first night of Rosh Hashanah at the start of my freshman year at the University of Michigan. The 500-seat theater is half filled. At least a quarter of us are there for the first time in our first month of college and likely observing our first Jewish holiday away from our families. When the cantor completed the service, the Hillel director, Michael Brooks, came to the microphone. He looked — at least it seemed so — at each and every one of us and said, with warmth, “Welcome home and Happy New Year. What are Jews if nothing but family? You are now members of the Jewish U of M family and Hillel is your home.”

That Rosh Hashanah evening was 30 years ago! I remember it because Michael Brooks was able to make a room full of strangers into family and to make them feel at home.

My four years immersed in Ann Arbor’s Jewish life on and off campus were very formative for my rabbinic career. And I channel that Rosh Hashanah night whenever I am tasked with bringing people together.

One such example is Temple Israel’s Second Night Seder sponsored by the Mens’ Club. This year’s seder, which I will lead, is Thursday, April 2 at 8 P.M.

My vision for the *seder* is to make it a family *seder* that moves the spirit and moves along with good timing. All *seder* leaders dread the 5th question — “when do we eat?” When it’s asked of me, I answer “Gefilte fish (for those who like) and soup is at 8:45.”

While there are literally thousands of *haggadot* editions, we use a *haggadah* that I put together on a Hebrew word processor. (Please excuse the typos! And if you need larger print, please let me know.) A Passover *haggadah* has been compared to an annotated script or libretto. For the actual performance, I prefer a clean script for the evening’s theatrics.

In essence, the Passover *seder* is a play where the performers are sitting akin to chair yoga. We are the actors, reliving that fateful night when our ancestors left Egypt. We have the matzo and *maror* as our props as we tell of the Mighty Hand and Outstretched Arm that took us out of Egypt. We note the loss of life required to defeat Pharaoh and then sing of our salvation and thanksgiving. (“Ding Dong the Wicked Pharaoh is dead.”)

For this performance, no acting or Hebrew knowledge is

required. I like to think of myself as a good director helping all of us enjoy the night. (*The Love Boat* theme song in my head!) And of course the *seder* is dinner theater! Thanks to catering by Malka at Middle Neck Glatt, we are treated to all of the fixings — gefilte fish, soup and matzo balls, brisket, chicken, kugel and tzimis.

Who usually attends? Everyone from entire families who want a second *seder* that they don’t need to cook for or clean up after to groups of friends, couples to singles. When you RSVP, you can request who you want to sit with. We try our best to seat people together at tables for the goal of everyone having a nice evening and good conversation.

Please join my family and me on Thursday, April 2 at 8 P.M. in the Crystal Ballroom. The cost to attend is shown in the box below.

If you need financial assistance in order to defray the cost, please let Jamey Kohn or me know. We want you to join us.

If you have any (four) questions, please don’t hesitate to ask me. As the *haggadah* literally says, “all are welcome.” I conclude with the Yiddish greeting — *a zissen Pesach* - a sweet Passover to one and all. ■

“...being able to make a room full of [community members] into family and to make them feel at home... at Temple Israel’s Communal Second Night Seder.”

Men’s Club of Temple Israel of Great Neck encourages you to join us for



Led by Rabbi Daniel Schweber
Catered by Middle Neck Glatt

Thursday, April 2, 2026 at 8 P.M.

Adults: \$75 (member); \$85 (non-member)
Children 4 years old - 13 years old: \$25 (member); \$30 (non-member)
Children 3 years old and under: Free

RSVP: <https://www.tign.org/events/second-night-seder-sponsored-by-the-mens-club-and-temple-israel-2/>

Temple Israel Offers Opportunities to Learn In Person and on Zoom

Among the Options are Classes with the Rabbis, a History Class on Zoom, and a Chance to Schmooze Via Zoom following Shabbat Morning Services

Contributors: David Feingold, Nadine Feingold, Paul Freudman, Ron Golden, Toby Katz, and Edie Robbins. Edited by Miriam Kobliner.

Our congregation is blessed with many opportunities for meaningful learning. Among them are the classes highlighted in this article — classes led by Rabbi Stecker, Rabbi Schweber, and congregant Toby Katz.

TORAH STUDY LED BY RABBI SCHWEBER meets on Tuesdays after the evening minyan from 8:15 P.M. to 9 P.M.

Regular participants, who can take part either in person or via Zoom, have commented that they find this class particularly enriching.

Edie Robbins notes that “In each session, Rabbi Schweber brings elements of the *parsha* to life. He shares varied sources — hard copies to those in person and displayed on the screen for those participating remotely — and he poses thoughtful questions about the *parsha*, inviting comments, questions and discussion.”

Presenting the interpretations of various historical commentators, Rabbi Schweber endeavors to show perspectives that invite an understanding of the nuances of the text language and that also attempt to explain or expand the Torah text itself.

“What makes this class especially meaningful is Rabbi Schweber’s ability to bridge Torah and modern Judaism in the 21st century. The *parsha* becomes more than a weekly reading; it becomes a lens through which participants can reflect on our values, relationships, and challenges. Those who attend often leave with new ideas, as well as a deeper understanding of the Torah in its historical context and modern relevance,” commented Paul Freudman.

Current students warmly encourage all congregants to take part in this invaluable learning experience. Whether you are new to Torah study or have been learning for years, Rabbi Schweber’s class offers something for everyone. *Parsha* study is an opportunity to join the discussion to enrich your understanding in this vibrant and meaningful exploration of Torah week after week.

Paul and Edie encourage congregants to “come be part of our shared commitment to lifelong Jewish learning. [Those of us in the class] are appreciative of Rabbi Schweber’s depth of knowledge and commitment to teaching, true gifts to our community.”

JEWS AND THE NEWS WITH RABBI STECKER meets on select Tuesdays (listed on the synagogue’s website, www.tign.org) at 2 P.M.

Congregants can participate in person or via Zoom to discuss articles selected by Rabbi Stecker and shared with participants via email in advance, with paper copies distributed during class and on the chat feature for those participating via Zoom. Although many of the issues discussed can be controversial, the hallmark of the class is mutual respect for each other’s opinions and their right to express them. Disagreements are always “for the sake of Heaven.” As moderator, Rabbi Stecker sets the tone, making sure that everyone gets the chance to be heard and encourages everyone who wishes to speak to do so. Students appreciate the very cordial atmosphere and look forward to the class.


Nadine Feingold, a regular participant, describes the class as “an informative gathering... that covers local, national, and global issues concerning us. What is most noteworthy about it is that everyone’s opinion is valued and respected. Rabbi Stecker is always well prepared with handouts. Despite the serious topics we discuss, there are light, comedic moments also. The hour goes by way too quickly.”


ADVANCED HISTORY, a class originated by Rabbi Marim Charry over thirty years ago, is now led by


congregant Toby Katz on Thursday mornings from 9:30 A.M. to 10:30 A.M. year round via the regular TIGN Zoom link. (It does not meet in person.)


