

# TEMPLE TIMES

May/June 2008

Nisan/Iyar/Sivan 5768

## Temple Beth Shalom

Established 1953

Member United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism



### TBS Sisterhood Presents Bye-Bye-Que



### Honoring The Rabbi's Kalev Sunday, June 22, 2008

details on page 11

Coming to  
**Temple Beth Shalom**  
in May/June 2008

**May 4**  
Yom Hashoah Service

**May 8**  
TBS Trip to Queens

**May 11**  
Sisterhood Mother's Day Brunch

**May 18**  
Anistar in Concert  
featuring Cantor Shira

**June 4**  
Israeli Scouts Visit TBS

**June 8**  
USY Car Wash  
Shavuot Service & Study Session



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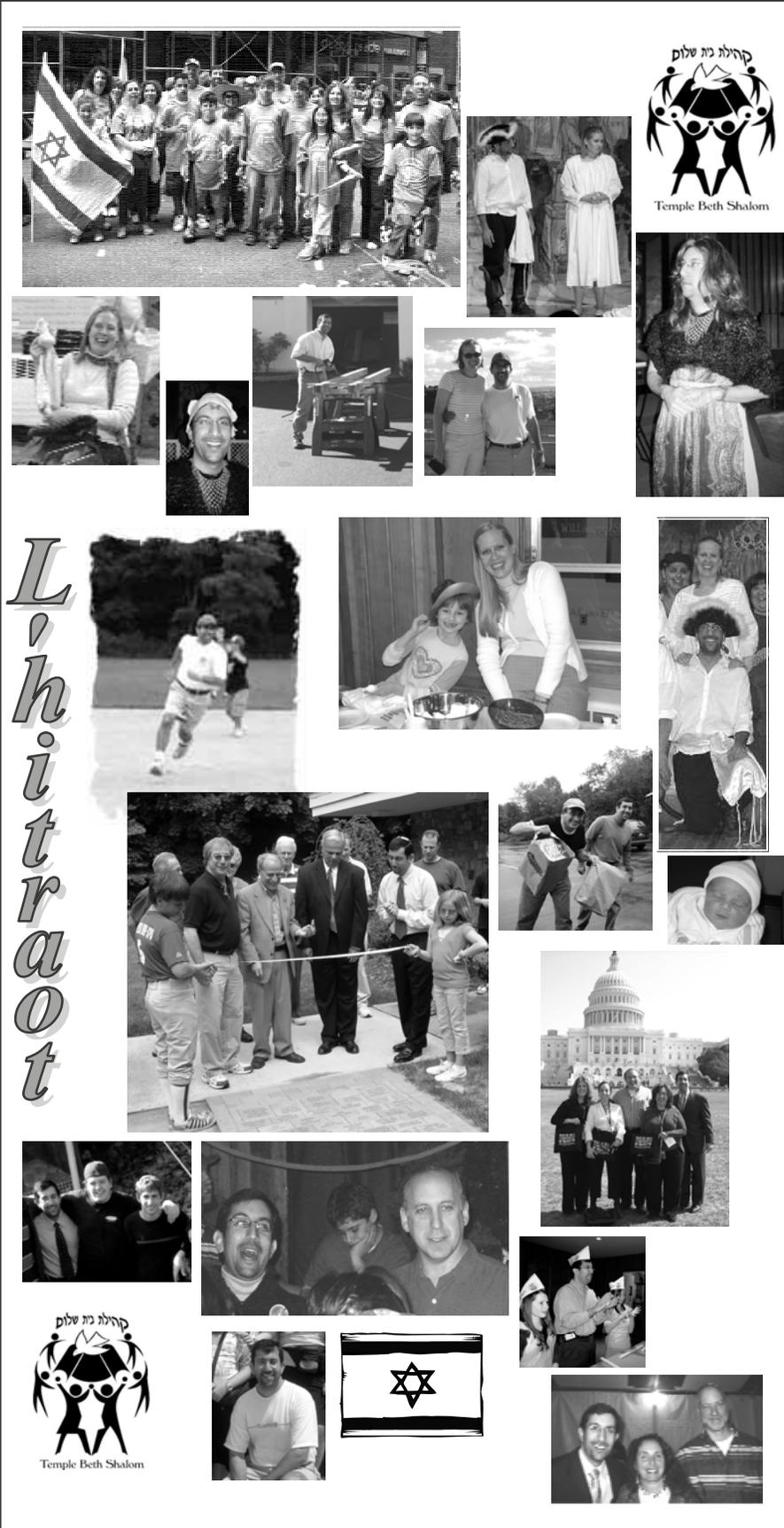
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## Message from Rabbi Kalev



“What I found so attractive about TBS is the potential we have together. Not only do there seem to be endless possibilities in terms of increasing membership, generating and executing creative programming and learning our tradition together, but the fact that there is a deep sense of community at the synagogue will help make all of this a reality. I look to create an

engaged, learned community in which all of our members want to take an active part in all that is happening at the synagogue. Easier said than done, to say the least, but once Judaism is seen as a fun, exciting and spiritually fulfilling life-long journey, everything becomes possible.” These are the words I wrote five years ago for my first Temple Times article. Look at how far we have come. With your devotion and commitment, I am proud to say that we have exceeded the goals I laid out in such a short time.

Who could have imagined that in five years we would have gone to Israel twice together, have more than a dozen, able Torah readers, enjoy the ability of numerous congregants to lead us in prayer, have hosted a regional USY Kinnus, be the recipient of a national Solomon Schechter Award of Excellence, have celebrated two classes of adult B’nai Mitzvah, cleaned up cemeteries and schools together, helped keep our local food pantry open, and welcomed in a record number of young families to our synagogue?

But more important than any of the programs we have conducted or special events we have shared, the Temple Beth Shalom community continues to be one of the warmest and most welcoming congregations in the country. We constantly try and find ways to connect with all who enter our building whether it be for one visit or to join our special family. The creation of our Outreach/Benevolent group which provides meals, visits and rides for those in need is the best of what we as Jews have to offer as well as the many minyanaires who continuously offer to make a minyan for our mourners.

I recently read an article that said that the future of the Jewish community in America is directly connected to the effectiveness of synagogues in transforming the Jewish people. “Transforming” refers to two things: 1) the spiritual transformation of Jewish individuals and families and 2) the physical transformation of the Jewish community using incentives to increase our numbers through population growth, outreach to unaffiliated Jews, and the welcoming and encouraging of non-Jews in Jewish relationships and families to become Jewish and/or to raise their children as Jews.

I truly believe that transformation is not about how many members a community has or whether or not it has the newest facility, but rather it is about changing people’s lives. It is about forming a Jewish identity through the experience of living in a “sacred community.” Synagogues are the sacred communities that can create the conditions for spiritual formation by engaging the individual in uplifting prayer, serious study, works of social justice, acts of healing and comfort, and connectedness to others. The synagogue must be the spiritual center of people’s lives. It is a *kehillah kedoshah*, “a sacred community” where relationships are paramount.

I am so proud of where we have gone and how far we have come. You placed your trust in me over the past five years and for that I will be forever grateful. Beginning in July, I hope and pray that you will give your new leader the same honor, respect, and trust you have bestowed upon me. I know that the possibilities are endless for this community and I am excited to watch you continue to grow.

I never thought that over the five years I have been at Temple Beth Shalom, I would have created so many deep friendships and relationships. So many of you have been there to support me every step of the way... I do not want to mention any specific names for I don’t want to leave anyone out. However, to those of you that I have turned to daily for assistance and guidance, and you know who you are, words cannot express my gratitude and appreciation. I would have never been able to do this without you.

Instead of closing with “B’shalom” (in peace) as I so often do, this time I will say “L’hitraot” (until we see each other again) truly hoping that we will once again cross paths in the very near future.

~ Rabbi Joshua Kalev



## President's Message



Under normal circumstances, writing the article for this month's newsletter would be a breeze. After all, I won the NCAA Tzedakah

tournament, the B'nei Mitzvah season is in high gear, and the Israel at 60 celebrations are keeping us all very busy and very happy. Unfortunately for us at TBS, circumstances are not exactly normal as Rabbi Kalev's days as our spiritual leader wind down and our search for his successor continues to heat up. So, instead of writing the "normal" article about the goings on at the synagogue, I thought that I would share with you a few things that I have learned during this arduous process, and where I hope we go from here.

First, and most obvious, is how grueling the process has been on those of us who have been involved from the beginning. I am not just talking about the physical toll received after interviewing 15 candidates (so far) and playing host & hostess on three different weekends in March (there are at least 2 more to come). That is the part that we all expected when the search began. It is the emotional drain on our energy that I didn't expect and the one that actually keeps driving us to ultimately succeed in our search. I think we all feel the burden and the gigantic responsibility of choosing someone whom we think will be best suited for our congregation. That, my friends, is not easy. Choosing a rabbi for a community has got to be one of the more difficult tasks that one can imagine. We are not hiring a clerk, office manager, or corporate vice president. Those decisions are much more objective, and facts and figures are usually available to back up the choice that is ultimately made. And, if

the decision is wrong, then a new round of interviews takes place and someone else comes on board. Not so easy with rabbis.

The difficulties of hiring a rabbi for a congregation transcend the objective criteria available to us and forces us to leap into the realm of the subjective. Is he warm enough? Outgoing enough? Spiritual enough? Kid friendly enough? I could go on, but I'm sure you get the idea. The committee has to gauge the emotional temperature of the congregation and try to somehow accurately assess each candidate as to whether or not he can lead us into the future. With 10 committee members, each having his/her own opinions and biases, this becomes quite an ordeal. So far, with the enormous input we have received from the congregation, I feel that we have done a magnificent job. We offered the position to two young men whom many of you got to meet and like. Both of them, unfortunately, chose to accept offers elsewhere. Now, we have found two more candidates (one student, one not) to host for a weekend visit to the beautiful shores of Lake Mahopac. We again need the whole congregation's participation in the process. Please come and meet these rabbis, ask them the difficult questions, and help the committee by voicing your views.

Secondly, the process has forced me to reexamine my own views and beliefs as to what I am looking for in a spiritual leader and what I expect of myself and from our synagogue. I have also gained a much greater understanding of what we all want as a congregation, thanks to all the conversations and emails I have received during the process. Many times, the candidates have turned the table on the committee by asking us difficult questions, like "what is important to us as a community?" and "what qualities are we looking for in a rabbi?" By answering them, I have had

to look inward for what I truly believe and outward in order to give the congregation a voice in my response. I have come to learn that what I want and what I think the congregation wants is not all that far apart. That knowledge gives me much more confidence as we continue the search.

Finally, the longer I spend looking for a new spiritual leader, the more I've come to realize how fortunate we have been these past five years to have been led by Rabbi Kalev. I remember meeting him five years ago at one of our candidate's weekends, and although I was not a member of the search committee at the time, it seemed like we all got together on Sunday afternoon and unanimously decided to offer him the position. I wondered at the time how someone so young could relate to everyone in the room, from our older members to our kids. Flash forward five years, and that answer is obvious. Rabbi Kalev is an exceptional human being and inspirational spiritual leader. I know that I have said this many times before, but he has built a community that now has the ability and confidence to continue along the path on which he started for us. He has inspired many of us to put our Judaism in a new and creative light, and for that I am eternally grateful. From all of us at Temple Beth Shalom, thank you for what you have accomplished here, and the best of luck to you, Selilah, and Noa in your new congregation in Blue Bell. Yasher Koach!!! (I couldn't resist).

This community is really something special. If we weren't, we could never have attracted such wonderful rabbis as we have over the last ten years. We just have to be patient and diligent, and the right fit will come our way.

**Ron**

~ Ron Arsham





### The Cantor's Notes



We know the holiday of Shavuot is the celebration of receiving the Ten Commandments but I have been thinking of the other aspect of the holiday . . . remembering a tradition in Israel that is no longer practiced.

Shavuot – is also called Chag haBikkurim – the Festival of First Fruits. Why?

The farmers of Israel would begin their spring harvests with the barley crop at Passover. The harvest continued for seven weeks as the other crops and fruits began to ripen. As each fruit ripened, the first of each type would not be eaten but would have a ribbon tied around the branch. This ribbon marked the fruit as being the “first” – the Bikkurim.

Why is this important to think of?

Well, this has been a year of firsts and of new beginnings for me. One year ago in May, 2007, I was close to finishing my contract at a synagogue in Greenwich, not sure where my next steps would lead me. It had only start to become clear that I'd probably be moving to Northern Westchester that summer. However, other than that decision, the rest of my life did not seem so clear-cut.

One year ago, I remember looking out the long row of windows that stretched across my apartment living room window. Even from the inside of my twelfth story apartment, I could practically inhale the sweet fragrance of the budding trees that lined the pretty Stamford streets, high school and nearby park below. I marveled at the tiny new buds of all of the other flowering trees beginning to open and felt that my life too, was similar to those new buds.

