



TEMPLE NER AMI
515 Temple Avenue
Camarillo, CA 93010

“The Temple on Temple Ave.”
is affiliated with the
Union for Reform Judaism

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(805) 388-3824

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Internet:

TempleNerAmi.org

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Buenos Aires Cantors' Concert to Benefit Torah School

by Rabbi Michael Lotker

Because of its importance to our Torah School, and because of the amazing talents that I don't want you all to miss, I'm taking this space to remind you of this wonderful opportunity.

Saturday night, January 15th at 7:30PM,

we will have two wonderful cantors from

Buenos Aires join us for a concert with all net proceeds going to our Torah School.

Sonia and I have seen these Cantors lead services in California and Buenos Aires and we attended a concert of theirs some two years ago.

They are talented, funny and entertaining (and married to each other). We adore them!

Cantors Diego Rubinsztein

and Alejandra Levi are among the pioneers of Jewish renewal in prayer through music in South America. Rubinsztein is a composer, pianist and recording artist, as well as the cantor of Libertad synagogue, the oldest and most traditional synagogue in Buenos Aires.

Levi works for the Schlichei Tzibur Institute and Libertad synagogue in the Argentine capital, and is also the director of the Zimra Musical Institute. The two cantors have performed throughout the world, from New York and Miami to Brazil, Uruguay and Israel. Their latest CD is "Paths".



Jewish prayer in Argentina has a very particular musical sound and emotion. "We are always trying to create different spiritual moments," said Rubinsztein. "For that, we use a lot of melodies and styles." Cadences, rhythms and moods utilized by the two singers range from Hasidic melodies, Sephardic tunes and spirituals to lyric-free meditations — all with a

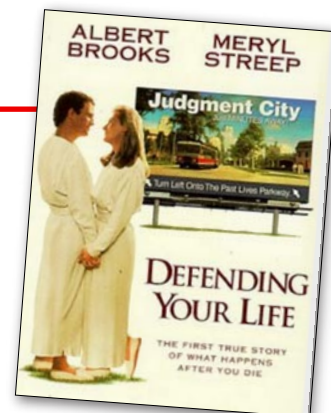
Latin flavor. "Our idea about *t'fila* (prayer) is to always pray in community," said Rubinsztein. "That's why in our congregation, we're a lot of cantors, singing and leading the service together."

In our everyday lives, we don't always take advantage of unique moments and opportunities. The religious experience is, sadly, something we often don't mind

skipping. But there are moments that shouldn't be missed. On January 15th, we have a one-of-a-kind opportunity. Let's embrace it. Come see, hear and be part of an uplifting experience. The music of these two Latin cantors is sure to leave you with joy and spirit in your hearts.

Suggested donation is \$25 for adults, \$18 for kids. A scrumptious dessert reception will follow the program. The concert will include both prayers from the liturgy and popular Yiddish and Sephardic music. Call the Temple for tickets.

Chinese Dinner & a Movie
December 25th 6:00 pm
Tickets only \$10 includes Chinese Dinner!
Reservations Required! Call 388-3824





Cheder Happenings

by Julia Newman

I would like to invite and encourage all of you to attend the monthly Shabbat services led by the Torah School students. You don't have to have a child or grandchild in the class. The services are well-conducted and the programs are always

interesting, educational, fun and inspirational. I hope to see more of you in the future. It would be a great support to our kids and teachers—more importantly I truly believe you will enjoy attending.

December's Family Shabbat service was led by the 6th Grade class. The students include: *Lindsay Goltz, Alyssa Greenblatt, Samantha Jamieson, Eric Saleh, Samantha Shapiro, Ryan Spitzer* and *Matthew Treitman*. The 6th Grade has three teachers. *Cantor Karen Dworsky* works with the students on Hebrew and prayers. *Saul Lessler* studies Torah with them, leading discussions about the meaning of each week's Torah portion. *Jeffrey Lee Steinberg* leads a variety of activities related to Judaic Literacy, everything from what it means to be Jewish to making daily decisions based on our own Jewish values.

Based on their weekly discussions of Torah & values, the students' program focused on some of these issues: when a white lie may be okay, what are the consequences of deceit and whether or not we should struggle with our concept of G-d.

A highlight of December was the Junior Youth Group's Fall outing to Sky High Jump—an in-door trampoline center in Camarillo. 4th & 5th Graders joined the middle school students. We had 35 kids attending along with JYG leaders and several parents.

Camp Kadimah-Hanukah was the best ever!! We made latkes, played Maccabee games and dreidel. After November's visit to the candle factory, we decided to make our own candles of beeswax. The timing was perfect as each child was able to make 9 candles to light on the last night of Hanukah.

Winter vacation will begin on December 20th and continue through January 4th. Torah School will resume on Wednesday, January 5th.

We wish you all a Happy and Healthy New Year. See you in 2011!

Dedicated Beth Shalom Lawn Section



Beth Shalom

Many years ago, the Jewish Community celebrated the dedication of *Beth Shalom*, a special area of 800 spaces set apart to honor Jewish traditions and remember those we've lost.

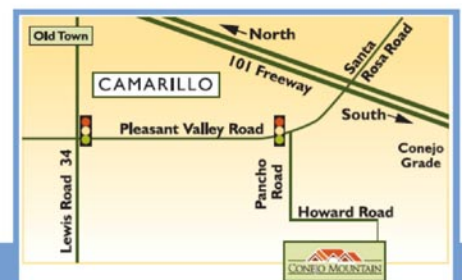
Today, *Beth Shalom* is nearing full capacity. There is still time to secure your prearrangement property before the opportunity is gone and before year end cost increases.



