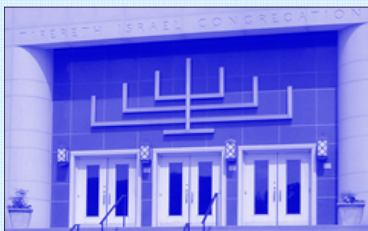




The Menorah

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Notes from the Rabbi: Ethan Seidel Praying with a "Whole Heart"

As many of you are aware, we will be praying out of a different *Mahzor*—*Lev Shalem*, meaning "a whole heart"—this coming High Holiday season. *Lev Shalem* might be meant as a little prayer unto itself: "May God give us, through our *davening* on the Days of Awe, a *whole heart*."

Alternatively, or perhaps in addition, the title reminds me of the Hebrew phrase *b'lev shalem*, meaning "sincerely," or, more literally, "whole heartedly"—just the way we'd like our prayers and our repentance to be at that time of year.

You can see that I like the title of the new *Mahzor*. There are many other features to like as well. The English translation is modern and lovely, where the translation in

the old *Mahzor* had come to feel stilted and sexist. (The word "man" just doesn't include all humankind, as it used to.)



There are many interesting commentaries along the sides of the page. Some help explain the prayers; others are poetic interpretations. Even the Hebrew font is good—bigger and much more legible than the typeface in the old *Mahzor*. And there are also more transliterations, enabling

(Continued on page 2)

Presidentially Speaking: Susan Catler Selecting a New Director of Lifelong Learning

After fifteen years at Tifereth Israel, Lynn Golub-Rofrano is resigning from her position. She began as our part-time head of the Himmelfarb Religious School, and is now the full-time Director of Lifelong Learning.

She is leaving at the end of her contract, June 30th, to pursue other interests. We thank her for her long service to Tifereth Israel. The Congregation will be honoring her and wishing her well during the services and Kiddush on June 19th.

Search for New LLL Director

We are now actively seeking the next Director of Lifelong Learning. Joel Cohen is chairing the search committee. After



extensive discussions about what we are seeking in a candidate, the committee prepared a job announcement and circulated it to the Congregation.

The announcement was also posted to lists of job openings maintained by the Jewish Educators Association. the

(Continued on page 8)

Notes from the Rabbi (continued)

those who don't read Hebrew to sing along. You can find samples of the new Mahzor on line at <http://www.rabbinicalassembly.org/sample3.html>.

On behalf of myself and Tifereth Israel I want to thank those generous congregants who contributed to the purchase of these *Mahzorim*. You will all find out who the benefactors are come the Days of Awe, because many of the bookplates will bear their names.

But these benefactors, in their generosity, did not claim all the dedicatory bookplates for the books they helped us purchase. There are still many bookplate dedication opportunities left. For \$36 you could still dedicate a book in honor or in memory of a loved one. Call the office if you are interested.

And, while I'm on the subject, the office ordered some extra copies of the book. You could buy your own

Mahzor from the shul for home use, for \$50. Again, call the office if you're interested.

One final note for the artists in TI. We need someone to help design the bookplate for the dedication of the *Mahzor*. This is not a paying gig, but you would have your artwork out there in 700 books. I would be happy to help you incorporate appropriate Hebrew into your design, if you'd like. Submissions are due in the office by May 30th.

As excited as I am about the new *Mahzor*, I realize it will take a little getting used to, especially this first year. Even though the prayers in the new book are mostly identical to those in the old, just a different layout, with different, albeit improved, translations, can make one feel out of place.

The old prayerbook is like our home, and even a much-needed refurbishment of our home can leave part of us longing for the way things used to be. I myself will take a while to get used to the new *Mahzor*. I'm sure it will be a little disconcerting for all of us. So, how do we adjust? How do we move forward as a community with confidence? There are many ways to contribute to the effort—by dedicating a book, or designing a bookplate, or just welcoming this change *b'lev shalem*!