Now, in this season, as we pay heed to the Omer, I take count of all the

upcoming blessings and new experiences about to unfold in my life. I am so blessed to have discovered this wonderful synagogue and to begin my new congregational life, as Barbara put it, as “Sadie, Sadie, Married Lady” to my besherte, Richard Schechtman (aka the Tooth Fairy, if you happened to miss Purim). I am so blessed to be preparing for all of the wonderful end of year programs, including the upcoming Cantors Assembly conference, my appearances with the Westchester Chorale on **May 4<sup>th</sup>** for our performance of Handel’s **Israel in Egypt**. I am so blessed that our religious school students will participate with me for our first annual fundraising concert and Israeli café in honor of Israel’s 60<sup>th</sup> Birthday featuring **Anistar** on **May 18<sup>th</sup>** at **2pm**.

This season of First Fruits I encourage each of you to explore new firsts and enjoy the fruits of the season, personally, emotionally and most importantly, spiritually.

Chag Sameach.

~ Cantor Shira



The Israel @ 60 Celebration at TBS Continues.....

“Are You Smarter than a Gimmel Student?”

Special Family Service on Friday, May 2, 7:45 pm

Don't miss this special event where questions submitted by our Hebrew School students will test your knowledge of Israeli topics.



The Westchester Chorale  
Daniel Paget, Music Director

G.F. Handel  
**ISRAEL IN EGYPT**

Sunday, May 4th  
3 o'clock

Temple Israel of  
New Rochelle  
1000 Pinebrook Boulevard,  
New Rochelle

Tickets: \$15 - \$50  
Information: 914-961-4546  
or visit  
www.westchesterchorale.org

Concert features:

**Benjie-Ellen Schiller, soprano**  
Cantor, Bet Am Shalom Synagogue  
(White Plains)

**Shira Adler, soprano**  
Cantor, Temple Beth Shalom  
(Mahopac)

**MaryAnn McCormick, alto**

**Morris Glazman, tenor**  
Cantor, Congregation Kol Ami  
(White Plains)

**Erik Contzius, bass**  
Cantor, Temple Israel of New  
Rochelle

**Giuseppe Spoletini, bass**

CHORUS and ORCHESTRA  
**Daniel Paget, Conductor**

# Shabbat Shalom

שַׁבַּת שְׁלוֹם

## TBS Shabbat Services

**Regular Shabbat Services**  
**Friday Evenings** 8:15 pm  
**Early Evening Service -**  
 third Friday of each month ~  
 May 16 6:15 pm  
 June 20 6:15 pm

**Saturday Mornings** 9:30 am

**Junior Congregation**  
 May 10 10:30 am

**Tot Shabbat**  
 May 16 7:00 pm

**Family Services**  
 May 2 7:45 pm  
 June 6 7:45 pm

**Yom Hashoah Service**  
 May 4 7:30 pm

## Shabbat Candle Lighting

MAY		JUNE	
2	7:36 pm	6	8:08 pm
9	7:43 pm	<b>8</b>	<b>8:09 pm</b>
16	7:50 pm	13	8:11 pm
23	7:57 pm	20	8:14 pm
30	8:03 pm	27	8:14 pm

## Shavuot Services

**Erev Shavuot Service & Study Session**  
 June 8 8:00 pm

**Shavuot - 1st Day**  
 June 9 9:30 am

**Shavuot - 2nd Day**  
 June 9 8:15 pm  
 June 10 9:30 am

## Shabbat Trivia

Each week Rabbi Kaleb shares a trivia question at Shabbat services. The first person to call his voice mail after Shabbat with the correct answer wins a prize!

The competition is fierce so make sure to call in as soon as Shabbat has ended.

Besides Superman what does the "S" on Superman's chest stand for? – **Siegel & Shuster – The Gershmans**

Jewish ship owner Nathan Levy was responsible for shipping to the US which national landmark? - **The Liberty Bell – The Gershmans**

In what year did Maxwell House Coffee begin distributing haggadot? – **1934 – The Nadelhafts**



# YOM HASHOAH

יום השואה

Please Join with the Mahopac Community as we commemorate **Holocaust Remembrance Day** at a service at Temple Beth Shalom

**Sunday, May 4, 7:30 pm**

*They shall sit every man under his vine and under his fig tree, and none shall make them afraid."*

- Micah 4:4



# Celebrating Simchas!

In Honor of the Bat Mitzvah of **Carly Markowitz**, Diana and Lee Markowitz will host an Oneg on Friday, May 9, and a Kiddush on Saturday, May 10.



In Honor of the Auf Ruf of **Andrew Schiller and Rachel Goldenberg**, Charles and Barbara Schiller will host a Kiddush on Saturday, May 17.



In Honor of the Bat Mitzvah of **Rachel Kwan**, Karen Kwan will host an Oneg on Friday, May 24, and a Kiddush on Saturday, May 25.



In Honor of the Bar Mitzvah of **Daniel Katz**, Susan and Jeff Katz will host an Oneg on Friday, May 30, and a Kiddush on Saturday, May 31.



In Honor of the Bat Mitzvah of **Phoenix Koswener**, Zila and Kenneth Koswener will host an Oneg on Friday, June 6, and a Kiddush on Saturday, June 7.



In Honor of the Bar Mitzvah of **Justin Fleischer**, Linda and Randy Fleischer will host an Oneg on Friday, June 13, and a Kiddush on Saturday, June 14.



In Honor of the Bat Mitzvah of **Kylie Robertson**, Barbara and Mark Robertson will host an Oneg on Friday, June 27, and a Kiddush on Saturday, June 28.



# May

# Nisan-Iyar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 Tkuma Class, 7:30 pm	2 Aleph Class Dinner, 6:15 pm Israeli-Themed Family Service, 7:45 pm <i>Meet Rabbinic Candidate Rabbi Levy</i>	3 Shabbat Morning Service, 9:30 am
4 Hebrew School, 9am-noon Mishpachah, 11 am Travis Scavone - Eagle Scout Court of Honor, 2 pm Yom Hashoah Service, 7:30 pm  SCRIP ORDERS DUE	5	6  Executive Bd. Mtg, 6:30 pm	7 YOM HAZIKARON Hebrew School, 4:15 pm  Hebrew class, 7:30 pm	8 YOM HA'ATZMA'UT  Trip to Queens with Rabbi Kalev  Sisterhood mtg, 7:30 pm	9  Kabbalat Shabbat Service, 8:15 pm	10 Shabbat Morning Service, 9:30 am  Bat Mitzvah of Carly Markowitz  Jr. Congregation, 10:30 am
11 Hebrew school, 9am-noon  Sisterhood Mother's Day Brunch, 11:30 am 	12  Tri-Synagogue Golf Outing	13	14 Hebrew School, 4:15 pm  USY Exec. Bd. Mtg, 6:30 pm	15  Board mtg, 7 pm	16 Kabbalat Shabbat Service, 6:15 pm Tot Shabbat, 7 pm USY/Camp at Clear Lake  <i>Meet Rabbinic Candidate Rabbi Kogan</i>	17 Shabbat Morning Service, 9:30 Auf Ruf of Andrew Schiller and Rachel Goldenberg
18 Hebrew School, 9am-noon Men's Club Breakfast, 9:30 am Fundraising mtg, 11 am Cantor Shira Concert, 2 pm Israeli Café, 3 pm	19	20	21 Hebrew School, 4:15 pm	22  Tkuma Class, 7:30 pm	23  Kabbalat Shabbat Service, 8:15 pm	24 Shabbat Morning Service, 9:30 am  Bat Mitzvah of Rachel Kwan
25 NO Hebrew School	26 TBS Office Closed	27 TBS Group Calendar mtg, 7 pm	28 Hebrew School, 4:15 pm	29  Tkuma Class, 7:30 pm	30 Kabbalat Shabbat Service, 8:15 pm	31 Shabbat Morning Service, 9:30 am  Bar Mitzvah of Daniel Katz



### A Closer Look - YOM HAZIKARON

The fourth of Iyar, the day preceding Israel's Independence Day, was declared by the Israeli Knesset (Parliament) to be a Memorial Day for those who lost their lives in the struggle that led to the establishment of the State of Israel and for all military personnel who were killed while in active duty in Israel's armed forces. Joining these two days together conveys a simple message: Israelis owe the independence and the very existence of the Jewish state to the soldiers who sacrificed their lives for it.

Source: [www.myjewishlearning.com](http://www.myjewishlearning.com)



# June

# Iyar-Sivan

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Israeli Day Parade USY Meeting, 12-4pm SCRIP ORDERS DUE	2 AIPAC CONFERENCE  House & Grounds mtg, 7:30 pm	3	4 Hebrew School, 4:15 pm Israel Scouts Visit	5	6 Family Service, 7:45 pm	7 Shabbat Morning Service, 9:30 am  Bat Mitzvah of Phoenix Koswener
8 Last Day of Hebrew School, 9 am-noon USY Car Wash, 9:30am-12:30 pm Men's Club Honors the Rabbis Kalev, 9:30 am Shavuot Service & Study Session, 8 pm	9 TBS Office Closed  Shavuot Service, 9:30 am  Shavuot Service, 8:15 pm	10 TBS Office Closed Shavuot Service, 9:30 am Executive Board mtg, 6:30 pm	11	12 Sisterhood mtg, 7:30 pm	13 Kabbalat Shabbat Service, 8:15 pm	14 Shabbat Morning Service, 9:30 am  Bar Mitzvah of Justin Fleischer
15  Father's Day	16	17 Executive Board mtg, 6:30 pm	18	19 Board mtg, 7 pm	20 Kabbalat Shabbat Service, 6:15 pm	21 Shabbat Morning Service, 9:30 am
22 Sisterhood Bye-Bye-Que, 2 pm	23	24	25	26	27 Kabbalat Shabbat Service, 8:15 pm	28 Shabbat Morning Service, 9:30 am  Bat Mitzvah of Kylie Robertson
29	30					

Happy 60th Birthday Israel!

**A Closer Look ~ HATIKVA**

Hatikva is the national anthem of Israel and expresses the dream of Jews to attain national independence in the Land. It was written by Jewish poet Naftali Herz Imber in 1878 as a poem named Tikvatenu ('Our Hope'). It was adopted as the anthem of the Zionist Movement at the First Zionist Congress in 1897.

*As long as true Jewish hearts yet beat,  
And Jewish eyes turn watchfully eastward,  
Our two thousand year-old hope is not lost,  
To be a free people in our own land,  
The land of Zion, Jerusalem, Israel!*



When the State of Israel was declared in May 1948, Hatikva was unofficially proclaimed the national anthem. It didn't become the official anthem until November 2004, when it was sanctioned by the Knesset.

# SHAVUOT 2008

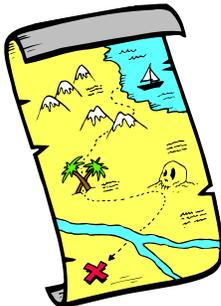


# שבועות תשס"ח

Join us at Temple Beth Shalom as we celebrate this wonderful holiday!

**SUNDAY, JUNE 8, 2008 AT 8:00 PM  
EVENING SHAVUOT SERVICE & TORAH STUDY**

**TORAH STUDY & DESSERT AT  
A NEARBY, SECRET LOCATION!**



RECEIVE A MAP FOR THIS FUN EVENT  
AT THE EVENING SHAVUOT SERVICE!



**JOIN US AS WE STUDY...**

**"LESSONS FROM THE BOOK OF BAMIDBAR (NUMBERS)"**

ALSO, PLEASE CELEBRATE WITH US AT SERVICES:

**MONDAY, JUNE 9, 2008 AT 9:30 AM - 1ST DAY SHAVUOT MORNING SERVICES**

**MONDAY, JUNE 9, 2008 AT 8:15 PM - 2ND DAY SHAVUOT EVENING SERVICES**

**TUESDAY, JUNE 10, 2008 AT 9:30 AM - 2ND DAY SHAVUOT MORNING SERVICES & YIZKOR**

## Men's Club Message



**I**t is hard to believe that spring is a month old and, as of this writing, we have only had a couple of spring like days. Hopefully by the time you receive this message, spring will have really arrived.

On Sunday, April 13, 2008, we had the pleasure of having our new Putnam County District Attorney, Adam Levy as our guest speaker. He is young, bright, enthusiastic and energetic. He spoke about his past work at the Suffolk County D.A.'s office, as an assistant district attorney, and his move to Carmel to become part of a private law practice. He definitely will be an advocate for both the adults and children who need to be properly represented.

