

## April Calendar of Events

- Mon. Apr. 2—Adult Intermediate Hebrew, 10:00am; Hebrew Practice & Review, 7:30pm
- Tues. Apr. 3—Religious School, 4:00pm; Board Meeting, 7:30pm; Show Rehearsal, 7:30pm
- Thurs. Apr. 5—Religious School closed; Pirke Avot Class #5, 7:30pm
- Fri. Apr. 6—First Seder: Kabbalat Service, 4:15pm [Note special time]
- Sat. Apr. 7—Passover Morning Service, 10:30am; Second Seder at Temple Isaiah, 6:30pm (Reservations required)
- Mon. Apr. 9—Adult Intermediate Hebrew, 10:00am; Lunch & Learn at Temple Isaiah, 11:30am
- Tues. Apr. 10—Religious School closed; Show Rehearsal 7:30pm
- Thurs. Apr. 12—Religious School closed; Adult Bar/Bat Mitzvah Class, 6:30pm; Pirke Avot Class#6, 7:30
- Fri. Apr. 13—Yizkor, 10:30am; Shabbat Service, 8:00pm
- Sat. Apr. 14—Torah Study & Service, 9:30am; Cantillation Class, 11:00am
- Mon. Apr. 16—Adult Intermediate Hebrew, 10:00am; Hebrew Practice & Review, 7:30pm
- Tues. Apr. 17—Religious School, 4:00pm; Adult Education with County Legislator Judi Bosworth, 8:00pm
- Wed. Apr. 18—Erev Yom Hashoah
- Thurs. Apr. 19—Yom Hashoah; Religious School, 4:00pm; Adult Bar/Bat Mitzvah Class, 6:30pm; Show Rehearsal, 7:30pm
- Fri. Apr. 20—Service of Renewal & Wholeness, 7:15pm; Shabbat Service, 8:00pm (Yom Hashoah Observance)
- Sat. Apr. 21—Torah Study & Service, 9:30am; Cantillation Class, 11:00am
- Mon. Apr. 23—Adult Intermediate Hebrew, 10:00am
- Tues. Apr. 24—Religious School, 4:00pm (early dismissal); Show rehearsal, 7:30pm
- Thurs. Apr. 26—Religious School, 4:00pm; Rabbi's Class: "Introduction to Jewish Philosophy I" #1, 7:30pm
- Fri. Apr. 27—Kabbalat Shabbat, 6:15pm
- Sat. Apr. 28—Torah Study and Service, 9:30am
- Mon. Apr. 30—Adult Intermediate Hebrew, 10:00am

### Save the Dates

Saturday, May 5th: Adult Bar/Bat Mitzvah  
 Wednesday, May 9th: Congregational Meeting  
 Thursday, May 17th: Journal/Dinner  
 June 23rd & 24th: Temple Isaiah Show "My Fair Sadie"

## TEMPLE ISIAH'S ANNUAL SECOND NIGHT SEDER SATURDAY, APRIL 7, 6:30PM

**MAKE YOUR  
 RESERVATIONS NOW  
 487-5373**



*Save The Date*  
 Thursday, May 17th  
 Journal/Dinner  
 Honoring  
 Alisa & Martin Secofsky

Please Start Collecting  
 Your Journal Ads Now  
 (Ad form on Page 7)

## **RABBI'S COLUMN**

### ***Mochin d'Katnut vs Mochin d'Gadlut:***

### **Narrow vs Expanded Consciousness – How We Look at the World**

The other day I was taking something heavy out of the car and I banged my knee as I entered the house. My reaction was far from rabbinic: “Damn!” I shouted without thinking. As the pain began to peak, I felt as though the entire universe had conspired against me to cause me personal harm. My anger flared. The litany of outrage, unspoken but heart felt, went something like this: “That’s not fair! Why do bad things like this happen? WHY ME?!!” This entire war within me lasted less than 3 seconds as the pain ebbed, but while it lasted, it was intense. Every time we instinctively (ie. without thought) react to adversity – be it large or small – with immediate, gut level negativity, we lose touch with the perspective of reality. Just as the Israelites in Egypt, having witnessed the 10 plagues, the miracles at the Sea of Reeds, the utter defeat of Pharaoh’s elite soldiers, being fed with Mannah from heaven and protected from disease – in the face of an apparent shortage of water could complain: “It was better in Egypt, by the flesh pots when we ate cucumbers, etc.” This level of limited consciousness, where we overlook the big picture and concentrate only on the immediate issues at hand is called by the mystics *Mochin d'Katnut*: Small or Narrow Consciousness. This level of consciousness inhibits us from seeing the big picture in a broader context; so we react from a place of smallness, of selfishness, from a place of powerlessness and a sense of inadequacy. On the other hand, looking at the world and our place in it from the context of the bigger picture is called *Mochin d'Gadlut*: Spacious Mind. This is the mind of expanded consciousness, the contemplative mind which is able to understand the bigger picture of the world in which we live and are an integral part.

