

SUNSET SHABBAT IN THE PARK



~ a memorable evening for you and your family ~ Friday, June 4 6:30 - 8:30 pm

Join your TSTI friends and clergy for a delightful evening of Shabbat under the stars... (Note: A brief Shabbat service will be held in the Sanctuary at 6:00 P.M. for those not able to attend the service in the park.)

> * Beautiful private park setting at Turtle Back Rock off Walker Road * Family Picnic Dinner – bring your own dinner or order boxed dinners through TSTI * Inspirational Shabbat Service with music * Oneg with family and friends

For additional information, please call Susan at 973-763-4116 ext. 221.

One of many opportunities provided through the Iris "Family Matters" Programs of TSTI

Schedule of Services

Friday, June 4

Beha^{*}alotecha, Numbers 8-12 Shabbat Service, 6:00 P.M. Ruth Bass Sanctuary Building Sunset Shabbat in the Park, 6:30 P.M.

Saturday, June 5

Torah Class, 8:15 A.M.. Minyan Service, 9:00 A.M. Gross Chapel B'nai Mitzvah of Evan Wovsaniker, Daniel Griffith and Jessica Brenner, 10:15 A.M. Bar Mitzvah of Benjamin Sachs, 10:45 A.M.

Friday, June 11

Shelah, Numbers 13-15.41 Shabbat Service and Sharey Ateed Graduation, 7:30 P.M. Ruth Bass Sanctuary Building

Saturday, June 12

Torah Class, 8:15 A.M. Shabbat Storytime, 9:00 A.M. Minyan Service, 9:00 A.M. Gross Chapel B'not Mitzvah of Rachel Pitman, Meredith Fischler, and Rachel Alter, 10:15 A.M. Bat Mitzvah of Samantha Meskin, 10:30 A.M.

Friday, June 18

Korach, Numbers 16-18 Shabbat Service, 7:30 P.M. Ruth Bass Sanctuary Building

Saturday, June 19

Torah Class, 8:15 A.M. Minyan Service, 9:00 A.M. B'not Mitzvah of Rachel Adeleye, Laura Mandel and Kara Sudberg, 10:15 a.m.

Friday, June 25

JUNE 25

Chukat, Numbers 19-22.1 Shabbat Service, 7:30 P.M. Ruth Bass Canctuary Building

<u>Saturday, June 26</u> Minyan Service, 9:00 A.M. Gross Chapel

CANDLE LIGHTING TIMES JUNE 4 8:05 P.M. JUNE 11 8 8:09 P.M. JUNE 18 8:11 P.M.

8:12 P.M.

Observance of **Tisha B'Av**

will be held on Tuesday, July 27 in the Gross Chapel at 10:30 a.m.



Herb Fish, Chair of the Double Chai chance on a free Temple membership, is pleased to announce that the winners are Sharon and Stuart Falkin.

Correction: **Travis Haas**, whose name was spelled incorrectly in the last issue, is a Confirmand, Class of 2004

Sharey Tefilo-Israel

Clergy Rabbi Daniel M. Cohen, D.Min. Rabbi Ellie Lynn Miller Rabbi Harvey S. Goldman, D.Min., D.D., **Rabbi Emeritus** Rabbi Herbert Weiner, Rabbi Emeritus Cantor Theodore Aronson Joan Finn, Cantorial Soloist Lay Leadership Arnold Budin, President Barbara Stoller, VP Ed Schwarz, VP Richard Flaum, VP Hope Pomerantz, VP Nancy Fogel, VP Joel Scharf, Treasurer Judy Epstein, Financial Secretary Jesse Bayer, Financial Secretary Marge Solomon, Corr. Secretary Ann Merin, Recording Secretary **Executive Director** Leslie Sporn **School Directors** Elizabeth Best, R.J.E., Religious School Carol Paster, Preschool **Program Director** Tracy Horwitz **Bulletin** Sunny Seglin

The Bulletin Vol. 10 No. 4 The Bulletin is published eleven times yearly. MEMBER CONGREGATION UNION FOR REFORM JUDAISM

Contact us at info@tsti.org Visit our website at www.tsti.org

All in the

Family

Mazel Tov To: David Steiner who received the Life Time Achievement Award from the National Association of Industrial and Office Parks.