Rabbi Seidel

The Menorah

Tifereth Israel Congregation

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Administrator: Sheri Blonder, ext. 101

Lifelong Learning Director: Lynn Golub-Rofrano, ext. 105

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Shavuot Schedule

Tuesday, May 18

9:00 p.m. Erev Shavuot Service
Tikkun Leil Shavuot

Wednesday, May 19

9:00 a.m. Shavuot I Morning Service

Thursday, May 20

9:00 a.m. Shavuot II Morning Service
11:00 a.m. Yizkor

Department of Lifelong Learning: Lynn Golub-Rofrano Himmelfarb Religious School & Youth Activities

Chai School Trip to NYC

May is a very busy month! Many of our Chai students start the month with our annual trip to New York City

We will welcome Shabbat at B'nai Jeshurun. Our students always enjoy the service and dancing! In addition to the music, the students enjoy the opportunity to *daven* in such a unique and beautiful chapel. The carved wood in their sanctuary is outstanding and always draws complimentary remarks from the students.

On the evening we will be there, they will also welcome a visiting congregation from Argentina. I'm sure this will be a very interesting event as these visitors are from the same community as the head Rabbi of the congregation.

On Shabbat morning, we *daven* with Kehilat Hadar, an independent egalitarian community that is committed to spirited traditional prayer, study and social action. This community always welcomes our teens, often offers us *aliyot*, and goes out of its way to make us happy to join them.

Our traditional Shabbat afternoon is spent in Central Park, often in the presence of many of the people we had just *davened* with at Kehilat Hadar! Following our *hofesh* we then walk to the Times Square Area to see a show.

This year we are seeing the hit musical, *Memphis*. This musical is a great follow-up to this year's TI in-house retreat and I look forward to hearing what the students think of it. Some of you have already said what a great show you felt it was.

On Sunday we will tour the Lower East Side, the Tenement Museum and some other sites in the neighborhood, with a possible stop in Brooklyn. One site the students are particularly looking forward to visiting is Economy Candy on Rivington Street.

We will return early Sunday evening to give the students a chance to recuperate before school on Monday and spend some time with their Moms for Mother's Day.

Younger Class Projects

Our younger classes are also involved in many special end-of-year projects. I will be writing more about them in

the next issue of the Menorah. Our teachers are doing a fabulous job this year involving the students in many hands-on educational activities. Watch for chalk-drawn Hebrew letters on the sidewalk from our Gan class next time you are at TI!

Youth Group News

Our **USY** group will hold elections and enjoy a pizza dinner and home baked goodies at the home of our phenomenal advisor, Rebecca Risser. The elections will take place on May 16. Please let Rebecca or me know if you wish to run for office.

Our **Bonim** and **Machar** youth groups take a field trip to Glen Echo Park on May 16 to see a performance of *The Red Balloon*. To order tickets you must contact Marci Cohen at mcohen10@umd.edu. This show is expected to sell out and we ordered tickets in March for those families who had made reservations.

Funeral Practices Committee Always On-Call

Chaverim of the Funeral Practices Committee are on call to provide counsel and services to synagogue members and their dependents. Prior to contacting the funeral home, please contact one of the following chaverim, Rabbi Seidel, or the TI office (202-882-1605).

Shelly Heller h: 301-942-1836
w: 202-242-6698

Jeff Davidson h: 301-593-1335

David (Judy) Cohen h: 301-652-2872

Marcia Goldberg h: 301-589-0352

Department of Lifelong Learning: Lynn Golub-Rofrano Adult Education

Rosh Hodesh Drumming Circle

The last drum circle of the year will be held on May 16 at Tifereth Israel from 6:00-7:00 p.m.. If you've been planning to join us and haven't gotten around to it yet, mark your calendar now!

We get a good crowd with an amazing array of percussion instruments! You leave feeling great and wanting more, so join us!

Monday Program

I have enjoyed seeing so many of you at our Monday programs. The May after-lunch programs are:

May 3, Jewish Current Events. We always have an interesting discussion with new insight from our members.