Ron Golden, who is a regular participant, highly recommends the class:

continued on page 11

 **TORAH STUDY**
with RABBI SCHWEBER
Tuesdays
8:15 P.M. – 9 P.M.
in person & on Zoom
Next classes:
3/10, 3/17, 3/24

 **JEWS & THE NEWS**
with RABBI STECKER
Tuesdays
2 P.M. – 3 P.M.
Next classes:
3/10, 3/24, 4/14 & 4/28
in person & on Zoom

 **ADVANCED HISTORY**
with TOBY KATZ
Thursdays
9:30 A.M. – 10:30 A.M.
on Zoom

 **SCHMOOZE**
WITH SOME JEWS
Shabbat mornings
on Zoom
after services

Shoah Committee Hosts Author at Kristallnacht Event

by Ellen Widawsky

In remembrance of the events of Kristallnacht in Germany and Austria on November 9-10, 1938, the Temple Israel Shoah Committee recently hosted former Great Neck resident Joan Arny Halperin, author of *My Sister's Eyes: A Family Chronicle of Rescue and Loss During World War II*: <https://www.mysisterseyes.com/my-sisters-eyes-e-flipbook>



Pictured left to right: Co-chair Ellen Widawsky, Joan Arny Halperin, Co-chair Rob Panzer and Rabbi Daniel Schwebel

Mrs. Halperin shared the compelling story of her family's survival due to the heroic acts of Portuguese diplomat, Aristides de Sousa Mendes, who in defiance of his government's orders, signed false visas which saved thousands of lives during the Holocaust.

If you would like to view a recording of the presentation, please contact Jamey Kohn at jkohn@tign.org.

The three-part mission of the Shoah Committee is to remember the Shoah and those who perished; to honor Temple Israel survivors; and to foster the education of all generations of our congregation on the history and lessons of the Shoah. To support our mission, we have adopted the following goals: to collaborate on an educational Kristallnacht program; to organize a meaningful Yom Hashoah service; and to capitalize on possible Shoah-related programs throughout the year.

If you would like to join the Shoah Committee please email Ellen Widawsky at ellenwidawsky@gmail.com or Rob Panzer at robpanzer18@gmail.com. ■

Mazel too to...

DEANNA & RABBI HOWARD STECKER

on the engagement of their son,
Zachary Stecker,
to Jonah Kelly, son of Judi Katz Kelly & Daniel Kelly

SUSAN & ROBERT LOPATKIN

on the birth of their grandson,
Harris Wood Lopatkin,
son of Allison & Gregory Wood

JEANETTE & NADER OHEBSHALOM

on the birth of their grandson,
Jonah Ariel (Chaim) Ohebshalom,
son of Sandra & Isaac Ohebshalom

MARILYN SCHNEIDER

on the birth of her granddaughter,
Sadie Morgan Schneider,
daughter of AJ & Brett Schneider

RENEE ALTMAN FLEISCHER (Elliot Fleischer z"l)

on the birth of her great granddaughter,
Erin Joy Rodgers,
daughter of Rebecca & Sam Rodgers

RAHEL MUSLEAH

on the birth of her grandson,
Ari Zeke Altman,
son of Shoshana & Ian Altman,
great grandson of Margaret Musleah


Join us
and the JCRC Long Island Cluster
for the annual
ISRAEL DAY
ON FIFTH

SUNDAY, MAY 31
11:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
 62nd - 74th Street on Fifth Avenue

Early-bird discount through April 15
 \$18 per adult
 \$12 per child (under age 18)

Registration received after April 15
 \$26 per person

Includes bus transportation & tee shirt
Sponsored by the Israel Solidarity Fund

 If you would like to march with TIGN, use this link: www.tign.org/celebrateisraelparade2026/ or scan the QR to register.






B'NAI/B'NOT MITZVAH IN OUR TEMPLE ISRAEL FAMILY

ETHAN PHILLIPS, together with his twin brother, Joshua, will be called to the Torah as a *bar mitzvah* on March 28. He is the son of Tinna and Jeff Phillips, and the grandson of Temple Israel member Mehry Geula. Ethan is a seventh-grade student at Great Neck North Middle School where he plays soccer (in the position of center mid) and basketball. Ethan also plays both sports on travel teams and he enjoys running. He is a Youth House student. The Phillips family has plans to go to Israel after the *b'nai mitzvah*.



JOSHUA PHILLIPS, together with his twin brother, Ethan, will be called to the Torah as a *bar mitzvah* on March 28. Joshua is the son of Tinna and Jeff Phillips, and the grandson of Temple Israel member Mehry Geula. Joshua is a seventh-grade student at Great Neck North Middle School where he plays soccer and basketball. Joshua, who plays guard and is a strong three-point shooter, loves weekend



basketball games with friends at the JCC of Great Neck. He, along with his brother, is on travel soccer and travel basketball teams. Joshua is a Youth House student. The Phillips family has plans to go to Israel after the *b'nai mitzvah*.



SYDNEY ROSEN will be called to the Torah as a *bat mitzvah* on April 25. She is the daughter of Linda and Douglas Rosen and has a brother, Benjamin, 10. Sydney is a seventh-grade student at Great Neck North Middle School where she sings in the school chorus, acted in the school production of *Peter Pan*, and is on the field hockey and softball teams. She is a student in the Youth House and looks forward to visiting Israel in the future.



World Wide Wrap: A Super Bowl Sunday Tradition

Members and clergy of Temple Israel of Great Neck participated in the annual World Wide Wrap with a morning *minyan* led by Charles Adler and Rabbi Schweber, with some congregants participating on Zoom, followed by a service for religious school families, where Rabbi Stecker demonstrated how to put on tefillin. Men's Club members, parents, and Hazzan Shamash assisted students.

The World Wide Wrap is an initiative of Masorti Olami in collaboration with the Federation of Jewish Men's Clubs and the Women's League for Conservative Judaism. As part of the tradition at Temple Israel of Great Neck, the Men's Club sponsored a breakfast for all who participated. ■



From Tu BiShvat to Purim — and a Torah Science Fair — at Beth HaGan

by Yve Fouladi, Director, Beth HaGan Early Childhood Center

The late winter months at Beth HaGan are always rich with meaning, and this year was no exception. We began with Tu BiShvat, the New Year for the Trees, a holiday that gently reminds us that even when the air is cold and snow is on the ground, growth is quietly happening beneath the surface. The children learned that trees “wake up” during this time, especially in Israel, where planting begins anew. Through song, stories, movement, school-wide *seders*, and hands-on parsley planting, the children explored nature’s cycles, our connection to Israel, the concept of *Tikkun Olam*, and, yes, trees. Our Tu BiShvat *seders* highlighted foods of the *Shivat HaMinim* — the Seven Species of the Land of Israel mentioned in the Torah: wheat, barley, grapes, figs, pomegranates, olives, and dates — all of which have deep agricultural and spiritual significance to our people by connecting us to our Jewish roots and the Land of Israel.

While the children learned about the gifts trees provide — fruit, shade, homes for animals, and even the paper products we use each day — our focus naturally led to ideas of responsibility and care for our planet, inviting reflection on the impact we all have on the world around us and teaching that taking only what we need is an act of kindness and respect. The children came to understand that protecting the Earth is not only scientific or practical but deeply rooted in Jewish values. Even our youngest learners recognized the importance of appreciating Hashem’s gifts during Tu Bishvat here at Beth HaGan.

This sense of wonder and responsibility carried beautifully into February’s much-anticipated Rachel Mathless Torah Science Fair, which filled our school with curiosity, creativity, and excitement.

For the first time, the fair was held entirely within the school space, transforming every hallway, classroom, and the Multi-Purpose Room into vibrant centers of exploration. Each class proudly showcased its month-long science unit through documentation, art, and hands-on activities, while additional interactive displays throughout the event invited families to

experiment, discover, and explore alongside their children. Science, when paired with Torah, becomes a powerful way for young children to experience wonder and recognize Hashem’s design in the world. We were deeply moved by the strong turnout, from current families and alumni alike, and were honored to dedicate this year’s wonderful fair to the memory of Rachel Mathless.

As we moved into Presidents’ Week, and its lessons of leadership and then transitioned directly into Purim — a holiday centered on courage, justice, and standing up for what is right — I found myself reflecting on the deep meaning this season holds. Many of our early American presidents, including George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, and Abraham Lincoln, were deeply familiar with the Purim story and even referenced the Book of Esther in their writings and speeches. They understood Purim as a reminder that moral courage matters and that individuals can make a difference.

