

# The Menorah

## Notes from the Rabbi: Ethan Seidel Creating a Caring Community

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| congregation: |           |      |    |         |    |      |       |

"Perhaps you have found yourself in this situation: you notice that a fellow TI 'regular' at services is not at TI for a few weeks. You think of calling, but don't want to guilt trip them.... Or you get busy and never get around to it....[M]aybe they are taking a shul break...or [are] ill or depressed...and a call would be welcomed.

"A benefit of growing older and experiencing both the blessings and sadness [of] life...is that one can be continually amazed at the *mitzvot* s/he is gifted with. Recently homebound for several months, I was overwhelmed by people's kindness and generosity.

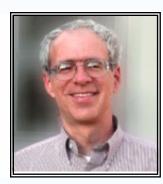
"Calls that Shabbat dinner or a weekday meal would be delivered came regularly..., and people were so generous. ....Get well cards came in the mail daily, with several friends and colleagues sending weekly cards with the latest office news or funny stories. They were real day brighteners.

"My closest friends were so attentive, bringing food, visiting, calling regularly. Others from...work, neighborhood, TI...came for short visits, offered to drive me to medical appointments or do food shopping....

"I was so moved...to hear from people, all busy, and some with *tsures* of their own, reaching out with genuine concern to see how I was doing. Co-workers of different faiths told me they were including me in their prayers. How much that meant!

"Enriched by gifts of time, conversation, food, prayers, and visits, I realized my

experience offered an opportunity for my own growth. All the visitors and callers have been my teachers. In performing the



mitzvah of bikkur holim, visiting or caring for the sick, they taught me that even a five -minute phone call can leave one feeling rich and comforted in a time of need."

#### Bikur Holim — Always More to Do

I found this lovely note inspiring, but it also made me ask myself a few questions. It's an important part of my job to visit the sick, and I love doing it, but *bikur holim* is one of those *mitzvot* that is never quite finished — there's always more to do.

Is visiting a person in the hospital once a week enough? What about a shut-in? Once a month? Once a year?

However often I end up visiting, it feels insufficient. In fact, we have a tradition that says as much. Acts of kindness (a category that includes *bikur holim*) are among the *mitzvot* for which there is no fixed measure (*Peah* 1:1). Fortunately, this note I quoted above also reminds me that every little bit helps. Even a phone call, when a visit isn't possible, can be deeply comforting.

But this note raises another response. It is just as important that members of our congregation also ask for help. More often

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## Notes from the Rabbi (continued)

than not, I don't hear, or I hear only second-hand, and after the fact, that someone has been sick.

I realize that it's hard to ask for a visit. We pride ourselves on our independence, on our ability to help others in need. We're not good when the tables are turned, and it is we who must depend on others. But the reality is we need each other, and should not be ashamed to ask when we need another's presence.

So please do not hesitate to call me and encourage your fellow congregants to call me when they are in the hospital or homebound and might need a visit or phone call.

It's time we formed a more active *Bikur Holim* Committee. It's not that the volunteers we have now aren't doing their job. It's that we have just a few people dedicated to

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Appointments are recommended.)

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Rabbi Emeritus: A. Nathan Abramowitz, ext. 106

President: Joel Cohen

**Executive Director:** David Zinner, ext. 103 **Administrator:** Sheri Blonder, ext. 101

**Lifelong Learning Director**: Eitan Gutin, ext. 105

**Bookkeeper:** David Mackoff, ext. 110 **Kitchen Manager:** Roz Kram, ext. 101 **Facilities Manager:** Steve Ross, ext. 114

Tifereth Israel is a traditional egalitarian congregation affiliated with the United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism

Menorah Editor: David (Judy) Cohen
Copy Editor: Robert Rovinsky
Photography Editor: Jeff Peterman

Menorah submissions: menorah@tifereth-israel.org working on this *mitzvah*; it's that we're not thinking, as a community, about how we could be of more help.

#### **Wider Participation is Needed**

A more communal approach would help with both of the issues I mentioned above. If we had a more widely-publicized structure in place to help each other, people might not feel so reluctant to "be a burden" and would sense that mutual aid was an integral part of our identity; there would not be a stigma or hesitation attached to asking for help, when it was needed.