May 10, Literary Discussion. I will review some of the newer Israeli books that are in the library and offer you the opportunity to browse the Israel section. See what a great selection you can find right here at Tifereth Israel!

May 17, Social Action Monday.

May 24, the film *Arranged*. We will watch and discuss the movie, which centers on the friendship between two women—an Orthodox Jew and a Muslim—who meet as first-year teachers at a Brooklyn public school. Over the course of the teaching year they and we learn about their many similarities. This movie is in English and is great for discussion.

Mitzvah Knitting

Our Mitzvah Knitting group will meet on May 3. If you would like to learn how to knit or crochet please join us!

The projects change on a regular basis based on input from the participants so bring your ideas for mitzvah knitting projects with you.

Adult B'not Mitzvah Scheduled for May 8

Twelve women—six members of Tifereth Israel and six nonmembers—will celebrate their adult *b'not mitzvah* at Shabbat morning services on May 8.

They have been studying since the fall of 2008, meeting at TI every other week in a class taught by Rabbi Avis Miller. Janet Nesse has assisted Rabbi Miller by teaching Hebrew to participants with little or no knowledge of the language.

While some of the *b'not mitzvah* have strong Jewish educational backgrounds, none had a *bat*

mitzvah when she was a thirteen year-old. Class participants, whatever their background or educational level, had the opportunity as mature adults to build on their Jewish and Hebrew knowledge and acquire or strengthen synagogue skills.

TI participants include: Carla Ellern, Naomi Friedman, Mimi Godfrey, Sylvia Horwitz, Jara MacDermott and Jevera Rachel Temsky.

Come join them as they celebrate this special milestone in their lives.

Foundation for Jewish Studies Schedule

Memorial Day Weekend Study Retreat, Sunday and Monday, May 30-31. *Set Me as a Seal Upon Your Heart: Spiritual Friendship in Jewish Mystical Tradition*, Dr. Lawrence Fine, Pearlstone Conference and Retreat Center, Reisterstown, Maryland.

Distinguished Scholar Series, Thursday, May 13, 7:30-9:00 p.m. *The People and the Book: The Invention of Printing and the Transformation of Jewish Culture*,

Professor David Ruderman, JCC of Greater Washington, Rockville.

Arab And Islamic Anti-Semitism Today, Thursday, May 27, 7:30-9:00 p.m. Professor Menahem Milson, Sixth & I Synagogue, Washington, DC.

Rockville Lunch & Learn, Wednesday, May 5, 12, 26, June 2. *Above and Beyond: The Origin of Ethics and Piety Out of the Pages of*

the Jewish Legal Tradition, Rabbi Michael Feshbach.

Downtown Lunch & Learn, Thursdays, May 6, 13, 27, June 3. *Women in the Apocrypha*, Rabbi Ben Mintz.

Northern Virginia Lunch & Learn, Tuesdays, May 11, 18, 25, June 1. *Jewish Music From all Periods and Places: A Series of Lecture-Recitals*, Cantor Sharon Steinberg.

Nayes un Mekhayes for TI'ers

Barbara Raimondo

"Hey, what happened to *Hadashot Shelanu!*" you ask. "That was my favorite column!" Rest your fears, fellow TI'ers, community news will continue, although under a different title.

Hadashot columnist **Julie Steinberg** has moved on, and yours truly is picking up the column under the name *Nayes un Mekhayes for TI'ers*. Actually, I am re-picking it up, as I had this column a while ago and am happy to be back. Thanks, Julie, for your good work!

And now, the news.

Two of the Best

Cynthia Peterman has been accepted into the Museum Teacher Fellowship Program at the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum. In addition to her teaching Jewish History at the Charles E. Smith Jewish Day School, Cynthia will be developing a unique project, working with other Fellows and scholars, and as a result of the program becoming a liaison from the Museum to other schools and museums around the country.

Along similar lines, TI Director of Lifelong Learning **Lynn Golub-Rofrano** was invited to participate in the Jewish Women's Archive's "The Power of Our Stories: Institute for Educators," to be held in Newton, Massachusetts this July. Only 25 "dynamic and creative Jewish educators" of the nearly 100 applicants were chosen.