Robert Katz on the marriage of his son, David, to Jodi Morgan.

Yudit and Bernard Terry on the marriage of their son, Alon, to Marjorie Fingeret.





A teacher of mine once described the difference between a sick and dying and a healthy, growing congregation. In a sick and dying congregation there is always enough space, always enough time to plan each program ad there is always enough funding available. In a healthy and growing congregation there is never enough space, there is never enough time to plan everything without feeling rushed and there is never enough funding for everything you want to do.

How does TSTI size up based on this?? Well, in the last year 98 young people have become bar or bat mitzvah here at temple, there have been 186 different Shabbat worship services and 21 holiday worship services, 27 temple connected weddings and 16 baby-namings, 7 congregants have died and 61 additional temple families have been touched by the death of a close family member. In the last year our Iris Family Preschool logged 396 hours of morning class time, 528 hours of afternoon class time and 120 hours of camp time and our Linda and Rudy Slucker Religious School logged 270 hours of classroom time in grades K-6 and 110 hours of class time in Hebrew High for grades 7 – 12. In the last year our Seniors Program, which is run thanks to the Gellis family Fund for Seniors, logged 50 hours of programming time and an addition 50-75 hours of volunteer time went into planning and running the program and our Shabbat Milk and Cookies

From the Rabbi's Study

Program of the Iris Family Matters Program has had more than 150 participants each time. In the last year 27 post-bar/bar mitzvah students have read torah publicly during High Holy Days and Shabbat services and the members of STISY, our senior youth group have logged more than 600 hours of planning meetings, more than 764 hours of programming meetings and membership now numbers well over 70.

New this year were such things as: a pilot program to help 12 grade students and their parents prepare for college which had over 30 participants, Shabbat in the Park; a Life Transitions seminar held through the Iris Family Matters Program; a new, and incredibly well received Yom **Kippur Afternoon Service inspired by** our Temple's participation in Synagogue 2000; The Iris Family Preschool's Jewish Discovery Zone; revamped Parenting Programs; School Spirit Day and an on-going program to gain National Accreditation for our school. The Slucker **Religious School's Enrichment Class** for 3-5th grade and class trips for 1st, 2nd, 6th, and enrichment classes. What does the next year look like? Well, next year looks even busier than the last.

In our Iris Family Preschool we'll see a mini-camp for the weeks between the end of school and beginning of camp, an adult art class for KinderRichment parents; a mini math and science camp; a Pre-KinderRichment camp and a CD of Preschool songs and blessings that Carol Paster, Rabbi Miller and Cantor Aronson are creating. In our Linda and Rudy Slucker Religious School we'll see a 4th & 5th grade program on bullying; expanded Enrichment classes for our 4th through 6th grade; class trips expanded to the 5th & 7th grades; Torah study on every grade level and an expanded program to help prepare our 11th & 12th grade students for college.

For adults, we'll have an adult retreat, an adult bar/bat mitzvah class, as well as two Scholar-in-Residence weekends, and a variety of individual learning opportunities. In addition, thanks to the Josh Littman Video Fund we now possess a set of the Jewish Heritage Video Library that is available for all Temple members to borrow and view.

None of this would be possible if it weren't for the incredible individuals who are part of our Temple staff, and for the remarkable Temple members who selflessly volunteer their time and energy. None of this would be possible without the growing sense of partnership between us all.

In looking back at the last year I can say with surety that Temple Sharey Tefilo-Israel is truly a healthy and a growing place. It is an exciting place to celebrate the very best of liberal Judaism as we continue to bring ancient values and traditions to life in a modern and a relevant context.

I wish you a happy and a healthy summer as we look forward to another amazing year as a Temple family.