Trust our professional staff to handle all the details with respect and tradition. Alan Ducker, Advance Planning Specialist, direct: 805-258-3697



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www.templenerami.org

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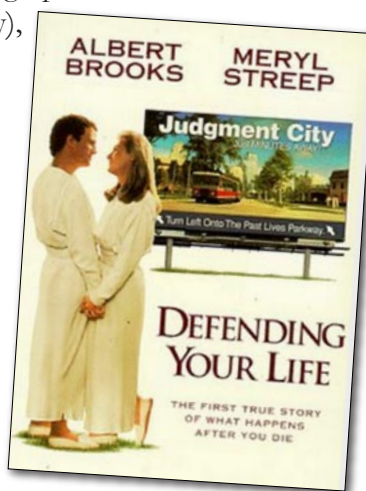
Traditional Christmas for Jews – *Chinese and a Movie!*

by Rabbi Mike Lotker

When I was a boy (am I really saying these words? *Oy veh!*) growing up in the Old Country (New York City), all of the stores, restaurants, and entertainment venues were closed on Christmas day – with the important exceptions of Chinese restaurants and movie theaters. So what was a nice Jewish family to do on Christmas night? Go out to eat Chinese food and then take in a movie!

We are reviving this “sacred” tradition at Temple Ner Ami. So here’s the plan:

- We will gather on Saturday night, Dec. 25 at 6PM at the Temple for *Havdalah*, a *motzje* and Chinese food (I bet that sentence has never before appeared in print!).
- The suggested donation is \$10 per person and we will make all the complex choices from Column A, Column B, egg roll soup and even Jewish fortune cookies (here’s an example: “You will meet a real *mench* - tall, dark, and calls his mother every day!”).



- After this sumptuous feast, we will adjourn to our theater for a showing of *Defending Your Life*, a 1991 PG rated, romantic comedy/fantasy film about a man who must justify his life-long lack of assertiveness after he dies and arrives in the afterlife. The film was written and directed by, and stars Albert Brooks. It also stars Meryl Streep, Rip Torn and Lee Grant. Shirley MacLaine has a cameo appearance as herself, acting as the holographic host of the “Past Lives Pavilion”, a reference to her publicly known belief in reincarnation. The movie was filmed entirely in and around Los Angeles, California. Despite its comedic overtones, *Defending Your Life* contains elements of drama and allegory.
- Please RSVP so we know how much *Kung Pao* and *Moo Shoo* to order (sorry, no pork or shell fish to be served). Please call the Temple [805-388-3824] and pay at the door (or in advance if you insist).

Israel Trip Deadline!

Interest in and enthusiasm for our Israel trip is growing and several of you have already sent in your deposits. The trip will take place from May 18-29, 2011, and, based on our current registrants, will be especially focused on the interests, needs and capabilities of seniors. So you have no excuse! Sign up today! For more information, call the office or check the Temple’s website, www.templenerami.org and click on our Israel Trip page.

SIGN-UP DEADLINE: DEC. 31ST



It's a Mitzvah! - by Julia Newman

In our Reform Jewish tradition, the performance of ethical mitzvot, ones that help others, are greater in importance than that of ones that are simply ritual in nature. Therefore as part of the preparation for their Bar or Bat Mitzvah, we ask our students to do a Mitzvah project.

Each month this column will feature write-ups on projects that have been completed or ones that are in progress and need your help. This month we are featuring three B'not Mitzvah who are collecting a variety of items.

Sophie Elliott - Baby Blankets for the NICU (Neonatal Intensive Care Unit)



For my Mitzvah Project I have decided to collect and make baby blankets. I will be donating the blankets to the NICU at Los Robles Hospital. If anyone would like to help me, I would be happy to accept hand-made baby blankets of any type (fleece, flannel, knit, or crochet), fleece in baby prints or cash donations towards materials.

I have chosen baby blankets for the NICU because when my brother was born, he was in the NICU for the first three months of his life, so I know this will mean something, not only to my parents, but to the parents with their babies there too.

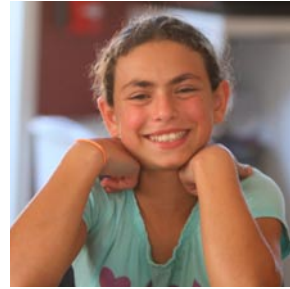
Emily Henderson – Luggage of Love



Casa Pacifica Centers for Children & Families serves abused, neglected and at risk children from the San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara and Ventura Counties of Southern California. Emily is working with Casa Pacifica for her Mitzvah Project. She is enthusiastically collecting new and gently used luggage or duffle bags

for the children at Casa Pacifica who are experiencing traumatic transitions in their lives. These children often travel with all their possessions in plastic bags. This Luggage for Love project allows them to face these transitory experiences with dignity. Your participation will positively affect a child for a lifetime. Please bring your donations to Temple Ner Ami.

Shoshanah Steinberg – Helping People with Macular Degeneration



My Mitzvah Project is collecting various items that help those who have macular degeneration. I chose a project that is very close to me. Macular Degeneration is an incurable

progressive eye disease that runs in my family. I will be donating all of these items to The Jewish Heritage For The Blind and The Association of Americans and Canadians in Israel's Cohen Library for the Visually Impaired & Homebound.