These lessons feel particularly meaningful for our children, as their Tu BiShvat learning, Torah science projects, and now Purim are all fresh in their young minds. Together, these experiences invite the children to begin exploring what we hope will become a lifelong understanding of responsibility, values, and the impact of the choices we make.

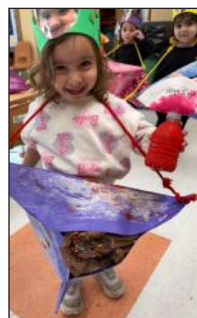
Purim, a favorite among the children, quickly came alive in our classrooms through dramatic play, puppets, costumes, and favorite classic songs. The children stepped into the world of Shushan, eagerly taking turns playing Esther, Mordecai, guards, townspeople, and yes, even Haman. They giggled, whispered, stomped, and cheered their way through the story, building language, confidence, empathy, and imagination along the way. This type of role play is powerful for young children; it supports social-emotional development, storytelling skills, and a deep personal connection to our traditions. Watching the children embody bravery, righteousness, and strength while absorbing the spirit and values at the heart of the holiday and of Jewish people has truly been a highlight of the month.

These past weeks have reminded us that childhood is a sacred and magical time, filled with imagination, possibility, and learning through play, exploration, and experience. I would be remiss to not thank our dedicated *Morot*, who

do not miss a beat as they go from one important learning unit to another at a nonstop pace. At Beth HaGan, we are proud to nurture the whole child: curious minds, growing hearts, and strong Jewish identities. From planting seeds to exploring science to becoming the heroes of the Purim story, the children are learning that even the smallest acts of godness matter and that they, too, have the power to contribute and shine. ■



Beth HaGan Director Yve Fouladi and Nathalie Hakimi, Beth HaGan Administrative Assistant, stand with the sign for the Torah Science Fair named after Rachel Mathless, z"l, the longtime former director of Beth HaGan who recently passed away





A Few of the Many Reasons You Should See The Addams Family

Evening Performance on Saturday, March 14; Afternoon Performance on Sunday, March 15

Boy meets girl. The families meet. What could possibly go wrong?

Photos below (in no particular order so we don't spoil the story):

(1) Gomez (Jon Kaiman) has a father-daughter talk with Wednesday (Debbie Volk); (2) Pugsley (Haley Spitzer, Sunday performance) and Grandma (Sharon Janovic, Sunday performance) have a talk about family as Lurch (Daniel Frankel), their butler, is present; (3) Lucas (Matt Hoffman) meets Pugsley, Wednesday's little brother (Jack Murphy, Saturday performance); (4) Pugsley and Grandma (Marylin Goldberg, Saturday performance) have a talk about family as Lurch is present; (5) what can happen when the families get together for dinner (Kim Kaiman as Alice Beineke); and (6) Morticia (Lillian Rokhsar-Cohen) and Gomez have a serious conversation.

"The Addams Family" is a show that reminds us to honor our ancestors, laugh at life's weirdness, and celebrate family — quirks and all. It's a joyful escape with unforgettable characters, catchy songs and a cast that truly loves telling this weird and wonderful story together. You'll leave the show wishing some Addams charm and magic followed you home. It's a delight for audiences of all ages." — *Sharon Janovic, cast member*

"Because where else can you spend a night laughing at death, romance and family values — all at the same time?" — *Lisa Mattaway, cast member*

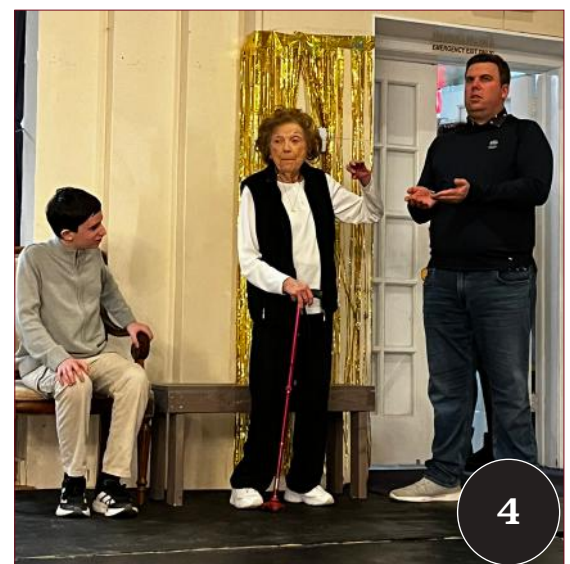
"Just when you think it's all deliciously dark nonsense, the show sneaks up behind you and hits you with heart." — *Lisa Mattaway, cast member*

Did You Know? The show "Death of a Salesman" is mentioned in "The Addams Family." Nathan Lane is currently starring in "Death of a Salesman" on Broadway. Nathan Lane originated the role of Gomez in the Broadway production of "The Addams Family." Coincidence? Likely it's a sign to see "The Addams Family!"

You will be entertained by the performances of 30 of your fellow congregants.

Saturday, March 14th at 8:30 P.M.
Sunday, March 15th at 2 P.M.

To buy tickets, go to: tign.org/showtickets or call Kathy Recckia in the Temple Israel office at (516) 482-7800.



Opportunities to Learn In Person and Via Zoom *continued from p. 5*

“It’s great studying with temple-mates online via Zoom. Whichever book is chosen, every member then obtains a copy and we proceed to do an in-depth study of that book (not a book club review) that often takes the weekly class six months or more to complete. As one might expect, there are frequent digressions by the participants who add in personal observations, personal knowledge of the subject or even an occasional joke, always relevant to the otherwise serious topic. Where possible, Toby also tries to make the weekly reading relevant to current events.”

Toby Katz, who leads the class, explains that “each book we study in class is selected by the entire class; we vote.”

The class just finished *A Promised Land (2024)* by Professor Adam Jortner, which presents a very different perspective on Jews and the American Revolution — information we never learned in school. With every book the class studies, the issues in the book are examined in depth, often referring to additional materials — pictures, maps, historical documents, biographies, videos, music, and more.”

There are lively discussions with everyone before and after class. (The class is recorded, but the personal discussions before and after class are not.)

Having finished *A Promised Land*, the class just started Simon Schama’s *The Story of the Jews (Part I 1000 BCE – 1492 CE)*. Schama begins with the Jewish military colony on Elephantine Island in the Nile. They guarded Egypt’s southern border. The book focuses on the daily lives of these diaspora Jews, their families, their lifestyles and beer on Passover. Everyone is welcome — even if you haven’t read the book.

SCHMOOZE WITH SOME JEWS meets on TIGN Zoom at the end of Shabbat morning services. (Just stay on Zoom when services end.) If you like to schmooze with friends after Shabbat services, but can’t come in person to Temple Israel’s *kiddush*, join others on ZOOM. Toby Katz leads this re-creation of the *kiddush* table conversation where participants can discuss anything and everything in a casual and friendly way. “Schmooze” meets every week, right after the morning service. Everyone is welcome. ■

Save the Date
for the

**TEMPLE ISRAEL OF GREAT NECK
GALA DINNER DANCE
SUNDAY, JUNE 14, 2026**

Details to follow

Nominating Committee Seeking Candidates for Board of Trustees

Temple Israel’s Nominating Committee, chaired by Burton Weston, our most recent past president, is seeking candidates to fill two positions on the synagogue’s Board of Trustees, as previously announced in an email to congregants in late January.

The deadline for nominations is Sunday, March 15, 2026.

