

Temple Topics

FEBRUARY 2003

SHEVAT / ADAR 5763

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF TEMPLE NER TAMID

STEVEN KUSHNER Rabbi

WHEN I WAS A LITTLE BOY I WOULD TAKE PARTICULAR delight in flipping through the pages of my brother's book on space travel. Of course, in those days, it was a subject of science fiction. People talked about it. They made movies about it. But no one had ever done it. Notions of rocket ships and spacemen were relegated to artists' renderings. That's what I remember most about that book. The colored drawings of the planets. The pictures of men in spacesuits. And the spacestation. That was the best. A huge, spherical contraption, breached by a diameter crossing axle, it looked something like a gigantic gyro. The book was authored by Dr. Werner von Braun. Little did I know the ideas in that book—and the illustrations—were soon to enter the world of reality.

People always talk about those events that we will forever be able to identify where we were when they occurred. Pearl Harbor. JFK's assassination. September 11. And for me I will always add to the list where I was the day Neil Armstrong took that *small* step. And maybe even more, the day John Glenn circled the earth. Sixth grade. Mr. Wagoner's class. The John Dewey Elementary School was one of those cutting edge baby boomer enterprises. We had televisions installed in our classrooms. How exciting it was to watch the liftoff and, on those flat geographic maps of the earth, to track the path of his journey. Like being in Mission Control.

I've been trying to explain to my kids why it is the Columbia Space Shuttle disaster has been so upsetting to me. Yes, they were saddened and shocked. They understood it was a terrible tragedy. But they also were quick to put it into perspective. After all, it's not in the same category as 9/11, that terrible day the earth stood still. They implicitly understood that the deaths of seven cannot compare to 3000. An accident of technology does not deserve to be spoken in the same breath with acts of premeditated evil. Indeed, each and every day there are mishaps which claim the lives of countless souls. People simply in the wrong place at the wrong time. Children. Lives yet begun. Plane crashes. Floods. Ferry sinkings. Earthquakes. How is it that the deaths of seven travelers should merit the suspension of our daily lives, as if their loss belongs to us?

But from my perspective, that's the point. They do belong to us. They sail into the "wild blue yonder" as emissaries of humankind. The risks they take are for us. And our children. Not simply "to go where no man has gone before" for the sake of adventure but to discover. Like the explorers who set sail for uncharted seas, like the pioneers who braved the Northwest Passage, like the newly freed slaves who dared to walk between the walls of water to reach the shores of freedom, the women and men who climb into rocket ships and place their lives in harm's way are the embodiment of potential. They defy what is and give hope to what might be.

On some level, I think that's what my kids have yet to learn. They have been born into a world of so much. For my generation, having a television—let alone one with color—was a privilege. And an extension phone. And a car with power steering. What did we know from cell phones and personal computers and DVDs? Today's technology leaves so little to the imagination. Even science fiction seems to resemble reality,

(Rabbi continued on page 5)

Mark Your Calendars

Friday, February 7—8:00 p.m.
3rd Grade Shabbat

February 12-17
Confirmation Class Amsterdam Trip

February 14-18
NFTY Convention

Friday, February 14—8:00 p.m.
Guest Speaker Martin Baum

Sunday, February 23
Ground Breaking Ceremony—More details to follow

Shabbat Services

Erev Shabbat services every Friday at 8 p.m. except the last Friday of the month when services will be at 6:30 p.m.

Shabbat services every Saturday at 10 a.m.

February 7—7 pm
Tot Shabbat

February 8—10 am
Casual Minyan

February 21—8 pm
Anniversary Shabbat

February 28—6:30 pm
Kabbalat Shabbat: Early Friday Night Service

B'nai Mitzvah

Mazal Tov to the happy families

February 1	Matthew Rogers Dylan Weingarten
February 22	Aaron Goldberg

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David Ehrlich lives in Jerusalem. He owns a café in the city, is a journalist, and periodically serves as a spokesperson for the IDF. He spoke to our congregation at Erev Shabbat services this past November. I just received a letter from him, which I excerpt below.

A Letter from Jerusalem

He wrote, "I can't tell you how special the visit was for me, and how impressed I was with the warmth and atmosphere of your congregation." The body of David's letter indicates pretty clearly why such warmth is appreciated.

David reinforces below what I heard when visiting Israel for the first time ever just before September 11, 2001, when so many Israelis talked about how surreal life was and where the term "existential" was used to describe people focused on their very existence. While you may not agree with everything David writes, I urge you to read this to see how surreal and existential life is these days—and to think about how you would respond moment to moment living under similar conditions. More importantly, I seek your advice regarding appropriate congregational mitzvot for Ner Tamid.

We were four people sitting in a café last week, talking about anything but the upcoming war with Iraq. The newspapers were full of scary predictions, describing chemical and biological weapons that Saddam might use against us and how poorly we are equipped against them. Yet most people I know don't take it to heart. I'm not sure why: have we toughened up so much over the past two years? Is this news too obscure, given that we don't even have a border with Iraq?

To me, Saddam seems like a mythical figure, sitting in one of his palaces, sending a double to shake hands with his citizens. It's not reality; it's an Arabian Nights Story.

But this is reality...

I said that if the Iraqis attacked us after all it won't exterminate our state, and might strengthen us eventually because world public opinion would change in our favor. "Oh no," said Sidra Ezrahi-Dekoven, who was my professor at the Hebrew University years ago. (She had taught me a fascinating course on the literature of destruction. But now it's not about text, it's about life.) "We don't want them to feel pity for us," she said, "and we don't want Sharon to feel he can do anything he likes because the world loves us again."

The war with Iraq is in the future, but the Intifada is still going on, though things seemed to slow down a little bit till last week's deadly attack in Tel-Aviv (22 fatalities.) You never know how to interpret the ups and downs of violence: were the Palestinians holding their attacks till the elections in Israel? Have we managed to hit most leaders of the terrorist cells? Or was this just a random recess?

No, recess is probably not the right term. In fact there were attacks all the time. Two weeks ago they killed a 70 year old Israeli who was selling merchandise in the Jordan Valley. A few days before they killed four Yeshiva students in a settlement near Hebron. I have to admit that attacks on settlers don't shock me as much as those on citizens "in" Israel. I'm not the only Israeli who feels that settlers are causing much trouble by sitting in Palestinian areas. But I know I'm being unfair: murder is mur-

(President continued on page 10)

The Top Ten Murders/ Deaths in the Bible

AT A RECENT B'NOT MITZVAH, I introduced the week's *haftarah* portion by noting that it contained one of my "Top Ten Murders" found in the *Tanakh*. I got a good laugh from the crowd, and afterwards at the luncheon several people inquired about what the other nine were. Good question. The *Tanakh* (the combination of the Torah, the *Ne'vi'im*/Prophets and *Khetuvim*/Writings) has a lot of juicy bits in it that you don't cover in Sunday school: incest, genocide, uncovering nakedness, gossip, rape and deception to name a few. Hey, at least we can say we didn't whitewash our history. The Bible is rife with the worst of humanity and the best. Remember, this is an epic. A slave people carved a sacred kingdom out of a harsh, idol-worshipping, cruel land. They whined. They back-slid. They didn't do it the easy, friendly, UN-sanctioned way. Sometimes, enemies had to be taken down, Baal-worshippers had to eat dust, and human hubris created tragedies of, well, biblical proportions. So, due to popular request, here they are:

10. Killing of the Nameless Egyptian "Giant" (I Chronicles 11:22-25)

If you ever have insomnia, read the Books of Chronicles -- they are a rehash, with some variation, of the Books of Samuel and Kings. If you can keep your eyelids open through the genealogy sections, there are some interesting details thrown in about the warriors King David drew to his side in his campaign for the kingship against Saul. One warrior, by the name of Benaiah son of Jehoida from Kabzeel performed "great deeds." His resume is full of "slayage," and hey, he even killed a lion in a pit on a snowy day. I can't tell what impresses the author more -- the fact he killed a lion, did it in a pit, or that he did it on a snowy day. Anyway, even better, he battled a nameless Egyptian who was a "giant" of five cubits high. Since a cubit is somewhere between 17 and 20 inches, this made the guy an average NBA player. During the fight, the Egyptian wielded a sharp spear in his hand that was the size of a weaver's beam. Benaiah, armed with only a blunt club, wrenched the spear from the hand of the mighty Egyptian and skewered the future center with his own spear. He gets style points for that.