If you would like to join me in helping those with macular degeneration, please feel free to donate any of the following:

- Large print books, audio-books on tape and CD, music recordings on tape and CD
- Eyeglasses, sunglasses, and magnifying glasses
- Large font and buttoned remote controls, keyboards, telephones, and other household devices
- Talking clocks, watches, caller ID, health devices (i.e.: blood-pressure monitors and blood-sugar monitors), and other talking items
- Large print playing cards, games, and other sources of entertainment
- High wattage lamps, lights, and bulbs
- Any other visual aids and/or devices
- Monetary donations for my newly established "The Better Vision for Macular Degeneration Fund," to purchase items from the list above.

Basketball returns to Ner Ami



A special **THANK YOU** to John Kervien for coming to the Temple and replacing our broken basketball backboard. Our Torah School students use it almost every day, and they are once again playing basketball at the Temple. The previous backboard was made of clear plexiglas. The sun's UV rays had taken a toll on it, causing it get brittle and it had begun to break into pieces. The new one is made of a composite material and should last a lot longer.



Table of One - by Dan Harris, President

Dear Friends,

Two years ago, Congregation of Israel marked its 130th year.

Last year, the synagogue cancelled its High Holy Day services because there was

only one person who would attend.

I called and spoke with the last active member, Marc Scher. Marc's like many of us -- a husband, a father, the owner of a family business. Type "Scher's Bridal" on 140 Market Street, Pokomoke City, Maryland in Google Maps and you'll see his storefront, or go to his Facebook page and you'll see him standing with his wife and three daughters in front of Disneyworld.

Marc told me they might sell the temple building (purchased in 1947) not because they need the money, but because there's just nothing to do anymore, no Jewish community to serve. The older generations have died and the younger ones "kind of just left along the way." The saddest thing, Marc told me, is that he doesn't know what to do with the prayer books, Torah scrolls, and Yartzeit boards. "I see the names of my family and friends, my grandparents and people I love," Marc reminisced. "I just don't want them to end up in somebody's forgotten, dusty attic or crawlspace, you know?"

If that happened at Congregation of Israel -- a synagogue founded not long after the Civil War ended -- could it happen here?

Yes, it could happen. No community, however longstanding, is immune from change and even the threat of extinction. Relevance and permanence are not granted. They are certainly not guaranteed, even if once earned.

But these things happen only if we let them happen. It's a choice we make individually and collectively.

Your temple Board has chosen to work hard to create new opportunities for growth, and thereby strengthen its ties to our Jewish community here in western Ventura County. We each have decided to do everything we can to ensure:

- we have a temple building for our worship;
- we have rabbis to lead and inspire us;
- we have a religious school to teach our children;
- we have a modern, robust website, since the future is now;
- we have a library and adult educational opportunities to deepen our appreciation of Judaism;
- we have life cycle events -- baby namings, b'nai mitzvot, weddings, funerals, and all the Jewish holidays celebrated throughout the millennia.



This is a stark clarion call. Meeting our annual budget expenses -- even

the emergency status reduced level of funding for our rabbinical salaries -- depends directly and immediately on our ongoing fundraising efforts. For this organization to survive, let alone thrive, we must all act now on our own behalf.

None of us would want to drive down Lewis Road, cast a sidelong glance at our *Temple on Temple*, and think about what should have been. None of us would want to ponder what to do with our Yartzeit boards.

Indifference kills. Your personal commitment to consistent action is the only thing that sustains this community. Each of us must now provide our fullest measure of financial, intellectual, and emotional energies Temple Ner Ami deserves. It's our responsibility. It's our privilege.

Call me directly and confidentially now. I pledge my personal efforts to help guide your expressions of love and commitment into specific, pleasurable, simple, lasting benefits for our Temple on Temple: (805) 504-5976.

Sisterhood News

Please save Saturday evening, January 15, as we are planning a major fundraiser to support our Torah School. It is a very special evening of entertainment for you!

Appearing at our Temple will be two wonderful Cantors from Buenos Aires, Argentina, who are talented, funny, entertaining and also married to each other.

This will be a highlight of the new year that you will not want to miss! Did we mention dreamy desserts will be served? At \$25.00 per adult ticket, & \$18.00 for a child's ticket, including dessert...how can you go wrong? (Please try and use a check or cash.) Tickets are available at the Temple.

The first 60 people to purchase their tickets will be given 10 free raffle tickets for a chance to win great gift baskets! Raffle tickets can be purchased at the Concert. Bring your friends.

Our Goal is to fill the 200 seats in the Temple and you can help by being there!

A healthy new year,
Sonia Lotker & Shari Brody
Sisterhood Co-Presidents



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Kaila Kaden
General Manager



FINALS! **by Student Rabbi Lisa Bock**

If you're a student, "finals" is likely a familiar term. If you're out of school, it may just be a distant memory. Well, for me, your Student Rabbi, it is "finals". So much of my attention is on final exams and papers.

What does a Rabbinic Student study? Well, one exam is for my Fifth year Hebrew class, and in this class we translate *Midrashim*, which are stories which offer explanations of Biblical texts, and connections between texts, some of them rather obscure. And, they're written in a modified Hebrew, in a Hebrew which has been influenced by Aramaic, the 'lingua franca' of the time. Though the basic Hebrew roots are familiar, the writings are just different enough to be a challenge – to me, at

least. We also translate *Mishnah*, *Gemara*, sections of *Pirke Avot* which is in the *Mishnah*; and we'll do much more.