Congratulations, Cynthia, and Lynn, for receiving these honors!

Watch the Blister, Mister

Seems like only yesterday **Jonathan Kessel** (son of **Martin Kessel** and **Gail Robinson**) was asking his parents to drive him everywhere. Now, whaddya know, he's covered 340 miles of the Appalachian Trail! On foot! Feet! Yes, folks, he is walking his way from Georgia to Maine. Today he is in Tennessee. Follow him (cyber-ally, not literally) at <http://jonathanat2010.blogspot.com>.

Hey, Smarty Pants

Another TI youth setting the pace is **Ophir Lifshitz** (son of **Lisa Traiger** and **Kobi Lifshitz**), who recently appeared on "It's Academic," a local

high school quiz show. Ophir's school, Walter Johnson, took on Osbourn Park and Edison high schools. Ophir follows in the steps of congregant **Paul Bardack**, who appeared on the program in New York City as a student at Staten Island's Tottenville High School.

Jews in the News

The kindnesses of congregant **Sherry Neimark** and his law partner were highlighted in a recent article in Washington Jewish Week titled "The Power of Kindness," and the kosher meat business of **Devora Kimelman-Block** was reported on in Marketplace on NPR.

Thanks to all who sent me news, sent me to others who sent me news, or otherwise helped sniff it out.

Remember, there will be no information unless you send it, so don't be shy. Please forward your information to me at baraimondo@gmail.com by May 10 for inclusion in the June *Menorah*. This brings to a close a reconstituted edition of *Nayes un Mekhayes for TI'ers*.

Karate Summer Camp Starts June 21 at TI

Kaisen Karate, which has been running karate programs at Tifereth Israel for youth (Sunday afternoons) and adults (Monday and Thursday nights), will operate a karate camp five days a week this summer at TI.

The camp program, for ages 5 to 12, will run from 9:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., Mondays through Fridays, for ten weeks, beginning June 21 and ending August 27.

Classes will be separated based on age and belt level.

Before care (7:30-9:00 a.m.) and after care (3:30-6:00 p.m.) options will also be offered. Tuition starts at \$175 per week.

Students will study karate two to three times per day, supplemented by organized sports, swimming, field

trips, nature hikes, and other activities.

Only five of the ten weeks are available for new registrations. Five weeks are already full.

If interested, TI members should directly contact "Coach V," Viran Ranasinghe, the camp director, at viran10@gmail.com.

Social Action at Tifereth Israel

Claudine Schweber

News from TI Volunteers

The dozen projects of the Social Action committee are only possible because of the persistent commitment to the Washington area community by TI volunteers, such as Adam Dorn and the Miller-Lutz family, whom we profiled last month.

Sometimes this commitment also involves creative problem-solving and initiative. The contributions of the **Fingerhut-Beiley** family are a good example of this talent and dedication.

Annual Congregational Meeting, May 24

The annual meeting of the Congregation will be held, Monday evening, May 24 at 7:30 p.m.

Officers will be elected for one-year terms, and four at-large members of the board of directors (one-third of the 12 at-large positions) will be elected to three-year terms.

The Congregation will also vote on the dues levels for the coming fiscal year and hear reports on TI's programs, membership, and budget.

All members of the Congregation are urged to attend the meeting.

Shepherd Park Tutoring

Karen Bailey, son Adam Fingerhut (age 13) and daughter Jordan Fingerhut (age 14) have been tutors with our Shepherd Park program for the past several years. Karen chose this TI social action project because she wanted to instill a commitment to *tzedakah* in her own family, and show that *tzedakah* can be "more than money...that you can give back and give of yourself."

Karen is currently working with a 5th grade boy. She reports that he is conscientious and determined to improve, especially in reading. Since the boy is interested in sports, Karen uses examples from that area, such as football this past fall, as a way to engage him. In the past, Karen has also brought books and magazines connected to his interest.