Rabbi Daniel M. Cohen

March for Women's Lives

Temple members and neighbors were proud participants in the historic March for Women's Lives on April 25 in Washington DC. TSTI sponsored two full buses, which left South Orange around 6 a.m. carrying 85 eager marchers, about a third of whom were Temple members.

Four hours later our buses pulled into Washington's RFK Stadium. From there it was a short metro ride to the National Mall, where a staggering crowd was assembled for a peaceful but forceful protest in defense of women's reproductive freedom. While reports vary on the numbers, march organizers claimed over a million participants, and our delegation members could well believe it as we struggled to stay together and march under our TSTI banner.

I was so proud that our Temple and our Reform movement were strong supporters of this important event, and that we were able to provide the transportation for marchers from our local area. Many thanks to Rabbi Miller and **Jennifer Larson** for their hard work making this day a reality. Barbara Laub



MEMBER MENTORS

Guiding our Youth in Career Choices

Temple Sharey Tefilo-Isarel is embarking on a new endeavor to help our younger congregants as they begin to ponder career choices. We hope that all our congregants will participate and become "Mentor Members"!

A Mentor Member is someone who is willing to be available to talk to any of our member children from ages 17-25 as they develop questions about career paths and choices. In addition, it is a wonderful networking tool for the entire congregation!! We are interested in accumulating information from congregants in any and every field of work or specialty!

Please watch your mail for a postcard to fill out and return to Temple. We will keep all cards on file in the Temple office, available upon request. Please become a Mentor Member and help our young adults navigate the rough waters of the business world and job market of today!!

Barbara Green



June marks the end of Temple's fiscal year and "organized" activities. The building may not be very busy; however summer services are very well attended and so pleasant. Friday night Shabbat services are more informal and very spiritual (at least in my humble opinion.)

Sisterhood will be busy this summer getting ready for another banner year. Sorry to remind you how fast the summer goes, but before you know it, you will be getting a request to participate in our L'Shana Tovah Greetings. We will again print the names in the September Bulletin. Temple dues do not cover the Temple's budget and Sisterhood is happy to have different means of raising money to help fund items in Temple.

Please think of the Gift Shop when you want to buy something. Everything is on sale and some items are BELOW COST. We have great hostess gifts and several non-Judaica items.

Have a wonderful summer! Relax, enjoy the sun (don't forget the sun block), enjoy your family, enjoy good health, and enjoy every day.

> Marcia Weinstein Sisterhood President

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So now I have a college graduate. The four years have flown by so quickly I feel as though I just helped her move into her first dormitory. sometimes feel that I might break into a rendition of Sunrise, Sunset, but I try to keep myself in check.

This time of transition can be quite traumatic for the returning college student as well for the parents and siblings. It can be a time of battles; battles of territory, battles of closet space, battles of wills. The child is used to having independence and now unfortunately in this economy, college graduates find it difficult to be financially independent enough to live on their own. Parents tend to push their children to get a job, any job, immediately. The child may want to hold out until a great job in their field becomes available. Parents who were blissfully unaware of the college social life now have sleepless nights waiting for their child to return home safely. As parents are getting ready for bed, the student is getting ready to go out to a club. The independent college

student who had grown into a fairly mature young adult capable of making her own decisions, doing her own laundry, keeping track of her money, balancing social life and academic deadlines as well as holding down a part-time job fairly quickly returns to the role of a child just by moving back home. Fortunately for my daughter, Jamie, both her parents understand this.

We understand that this is a mere blip in Jamie's journey to be a fully independent adult. The next few months will be harder for her than for us as she sends out her resume to every New York-based fashionrelated company. She will have many rejections; she may find that she will need to readjust her vision of a 'dream job'. She may find that financial independence is more important than the job itself.