Also, with a corps of visitors, some of the job of visiting could be shifted from a few people to the congregation as a whole. What could be more participatory, more in the nature of TI?

The retreat this December will focus on creating a more caring community. I may address the issue in one of my drashot during the Days of Awe. I hope you'll give it some thought. And I would appreciate hearing your stories, and your thoughts about how to proceed.

Rabbi Seidel

## Washington Nationals Jewish Community Day

Join a group from Tifereth Israel at Nationals Park on Sunday, July 10, for Jewish Community Day at the ballpark! The game against the Colorado Rockies starts at 1:35 p.m.

The \$35 ticket price also includes kosher food sampling, pre-game Jewish music, a special T-shirt for the first 500 fans to enter the park, and a \$10 concession credit.

Please RSVP **immediately** (official deadline was June 30) to Sheri Blonder in the synagogue office. Sheri will order a block of tickets for interested Tlers.

## **New Members**

### Jared Garelick

#### **Merry Danaceau**

Merry is a long-time former member who recently returned. A retired psychiatric research nurse, Merry worked for many years on research programs at NIH.

Her special field of focus was women's mental health. She now works various volunteer jobs in Montgomery County. Merry's three grown sons, now scattered around the country, each had their Bar Mitzvah at TI.

Sadly, Merry's husband, Paul, died suddenly last fall, and she wanted to be able to return with her sons to a synagogue that felt like "home." She rejoined TI.

Merry is often at her second home, on Maryland's Eastern Shore, or on extended visits to various grandchildren who, at last report, numbered "5 and 34." (The sixth is expected soon.)

Ever alert to Rochester connections, this correspondent is happy to report that Merry is a native of that fair Western New York city.

### **Jeffrey and Marcine Snyder**

Jeffrey and Marcine lived in DC for several years before moving to Silver Spring in 2008. Both grew up in southern Florida.

Before moving to Washington, they had lived in Spain and then in England, where Jeffrey completed a PhD in Latin American economic history.

Marcine works as a contract manager at the University of Maryland, and Jeffrey works at the Department of Justice.

They are the proud parents of one of TI's newest members, Rivka, who was born in February.

#### **Seasonal New Member Note**

Although the days are long and fall feels far away, this is the season when people looking for a synagogue before the High Holidays go "shul shopping."

If you have friends who have mentioned that they plan on joining a synagogue "one of these days," ask them if they'd like to join you one Shabbat at TI over the summer.

And if you're at TI and see someone who looks new and a little lost, say hello.

## 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

## Lilmod U'lilamed: Eitan Gutin It Takes a Community

The Baal Shem Tov, the founder of Hassidism, was known for taking his time when saying *Shacharit*, the morning service. In fact, it was not unusual for him to spend hours in intense focus and meditation throughout the morning.

The Baal Shem Tov's students, however, were more like most of us. Sometimes they were in the mood to go slowly, sometimes quickly, but even the slowest of the students only typically took about half the time for his prayers as the Baal Shem Tov.

Out of respect, though, the students would usually stay the entire time, waiting in silence for hours as their Rebbe finished his prayers.

One morning, the students had had enough. When they finished, even though the Baal Shem Tov was still going strong, they quietly sneaked out of the room and continued with their day. They agreed to come back in an hour or two, closer to when the Baal Shem Tov would finish his meditations and prayers.

When the students returned they were surprised to find the Baal Shem Tov just sitting there. He had completed his prayers, earlier than ever before!

Seeing their surprise, the Baal Shem Tov explained: "Do you think that I reach the great heights of my prayers all alone?" he asked. "No! I need all of you with me, lifting me up, to reach the great heights that I do each day. Without you, I fell, and could not continue my prayers."

#### **Lifelong Learning Achievements**

This year we have reached some great heights in Lifelong Learning.

We have introduced new programs for adults, worked hard to revise the Himmelfarb School's curriculum, and offered new opportunities for family education. Tifereth Israel is truly dedicated to lifelong Jewish learning.