Family Working Together

Since Karen likes working with kids, this was also a way for the family to work together. Last year she and Jordan worked with two French-speaking brothers (3rd and 1st grade) whose English language skills were very weak.

Help with Math Skills

Many of the Shepherd students need help with math skills and handling money, including how to make change, the value of the different coins, and grouping coins. This year Adam is tutoring a boy with this need, so Adam developed his own, unique system for teaching and learning.

He made charts, flash cards, and pictures of real dimes and pennies. Adam and the boy then use these

tools to count and calculate, since the boy has trouble remembering the values. It seems the boy can do the math, it's the coin value that's the problem, so Adam gave him the chart.

Help with Reading and Vocabulary

The creativity in teaching math also extends to help in understanding words and reading. The boy and Adam were talking for a long time about what different words mean. Using animal pictures and phrases such as "slithering snake" to explain adjectives, the boy went through one exercise and got all of them right! "He was happy and I was happy," Adam reports.

Adam had never done tutoring before but chose this as his bar-mitzvah project. Perhaps this experience has helped him identify an unknown talent for teaching. In the future there's brother Ethan, who at 9 years old hasn't yet had a chance to join the family project.

Stayed tuned for more *News from TI Volunteers* next month. Please contact me, to share your experience.

Coming up in May

May 2 & 9: *Sukkot in Spring*, at 1538 Dexter Road, NE. We are again partnering with Temple Micah. TI coordinator—Stan Grabia

May 23: *March on the Mall*, Darfur Interfaith Network, "Hope for Darfur; Justice in Sudan." TI updates on www.hope4darfurmarch.org.



Kol Nashim

Paula Flicker



Mark your calendars, save the dates!

Sunday May 16, 10:15 a.m.

Are There Horse Thieves in Your Family Tree? Or How to Find Out, presented by Ben Fassberg from the Jewish Genealogy Society of Greater Washington.

Come and discover how you can start to find out about your family's history, how to add to what you already know, and how to verify old family tales.

Sunday June 13 or 20, 3:30-5:00 pm

Kol Nashim general membership meeting. The final date is still to be determined. Please check

future announcements and the June *Menorah*.

This is your chance to participate in planning next year's activities, such as:

- The TI epic
- A Kol Nashim study group
- Kol Nashim program ideas
- Outside or in-house speakers and group outings

This will be an opportunity to gather with other Kol Nashim members and potential members, and make your voice heard.

Please join us.

Tifereth Israel Highlights in May

May 2 & 9	Sukkot in Spring
May 3, 10, 17 & 24	Monday Learning Program
May 8	Adult Bat Mitzvah
May 16	Bonim/Machar Trip to Glen Echo USY Elections
May 16	Rosh Hodesh Drum Circle
May 16	Kol Nashim Genealogy Talk
May 18	Tikkun Leil Shavuot
May 19 & 20	Shavuot
May 23	March on the Mall for Darfur
May 24	Annual Congregational Meeting

Shepherd Park/TI Yard Sale, June 6

The Shepherd Park Citizens Association annual community-wide yard sale is June 5 and 6. Participants will be setting up tables throughout the neighborhood.

On Sunday, June 6, the Himmelfarb Religious School will hold a year-end celebration. Details will follow in the TISA announcements and in the June issue of *The Menorah*.

In conjunction with the yard sale and school celebration, TI will set up tables outside along 16th Street to sell items provided by congregants. Contact the synagogue office if you have items to offer.

All TI members are invited to participate in the festivities, regardless of whether they have children in the school.

