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Remember Our Funds

Your contributions to the following funds ensure the continuation and support of many vital activities of the Temple. Your thoughtfulness is appreciated.

If you wish to contribute to any of these funds at a different level, please advise the Temple staff.

Tree of Life leaves are \$300. Tree of Life Boulders are \$3,000. If you would like information on these donations, please call Michelle Shkolnick, Executive Director, at 556-6536.

\$6.00 fund contributions:

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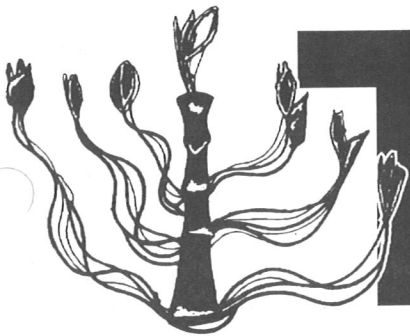
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 Temple Youth Group
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Check out Temple's website for
 up-to-date worship service information!
www.templeisrael-ne.org



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Temple Israel Tidings

AS I SEE IT...

"It's all for the best!"

So say some when life suddenly deals them a bad card. I don't believe it. Often I've heard an individual who lacks an all-accepting faith, or perhaps even an uncritical faith, speak with regret about this, especially at a time of crisis. On the surface, it seems that a blind faith in a supernatural power, which beneficently determines the course of events, can mobilize our inner resources for adequate coping. Again, I don't believe this.

Not everything happens for the best. If it were true that everything happens for the best, then there would be no need for us ever to intervene in any of nature's processes. From the Jewish point of view, nature is amoral. We are commanded to intervene to elevate nature with moral significance. This is how we sanctify reality.

Job was not comforted by his sanctimonious friends who rationalized the

way he was suffering by giving suffering a teaching function. The fact is, unrelenting suffering does not exalt us. We are debased by an unremitting diet of misfortune. Medicine, prayer and love are ways by which we redirect misfortune. They are human interventions to transform these into health and zest for life.

Nevertheless, there is evil not susceptible to our mediation.

I like God's response to Job about inexorable evil. We are too finite to know all the answers which surround life's paradoxes and ambiguities. We must dare to live with our doubts and questions to make our lives as worthwhile, morally effective and spiritually creative as possible, despite the conundrums of accident and evil in our experience. This is the nature of Jewish faith: to persist in living nobly, despite tragedy. It's a heroic faith for sure. But it's far more worthy of our humanity than a simplis-

tic and uncritical creed that blindly says everything is for the best.

Of course, we require healing and sustaining ingredients in our mixed experience to sustain us in our times of trial. One of those ingredients is loyalty to family, traditions and purposes which focus our existence on the continuity that links the generations. Continuity, through loyalty to family heritage, gives our life a bridge across the harrowing tribulations that would otherwise overwhelm us with meaninglessness. Continuity of generations is an intimation of immortality. We should truly be grateful, for the fact that despite so much that goes wrong in the world, and so many who do wrong, there is yet so much beauty, goodness and decency in so many places and people. There are godly people living on God's earth. Let us celebrate them with everlasting gratitude.

Harold Brand

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Inside

Synagogue 2000 Adult Retreat November 5-6

Lied Conference Center, Nebraska City

Save the date for the fifth annual Spirituality Retreat to be led by master educator, composer and Jewish rock-n-roll singer Rabbi Josh Zweiback. Raised in Omaha and a graduate of Temple Israel's Religious School, Rabbi Zweiback is now senior educator with Congregation Beth Am in Los Altos, CA. Rabbi Aryeh Azriel, Rabbi Craig Marantz and Cantor Wendy Shermet will also participate in the weekend.

Registration forms will be mailed. Contact Program Director Rosie Zweiback, rzweiback@templeisraelomaha.com or 556-6536, with questions.



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President's Tidings

Gary Kaplan

It has been amazing year! We began during the High Holidays with Rabbi Azriel in an imaginary boat above Niagra Falls. He challenged us to "practice" our Judaism so that it can be our own personal anchor in the times of trouble in a quickly changing world.

Temple offered us countless opportunities to do just that: services with beautiful new cantorial melodies based on traditional chants; energetic Tot Shabbats for our youngest families; Classical Reform services; Mitzvah Day; adult spirituality and WRJ-O retreats; adult education opportunities; outstanding guest speakers by national and international figures; special musical programs; pastoral counseling; life-cycle events of enduring beauty; Religious School activities for tots through Grade 12; youth groups for various ages; conversion classes and more.

We did it all with a balanced budget, careful spending by our staff, grants, bequests, endowment income and active volunteers.

Our Building Site Committee has identified several sites and will present several options to the Board of Trustees in the near future.

133rd Annual Meeting

At the annual meeting May 23, these officers and Executive Committee members were elected: Gary Kaplan, President; Dennis DePorte, Vice President; Wendy Goldberg, Vice President; Andi Willensky, Vice President; Jon Meyers, Treasurer; John Lehr, Assistant Treasurer; and Rick Fox, Secretary.

New Trustees elected are: Edward Malashock, Vicki Perlmeter and Stacey Rockman.

Barbara Rips was appointed to the Executive Committee as a Presidential Appointee. As per the bylaws, Sally Kaplan became a Trustee by virtue of being the Social Justice Committee chairman.

Awards were presented to the following individuals for their exemplary work as Temple volunteers:

- Wendy Goldberg received the Presidential Award for her role in rejuvenating WRJ-O and her current work as chairman of the Long Range Planning Committee. Wendy has been instrumental in defining governance and strengthening our committees while building new leadership.
- Joan Marcus was awarded the Social Justice Award for her current work with the Social Justice and her lifelong commitment to being an advocate at the state legislature for developmentally delayed Nebraskans.
- Cheri Ginsburg was presented the Temple Israel Volunteer Award for her creativity in crafting the Bar and Bat Mitzvah certificates.
- Janet Baack for her leadership as the 2003/2004 OTYG President.
- Stephanie Grossman for her years as Temple's Director of Youth and Informal Education.

Copies of the Annual Reports are available in the Temple office.

Have a great summer!

Temple Welcomes New Youth Director



The Temple staff happily announces the addition of Lynne Jensen as the Director of Youth and Informal Education! Lynne and her family have been part of Temple's congregational family for the past four years. She has been involved with our Religious School as a Torah Tots and Family School teacher, as well as a parent volunteer.