TI's dedication is reflected in the commitment of the large group of volunteers that made education happen during the 2010/2011 program year. Please join me in thanking all of the following people with whom I had the honor to collaborate:

Rabbi A. Nathan Abramowitz

Jon Alterman

Karen Bailey

Mona Berch

Mollie Berch

Rabbi Jane Berman

Sheri Blonder

Lisa Blumenthal

Sue Catler

David M. Cohen

Joel Cohen

Jeff Davidson

Paula Flicker

Brenda Footer

Lee Footer

Josh Furman

Bill Galston

Sara Goldberg

Marcia Goldberg

Lynn Golub-Rofrano

Maxine Grossman

Daniel Handwerker

Elizabeth Handwerker

Shelly Heller

Esther Herman

Gene Herman

Carolivia Herron

Sylvia Horwitz

Jennifer Kefer

Nina Bronk Kellner

Rabbi Jason Kimmelman-Block

Katherine LaRiviere

Louis Leibowitz

Kim Levone

John List

Paula Martin

Carla Matusow

Beth Naftalin

Ray Natter

Janet Nesse

Joelle Novey

Sarah Osborne

Melissa Perera

Cynthia Peterman

Jeff Peterman

Debbie Pomerance

**David Rapier** 

Marisol Ravicz

Stephanie Rubin

Hilary Sachs

Lynne Snyder

Michele Sumka

Jevera Temsky

Mark Verschell

Naimah Weinberg

Elaine Weiss

**Howard White** 

These members did everything from serving pizza to teaching adult education. If you see one of them in TI, or around town, please shake hands and say thanks for making Lifelong Learning at TI such a wonderful experience.

If you are interested in joining this list in the next year, just get in touch with me or Josh Furman, Vice President for Lifelong Learning.

## **Lifelong Learning**

#### Eitan Gutin

#### **Himmelfarb & Chai Happenings**

Registration is now open for the 2011-2012 school year. Families who are currently registered should have already received their packets in the mail. Our enrollment increased by 11 students this year. We plan to continue growing our wonderful school

## Thank you to all of our talented teachers and tutors for a great year!

Gan and Vav: Silvia Edenburg

Alef: Seth Glabman Gimel: Chana Berlins Daled: Anita Kramer Hey: Amy Heyman

Zayin: Daniel Charles & Rabbi Seidel Tutors: David M. Cohen, Stephanie Rubin,

Amanda Rudman

Chai: Mollie Berch, Joshua Furman, Shelley Kremer, David Mackoff, & Rabbi Seidel

As the new curriculum is nearly complete, the Himmelfarb School Curriculum Task Force will be changing it's focus from creating a curriculum to assessing one.

Check the TI website in mid July in order to see the fruits of this past year's hard work by volunteers and professionals alike.

#### **Family Education and Programs**

**Save the date. Friday, September 9,** will be the first family service of the year, and the kickoff for a full year of great family and youth programs. We will have family-led *Kabbalat Shabbat* services at 6:00 p.m., followed by a community dinner at 7:00. Watch your email for more information.

#### **Community & Adult Education**

The SHALEM program completed its inaugural year with a well-attended session led by Sheila Jelen on S. Y. Agnon. More than 50 congregants gathered in the Reamer Chapel to read Agnon's Fable of the Goat and learn about how his unique life influenced the writing of one of Israel's greatest authors.

SHALEM will resume in September with a new schedule of topics and presenters. We promise to make it worth your while to stick around after lunch.

There is no summer break for Monday Learning. Every Monday at TI begins with *Parashat Ha-Shavuah* Class at 11 a.m., followed by lunch at 12, and the Job Club at 1 p.m. All are welcome to join the crowd -- no experience necessary. There will be no programs on Monday, July 4.

Save the Date. December 9-11, TI's Annual Retreat. This year's retreat theme will be all about "Creating a Caring Community." Watch your email this month for more information.

## **Tot Family Kiddush**

Families participating in Tot Shabbat are sponsoring the Kiddush on Saturday, July 23. Volunteers are needed to prepare the food on Tuesday evening, July 19.

Contact Sara Goldberg, Laura Schiavo, or Elizabeth Handwerker with menu suggestions.

Contributions toward the cost of the Kiddush would be greatly appreciated.