Upcoming Friday Night Minyan Assignments

May 7

Louis & Madge Lee Spector
Phil & Dianne Spellberg
Jeffrey & Julie Steinberg
Lois Steinberg
Mitchell & Amy Stoltz
Jack Stone & Wilma Brier
Noam Stopak & Shelley Sturman
Edwin Stromberg & Rose Ellen Halper
Jonathan Strum
William Taylor

May 21

Kasshun Teffera & Melke Mengiste
Jevera Temsky
Neil & Rachel Tickner
Michael Tilchin & Linda Greer
Peter & Rhoda Trooboff
Paula Tucker
Lester & Judith Turner
Ruth & Michael Unterweger
Mark Verschell & Elizabeth Leff
Rachel Vile & Michael Gotthelf

May 28

Susan Vitale
Nancy Voisin
David Wachtel & Jennifer Goldstein
Samuel & Heinke Waldbaum
Harry Waldman & Susan Morse
Marc Warshawsky & Vivan Seidner
Gary Weil & Ellen Kandell
Deborah Weilerstein
Marc & Deborah Weinberger

June 4

Jon Weintraub
Michael Weiss & Phyllis Stanger
Dov Weitman & Sylvia Horwitz
Alan & Cynthia Weitz
Howard & Barbara White
Howard Wial
Louise Wiener
Jonathan Wilkenfeld
Peter Winch
Adam & Dorothea Wolfson
Marion Zatz

June 18

Christopher Zeilinger
Yohannes Zeleke
Jack & Diane Zeller
Michael Zucker
James & Diana Zurer
Ellen Zwibak
Luis & Karen Acosta
Andrew Afflerbach & Joanne Hovis
Miriam Alpern

June 25

Jon Alterman & Katherine LaRiviere
David & Felice Anderson
Jerry & Charlotte Anker
Leonard Bachman
Jessica Badt
Sidney & Heike Bailin
Ethan & Jodi Balis
Justin Bank
Paul & Esther Bardack
Burt Barnow

Presidentially Speaking (continued)

Rabbinical Assembly, JewishJobs.com and Shalomdc.org.

We are very excited by the resumes that have come in.

They have been reviewed by Rabbi Ethan Seidel, Francie Kranzberg, Kim Levone, Rabbi Jane Berman, Lifelong Learning Vice President Hillary Sachs, Judi Berland and Esther Herman.

We are now checking references and developing a list of questions for interviews. We will use the questions to help us choose the candidate with the right skills, interests, goals, and personality for our synagogue.

Telephone interviews were conducted the week of April 25th by the interview committee: Rabbi Seidel, Joel Cohen, Dan Handwerker, Judi Berland, Kim Levone and Hillary Sachs.

In person interviews of one or more candidate will follow.

David Zinner, Lisa Blumenthal, Beth Naftalin and Esther Herman are working on logistics. I have been participating in the search process as an ex officio member of the committee.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me or Joel Cohen.

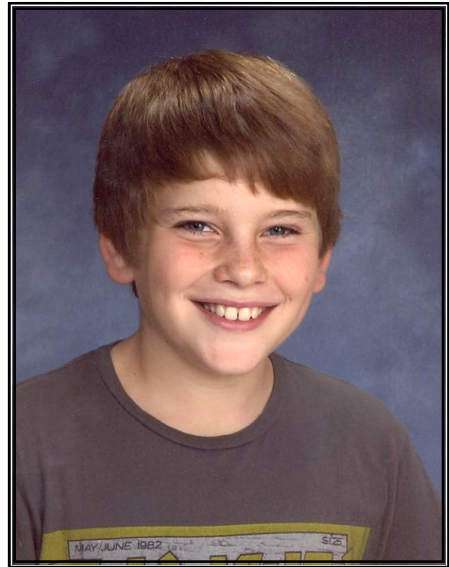
B'nei Mitzvah

My name is **Danny Renbaum-Koss** and my Bar Mitzvah is on May 29, 2010. My parashah is *B'haalot'cha*. It is about how the people during the Exodus were complaining about the food and conditions and how Aaron and Miriam were talking about Moses behind his back.

I am in the seventh grade at Sandy Spring Friends School in Olney. Some of the things I like to do are hang out with my friends, especially play lacrosse. I also like to listen to music and play guitar, snow board, long board, and eat good food.

For my Bar Mitzvah project I organized friends and neighbors to make blankets for the homeless. I also helped clean and cook sweet potatoes for the homeless Christmas dinner and went on some of the Martha's Table van runs. I am also donating some of my Bar Mitzvah money to the Smile Train organization and a Haiti relief fund.