What else? Well, this year I have studied Zionism and the Arab-Israeli Conflict, Lifecycle Events, Talmud, Synagogue Management, and Liturgy.

So that's a brief synopsis of what I'm up to – brief, after all, as I need to get my final papers written!

May the secular new year be a good one for all of us, with health and goodness, and an abundance of grace and peace.

Blessings,
Student Rabbi Lisa Bock



Torah School Candle Factory Tour

Thank You
Allyson Williams for the photos!





SACRED STORIES OF HOLY OBJECTS

“The Pushke” by Shlomo Kreitzer

Not until I was an adult did I really understand what a “*pushke*” was, or what it meant from the point of view of tradition, politics, and humanity.

As a youngster, I believed all Jewish families had a small blue metal “charity” box in their house. I assumed that, like me, every Jewish child heard, “Put 18 cents in the *pushke*,” thousands of times.

Whenever anything good happened -- arriving safely after a trip; recovering from an illness; or even such events as getting a good grade, having a good week, receiving an award or special recognition or even finding a bargain -- all these were reasons to “Put 18 cents in the *pushke*.” I didn’t know why we did it. Was it religious, charitable, or magical? Whatever it was, it was our Jewish tradition.

For us as children, it was a moment of recognizing that our life was good; that we should manifest our gratitude some way. But why “Eighteen cents?” For us children, “Eighteen-cents-in-the-*pushke*” was an act of affirming life and our personal good fortune. Only later, did I learn that the Hebrew characters that represent the numbers for 18 also spell the word Hebrew word *chai*, life.

For my parents, however, who had a Jewish world view, this act was something much larger. It was an obligatory contribution to, and for, others. It was an investment in the future, specifically, in a cause to help Jews all over the world. It was a manifestation of the Jewish tradition of *Tikkun Olam*, making the world a better place.

When I was in college, I finally questioned, why a blue, locked, metal box? I read what the box said. Jewish National Fund (“JNF”). Our current *pushke* says, “Jewish National Fund is the caretaker of the land of Israel, on behalf of its owners - Jewish people everywhere.” (Sadly, my original, well-used, *pushke* has disappeared.)



For over 100 years, people have contributed money to the JNF to support its efforts to purchase land, drain swamps, plant forests, build roads and create water supplies in the Holy Land. This was the dream of reclaiming a desert and recreating a “homeland” to which displaced or exiled Jews could go and live in safety.

I wonder sometimes, how did thousands of Jewish immigrants, like my parents, foresee that, 18 cents at a time, one *pushke* at a time, they could change the world? Specifically, that they could save lives and make a legitimate place for homeless Jews in the ’30’s and ’40’s, which then ultimately culminated in the State of Israel in 1948.

My wife and I contribute to other Jewish causes, usually by check. However, we also have a blue metal box in our home. We try to use it frequently and before *Shabbat*. We like the familiar sound of coins dropping into our *pushke* . . . as I remember from over 60 years ago. That’s our family tradition.

**** Editor’s Note:** This story is an apt reminder inviting us to - in light of recent fires - send money to help re-plant and support the forests in Israel. Classic JNF “Pushkes” are available for free here in the Temple Offices and lovely heirloom “Pushkes” are available for sale in our beautiful new Gift Shop.

WE WANT TO KNOW YOUR STORIES!

What were your traditions when you were young? Is there any special tradition that you observe presently that started in your parents’ or grandparents’ home? Do you have any Jewish memorabilia more than 30, 50, 70, 100 years old? Do you have anything Jewish given to you by your parents or grandparents?

Sharing your special experiences enhances everyone who hears your story, and telling stories of those who have passed is a blessing and keeps our loved ones’ memories alive. Please share your special stories with your community through this column.

Send your article by the 5th of the month to Kaila Kaden, our Accountant at accounting@templenerami.org or call Kaila in our temple office to tell your story, and she will write it up for you. Claim your 15 minutes of fame and tell your story in next month’s Megillah. It’s a *mitzvah*!

The Temple Gratefully Acknowledges the Following Contributions

Annual Giving Campaign

An anonymous donor made a very generous donation

Naomi Brill

Gary Goltz

Honorariums/Memorials

Fred & Lyn Mesirov - In honor of Dr. Sonny Feingold's Granddaughter born September 6th.

Kenneth & Frieda Bahr: In Honor of Shoshana Steinberg's Bat Mitzvah

Gilbert R. & Rita D. Cooperman: In Loving Memory of Gilbert's Father, Samuel Cooperman

Dr. Israel Feingold: In Loving Memory of Clarice's Mother, Mary Diamon

Max & Josephine Freifield: In Loving Memory of Josephine's Mother, Louise Perantoni

Raye Gabriel: Oneg Sponsorship in honor of (her own) Raye Gabriel's B'day

Sharon Green: In Loving Memory of her Mother, Florence Koenig

Marvin Krantz: In Loving Memory of Natalie Krantz

Len & Jill Polan: In Loving Memory of Isidore Polan and Sydney Spellman

Stanley & Loretta Reshes: In Loving Memory of Mark Gerson, Godson of Loretta & Stan Reshes

Betty Stallman: In Loving Memory of Betty's father, Morris Stolman

Jack & Marlene Votion: In Loving Memory of Marlene's Mother, Bernice Persky

Lee Edwards: Oneg Sponsorship on Dec. 17, In Loving Memory of Husband Jim & Lee's 87th birthday