Interested members should contact Burton Weston at burtonweston@mac.com

Joining the Board is an opportunity to meet other people who volunteer their time and talents to strengthen Temple Israel. Board of Trustees meetings involve lively discussions about what goes on at Temple Israel, reflecting on things such as policies, projects, staffing, education, and programming. People with different interests and professional backgrounds work together towards common goals, including advancing the cause of Conservative Judaism.

Those interested in serving on the Board of Trustees must have been members of Temple Israel for a minimum of two years and currently be a member in good standing.

The Board plays a crucial role in shaping the future of our synagogue by providing leadership, guidance, and strategic vision to ensure its success and future.

By serving on the Board of Trustees, you will have the opportunity to help guide the direction and long-term vision of Temple Israel; oversee programs and initiatives that serve our community; provide financial stewardship and ensure the sustainability of our synagogue; and contribute to fostering a welcoming and inclusive environment for all members.

We are looking for individuals who are committed to the synagogue’s values and mission; eager to contribute their time, energy, and expertise; able to work collaboratively with fellow Board members and synagogue leadership; and willing and able to attend Board meetings and participate in various activities and initiatives.

We believe that the diversity and talents of our synagogue community are our greatest strength, and we encourage all members to consider this important opportunity to serve. Whether you have a background in leadership, finance, community organizing, or simply have a commitment to Temple Israel’s mission, your involvement will be invaluable.

If you have any questions or would like to nominate yourself or someone else, you are encouraged to contact Nominating Committee Chair Burton Weston at burtonweston@mac.com ■

Staff Member Kathy Recckia: 23 Years of Helping Congregants

by Paul Schwartz

When calling the Temple Israel office any time from 2002 right up until the present, a familiar voice on the other end of the line is often that of Kathy Recckia. She is responsible for a wide variety of duties, performed while — as she says — preferring to be a “support character.” The *Voice* gives her a much-deserved starring role in this edition.

Describe what you do at Temple Israel.

I think it would be easier to say what I don't do...

What I do ranges from coordinating the paperwork for everything from baby namings to *bar* and *bat mitzvahs* to *auf rufs* to handling cemetery plots and graves. I also do database management and security programming. I manage the High Holy Days seating as well as the honors and tickets. I also order the memorial plaques. I do a lot.

The High Holy Days are in the fall. Is that when the work starts?

The busy season starts in April or May because we want the “are you joining us on the High Holy Days” letters to go out to the congregation before people leave for summer vacation. It's a big job. If there's anything I wish people knew is to let us know if they aren't planning to use their seats. Of course, all members are entitled to their seats. But when people know they won't be there and don't tell us, those seats remain empty. If we knew ahead of time, we could use those seats to accommodate other members who want to bring guests or who want to sit closer than they usually sit. It's also nice for the clergy on the *bimah* to look out to filled seats. I don't have any control over it, but some people will vent their frustration about not being able to sit with their family with me.

A challenge you needed to overcome?

The biggest learning curve for me is we have so many people who are related to each other and once people get married the last names don't match. So

I had to start color coding the charts. I incorporated a way to do this, using Excel and mail merge and stuff like that because it's just too much to track.

Where did you work before coming to Temple Israel?



On Wall Street. I worked for a company called York

Securities. Before that, I worked for Stratton Oakmont, which was the one “The Wolf of Wall Street” was based on. I was in new accounts.

Was the movie an accurate depiction of the work environment?

In some cases, it was very accurate and, in some cases, it was not wild enough.

How did you get hired at Temple Israel?

I got laid off from York Securities two months before 9/11, so I starting temping. Temple Israel needed help with Rabbi Waxman's anniversary gala. They had this big stack of ads that were submitted. They gave me the stack and thought it was going to take me a week and I was done with it all in a day. (They had no idea how fast I could type.) I really liked the way Harriet Schiff (the Executive Director at the time) ran the office. She understood everybody, she took care of everyone, and she was very involved. I told her that I really liked the way she ran the office and that I liked the atmosphere at Temple Israel. I was hoping I could stay. Harriet said, “I was thinking the same thing” and she hired me as an administrative assistant.

How much did you know about Judaism before you started working at a synagogue? Very little.

How did you acclimate?

I've always had an interest in religion. I have a psychology degree with an area of speciality in religion and religiosity from York College. Religion has always been an intense interest of mine, so learning *halachah*, why the way things

are the way they are, comes naturally to me. I love the dialogue about it in the Jewish faith; it's really great.

Did not being Jewish come up when you were being hired?

My faith is Pagan. When I wanted to come here, I wanted it to be a place I could be who I am and not have to hide that.

When I talked to Harriet about working here, I said “So I'm Pagan, is that going to be a problem?” She said “What's Pagan?” I said, “the closest thing I could come to it is kind of like earth-based, like a Native American faith, it's like nature is sacred, life is sacred.” And she looked at me and she said “Are you an idolator?” And I said “Like do I worship statues?” And she said “Yeah.” I thought about that for a second and I said “I don't think the spirit of God is small enough to fit into any physical object. Does that cover me?” And she said, “Yes, that covers you.”

You also are Rabbi Stecker's assistant...

I love working with Rabbi Stecker. We're in the same age group so we get all of the same jokes and the same references and we have a lot of the same sensibilities. My personality and his jibe very well.

Do you have a favorite Jewish holiday?



Probably Sukkot. It's the closest thing to a Pagan holiday because you're taking the lulav and etrog and you're shaking it in the four directions and recognizing the sovereignty of deity and above and below and all that other kind of stuff. And I love the smell of the *Sukkah*.

After all this time at Temple Israel, have you acquired a taste for some “Jewish foods?”

Whitefish and sable. Sable is fantastic. I worked in the Youth House for a while and they made *haroset*. It was delicious,

I could live on that. I remember trying gefilte fish for the first time. I like it. Some people don't like it; I kind of like it.

You are a big "Game of Thrones" fan...

A group of my friends had arranged to rent a house so we could spend a holiday together and it coincided with the last episode of "Game of Thrones." So there were like 15 of us in the living room with a giant TV and when Arya came out we were screaming. I like stories in various forms of media. I like TV and movies and Disney. Right now we're watching "Fallout." I'm a video game person. I love "Knight of the Seven Kingdoms" because it's lighter. There were some horrendous things that happened in "Game of Thrones" that were heartbreaking. Considering some of the stuff happening in the world, it's really nice to have something with some lightness to it.

Favorite food?

I really like lamb khorma or goat khorma. The sauce is made of ground up cashews so it's got this richness and nuttiness to it.

If you could meet one person in history, who would it be?

Harriet Tubman, ever since I was a kid.

Three dinner guests?

I'd want them to be fun and able to engage in conversation and I don't want them to be boring. Neil deGrasse Tyson. Probably get a comedian in there, too. Josh Johnson, I love him. Brene Brown

should probably be in there, too. She's fantastic.

Hobbies?

Right now, I'm crocheting a lot. I'm in the middle of making a sea turtle. I used to do pyrography, which is wood burning and I'm pretty good at it. I made a plate for Rabbi Adelson as a going away present when he left Temple Israel to lead a congregation in Pittsburgh in 2015. He was always very close to his faith and his God and I wanted that spirit of creation [design] in the center to be his anchor as he was leaving to go to a new place. If he was feeling chaotic, he could look at it and kind of meditate on it and bring himself from chaos to get him back to center.

You and your husband Robert will be celebrating your 25th anniversary this year...

We had a Halloween wedding in Disney. It was the best wedding. I arrived in Cinderella's glass coach. We got



married in their wedding pavillion, had dinner in the private restaurant above the Living Seas, which was all brass and

driftwood, and they timed the dessert party on the Terrace of England to go with the fireworks.