So how does this relate to preschool? It doesn't, directly. But I can look back and know that our decision as parents to let Jamie pursue her own dreams, develop her strengths, support her efforts and treat her as an individual helped her to grow from a shy, reserved, timid child to a self-confident, responsible, caring, selfless, empathetic, happy adult. The road ahead may be bumpy for her for awhile but she has learned coping skills, organizational skills, planning skills and social skills, all of which I firmly believe she learned as a preschooler maneuvering through the days of play-based exploration, experimentation and creative expression. She was given many opportunities to make mistakes and learn from them, to fail and to move on. Just as many toddlers learn to walk by holding on to parents' fingers for support eventually they let go and we have to let them always letting the child know that we, as parents, will be there to encourage them when they struggle and to catch them as they fall.

Carol Paster Preschool Director

Brotherhood

is happy to announce the winners of its annual raffle and thanks the 180 people who participated in the fundraiser that benefits STISY.

1st Place: Panasonic Camcorder Won by: Phoebe & Marvin Schwinder Won by: Judy & Robert Epstein

2nd Place: Panasonic DVD/VCR Player

3rd Place: Teac CD/Clock Radio Won by: Adrienne & Morton Ament





Linda and Rudy Slucker Religious School

Dear TSTI Family,

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Thank you for an absolutely beautiful Shabbat evening on May 7.1t was so full of joy and love and fun. It is a memory that will long sustain me. The children were amazing, the service was wonderful, and my dear friends, Rabbi Cohen, Rabbi Miller and Cantor Aronson touched me deeply with their words.

Thank you for all the loving thoughts sent my way. You have no idea how meaningful those thoughts are to me. I am so grateful for the opportunity I have to serve this community. It has been a gift of extraordinary value which has defined my life.

There are so many people to specifically thank, many of whom do not want public recognition. So, from deep within my soul I say thank you to those people who have guided and supported me for so many years. You know who you are and I send you my love and devotion.

> Faithfully, Clizabeth Best, RJC Religious School Director



The school year ended with the beautiful 1st grade Naming Ceremony. What a wonderful group of students!

Change for Change

It is with thanks and great appreciation that Cantor Aronson acknowledges donations made to the Change for Change Fund in honor of his 36 years with Temple. These funds are helping to support two schools in Elat. Israel.

Rita & Leonard Goldschmidt Milly & Herb Iris Leon Fink **Rita & Dennis Marshall** William Steinhauer Pauline Pollack Sherri Heller Jill & Wayne Canastra **Ruth Tenner** Robert I. Kopech & Michele E. Fabrizio Betty Drexler-Movitz & Mark I. Movitz Shelly & Steve Saul **Eileen Roth** Jerome Tuttle Sylvia & Jerry Baron James Mason Marjorie & Robert Solomon Danielle & James Mason Donna & Thomas Cohen Audrey & Leonard Weiss Wilhelm Eisenstein

Enjoy a great meal to benefit Cantor Aronson's **Change for Change** program. As you may know Cantor Aronson is raising money to benefit Israeli children. **The Stage House Inn** in Scotch Plains has graciously agreed to donate 20% of all proceeds of your meal(outside gratuity and tax) to Cantor's program. Here's how it works:

Eat at the Stage House Inn located on Park Ave in Scotch Plains. At the end of your meal complete the card provided by your server and be sure to indicate you are a TSTI member. You'll have a great meal and Israeli children will benefit.

Mitzvah News

I find the great thing in this world is not so much where we stand, as in what direction we are moving. —Oliver Wendell Holmes, Jr.

The Green Team Starts a Hybrid Car Club!

Thanks to **Mike Gordon** for organizing the presentation by Tim Bente of Morristown Toyota in April, and to **Elliot Sommer** for being the host for the evening. The test drive and information session was exciting. Who knew that Prius was a stylish hybrid car that did not need to be plugged into an outlet, and that its braking action recharges its battery?