9. Murder of King Ben-hadad of Aram (II Kings 8:15)

This murder needs a little background. King Ben-hadad of Aram is ill and sends his messenger, Hazael, to the prophet Elisha, to inquire if he will recover from his illness. When Hazael, the messenger, finally meets Elisha, the prophet explains that the king will recover and then begins to cry. "Why do you weep?" asks Hazael. "Because I know the tragedy that you will cause the Israelite people," responds Elisha, who also informs the man that he will be the next king of Aram. When Hazael returns to the King, he tells him, correctly, that he will recover from his illness. Then, not trusting to prophecy, he "took a piece of netting, dipped it in water and spread it over his [the King's] face. So [Ben-hadad] died, and Hazael succeeded him as king." Gruesome way to go, and talk about a bloodless coup...

8. Jezebel (II Kings 9:30-37)

Jezebel was the foreign-born wife of Ahab, the eighth king of Israel, who reigned twenty-two years from about 869-850 B.C.E. She was a manipulative, murderous idol-worshipper who helped her husband lead the people astray after Baal. She is infamous for killing the prophets of Adonai, and especially hunting down the prophet Elijah, who prophesied her death. Basically, she was bad news all around. Jezebel was thrown down from a high window in her palace by her own eunuchs, was smashed, trampled by horses on the field of Jezreel, and eaten by dogs until only her skull, feet and hands were left. You do have to give her credit for going out in style though -- she applied kohl to her eyes, and fixed up her hair as she heard that her end was near.

7. Absalom (II Samuel 18:14-15)

Absalom, the rebellious son of King David, was fleeing the massive defeat of his forces by loyal followers of David. The mule he was riding passed under the branches of a terebinth tree, and he became entangled, even as the mule kept going. Though they were at odds, David specifically warned his troops to, "Deal gently with my boy." But Joab, a loyal general, knowing that it was the best thing to do despite David's soft-hearted order, took three darts in his hand and drove them into the chest of the entangled Absalom. He was still alive in the thick of the terebinth when ten of Joab's arms bear-

ers closed in and struck him until he died. As if that wasn't enough, they put his corpse into a pit and buried him with large stones. Ouch.

6. Abimelech (Judges 9:50-55)

After the Israelites entered the land, they had no king to rule over the tribes. Instead, Adonai was supposed to be their king -- but that didn't work out too well because the Israelites weren't self-starters. A series of judges, who were really more like warriors than legal counsels, rose and fell in the period. Some, like Deborah and Gideon, were good, while others were bad. One particularly bad guy was Abimelech. The son of Gideon, he killed his own brothers (seventy on one stone) and the people of Shechem proclaimed him king. He went from town to town, killing inhabitants and sowing fields of his enemies with salt. When he went to the town of Thebez, all the citizens took refuge in a tower. As he began to attack the tower, a woman dropped an upper millstone on his head and cracked his skull. Rather than be bested by a woman in war, he called to his attendant to stab him so people might not say, "A woman killed him!" My favorite line is the end of the story, "When the men of Israel saw that Abimelech was dead, everyone went home." The party was definitely over.

5. Jephthah's Daughter (Judges 11:34-40)

This story is tragic and a warning to all Israelites not to make rash vows! Jephthah's tragedy takes place in the time of the Judges, when the Israelites were battling the Ammonites. Jephthah made a vow that if God delivered the enemy into his hands, he would sacrifice to Adonai as a burnt offering whatever comes out of his house. Unfortunately, the first thing out of Jephthah's house was his only child, his lovely daughter, dancing and shaking the tambourine. You can almost see her sparkling eyes and warm smile as she welcomed home her triumphant father. Despite his misfortune, Jephthah had to keep his vow. Vows to God are important and cannot be transgressed. Hence, *Kol Nidre*, but that's another lesson. Since his daughter was a virgin, she asked her father if she could mourn her maidenhood for two months with her maidservants. He allowed her to do so and then killed her and fulfilled his sacrificial vow. Some scholars think this story is a description of a remnant Goddess-cult that existed in Ancient

(Cantor continued on page 9)

When I've asked my own children "What happened today in religious school?" the answer has always been the typical, "Nothing." Being privy to the inner workings of this and other synagogue schools I know that that answer could not be further from the truth. Not that our children mean to be dishonest, but taking any amount of pleasure in religious school is not usually considered "cool" and admitting to having a positive experience can create social problems among peers. To complicate matters further, children can (and do) become incommunicado at different periods in their lives. During those difficult times finding out just about anything from a child can become a challenge that

mean to tell me that the teacher stands in front of the room and says nothing for an hour?" It worked. She did admit that something more happened in her classroom. I was getting to first base.

Persistently showing interest in religious school elevates its value in our children's eyes. This is a good beginning. Making sure that children come to class regularly and on time sends a clear message as well. Treating religious education at least as seriously as their math class helps to relay the message to our children to take the lessons they learn here seriously. At a minimum, both math and Jewish studies classes teach basic skills that our children will need for a lifetime.

We need to set lofty goals and have high expectations for our children and for our school.

Truthfully, if we expect our Religious School to succeed, parental and communal expectations must be changed. We must begin to challenge the traditional assumption that religious school is something a Jewish child needs to "get through" as a rite of passage into adulthood, painful but necessary, much like getting a wisdom tooth pulled.

Judaism is a gift that we give our children. But it is a gift with strings attached. Jewish learning is not something to "get through" but something to cherish. It is a roadmap for living an ethical and moral life. Judaism is a gift we give to our children and through our children to future generations.

I often tell our students that we stand on the shoulders of those Jews who came before us. "Who will stand on your shoulders?" "What will they learn about what Judaism has to teach us from the way you live your life?" I ask them. But, in order to even begin to have any answers at all, our children first need to think the questions are important.

IRIS SCHWARTZ Director of Education

rivals climbing Mt. Everest. Who among us has been successful at that? I don't even own hiking boots.

I have learned through experience that the carpool is not always the best place to get the real low down about religious school. Peer pressure can take precedence over reality. Buttonholing a child for information as soon as he/she walks in the door (that is unless he/she comes in bubbling with news to share) rarely works. Think about returning home from work and being met with either a series of rapid fire questions or conversely, with complete apathy about your activities.

What's a well meaning, interested, supportive religious school parent to do? First, as Jewish parents we need to finely hone our questioning skills. We must remember not to take the usual "Nothing" as the answer to the question, "What did you learn in religious school today?" When telling my daughter Amy, a tenth grader, about this article she made a face and said "Well it's true; we do nothing in religious school." I practiced. I looked her in the eye and said, "Do you

RELIGIOUS SCHOOL

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

Sunday, February 2

Theater performance of Lily's Crossing beginning at 10:45 a.m. for all 3rd Graders and up. No second session Religious School classes.