Bettina Stallman, In Loving Memory of her Brother, Jack Stolman

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Paul & Tobie Treitman

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Dale & Roberta Jacobs: Ken Bahr Fundraiser

Kirby & Beth Yale: In Honor of Saul Lessler & Julia Newman's Anniversary

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

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In Honor of Lessler/Newman 20th Anniversary from the Pierce, Kuznets, & Bennett Families

Verna Merrin: In Loving Memory of her mother, Anne Borovoy

TS Principal's Chair

Cantor Karen Dworsky: Ken Bahr Fundraiser

Saul Lessler & Julia Newman: Ken Bahr Fundraiser

Dr. Gary Lieb & Dr. Cathy Kim: Ken Bahr Fundraiser

Alan Levy



Book Group for Eager Readers

We plan to meet on the **Second Tuesday** of each month at 10:30 a.m. in the Temple Library. Our first gathering will be on 1-11-11 (an easy date to remember!). Each member will take a turn choosing a paperback book for the group discussion. Temple membership is not required. For more details call Jean Shev at 484-8106. Come join us!

JOIN TEMPLE NER AMI'S

VISIT TO

ISRAEL

Led by

RABBI MICHAEL LOTKER

MAY 18 – 29, 2011



HIGHLIGHTS

- ◆ 1 Shabbat in Tel Aviv & 1 Shabbat in Jerusalem.
- ◆ Palmach Museum.
- ◆ Independence Hall.
- ◆ Secret underground munitions factory.
- ◆ Tour ancient port of Jaffa.
- ◆ Roam through Caesarea.
- ◆ Zippori – see mosaic 'Mona Lisa of the Galilee'.
- ◆ Walk through Tel Dan where Rabbi Mike excavated!
- ◆ Visit IDF base on Golan Heights (*pending military's authority*).
- ◆ Have a tasting at the Golan Heights Winery.
- ◆ Browse through mystical city of Safed.
- ◆ Tour Old City of Jerusalem – Jewish & Christian Quarters.
- ◆ Tunnel along Kotel (Western Wall).
- ◆ Yad Vashem – Holocaust Museum & Memorial.
- ◆ Dead Sea Area including Masada.
- ◆ Plant a tree sapling in the hills of Jerusalem.
- ◆ Pay respects at Har Herzl – Israel's military cemetery.
- ◆ Ride a camel and have dinner in the "Land of Genesis".

AND MUCH, MUCH MORE!

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Per person sharing a Double Room:

20 – 24 participants: \$2,589
25 – 29 participants: \$2,479
30 – 34 participants: \$2,421
35 – 39 participants: \$2,338
Single Supplement: \$ 875

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TODAH RABBAH Means Thank You!

Message from Naomi Brill, Oneg Chair

We had some wonderful celebrations during the month of December. I want to thank the generous people who helped make our Onegs so pleasant.

On December 3, the Steinberg family honored their daughter, **Shoshana Steinberg**, whose *Bat Mitzvah* took place on Saturday, December 4, by sponsoring the Oneg. The Sisterhood of Temple Ner Ami, ably assisted by **Arla Crane, Ann Burke, Shari Brody and Naomi Brill**, also contributed to a most beautiful Oneg. Chanukah cookies, a cake and the traditional jelly donuts were enjoyed by all.

On December 10, **Carole Westwood** sponsored the Oneg in honor of her grandson, **Griffin D'Inca**, who was having a *Bar Mitzvah* on December 11. The Sixth Grade Class led the service on December 10th, and their families graciously also helped with this Oneg.

On December 17, we were honored by having three sponsors celebrating very important events in their lives. They were **Dr. Paul and Tobie Treitman** who were celebrating their 57th wedding anniversary and Tobie's birthday. Also, **Lee Edwards** was a sponsor in memory



of her husband, **Jim Edwards**, and Lee's birthday. And thirdly, **Marlene Votion** took part as a sponsor in memory of her mother, **Bernice Persky**.

On December 24th **Sharon Green** sponsored the Oneg in memory of her mother, **Florence Koenig**.

I want to express my thanks and appreciation to these gracious and generous members who helped make the Onegs as pleasant as they are. I encourage all members to join in and help us continue to prepare and serve beautiful and delicious Onegs. Please call me when you would like to participate in this meaningful way to help your Temple.

Please call me if you would like to honor a loved one this way or to celebrate a Simcha by sponsoring an Oneg. I am most willing and happy to explain the procedure and how you can do this. My phone number is (805) 388-8511. Thank you for your consideration.

GOT MEDICARE?

YOUR OPEN ENROLLMENT PERIOD BEGINS NOVEMBER 15 THRU DECEMBER 31

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The Art of Communication

By Arlene Cohen, Marriage & Family Therapist

New Year. Blank slate. Fresh start. Communication. 365 days to practice the Art of Communication.

1. THERE IS MORE TO COMMUNICATION THAN JUST THE SPOKEN WORD.

Communication includes many different things: facial expressions; voice intonation; and body language. Be aware of all of these when you are communicating with another person(s).

2. IT TAKES AT LEAST TWO PEOPLE TO HAVE A CONVERSATION

Even if you are communicating with G-d, you're not in this alone. As you want to be heard, it's important to hear the person you are speaking with. There are always at least two sides to every story; don't just talk and not listen.