## Social Action at Tifereth Israel

#### Stephen Nelson

This is the latest in the continuing profiles of TI members who have made and are making positive contributions to social action in the community. Suggestions for upcoming profiles should be sent to snelson@tmg-dc.com.

Summer has now arrived. Many of us look forward to this season as a time for baseball (or soccer), cookouts, and evening concerts. But many residents of the District of Columbia approach summer with dread. That's because they don't have the money to pay for air conditioning. For them, 90-plus degree days are not just uncomfortable, but downright dangerous.

One person who is working to improve access to energy and lower energy costs for low-income households is TI member Lynne Snyder, who works on health projects for the Energy Programs Consortium, a nonprofit venture of public officials concerned with affordable residential energy.

Lynne wears several other hats as She is a consultant to the network of state and local weatherization offices as they implement the U.S. Department of Energy's Weatherization Plus Health initiative, and collaborates with a team of advocates, physicians, and lawyers in Chicago to create a health impact assessment of digital metering for electricity.

#### **Three Ways to Improve Access**

She sees her work as addressing three basic ways that low-income households get the access they need to basic utility service: crisis assistance to help pay the bills; consumer protections to prevent shutoffs that threaten health and safety; and energy efficiency measures that make energy more affordable and homes a better place to live, especially for children and

Lynne has a Ph.D. in the History and Sociology of Science from the University of Pennsylvania and a Masters in Public Health from Johns She initially worked in Hopkins. environmental public health and health care finance, serving as a public historian for the Department of Health and Human Service and as a staff officer at the Institute of Medicine.

#### From Analyst to Advocate

Soon after her twin children were born in 2004, she decided "to focus less on being an analyst and more on being an advocate." She was introduced to the issue of fuel poverty, and was soon hooked.

Over the past five years, Lynne worked closely with District officials and social services agencies to design and carry out a project called DC REACH, to improve outreach for affordable energy, especially to medically frail elders. The average D.C. household spends nearly \$2,000 per year on electric, gas and water bills, which means that those below the poverty line spend nearly 10 percent of their income on utilities.

While the District offers relatively generous energy assistance benefits to low-income residents, there are still some barriers to getting those benefits to the people. DC Reach helped "get information into the hands of the low-income people so that they can benefit from these assistance programs."



DC REACH created new partnerships with health clinics and senior centers, especially in northeast and southeast DC, arranging for home visits by intake staff, marketing, troubleshooting, collaborating with DC Council staff on utility consumer protection legislation. and writing grants to support the continuing operation of the project.

Lynne's time with DC REACH drove home for her the importance of consumer protections to prevent shutoffs during heat waves or for medically frail residents on limited incomes.

When Pepco received permission to introduce digital meters locally, part of a national movement to modernize the electric grid, Snyder joined together with colleagues in Chicago and Boston to propose a study of the new meters' health impacts.

#### **Preventing Remote Shutoffs**

Particularly concerning was that digital meters would allow remote shutoff of electricity for nonpayment, replacing the practice in many states of requiring utility workers to make personal contact before cutting off service.

Discontinuing visits, Lynne says, "results in a loss of a personal connection" which "may lead to authorities being alerted to a dangerous situation." There are examples from all over the United States of persons who have been injured or died from exposure after a

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## Social Action at Tifereth Israel (continued)

shutoff of service where personal contact was not made.

As an adviser to the Boston-based National Center for Medical-Legal Partnerships, Lynne is currently involved in developing a Health Impact Assessment of advanced metering in the Chicago area, where the local electrical utility is running a pilot program.

That project is supported by a grant from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and Pew Charitable Trusts.

Just as her digital metering project is not just about shutoffs without proper notice, her weatherization work with the National Association for State Community Services Programs is not just about reducing heating costs for low-income people.

Instead, it will develop training opportunities for weatherization work crews so that they can work more safely and effectively to address radon, carbon monoxide, mold, indoor air pollution, and pest control issues

#### **Supporting the Fuel Fund**

Finally, Lynne emphasizes the importance of giving *tzedakah* to the Washington Area Fuel Fund, a nonprofit that offers crisis assistance to income-eligible residents who are in danger of losing their utility service for nonpayment.

Rounding up on one's gas bill is a simple way to donate, and the funds are a vital safety net in the community, enabling families to purchase food as well as light.