We also honored our own Barry Plaut, for the magnificent work he did in building the new book shelves for our library. Thank you Barry for a job well done.

On Sunday, May 18, 2008, 9:30 am, we will host our

Annual/Paid/up Graduates Breakfast where we honor those Temple members who are graduating from Junior High School, High School and College. Our guest speaker will be Dr. Robert Reidy, Mahopac Central School District Superintendent.

On Sunday, June 8, 2008, 9:30 a.m., the Men's Club will be honoring the Rabbis Kalev. As you know they will be leaving July 1, 2008, for a Temple in Bluebell, Pennsylvania. We have come a long way in the five years that they have been with us and the Men's Club wishes to honor them for all that they have done for us. Once again, I look forward to seeing you on May 18, 2008 and June 8, 2008. As usual, all of our Temple members and their families are invited.



From left: Joel Greenberg, Barry Plaut, Adam Levy, Ron Arsham

Shalom,

~ Joel Greenberg, President



## ISRAEL TOURISM POSTER CONTEST

TBS members are invited to enter our first poster contest. Prizes will be awarded!



### Rules:

1. Pretend you work for the Israel Ministry of Tourism and need to develop a poster to encourage people to visit Israel. All facts on the poster must be accurate.
2. Posters must be on 28 x 22 poster board.
3. Poster board can be any color and any medium may be used.
4. Attach entry form below to back of poster.
5. Entries due to the office by May 7<sup>th</sup>
6. Winners will be announced on May 18<sup>th</sup>

### Entry Form

1) Circle ONE Category:

Family    Hebrew School Class    Child 10 and under    Child 11-17    Adult (18+)

2) If Family, enter names and ages of family members  
 If Hebrew School Class, enter which class  
 If individual, enter name and age

3) Phone number (not necessary if Hebrew School Class entry)

## Limud ~ Adult Education

### TKUMA

Thursday, May 1, 7:30 pm

Join Rabbi Kalev for this great opportunity to learn about the modern state of Israel. This 3rd class will focus on "The People's Army" - the creation of the important defense forces of the country. If you missed the first two classes, don't miss this one!

*The last two classes will meet on Thursday, May 22, and Thursday, May 29.*



### Beginners Hebrew Class with Lynn Michaels

Every Wednesday night at 7:30 pm

Join Lynn as she teaches a beginners Hebrew class. Learn how to read and gain a vocabulary of basic words that will help increase your Judaic knowledge.

**Schmoozing with the Sisterhood**



**A Message from your Sisterhood**

**Sisterhood Executive Board**

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**2008 Calendar**

May 8	Sisterhood Meeting	7:30 pm
May 11	Mother's Day Brunch	11:30 am
June 12	Sisterhood Meeting	7:30 pm
July 10	Sisterhood Meeting	7:30 pm
July 27	Picnic	Noon



Our April 10th Taste Of Passover was great. The foods everyone brought were delicious. Once I gather all the recipes, I will post them on the TBS website for anyone to use.

Please mark your calendars for the **Anything But Bagels** breakfast when Sisterhood and the Hebrew School cook together to celebrate Mother's Day. Remember, you don't need to have a child in Hebrew School to come.

Please note that this year's Torah Fund will not be held on May 18th. Instead, a goodbye luncheon for Rabbis Joshua and Selilah Kalev will be held on June 22nd. Invitations have been mailed so be sure to RSVP and join us as we bid the Rabbis farewell. We will be accepting donations to honor the Kalev's and we will be putting together a Farewell Journal where you can buy space to place your personal message if you'd like.

Hope you had a great Passover.

Take Care,

*Lynn*



*Mother's Day Brunch,  
Sunday, May 11, 11:30 am*

Don't forget to come to the next Sisterhood meeting on Thursday, May 8th, 7:30pm at Temple Beth Shalom. **No reservations are required.**

Sisterhood of Temple Beth Shalom Presents

**Bye-Bye-Que**

**Honoring Rabbis Joshua and Selilah Kalev**

*May they see the dreams of their world fulfilled in their lifetime.*

**Sunday, June 22, 2:00 pm**

\$25 per person

\$15 per child under 13

Please RSVP by June 2, 2008

To place a personal message in the Farewell Journal, please use the back of the RSVP card sent to you by mail. Donations in honor of the Rabbis Kalev can also be enclosed with your RSVP.

# ISRAEL @ 60 ~ an historic celebration



Cantor Shira Adler



Harel Shachal



Emmanuel Mann

Happy 60th Birthday Israel

Temple Beth Shalom presents

## Anistar

with special guest appearance by Cantor Shira Adler

**Sunday, May 18, 2:00 pm**

A concert carefully arranged to be enjoyed by all ages

Please join us at the TBS Israeli Café following the concert  
(included with admission)

Tickets prices - \$18 Single/\$54 per family (2 adults plus children living at home)

Tickets are available on our website or call the temple office: (845)628-6133

<http://www.tbsmahopac.org>

**Don't miss this incredible afternoon!**

ANISTAR is a Middle-Eastern Balkan Jazz Orchestra, formed in 2002 by composer, saxophonist and clarinetist Harel Shachal, that seamlessly fuses ancient and modern melody through instrumentation and repertoire. Joined by bass player Emmanuel Mann and our own Cantor Shira, the afternoon concert promises to entertain an audience of all ages.

For more detail on Anistar or Cantor Shira, visit our website at <http://www.tbsmahopac.org>.



**TBS Celebrates Israel @ 60**

# ISRAEL 60 CELEBRATION

with **David Broza**  
live in concert

**Sunday, May 25, 2008**

Wilton High School  
on the Athletic Field  
395 Danbury Road  
Wilton Connecticut

**5 pm Children's**

Activities and Picnic

**7 pm concert**

free and open to the public

Call 203.226.8197 or visit  
[www.brozaconcert.com](http://www.brozaconcert.com)  
for more information.

**Rain or shine event.**

*Parking \$18 per vehicle in advance,  
\$25 per vehicle on site.*

*Net proceeds from parking fees  
will benefit the Sarah Herzog  
Children's Center in Afula, Israel*

Beth Torah Glatt Kosher  
Food Concession



Rosenthal JCC Hosts

## Ernest W. Michel

Noted author, inspirational speaker  
and Holocaust survivor

**Thursday, May 1, 8:00 pm**

*Light Israeli Buffet, 6:30 pm*

\$18 per person *(includes buffet)*



Mr. Michels' account of his life is riveting, his joy of living is infectious, and his insightful wisdom is powerful. His life's work has inspired and improved the lives of thousands, and his story of hope, survival and triumph parallels the history of Israel and the Jewish people. This event takes place on the eve of YomHaShoah, Holocaust Remembrance Day.

**About Ernest Michel** ~ Mr. Michel is a German-born Holocaust survivor who became a journalist covering the Nuremberg war crimes trials not long after his escape from a Nazi death march. He went on to become the Executive Vice President of UJA-Federation of New York and the author of two critically acclaimed books, Promises to Keep and Promises Kept. He has been involved in countless Jewish historical events since the end of World War II and has traveled extensively to communities all over the world. He was also the initiator and chairman of the highly publicized World Gathering of Jewish Holocaust Survivors in Israel in 1981, which brought together, for the first and only time, 6,000 survivors and their families from 23 countries on four continents.

Mr. Michel's unique historical Judaica collection, which has toured the country over the past 12 years, will be on display at the JCC through June 22.

*For information: [www.rosenthaljcc.org](http://www.rosenthaljcc.org), or call 914-741-0333.*



### Please join us at our 32<sup>nd</sup> Annual Meeting & Julian Y. Bernstein Distinguished Service Award Ceremony

as we honor 18 distinguished volunteers of the Jewish community including a special presentation to the publishers of the Westchester Jewish Chronicle

May 14<sup>th</sup>, 7:30 PM

Westchester Jewish Center, Mamaroneck  
Free-Open to Public-Kosher Dairy Reception

Contact us at: 914-328-7001, [info@wjconference.org](mailto:info@wjconference.org) ; [www.wjconference.org](http://www.wjconference.org)



## Our Temple Family



### TODAH RABAH

Special Thanks  
to the  
**Guest Family**  
for repairing our Torah scrolls.

We now have five kosher scrolls  
to read from at  
Temple Beth Shalom!



### TODAH RABAH

To **Koby Tigershtröm** for making falafel for our community at the shuk.  
To **Lynn Michaels & Sisterhood** for a great Shabbat Across America.  
To **Georgene Perlman** for making Purim so special.  
To **The Michaels Family & Howie Gershman** for their great drinks at Purim.  
To **Selilah Kalev** for running the book club meeting.  
To **Wendy, Melody & Billy** for all their help with Passover.  
To the **USYers** for their help cleaning the synagogue before Passover.  
To **Koby Tigershtröm** for picking up our Torah scrolls from Brooklyn.

### MAZEL TOV

To **Ron Arsham** for winning the NCAA Tzedakah Pool.  
To **Charles & Bobbie Schiller** on the engagement of their son.  
To **Gary Reing** on his new position with the Bar Association.  
To **Georgene Perlman** on her big promotion at work.

# May

### Celebrating Birthdays in Our Community

1 Jeff Feldman Phoenix Koswener Alicia Shekter Bruce Tesler Alana Ullman	15 Amanda Kandel 17 Arnold Berlin Justin Scavone 18 Patti Bettman Daniel Skolnick 20 Roger Wagner 22 Deborah Carrillo Katie Oelsner 23 Rochelle Hammer Ann Koblenz Robert Oelsner Michaela Robertson 25 Joshua Ashley Wendy Greenberg Justin Katz	26 Janet Cohen Alex Freundlich Kaitlyn Greenberg Marc Skolnick 27 Ron Arsham Michael Klein 28 Emily Goldberg Dayna Gralla Michele Hemmer Maxwell Semegran 29 Jeff Katz 30 Lauren Gorodess Jennifer Michaels Micole Tuchman 31 Michael Hilfman Frances Tesler Erica Weiss
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# June

### Yom Hazkgdet Samgach יום הולדת שמח

1 Alyia Bettman Mitchell Garbo Joshua Hilfman Alicia Kravitz 2 Troy Gorodess James Kwan Andrea Rothstein 3 Elaine Peikes 4 Benjamin Dancygier 5 Ben Faber 6 Ray Perlman 7 Brianna Garbo 11 Mindy Gold Bernice Guest Jennifer Klee Martin Schwartz Sacha Stiman-Lavian Dennis Ullman	12 Rebecca Sanders-DeMott Bernard Simon 13 Tess Bettman Denice Leggiero 14 Lawrence Gorerlick 15 Irene Dancygier Andrew Schiller David Small 16 Andy Tuchman 17 Reagan Kronrad Jason Small 18 Adam Semegran 20 Matthew Posniak 21 Jodi Gorelick 22 Marilyn Arsham Martin Ashley Evan Frenkel Shera Tuchman	24 Gerard Chacon Ellen Lever Patricia Schwartz 25 Susan Chavis 26 Marc Kreiness 27 Ann Rubin 28 Ilan Astrachan Amy Love David Plaut 29 Patrice Liff Andrea Persampieri
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### TODAH RABAH

A special thank you to  
**Koby Tigershtröm**  
for purchasing and installing a  
special case for our defibrillator  
and oxygen tank which now hangs  
in the coat closet.

### MAZEL TOV to Travis Scavone

who will be awarded  
scouting's highest honor,  
the Eagle Scout Award,  
at a Court of Honor on  
Sunday, May 4 at TBS.

<i>Mi'sheberach ~ Wishing a return to good health to those who are ill in our community</i>	Leah Bat Sholmo Ve Ester Shelley Adler Giselle Dollinger Marcus Fitz Charles Gasset Gordon C. Gladden Lloyd Goldfarg	Martin Goldmark Ana Horn Sol Indig Erna Kaplan Trudy Kaplan Kenneth Kaplan Helen Lichtman	Eunice McDermott Fannie Meyer John Morelli Bill Morrill Alana Rogers Joanne Sachs Elaine Simone	Rosalee Steiner Ethel Thomas Larry Ticker Lois Van Etten Arthur Weisman Marjorie Weisman
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## SPOTLIGHT ON NEW MEMBERS

By Glenn Sapir

### Children Drew Two Families to TBS

As is often the case, getting children enrolled in religious training is what brings new members to our congregation, and fortunately for Temple Beth Shalom, the Braman and Freebern families have chosen Temple Beth Shalom as the training ground for their children.

Joseph and Ellen Freebern, who have lived in Mahopac for six years, started their temple participation with another synagogue while living in their prior residence, in Yorktown. When their son Alexander, now a junior at Mahopac High School, reached his Bar Mitzvah and then completed his Hebrew high school experience in Yorktown, however, his family was ready to make the switch to TBS.