We were all impressed by the fact that the car has no transmission, and its dashboard looks like a rocketship's control panel. Our test drive showed the car had great pickup and was very quiet. When the car is stopped, it makes absolutely no noise. The car fits 4 tall adults very comfortably and 5 people with 3 children in the back. Currently, it's priced from \$21,000-\$26,000, although there is already a long waiting list. Next year Lexus and Toyota will be bring out SUV hybrids.

We will be starting a hybrid car club at TSTI, and all members will get express drop-off and pick-up service at Sunday School. Please contact Elliot Sommer at <u>elliot@pacefab.com</u> for more information.

A New Mitzvah Idea - "In Good Company"

Want to take this one and run with it? The concept is that you would organize volunteers to go to one of the local senior residences to take a walk with a resident (or walk and push a resident in a wheelchair). It could be scheduled or occasional. It's fun, healthy, and Mitzvah-ish all at the same time. If you're interested in this one, email jillmkushner@yahoo.com or call her at 973-763-8844.

Out In the World-It's All Green

There are several environmental events of interest on the Hackensack River—fun for everyone! Visit www.hackensackriverkeeper.org to find out more. You can also pay \$15 to take a Hackensack River Boat Cruise, hosted by the NJ Meadowlands Commission, to learn about wildlife in the marshlands.

Everyone was a Winner Cirque de Shule, 2004

What evening we enjoyed on May 15 at the Cirque de Shule's encore performance! **Richard Flaum**, VP Ways and Means, with his miraculous team of talented, creative and energetic Temple members brought us huge and resounding fun and financial success. The congregation gives special thanks to:

Fern Eatroff Paula Green

Ellen Barocas Andrea Bergman **Debbie Bernstein** Carol Brodev Larry Brodey Fern Eatroff **Robyn Ehrlich** Judy Epstein Jack Fersko Nancy Flaum Alice Forman Pam Frank Bobbe Futterman Vernon Futterman Paula Green Jane Kagan Steve Kohn

Ann Merin Cindy Sobelman

Barbara Laub Sharon Lindberg Annette Littman Harold Littman Todd Lurie Nathan Lynn Ann Merin Karen Merson Eileen Rudd Nancy Schneier **Cindy Sobelman Rick Staenberg** Barbra Stoller Barbara Sunberg Anne Sussman **Richard Trenk** Marcia Weinstein

In addition, the East Coast Greenway is continuing its growth in the Metro NY/NJ area. Go to www.greenway.org or call 401-789-4625 to learn more about this urban version of the Appalachian Trail for pedestrians and cyclists that connects cities all along the Eastern seaboard.

Out In the World-Another Possible Mitzvah Idea

At Temple Shalom in Succasunna, NJ, senior volunteers staff a phone companion program and call homebound elderly folks on weekday mornings. The program is run through the RSVP of Morris County. You can get more information from Volunteers for Morris County/ RSVP at 201-538-7947 or Temple Shalom at 973-584-5666. Would you like to organize something like this at TSTI? Email jillmkushner@yahoo.com or call her at 973-763-8844.

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Mazel Tov To Our B'nai Mitzvah











Jessica Abigail Brenner, daughter of **Stephanie Edelson** and **Robert Brenner**, will become a Bat Mitzvah on Saturday, June 5. Her grandparents, Estelle and Leonard Edelson and Audrey and Carl Brenner, and brothers Danny and Matthew, look forward to celebrating with her. Jessica is enjoying 7th grade at Millburn Middle School and likes science and math. Outside school activities include dance, skiing, movies and being with friends. She will participate in the CareLink program to make and deliver meals to seniors as her "Mitzvah Project."

"I am very excited to become a Bat Mitzvah. I have worked hard to get to this point but I realize it's only the beginning. I hope to continue my Jewish education and use the teachings of the Torah to help guide me in making good decisions in my life, try to help others, and fulfill my obligations as a Jewish adult," says Jessica.