Is it rewarding to work at Temple Israel?

I love that my job gives me the opportunity to help people through crisis and also through celebration. I like that

very much. I like being able to support people. I don't need to be a star player; I like to play a support character. I got certified as a death midwife and that training helps me deal with people who are going through grieving in unusual circumstances. With our health care system, once you've been diagnosed with a terminal illness, there's not a lot that's really done for you other than trying to preserve your life. There are a lot of other needs that need to be addressed. A death midwife offers compassionate care and guidance and kind of helps you plan and organize and greet it in a way that is dignified.

When members call the office and you answer, how do you want them to feel?

I feel like my job is to let them know that they will be taken care of, whatever that is. If they've got a problem with their billing, we're going to figure that out. If they've got someone in the hospital, we're going to be with you and we're going to figure that out. I feel like the nature of spiritual institutions is that they provide a service that is not really available anywhere else. When you cater to people's spirit, it requires being aware of the fact that the spirit even exists.

Anything else?

I've always enjoyed working here... always. It's an honor to help people. It's nice. I try to take care of people the way that they need because, if they're coming to God, chances are they have a need and you want to take care of people when they need. ■

<p>WEDNESDAY, APRIL 1 7 A.M. Service & Siyum for the First Born 7:45 A.M. Breakfast 10:52 A.M. No more eating of Hametz 6:30 P.M. First Night Minha & Festival Maariv 7:01 P.M. Candlelighting</p> <p>THURSDAY, APRIL 2 9:15 A.M. Festival Morning Service 7:15 P.M. Festival Minha followed by Evening Service 8 P.M. Men's Club Second Night Seder</p> <p>FRIDAY, APRIL 3 9:15 A.M. Festival Morning Service 6:30 P.M. Festival Minha & Shabbat Maariv 7:03 P.M. Candlelighting</p>	<p>SATURDAY, APRIL 4 9:15 A.M. Shabbat Morning Service 7:10 P.M. Mincha 7:45 P.M. Maariv 8:04 P.M. Havdalah</p> <p>SUNDAY, APRIL 5 9 A.M. Hol Hamoed Morning Service 8 P.M. Maariv/Evening Service</p> <p>MONDAY, APRIL 6 7:30 A.M. Hol Hamoed Morning Service 8 P.M. Maariv/Evening Service</p> <p>TUESDAY, APRIL 7 7:30 A.M. Hol Hamoed Morning Service 6:30 P.M. Mincha & Festival Maariv 7:07 P.M. Candlelighting</p>	<p>Temple Israel Passover Services 2026/5786</p> <p>WEDNESDAY, APRIL 8 9:15 A.M. Festival Morning Service 7:20 P.M. Festival Minha, Maariv & Havdalah 8:09 P.M. Candlelighting</p> <p>THURSDAY, APRIL 9 9:15 A.M. Festival Morning Service including plaque dedication & Yizkor 7:20 P.M. Minha/Maariv 8 P.M. Passover ends 8:15 P.M. Hametz back in possession</p>
---	--	---

TEMPLE ISRAEL FUND

In appreciation of:

Jack Moallem for Jamey's *aliyah* on Shabbat
JAMEY AND RAINA KOHN

In honor of:

Allison Karp Herdoon on starting her new job
Dalit Herdoon Haim on her new venture
MANNY ALANI & VITA HERDOON
Benson Kurpiel, son of Morgan and Seth Kurpiel becoming a *bar mitzvah*
DAVID & SUANNE SCHERR
Felix Ethan Steelman, grandson of Jill and Mitchell Friedman becoming a *bar mitzvah*
STUART & GLORIA DE LOTT

In memory of:

Alexander Hyman
JOAN KONAS
Anna and Harry Greif
MARTIN & DIANE KANEFSKY
Anna Choit
HARVEY & BARBARA CHOIT
Ann-Elizabeth Hoffman
Helen Traub
MARJORIE HOFFMAN
Arlene Wigler
Sophie Arlene Freudman
PAUL FREUDMAN & LORI STEIN FREUDMAN
Benjamin Glatstein
MATTHEW & AMY KLEIN

Bernard Schlessel
JERROLD & NANCY SCHLESSEL
Bernard Schultz
LEONARD & BARBARA SCHULTZ
Bernice Schloss
STEVEN & RONI SCHLOSS
Beverly Mestel
LEWIS & BETH SCHWARTZ
Bruce Allen Levine
LAWRENCE LEVINE
Carol Schreiber
Louis Schreiber
Norman Goldfarb
Walter Schreiber
MEL & MERRILL SCHNEIDERMAN
Clara Kahn
Helane Kunikoff
Sylvia Rieders
CYRUS AND SUSAN KAHN
Clara Mirkin
NAOMI SCHULMAN
Daniel Bernstein
JEFFREY & STACEE BERNSTEIN
Edward Scheiner
BURTON & JOYCE WESTON
Elias Kalimian
ERIC & IDA KALIMIAN
Elisa Tasch
STEVE TASCH
Elizabeth Neuhut
LAURA ESIKOFF
Elliot Fleischer
ARCHIBALD WALKER
BURTON & JOYCE WESTON
DAVID & SUANNE SCHERR

Estelle Iscowitz
GARRY & LINDA STARK
Esther Gelb
RICHARD & SHERRI GELB
Ethel Dell
IRENE TANNENHOLTZ-MARCUS
Etta Achenbaum
William Oliver
CAROL ACHENBAUM
Farideh Beroukhim
Elyahou Beroukhim
BEN & JACKLIN YODIM
Florence Bogatch
WARREN & LINDA FRIEDMAN
Fred Brash
YUVAL & VIVIAN BRASH
George DePinna
STANLEY & JANE BLUM
Gerda Todtenkopf
Mel Schoenfeld
Philip Schoenfeld
BELA SCHOENFELD
Gertrude Yares
JOAN SCHUSSHEIM
Harry Gorelick
TOBY GORELICK
Helen Tune
Melvin Gessin
HARVEY & MARILYN GESSIN
Herbert B. Rosenthal
Sylvia Salzberg
BARRY & JANE SALZBERG
Herman Rothbaum
Paul Rothbaum
Steven Rothbaum
HAL & SUSAN ROTHBAUM
Solomon Fried
MAXINE FRIED
Iraj Mirjani
George Gingold
Jack Gingold
Morris Gingold
Theodore Lackowitz
DANIEL FRANKEL & NICOLE ADHAMI
Irving Matsil
Shirley Matsil
GEOFFREY & JOELLE SEROTA
Isaac Forst
Pearl Sperber
ROBERT & CHERYL SPERBER
Israel Zwierankin
RAINE SILVERSTEIN
Jack Berger
SIDNEY & SUSAN KRUGMAN
James Adler
KAREN ADLER MILETSKY
Jessie Frank
Bernard Frank
MARILYN SACKSTEIN
MARILYN & LEON FLAX



TEMPLE ISRAEL FUND (continued)