“We wanted our younger son, Jonathan, to attend religious school in his own public school district and make friends with Jewish children in the community,” Ellen Sperber Freebern said.

Jonathan, a nine-year-old fourth grader at the Austin Road School, is currently a member of the Bet class.

Janet Braman of Lake Carmel joined the temple early this year, so that her son, Andrew, “could get started on the way to his Bar Mitzvah.” Andrew, an eight-year-old third-grader at the Kent Primary School, has made that start as a member of the religious school’s Aleph class.

Both families have been impressed by the Jewish community of which they have chosen to become a part.

“My impression thus far is that the congregation is made up of friendly, open, giving and caring people,” Janet Braman said.

Ellen Freebern’s sentiments are similar.

“I like it,” she said. “The people are down to earth, and they are friendly. They really try to extend themselves.”

When asked what they’d like to get out of their temple, the families shared similar hopes, although at first

thought, Janet Braman’s response was more literal: “A mensch.”

Janet may have more to do with that than TBS, but the temple community will do its share, and that was her second reply to the question: “A sense of community.”

While Janet called her goal “a sense of community,” Ellen phrased the similar desire slightly differently—“a Jewish environment, friends and involvement in the synagogue.”

Ellen Freebern, who is a professor of psychology at Mercy College, says that her involvement will likely come through the Sisterhood and religious school. Her husband, Joseph, a lawyer and psychologist who is an administrator at Rockland Psychiatric Center, may soon be hearing from the Men’s Club.

Janet Braman has already helped in the office, and though busy both working in a local restaurant and substituting in public schools, she hopes to become an even more active congregant.

No matter how the families choose to become involved, we’re glad the love for their children and desire to give them a Jewish education have brought them to TBS.



## Tri-Synagogue Golf Outing

Yorktown Jewish Center Temple Beth Shalom First Hebrew Congregation

### First Annual Tri-Synagogue Golf Outing Sunday, May 12, 2008 Mahopac Golf Club

Registration starts at 10 am ☆ Lunch Served at 1130 am

Shotgun start is at 12:30 pm ☆ Dinner Following-6 pm

Events: longest drive, hole-in-one, closest to the pin, putting contest and raffle.

\$195 entry fee includes green fees, lunch and dinner, prizes and a great day to open the golf season!  
Spots are limited so reserve your space early.

All proceeds support the many fine programs that cater to the Conservative Jewish Community in Northern Westchester and Putnam County.

[www.trisynagoguegolf.com](http://www.trisynagoguegolf.com)

Celebrate Israel @ 60  
with TBS

### Trip to Queens

Thursday, May 8, Noon

Take a ride to Queens for a Yom Ha'Atzmaut day trip with Rabbi Kalev.



We will eat, shop & have a blast!!!

## Youth Group News



**I** just opened the weekly Shabbat announcements e-mail from Temple Beth Shalom and noticed the headline “Bar /Bat Mitzvah season begins”. The

spring growing season has *finally* arrived. The school year will be over in a matter of weeks and the joys of summer are within striking distance.

This year our USY group has grown up. The USYers have become more mature and gained a greater degree of integrity and respect for their peers. A visible and visceral change has occurred in the group. Most notably it was evident at the recent Purim Carnival which was organized and run by the TBS USY. Each one of the USYers did an excellent job preparing for the carnival, setting up the room and participating in the minute to minute operation of the carnival.

As the year comes to a close we send one of our own off to college. Sarah Liebman, the sole senior in TBS USY, heads off to art school. We all wish her well. While Sarah’s absence next year will be unmistakable we rejoice that the core of our group will be returning. We also welcome the opportunity to grow, by leaps and bounds, with the infusion of our b’nai mitzvot. I am extending an open and unconditional invitation to each Bar and Bat Mitzvah to join USY at the start of the school year in September. In fact, ***your membership is free for the first year!*** In order for the USY group at Temple Beth Shalom to remain vibrant and nourished it is crucial that it be fed with the new thoughts, creativity and energy of new members. Please reach out to us as soon as possible to get on our e-mail list and phone tree. This invitation extends not just to those who are graduating from Hay class but your parents too!

This coming year will be a difficult year for our USY group with the moving on of Rabbi Joshua Kalev. Rabbi Kalev met almost our entire USY group when they were in the middle of their Hebrew schooling. He has worked with them, played with them, and grown up with them over the past five years. The unparalleled depth of

understanding, patience and genuine caring for each one of the kids that the Rabbi exhibits 24/7 has made Temple Beth Shalom a haven for the USY. It is said that time slows down to a crawl in the middle of a black hole. The void left with the Rabbi’s absence next year will feel that desolate. But, it is all part of the growing season. The Rabbi sows his career fields, Noa cuts a few more teeth and starts to walk making Selilah chase her all over Philly, while we pick ourselves up and reach to the sun and sky for light and inspiration.

I am reaching out to parents and friends of USY to come and join us. Help us keep USY intact and invincible. Your help and assistance could be to chaperone a meeting, offer your home up for a USY event, sleep-over at the temple during a Shabbaton, help organize special events, assist with communications, or be a speaker at a meeting.

The main thing is that Temple Beth Shalom does not have \$25,000 or more to hire a full time USY Director the way many larger synagogues have. A dedicated group, including Georgene Perlman, Howie Gershman, Ben Scavone and myself, has taken on this labor of love and we feel it has flourished. To stay the course, we really want and need those parents who will be joining us for the first time to actively participate in USY and our events. We hope parents will avoid the “*a drop off and pick up obligation*” approach to USY.

I hope that the coming seasons are bountiful for you and sincerely thank all of you who have participated in USY this year.

~ Steve Bettman



**SCHOOL SUPPLIES FOR ISRAEL**

On May 14<sup>th</sup> 2008, Israel will celebrate its 60<sup>th</sup>. USY is doing its part to make Israel’s birthday special by collecting school supplies to be sent to Israeli school children. You can help by dropping off new school supplies in the synagogue lobby no later than June 20<sup>th</sup>, 2008.

**WHAT WE NEED**

- Pens
- Pencils
- Block erasers
- Highlighters
- Flashcards
- Pocket folders
- Dividers
- Marble notebooks
- Spiral notebooks
- 3-ring binders

We are also accepting donations of Staples scrip.



*Purim 2008*



*Matzah Bake 2008*



*USY Purim Carnival 2008*



## Hebrew School News



**H**ave you noticed the crocuses in front of the Temple under the menorah? They are blooming due to the efforts of our Hebrew

school students spearheaded by the Hey class. The yellow flowers are a result of the school's participation in the **Crocus Project** that was established in an effort to expand the world wide education about the Holocaust. The flowers are reminiscent of the yellow stars the Jews were forced to wear and now serve as a reminder to all about the Holocaust send out a message to protest ethnic bigotry no matter where it is found.

**Our community celebration of Israel's 60<sup>th</sup> birthday was in full swing as our students created their very own shuk (marketplace).** The social hall rang out with sounds and scents of an Israeli outdoor market on Sunday April 6<sup>th</sup>. Koby Tigershtroum and the USYers prepared falafel for hungry shoppers while the student's voices clamored trying to sell the crafts they made especially for this event. Bracelets, bookmarks and picture frames were hot items that day. Israeli snacks like Bamba, candy, juice and tea were all available for purchase. Thanks to the generosity of our shoppers the Hebrew School raised \$278 to help purchase school supplies for needy Israeli students.

We were fortunate to have Rabbi Avi Korer of the Putnam County Chabad visit us with a unique **Matzah Bake program.** The students were treated to a hands-on demonstration in the art of baking matzah. Everyone had the opportunity to roll dough and get it ready for the oven. Rabbi Korer explained the process beginning with harvesting the wheat, grinding the flour, to the necessity of completing the preparation in just 18 minutes. The boys and girls sampled some of their own matzah and were each given an actual "shmurah matzah" to use at their Seder table.

We are moving towards the final few weeks of school that will be filled with many more memory making experiences. The children will help honor their mother's as they work closely with Sisterhood to prepare a very special brunch for **all the mothers of Temple Beth Shalom on Sunday May 12<sup>th</sup>.** We are planning **Maccabiyah games to be held at Clear Lake on May 19<sup>th</sup>** just in time to celebrate Lag B'Omer. And last, but certainly not least, the **Israel Scouts** will visit during the last week of school as we continue to highlight Israel's 60<sup>th</sup> birthday.

~ Carol Zager, Principal

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## B'nai Mitzvah

### Carly Aliza Markowitz 10 May 2008

Carly is in seventh grade at Mahopac Middle School where science is her favorite subject. Playing soccer on a team for Mahopac Sports Association is fun, but her newest area of interest is fashion design. Inspired by her Home and Careers class at MMS, Carly now spends many wonderful hours at her sewing machine making some of her own clothes. Is she a fashion designer in the making? Looking forward to her third summer at Yorktown Stage Theatre Camp where this outgoing young woman enjoys acting, dancing, singing and improvisation, Carly likes to spend time with her friends and her dog, Sammy. Carly will grace the bimah as she reads her parshah, **Emor** before family and friends. Parents Diana and Lee Markowitz will be joined by sister, Jamie (17), and grandmother, Gloria Markowitz. Carly is participating in the class mitzvah project of collecting non-perishable food items to stock the shelves of St. John's Food Pantry. She would like to thank Carol Zager, Rabbi Kalev, and her tutor, Lynn Michaels.

### Rachel Rachel Kwan 24 May 2008

A 7<sup>th</sup> grade student at Westchester Fairfield Hebrew Academy where her favorite subjects are math and *Torat Chayim*, Rachel enjoys studying languages. She is currently a student of English, Hebrew, and Mandarin Chinese. Rachel has been learning to play the Chinese harp for almost 2 years, and has been attending Chinese school on Sundays since about age 8. Rachel enjoys running cross country at school, and is a blue belt in Kung Fu which she studies with her father at his school. Rachel's vivid imagination finds an outlet in drawing. She relaxes by playing tennis with friends during recess at school. She will celebrate her

### TBS HEBREW SCHOOL CALENDAR

May	June
2 Family Service with Aleph Class, 7:45 pm	1 Mishpachah, 11 am-noon
4 Mishpachah, 11 am-noon	6 Family Service, 7:45 pm
10 Jr. Congregation, 10:30 am	8 Last day of Hebrew School, Awards Program
16 Tot Shabbat, 7 pm	
25 NO SCHOOL	

## B'nai Mitzvah

*Behold a good doctrine has been given to you...Forsake it not.*

bat mitzvah with a reading of her parshah, **Bechukotai**. Proud parents Karen Kwan and Shue Yiu Kwan will be joined by brothers James (22) and Michael (21). Grandfather Wah Hing Kwan and grandmother Mary Rosner will be cheering Rachel on. Rachel is busy planning for her mitzvah project which she hopes will involve teaching children about Passover. Rachel considers herself very lucky to have known both Rabbi Kalev, and Rabbi Brodie. She thanks her mom for finding Temple Beth Shalom for the family.

### **Daniel Chaim Katz** 31 May 2008

Daniel is finishing 7<sup>th</sup> grade at Mahopac Middle School where science is his favorite subject. Although he plays basketball, baseball, and golf, this athlete's preferred sport is soccer. He plays on the modified team at school, on the Mahopac Travel Team, and Joe Palumbo's team. In his free time, Daniel enjoys playing football with his friends. Following in the footsteps of his father, and older brother, Daniel will become bar mitzvah at TBS. He will read his parshah, **Bemidbar**, with proud parents, Susan and Jeffrey Katz, as well as brothers, Jordan (16) and Justin (10) *kvelling* in the congregation. His grandparents, Fred and Nikki Katz, and Barbara and Marvin Rachlin, will share in the joy of the occasion. Daniel's mitzvah project involves collecting food for the St. John's Food Pantry.

### **Phoenix Faigel Rifka Koswener** 7 June 2008

Phoenix is a 7<sup>th</sup> grade student at Mahopac Middle School where her favorite subject is English. Phoenix studies Jujitsu and has achieved the

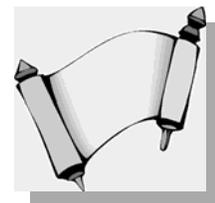
rank of green belt. She enjoys going to scary movies at the JV Mall with her good friends, and loves playing with her dogs, Tandy and Brisket. Phoenix will celebrate her bat mitzvah with the reading of her parshah, **Naso**. Zila and Kenneth Koswener will be the proud mom and dad looking on. Older brothers, Alexander (19) and Abraham (17) will lend support to Phoenix and we all hope grandmother, Estelle Koswener will be able to join the family for this *simcha*. Fond memories of religious school include hanging out with friends. Phoenix is actively participating in the class mitzvah project to collect non-perishables for the St. John's Food Pantry.