Wednesday, February 5

Grade 5 Tikkun Olam Project—Kosher food pantry

Friday, February 7

Grade 3 Shabbat Dinner and program

Sunday, February 9

Grade 4 Yom Tikkun Olam

Monday, February 10

Grades 8 & 9 Substance Abuse program

Wednesday, February 12 - Monday, February 16

Confirmation class trip to Amsterdam

Sunday, February 16 - Wednesday, February 19

No Religious School classes

Sunday, February 23

Kindergarten and Grade 1 Yom Tikkun Olam

Sunday, March 2

Grade 3 Family Education program

TREE OF LIFE

Leaves on the Tree of Life in the Temple lobby can be purchased to celebrate any *simcha*.

Commemorate any life-affirming event such as Birth, B'nai Mitzvah, Confirmation, Marriage or Anniversary.

Leaves cost \$180
Stones cost \$1000

Contact Laurie in the Temple office at 973-338-1500

SHORESH / PRESCHOOL

I'm back and I would like to thank everyone for inquiring about my health. I am happy to say that I'm feeling great and felt the best of all returning to work here at *Shores*h.

January has been a very busy month. Registration for the 2003-2004 school year for currently enrolled students began on January 6. Registration for new students began after two successful Open Houses on January 21. I encourage anyone who is interested in *Shores*h to contact us through the Temple office or better yet come for a visit. Our Fall classes are filling up quickly.

Over the next several weeks each of our classes will be busy getting ready for a variety of new programs. Our 3 year old class begins the "Star of the Week" unit. A special poster highlighting each child will reflect their interests, favorite things and family members. Look for this poster in our hallway.

Our 4-year old class will begin our unit on Shabbat. Harvey, our Shabbat bear, will travel home with a different child every few weeks as a Shabbat guest! He will arrive with a loaf of *challah*, candlesticks, a *Kiddush* cup and a Shabbat storybook. We hope Harvey enjoys his Shabbat visit.

As usual we are looking forward to Purim. Our huge school parade and Hammentaschen bakery will be on Wednesday, March 19. All are welcome. School photos will also be held in late March.

SHORESH PRESCHOOL

TEMPLE NER TAMID

why Shoresh?

- 2 year, 3 year and Pre-K Classes
- Mommy and Me
- Full and Half Day Programs
- Enriched Jewish Curriculum
- Class Trips
- Music
- Computers
- Holiday Celebrations
- Summer Play Camp



Director Joan Goodman

come in or call (973) 338-1500

ADULT EDUCATION

Zionism is a modern political movement. Begun in the late 19th century, Zionism was a reflection of growing European nationalism as well as a response to rising anti-Semitism. But the Jewish desire to live in Tziyon (Zion) is as old as our people. The truth is, Judaism is a religious tradition that is inextricably tied to the Land, and for over two and a half millennia we have dreamed of returning to the place of our birth.

Dr. Alan Nadler, Professor of Judaic Studies at Drew University, will lead us on a journey that retraces our steps which has brought us back to Jerusalem. This course will place particular emphasis upon modern Zionism, its history and development, and how it led to *Medinat Yisrael*—the State of Israel.

Dreaming of Zion will take place on Sunday mornings from 10:45-11:55 a.m. beginning March 2. Registration fee is \$20. For more information please call the Temple office.

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digital style. To be sure, the discoveries and advances of the past 40 years are responsible for this latter-day blaséness. Ho-hum. Another Shuttle mission. Some more scientific experiments. Who cares? Just get me a more realistic computer game. An HDTV. A faster microchip. What has happened to our passion for discovery? Where have we misplaced our enchantment for exploration? And explorers? Do we not understand that we have only just begun?

A few years back I took the family with me to the UAHC Biennial convention in Orlando. On the evening we returned home, we took a cab to the airport. As we started to pile out of the cab and get our luggage from the trunk, I noticed how the people at the curb were pointing toward the horizon. As I looked up my eyes met a brilliant streaking light, rising into the evening sky. "What is it, Daddy?" one of my kids asked. "It's the Space Shuttle," I said. "It's a rocket ship going up into space." "Cool," they said. We stood there for a while, watched it fade off into the distance, then went inside. As I stood at the counter, checking in, my mind wandered back. I remembered how it used to be, when taking a ride on an airplane was an adventure in and of itself.

For me—and I am not alone—the most powerful symbol of Columbia's last mission was the drawing taken aboard by Israeli astronaut Ilan Ramon. The artist was Petr Ginz, a teenage boy who perished in the flames of Auschwitz. The work was entitled "Moonscape," a testament to humankind's penchant for dreaming. Those who died on February 1 were also dreamers. But more important, they were messengers. Our messengers.

Praised be the One who has made us lower than the angels. Blessed are those who carry our dreams.

Ner Tamid is About People

זכרונם לברכה

THEIR MEMORIES
ARE A BLESSING

Shabbat—February 7

Helen Bernstein
Edith Ellis
Albert Feiertag
Freddy Fishbein
Alice Friedland
Jacob Friedland
Bernard L. Friedman
Martha C. Gallert
Sidney Gershon
Ben Glassman
Emma Kolb
Seymour Kolodny
Mollie Koppel
Florence C. Kurzman
Sid Lasky
Florence Lazarus
Joel Linder
Jack Lipsky
Ruth Margaretten
Pinchas Morginstin
Eve Osofsky
Joseph Perlman
Beatrice Pini
Morton Polster
James M. Rakov
A. Martin Randall
Sadye K. Rosen
Mark Rosenberg
Abe Rosenfield
Geraldine Schneider
Ruth K. Shapiro
Esther Sondok
Morris Wax
Abraham Weinberg
Yetta K. Wien
Fannie Wolfson

Shabbat—February 14

Morris Aisner
Irving Altwarg
Samuel Ames
Ruth S. Aron
Louis Canter
Louis Chipkin
Michael Elberg
Chicky Goldberg
Joseph Gotthelf
Paul Hirsch
Jack Jabush
Herbert Jacobs
Edward King
Solomon Levine
Nehama Lipman
Savilla Margaretten
Leslie Milhauser
Ruth L. Molnar
Kate Nodell
Isidor Okun
Bertha Potofsky
Jennie Price
Lorraine Rapoport
Marjorie Rothenberg
Morris Rubin
Sander Sacks
Harry Sandler
Marilyn Sandler
Joseph Sayres
Edyth Stein
Bruce Tennen
Samuel Weinberg
David J. Wolf
Samuel A. Yasen
Joseph Zeitlin

Shabbat—February 21

Sidelle Albaum
Abraham Alexander
Harold Alexander
Eshka Brown
Gussie H. Camisa
Hona Cohen
Ruth Feinberg
Claire C. Genser
Nathan German
David Gould
Harry Halpern
Rose D. Kalter
Alan Kaplan
Harold Kaplan
Myra Kaplan
Ralph Kaufman
Isidore Latz
Fannie Lentz
Bessie R. Maybee
Dorothy N. Moss
Philip Neiman
Bernard Novack
Roslyn Rosenblatt
Mae K. Rubin
Claire Russ
Henry Schlyen
Esther Schmidt
Manning Schreiner
Lillian Schuman
Lawrence Simon
Ivan Siskin
Adolph Spitz
Anna B. Tobias
Siegfried Ulmer
Harry Vigdor
Michael Weinstein
Bertha Wien