Joseph Jacobson
ARLENE PAUL CAITUNG
Jules E. Orenstein
MICHAEL & JUDITH ORENSTEIN
Kathryn Bloomfield
MATTHEW & ANDREA BLOOMFIELD
Leonard Pfeifer
MURIEL PFEIFER
Lester Phillips
KAREN ASHKENASE
Lillian Dallal
STEPHEN & RHONDA DALLAL
Louis Emanuel
DAVID EMANUEL
Louis Gordon
Rae Gordon
CAROL GOLDBERG
Magda Reissfeld
VICTOR & CARMELLA MANDON
Mark Naim
SAMY & DALIA NAIM
Mary Balkoff
Mollie Rubinstein
Pearl Glowatz
Louis Glowatz
MARK GLOWATZ
Mary Teich
JACK & JANET TEICH
Meyer and Bert Goldman
NEIL & SHAHNAZ GOLDMAN
Mildred Ortner
MELVIN & RITA ORTNER
Morris Sosnow
RON & MINDY HOROWITZ
Morton Jay Jacobson
ARNOLD JACOBSON
Moussa Ohebshalom
EBBY AND RACHELLE OHEBSHALOM
Nasar (James) Husney
Simon Indyk
SAMUEL & SHERRY HUSNEY
Natie Kopelowitz
BRENDA & LANCE GREIFF
GEOFFREY GOLDBERG
Pauline Miller
MARLENE HANDELMAN
Philip Kramer
NOELLE PARKET
Rebecca Jungreis
Ruth Weiner
RONALD & SARA WEINER
Rob Beiner
AMY DAVID
Rose Danzig
ARTHUR & CAROLE ANDERMAN
Ruth Iteld
BRUCE & MELISSA JURIN
Ruth Oliver
SHEILA OLIVER
Saleh Mouallem
VICKY MOUALLEM

Samuel Greener
LEONARD & BARBARA MAZUR
Samuel Kimelman
Kate Friedland Kimelman
MARTIN & RENEE KIMELMAN
Sara Shalom Rokhsar
JOSEPH & FAYE ROKHSAR
Sarah Bolanos
CARLOS & EVA BOLANOS
Saul Eisberg
SETH & CHERYL EISBERG MOIN
Shabatai Marcus
YURI & SEGAL MOSHELL
Shirley Perlman
SHERRY RUBIN
Tessie Benjamin
JERAL BENJAMIN
Theresa Lynn Siegel
Harold David Siegel
ROBIN BOURS
Warren Jay Glasner
DIANE GLASNER
William Salzberg
ELI & NANCY BLORIAN
Willie Sherman
PETER & LINDA SHERMAN
Yehuda Soleymani
YOSEF & LOUISE SOLEYMANI
Youness Neman
HILBERT & JACQUELINE ESHAGHPOUR

Temple Israel
gratefully acknowledges
these contributions
which were received
December 31, 2025
through
February 16, 2026

ENDOWMENT FUND

In memory of:
Soufer Frouzan
JACK & MANIJEH MOALLEM

GEMILUT CHESED FUND

In memory of:
Natie Kopelowitz
VICKI SILVER

**HARRIET SCHIFF EXECUTIVE
DIRECTOR'S FUND**

In memory of:
Leopold Schiff
JACOB SCHIFF

ADULT ED/LECTURE SERIES FUND

In memory of:
Elliot Fleischer
SETH & CHERYL EISBERG MOIN

**ANNE & MILTON SNITKOFF MEMORIAL
FUND**

In memory of:
Abraham Schragar
DENNIS & SUSAN BRUSTEIN

**BEN ZION ALTMAN SENIOR MITSVA
GROUP FUND**

In honor of:
The birth of her great granddaughter,
Erin Joy Rodgers
RENEE FLEISCHER.

In memory of:
Elliot Fleischer
ALLAN & MURIEL GREENBLATT
BELA SCHOENFELD
Esther Fleischer
RENEE FLEISCHER

DAILY MINYAN FUND

In memory of:
Irving Merchant
DENNIS & SUSAN BRUSTEIN
Shahrokh David Zechariah Lahijani
RAHEL LAHIJANI

**EDWARD "THE CANDYMAN"
GOLDFEDER MEMORIAL FUND**

In appreciation of:
Ron Klempner for organizing the Nets
basketball trip
ANITA MOSTEN

In honor of:
Marshal Rubin
JACK & MANIJEH MOALLEM
Sabrina Goldfeder
IYANNA LAWRENCE
The birth of David Bruce Rubin,
grandson of Marshall Rubin
JEFFREY FLEIT

In memory of:
Edward Goldfeder
JACK & MANIJEH MOALLEM
SHIRLEY GOLDFEDER
Gloria Dunitz
Laura Stein's uncle, Jack
Leigh Stein's uncle, Jack
Natie Kopelowitz
SHIRLEY GOLDFEDER

**HAZZAN SHAMASH'S
DISCRETIONARY FUND**

Contribution:
DAVID & ROYA EMRANI

**RABBI SCHWEBER'S
DISCRETIONARY FUND**

In memory of:

Edward Solomon
JEFFREY & ANDREA FARKAS

Contribution:

DAVID & ROYA EMRANI

**RABBI STECKER'S
DISCRETIONARY FUND**

In appreciation of:

Rabbi Stecker for officiating at
the funeral of her mother, Helene
Schachter
MADELEINE STAGLIANO SCHACHTER
Rabbi Stecker for his big support during
and after the passing of their mother,
Touba Victory
PARVIZ & SHAHLA POURMORADI

In memory of:

Beatrice Miller
MONTE MILLER & KAREN LEWKOWITZ-MILLER
Marlene Harellick
DAVID & ROBERTA HAROUNIAN
Roslyn Kleinman
MATTHEW & DANIELLA KAUFMAN
Touba Victory
PARVIZ & SHAHLA POURMORADI

Contribution:

DAVID & ROYA EMRANI

MUSEUM FUND

In memory of:

Jesse Feingold
DAVID & NADINE FEINGOLD

LIBRARY FUND

In memory of:

Fanny Berman
PAUL & JUDITH LITNER
Shoshana Wingate
ALLAN & MURIEL GREENBLATT

ISRAEL SOLIDARITY FUND

In honor of:

Benson Kurpiel, son of Morgan and
Seth Kurpiel becoming a *bar mitzvah*
Emily Forst, daughter of Alana and
Joshua Forst, becoming a *bat mitzvah*
BRENDA & LANCE GREIFF

In memory of:

Lili Epstein
ELLEN COOPER
Norman Lee
BRENDA & LANCE GREIFF & FAMILY
Pauline Miller
MAXINE MILLER

**PETICHA BLOSSOM
WOMEN'S & GIRLS' EDUCATION FUND**

In honor of:

Jenni Koppelman
SASSAN & REBECCA SASSOUNI
The birth and baby naming of Juliette
Mia Garibyan, granddaughter of Susan
and Robert Lopatkin and Iva and
Leonid Garibyan, daughter of Stefanie
and Mark Garibyan, and sister of Emilia
and Dustin
SAMUEL & SHERRY HUSNEY

In memory of:

Nejatollah Sassouni
DENNIS & SUSAN BRUSTEIN

**KHORSHID DINA HAROUNIAN
ISRAEL EDUCATION FUND**

In honor of:

The birth and *brit milah* of
Fariba and Lee Harounian's grandson
SASSAN & REBECCA SASSOUNI

RELIGIOUS SCHOOL FUND

In honor of:

Mia Weston, granddaughter of
Joyce and Burton Weston, becoming a
bat mitzvah
RICHARD & ELISE KESTENBAUM

In memory of:

Norman Lee
VARDA SOLOMON

SHOAH REMEMBRANCE FUND

In honor of:

Jeff Fleit
ELLEN WIDAWSKY

In memory of:

Bronia Rothbaum
HAL & SUSAN ROTHBAUM
David Albert
APRIL LEE
Natie Kopelowitz
ROBERT SROKA

SISTERHOOD FUND

In memory of:

Natie Kopelowitz
JACK & MANIJEH MOALLEM

TEMPLE ISRAEL PLAYERS FUND

In memory of:

Jessie Frank
Bernard Frank
GEORGE ABRAHAMS

USHERS FUND

In memory of:

Ana Maria Salit
Elliot Fleischer
JACK & MANIJEH MOALLEM

YAD B'YAD

In memory of:

Grayce Falow
MITCHELL & JILL FRIEDMAN
Natie Kopelowitz
SETH & CHERYL EISBERG MOIN
SAM & SHERRY HUSNEY
Florence Hodes
Natie Kopelowitz
KENNETH & PEARL HYMES

PRAYER BOOK FUND

In memory of:

Solomon Fried
MAXINE FRIED

THE
WAXMAN
MEMORIAL
PROGRAM

THURSDAY
MARCH 19
7 P.M.