### **Justin Pinyenyah Fleischer** 14 June 2008

A 7<sup>th</sup> grade student at Mahopac Middle School, Justin enjoys his science class most. Sports dominate his free time as he plays soccer on the school's modified team and on the Mahopac Travel Team. He also enjoys playing basketball, and loves to ride bikes with his friends. Justin plans to study civil engineering since he was inspired by a family friend. With a reading of parshah **Beha'alotecha**, Justin will mark his bar mitzvah. Loving parents Linda and Randy Fleischer will share this special day with Justin. His sister, Rachel (10) will cheer him on. Grandparents Jimmy and Marie Cardascia, and Fonda and Les Fleischer will be on hand to share the *simcha*. Justin joins his class in collecting non-perishable goods for the St. John's Food Pantry as his mitzvah project. He would like to thank Anita Bellenchia.

### **Kylie Chaya Robertson** 28 June 2008

In 7<sup>th</sup> grade at Mahopac Middle School, Kylie enjoys almost all of her classes, especially math and history where she is currently studying US History. She is a member of the field hockey team at school and studies gymnastics privately. Kylie has been an active member of an acting troupe with Claudia Grispin Performing Arts Center and looks forward to continuing this pursuit after her bat mitzvah. With her friends Kylie loves sleepovers and going to the mall. Kylie will continue a long standing family tradition as she reads from Korach on the same TBS bimah as did her mom, two aunts and older sisters. Her proud parents, Barbara and Mark Robertson will be joined by sisters Rachel (20), and Micaela (18). Her grandfather, Morris Koblenz, a TBS member since 1960 will share the joy of the occasion along with Kylie's step-grandma, Ann Hartman, and her grandmother, Joyce Robertson. St. John's Food Pantry will be the beneficiary of Kylie's mitzvah project as she joins her classmates in collecting non-perishable goods. She has developed a special relationship with her tutor, Lynn Michaels whom she would like to thank.



## AIPAC ~ Lobbying for Israel



From June 2-4, Rabbi Kalev, and members of Temple Beth Shalom, will attend the annual AIPAC Policy Conference in Washington, DC. The Conference is the pro-Israel community's preeminent annual gathering. The event attracts more than 6000 community leaders and student activists from all 50 states, and more than half of the U.S. Senate, a third of the House of Representatives and countless Israeli and American policymakers and thought leaders. Over three jam-packed days, Policy Conference participants choose from hundreds of informative sessions and participate in the pro-Israel community's largest and most important advocacy day.

As America's leading pro-Israel lobby, AIPAC works with both Democratic and Republican political leaders to enact public policy that strengthens the vital U.S.-Israel relationship. With the support of its members nationwide, AIPAC has worked with Congress and the Executive Branch on numerous critical initiatives -- from securing vital foreign aid for Israel to stopping Iran's illicit nuclear program. Some highlights include:

**Strongly backing Israel's right to defend itself** in the face of daily rocket attacks by passing a House resolution in a near unanimous vote, 404 to 1.

**Strengthening U.S.-Israel energy cooperation** by passing legislation that establishes a grant program that funds joint projects between U.S. and Israeli entities in the field of alternative energy.

**Calling upon** the administration in a letter signed by more than 180 members of the House to provide strict guarantees that the proposed sale of sophisticated technology to Saudi Arabia will not harm U.S. forces or undercut Israel's qualitative military edge.

**Strengthening U.S.-Israel homeland security cooperation** by passing landmark legislation creating an office within the Department of Homeland Security to support joint research and development projects between the United States and key allies such as Israel.

**Calling for the strengthening of UNIFIL's** mandate to stop arms shipments to Hizballah across the Syrian border by supporting a letter signed by 104 House members.

**Highlighting the need to stop weapons smuggling in Gaza** through a letter signed by 32 senators urging the United States to press Egypt to take action.

**Reiterating standards for the Palestinian government** through letters signed by 259 House members and 79 senators urging the EU and United States not to provide aid or grant recognition to any Palestinian government until it fulfills internationally backed requirements.

**Prohibiting U.S. aid and contacts with the Hamas-led PA** until its leaders recognize Israel's right to exist, renounce violence and ratify previous Israeli-Palestinian peace agreements.

**Extending U.S.-backed loan guarantees to Israel** until 2011 and renewing the authority to transfer U.S. military equipment to be stored in Israel for use in a potential crisis.

**Ratifying an agreement that led to the Israeli medical service** Magen David Adom's admission to the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement (IRC).

**Condemning Iran** for holding a conference casting doubt on whether the Holocaust happened. The resolutions reproached the anti-Semitic statements made by Iranian leaders and asserted the United States' commitment to preventing a nuclear Iran.

**Passing the Iran Freedom Support Act**, which renews and strengthens sanctions aimed at curtailing funds and international cooperation necessary for Iran to pursue nuclear weapons.

**Reauthorizing the Iran Nonproliferation Act** to include sanctions against entities providing technology to the missile and weapons of mass destruction programs of both Iran and Syria.

**Passing congressional resolutions** that demonstrate overwhelming support for Israel's right to self-defense in the face of attacks by Hizballah and Hamas.

**Designating Hizballah's TV station as a terrorist entity** through legislative language as well as support of a letter to President Bush signed by 51 senators.

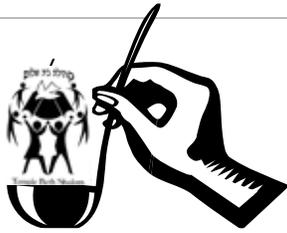
**Passing the Syrian Accountability Act**, which allows the president to sanction Syria for its continued involvement in Lebanon and support of terrorism.

**Increasing military aid to Israel** during the height of the Palestinian intifada by working for \$1 billion in government grants that help cover the escalating costs of the war on terrorism.

**Keeping world pressure on Hamas**, by working to pass a House Resolution before PA elections that warned of serious policy implications for U.S.-Palestinian relations should Hamas be part of the Palestinian government.

Source: [www.aipac.org](http://www.aipac.org)

*Thank you Rabbi Kalev, Karen Kwan and Marilyn Arsham for attending this event. We wish you a safe and productive journey.*



**Baby Blintzes**

*Kosher by Design, Edited by Susie Fishbein*

These can be served hot, warm, or at room temperature.

**Ingredients**

- 8 oz farmer cheese (regular, not unsalted)
- 8 oz cottage cheese (2% or 4% milkfat)
- 3 Tbsp sour cream
- 1/3 c sugar
- 1/2 c all-purpose baking mix, such as Bisquick
- 1 tsp vanilla
- 3 Tbsp melted butter
- 3 large eggs
- 12 raspberries
- 24 blueberries
- cinnamon/sugar
- sour cream

**Directions**

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Heavily grease a muffin tin with butter or nonstick cooking spray. In a large bowl, mix the farmer cheese, cottage cheese, sour cream, sugar, baking mix, vanilla, melted butter, and eggs with an electric mixer at medium speed.

Fill each of the muffin compartments halfway with the mixture. Place 1 raspberry and 2 blueberries on top of each muffin tin. Bake 20-25 minutes.

Remove from oven. Before serving sprinkle each baby blintze with cinnamon/sugar mixture and a small dollop of sour cream.



*Yields 12 servings.*



**ooking Kosher for the 70th Indelacht**

*Hint: The Hebrew letter Kuf (כ) and Koof (ק) make a 'k' sound*

**Sun-dried tomato pinwheels**

*Kosher by Design Edited by Susie Fishbein*



If you don't have sun-dried tomatoes packed in oil, you can use 15 dried sun-dried tomatoes. Place them in a bowl of boiling water and let them sit for 15 minutes. Drain. Place them in a food processor fitted with a metal blade and process them with 3 tablespoons olive oil.

**Ingredients**

- 30 sun-dried tomatoes, packed in oil
- 1 (17.3-ounce) package frozen puff pastry, thawed
- 12 tablespoons ricotta cheese
- 2 cups grated Parmesan cheese

**Directions**

Remove the tomatoes from the oil they are packed in. Place the tomatoes in the bowl of a food processor fitted with a metal blade. Process until they form a paste.

On a piece of parchment or plastic wrap, roll out the sheets of puff pastry. Spread the ricotta evenly over the pastry sheets. Spread the sun-dried tomatoes on top. Sprinkle each with Parmesan.

Roll each long edge of the pastry sheets, jelly-roll fashion, pressing to seal the seams. Wrap in plastic wrap. Freeze for 30 minutes so the rolls will keep their shape when cutting. Rolls can be frozen at this point for up to 1 month. When ready to bake, remove from freezer, let stand at room temperature about 10 minutes or until a sharp knife can slice through it without compressing the shape.

Preheat the oven to 400 degrees. Using a sharp knife, cut pinwheels into 1/2-inch-thick slices. Place on a parchment lined baking sheet. Bake for 20 minutes or until puffed and golden.

*Yields 2 dozen pinwheels.*

**Fruit Borscht**

*A Festival of Jewish Cooking, collected and designed by Carole Lowenstein*



**Directions**

Pit the fruit; combine the fruit, water, lemon juice, salt, sugar and stick cinnamon. Bring to a boil. Cover and simmer for 20 minutes or until fruit is soft. Remove from heat. Remove cinnamon.

**Ingredients**

- 3 cups fresh or dried fruit (any combination may be used: cherries, peaches, pears, apricots, etc)
- Water to cover (about 1 1/2 quarts)
- 2 tsp lemon juice
- 1/2 tsp salt
- 1/2 c sugar
- stick cinnamon
- 2 Tbsp cornstarch
- 2 Tbsp cold water
- Sour cream

Put fruit through a sieve or puree in a blender. Return soup to heat and bring to a boil. Make a paste of cornstarch and water. Slowly add to soup, stirring constantly.

Cook for 5 minutes. Sweeten more if needed.

Serve ice cold with sour cream.

## Contributions

### General Fund

**For the speedy recovery of Arthur and Marjorie Weisman**, from Melody, Ira, Barbara & Hayley Weisman

**For the speedy recovery of Jack Tesler**, from Ron & Marilyn Arsham

**For the speedy recovery of Joel Greenberg**, from Jeanne & Steve Toovell from Ron & Marilyn Arsham

**For the speedy recovery of Trudy Kaplan**, from Melody, Ira, Barbara & Hayley Weisman

**In appreciation to Marlene and Allen Hochberg for the Sunday talk**, from Eleanor & Ralph Small

**In honor of the birth of Ari, grandson of Bernice & Jeff Guest**, from Marge Pollack

**In honor of the birth of Noah Lewis, grandson of Bernice & Jeff Guest**, from Wendy & Joel Greenberg

**In loving memory of Bill Perry**, from Eleanor & Ralph Small

**In loving memory of David Bashkow, Alicia Raskob's father**, from Jeanne & Stephen Toovell

**In loving memory of David Guest, father of Jeff Guest**, from Diane & Marc Houslanger

**In loving memory of Harold Michaels, father of David Michaels**, from Diane & Marc Houslanger from Ellen & Howard Gershman

**In loving memory of her aunt, Edna Sapakie**, from Nancy Sapir

**In loving memory of her father, Herman Ecker**, from Nancy Sapir

**In loving memory of her father-in-law, Aaron Lichtman**, from Marcia Lichtman

**In loving memory of her mother, Betty Weisskopf**, from Sylvia Ross

**In loving memory of his father, Louis L. Garrell**, from Howard Garrell

**In loving memory of his father-in-law, Mayer Figer**, from Howard Garrell

**In loving memory of Ida Wengrofsky**, from Gayle Burghardt

**In loving memory of Joseph Carrillo, husband of Debbie Carrillo**, from Ron & Marilyn Arsham

**In loving memory of Matesyohu Bessen**, from H. Bessen

**In loving memory of Michael Newman, son of Larry Newman**, from Phyllis & Stephen Nadelhaft

**In loving memory of Ron Pollack**, from the Pollack Family

**In loving memory of Sid Rosner, Anita Bellenchia's brother**, from Ellen & Howard Gershman from Lynn & David Michaels from Diane & Marc Houslanger

### Mathew Fixler Religious School Fund

**For the speedy recovery of Jack Tesler**, from Yvonne & Ralph Horowitz

**For the speedy recovery of Joel Greenberg**, from the Gershman Family

**In honor of the birth of a granddaughter to Eleanor and Ralph Small**, from Shelley & Howard Hammer

**In loving memory of David Bashkow, Alicia Raskob's father**, from the Weisman Family

**In loving memory of David Guest, father of Jeff Guest**, from Yvonne & Ralph Horowitz

**In loving memory of Frank Intravio, Nancy Sapir's brother-in-law**, from Jeanne & Steve Toovell

**In loving memory of Sid Rosner, Anita Bellenchia's brother**, from Phyllis & Stephen Nadelhaft from Susan & Gary Loewenberg