3. TAKE RESPONSIBILITY FOR YOUR WORDS, THOUGHTS AND ACTIONS

If you are aware that you have said or done something that has hurt or harmed another person, approach that person and seek forgiveness. Our High Holiday prayer book (Gates of Repentance) states that ... "for transgressions against G-d, the Day of Atonement atones; but for transgressions of one human being against

another, the Day of Atonement does not atone until they have made peace with another." You don't have to wait until the Day of Atonement in order to take responsibility for your words, thoughts, and actions; seize every day as a new opportunity to be your best self.

If you are angry at what you believe another said or did to you, take responsibility and approach the person. People are not always aware that their words, thoughts or actions may have offended; give them an opportunity to take responsibility and apologize. Misplaced angers turn to resentments turn into ruined relationships.

4. DO NOT ASSUME THE WORST

This basically sums up the above three items. Every day we are given a fresh opportunity to "set the record straight" and to be our best self. If you do your very best to be your "authentic self" and communicate directly and honestly, you show respect for both yourself and the other person(s) in your life.

In Judaism we say... "do not do unto another what you find offensive to yourself." Make every day an opportunity to practice the Art of Communication.

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TEMPLE NER AMI

Start the New Year off right! Come hear the world famous cantors Diego Rubinsztein & Alejandra Levi perform.



The Sisterhood of Temple Ner Ami will host The Buenos Aires Cantors' Concert

Saturday, January 15, 2011

Havdalah Service 6:45 P.M. - Concert starts 7:00 P.M.

Tickets Now on Sale: \$25 for Adults, \$18.00 children

*This program is open to the entire community.
Reservations are a must.*

EARLY BIRD BONUS: First 60 people will receive 10 free raffle tickets with each ticket purchased)

Send in this form with your check payable to Temple Ner Ami.

Mail to: Temple Ner Ami - Concert Tickets, 515 Temple Avenue, Camarillo 93010

Name(s) _____

Number of adults @ \$25 _____ Number of Children @ \$18. _____

Total enclosed \$ _____

Proceeds from the concert will benefit The Torah School of Temple Ner Ami.

For further information call the Temple Office, 805 388-3824.



Library News

by Phyllis Mandel

The Temple Library Needs Your Help!

Our bookcases are starting to show their age (*in direct contrast to our librarian Phyllis-ed.*). Shelves are sagging from the weight of the books. Being made of particle board they are designed for fairly light duty. Each unit has only four shelves, resulting in a lot of wasted space between the shelves. I have packed as many books as I can onto the shelves we have, but we're almost out of room. Unless they are replaced, we will not be able to continue to grow our library much longer.

I would like to purchase sturdy oak bookcases that are taller and have 6 shelves (like the ones the church has). We need donations to purchase 10 of them at about \$180 each. If you are interested in supporting our Library with a donation, please contact me via the Temple office for more details!

Paul Dwork's Hanukkah Magic Show



Congratulations
Shoshana Steinberg
on your Bat Mitzvah

Photos courtesy of Ken Bahr,
In Focus Photography & Video

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

Jeffrey Felder	Sunday	January 2	Charlotte Kreitzer	Tuesday	January 18
Kaila Kaden	Sunday	January 2	Bernard Scherer	Wednesday	January 19
Marty Simons	Tuesday	January 4	Josephine Freifield	Thursday	January 20
Brad Cabelli	Wednesday	January 5	Janice Wise	Thursday	January 20
Clarice Shapiro	Thursday	January 6	Jim Keys	Sunday	January 23
Aaron Dvoretzky	Friday	January 7	Kenneth J. Laskey	Wednesday	January 26
Betty Fink	Friday	January 7	Jack S. Perr	Wednesday	January 26
Bonnie Shubb	Friday	January 7	Paul P. Keys	Thursday	January 27
Jodi Spitzer	Sunday	January 9	Leonard Lowenschuss	Sunday	January 30
Dr. Cathy Kim	Monday	January 10	Leatrice Posner	Monday	January 31
Paula-Jeanne Feinberg	Thursday	January 13			
Doris Weinberg	Saturday	January 15			
David Gaynor	Tuesday	January 18			

** This table is based on Temple records. If your information is missing or in error, please contact the Temple office.*

Gift Shop News by Claire Goldstein

Chanukah was successful at our little GIFT SHOP this year. Many members purchased new Menorahs, and candles for those you already had. **The 20% off sale on Chanukah items and jewelry will continue through January**, when I will be buying new Merchandise.

Don't forget we now have Temple Ner Ami logo necklaces, earrings, and tie tacs (see below).

All the **greeting cards** are unpacked and are on display in the GIFT SHOP.

If you are unable to address and mail a card you purchase Kaila will be happy to do it for the price of the stamp.

SUPPORT YOUR
TEMPLE GIFT SHOP





eSCRIP = Free Money for Our Torah School

Did you know that our Torah School can earn money from each of your credit or debit cards (or your Vons card), at no charge to you?

All you have to do is go to www.escrip.com and register, designating our Torah School as the recipient and we will receive FREE MONEY from your very simple good deed. That's right, free money. No charge to you, but a nice little boost for us! A small effort on your part can make a LASTING and SIGNIFICANT difference for our School.

Please don't be shy - be sure to ask your friends and family to sign up too and they can support our school as well, even if they are not temple members, no matter where they live! What a great way to start your new year off - by doing a MITZVAH for our Torah

School! If you have questions, please contact Kaila Kaden on Tuesday or Wednesday afternoons in our Accounting office.