Orna and Ronen Neutra, parents
of IDF Tank Commander Omer
Neutra — the only Long Islander
killed in the October 7th Hamas
attack — will be featured
in conversation with
Rabbi Howard Stecker at
Temple Israel of Great Neck.

The program is held
in memory of the late
Rabbi Mordecai Waxman, who
served our congregation for
more than 55 years.

RSVP required by March 12.
Details & registration
information are available on our
website at:
tign.org/events

To donate or to learn more about these funds, go to: tign.org/donate or call the synagogue office at 516-482-7800.

Who to contact if you want to...

RECORD KEEPING & BILLING

Make changes to information on your account or on ShulCloud:
Kathy Castro, Jodi Engel or Kathy Reckcia

Update information about *yahrzeits*:
Angela Jones

Correct a billing error or have a question about your bill:
Jodi Engel

Receive a printed copy of the VOICE, our synagogue newsletter, in the mail:
Jodi Engel or Kathy Castro

DONATIONS

Make a donation to one of the funds:
Jodi Engel

Make a large donation:
Jamey Kohn, Executive Director

GET INVOLVED & SHARE IDEAS

Share an idea for a program:
Abe Kanfer or Morgan Lancman
Programming Committee Chairs

Share an idea for a VOICE article:
Miriam Kobliner, Editor of the Voice

Volunteer to be on a committee:
Jamey Kohn, Executive Director

HIGH HOLY DAYS

Ask about your High Holy Day seats:
Kathy Reckcia

Make a change to your listing in the High Holy Day *Yizkor* In Memoriam Book:
Angela Jones

Ask about your High Holy Day *aliyah*:
Angela Jones

Call 516-482-7800
to reach the office.

Contact information
is noted below.

Information can also be
found on our website at:
www.tign.org

EDUCATION & B'NAI MITZVAH

Learn more about Beth HaGan Early Childhood Center:
Yve Fouladi, Director, Beth HaGan
Nathalie Hakimi, Administrative Assistant

Find out about religious school:
Connie Reichman

Choose your child's *b'nai mitzvah* date:
Rabbi Daniel Schweber

Find out about the *b'nai mitzvah* process:
Kathy Reckcia or Rabbi Daniel Schweber

LIFECYCLE EVENTS

Have one of the clergy officiate at a lifecycle event (baby naming, bris, *auf ruf*, wedding, funeral):
Kathy Reckcia

Sponsor a *kiddush*:
Jodi Engel

Share news about a birth, engagement or other "*mazel tov*" event:
Angela Jones

Inform the synagogue that a family member passed away:
Jodi Engel, Angela Jones or Kathy Reckcia

Purchase a cemetery plot:
Kathy Reckcia

Purchase a memorial plaque:
Kathy Reckcia

JUDAICA SHOP

Browse and/or make a purchase in the Sisterhood Judaica shop:
Call the Temple Israel office to make an appointment.



Kathy Castro
kcastro@tign.org
x 1101

Nathalie Hakimi
nhakimi@tign.org
x 1114

Miriam Kobliner
editorialcommittee@tign.org

Kathy Reckcia
kreckcia@tign.org
x 1109

Jodi Engel
jengel@tign.org
x 1105

Angela Jones
ajones@tign.org
x 1108

Jamey Kohn
jkohn@tign.org
x 1103

Connie Reichman
creichman@tign.org
x 1110

Yve Fouladi
yvefouladi@tign.org
x 1115

Abe Kanfer
programming@tign.org

Morgan Lancman
programming@tign.org

Rabbi Daniel Schweber
rabbischweber@tign.org
x 1113

In Memoriam

Temple Israel extends condolences to the families of:

ANA MARIA SALIT

mother of Mason Salit and Wayne Salit
mother-in-law of Lauren and Lisa Salit
grandmother of Taylor Cohen, Ilysa Cohen, Maxwell Salit,
Aaron Salit, Benjamin Salit, and Lily Salit
and esteemed member of Temple Israel

ELLIOT FLEISCHER

husband of Renee Fleischer
father of Corey Fleischer, Deborah Fleischer, Joshua Fleischer
grandfather of Hannah Rose Nussbaum and Rebecca Rodgers
and esteemed member of Temple Israel

HOWARD BORIS

husband of Beverly Boris
father of Irwin Boris and Fran Boris
grandfather of Aidan, Samantha, and Rory
and esteemed member of Temple Israel

NORMAN LEE

husband of Rachel Lee,
father of Nanci, Brian, Debbie, and Daniel
grandfather of Brandon, Benjamin, Jacob, Hannah,
Talia, Andrew, Lily, and Jack
and esteemed member of Temple Israel

CHARLOTTE SCHNEIERSON

sister of Beverly Boris

NATIE KOPELOWITZ

husband of Brenda Kopelowitz,
father of Ezra Kopelowitz, Melanie Appelbaum, and Natalie Reich
brother of Shulamid Gavronsky, Wally Kopelowitz,
and Arnold Kopelowitz
and esteemed member of Temple Israel

TERRY BLOOM

sister of Arden Smith and Marilyn Brown (z"l)
mother of Nancy Lipman and Linda Panzarino
grandmother of Arielle Edde, Jessica Panzarino
and Daniel Panzarino

May their memories be for a blessing.

Interested in Rejuvenation Project Updates?

The latest information
can be found on our website at:

<https://www.tign.org/rejuvenation/>

Kiddush Sponsors

The Executive Committee and Board of Trustees of Temple Israel, on behalf of the congregation, thank the following members who have generously sponsored and enhanced the Sabbath *kiddush*.

Contributions toward the *kiddush* on January 3 were made by Lisa and Andrew West in honor of the *auf ruf* of their son, Zachary West, and Marisa Joachim, and by Audrey Kent Itzkowitz on the *yahrzeit* of her father, Albert Kent.

Contributions toward the *kiddush* on January 17 were made by Shahnaz Goldman on the *yahrzeit* of her mother, Aghdas Monasebian, and by Dennis Brustein in honor of the special birthday of his wife, Susan.

The congregational *kiddush* on January 24 was sponsored by Alana and Joshua Forst in honor of the *bat mitzvah* of their daughter, Emily.

A contribution towards the *kiddush* on January 31 was made by Shirley Goldfeder on the *yahrzeit* of husband, Edward Goldfeder.

A contribution towards the *kiddush* on February 14 was made by the Monasebian Family on the *yahrzeit* of Shahnaz Goldman's brother, Yaakov Ben Ruhallah (Parviz Monasebian). ■

MEN'S CLUB OF
TEMPLE ISRAEL OF GREAT NECK
encourages you to attend



THURSDAY
MARCH 26
7 P.M.

Click here to RSVP:

<https://www.tign.org/events/mens-club-scotch-and-seder-3/>



The Shoah Remembrance Committee Holocaust Book Club
and Rabbi Schweber
encourage you to join them for a discussion of

Jazz Survivor:
The Story of Louis Bannet, Horn Player of Auschwitz
by Ken Shuldman

Jazz Survivor tells the story of Louis Bannet, the Dutch Louis Armstrong. Louis Bannet was sent to Auschwitz-Birkenau during the war, but his skill as a musician saved his life: he became the 'star' of the Auschwitz Orchestra, as well as the personal bandleader for Dr. Josef Mengele and the founder of the Gypsy Camp Orchestra.