### Mishloach Manot

**In thanks to those who remembered us at Purim**, from Carole & Stuart Toledano

**In thanks to those who remembered us at Purim**, from the Solar-Doherty Family

**In thanks to those who remembered us at Purim**, from Mary Palmer

**In thanks to those who remembered us at Purim**, from Martha & Ben Pallant

### Prayer Book Fund

**In honor of the birth of Noah Lewis, grandson of Bernice & Jeff Guest**, from Nancy & Glenn Sapir

**In loving memory of David Guest, father of Jeff Guest**, from the Sapir Family

### Outreach Benevolent Fund

**For the speedy recovery of Colleen Blair**, from Nina Levine

**For the speedy recovery of Elaine Simone**, from Wendy & Joel Greenberg

**For the speedy recovery of Joel Greenberg**, from Jean & Ro

**For the speedy recovery of the grandson of Bernice and Jeff Guest**, from Karen Kwan

**In gratitude to Lynn Michaels and Karen Kwan for all of their help**, from Bernice & Jeff Guest

**In honor of the birth of Noah Lewis, grandson of Bernice & Jeff Guest**, from Alicia & Gerry Raskob from Melody, Ira, Barbara & Hayley Weisman

**In loving memory of David Guest, father of Jeff Guest**, from Alicia & Gerry Raskob from Wendy & Joel Greenberg from Melody, Ira, Barbara & Hayley Weisman from Marge Pollack from Dale & Richard Charkow from Carolyn Stiman

**In loving memory of David Bashkow, Alicia Raskob's father**, from Bernice & Jeff Guest from Wendy & Joel Greenberg from the Sapir Family from Marilyn & Ron Arsham from Elaine & Bernie Jacobs from Madalyn & Richard Kravitz from Cindy & Harvey Teplitsky from Richard & Dale Charkow from Eleanor & Ralph Small from Dennis & Claire Ullman from the Solar Doherty Family from Nina Levine

**In loving memory of Debbie Miller**, from Nina Levine

**In loving memory of Frank Intravio, Nancy Sapir's brother-in-law**, from Wendy & Joel Greenberg

**Contributions**

**In loving memory of Harold Michaels, father of David Michaels,** from Karen Kwan

**In loving memory of her father, David Bashkow,** from Alicia Raskob

**In loving memory of her mother, Marilyn Black,** from Karen Kwan

**In loving memory of his brother, Stephen Raskob,** from Gerald Raskob

**In loving memory of Joseph Carrillo, husband of Debbie Carrillo,** from Wendy & Joel Greenberg from Karen Kwan from Cindy & Harvey Teplitsky

**In loving memory of Michael Newman, son of Larry Newman,** from Wendy & Joel Greenberg

**In loving memory of Roz Roth,** from Ira, Melody, Barbara & Hayley Weisman

**In loving memory of Sid Rosner, Anita Belenchia's brother,** from Melody & Ira Weisman & Family from Wendy & Joel Greenberg from Karen Kwan from Alicia & Gerald Raskob

**In loving memory of the grandson of Mr. and Mrs. Salvator Ciraolo,** from Wendy & Joel Greenberg

**Rabbi's Fund**

**For the speedy recovery of Joel Greenberg,** from Arlene & Stanley Greenberg from Susan & Gary Loewenberg

**In honor of Bud Filer's birthday,** from Sue & Gary Loewenberg

**In loving memory of David Bashkow, Alicia Raskob's father,** from Carolyn Stiman from Sue & Lou Tuzman

**In loving memory of David Guest, father of Jeff Guest,** from the Solar-Doherty Family from Sue & Lou Tuzman

**In loving memory of Harold Michaels, father of David Michaels,** from the Solar Doherty Family

**In loving memory of Hilda Gershman,** from Adele & Mel Weiner

**In loving memory of Joseph Carrillo, husband of Debbie Carrillo,** from the Solar Doherty Family from Carolyn Stiman

**In loving memory of Sid Rosner, Anita Belenchia's brother,** from Barbara & Marvin Rachlin from Carolyn Stiman

**In loving Memory of Sid Rosner, son of Agi Rosner,** from Barbara and Marvin Rachlin

**Religious Fund**

**In loving memory of Sid Rosner, Anita Bellanchia's brother,** from Bernice & Jeff Guest

**In honor of the birth of Noah Lewis, grandson of Bernice & Jeff Guest,** from Yvonne & Ralph Horowitz

**In honor of the birth of granddaughter Caroline to Eleanor and Ralph Small,** from Ann & Morrie Koblenz

**In honor of Gary Loewenberg's BIG birthday,** from Ralph & Yvonne Horowitz

**Stained Glass Fund**

**In loving memory of David Bashkow, Alicia Raskob's father,** from Maxine & Robert Casalbore

**Tzedakah Fund**

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## New Tale of The Old Man

What kind of gift does one give for a 60<sup>th</sup> birthday? Silver? Gold? And what if none of those gifts is suitable because the recipient is not a person but a country?

This year Israel is 60 and I search my heart and soul looking for the right gift, a gesture, special words, anything that would help me express how I feel about Israel and what it's mean to me, who grew up with her from childhood to adolescence to maturity. Although I do not live my life under her deep blue sky these days, my love and admiration and sense of awe have not diminished.

While my mind floats to the days of the Lira, pre-shekel currency, and the dusty, crowded buses and endless desert, a few names and faces find their way from far away memories into my life today. I think of Ben Gurion, Ben Tzvi, Buruchov, Weitzman, Begin, and so many others. All were leaders, men of vision and courage to face reality, and bring the wisdom of the alder and endless compassion to Jewish people wherever they are. Growing up in the time of new creation, new immigrants in a new county, new language, new identity, traditions, those names were part of my daily life, but two names stand out above them all, David Ben Gurion and Yitzhak Ben Tzvi. So great was the respect and the admiration they received from people from all walks of life, that I remember my father forbidding us from any criticism or bad words against them. For my father, an orthodox man, Ben Gurion was a gift from God, the real Messiah, who did not come on a white donkey, but walked on his own legs. The country and we, the children too, just referred to him as B.G.

David Ben-Gurion was born in Plonsk, Poland in 1886. When he was 11 years old, his father, an ardent Zionist, made sure that his son would follow in his footsteps. For that, his father established a Hebrew school. Indeed,

the apple did not fall far from the tree. Ben Gurion's lifetime commitment to Zionism started in his mid teens when he led a Zionist youth group, *Ezra*, whose members spoke only Hebrew amongst themselves. At the age of 18, he became a teacher in a Warsaw Jewish school and joined the Socialist-Zionist group "*Poalei Zion*" (Workers of Zion).

Only 20 years old, he arrived alone in Israel, then a part of the Ottoman Empire, where he became involved in the creation of the first agricultural workers' commune, which evolved into the *Kvutzah* and finally the *kibbutz* as we know it today. At the same time he also helped establish the Jewish self-defense group, *Hashomer* (the Watchman), which was needed to protect the early settlements and their assets from Arab night raids. Those two acts were his life mottos following him for the rest of his life, all the way to Sede Boker in the Negev. A new kind of Jewish people would develop and protect the land. No more the traditional Jews who just learn Torah, but a self reliant people living independently on their own land.

All those activities were not hidden from the Ottoman authorities who were very ambivalent in their attitude toward the new Zionist movement that brought to Israel new Jewish establishments. Following the outbreak of World War I, while B.G was studying in Istanbul, he was deported by the Ottoman authorities with Yitzhak Ben-Zvi who would later become Israel's 2<sup>nd</sup> President.

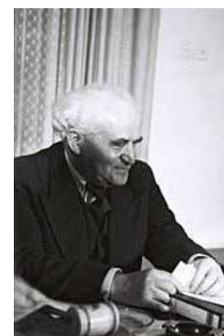
Ben-Gurion used the time to travel on behalf of the Socialist-Zionist cause to New York, where he met and married Paula Monbesz, a fellow Poalei Zion activist. Paula, a remarkable woman in her own right, believed in him and followed him to her last day. His first visit to the USA left another big impression on B.G. Growing up under Lenin socialism, in which he strongly believed, he had to face for the first

time, democracy American style. That experience, engraved in his soul, manifested itself in the new democracy Israeli style that he established despite some opposition from other members of his cabinets who wanted Israel to be a socialist country, Russian style.

Once the British took over Israel in 1916, Ben Gurion returned to Israel wearing the uniform of the Jewish Legion, created as a unit in the British Army by Zionist leader Vladimir Jabotinsky, better known as Ze'ev Jabotinsky, later on one of Ben Gurion's biggest opponents.

Among other activities, B.G. was a founder of the trade unions, in particular, the National Federation of Labor, the Histadrut, which he dominated from the early 1920's. As chairman of the organization from 1935, he forged it into more than trade union. An all encompassing political, social and economic institution with its own network of factories, development corporations, cultural frameworks and health services and a financial institution, the Histadrut later proved itself to be both a source and a stronghold of Ben Gurion's power.

In the years following the British occupation and their mandate on what they called Palestine, B.G showed himself as a relentless man with a mission. He had a vision, building an independent homeland to all Jewish people. In his vision he saw flowering deserts, academies of higher learning and research, and a strong science establishment. Although he was a believer, and believed in the biblical



right of the Jewish people to the land, he knew that the establishment of the State of Israel would occur by *doing it with a new kind of Judaism* and not by waiting for the

Messiah's return to earth. At the same

time, he saw the growing objection in the neighboring Arab countries to the new Jewish settlements. Yet, he hoped and believed in co-existence.

A small stocky man with a disproportionately big head, he was known as extremely stubborn and cynical about reaching his goals. B.G. was a force to be reckoned with, but not to be friendly with. Leaders of the USA and England preferred dealing with other politicians rather than him, soft spoken men like Chaim Weizmann and Moshe Sharett. Ben-Gurion's main ally in the West was France.

In the early 1930s, in incidents of Arab riots against Jewish establishments and homes, many Jews lost their lives, mostly in Jaffa and Hebron. With Weitzman's urging, the British set a commission to inquire into the reason behind the riots and made a recommendation for the future of the British Mandate on the land. This commission, known as the Peel Commission, proposed partition of the land between the Arabs and the Israelis. It was rejected as unworkable.

According to the Peel Commission report, Arab allegations regarding Jewish land purchase were unfounded. "Much of the land now carrying orange groves was sand dunes or swamp and uncultivated when it was purchased... There was at the time of the earlier sales little evidence that the owners possessed either the resources or training needed to develop the land." The land shortage decried by the Arabs "was due less to the amount of land acquired by Jews than to the increase in the Arab population."

While Arab leaders rejected the partition idea from the start, there was much doubt among the Jewish leaders of the time. According to the Peel Commission, most of the land north of Jaffa would be the *Jewish State* while the west bank, Judea and all the Negev would be the *Arab State*. Jerusalem, with the neighboring land, would remain the British Mandate. The

report also recommended that "[s]ooner or later there should be a transfer of land and, as far as possible, an exchange of population." The population exchange, if carried out, would have involved the transfer of approximately 225,000 Arabs and 1,250 Jews.

Although the commission gave the Arabs all his beloved Negev, B.G. favored it. He wrote, *"The compulsory transfer of the Arabs from the valleys of the proposed Jewish state could give us something which we have never had, even when we stood on our own during the days of the First and Second Temples: [a Galilee almost free of non-Jews]. ... We are being given an opportunity which we never dared to dream of in our wildest imagination. This is more than a state, government and sovereignty---this is a national consolidation in a free homeland. ... if because of our weakness, neglect or negligence, the thing is not done, then we will have lost a chance which we never had before, and may never have again."*

As the clashes between Arabs and the Israeli continued, it was obvious to all that the British Mandate could not, and would not, last forever. There was never doubt in B.G.'s mind that the State of Israel would become a reality. He recognized the tragic nature of the dispute between two legal claims to the same land. In preparation for the inevitable clashes with the Arabs, he was in the forefront of those supporting the development of the Haganah, the indigenous defense forces. Yet, he was ready to go a long way to accommodate the Arabs.

Throughout these years, Ben-Gurion set the course of Zionist history, molding the character of the Jewish state. Based on a political platform blending vision with pragmatism, Ben-Gurion abandoned the established Zionist policy of caution and gradualism, adopting a strong activist line. During World War II, his strategy in the conflict between British restrictions on Jewish immigration,

settlement and the fact that Britain was fighting Nazi Germany was succinctly summarized in his statement that Zionists "would fight the war as if there was no White Paper (the restriction of new immigration imposed by the British) and fight the White Paper as if there was no war." After the war, he challenged British authority by organizing mass "illegal" immigration and set de facto boundaries for a Jewish state by establishing Jewish settlements in all parts of the country. He pushed for development of a Jewish defense capability and pressed for the purchase of heavy armaments - artillery and aircraft - when others spoke in terms of light infantry.