Shabbat—February 28

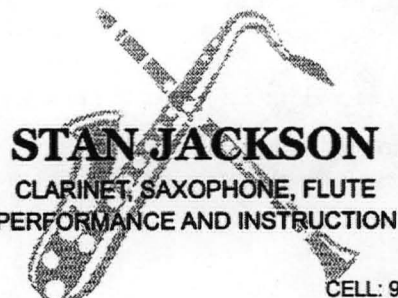
Carolynne Alpert
Murray Apfelbaum, Sr.
Meta Baumann
Leonard E. Berman
Morris Blaufarb
Leah Bussin
Martin Chabon
Ralph J. Cohen
David J. Faver
William Fields
Maurice Friedman
Sarah Goffin
Walter Heilbronner
Irving Hertzberg
Isadore Hyman
Samuel Kaiserman
Sylvia Kanarick
Saul Kron
Sydney H. Landy
Harold Lazar
Syril Levine
Lillian Lustgarten
Alfred Mackler
Maxine Marden
Lena Mendelson
Morton Raymond
Nancy Rice
Rae L. Rogers
Margaret Schwartz
Isadore Segal
Lena Slater
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TEMPLE NER TAMID

March 2003

March 2003							April 2003						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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16	17	18	19	20	21	22	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
23	24	25	26	27	28	29	27	28	29	30			
30	31												

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						March 1 10:00am Bar Mitzvah of Bennett Novack (Vayakhel/Shekalim)
2 8:30am R.S. Grades K-2 10:00am Ten Minutes of Torah 10:45am R.S. Grade 3-5 10:45am Dreaming of Zion 12:00pm Prayerbook Hebrew 1:00pm Purimspiel Rehearsal 6:00pm SYG: Purim Planning	3 9:00am PreSchool 4:15pm RS Grades 6-7 6:30pm RS Grades 8-9 8:00pm Sisterhood Bd. Mtg.	4 9:00am PreSchool 11:00am Seniors 12:00pm Lunch With Rabbi-NY 8:00pm Executive Bd. Mtg.	5 9:00am PreSchool 10:00am Sisterhood Bible Study 4:00pm RS Grades 3-5 6:30pm RS Grades 6-7 7:00pm RS Grades 10-12 7:30pm Choir Rehearsal	6 9:00am PreSchool 8:00pm What Is A Mitzvah?	7 9:00am PreSchool 7:00pm Tot Shabbat 8:00pm Erev Shabbat Service	8 10:00am B'not Mitzvah Freddi Goldstein & Sarah Weiss (Pekudei) 10:00am Casual Minyan
9 8:30am R.S. Grades K-2 8:30am SYG: Haglgah 8:45am Temple Tots Group 1 9:00am Beginning Hebrew 10:00am Ten Minutes of Torah 10:00am Youth Choir 10:45am R.S. Grade 3-5 10:45am Dreaming of Zion 12:00pm Prayerbook Hebrew 1:00pm Regional Choral Festival	10 9:00am PreSchool 4:15pm RS Grades 6-7 6:30pm RS Grades 8-9 8:00pm Brotherhood Mtg.	11 9:00am PreSchool 11:00am Seniors 12:00pm Lunch With Rabbi-NY 7:00pm Shores Mtg. 8:00pm Bd. of Trustees	12 9:00am PreSchool 4:00pm RS Grades 3-5 6:30pm RS Grades 6-7 7:00pm RS Grades 10-12 7:30pm Choir Rehearsal	13 9:00am PreSchool 8:00pm What Is A Mitzvah?	14 9:00am PreSchool 8:00pm Erev Shabbat Service (Choir Sings)	15 10:00am Bar Mitzvah Luke Armour (Vayikra/Zakhor)
16 8:30am R.S. Grades K-2 8:45am Temple Tots Group 2 9:00am Beginning Hebrew 10:00am Ten Minutes of Torah 10:00am Youth Choir 10:45am R.S. Grade 3-5 10:45am Dreaming of Zion 12:00pm Purim Carnival 12:00pm Prayerbook Hebrew 1:00pm Purimspiel Rehearsal	17 NO RELIGIOUS SCHOOL PURIM 9:00am PreSchool 7:00pm Megillah Reading 8:00pm Sisterhood Gen. Mtg.	18 9:00am PreSchool 11:00am Seniors 11:00am Megillah Reading 6:30pm Purimspiel Nursing Home Performance 8:00pm Religious Affairs 8:00pm Tikkun Olam Mtg.	19 9:00am PreSchool 10:00am Sisterhood Bible Study 4:00pm RS Grades 3-5 6:30pm RS Grades 6-7 7:00pm RS Grades 10-12 7:30pm Choir Rehearsal	20 9:00am PreSchool 8:00pm What Is A Mitzvah?	21 4G Philadelphia Zoo Trip 9:00am PreSchool 8:00pm Erev Shabbat Service 8:00pm YG: Creative Service 8:00pm Anniversary Shabbat	22 10:00am Bat Mitzvah Julia Shanin (Tzav/Parah) 2:00pm Purimspiel Rehearsal 7:00pm Purimspiel
23 8:30am R.S. Grades K-2 9:00am Beginning Hebrew 10:00am Ten Minutes of Torah 10:00am Youth Choir 10:45am R.S. Grade 3-5 10:45am Dreaming of Zion 12:00pm Prayerbook Hebrew	24 9:00am PreSchool 4:15pm RS Grades 6-7 6:30pm RS Grades 8-9	25 9:00am PreSchool 11:00am Seniors	26 9:00am PreSchool 4:00pm RS Grades 3-5 6:30pm RS Grades 6-7 7:00pm RS Grades 10-12	27 9:00am PreSchool CCAR CONVENTION	28 9:00am PreSchool 6:30pm Kabbalat Shabbat	29 10:00am Shabbat Service
30 CCAR CONVENTION 8:30am R.S. Grades K-2 9:00am Beginning Hebrew 10:00am Ten Minutes of Torah 10:00am Youth Choir 10:45am R.S. Grade 3-5 12:00pm Prayerbook Hebrew 2:00pm Seder Workshop 2:00pm SYG: Regional Elections	31 9:00am PreSchool 4:15pm RS Grades 6-7 6:30pm RS Grades 8-9					

TEMPLE NER TAMID

February 2003

February 2003							March 2003						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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9	10	11	12	13	14	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	8
16	17	18	19	20	21	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	15
23	24	25	26	27	28	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	22
							30	31					29