## Summary of TI Board of Directors Meeting May 9, 2011

1. We have been working with the office on how donations are handled. Our goal is to put into place a better process for properly and rapidly acknowledging donations to TI.

Currently, when someone makes a contribution to TI "in honor" or "in memory" of someone, two letters are sent after the donation is received – one to the giver acknowledging the receipt of the gift, the other to the honoree or the family of the deceased, informing them of the gift.

Most contributions are from members of the congregation, although there are some non-members who regularly make contributions and we regularly receive contributions from non-members in honor or in memory of our members.

At the end of the calendar year, contributors receive a letter with information concerning all their payments to Tifereth Israel in the previous year for income tax filing purposes. There was consensus that the following changes should be included in the new procedure:

First, there is no need to send a letter to congregants every time they make a contribution.

Contributions, even those paid in cash, are reflected on a congregant's statement. Rather than send out form letters acknowledging gifts, all monthly statements reflecting activity during the previous month will be sent out, even if there is no money owed.

Second, each time a non-members makes a contribution, an acknowledgment letter will be sent containing IRS donation language.

2. Eitan Gutin reported that a survey of the Himmelfarb School families will go out this week. The survey will be about the same as what was sent two years ago.

We are starting to put together materials for next year's school registration. We're hoping that the bulk of it will be done online. We will be using United Synagogue's newly developed e-signature procedure.

We are already working with teachers to determine who is coming back and who is not. We will be running ads very soon to find new faculty as needed.

On May 15 there will be a curriculum meeting for review of the proposed K through 2 curriculum. The school had a really good Yom HaAtzma'ut program on May 8.

3. There was a discussion of having a Yom HaAtzma'ut program for the whole community, so that adults and children not in the school have an opportunity to celebrate Israel's birthday and independence.

The Adult Education Subcommittee will put this on their agenda.

4. Josh Furman reported that the office and the Adult Education Subcommittee have been working on a process for getting events on the calendar. It will be rolled out very soon.

### **Kol Nashim**

#### Paula Flicker

#### **New Board Chosen**

Kol Nashim announces its new board:

President, Margie Odle

Program Co-Chairs, Esther Herman and Pearl Schainker

Treasurer, Debbie Pomerance

Recording Secretary, Adele Natter

Immediate Past President, **Paula Flicker** 

Thank you to all of these women who have agreed to keep Kol Nashim thriving at TI.

Thank you to the nominating committee members:

Marcia Goggin, Carla Ellern and Rachel Tickner.

#### **Mitzvah Knitting**

Mitzvah Knitting will *not* be meeting in July and August.



Calling all interested Mitzvah Knitters, whether or not you have come in the past!! Attendance has fallen off recently, so **Ellen Zwiback** would like to know if another night or a week other than the first week in the month would work better.

Which night or week do you prefer? Please contact Ellen at ellen.zwibak@aig.com or 202-686-7171.

## **Upcoming Friday Night Minyan Assignments**

#### July 1

Simcha Kuritzky
Susan Laden
Alan Landay
Robert & Jeri Roth Lande
Hayim Lapin & Maxine Grossman
Michael & Iris Lav
Mitchell Lazarus & Judith Shapiro
Beverly Lehrer
Louis Leibowitz & Beth
Kanter-Leibowitz
Elihu Leifer

#### July 8

Stephen Lerner & Marilyn Sneiderman Shirley Levine Wylie & Kim Levone Robert & Deborah Levy David & Ellen Levy Mark Lewis & Janet Nesse Dan Liebman & Lis Davis Kobi Lifshitz & Lisa Traiger John & Lynne List Michael & Susan Malbin

#### July 15

Oscar & Amy Mann Stephen Marcus & Renee Matalon Joseph & Paula Martin Robert Mathis & Tali Stopak-Mathis David & Carla Matusow Adam Mausner & Anna Shapiro David & Janice Mehler Alexander & Danielle Meitiv Jacob Melamed

#### **July 22**

Stephen J. & Florence G. Meltzer Bruce Melzer & Robyn Urbach Ethan Merlin & Joelle Novey David & Dana Mermelstein Rabbi Sarah & Rachel Meytin Josephine Mickelson Elaine Miller Neile Miller Kenneth Morris & Terri Zall Eli & Laura Muller