During WW2 and the years after, his biggest mission was the rescue of Jewish refugees from burning Europe. Among other activities, it was B.G.'s involvement with the Turkish government that supported the formation of train caravans that helped hundreds of people flee from Europe into Turkey.

Having led the struggle to establish the state of Israel, on May 14, 1948, David Ben Gurion chaired the meeting of the People's Council which declared the independence of the State of Israel. He became Israel's first Prime Minister and Defense Minister. Once again, his vision into the future of the land and of his people, proved a vital tool for survival.

While the war with 7 Arab nations was going on, he began the "ingathering of the exiles" - moves of daring and vision, "willing" events of historic magnitude to happen. In 1947, knowing *in his bones* that the day when he would become the leader of a full scale country was near, he made an agreement with the ultra orthodox community that the Shabbat will be the official day of rest in Israel; there would be no civil marriages, and the Orthodox sector would be granted autonomy in the sphere of religious education. I wonder if he ever envisioned what those agreements

would cost the Israelis in the future. In this sense, Ben Gurion belonged to the rare breed of leaders who are "event-making men" rather than "eventful men." As defined by philosopher / historian Sidney Hook, the former refers to individuals who "drive" history in the direction they chart, while the latter merely refers to "the right men at the right time." In the first 5 years of statehood, Ben Gurion's forceful and charismatic leadership as Prime Minister led to waves of mass immigration which doubled the country's population. Among the new immigrants who flocked to Israel on the Wings of Eagles, was my entire family, from Bombay India to Herzelya, Israel. He oversaw the direct absorption endeavors, investing the majority of the new nation's limited resources in integrating the immigrants, securing outlying areas by building settlements on the periphery, and instituting universal education in a non-partisan public school system. As Minister of Defense, he masterminded and carried out the tense transition from underground organizations to a regular army, molding the character as well as the structure of the IDF. It was Ben Gurion's decision and strong hand that brought to an end the far right organizations like *Lehi* run by Yair Stern, and *Etzel* run by Jabotinsky and Manahem Begin who wanted to keep their arms and forces as independent armies. To that end, Ben Gurion gave the order to fire on the *Altalena*, a ship carrying arms purchased by the Irgun (aka *Etzel*). The destination of those arms is unclear and the command remains controversial to this day. Nevertheless, thanks to his clear vision and wisdom, Israel was, and still is, the only undeveloped county to earn its independence, becoming a nation without a civil war or a coup. Later he presided over national projects such as *Operation Magic Carpet* (the airlift of Jews from Yemen), the construction of the National Water Carrier and other innovative regional development projects.

In the international arena, Ben Gurion put his political career on the line to force approval of the highly controversial reparations agreement with West Germany. I remember as a child, listening to my friends' parents arguing about his decision to establish a relationship with Germany and accept monetary settlement. Only a few years after the horrors of the Holocaust came to light, sentiments were still raw and unforgiving. Those were the *days of depression* in Israel. Many immigrants were still living in tents and makeshift houses. Work was scarce. Food was rationed. The 'old immigrants' having arrived in Israel in the early 1940s, were somewhat established. Most of the hardship fell to newcomers, the refugees who arrived in a new land. They faced a new way of life with little more than their memories. I remember that at the time, as a child, my own sentiments rested with my friends. We were all refugees from around the world. Only later, as an adult, did I realize the enormity of B.G.'s struggle and decision regarding West Germany. The monies received from the West Germans were not, by any means, blood money. The funds helped the neediest, to build a new nation that did not have many natural resources of its own, and to pave the way for forgiveness. Not to forget, but to forgive.

One of the cornerstones of the young pioneers who came to Israel after the late 19<sup>th</sup> century, was socialism, a social structure that made sure that no one would be left behind. It was Ben Gurion who led young Israel into adopting a pro-Western orientation opposing communism. This move set the stage for a strategic alliance with France and Great Britain, which strengthened Israel in the diplomatic, economic and military spheres in the 1950s.

In late 1953, Ben-Gurion left the government retiring to Kibbutz Sde Boker in the Negev serving as a personal model to Israel's youth. He returned in 1955 as Defense Minister, and later, the premiership. Reassessing defense policy he advocated a more resolute response to terrorism from across the borders and adopted a defense strategy based on close cooperation with France which lasted for over a decade.

In 1956, after Nasser, Egypt's leader, closed the Suez Canal to all foreign ships, it was B.G. who sided with France and England to spearhead the war against Egypt. This willingness to go to war was the result of years of guerrilla attacks on towns and young settlements in southern Israel. Although the operation succeeded and Israeli troop took over most the Sinai Peninsula, they had to withdraw after pressure from USA and USSR. The 11 relatively peaceful years that followed gave young Israel the time it needed to build up its infrastructure.

Personally, I always wonder. Was Israel really an equal player here or merely a pawn in the hands of England and France? What would have happened had Israel not gone to war in 1956, letting France and England do their own dirty work? Would that have changed the relationship the Arab Nations?



David Ben-Gurion with Golda Meir

As the county grew and flourished, so did the political establishment. New political parties formed and with new alliances, new leaders emerged. In 1963, B.G. once again resigned from the government. He stayed very much involved in the political arena although his power and influence diminished with the years. By then, his nickname changed from B.G. to *the Old Man*.

In June 1970, Ben-Gurion, at the age of 84, one of the most influential figures in the course of Zionism history, retired from political life and returned to Sede Boker, bringing to an end almost three decades of leadership, including 13 years as Prime Minister of the State of Israel.

The last time Ben Gurion raised his voice was after 1967 war. The swift military victory in the Six-Day War evoked unknown territorial appetites and an obsession with holy sites. By then, well into his 80<sup>th</sup> year, Ben Gurion once again expressed his opinion. "Keep Jerusalem undivided, Golan Heights and Mount Hebron" he said, "but otherwise we must suppress our yearnings for the newly gained regions; we must relinquish them in return for peace". But few among us listened to him. The Israeli leaders of the time, lacking the vision and wisdom of *the old man*, dismissed his advice as irrelevant. The Yom Kippur War of 1973 came as a nemesis, a harsh slap of reality, undoing the post-1967 Israeli arrogance and moral callousness. Ben-Gurion died a few weeks after that war, while a wounded, deflated Israel was mourning its heavy losses and entering a long period of soul searching. For me, the 1967 war brought back the nagging feeling and wondering I have had about 1956 war. A war began a war. Have we had not gone to war 1956, for the sake other nations, Nazar, the Egyptian president might not have used the 11 years of relative peace to build up his arms in order to defeat Israel and 'save face' in the eyes of the Arab world.

Ben-Gurion was remembered as a man of great charisma, a quick tongue, a tight, craggy man with a halo of silvery hair, a volcanic temper, and a jawbone that projected awesome willpower. He coined the phrase, "What matters is not what the Gentiles will say, but what the Jews will do." That phrase alone was enough to put the new Jewish nation, and Jewish people around the world in a league with other nations. In an era before TV and cell phones,

he enjoyed the privilege of privacy which no politicians can enjoy today.

No story about Ben Gurion, the man, would be complete without referring to his personal life, often hidden from the public, and his inner private self. While devoting his entire life to the Jewish cause, his private life remained simple and anonymous from the nation he created. In his little spare time, he tried to catch up with simple pleasures like reading, writing, being a husband and a father. He ached to be an intellectual. During the most dramatic years of his leadership, he gulped philosophy books, commented on the Bible, flirted with Buddhism, and even taught himself ancient Greek in order to read Plato in the original. He had a relentless curiosity about the natural sciences. He would quote Spinoza as if throwing rocks at a rival. He could not carry on a dialogue without verbal battle. I remember once seeing picture of him in the paper, standing on his head, as part of his yoga exercise, conducting conversation in his office. But he was, to borrow a literary term, a fantastic realist who gave his people an elemental, Old Testament leadership during the most fateful half-century in their history. Part Washington, part Moses, he was the architect of a new nation state that altered the destiny of the Jewish people — and the Middle East forever.

His deep belief in the future of the Negev prompted him to build the National Water Carrier, bringing in water from the Kinerat in the north to the Negev, and to move his dwelling to a new kibbutz, only a year old, to set an example for others. On the eve of the War of Independence, he ordered 11 new settlements to be established in the Western Negev, and during the war itself he placed the conquest of the Negev as a top strategic goal. In his words, "The Negev is the cradle of our nation, dangerously vulnerable and dazzlingly prospective."

His biggest supporter and best friend was his wife, Paula. She was raised in

the US and was known for her "acerbic tongue." She was fluent in Yiddish, English, and Hebrew. A feisty woman, she was famous for not being afraid to ask her husband to wash the dishes, indicative of their Zionist and socialist zeal. She was amused by her husband's interest in yoga and when his tutor, the famous Moshe Feldenkrais, would show up, she would say, "Here comes Mr. Hocus Pocus."

The feelings were mutual. No words can express their love and devotion to each other better than his chosen words, in a book dedicated to his wife. "Kindly I remember the favor of thy youth, the love of thine wedding, how thou followed me in the desert, in the unsown land."

Today, their home in Sede Bokker is a National Park. The home remains exactly as it was when Ben Gurion passed away in 1973. It was his wish as stated in his will. The rooms are simple, sparsely furnished, illustrating the character of a singular leader who lived by the words, "Practice what you preach," a leader who defined the horizon as the limit for human and national achievement.

Personally, every time I visit the site, I feel I am making a pilgrimage to a sacred site. A place where the dreams of the old man are still in the air. Just extend your hand, pick one dream, and follow it with all your might. People compared David Ben Gurion to Moses, Lincoln, or to Washington. For me he was, and always will be the '*old man*', a mentor, a small man in size with huge footprint to follow.

Here, Israel, is my gift for your 60<sup>th</sup> birthday. I'm giving you my memories of a great man who gave you your independence. Furthermore, I pass on these memories so he will not be forgotten.

~ Miriam Yekutiel

## Yahrzeits

*May Their Memory be a Blessing*

2 May/Nisan 27 Michael Goldstein	27 May/Iyar 22 Silvia Salzman Joseph Seiden	14 June/Sivan 11 Paul Schlem
4 May/Nisan 29 Ethel Abrams	28 May/Iyar 23 Susan Cox Magda Katzenstein	15 June/Sivan 12 Ludwig Loewenberg
5 May/Nisan 30 Samuel Simon	29 May/Iyar 24 Helen Toledano	17 June/Sivan 14 Alverne Koswener
6 May/Iyar 1 Doris Gunzburg	30 May/Iyar 25 William Glasner	18 June/Sivan 15 Yusef Persampieri
9 May/Iyar 4 Frank Dulberger Jerome Paul Levine	31 May/Iyar 26 Rachel Jacowitz	19 June/Sivan 16 Benjamin Brazinsky Freida Grossman Hilda Koblenz
12 May/Iyar 7 Reuben Bukvar Bessie Lipins Herman Small	1 June/Iyar 27 Samuel Rosenberg Saul Weissman	21 June/Sivan 18 Fay Goldberg
13 May/Iyar 8 Sam Kaplan	2 June/Iyar 28 Theresa Gerhardt	23 June/Sivan 20 Yetta Kuropatwa-Levine
14 May/Iyar 9 Frank Homelsky Harry Pallant Bernard Perlman	4 June/Sivan 1 Lawrence Lever	24 June/Sivan 21 Jane Danziger Justin Kronrad
20 May/Iyar 15 Evan Gordon	8 June/Sivan 5 Shanley Egeth	25 June/Sivan 22 George Goldberg
22 May/Iyar 17 Henry Salomon	9 June/Sivan 6 Nathan Kaiser Ethel Pomerantz	26 June/Sivan 23 Fay Sondike Martin Weber
23 May/Iyar 18 Belle Carol Gendler	10 June/Sivan 7 Jay Berkwits Marion Ryzak	29 June/Sivan 26 Celia Hartman Lena Rebell
24 May/Iyar 19 Jesse Berlin	11 June/Sivan 8 Beatrice Corn Solomon Price	30 June/Sivan 27 Rubin Small



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We welcome articles and information for inclusion in Temple Times. Submissions can be sent via email in Word or Publisher format to: newsletter@tbsmahopac.org, or via fax: 845.628.1730, or by mail to the Temple, mark envelope ATTN: Newsletter.