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						February 1 10:00am B'nai Mitzvah Matthew Rogers & Dylan Weingarten (Mishpatim)
8:30am R.S. Grades K-2 8:45am Temple Tots Group 1 9:00am Beginning Hebrew 9:00am SYG & JYG: Ski 10:00am Ten Minutes of Torah 10:00am Youth Choir 10:45am R.S. Grade 3-5 10:45am ArtsPower's Lily's Crossing 10:45am Israeli Folk Music 12:00pm Prayerbook Hebrew 1:00pm Purimspiel Rehearsal	9:00am PreSchool 4:15pm RS Grades 6-7 6:30pm RS Grades 8-9 7:30pm Education Committee Mtg. 8:00pm Sisterhood Bd. Mtg.	9:00am PreSchool 11:00am Seniors Mtg and/or Trip 12:00pm Lunch With Rabbi-NY 8:00pm Executive Bd. Mtg.	9:00am PreSchool 10:00am Sisterhood Bible Study 4:00pm RS Grades 3-5 6:30pm RS Grades 6-7 6:30pm Grade 7 Food Drive (Social Hall) 7:00pm RS Grades 10-12 7:30pm Choir Rehearsal	9:00am PreSchool 7:30pm Into To Judaism 8:00pm Rituals & Rubrics	9:00am PreSchool 6:30pm Grade 3 Family Shabbat Dinner 7:00pm Tot Shabbat 8:00pm 3rd Grade Shabbat	10:00am Casual Minyan
8:30am R.S. Grades K-2 8:45am Temple Tots Group 2 9:00am Beginning Hebrew 10:00am Ten Minutes of Torah 10:00am Youth Choir 10:45am R.S. Grade 3-5 10:45am Grade 4 Yom Tikun Olam 11:30am YG: Devil's Hockey Game 12:00pm Prayerbook Hebrew 1:00pm Purimspiel Rehearsal	9:00am PreSchool 4:15pm RS Grades 6-7 6:30pm RS Grades 8-9 8:00pm Brotherhood Mtg.	9:00am PreSchool 11:00am Seniors 12:00pm Lunch With Rabbi-HJ 7:00pm Shores Mtg. 8:00pm Bd. of Trustees	9:00am PreSchool 4:00pm RS Grades 3-5 6:30pm RS Grades 6-7 7:00pm RS Grades 10-12 7:30pm Choir Rehearsal	9:00am PreSchool	9:00am PreSchool 8:00pm Erev Shabbat Service: Guest Speaker Martin Baum	10:00am Shabbat Service
AMSTERDAM TRIP	NFTY Convention	NO RELIGIOUS SCHOOL	7:30pm Choir Rehearsal	NO SHORESH	8:00pm Erev Shabbat Service (Choir) 8:00pm Anniversary Shabbat	10:00am Bar Mitzvah of Aaron Goldberg (Ki Tissa)
9:00am Brotherhood/Yogi Berra Museum 1:00pm Purimspiel Rehearsal		8:00pm Religious Affairs 8:00pm Tikun Olam Mtg.				
Ground Breaking Ceremony-Time TBA 8:30am R.S. Grades K-2 8:30am Grade K-1 Yom Tikun Olam 9:00am Beginning Hebrew 10:00am Ten Minutes of Torah 10:00am Youth Choir 10:45am R.S. Grade 3-5 12:00pm Prayerbook Hebrew 1:00pm Purimspiel Rehearsal	9:00am PreSchool 4:15pm RS Grades 6-7 6:30pm RS Grades 8-9	9:00am PreSchool 11:00am Seniors	9:00am PreSchool 4:00pm RS Grades 3-5 6:30pm RS Grades 6-7 7:00pm RS Grades 10-12	9:00am PreSchool	9:00am PreSchool 10:30am Bimah Time 6:30pm Kabbalat Shabbat	

Good News הנה מה טוב

WELCOME TO OUR NEWEST MEMBERS

Elizabeth & David Shaw (Kate, Olivia)
104 Sherman Avenue, Glen Ridge
(973) 743-7706

B'NAI MITZVAH

February 1 Dylan Weingarten
 Matthew Rogers

February 22 Aaron Goldberg



SAVE THE DATE!

*GROUND BREAKING CEREMONY
FEBRUARY 23, 2003*

Watch your mailboxes for more details on the upcoming Ground Breaking Ceremony scheduled for February 23.

SENIORS

Louis R. Druian Fellowship Circle, co-sponsored by Temple Ner Tamid, the Weiss Family Endowment Fund and Dorothy Druian In Cooperation with the JCC Metropolitan NJ and the National Council Jewish Women, Essex County Division. Meetings are held at Temple Ner Tamid, 936 Broad Street, Bloomfield, NJ on Tuesdays, from 11:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. Current events discussions and/or video aerobics start at 11:15 a.m., followed by lunch (bring your own dairy) and then our feature presentation.

January Calendar of Events

Tuesday, February 11

Meeting—Program to be announced

Tuesday, February 18

No meeting

Tuesday, February 25

Meeting—Program to be announced

Upcoming Trips

February 11-12

Atlantic City Overnight Sponsored by the JCC—Two days, one night in Atlantic City includes roundtrip coach transportation, one night accommodation at the Tropicana Casino & Resort, two casino coin bonus packages and a \$10 food credit at Tropicana. Cost is \$90 per person! For further information and reservations call Sharon Gordon at (973)736-3200.

March 10

JCC production of Hannah Senesch

SISTERHOOD

Important Sisterhood Dates

March 17—A very special program has been planned. Bobbi Brown will be our guest speaker. Please join us at 8:00 p.m. in the social hall for a chance to hear some words of wisdom and meet this amazing artist and author.

April 21—Do you like to cook? Are you looking for some great cooking tools to make the job easier and more fun? Then come join us for a Pampered Chef demonstration and taste the fruits of our demonstrator's labor. More details to follow.

Important Note: Please contact Susan Fader at (973) 667-7373 or <faderz13@aol.com> if you are interested in having childcare available during our meetings. We are hoping to offer this at the Sisterhood's expense since many adults would otherwise be unable to attend.

Potpourri

And the winners are...The Sisterhood would like to congratulate Dot Glazer and Norma Siegel the winners of our annual raffle. Enjoy your shopping spree! Our thanks to the Temple community for your continued support. It's through your generosity that the Sisterhood is able to support various functions at the Temple as well as provide interesting programs.

Want To Earn Donor Credit? We are always looking for volunteers to spend a little time during Religious School hours to work in the Judaica Shop. It will give you a chance to peruse the latest merchandise while you earn \$2 donor credit for each hour worked. Please contact Amy Levinsohn at (973) 744-3668 if you are interested in helping us.

Attention B'nai Mitzvah families! Families looking to order *Yarmulkes* should contact Liz Peters at (973) 746-5271. The Sisterhood offers this service for a minimal amount above our cost. Please make sure that you leave at least one month for the order to be processed and delivered.

Purim

Shalach Manot—Don't forget to get your orders in by February 28. Remember *Shalach Manot* helps our Temple community and Mazon. You are fulfilling the *mitzvot* of the holiday by these gifts. Those wanting to help with filling boxes and giving them out at Temple please contact Arlene Kraus at (973) 661-3430.

Candle Lighting Times

February 7	5:04
February 14	5:12
February 21	5:20
February 28	5:29



Sisterhood Tribute Fund

Births

Charlotte & Mark Greenstein—Grandson Jason Scott
Dorothy Druian—Great-grandson Jason Scott

Recovery

Beverly Reisman

Condolences

Bob Mellman—Mother Nancy
Huamani Family—Mother Jeanette

Birthday

Nat Daniels—92nd Birthday

Thank You

Barbara Woldow—Kindness at death of mother

Sisterhood Bible Study

Rabbi Kushner's informative, enjoyable, inspiring study group meets in the library on Wednesday mornings at 10:00 a.m. There is no fee and there is always hot coffee.

Dates: February 5

February Anniversaries

Mazal Tov to the following couples who will celebrate their anniversaries in February and will be honored at Erev Shabbat Services on February 21:

Christopher & Barbara Brooks
Norman & Bernice Colie
Alan Ellenbogen & Nancy Oppenheimer
Ted Gabel & Beth Perlman
Lewis & Paula Gash
Nathan & Mary Katkin
Steven & Beryl Leffler
Earl & Evelyn Pfeffer
Mark & Suzanne Roth
Roger & Ava Solomon
Steven & Beth Sternberg

Israel, because it speaks about the, "maidens of Israel going every year, for four days of the year, to chant dirges for the daughter of Jephthah." Other scholars connect it to underground rituals of child-sacrifice. I like to think of it as a warning against impulsive, thoughtless vows that can end up hurting ourselves and those whom we love.