Evan Sam Wovsaniker, son of **Susan** and **Alan Wovsaniker**, looks forward to his Bar Mitzvah on Saturday, June 5. Joining him will be sisters Lauren and Erica, and grandparents, Sally and Harold Wovsaniker. Evan's favorite subject at Montclair Kimberley Academy is English and he enjoys playing soccer. For his "Mitzvah Project" Evan is collecting food, blankets and other goods for the West Orange Animal Shelter because he loves animals.

Evan says of this milestone, "I am excited about becoming a man and the responsibilities that being a man entails. I look forward to being more independent and having more freedom. I also want to get a part time job and begin to stand on my own."

Benjamin Hanson Sachs will be called to the Torah on Saturday, June 5. His parents, **Claudia Hanson** and **Stephen Sachs** will celebrate with him along with brothers and sister Charlie, Josh and Rebecca, and grandparents Frieda Sachs and Dee and Charlie Hanson. Benjamin, known as Jake, likes music, math, Japanese, Latin and ethics at The Hudson School and also enjoys dance and voice performance. A home for seniors will benefit from a musical performance from Jake for his "Mitzvah Project." "Becoming a Bar Mitzvah means that I am considered a man through this ceremony, and it feels very special," says Jake.

Rachel Lauren Pitman will become a Bat Mitzvah on Saturday, June 12, in the company of her parents, **Susan** and **David Pitman** and siblings, Jessica and Benjamin. Grandparents Robert Pitman, Nancy Pitman, and Eileen Roth look forward to sharing the celebration. Rachel enjoys English and the arts at Montclair Kimberley Academy, as well as fencing and art classes. She donated a number of video tapes and toys to the pediatric unit of St. Barnabas Hospital for her "Mitzvah Project."

Rachel notes, "Becoming a Bat Mitzvah really means becoming a free and responsible adult. It means giving up some things, but getting new opportunities in life. In my opinion, it means growing up."

Meredith Ann Fischler, daughter of Lori and Robert Fischler, will become a Bat Mitzvah on Saturday, June1 2. Her grandparents, Edith and Harold Fischler, and brother Benjamin, look forward to celebrating with her. Meredith's favorite subjects at Millburn Middle School are science, social studies and language arts. She also enjoys tennis and basketball. She has collected eye glasses to donate to New Eyes for the Needy for her "Mitzvah Project."

"Becoming a Bat Mitzvah," says Meredith, "means that I am taking on new responsibilities and becoming an adult in the Jewish community."

Mazel Tov To Our B'nai Mitzvah



Rachel Alana Alter will be called to the Torah on Saturday, June 12. With her will be her parents, Julie and Andrew Alter, brother, Brian, and grandparents, Carol and Roger Kane and Elaine and Sol Alter. Rachel attends Millburn Middle School where she enjoys social studies and language arts. She especially enjoys playing tennis, softball and lacrosse. For her "Mitzvah Project," Rachel is helping to clean up local streams and is donating her party centerpieces to local shelters.

"Becoming a Bat Mitzvah means that I can follow a tradition thousands of years old by reading from the Torah because I am considered an adult," says Rachel.

"I will take on more responsibilities and continue to learn about my Jewish heritage," says

Samantha Amy Meskin, daughter of Jennie and Ken Meskin, will become a Bat Mitzvah on Saturday, June 12. Her sister, Rebecca, and grandparents, Rose and Arnold Fingerhut and Viola Meskin, look forward to celebrating with her. Sam's favorite subjects at Millburn Middle School are Spanish and language arts. She also enjoys soccer and tennis, and being with her friends. She is volunteering at New Eyes for the Needy for her



"Mitzvah Project."

from the Torah, but actually understanding it."

Sam.





Laura's favorite subjects at Millburn Middle School are language arts, art and math, and she soccer, reading and being with friends. She is donating over 50 new books to a children's shelter, where she is also spending time reading to the children for her "Mitzvah Project." Laura says,"Becoming a Bat Mitzvah means that I am accepted into the Jewish community as an adult. I will accept more responsibilities because this milestone marks a new stage in my life. The most important part is standing on the bimah and not just reading

Laura Catherine Mandel will become a Bat Mitzvah on Saturday, June 19. She is the daughter of Judy Scherer and Michael Mandel, and sister of Elliot. Laura's grandparents, Joan and Norman Mandel and Florence Schoenwetter will be with her to share the day.