Lynne officially begins her new duties on June 1. As you see Lynne and her family at services this summer, please offer her a welcome and *Mazel Tov!*

Who Do You Call?

While Rabbi Aryeh Azriel is on sabbatical this summer, Rabbi Craig Marantz and Cantor Wendy Shermet will be available as always if you need them. Please let them know if someone in the Temple Israel family is ill or in the hospital or to share a happy event. Call the office at 556-6536.

Tot Shabbat

Friday, June 4

6 p.m., Livingston Chapel

Tot Shabbat is a short service of song and prayer, followed by cookies and juice. Toddlers through children in the primary grades are encouraged to bring their families.

Come enjoy songs and a story with your Temple friends!



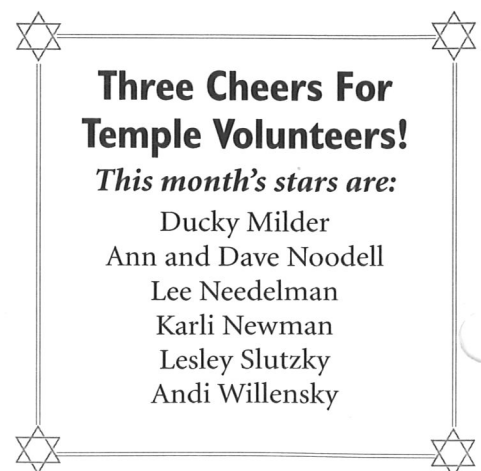
Jewish Federation Of Omaha

101st Annual Meeting

Monday, June 7

7 p.m., J.C.C.

As the Omaha Jewish Federation begins its second century, the community is invited to attend the annual meeting when winners of this year's awards for humanitarian, young leadership, teen leader and community service program will be honored. Incoming Federation and agency officers will be installed.



Three Cheers For Temple Volunteers!

This month's stars are:

Ducky Milder
Ann and Dave Noodell
Lee Needelman
Karli Newman
Lesley Slutzky
Andi Willensky

Hineini: Building Our Future And Growing Strong

As of May 10, Andi Willensky, Hineini project coordinator, was pleased to announce that Temple Israel families have donated \$5,070 to *Hineini: Embracing Our People, Building Our Future*. Proposed by Rabbi Eric Yoffie, president of the Union for Reform Judaism, at the Union's Biennial last November, the project will strengthen connections to Reform Judaism throughout the world.



Specifically, the funds will be used to construct synagogue buildings for two Israeli Reform congregations. Kehilat Yozma and Kehilat Mevasseret Zion are both led by young, energetic female rabbis and have shown dramatic growth since they were established.

In February, Temple Israel's Board of Trustees unanimously voted to join other Reform congregations throughout North America in this dynamic initiative. Each household has been asked to contribute \$18 this year and next year to help the Israeli congregations build a home.

To date, we are approximately halfway to our goal of enlisting 50 percent of our congregation, reported Andi. She is grateful to the families who have already sent in their checks and pledge cards for their generosity. "The average contribution to *Hineini* is incredibly in the \$36 category," she said. The Middle/High School Social Justice Club is also participating in *Hineini*.

"We couldn't have reached this amount without heartfelt participation—no matter what the dollar amount—for this important project," Andi emphasized. "And we're not done yet!"

To illustrate how many families have joined in the *Hineini* effort, Lee Needelman and Ducky Milder created a visual display in the main hallway at Temple. Lee photographed the Israeli flag showing it at rest and then held it in one hand while taking pictures with her other hand, in sunlight and shadows with light on the flag and coming through it.

"After two rolls of film, I felt that I had captured the spirit of the flag," she said.

Mounting the best photographs on blue foam, they were arranged "in a kind of tumbling order in two framed pictures on either side of the central *Hineini* piece," explained Lee, "to help the flag appear to be moving."

These two pictures flank an enlarged photograph of one of the flag pictures which was divided into nearly 100 two-inch squares. Each square represents four Temple family units who have committed to the *Hineini* project by pledging a donation. As more families participate in the project, "the picture will grow," said Lee.

"Lee and Ducky came up with something beautiful that creatively represents the two synagogues in Israel," Andi remarked.

You can still be a part of this meaningful effort. There are extra pledge cards by the *Hineini* exhibit in the hallway.

Welcome New Member

Bernard Fischer

Welcome

"The giving of Torah happened at one specific time, but the receiving of Torah happens all the time, in every generation."

Meir Alter, the Gerer Rebbe

We welcome **Natasha Kraft** who has recently reconfirmed her Judaism.

May she go from strength to strength!

Sponsorships Bring Amazing Concert

There was something for everybody at the Mother's Day Concert featuring Cantor Wendy Shermet (standing at right) and her friends and colleagues (clockwise from the Cantor) Reverend Jerry Brabec, Reverend Mr. Michael Magiera, Riva Capellari and Dr. Tamara Field. Accompanying the singers were Julie Sandene, piano; Curtis Pelster, trumpet; Patricia Ritchie, cello; and Kol Rina.

"I would say that anybody who attended certainly received a wonderful surprise," said Ron Brodkey after the concert. "Cantor Shermet and her friends knocked our socks off! I



was more than impressed with these people—including the instrumentalists—who helped Cantor put this quality presentation together. It certainly speaks to her ability to put together, with her friends, a class-A musical event!"

Sue Meyers also attended the concert and said, "It was beautiful! I liked the variety of their selections. They had such beautiful voices," adding that "Cantor has very talented friends who entertained us greatly."

Cantor Shermet said she is grateful to Henry Davis and his family who sponsored the concert which was a fund raising event. Additional kudos go to the music committee and Kol Rina. A special thank you goes to Lisa and Denny Lewis, Elyce Azriel, Sandy Nogg and the choir for hosting the reception.

Just a reminder...during the summer the Temple Israel office will be open as usual Monday-Thursday, 8 a.m.-5 p.m., and Friday, 8 a.m.-4 p.m.

So, Nu? What's Ahead For Adult Education

Who's Who in Temple's Scholars-in-Residence

Al Vorspan, senior vice president-emeritus of the Union for Reform Judaism, has been a leader in the civil rights struggle, the peace movement and interfaith activities. He will present a weekend (October 8-10) at Temple focused on Jews and Social Action.

Literary editor of *The New Republic* since 1983, **Leon Wieseltier** is the author of *Nuclear War Nuclear Peace*, *Against Identity* and *Kaddish*. He will present a lecture on October 13 about revitalizing the commitment of American Jews to study Jewish history and Jewish texts.