4. Goliath (I Samuel 17:48-51)

This is the ultimate story of the weak in size defeating the strong. None of King Saul's men would fight Goliath, the champion Philistine of Gath. Young David, a lyre-playing shepherd, overheard the soldiers mention that whoever killed Goliath would receive great riches, the king's daughter, and tax-free status for his father's household. Who could say no? David, who had heretofore only killed bears and lions, volunteered for the task. He was steadfast in his faith in God, and sure of his skill. Two interesting points: one, Goliath is never referred to as a "giant" – just a champion; and two, David doesn't actually kill him with the sling-shot stone, merely sinks it into his forehead. Goliath falls face down in the dirt, and then David runs up, takes Goliath's own sword and uses it to cut off his head. Such begins David's rise to power and eventual kingship in Jerusalem. Hollywood couldn't even dream this stuff up.

3. Uriah (II Samuel 11:14-17)

By the time we reach this part of David's life he has grown from idealistic shepherd to power-hungry king. His rule is safely established, but his roving eye takes note of a beauty named Batsheva. He sleeps with her, knocks her up, and then sends her husband, Uriah, to the front-lines of a battle against the city of Sukkoth. Not only does he instruct Joab, his general, to place him where the fighting is fiercest, but to ensure that he is slain, he tells him to then draw back and leave him hanging out

there alone! Joab does as ordered, and Uriah is killed and Batsheva becomes David's wife. However, the price David pays for this is very high. Through his prophet, Nathan, God promises that, a "calamity" will fall on David's house, his wives will sleep with other men, and the child born to him by Batsheva will die. All come to pass. Some say this one murderous sin is the reason the entire kingdom will eventually fall to civil war and ruin.

2. Cain kills Abel (Genesis 4:8)

The first, simple, classic murder. You can't ignore this one. Brother kills brother and blood stains the newly-created land for the first time. Cain's offerings to God have been ignored, while Abel's choice firstlings have been favored. What's strange in this story is that the text is incomplete. Genesis 4:8 reads, "Cain said to his brother Abel . . . and when they were in the field, Cain set upon his brother Abel and killed him." Well, what did Cain say? What was Abel's response? I guess the author didn't think the details of the witty repartee were important. The word "*vayakom*" which Plaut translates as "set upon" can also be translated as "rose up" against. Cain springs up like a beast, setting free the murderous, animal instinct that lies within each man.

AND THE NUMBER ONE MURDER IN THE BIBLE IS ...

1. Sisera (Judges 4:17-21 and 5:24-27)

The killing of Sisera is number one for skill, guts, stealth, and style.

We're still in the time of the Judges, and Sisera was the commander of the forces of King Jabin of Canaan. He's been defeated by Deborah and her general Barak at Mount Tabor and seeks shelter in the tent of Jael, wife of Heber the Kenite, since the Kenites were a tribe friendly to Jabin. It was also the custom that tents of women were off-limits to all but their husbands – so no one would think to look for him

there. Jael, however, has other ideas. She lulls him to sleep with milk and makes him nice and comfy under some blankets. Women are so devious. The Song of Deborah tells us, "Her left hand reached for the tent pin, her right for the workman's hammer. She struck Sisera, crushed his head, smashed and pierced his temple. At her feet he sank, lay outstretched." In the prose version, "When he was fast asleep from exhaustion, she approached him stealthily and drove the pin through his temple until it went down to the ground. Thus he died." When Barak appears, Jael shows him her victim, with the pin still embedded in his temple.

Unlike most killings, Jael had only one chance, since missing on the first try would result in her own sure death. She used what weapons were at hand, and with one swift stroke she pierced his thick skull. This is not an easy task! No wonder she left the pin in his head – this was a lady who took pride in her work. More to the point, she was not an Israelite, but she provided them with an important victory and was given the title, "Most Blessed of Women of the Tents." What a great title. I like to think of her as a biblical Buffy.

My hope is that this list will inspire you to read the entire Hebrew Bible – not just the first Five Books of Moses. It is a fascinating, heart-wrenching saga that tells us of a history filled with love, betrayal, politics and faith. The path of our people has never been straight or smooth, and it does not end with Moses looking out over the Land but unable to enter. Rather, the very, very end of the *Tanakh*, the end of Chronicles, tells us that King Cyrus of Persia, moved by the spirit of God, issues a proclamation to rebuild the Temple in Jerusalem after its destruction by King Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon, "Any of you among His people, Adonai his God be with him, and *vaya'al*, go up."


Let us go up and rebuild our people together, by reading and re-reading our sacred texts.

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SPECIAL OCCASION

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der, and if you look for ways to justify it you risk sliding down a slippery moral slope. Moreover, I understand that few Palestinians make the distinction between "territories" and "Israel". It seems like more and more of them believe that all the area is Palestine, and we Jews don't belong here. There's no end to the complication of the catch we live in. There was an interview in "Haaretz" recently with a relatively moderate Palestinian who wanted three autonomies for the Palestinians who live IN Israel (besides a Palestinian state in the territories): one in the Galilee, one near Hadera, and one down south. Is everybody becoming more and more extreme? Whatever it is, it takes an incredible vision to invent hope, to be an optimist.

I try to stick to the naïve conviction that at least on a personal level, things can be different, and that this means there's a future.

I offered Rassem, a Palestinian friend who works with me at Tmol Shilshom [David's café in Jerusalem], help to release his car from the police. They took his taxi-van for a month because they caught him driving a Palestinian from the territories in an Israeli area, which is severely prohibited because they want to prevent any chance of terrorists infiltrating into Israel. Rassem had to take a second job as a driver after we lowered the salaries when business went down. At about the same time he became a father and needed more money to support his young family, so he's been driving during the day and cooking for Tmol at night.

We went to the police station on the Mount of Olives. I could hardly find the station; it's literally hid like a bunker. I went in myself, assuming they would treat Rassem badly and would be more inclined to talk to me. There were two Palestinian vans parked outside, maybe stopped for the same reason which brought us there now. There were shouts of policemen who clearly weren't treating the Palestinians respectfully. They might have beaten them up too; I can't tell because I didn't see, but I hear such stories all the time. I was so shocked from the whole experience that the only thing I remember hearing was a wild shout: "throw out the damn cigarette!" as if the smoker was committing a major crime. I managed to talk to an officer. He was more civil with me, yet insisted that there was no chance for my employee's plight, "The law is the law."

Rassem was not surprised when I came back empty handed. I drove back to his village and couldn't resist when he offered coffee and cake. I met his baby, Malak, cute and pink and innocent. She was suspicious for a while, but then her guard went down and... I fell in love, of course.

I felt badly that I didn't manage to help Rassem but he assured me that my good will was enough to make him happy. We both played with the baby and wondered what life had in store for her, a Palestinian kid who didn't know what a border was, even though she was born on one.

I ask each of you to consider working with Bob David, a member of Ner Tamid's Board of Trustees, whom I have asked to create an ad-hoc group of Ner Tamid members who will identify congregational mitzvot related to Israel and to progressive Judaism elsewhere overseas. If you want to engage in this dialogue, please contact Bob at 973-509-2308 or me at 973-509-8459.