Kara Eve Sudberg will be called to the Torah on Saturday, June 19. With her will be her parents, Wendy and Leonard Sudberg, and brother, Matthew. Kara attends Millburn Middle School. She loves animals, singing, piano, swimming, soccer and has a brown belt in karate. For her "Mitzvah Project," Kara sponsored a child who was hospitalized to see the Thanksgiving parade from the vantage point of a hotel room.

"My Bat Mitzvah represents my growth towards adulthood. I am the first Bat Mitzvah in my maternal family line. I am looking forward to having my family and friends together for a happy occasion," says Kara.



Rachel Adeleye looks forward to Saturday, June 19, when she will read from the Torah as a Bat Mitzvah. Her parents, Lori Herzig and Manny Adeleye, and brother Ryan, along with grandparents Arlene and Edward Herzig will celebrate with her. Rachel enjoys sports, dance, singing and being with friends. She is a seventh grader at Newark Acaademy.

"Becoming a Bat Mitzvah means joining the Jewish community as an adult, and continuing my Jewish education," says Rachel.





Jamie Alexandra Singer was called to the Torah on Saturday, May 15 as her parents, **Evie** and **Ron Singer**, brother Andrew, and grandparents Esther Singer and Faye and Irwin Stern celebrate with her. Jamie attends Heritage Middle School where her favorite subjects are Spanish and language arts, as well as participating in soccer, softball, cheerleading and gymnastics. In memory of her cousin, Arielle, Jamie is helping children with special needs create art projects about animals for her "Mitzvah Project."

"This day marks taking my place as an adult in the Jewish community and having more responsibilities," says Jamie. (corrected from the May Bulletin)

Daniel Griffith, son of Laurie and Jim Griffith, will become a Bar Mitzvah on Saturday, June 5

TSTI Volunteers Recognized at Annual Meeting

Sylvia Brucker

Sylvia has been a Temple member for just a few years, but since she joined she has been eager to help in the office when we are overwhelmed with projects. She handles the phones, does mailings and many other office tasks. Sylvia is a charming lady, and we are most grateful that she is a part of our Temple family.

Anne Michaelson

Anne spearheaded much of the programming for Iris Family Matters projects, including our extremely successful "Shabbat Milk and Cookies."

Judy Rubashkin

As a Preschool liaison, Judy has always been willing and available to serve the Iris Family Matters programs. She has also chaired the Preschol Book Fair for the last four years.

Jesse Robinton

One of our own Temple kids, Jesse continues her connection here by coming in one day a week to do office work. Her smile and cheerful attitude brighten everyone's day.

Zenaida and Bill Steinhauer

Together the Steinhauers have chaired the TSTI contingent of Interfaith Hospitality Network congregations. They have arranged for over 40 Temple volunteers to prepare for, feed, and oversee the homeless families that we host.

Project SHIN Nurse

While April showers bring May Flowers, June is a busy and beautiful month with many opportunities to socialize and reconnect. There are the snow birds returning from Florida and family gatherings for graduations, weddings, end of year recitals, banquets, award ceremonies and barbeques. There are the summer vacation plans and getting the kids (and grandchildren) off to camp activities. For some older adults, just the warm sunshine will help to shed winter shells.

In all of the planning and running around, leave time to smell the roses and enjoy the warm days and cooler evenings. There are opportunities to plant, to take a slow walk or sit on a bench in the sunshine with a friend. Count the blessings in your life, no matter how small or insignificant they may feel because they add up. Let music fill in the sunshine and bring back memories that might even make you chuckle. Take a risk and greet or talk or visit someone new; it may be the beginning of a wonderful friendship.