Daniel Newman Lessler



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JANUARY ANNIVERSARIES

Aaron & Selma Weiss	Saturday	1/1/2011	67th anniversary
Jeffrey & Elinore Felder	Sunday	1/2/2011	32nd anniversary
Robert M. & Joyce A. Brown	Tuesday	1/4/2011	64th anniversary
Robert & Kathy Sacks	Thursday	1/6/2011	31st anniversary
Sanford & Bernice Garfield	Wednesday	1/26/2011	64th anniversary
Arnold & Shelley Heirshberg	Saturday	1/29/2011	44th anniversary
Robert & Tammie Kadin	Monday	1/31/2011	25th anniversary

* Listings are based on Temple records. If your info is missing or in error, please call the Temple office.

TEMPLE NER AMI

Yahrzeits - January 2010

Friday, January 7, 2011

Calman Rosenkranz.....husband of Muriel Rosenkranz
Lida Goodwin.....mother-in-law of Sandra Goodwin
Lillian Applebaum.....grandmother of Howard Wise
Frances Levin..... mother of Richard Levin
Debora Brooks.....mother of Gloria Brodie
Selma Grossberg.....mother of Susan Weinstein
Pauline Blonsky.....mother of Madelyn Miller
David Goldstein.....son of Bill and Claire Goldstein
Jack. Rosenberg brother of Sheila Bachelis
David Schectman.....father of Phyllis Mandel
Kara Treitman.....granddaughter of Paul & Tobie
Treitman
Ida Pallitz.....mother of Fayrose Gordon
Otto Goldberg.....father of Mildred Seidler
Yankel Kirschenbaumgrandfather of Alec Kurman
Leah C. Rubinstein.....mother of Raja Desenberg

Friday, January 14, 2011

Norman Newman**..... father of Julia Newman
Shelly Richter.....mother of Marla Lindsay
Melville H. Weiss.....brother of Julian L. Weiss
Samuel Zimmerman.....father of Rita Cooperman
Max Fingold.....husband of Florence Fingold
Lou Fratkin.....uncle of Arlene Cohen
Gertrude Weiss.....mother of Julian Weiss
Abe Siegel.....father of Ellie Felder
John Griffith Mauger.....father of Charlotte Kreitzer
Philip Bachelis.....husband of Sheila Bachelis
Sonny Gompers.....mother of Frieda Davenport
Bella Isaacs.....mother of David Isaacs
Al Simons.....father of Marty Simons
Ethel Weinberg..... mother-in-law of Doris Weinberg

Friday, January 21, 2011

Ida Marshack.....mother-in-law of Marvin Krantz
Reda Necowitz.....mother of Sidney Necowitz
Arline Strull.....grandmother of Vicky Eneberg
Stanley Weinstein.....father of Vicky Eneberg
Max Katler.....father of Richard Katler
Dorothy Wolfman.....grandmother of Steve Pomerantz
Dorothy Redman.....grandmother of Sarah Scheerger
Frances Sterin.....aunt of Arlene Cohen
Irving Bogen.....father of Michael Bogen
Ruth Faircloth.....sister of Helen Gardner
Abraham Weinberg..... father-in-law of Doris Weinberg
Gertrude Selbert.....mother of Norman Selbert
Grace Cohen.....mother of Arlene Cohen
Solie Cohen.....uncle of Dr. Robert Improta
Sarah Copeland..... grandmother of Sandra Goodwin

Friday, January 28, 2011

Harriet Bookbinder.....mother of Helene Scherer
Arthur Heller.....brother of Max Heller
Joseph Jacobson.....grandfather of Shari Brody
Charles Marcus.....father of Naomi Brill
Pesia Shligersky.....mother of Sara Shye
Anna Nadler.....mother of Clarice Shapiro
Ruth Perr.....mother of Jack Perr
Clarice Feingold.....wife of Israel Feingold
Lena Saul.....mother of Florence Fingold
Susan Oberstar.....granddaughter of Lorraine Weingardt
Seweryn Piasecki.....brother of Charles Pierce
Wendy Hamburg.....sister of Lisa Alberstone

* Deceased Member

** Name on the Yolanda Cramer Memorial *Yahrzeit* Board

The Temple's *Yahrzeit* Board has spaces available for remembering loved ones who have passed away. The requested donation for memorial plaques on the *Yahrzeit* Board is \$350.00 per plaque.

Baby Blanket Mitzvah Project

by *Sophie Elliot*



Hi, my name is Sophie Elliott. I will become *Bat Mitzvah* this coming February. For my Mitzvah Project I have decided to collect and make baby blankets. I'll be donating the blankets to the **NICU at Los Robles Hospital**. If anyone would like to help me, I would be happy to accept hand-made baby blankets of any type (fleece, flannel, knit, or crochet), fleece in baby prints or cash donations towards materials. I have chosen baby blankets for the NICU because when my brother was born, he was in the NICU for the first three months of his life. So I know this will mean something, not only to my parents, but to the parents of babies there too.

Please drop off donations of baby blankets or fleece in the box in the lobby. I can also be reached via eMail at: sophieelliott@verizon.net.