#### July 29

Myron Murdock
Jonah & Stephanie Murdock
Daniel Nathan & Dori Bernstein
Ray & Adele Natter
Stephen Nelson & Leslie GoodmanMalamuth

Sheridan & Dana Neimark Mark Novak & Renee Brachfeld Lee & Hedy Ohringer Sarah Osborne Larry Paul & Joye Newman

#### August 5

Fylis & Perry Peckham
Melissa Perera
Adam & Jessica Perlmutter
Jeff & Cynthia Peterman
Michael Pitch & Elaine Weiss
Joshua Pitlick & Janet Blank
Marjorie Plesset
David Pollock & Judy Kirpich
Aron & Karen Primack
David & Laurel Rabin

#### August 12

Glenn Rapoport
Jaqueline Ratner
Marisol Ravicz
Naomi Reem
Jay Renbaum & Shannah Koss
Arnold & Naomi Revzin
Ruth Reynolds
Howard Riker & Danielle Glosser
Morris & Judy Rodenstein

## Nayes un Mekhayes for TI'ers

### Barbara Raimondo

#### **Married Couples**

Francie and Josh Kranzberg were among the honorees at Ohev Sholom's annual gala, June 19, marking its 125th anniversary. The Kransbergs were honored for helping to revitalize the shul and the community. Several TI friends were in attendance to help them celebrate the occasion.

In other Kranzberg news, Alena received her undergraduate degree in Communications (with a minor in Theater) from the College of Charleston (SC). She will be stage managing a play at the upcoming Spoletto festival before returning to D.C. later this summer.

Her sister **Dena** is moving to New York City to begin a Masters Degree program at the Columbia University School of Nursing. She will end up a nurse practitioner with a specialty in women's health.

Les and Judith Turner celebrated their 43rd wedding anniversary by visiting Fallingwater and Kentuck Knob, and staying in a Frank Lloyd Wright house that was theirs for the weekend. Wright On!

John and Lynne List also are celebrating their 43rd anniversary -- same day and year as the Turners.' John's job had him going to San Francisco, followed by a trip to Alaska. So, he brought along wifey, Lynne, and they added on some days to travel about.

Several glorious days were spent in the City of San Fran -- excellent weather, food, stuff to do, and hills to climb. Next they enjoyed hiking and traveling about in Alaska -- Anchorage, Girdwood, Denali, and Homer. Word is they also considered wangling an invitation to visit with the Palin family of Wasilla.

#### **Kids Today**

The youngest TI'er is the baby boy of TI members Lauren and Ari Holtzblatt, who was born Shabbat, June 18. He joins sister Noa. All are doing well.

News flash update on **Esther** and **Gene Herman**'s grand daughter, **Talia Liu**, and her Swarthmore Science Olympiad team: They went on to the University of Wisconsin-Madison and placed 11th out of 59 teams. One disappointment was that only the first 10 teams got trophies. Doh! Talia loved Madison, where her parents met in graduate school

Ben Borzekowski's scrappy (and youngest in the BCC-select league) team won the Spring 2011 Baseball Championship. Mom Dina is heading a research study on the global reach of tobacco advertisements on small children. Her travels this summer include Brazil, China, India, Nigeria. Still need to book Russia and Pakistan. Getting the visas alone is a huge effort, but we know you can do it, Dina!

**Beth Davidson**, daughter of **Kathy** and **Joe**, completed her masters in tax law at Georgetown Law School. She is now working at Steptoe and Johnson as an associate.

Asaf Rodenstein graduated from Winston Churchill High School, June 13, and will be a student at Capitol College in Laurel next year. He plans to study astronautical engineering at Capitol, which has a partnership with NASA. Asaf will be volunteering at the Federal Aviation Administration this summer, thanks to Tler, Bob Rovinsky.

Sarah Rodenstein completed a year of study at Nishmat, a women's yeshiva in Jerusalem, and is visiting family and friends in the United States this summer. The Rodensteins are planning a road trip to Florida for

Morris' sister's wedding, and would love any suggestions on worthwhile sites to see and things to do along the way. They'll be spending a Shabbat with former Tlers, Judy and John White, and their daughters on the way down to Florida.