Tarbut Committee Announces Trip to the Brooklyn Museum

SAVE THE DATE FOR AN
EXCEPTIONAL TRIP TO THE
BROOKLYN MUSEUM!

On Sunday, April 6 we will have the opportunity to view an extraordinary exhibit, curated by Marilyn Kushner, entitled *The Last Expression: Art and Auschwitz*. The exhibit will feature two and three-dimensional art created by Holocaust victims who were interned at Auschwitz and other concentration camps. This exhibit will present 200 works by artists who either perished in the camps or were among the few who survived. Retrieved from German archives, most of these works have never been seen by the general public.

Specific costs including bus transportation, lunch and a guided tour (by Marilyn Kushner) will follow. If you would like more information on this exciting trip please call Debbie Kravitz at (973) 233-1294 or Arlene Linetzky at (973) 783-5420.

KABBALAT SHABBAT

February 28
6:30 p.m. Service

a Nosh & Schmooze
will precede the
service at 6:00 pm

Babysitting will
be provided

**Please note that there
will be no 8:00 pm
service this evening**

Elvis Sighted at TNT

Local media have reported sighting Elvis coming and going from the Temple on Sunday afternoons, accompanied by 40 Temple members of all ages, some carrying musical instruments. Yes, friends, it's true. The Elvis Megillah is in rehearsal with a March 22nd performance date. At 7:00 that night you will hear the story of Queen Esther told through songs made famous by Buddy Holly and the Crickets, The Everley Brothers, The Coasters, Dion and the Belmonts, The Platters, Bobby Darin, Guy Mitchell, and, of course, Elvis Presley himself. But you have only one opportunity to hear the story and that is by being one of the lucky audience members that night. Saturday, March 22 at 7:00 p.m. Be there before Elvis leaves the building.

Baseball Is Around The Corner

The Brotherhood of Temple Ner Tamid is hosting a special "Paid-Up Members" event at the Yogi Berra Museum on Sunday, February 16 from 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Tickets are \$19.99 per person which includes:

- ◇ Continental breakfast with bagels, lox, cream cheese, muffins, fresh fruit, orange juice and coffee
- ◇ Private Museum tour by David Kaplan, Temple Ner Tamid member and Museum Deputy Director
- ◇ Private viewing of the film "The Life and Times of Hank Greenberg"

The Brotherhood membership form and further details about this exciting event are located in the Temple lobby. Completed forms and payments should be mailed to Michael Halitzer at 35 Marquette Road, Upper Montclair, NJ 07043. For further information please email Harvey Morginstin at hayimm@excite.com or call at 973-338-6408.

Run For Rachel

The 3rd annual "Run For Rachel" 5K run, 3K walk will take place on Sunday, April 13 at Memorial Park in Livingston at 10:00 a.m.

The Run is hosted by the Rachel Coalition and was created to raise awareness of domestic violence. Proceeds from the event will benefit the Coalition, which provides such services as a 24-hour crisis response line, an emergency safe-house with kosher provisions under the *Va'ad* of MetroWest, transitional housing and planning, individual and group counseling, groups for men, education, outreach and legal and medical support.

For additional information on the Run or to register, visit www.rachelcoalition.org or www.ACTIVE.com. Applications can also be obtained by contacting Sylvia Heller, program associate, the Rachel Coalition, at (973)765-9050.

The Rachel Coalition is based in Florham Park and was established in 1997. If you or someone you know needs help, call the Coalition response line at (973) 740-1233 and ask for "Rachel." All calls are strictly confidential.

JVS Scholarship Loan Program

Applications for college, graduate or technical school loans for the 2003/2004 academic year are available through Jewish Vocation Service of MetroWest (JVS), according to scholarship loan committee chairs Marjorie Weil and Ben Perlmutter. The interest-free loans are designed for Jewish youth and adults residing in the geographic areas served by the United Jewish Federation of MetroWest.

Up to \$3,000 per year may be borrowed by full-time students, who have exhausted all other sources of aid and can demonstrate additional need. Recipients have up to five years to repay their loans in five annual installments, with the first payment due one year after completion of the educational program.

First-time applicants must be interviewed at the East Orange or Whippany JVS office. Early application is advisable. Scholarship recipients will be chosen by early summer.

The funds for this program are provided through a combination of named scholarship funds administered through the Jewish Community Foundation of MetroWest, scholarship repayments, JVS membership dues and tribute proceeds.

Please call (973) 674-6330 and ask for Lynne Robbins or Linda Zamer to obtain an application or for additional information. The deadline for completed application is May 15.

Social Concerns גמילות חסדים

TIKKUN OLAM repairing the world

The Tikkun Olam Committee still needs congregants interested in social action! Plans for the year include hosting the Interfaith Hospitality Network in December of 2003, a Mitzvah Day in the spring, participating with the New Jersey food bank throughout the year, and delivering High Holiday services to homebound Ner Tamid members. The 5th grade Hebrew School students are developing their own project, a plan for delivering left-over food from events at the synagogue to those in need.

By participating in the present activities of the committee, and advocating for causes you identify, you too can participate in "Repairing the World." The next meeting will be at 8:00 p.m. on Tuesday, February 25 at the Temple. For more information, contact the Tikkun Olam chairperson Larry Westreich at 509-1444 or Westlar@aol.com.

Hospital Work on December 24 and 25

The marvelous volunteers listed below participated in the activities at Clara Maass Hospital in Belleville (15th year) and at St. Joseph's Hospital in Paterson (5th year). As in previous years most helped for about two hours to allow the hospital staff and other volunteers to have time off to enjoy their Holidays. The tasks included activities at the front desk, telephone inquiries, and whatever else was requested such as operating the gift shop, visiting patients or running errands for a staff member. This was time well spent.

Due to the storm on the evening of the 25th several members, on advice of one hospital, had their tour of duty canceled. As I am sure they would have served, their names are also listed with a star.

I have received compliments from members of the hospital staffs and administrations expressing the deep appreciation for those Temple members that gave of their time. Some of the letters may be posted on the Temple lobby bulletin board.

If you have not experienced this activity, and want to be part of this event in December 2003, please advise coordinators Debby or Harvey Morginstin. Make it your first mitzvah resolution of the New Year. Who knows, it could become a tradition?

David Korngruen
Margo, Alan & Elena Sokolow
Dede, Howard & Benjamin Hirsch
Rochelle Sandler, Joe, Jeff, Dan and
Sam Campeas & Rebecca Vitone
Judy Fischman & Family (gift shop all day on the 25th)
Lisa, Anthony & Adam Reid
Marge, Paul & Jennie Grayson
Jed, Jesse & Samantha Beitler
Sara & Andrew Goldstein*
Tim Wyatt & Gideon Korn Wyatt
Laurie, Bruce & Lane Goodman

Fern Seaman
Bob Fields
Fredda Alpert & Molly Hindenburg
Lisa, Michael, Julia & Anna Berlin
Annie Garcy & Alan, Michael and
Andrew Vomacka
Debby & Harvey Morginstin
Diane Lavenda, Ken & Alex Traum*
Joyce Frommer
Barbara Furst
Rosa, Marina & Irina Kuzmich*
Linda Gottfried & Mike & Marcello Halitzer

GROTTA FOUNDATION Sheila Eidelman

In this troubled world, filled with crisis after crisis for our people and others, we are often made to feel helpless and powerless. "What can we do?" we ask ourselves. We are so small and insignificant and we can't make a difference... BUT WE CAN!