Professor Jeann Weissman Joselit from Princeton University will speak Friday evening, October 22, on Jews and American culture. She will also give the keynote address at the Klutznick Symposium on Sunday, October 24.

Professor of Jewish Education and Leadership Development **Rabbi Samuel Joseph**, Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion in Cincinnati, OH, will serve as educator-in-residence for the staffs of the Religious School and Middle/High School on August 22. Rabbi Joseph will return to Omaha the weekend of December 3-5 to explore with the teachers the topic, "How to be an Effective Teacher and How do You Know if You are One?"

Professor Alan Steinweis teaches the history of the Holocaust and modern Jewish history at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. Former Director of the Harris Center for Judaic Studies at the University, Professor Steinweis will present a lecture on "The Holocaust: Its Contemporary Meaning for Jews and Americans" on January 30.

Pam Nadell, professor of history and director of the Jewish Studies Program at American University, will visit our congregation March 4-6 for a weekend devoted to the history of Jews in America including a discussion on the history of Jewish women.

Professor Gerry Shapiro teaches creative writing and literature at the University of Nebraska at Lincoln. An author, Professor Shapiro has won an award for Jewish fiction and was a finalist for the 2000 National Jewish Book Award for Fiction. He will lead a three-session book discussion on young Jewish American writers beginning in March.

A Taste of Judaism for Everyone

John Dacey, a veteran leader of Jewish Journey groups who is pursuing a Master of Science degree in Jewish studies at Spertus College in Chicago, will lead a five-week exploration of different religious perspectives on the Hebrew Bible. "Looking Through a Different Set of Lenses: Creation, Revelation and Redemption in Judaism and Christianity" begins in October.

Temple member **Katherine Finnegan** will lead a four-session Noontime Jewish Journey Group on Tuesdays beginning in January on "It All Begins in Genesis: A Jewish Journey Group."

Creighton University **Professor Tracy Leavelle** will highlight the history of religion and diversity in America. The six-session course will begin in March 2005.

John Dacey and **Todd Hutton**, a past chairman of Temple's Outreach Committee, will lead a Jewish Journey Group next spring on "My House Shall be a House of Prayer for All Peoples: Responding to the Challenges of Outreach."

Perennial Favorites

Brush up on your Hebrew before the High Holy Days on Sunday mornings, August 29 and September 12.

The Four B's: Behaving, Belonging, Believing & Bagels is back next year. Parents will have an opportunity to learn one Sunday a month while their children attend Religious School.

Providing a broad range of information to Jews who wish to explore their heritage and to non-Jews who are considering conversion or who want to gain a better understanding of Judaism, **Basic Judaism** will be offered on Tuesday nights beginning in the fall.

An anchor for adult education, **Adult Study with the Clergy**, continues on Thursday mornings. Former participants and newcomers are all welcome!

Women of Reform Judaism-Omaha

WRJ-O's Annual Used Book Sale

August 1-4 in the Social Hall

Join us to browse through an amazing assortment of high quality books! Help WRJ-O fund projects by making your selections!

This event is co-chaired by Wendy Goldberg and Stacey Rockman. If you would like to help sort books before the event, please contact Wendy, 393-6391 or wgoldberg@cox.net, or Stacey, 397-7930 or stacey14@cox.net. Do you have books to donate? Drop them off in the Temple office or call the co-chairs for a pick-up!

Did you know...

- WRJ-O sold 30 dozen Israeli roses at the Yom Ha'atzmaut celebration at the J.C.C. on April 25. The proceeds went to the Jewish National Fund in Israel.

- 24 dozen Israeli roses were sold for Mother's Day. All proceeds are being used to fund WRJ-O projects.

- You can order Israeli roses (and support an Israeli businessman in the process) at www.m&mroses.com.

- The Donor Tea featured ten wonderful wedding dresses and many secrets of successful marriages while raising funds to improve the Temple kitchen!



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Isaac Bashevis Singer Centennial Celebration!

The Omaha Public Library is celebrating the works of this great 20th century Jewish author who brought the life of the Old World to that of the New.

Born in Radzymin, Poland in 1904, Isaac Bashevis Singer followed his older brother to the United States in 1935. Awarded the Nobel Prize for Literature in 1978, Singer achieved international acclaim for his prolific body of work.

Plan to attend the festivities and be sure to put some of Singer's tales on your summer reading list!

From the Shtetl: A Klezmer Concert, June 8, 7 p.m. at the J.C.C.

Featuring Tuffy Epstein's Klezmerim followed by a reception.

Chanukah In July—four storytime programs for children:

July 9, 1 p.m.

Shrewd Dodie & Lyzer the Myzer

A.V. Sorenson Branch, 44th & Cass

July 12, 2 p.m.

The Parakeet Named Dreidel

Florence Branch, 30th & Bondesson

July 14, 1:30 p.m.

Children of Chelm & Other Stories

W. Clark Swanson Branch,

90th & West Dodge Road

July 21, 1:30 p.m.

When Schlemiel Went to Warsaw

Willa Cather Branch, 44th & Center

Check the Omaha Public Library website for more information or contact Cynthia Vana at 444-4852.

Congratulations Rabbi Wigodsky!

Daniel Wigodsky, born and raised in Omaha, was ordained as a rabbi at the Jewish Theological Seminary in New York City on May 20. Dan, the son of Temple members Patsy Wallace and Steve Wigodsky, became a Bar Mitzvah at Temple Israel and was also confirmed here. A hearty *mazel tov* to Dan and his family!

Special Musical Events

Blending a kaleidoscope of colors and moods and an old-fashioned spirit of fun, **The Maxwell Street Klezmer Band** will perform traditional Jewish music at a concert November 20.

Expect another marvelous musical event featuring acclaimed composer Dr. Michael Isaacson, accompanied by Kol Rina, on Friday, May 13.

More details about these scholars, musicians, lectures, classes and Journey Groups will be described in the Hermene Zweiback Center for Lifelong Jewish Learning brochure available later this summer.



Summertime - And The Livin' Js Jewish!...

Please Note Summer Service Times

In June, services will be at 7 p.m. on June 4, 6 p.m. on June 11 and 18, and at 7:30 p.m. on June 25. Beginning on Friday, July 7, and continuing through August 27, all Friday evening services will begin at 6 p.m. in the Livingston Chapel. Saturday morning services remain at 10:30 a.m.