From the Galat/Thale clan: Johanna just finished a study-abroad semester in Mexico studying social movements. She lived in Chiapas, Tlaxcala and Mexico City. She will be in Milwaukee for Union Summer (AFL-CIO), working on the recall efforts. Ben and Daniel both graduated from Bethesda-Chevy Chase High School. Daniel will be attending Trinity University (in San Antonio) and Ben will be attending Evergreen State College (in Olympia, Washington).

Neilah Rovinsky was one of 14 middle school students who formed the acting troupe "Voices of Mead" at Arena Stage and developed, wrote and performed an original play, Muscle Memory, about how we remember and forget as part of Arena's "Voices of Now" Festival in late May. She headed off to Camp Moshava with many others from TI in late June.

Neshama Rovinsky completed her first year at the George School in Newtown, PA, and will be attending the Julian Krinsky International Leadership/Model UN Program at the University of Pennsylvania this month. Both girls plan to follow their programs by working at the DCJCC as counselors or leaders in training.

Daniel Saks' Sephardic-rock band, DeLeon, recently released its second CD, Cassata, through JDub. The band performed in DC most recently at 6th & I as part of the Shavuot evening special service/text study/party. Daniel is the younger son of Loretta Vitale Saks and Bob Saks. He, wife, Nikkia, Loretta and Bob, older son

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## Nayes un Mekhayes for TI'ers (continued)

Josh, wife, Rachel, and daughters, Maia and Anna, enjoyed a week in Cape May in late June.

## Successful Adults We Know and Love

Martin Kessel visited Israel at the end of May to attend the annual meeting of the Israel Society of Microscopy of which he is an Honorary Life Member. Together with his family in Israel, Martin celebrated the 50th birthday of his son, Eran, who lives in Jerusalem.

Martin also attended a special fundraiser for The Women's Court, a welfare non-profit organization run by his niece, **Liora Kessel**, in Jaffa, which provides shelter and counseling to battered young women of all denominations, Jewish, Christian and Muslim.

Ben Dreyfus just won a National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship for his research in Physics Education.

Josh Furman was named the winner of the 2011 Ruth B. Fein Prize, a research grant from the American Jewish Historical Society. He'll use it to spend a week in New York City working on his dissertation, which is about Jewish childhood and childrearing in the United States after World War II.

Daniel Avraham ben David Kalmen v'Sarah -- aka Dan Handwerker -- wrote an excellent and interesting article that appeared in the latest issue of *CJ: Voices of Conservative/Masorti Judaism.* It was titled "What I Want For My Children's Education."

Howard Gleckman recently appeared on the Diane Rehm show on NPR (WAMU 88.5 FM locally) to discuss fairness in the tax code. Your faithful columnist muses that a discussion about fairness in the tax code must be a pretty short one.

#### Sad news

Member **Nathaniel Weil** has passed. He was the father and father-

in-law, respectively, of former members, **Gary Weil** and **Ellen Kandell**, and grandfather of **Seth** and **Joshua**. Friends who would like to remember Nathaniel with a donation are asked to consider The Brain A n e u r y s m F o u n d a t i o n, www.bafound.org.

Also, **Seth Glabman**'s father passed away. The funeral and first part of the shiva were held in New York, with the remainder here in town.

And now for the meaning of last month's word, futurity: "time to come: future" (Merriam-Webster Online).

Thanks to all who sent me news, sent me to others who sent me news, or otherwise helped glean it. Please send information for next time to baraimondo@gmail.com with "Nayes un Mekhayes" in the heading, or to P.O. Box 466, Washington Grove, MD 20880.

This brings to a close this edition of Nayes un Mekhayes for Tl'ers.

## July/Early August Highlights at Tifereth Israel

July 11, 16 & 25 Monday Learning

Parashat HaShavuah, 11 a.m.

Job Club, 1 p.m.

July 17 The Magic Flute, Aria Club of Greater Washington,

\$25, school-age children free, 5 p.m.

August 8 Tisha B'Av Services, 9 p.m.

## TI Picnic and Yard Sale, June 5, 2001













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