Monday, May 4th • 8:15 P.M.

**Business Cards,
Letterhead & more!**

See the great selection at...
KC GRAPHICS
Personalized Service
25 Cutter Mill Plaza, Great Neck
across from the Inn at Great Neck
516-466-2434

Save the Date

Blood Drive

Sunday, April 26th
8:30 A.M. - 1 P.M.



hosted by the Men's Club of Temple Israel of Great Neck

Abraham Kanfer, CBR
Associate Real Estate Broker
Great Neck Office
516.466.4036, c.917.797.9466
abrahamkanfer@danielgale.com



Each Office Is Individually Owned And Operated.



SHASTONE
— MEMORIALS —

A difficult task made easier.

112 Northern Boulevard
Great Neck, NY 11021
www.shastone.com
Tel: (516)487-4600

Russell J. Rosen
Owner
info@shastone.com
Fax: (516)487-4694

Specializing in headstones, footstones, plaques, ledgers
& benches among all cemeteries in the tri-state area.

Advertise in the Voice

Call Jodi in the Temple Israel office for more information about advertising rates.
516.482.7800 extension 1105

Honoring Memories. Celebrating Lives.
Riverside-Nassau
North Chapel

- Funerals • Advance Funeral Planning
- Monuments & Inscription Services

www.riversidenassauorthchapels.com
516.487.9600
55 North Station Plaza, Great Neck

join us for
MINYAN

either
in person
or on
Zoom

mornings
and/or
evenings

HOUSES | CONDOS | CO-OPS

SELLING? BUYING? CURIOUS?
917.974.4500

Mindy Miles Greenberg
Licensed Associate Real Estate Broker
O 516.498.2125 | M 917.974.4500
mindy.greenberg@elliman.com

GreatNeckForSale.com
"Great Neck Expert"

#9 Agent by Transactions
Top 15% of Agents Nationwide

DouglasElliman

© 2020 DOUGLAS ELLIMAN REAL ESTATE. EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY.
110 WALTER WHEATMAN ROAD, HAVENINGTON STATION, NY 11746.
(516) 466-7400. *OF DOUGLAS ELLIMAN REAL ESTATE, NY 2020.



A few fun facts:
• My Dad used to write music for Cantor Ben Siegel.
• My oldest brother was a member of the Great Neck Symphony and went on to play oboe with the Israel Philharmonic 1973 - 2020.
• I graduated from South in 1978.

D'var Torah

D'var Torah summaries written by Rabbi Marim D. Charry can be found on the Temple Israel website:

<https://www.tign.org/learn/dvrai-torah/>

A printed booklet of the D'var Torah summaries is available by calling the Temple Israel office.

VAYAKHEL-PEKUDEI • March 14

VAYIKRA • March 21

TZAV • March 28

[PASSOVER] • April 4

SHMINI • April 11

TAZRIA-METZORA • April 18

ACHREI MOT-KEDOSHIM • April 25



PERIODICALS
POSTAGE PAID
AT GREAT NECK, NY

We're on Facebook, Instagram and YouTube:



<https://www.facebook.com/TempleIsraelOfGreatNeck>



<https://www.instagram.com/templeisraelofgreatneck/>



<https://www.youtube.com/user/TempleIsraelGN>

Temple Israel of Great Neck

Voice

Miriam Kobliner, Editor & Creative Director

Editorial Committee:

Susan Brusteine, Rachel Geula, Miriam Kobliner, Jamey Kohn, Marc Langsner, Paul Schwartz, Rabbi Daniel Schweber, Deborah Volk

Editorial Assistance provided by: Angela Jones, Ken Kobliner, Rob Panzer
Photographers: Robert Lopatkin, Ofra Panzer, and TIGN Staff

Editor Emeritus: Marc Katz

TEMPLE ISRAEL OF GREAT NECK

108 Old Mill Road, Great Neck, NY 11023

P: 516.482.7800 | F: 516.482.7352

info@tign.org | www.tign.org

Temple Israel Voice (USPS #078-740) is published monthly by Temple Israel of Great Neck at 108 Old Mill Road, Great Neck, NY 11023. Periodicals postage paid at Great Neck, NY 11021. Postmaster: Send address changes to: Temple Israel Voice, 108 Old Mill Road, Great Neck, NY 11023. Subscription: \$5.00 per annum.

TEMPLE ISRAEL STAFF

Howard Stecker, Senior Rabbi
Daniel Schweber, Associate Rabbi
Brian Shamash, Hazzan
Mordecai Waxman*, Rabbi Emeritus
Raphael Frieder, Cantor Emeritus
Jamey Kohn, Executive Director
Connie Reichman, Director of Education
Yve Fouladi, Director; Beth HaGan

OFFICERS

Rachel Geula, President
Andrew Bloom, Vice President
Susan Brusteine, Vice President
Lisa Goodwin, Vice President
Audrey Kent Itzkowitz, Vice President
Ron Klempner, Vice President
Marc Langsner, Vice President
Deborah Volk, Vice President

Irving H. Lurie*, Honorary President (Temple Israel's first president)
*Deceased

Upcoming Events

Events are being added. For more details and updated information, check weekly emails and www.tign.org.

Torah Study with Rabbi Schweber • Tuesdays, March 10th, March 17th & March 24th @ 8:15 P.M.

Jews & the News with Rabbi Stecker • Tuesdays, March 10th, March 24th, April 14th & April 28th @ 2 P.M.

Skin Cancer Awareness presented by Dr. Adam Bodian • Wednesday, March 11 @ 6 P.M.

The Addams Family Musical • Saturday, March 14 @ 8:30 P.M. • **The Addams Family Musical** • Sunday, March 15 @ 2 P.M.

Waxman Memorial Program featuring Orna and Ronen Neutra • Thursday, March 19 @ 7 P.M. (RSVP by March 12)

Men's Club Federation of Jewish Men's Clubs Financial Forum • Monday, March 23 @ 7:30 P.M.

Scotch & Seder hosted by the Men's Club • Thursday, March 26 @ 7 P.M.

Congregational Shabbat Service & Dinner: Nowruz • Friday, March 27 @ 7:15 P.M.

Passover • April 1 - April 9

Second Night Seder hosted by the Men's Club • Thursday, April 2 @ 8 P.M.

Yom Hashoah Commemoration • Tuesday, April 14 @ 7 P.M.

Shabbat Service & Shabbat Talk with Scholar in Residence Sarah Benor • Saturday, April 18 @ 9:15 A.M.

Sisterhood Luncheon • A Conversation with Rabbi Mira Rivera • Monday, April 20 @ Noon

Yom Ha'Zikaron Ceremony • Monday, April 20 @ 7 P.M.

Yom Hazikaron/Yom Ha'Atzmaut Concert • Tuesday, April 21 @ 7 P.M.

Blood Drive organized by the Men's Club • Sunday, April 26 @ 8:30 A.M. - 1 P.M.

Women's Health Discussion • Monday, April 27 @ 7:30 P.M.

Book Discussion: Jazz Survivor - the Story of Louis Bannet, Horn Player of Auschwitz by Ken Shuldman • Monday, May 4 @ 8:15 P.M.

Lag B'Omer Barbecue • Tuesday, May 5 @ 6:30 P.M.

Online Programs:

JEWISH COMMUNITY SCHOLARS PROGRAM • Dates and times vary. Check website and weekly emails.

ADVANCED HISTORY SEMINAR • Thursdays at 9:30 A.M. (TIGN Zoom)

SCHMOOZE WITH SOME JEWS ON ZOOM • following Shabbat services (TIGN Zoom)