Nourish the Soul Nourish the Body

Join Rabbi Craig Marantz on Fridays, July 23 and August 6 for a two-part Shabbat series about Leon Wieseltier

Acclaimed author of *Kaddish*, *Nuclear War Nuclear Peace* and *Against Identity* and the literary editor of "The New Republic," Leon Wieseltier will speak at Temple Israel in October. His lecture is sponsored by the Harris Center for Judaic Studies at UNL.

To prepare us for this distinguished visitor Rabbi Craig Marantz will explore Wieseltier's life and ideas in two sermons this summer. At the conclusion of services on August 6, gather for a delicious no-host dinner and lively discussion at Pasta Amore (Rockbrook, 108th & Center Streets). RSVP to the Temple office, 556-6536, to reserve your seat at the table.

Hunger Never Takes A Vacation!

Contact Joan Marcus, 333-5995 or hmarcom@juno.com, to volunteer to cook or donate food and money for The Stephen Center meals July 19 and August 16. Mark food (canned fruit or vegetables and fruit juices are recommended) for Stephen Center and bring it to Temple to be transported.

Summer Services to Begin Celebration of 350 Years Of Jews In America

In September 1654, 23 indigent Jews expelled from Brazil and seeking refuge arrived in New Amsterdam (which "grew up" to be New York City). As we commemorate and celebrate the 350th anniversary of Jews in America, summer services at Temple Israel will embark on a year-long journey of topics exploring the Jewish-American experience.

This summer, beginning in July, the clergy will present topics at Shabbat worship services on music composers, authors, other artists and personalities, watershed events that have shaped Jewish-American life.

Shabbat In The Park

July 16 and August 20
6 p.m., J.C.C. Pavilion

Summertime means it's time to welcome Shabbat with worship in the park. Bring a picnic dinner for your family and meet at 6 p.m. in the pavilion behind the Jewish Community Center.

Worship services will be led by Cantor Wendy Shermet on Friday, July 16 and by Rabbi Craig Marantz on Friday, August 20. Wear your outdoor sports clothes, because after services, it's time to play some outdoor games. Bring your sports equipment from home and get ready for some fun and friendly competition.

Shabbat worship services will also be conducted at Temple on these evenings beginning at 6 p.m. in the Livingston Chapel.

Summer Birthday Blessings

Children and adults will be invited to the bimah for a special blessing at the following 6 p.m. Shabbat Evening Services:

June birthdays: Friday, June 11

July birthdays: Friday, July 9

August birthdays: Friday, August 13

Help Make a Family's Dream Come True... Be A Habitat For Humanity Volunteer

Temple Israel volunteers have joined a multi-faith work force including Countryside Community Church, First United Methodist Church, Hindu Temple of Nebraska, Islamic Center of Omaha, Islamic Speakers Bureau of Nebraska and Mount Sinai Baptist Church to help a family realize its dream of owning a home.

Working on weekends, through July 17, skilled as well as unskilled workers will teach and learn from each other while they construct a house at 1723 North 32nd Avenue as they build greater understanding and appreciation of one another's faiths.

In addition to construction workers, volunteer coordinators, site hosts, food preparers, bookkeepers and food and monetary donations are needed. There's a role for everyone! Please call Margo Rosen, 391-4842, to help.



Summer Worship Schedule

Friday Evening Shabbat Services

All services are in the Livingston Chapel unless otherwise noted.

June 4

7 p.m.
Adult B'nai Mitzvah
Sanctuary

June 11

6 p.m.

June 18

6 p.m.

June 25

7:30 p.m.
Sanctuary

July 2

6 p.m.

July 9

6 p.m.

July 16

6 p.m. @ Temple
6 p.m. Park Service @ J.C.C. Pavilion

July 23

6 p.m.

July 30

6 p.m.

August 6

6 p.m.

August 13

6 p.m.

August 20

6 p.m. @ Temple
6 p.m. Park Service @ J.C.C. Pavilion

August 27

6 p.m.

Saturday Morning Shabbat Services

Bagels and Sacred Books in the Milder Center

9:30-10:15 a.m.

Shabbat Service in the Livingston Chapel

10:30 a.m.

Sitter Service Summer Schedule

During the months of June, July and August, Sitter Service will be available each Friday evening Shabbat service. Please check the *Temple Tidings* worship page or the Temple website (www.templeisrael-ne.org) for service times.

Please make a reservation through the Temple office so we may plan accordingly. Cost is \$2.00 per family. Sorry, there are no facilities for infants.