Please note that I can be reached at the JCC Jewish Health and Healing Center. Call me at 973-736-3200 and ask to leave a message on extension 372.1 check my messages regularly. I will be available to make home visits, to help advocate for seniors with their doctors or connect with community resources. I am also available for family conferences to help keep Mom and Dad safe in their home or look for other housing options that are appropriate and provide a listening ear to those who are feeling isolated, lonely or just need to talk.

> Take care, Claire Ahselrad Project SHIN Nurse

Project SHIN is a project funded by the Healthcare Foundation of New Jersey and United Jewish Communities of MetroWest New Jersey Strategic Initiatives

ANNUAL REPORT OF GATES OF ISRAEL FOUNDATION

The Gates of Israel Foundation of Temple Sharey Tefilo-Israel, Inc. is a separately incorporated foundation made up of its own independent Board of Trustees. The Board of Trustees, the majority of which are members of the Board of Trustees of the Temple Board, is entrusted with the responsibility to oversee major fund raising activities of the Temple and to prudently invest monies raised from Temple donors.

The Gates of Israel previously oversaw the campaign to raise funds for the renovation of the classrooms and offices. This campaign raised approximately \$1.5 million. In addition, the Gates and Temple entered into, at one point, a mortgage in excess of \$1 million to cover the cost of these renovations. Since the campaign, the Gates has been able to eliminate the mortgage and reduce the Note obligation to \$358,000. The Gates presently oversees investments worth approximately \$1.3 million.

The Gates is planning a major campaign to be launched in the Fall 2004 in order to raise funds to deal with the following Temple needs:

1. The Temple needs to renovate its ballroom, reception areas and bathrooms, as well as to construct additional classrooms in order to meet the needs of its preschool and religious school. The approximate cost of these renovations is \$2 million.

2. The Temple's mansion needs significant restoration and curative work in order for the mansion to be maintained. The approximate cost of this work is \$1 million.

3. The Temple seeks to raise funds in order to endow various programs so that the viability of the programs will

not be subject to budgetary constraints. These programs, which include "Conversations", "Scholars in Residence" and "Adult Education", are crucial to the future success of the Temple. The approximate funds sought to be raised for these endowment programs is \$2 million.

In order to successfully meet these obligations, the Gates of Israel has engaged Development Consultants, Inc., a private company which acts as consultants to charities. Development Consultants has successfully assisted Temples such as Beth Shalom, Temple Sinai, as well as the JCC and Daughters of Israel in their capital campaigns in recent years. Development Consultants will begin assisting the Temple by conducting a feasibility subject. The study will analyze the scope of the project relative to the anticipated funds to be raised; the willingness and capacity of the leadership and membership to support the campaign to reach its stated goal; and the funds that can be expected to be raised upon entry into the campaign. The company will be conducting direct face-to-face interview with leaders and members of the Temple community. These interviews will take place in the months of June and July 2004. It is the hope, that through the study, those who are interviewed will help us identify the strengths and weaknesses of the campaign and to provide to us fundamental insights as to the needs of the Temple.

Therefore, if you are called on by the Gates or clergy to participate in the feasibility study, we would greatly appreciate your cooperation and participation.

> Jay Rice President, Gates of Israel Foundation



On Sunday April 18, Conversations guest speaker, Dr. Irit Felsen, who is the daughter of Holocaust survivors and works primarily with survivors and their children, spoke about the transgenerational effect of the Holocaust. She has written extensively and is extremely knowledgeable about this subject as well as Post Traumatic Disorder. Dr. Felsen spoke about the unique strengths and vulnerabilities of the survivor group, noting that those who survived defied any expectations for a capacity to survive. A group of 'next generation' members of TSTI spoke informally after the lecture about the possibility of forming a group for further discussion on this subject. If interested, please contact **Arlene Gordon** (973-376-0883) or **Susan Witkin** (973 378-8635).







Contributions in memory of loved ones and in honor of the simchas in our lives are acts of loving kindness. We are grateful for your generous support of Temple through various Tribute Funds.

TEMPLE FUND

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