Our tradition teaches us that to "Save one soul, is to save the whole world." We have the ability to save or even help one soul right here in our community.

There are senior citizens who are kept prisoner by their inability to leave their homes, either permanently or temporarily. A friendly voice on the phone could significantly alter their existence and make them feel that someone cares.

Please join our "BUDDY PROGRAM" and see how you can make a difference. If you don't want to volunteer, but know of some people who could use a regular phone call because s/he is a permanent caregiver, or home sick temporarily, or just don't get out much because the winter is intimidating, PLEASE CALL US and give us their phone numbers.

Contribute to your community, your people and mostly help save a soul. Thank You.

Let's congratulate ourselves: **the Kehilla Campaign for Temple Ner Tamid's future has topped \$1.6 million!** Our goal of \$2,000,000 is more and more attainable so that we can finish the building and start our endowment.

What has helped us is a number of new donations as well as several donors deciding to raise their prior gifts. Every week more people are participating, as you can see from the list below. This includes members, organizations connected with the Temple, relatives of members and even some former members. We appreciate each and every one of you!

Please be as generous as you can when you hear from your fellow congregant/volunteer or consider making your gift without the "prodding" of our hard-working campaigners. The future of Ner Tamid is bright, and the funds that we are raising now and in the long term will secure our place well into the 21st century.

The new rooms will bring all High Holiday services indoors, provide enough classrooms to allow a computer lab and tutoring space, give us back a library, provide space for adults to gather and learn at the same time as children, and give our teenagers a youth lounge. Our space for social activities will be larger and more flexible. We will be capable of hosting youth conclaves, spirituality *Kallahs* and scholars-in-residence. And we will be able to offer top-quality programming that might otherwise be outside of our reach. And all you need to do is to support this campaign!

Thanks again to all of you (listed below) who have made pledges and/or contributions to date. You are wonderfully generous. Again, if you would like to help with this campaign or have any questions, please contact David Abramson or me so that you are supporting the **Ner Tamid Center for Jewish Life and Learning**.

Lori Resnick and Josh Aaronson
Lori Price-Abrams and Rick Abrams
Tamara and David Abramson
Anne-Marie Nolin and Bob Adler
Florence and Raymond Aisner
Judy and Dan Anderson
Anonymous (1)
Myra and Andrew Armour
Cathy and Gideon Asher
Anne and Martin Baum
Lori and Jed Beitler
Berna Berger
Bloomfield Chapter of Hadassah
Fern Bass and Mark Brown
Marion and Leonard Buchner
Rochelle Sandler and Joe Campeas
Amy Rosen and Tim Carden
Cornelia Sherman and Bob Carrigan
Dianna and Steve Chipkin
Barbara Friedman and Mark Citron
Amy and Scott Claman
Shirley and Max Cobert
Stasha and Mark Cohen
Deborah and Roger Cohen
Ruth K. Cohen
Hedi Molnar and Michael Curcio
Barbara Flessas and Bob David
Lois and George Davis
Harriet Degenshein
Jane and Larry Degenshein
Harriet Degenshein
Patty and Matthew DeSimone
Mitchell Dinnerstein and Julie Blackman
Miriam Chilton and Joel Dorow
Dorothy Druian
Mindy Propper and Fred Duchin
Ellen Silver and Woody Eisenberg
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Randi and Jeffrey Fleisig
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Nancy and Joel Franklin
Dianna and Harry Friedland
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Joanne and Mark Friedman
Martha Fritz
Barbara Shapiro Furst
Betsy Lembeck and Don Garber
Nancy and Robert Gerber
Arlene and Brian Glasser
Dot Glazer
Jan Singer and Jeremy Gluck
Amy Lazarus and Eugene Goldberg
Laurie and Richard Goldberg
Steve Goldberg
Laurie and Bruce Goodman
Barbara and Larry Gottesman
Marge and Paul Grayson
Gladys Green
Helen and Melvin Green
Randy Simon and Lee Greenberger
Joanna Greenwald
Lennard and Michele Grodner
Florence Grossman
Wendy Grossman
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Susan Hochbaum and Steve Guarnaccia
Stacey and Rob Hammerling
Eileen and Scott Harwood
Susan and Albie Hecht
Cindy and Dan Herman
Janet Duni and Bob Hertzberg
Howard and Dede Hirsch
Fran and Julius Hirsch
Ellen Sherman and Chris Hitchcock

Marie and Peter Hoffman
Diane and Richard Horowitz
Alan and Jill Johnson
Ruth and Art Josephson
Barry Judelman
Kathy and Cliff Kahn
Sally and Adley Kantor
Linda Lendman and David Katowitz
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Jane and Andrew Kessler
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Lee Guest-Moore and Kenneth Moore
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Nisa and Michael Peroff
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Sharon and Stephen Rosen
Kathy and Robert Rosenberg
Tamara Friedman and Dan Rosenblum
Lois and Bernard Rosenkrantz
Kent Roth
Ruth and Don Sarlin
Sarah and Roger Segal
Norma and Martin Siegel
Sisterhood of Temple Ner Tamid
Elena Sokolow
Dorothy Ziman and George Spiegel
Paula and Robert Stein
Linda and Brian Sterling
Roselle and Eric Stern
Inge Strauss
Susan Weinstock and Roy Suskin
Seymour Taffet
Nina and Richard Tucker
Deyna and David Vesey
Denise and Ira Wagner
Maddie and Larry Weinstein
Tamar and Emil Weiss
Judy and Josh Weston
Lisa and Larry Westreich

SAVE THE DATE

GUEST SPEAKER: MARTIN BAUM

Join us for Erev Shabbat service on Friday, February 14 at 8:00 p.m. to hear Temple member, Martin Baum, discuss his experiences from his recent trip to Israel.

the back page



*Whether playing,
creating or learning;
Camp Harlam
sums up the
ultimate in summer
camp living
in a Jewish
environment.*

***"Where Friends
Become Family"***

HEY POTENTIAL CAMP HARLAM CAMPERS AND PARENTS

Located in the foothills of the Poconos, Camp Harlam provides the finest in educational and recreational activities for Reform Jewish youth. Camp Harlam aims to achieve these goals through a mature, experienced and dedicated staff who are devoted to the well-being of the individual child.

Our camp is an Institute for Living Judaism. It includes Jewish education, learning Hebrew and experiencing spirituality that only enhances one's Jewish identity.

We also have instructional and recreational sports and swimming and an extensive arts and adventure program. Sports and adventure facilities include: lighted softball diamond, soccer fields, large indoor gymnasium, indoor and outdoor street hockey, basketball and beach volleyball courts, ga-ga pits, outdoor rolling blading path, mountain biking trails, three swimming pools, a lake, a tree house and climbing tower and walls. Art programs include: arts and crafts, drama, dance, guitar, nature and camp craft, photography, video and radio.

Drop by the office at Temple Ner Tamid to pick up your Camp Harlam 2003 application.

For more information, contact the winter office:
1511 Walnut Street, Suite 401
Philadelphia, PA 19102
215-563-8184

Website: www.campharlam.org E-Mail: campharlam@aol.com

Temple Ner Tamid offers scholarship assistance to anyone who applies to Camp Harlam

TEMPLE NER TAMID
936 Broad Street
Bloomfield, New Jersey 07003

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Jewish Institute of Religion
3101 Clifton Avenue
Cincinnati, OH 45220