TORAH SCHOOL SESSIONS & EVENTS

JANUARY

- 3 **NO SCHOOL** Winter Vacation
- 5 Regular session
- 10 Regular session
- 12 Regular session
- 17 **NO SCHOOL - MLK Holiday**
- 19 Regular session + Camp Kadimah
Tu B'Shevat
- 22 **B'nai Mitzvah Family Education**
(Saturday – 9:30-12:30)
- 23 **JOLT – Tu B'shevat Hike (Sunday)**
- 24 Regular session – Camp Kadimah –
Tu B'Shevat
Junior Youth Group 6:15 -7:30
- 26 Regular session
- 29 **Bat Mitzvah - Emily Henderson**
- 31 Regular session

FEBRUARY

- 2 Regular session
- 7 Regular session
- 9 Regular session
- 11 **Family Shabbat Service**
led by the 4th & 5th Grades (Dinner)
- 14 Regular session
- 16 Regular session
- 19 **Bat Mitzvah – Sophie Elliott**
- 21 **NO TORAH SCHOOL – President's Day**
- 23 Regular session
- 25 **Tot Shabbat Dinner & Family Program**
(5:45 – 7:15)
- 26 **B'nai Mitzvah Family Education**
(Saturday – 9:30 -12:30)
- 28 Regular session
Junior Youth Group 6:15 -7:30

Teen Connection

Ner Ami teens also went to Sky High Jump. Joined by teens from Ventura and Northridge – they had a blast!! Jumping teens included: *Lucas Burstein, Zeke Elliott Michael Fishler, Tari Kurman, Shani Levi, Alex Littana, Daniel Perr, Carly Shaul, Mitchell Weinstock* and *Jason Veselak*.

Six of our teens, accompanied by Youth Advisor, *Daniel Veselak*, attended NFTY's Fall Kallah at Camp Hess Kramer in Malibu. The intrepid campers were: *Lucas Burstein, Michael Fischler, Tari Kurman, Shani Levi, Alex Littana* and *Daniel Perr*. Thanks to Moms, *Sue Littana & Sandi Fischler* for providing the transportation.

➔ **NAUTY - New Schedule to be Announced**

➔ **Place of Our Own - 2nd & 4th Wednesdays 6:30 – 8:30**


DECEMBER

Dec. 20 – Jan. 4 – **WINTER VACATION**

JANUARY

Jan 8 - **NAUTY Golf & Stuff (Sat.)**
Jan 12 - **A Place of Our Own (Wed.)**
Jan 26 - **A Place of Our Own (Wed.)**

TEMPLE NER AMI - January 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
26 NEW DAY! 	27 4:15pm - No Torah School	28 12pm - CANCELLED: Torah- 4:15pm - No Torah School	29 12:30pm - Lunch 'N' Learn	30 12:30pm - Lunch 'N' Learn	31 New Year's Eve 6pm - Wine & Cheese 6:30pm - Shabbat Service	1 New Year's Day 9:30am - HOLIDAY - No
2 5pm - Child Storytime @	3 12:30pm - Lunch N' Learn 4:15pm - No Torah School	4 12pm - Torah-Woman's 4:15pm - Torah School	5 10am - ORT Board Meeting	6 7:30pm - Shabbat Service	7 9:30am - Torah Studv @	8
9 12:30pm - City of Hope 12:30pm - Lunch N' Learn 4:15pm - Torah School @	10	11 12pm - Torah-Woman's 4:15pm - Torah School @ 7pm - Board of Directors	12	13 7:30pm - Shabbat Service	14 9:30am - Torah Study @ 7:30pm - Cantors' Concert	15
16 Martin Luther King, Jr's Day 12:30pm - Lunch N' Learn 4:15pm - No Torah School	17	18 12pm - Torah-Woman's 4:15pm - Torah School -	19 Tu B'shevat-New Year of	20 7:30pm - Shabbat Service	21 9:30am - B'nai Mitzvah 9:30am - Torah Studv @ . MOVIE NIGHT @	22
23 9:30am - City of Hope 12:30pm - Lunch N' Learn 4:15pm - Torah School @	24	25 12pm - Torah-Woman's 4:15pm - Torah School @	26 12pm - ORT General	27 6:30pm - Tot Shabbat 7:30pm - Shabbat Service	28 9:30am - Emilv Henderson 9:30am - Torah Studv @	29
30 12:30pm - Lunch N' Learn 4:15pm - Torah School @	31	1 Groundhog Day 12pm - Torah-Woman's 4:15pm - Torah School @	2 10am - ORT Board Meeting	3 7:30pm - Shabbat Service	4 9:30am - Torah Studv @ 10am - ORT Board Meeting	5

IMPORTANT CHANGE: Rabbi Mike's Lunch N' Learn is now on Mondays!

January Outside Organizational Meetings



CITY OF HOPE - GENERAL MEETING
January 10th, 2011 - 12:30 pm
Donald Seidler - 805-987-0917 - President

CITY OF HOPE - BOARD MEETING
Monday January 24, 2011 - 9:30 AM
Donald Seidler - 805-987-0917 - President



ORT BOARD MEETING
Thursday, January 6th, 2010 - 10am
Annelies Regen - 805-445-9722

ORT General Meeting
Thursday, January 27, 2011 - 11:30 am
Annelies Regen - 805-445-9722

HADASSAH GENERAL MEETING
Now meeting at "The Center for Spiritual Living"
Natalie Rosen - Co-President 805-484-3523
Judy Meisels - Co-President 805-482-9222

NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS
Tues-Wed 7-8:15 pm,
Sat. 6:30-7:30 pm,
Sunday (Men only) 7-8 am



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For information Call 805-388-3824, or eMail your request to:
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