I hope that you will join me at my Bar Mitzvah.



My name is **Solomon Kritz** and I will be called to the bimah as a bar mitzvah on May 15, 2010. My parashah is *B'midbar*.

I am in the seventh grade at North Bethesda Middle School. Before that, I went to the Jewish Primary Day School. In my free time, I like to hang out with my friends, play with my three brothers and read (mostly fiction but also some non-fiction). I enjoy sports, especially tennis and ping-pong.

My favorite food is sushi. I also enjoy playing Cribbage with my next-door neighbors who are in their nineties. I hope the Washington Capitals will win the Stanley Cup!!

I live in Kensington. During the summer I attend Camp Ramah in the Poconos. This will be my fifth year there. I love everything about Ramah, including playing gaga, blobbing, Kabbalat Shabbat services and Shabbat lunch.

I have attended TI regularly since I was seven months old except for the year my family lived in Norfolk, Virginia. I look forward to having my family, friends and TI community join me at my Bar Mitzvah!



B'nei Mitzvah (continued)

My name is **Adam Fingerhut** and I am having my Bar Mitzvah on May 1st.

My parashah is *Emor*. It is about the rules for the priests, and it also sets up the calendar and holidays for the year.

I am in seventh grade at Edmund Burke. I am on the track and field team, and I throw the shot put and discus. I also like to ride my bike, cook and sculpt.

For my mitzvah project, I have been tutoring a first grader from Shepherd Elementary School.



Underground Railroad Hike, Sunday, April 4



Cemetery Trustees Update: Rabbi Gilah Langner and Carl Bergman Tree Barrier Finally Planted at Mt. Lebanon

The long-awaited tree screen at Tifereth Israel's section of Mount Lebanon cemetery has now been planted, thanks to negotiations between TI's Executive Director, David Zinner, and Mt Lebanon's manager, Laura Foos.

The TI section has 44 rows, eight feet wide with a two-foot space between each row. The total length of the section is thus 440 feet.

Section Parallels Adelphi Road

The section is bounded on three sides by other parts of the cemetery. One long side is an access road. Parallel to the access road, on the south side, is nearby Adelphi Road. When TI acquired the site in the 1940s, Adelphi was a small rural road. Now, it is a noisy thoroughfare.

The planting, 57 eight-foot high Green Giant Arborvitae, now shields TI's section from the noise and traffic of Adelphi Road. The tree shield should grow to 20 feet high and form a green barrier, providing a more peaceful and quiet atmosphere.

Multi-Year Negotiations

David Zinner, for the trustees, has raised the need for a tree screen with Mt. Lebanon's management over the last several years. That negotiation was finished a few months ago and the planting has followed.

David was able to negotiate the planting without cost to TI, either for installation or for upkeep. For various reasons, Mt Lebanon owed TI seven plots. These were unusable for our purposes. David was able to arrange to trade the cemetery's obligation for the plantings.

Serving Cemetery Visitors

It is a Jewish custom to place a stone or pebble on the grave of a loved one, but often there are none to be found. We are currently trying to find a source for small, crumbly stones that will not jam the cemetery's lawn mowers.

If anyone has a lead on these, please let us know. We are also exploring ways to set up hand-washing stations for people to use as they leave the cemetery.

Improving Services to Bereaved Families

TI has prepaid ten packages to Mt Lebanon for the opening and closing of a grave and the cemetery-required liner. Why is this such a good idea? It relieves bereaved TI members of having to visit Mt. Lebanon in advance of a funeral or of having to negotiate with the cemetery. Instead the synagogue will handle all cemetery-related issues. Once again, TI is in the forefront of synagogues offering comprehensive assistance to members during a time of loss and grief.

Trustee Visit

The cemetery trustees, Carl Bergman, Audrey Smith and Rabbi Gilah Langner, regularly visit both of our cemeteries. They plan to have a Sunday morning visit to Mt. Lebanon in the next few weeks to check on conditions. Volunteers are welcome to join us.