Torah Portions

June 5

Beha'alotecha
Numbers 8:1-12:16
Haftarah: Zechariah 2:14-4:7

June 12

Shelach-Lecha
Numbers 13:1-15:41
Haftarah: Joshua 2:1-24

June 19

Korach
Numbers 16:1-18:32
Haftarah: I Samuel 11:14-12:22 or 20:18-42

June 26

Chukat
Numbers 19:1-22:1
Haftarah: Judges 11:1-33

July 3

Balak
Numbers 22:2-25:9
Haftarah: Micah 5:6-6:8

July 10

Pinchas
Numbers 25:10-30:1
Haftarah: Jeremiah 1:1-2:3

July 17

Matot/Mas'ey
Numbers 30:2-36:13
Haftarah: Jeremiah 2:4-28; 3:4-4:1-2

July 24

Devarim
Deuteronomy 1:1-3:22
Haftarah: Isaiah 1:1-27

July 31

Va'etchanan
Deuteronomy 3:23-7:11
Haftarah: Isaiah 40:1-26

August 7

Ekev
Deuteronomy 7:12-11:25
Haftarah: Isaiah 49:14-51:3

August 14

Re'eh
Deuteronomy 11:26-16:17
Haftarah: Isaiah 54:11-55:5

August 21

Shofetim
Deuteronomy 16:18-21:9
Haftarah: Isaiah 51:12-52:12

August 28

Ki Tetze
Deuteronomy 21:10-25:19
Haftarah: Isaiah 54:1-10

June 2004 • Sivan/Tamuz 5764

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 AA, Alanon & Gambler's 12-step 7:30 p.m.	2	3 Adult Study with the Clergy 10-11:30 a.m.	4 Tot Shabbat 6 p.m. Shabbat Service 7:00 p.m. Adult B'nai Mitzvah	5 Bagels & Sacred Books 9:30-10:15 p.m. Shabbat Service 10:30 a.m.
6	7 Federation Annual Meeting @ J.C.C. 7 p.m.	8 AA, Alanon & Gambler's 12-step 7:30 p.m.	9	10 Adult Study with the Clergy 10-11:30 a.m.	11 Shabbat Comes to You at Remington 4 p.m. Shabbat Service 6 p.m.	12 Bagels & Sacred Books 9:30-10:15 a.m. Shabbat Service 10:30 a.m.
13	14	15 AA, Alanon & Gambler's 12-step 7:30 p.m.	16 Conversations with Rabbi Marantz Noon-1 p.m.	17 Adult Study with the Clergy 10-11:30 a.m.	18 Shabbat Service 6 p.m.	19 Bagels & Sacred Books 9:30-10:15 a.m. Shabbat Service 10:30 a.m.
20	21	22 AA, Alanon & Gambler's 12-step 7:30 p.m.	23	24	25 Shabbat Service 7:30 p.m.	26 Bagels & Sacred Books 9:30-10:15 a.m. Shabbat Service 10:30 a.m.
27	28	29 AA, Alanon & Gambler's 12-step 7:30 p.m.	30	1	2 Shabbat Service 6 p.m.	3 Bagels & Sacred Books 9:30-10:15 a.m. Shabbat Service 10:30 a.m.

Summertime at Temple is Anything But A Vacation!

This will be the last *Temple Tidings* published until August. But out of sight doesn't mean out of work for the staff. We still have plenty to do in the summer! In fact, while you might be on vacation with your children or taking life a little slower in the summer, we are...

- planning and preparing for August events and for the High Holy Days
- working on the annual golf outing
- compiling the Religious School and Middle/High School Parent & Teacher Handbooks/Calendars
- updating the files and registering new students
- making preparations for the new Religious School Partnership and room parents
- preparing the Book of Remembrance
- sending out bereavement letters and acknowledging donations
- stripping all the floors and giving the classrooms a major cleaning
- replenishing supplies for the Religious School
- participating in the community Keep-Up lab to strengthen students' Hebrew skills
- continuing with the Bar and Bat Mitzvah preparation—putting together mentor booklets for each student and preparing trope books
- giving the *Tidings* a facelift (just wait until you see the new look!)
- reviewing process flow and process improvement to better meet the needs of the congregation by being better prepared as a staff
- preparing for the audit
- organizing Board manuals, preparing for the new Board members and finalizing all the minutes and agendas of Board meetings from the past year
- meeting and planning for next year editing and designing the Hermene Zweiback Center for Lifelong Jewish Learning brochure
- and much, much more!

RELAX...Kick Back With A Great Book From Our List!

Who needs the New York Times Review of Books! Our staff and visiting speakers recommend the following titles to get us thinking about our educational theme, "350 Years of Jews in America." The learning never stops at Temple Israel, even in the summer!

- ~ Professor Alan Steinweis suggests:
The Holocaust in American Life by Peter Novick
The Americanization of the Holocaust Hilene Flanzbaum, ed.
While America Watches: Televising the Holocaust by Jeffrey Shandler
- ~ Professor Pamela Nadell proposes:
American Judaism: A History by Jonathan Sarna
Women and American Judaism: Historical Perspectives by J. Sarna and Pamela Nadell
- ~ Professor Gerry Shapiro submits
Lost Tribe: Jewish Fiction from the Edge by Paul Zakrzewski
- ~ Al Vorspan advocates:
Jewish Dimensions of Social Justice: Tough Moral Choices for Our Time by Al Vorspan and David Saperstein
Where Are We Now? by Leonard Fein
- ~ Rabbi Josh Zweiback endorses:
Quest for Inclusion: Jews and Liberalism in Modern America by Marc Dolliager
- ~ Rabbi Aryeh Azriel adores:
Moral Grandeur and Spiritual Audacity by Abraham Joshua Heschel
The Human Stain by Philip Roth
- ~ Rabbi Craig Marantz commends:
The Search for God at Harvard by Ari Goldman
A People Divided: Judaism in Contemporary America by Jack Wertheimer
The Chosen People in America by Arnold Eisen
- ~ Cantor Wendy Shermet says WOW about:
The Chosen by Chaim Potok
Bel Canto by Ann Patchett
- ~ Claudia Sherman contemplates:
"Heritage" – the newsletter of the American Jewish Historical Society
- ~ Michelle Shkolnick marveled at:
The Committed Life by Esther Jungreis
- ~ Rosie Zweiback recommends:
The Jew Store by Stella Suberman
The Amazing Adventures of Kavalier and Clay by Michael Chabon
- And for younger readers:**
 - ~ Elyce Azriel enjoyed:
A Tree Grows in Brooklyn by Betty Smith
 - ~ Joan Cooper contributes:
Northern Fried Chicken by Roni Schotter
Pink Slippers, Bat Mitzvah Blues by Ferida Wolff
Chanukah on the Prairie by Burt Schuman



The Writers Who Gave Us "Fiddler on the Roof"

Now Present:

"The Rothschilds"

A Tony Award Winning Broadway Musical

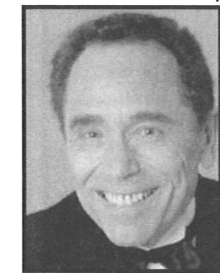
**Starring Bernie Dean in
a one-man performance**

Sunday, August 22, 7 p.m.

Temple Israel Sanctuary

Through music, drama and narration, Bernie Dean recreates the rise of the Rothschild family from ghetto poverty to unparalleled wealth. The Rothschilds used their riches to help their fellow Jews and financed the early colonization of Palestine. The Balfour Declaration, which promised an independent Jewish state, was written to a Rothschild.

Bernie Dean has thrilled audiences across the country with his interpretation of this well-crafted story about a famous Jewish family. "The Rothschilds" will entertain, inform and inspire you. Watch your mail this summer for ticket information but



mark your calendar NOW!

Sponsored by the Janice Yale Enrichment Fund.