Newsletter Errors: Occasionally errors & omissions are found in the pages of Temple Times. We appreciate being notified of any corrections via email: newsletter@tbsmahopac.org, or by calling the temple office to leave a message with Ro, Jean or Melody. A newsletter staff member will return your call ASAP. The temple office is not responsible for newsletter content. Many thanks to our readers,

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**JERUSALEM & surrounding area:**

- |  |   |                |
|--|---|----------------|
| Kotel / Chanukah Candle Lighting   | Western Wall Tunnel                     | Herzl Museum   |
| Menachem Begin Heritage Center   | City of David                           | Tree Planting  |
| midnight mass/ Church of Holy Sepulchre  | Christian Quarter                       | Jewish Quarter |
| Archaeological Dig at the National Park Bet Guvrin   |   | Mount Zion     |
| Tombs of the Maccabees   | Modi'in - City of the Future            |                |
| Battlefield of David & Goliath   | Yad Vashem (Holocaust Museum)           |                |
| Machane Yehuda Market  | Secret tunnels of the Bar Kochba rebels |                |
| Moshav Bnei Darom "Olive Oil Visitors Center" working Olive Farm ( learn about Chanukah oil) |   |                |
- \*\*\* plus "surprise attractions" and on your exploration of this area rich with history\*\*\*

**EILAT**

- |  |                              |       |
|--|------------------------------|-------|
| Underwater Observatory                                       | Jeep ride to Egyptian border | Beach |
| Optional trip to PETRA in Jordan / new "wonder of the world" |                              |       |

**DEAD SEA & surrounding area:**

- |                   |                         |              |
|-------------------|-------------------------|--------------|
| Timna Valley Park | Mt. Sedom (Lot's Wife)  | Masada       |
| Ein Gedi          | Optional Spa Treatments | Genesis Land |

**GALILEE & surrounding area:**

- |   |                          |               |
|---|--------------------------|---------------|
| Life on a Kibbutz   | Tour of Kibbutz farm     | Candle Making |
| Golan Heights Winery  | Boatride on the Kinneret | Golan Heights |
| Mystical City of Tsefat / Artists Lane  |                          |               |
| Caesaria – Multi Media "Time Trek   |                          |               |
| Visit the <i>Basilica of Annunciation</i> in Nazareth   |                          |               |
| Tzippori <i>Roman Byzantine City</i> , Home of Mishna redactor Rabbi Judah the Prince Seat of the Sanhedrin , |                          |               |
| Traditional hometown of Jehoyachin & Chana par ents of Mary the Mother of Jesus                               |                          |               |

**TEL AVIV & surrounding area:**

- |   |                   |                     |
|---|-------------------|---------------------|
| Machon Ayalon (Clandestine Pre State Ammunition Factory ) |                   |                     |
| Old Jaffa   | Ilana Goor Museum | Tel Aviv Art Museum |
| Municipal Tour of Tel Aviv – " The White City"            |                   |                     |

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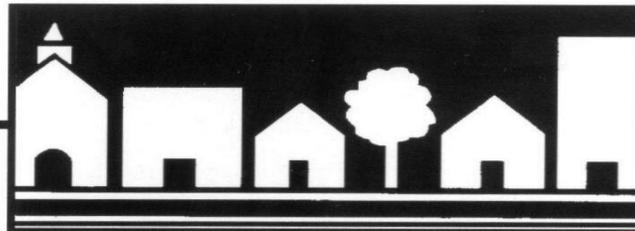
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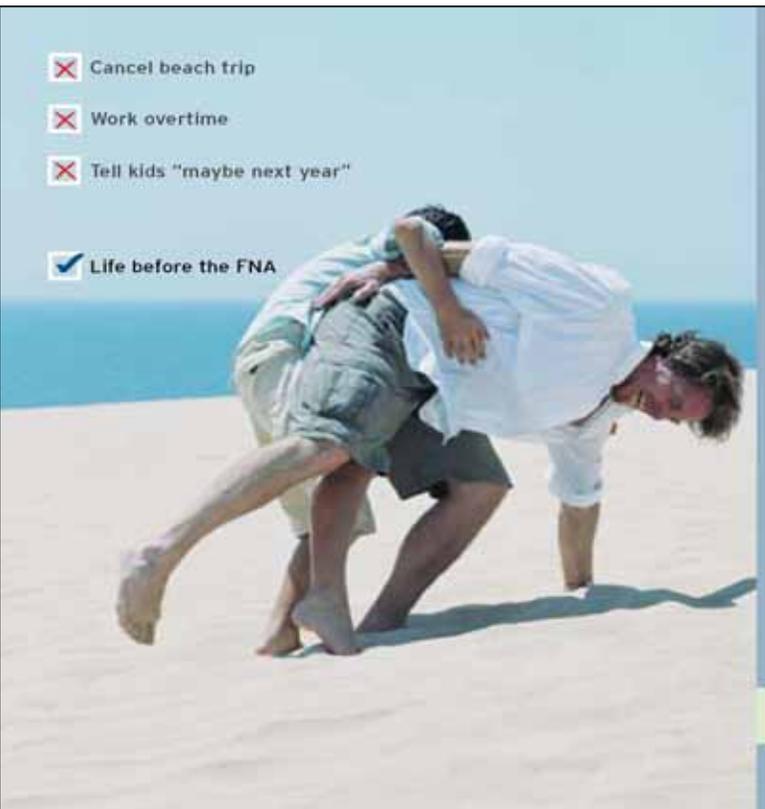
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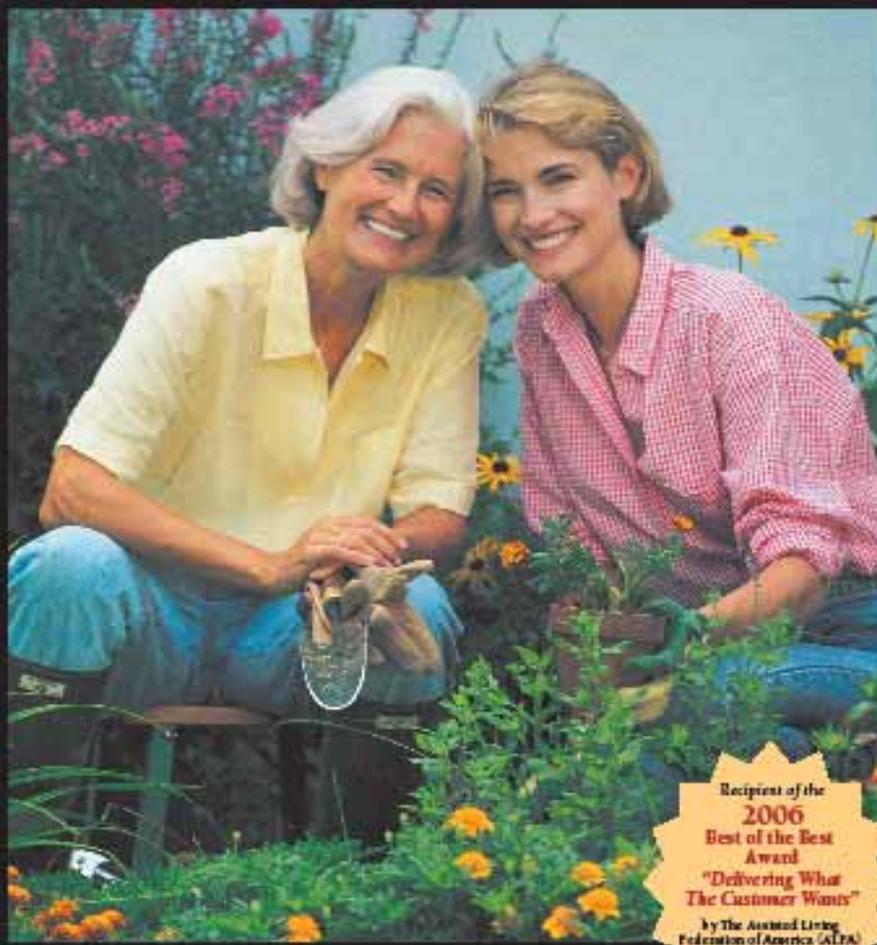
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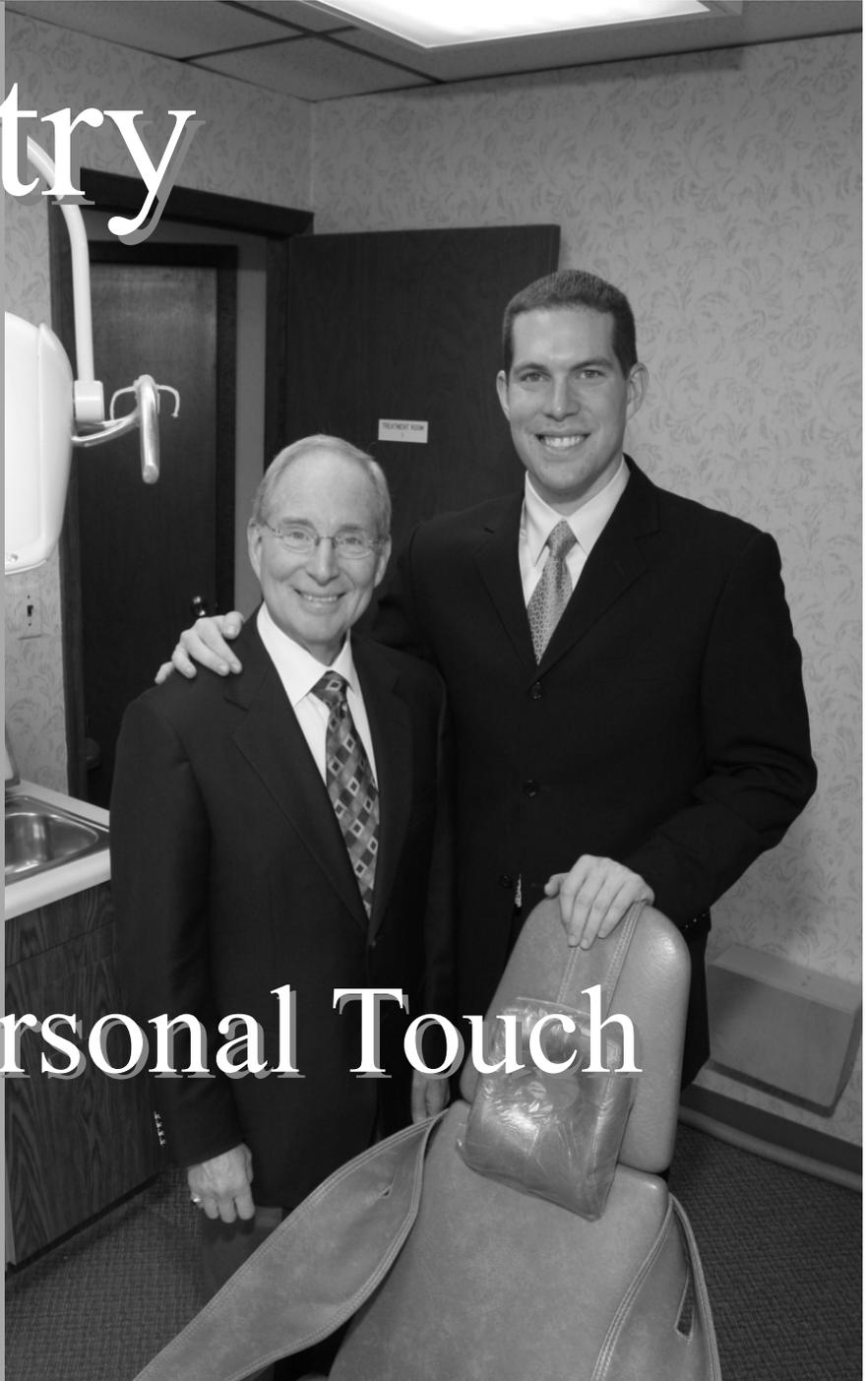
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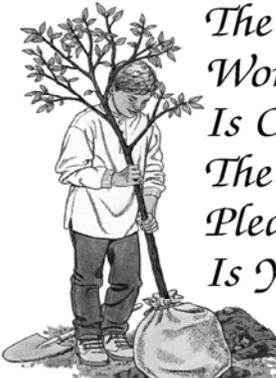
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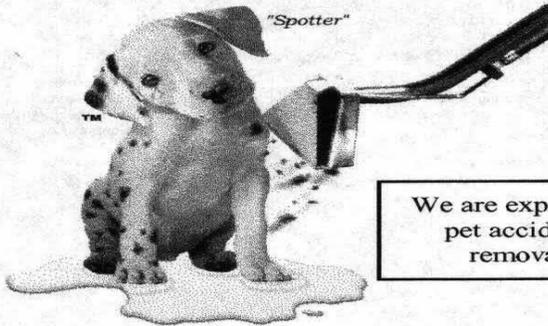
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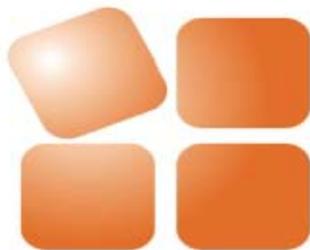


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