Cemetery Images on the Web: Help Needed

The trustees need help finishing our major project over the coming year: inputting the names and other

information on approximately 1,000 graves in our online TI database of tombstone images. The project, which has documented each grave marker at Mt. Lebanon, eventually will allow members to search and obtain images and information for everyone buried in TI's cemeteries—both Mt. Lebanon and Elisavetgrad, the older cemetery in Southwest DC.

Please contact Carl Bergman at carl@slvrsft.com, if you can lend a hand.

Tikkun Leil Shavuot

Mark Berch

One of the most distinctive Jewish study forms is the *Tikkun Leil Shavuot*, a study session that begins on the eve of Shavuot and runs all night. We do this every year at Tifereth Israel, jointly with other communities. This year, on Tuesday evening, May 18, we will be joined by Ohev Shalom, Fabrangen, and Shirat HaNefesh.

Except for the presenters, there's no preparation to do. Just tell yourself that for one night, or part of a night, or even just one hour, you will give yourself over to learning. We'll have a wide variety of topics: Judaism, Jewish culture, literature, history, values, etc.

Don't worry about not being able to stay up all night. Most people don't last that long. There will be food and drinks, you'll hear from rabbis and lay people, people you know and people you don't, and you'll come out a better educated Jew. If you have any questions, just contact me at mberch@mac.com.

Spring Fling, Sunday, April 18



Recent Additions to the Mollie Berch Library

Berkowitz, Katz and Keenan, Eds., *Thinking in Dark Times: Hannah Arendt on Ethics and Politics* (2009, Anthology of Essays)

Buergenthal, Thomas, *A Lucky Child: A Memoir of Surviving Auschwitz as a Young Boy* (2007, Memoir)

Diamant, Anita, *Day After Night* (2009, Novel)

Diner, Hasia R., *We Remember with Reverence and Love: American Jews and the Myth of Silence After the Holocaust, 1945-1962* (2009, Prize Winner)

Feingold, Henry L. *The Jewish People in America—A Time for Searching: Entering the Mainstream 1920-1945, Vol. IV* (1992, History)

Fleischman, S., *The Entertainer and the Dybbuk* (Novel, Young Adult)

Glaser, Linda, *Emma's Poem: The Voice of the Statue of Liberty*, with paintings by Clare Nivola (2010, for ages 6-10)

Hareven, Gail, *The Confessions of Noa Weber* (2010, Novel, Winner for novels translated into English)

Hirschfield, Brad, *Remember for Life: Holocaust Survivors' Stories of Faith and Hope* (2010)

Hyde, Heidi Smith, *Feivel's Flying Horses* (2010, for Ages 4-7, A Jewish Carousel Maker at Coney Island)

Korobkin, Frieda, *Throw Your Feet Over Your Shoulders: Beyond the Kindertransport* (2008, Memoir)

Orlev, Uri, *Song of the Whales*, Trans. By Hillel Halkin (2010, Young Adult)

Popkin, Zelda, *Quiet Street* (2002, Reprint of an old classic about Jerusalem in the 1950s)

Prose, Francine, *A Changed Man* (2006, Novel)

Reid, Panthea, *Tillie Olsen: One Woman, Many Riddles* (2010, Biography)

Sabato, Haim, *From the Four Winds*, Trans. By Yaacob Dweck (2010, Young Adult)

Sansom, Ian, *The Book Stops Here* (2008, Mystery)

Scammell, Michael, *Koestler: The Literary and Political Odyssey of a Twentieth-Century Skeptic* (2009, Biography, 695 Pages)

Walfish, Miriam, *Penina's Doll Factory* (2009, For Ages 8 to 12, About a Sephardic Girl)

Whelan, Gloria, *After the Train* (2009, Young Adult)

Whitney, Kim Ablon, *The Other Half of Life* (2009, Young Adult)

Wolf, Emma, *Other Things Being Equal* (2010, New reprint of a classic novel of the 1890's)

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