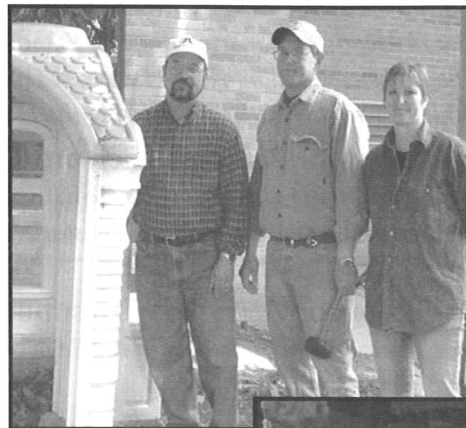
A Tour of Jewish New York City... For Grown-ups! March 10-12, 2005

You've heard about the Temple trip our 10th graders enjoy each year. Perhaps you were wondering when Rabbi Azriel would lead a similar trip for the post teen set. Well, wonder no more! Plan to join him for an amazing tour of Jewish life, culture and great delicatessens in the Big Apple.

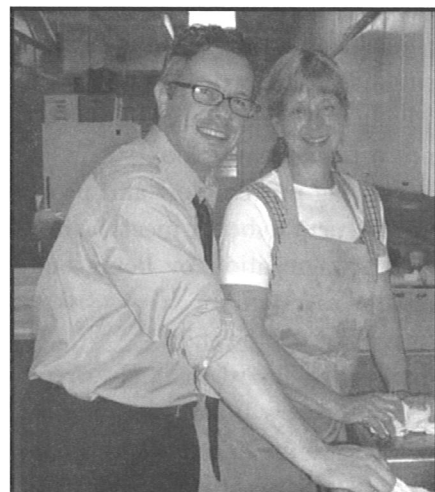
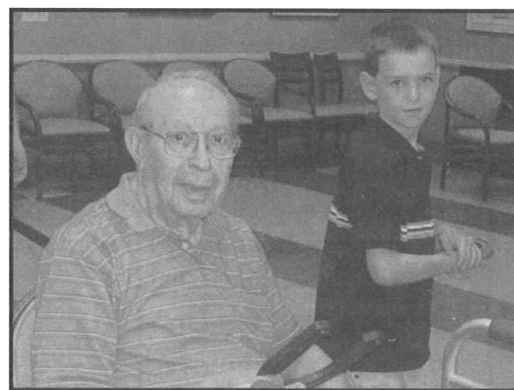
Sign up: call 556-6536 or email rzweiback@templeisraelomaha.com. Itinerary and trip details will be available in August.

Mitzvah Day Brings Smiles And Many Good Deeds

A heartfelt THANK YOU to everyone who took part in Temple's Mitzvah Day. Over 100 participants of all ages spent their afternoon doing everything from recording books on tape to serving dinner at The Stephen Center. A special note of appreciation to Sandy Passer and Dorothy Spizman for organizing the day's activities!



(Top left) Justin Cooper, Rod Sadofsky and Ann Noodell helped beautify the Temple grounds and playground. (Top right) Dick and Emily Katz recorded a book on tape at the KGOR radio studio for students at Castelar Academy. (Middle) Dora Goldstrom, Suzy Rubin and Ellen Joseph wrapped teacher appreciation gifts for teachers at Lothrop Magnet School and Castelar Academy.



(Bottom left) Julius Bernstein and Noah Grossman played horseshoes at the Blumkin Home. (Bottom right) Rabbi Craig Marantz and Linda Sadofsky helped clean up the Temple kitchen after preparing a meal for The Stephen Center.

Who's Happening In Religious School

**Joan Cooper,
Elementary School Coordinator**

One of our greatest assets is our Religious School faculty. Our dedicated teachers really care about our students and strive to help them grow more each year. THANK YOU Deborah Alpert, Elyce Azriel, Eileen Clignett, Katherine Finnegan, Deb Finnicum, David Goldberg, Dora Goldstrom, Rini Gonsher, Leigh Goodman, Lynne Jensen, Anne Joseph, Colleen Kennealy, Natasha Kraft, Rabbi Craig Marantz, Ann Noodell, Marvin Parilman, Doris Parker, Rita Paskowitz, Sarah Schondelmeyer, Lesley Sutzky, Meg Snowardt, Jeff Taxman, Sasha Trubnikov, Patsy Wallace and Maya Wertheimer.

Our Room Parents have made a commitment to our school and are always available to provide help with field trips, prepare for special events and lead activities in the classrooms. The efforts of these parents help to make Temple a home-away-from-home for all our children. Many thanks to Liz Adkisson, Michelle Bucher, Marta Fox, Kerry Hollst, Jill Idelman, Susie Norton, Stacey Rockman, Terri Schrager, Cindy Stoneking, Louri Sullivan and Melany Weinstine.

Our teen assistants (madrichim) make a big difference in the life of our children by setting good examples of leadership and commitment to their Judaism. Thank you: Jessica Danon, Naomi Fox, Aly Friedman, Robert Friedman, Meagan Katelman, Max Katz, Molly Needelman, Aron Neesman, Jackie Neesman, Joel Passer, Aaron Passer, Anne Rips, Becki Smedlund, Sarah Spooner, Chelsea Taxman and Brandon Thomas.

An extra special THANKS to Michelle Shkolnick for working so hard! Your first year has been a wonderful learning experience for all of us. You have looked at our school from a new perspective and have brought fresh ideas for making our Religious School even better.

Middle/High School Footnotes

Elyce Azriel, Middle/High School Director

Thank you to all the teachers of Temple's Middle/High School!

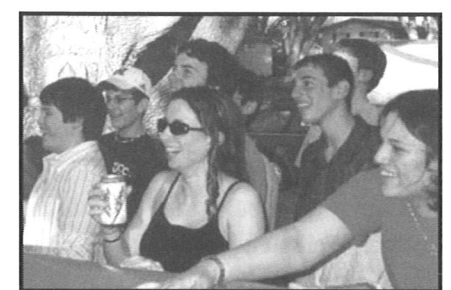
I believe that the real strength of the school is in its exceptionally capable and talented staff. Emphasis continues to be focused on the quality of academic programs available to Temple Israel Middle/High School students. The efforts and achievements of the entire year are reflected in the positive growth of our students.

Our teachers this year were Rabbi Azriel, Gil Cohn, Toby Fellman, Leigh Goodman, Barry Grossman, Stephanie Grossman, Rabbi Marantz, Maria Neesman and Maya Wertheimer. As we continue to work together, I know we will accomplish a great deal more!



Last Day Fun For Middle/High School Students Ends A Successful School Year

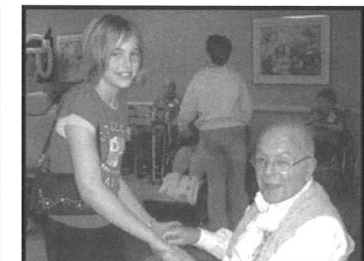
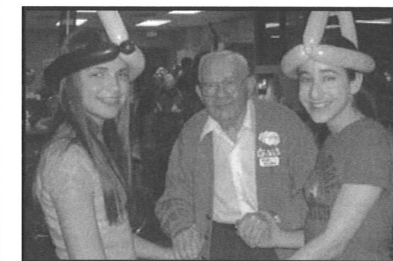
LaCasa pizza, Krispy Kreme donuts and inflatable games were just the ticket for an evening of laughs at the Azriel home.



(Top left) Amanda Bucher and Andrea Holmberg get harnessed in the Bungee Run before racing each other to the end (or getting snapped back to start). (Bottom right, l to r) Max Sherman, Josh Phillips, Joel Passer, Shira Kronick, David Trubnikov and Sara Rips cheer on players in the Jousting Pit. (Bottom left) Joel Passer and Jake Bleicher show off their American Gladiator skills.

Blumkin Residents Dance The Night Away

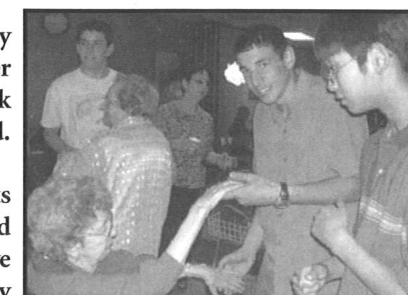
About 30 students from Temple Israel's Middle/High School waltzed with residents at the Rose Blumkin Jewish Home at the Senior Prom on April 25. "It was such a warm, spirited evening," said Elyce Azriel.



Wheelchairs were no obstacle as demonstrated by Melanie Long and Seymour Zoob.

Lauren Davis (left) and Avery Lehr danced with Rabbi Myer Kripke to the sound of Black Tie, a rhythm and blues band.

Blumkin Home residents "had a wonderful time," said Michael Silverman, executive director of the Home. "They thought it was a great event and something different for them to do."



Others having a good time included Louise Martin (left to right), Sam Anderson dancing with Sue Serlin, Anne Joseph (activities director at Blumkin), David Trubnikov and Nate Joseph.

Thank You For Supporting Our Congregation Through Donations That Remember And Honor Family And Friends

IN MEMORY OF: **Stephen Appel:** Joan and Milton Marcus; **Freda and Jerome Bleicher,** Harold Firestone: Darlynn and Tom Fellman; **Harold Bloom:** Connie and Bob Kully, Lisa and Denny Lewis; **Lilly Boin:** Joe Boin; **Bill Diamond:** Sandy and Paul Epstein, Lisa and Denny Lewis; **Warner Frohman, Leonard Potash:** Harriett and Sherm Sperling; **Richard Goldstein:** Joie Simon, Linda Siref Simons, Cindy Stoneking; **Henry Greenberg:** Soralee and Jerry Cohn; **Sis Greenberg:** Babe Nogg, Lynn and Brian Cote, Terri and Jan Kleinman; **Leona Kasin:** Molline and Fritz Cassman, Anne and Alan Cohen, Sheryn and Arnold Joffe, Connie and Bob Kully, Leslie Kully, Sandy and John Lehr, Lisa and Denny Lewis, Rosalie and Milton Saylan, Anne and Bruce Shackman, Janet and Jerry Slusky, Robert Weinstein, Shirley Weinstein, Amee and Ted Zetzman; **Solis M. Kass:** Sharon and George Quittner; **Bill Kully:** Sandy and John Lehr, Lisa and Denny Lewis; **Jay Lashinsky:** Barbara Lashinsky; **Ann Margolin:** Lisa and Denny Lewis; **Marilyn Mellen:** Betty and Jeff Mellen and family; **Sherman Neff:** Soralee and Jerry Cohn, Suzie and Ray Somberg, **Milton Parker:** Doris Parker; **Max Platt, Bruce Vann:** Sandy and John Lehr; **Laura Plattner:** Sandy and John Lehr, Suzie and Ray Somberg, Shirley Weinstein; **Enid Pollack:** Phyllis and Harvey Aronson, Barbara and Dean Frankel, Ducky and Mike Milder, Harriett and Sherm Sperling; **Leah Siegel:** Sylvia and Jerry Kaiman, Sheila and Ray Tomps, Shirley Weinstein; **Eleanor Slosburg:** Frances Batt, Marion and John Bendon, Mary and Tom Bernstein, Fran and Louie Blumkin, Esther Canar, Edith Epstein, Sandy, Paul, Kari and Cory Epstein, Don Fiedler, Tami Field and Larry Gendler and family, Bettie Fisk, Dee Fox, Phyllis and Dick Glazer, Ann and Don Goldstein, Shirley and Bud Goldstein, Pearl and Jerry Gross, HDM

Corp., Mendy and Michael Halsted and family, Janice and Shelly Harris, Eileen and Leonard Jacobson, Debbi and Larry Josephson and family, Myron Kaplan, Mr. and Mrs. Steve Kreeger, Connie and Bob Kully, Barbara and Marshall Kushner, Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Landen, The Landen Family, Joanie and Marty Lehr, Sandy and John Lehr, Bertel Lewis, Lisa and Denny Lewis, Vera Lewis, Ducky and Mike Milder, Fran and Jerry Milder, Alice Miller, Judi Moore and Chris Thurber, Ag and Don Murphy, Mrs. Ernest A. Nogg, Sandy and Jeff Passer and family, Stanley Passer, Kimberly and Matthew Placzek, Betty Price, Sheryl and John Reuben, Iris and Marty Ricks, Barbara Rips, Silvia and Larry Roffman, Margo, Bill, Daniel and David Rosen, Suzy Rubin, Security National Bank, Anne and Bruce Shackman, Deb, Sarah and Ben Sherman, Joie Simon, Suzanne Singer, Gayle and Jim Spooner, Swanson Tower Assoc., Betty Rae and Ben Weiser, Terri and Dick Zacharia; **Phil Sokolof:** Margie Alperson, Edythe Cohn, Lois and Mel Epstein, Sandy and Paul Epstein, Bettie Fisk, Barbara and Dean Frankel, Joanne and Jerry Freeman, Eileen and Leonard Jacobson, Nancy, David, Rachel, Sara, Ben and Justin Jacobson, Sheryn and Arnold Joffe, Connie and Bob Kully, Leslie Kully, Barbara and Marshall Kushner, Sandy and John Lehr, Lisa and Denny Lewis, Ducky and Mike Milder, Joyce Palm, Anne and Bruce Shackman, Shirley Weinstein and family, Don Yale; **Nina Svendsen:** Aileen and Leo Eisenstatt, Connie and Bob Kully; **Esther and Herbert Weil:** Peter Weil; **Molly Weiner:** Sheila and Ray Tomps

IN HONOR OF RECOVERY OF: **Beth and Ron Brodkey, Charney Rosinsky:** Soralee and Jerry Cohn; **Spencer Gilbert:** Sylvia and Jerry Kaiman; **Debbi Josephson:** Lisa and Gary Epstein; **Mike Milder:** Dee Fox, Barbara and Marshall Kushner, Suzy Rubin; **Sandy Ostrow:** Sylvia and Jerry Kaiman; **Margo Rosen:** Aileen and Leo Eisenstatt; **Asha Slater:** Audrey, Morrie and David Shapiro

IN HONOR OF BIRTHDAY OF:

Fran Blumkin: Shirley Weinstein; **Aileen Eisenstatt:** Rose Rosen, Harriett and Sherm Sperling; **Lee Eveloff:** Audrey and Morrie Shapiro; **Herman Goldstein:** Carol and Steve Bloch, Fran and Jerry Milder; **Eileen Jacobson, Fefe Passer:** Harriett and Sherm Sperling; **David Plotkin:** Fran and Norman Plotkin; **Dodi Redler:** Joanne and Jerry Freeman; **Beatrice Schimmel:** Bettie Fisk, Barbara and Dean Frankel, Barbara and Marshall Kushner, Connie and Bob Kully, Nancy and Harlan Noddle; **Steve Simon:** Susie and Marvin Cohn; **Shirlee Smeerin:** Millie and Howard Bernstein; **Audrey Sophir:** Sheryn and Arnold Joffe; **Zeph Telpner:** Audrey, Morrie and David Shapiro; **Yale Trustin:** Joan and Milton Marcus

IN HONOR OF ANNIVERSARY OF: **Shelly and Arnie Ban, Myrna and Kevee Kirshenbaum:** Harriett and Sherm Sperling; **Joan and Milton Marcus:** Janet, Bruce and Heidi Abram; **Renee and Morris Handleman:** Linda Siref Simons

IN HONOR OF BIRTH OF: **Mia Menolascino Zweiback:** Toby Fellman, Ann Kaiman

IN HONOR OF WEDDING OF: **Janet and Jerry Slusky:** Lois and Mel Epstein, Amee and Ted Zetzman

IN HONOR OF B'NAI MITZVAH OF: **Charles Parsow:** Barbara and Dean Frankel, Bob Kaplan; **Sam Salzinger:** Doris Parker

IN HONOR OF TEMPLE ISRAEL CONFIRMATION/GRADUATION: **Alex Bloom, J.J. Friedman, Daniel Gutman, Molly Needelman, Sara Rips, Margaret Terry:** Sharee, Murray, Nick and Lexie Newman

IN HONOR OF HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION: **Nick Newman:** Harriett and Sherm Sperling; **Rebecca Smedlund:** Doris Parker

IN HONOR OF MOTHER'S DAY WISHES: **Mrs. Ernest A. Nogg:** Sandy and Alan Nogg

Donations, continued

IN HONOR OF INSTALLATION AS WRJ-O PRESIDENT: Nancy Nogg: Sharon Brodkey

IN HONOR OF UNITED WAY RECOGNITION: **Ilene Pachman:** Joan and Milton Marcus

IN APPRECIATION OF: **David Radler:** Amee and Ted Zetzman

IN APPRECIATION OF: **Rabbi Aryeh Azriel, Rabbi Craig Marantz, Cantor Wendy Shermet, Michelle Shkolnick, Elyce Azriel, Joan Cooper, Claudia Sherman, Rosie Zweiback, Lori Bennett, Willie Clark, Vicki Ducharme, Maureen Kube, Bonnie Sullivan, Lonnie Williams**

Mark your calendar for...



Temple Israel's Annual Golf Outing!

Monday, August 30 Shadow Ridge Country Club

You've got the summer to form your twosomes and foursomes for this year's much anticipated, always delightful, afternoon of golf, followed by a steak dinner and awards ceremony.

On Sunday, August 29 the third annual Family Miniature Golf Event will tee off at 4 p.m. at Boulder Creek Amusement Park (14208 S Street in Millard). What a great way to swing into the first day of Religious School!

Look for more information about both of these ABOVE PAR events in your mail this summer!

Our Sympathy

The Congregation records with sorrow the deaths of...

Ida Bronsteyn, mother of Ella Patkovsky;

Lois Ann Shkolnick, wife of Rodney Shkolnick, mother of Jeffrey and Stuart Shkolnick, and aunt of Michelle Shkolnick;

Nina Svendsen, mother of Norma Malashock;

Eleanor P. Slosburg, wife of Stanley Slosburg, mother of Mary Jo Ward and Richard, David and Daniel Slosburg, niece of Stanley Passer, and sister-in-law of Ramona Pepper;

Michael "Mickey" Sacks, husband of Sharron Sacks, father of Shayna and Scott Sacks, step-father of Jessie and Christina Holland, and brother of George Sacks

...and extends sympathy to their bereaved families.

Congratulations

On the Engagement of:

Valerie Hoy Spellman and Aaron Zachary Batt, Costa Rica. Parents are Connie and Rick Spellman, Jane Batt, and the late Larry Batt. Step-mother is Margaret Kirkeby.

On the Marriage of:

Mr. and Mrs. Eric Shivvers. Mrs. Shivvers is the former Amy Carolyn Bernstein. Parents are Mary and Tom Bernstein, and Shari Benstock, FL, and Linda and Mel Shivvers, Des Moines, IA.



Ever wonder who keeps Temple's flower beds blooming?

Many thanks to Gretchen Radler, Temple's very special garden gnome!

Email Us!

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Youth and Informal Education
youth@templeisraelomaha.com



Tree of Life

Commemorating moments in families' and friends' lives

The following leaves have been added to our Tree of Life:

Remembering Our Dear Friend
Eleanor Slosburg
With Love,
Harriett (Kubby) & Sherm Sperling
Kathy (Sperling),
Allen & Rachel Horwitz

Remembering
Our Dear Friend
Sherman Neff
Sandy and Don