The moment I banged my knee was not a momentous incident in my life, but because of my immediate reaction to the physical pain, *I lost the big picture*. I reacted to the discomfort as though that was all that mattered in the world rather than affirming: How blessed I am to be alive and able to walk from the car! How blessed I am to have a beautiful home and healthy family! How blessed I am to have a wonderful and loving wife to come home to! This is not to suggest that pain and suffering is not real. The narrow mind sees the world in dual opposing forces: good and evil, pain and comfort, up and down, black and white, us and them, I and you... Spacious Mind understands that duality is an illusion in the larger unity of God as everything is God. Cultivating our ability to live in the world of *Mochin d'Gadlut* – Spacious Mind – requires practice and dedication. *Mochin d'Gadlut* is not a permanent state of being for most of us, but Jewish practice invites us to continuously grow our Spacious Mind so that life feels more comfortable, more blessed and more whole. When we recite the *Shema* we are not only affirming our belief that there is only one God, but that everything IS God – of which we are a precious part.

As we prepare to observe the Festival of Pesach, the Season of Freedom, let us remember the ancient call to relive the experience of our ancestors as they left the House of Bondage to become free individuals under the rule of God. Reliving the ancient experience as we do at our Seder tables, is to move us to the world of *Mochin d'Gadlut*: where we are one with God and one with each other. Linda and I wish each of you a sweet and redemptive Pesach.

*L'Shalom, Rabbi Ted Tsuruoka*

### **New Class: Introduction to Jewish Philosophy—Part I (Thursdays @ 7:30pm)**

A new 4-week class introducing the major thinkers and movers in Jewish Philosophy will commence on **Thursday, April 26<sup>th</sup>**. Part I will concentrate on the seminal Jewish thinkers of the Medieval period which will include: Isaac Israeli, Judah Halevi, Ibn Ezra, and Moses Maimonides. It is important to understand the Jewish philosophy, upon which normative Judaism is based, was not created in a vacuum, but rather it was affected and influenced by the philosophies of Greek, Roman and Islamic origin. Part II, which will be offered in the Fall, will continue the survey into the modern era.

**Continuing Pirké Avot Classes (Thursdays @ 7:30 PM): #5 April 5<sup>th</sup>, #6 April 12<sup>th</sup>**

## CANTOR'S COLUMN

### COUNTDOWN TO PASSOVER

In the history of Jewish tradition, numbers have historically held more meaning than simply their quantitative value. To the Jewish ancients, numbers held power and mystical qualities that to this day, color our traditions and rituals and the way we celebrate our Jewishness. Certain numbers symbolize completeness, power, holiness, eternity and perfection. Some numbers are more mystical; others are beloved and one is downright hazardous, depending upon with what it is associated.

As an example of how significant numbers affect the way we express our Judaism, most of us are familiar with the symbolic value of the number “18,” a number that represents the word *chai*, the Hebrew word for “life.” Most of us consider it a lucky number and give multiples of \$18 as gifts or charity to ensure good luck and long life. Some people wear the word “chai” as a pendant. This number has its own importance in Jewish liturgy, folklore and magic, just as other numbers have “lives of their own.”

In the Talmud (lest you think this is merely folklore), we read that even numbers are not only unlucky, but actually dangerous, which leads to the popular superstition that there is luck in odd numbers.

The number four, although not as mystically powerful as some other numbers, has its own special qualities and connections. Briefly, it has been associated with the four corners of the earth, four directions, four seasons and four elements. Our holiest name for God, yud-hei-vav-hei (the Hebrew letters), the Tetragrammaton, we call “the four-letter name” and is the basis for all other divine names. We have four matriarchs in the Bible – Sarah, Rebecca, Rachel and Leah; on Sukkot the divinely ordered universe is symbolized by the four species – the *lulav*, myrtle, willow and the *etrog*; and in *Pirkei Avot*, a rabbinic anthology, we read of many lists of fours, among them four human character types, four temperaments, four qualities of students and four types that give charity.

There are other “fours” in our tradition, most notably found as part of the holiday of Passover, which flows with significant fours. There are four cups of wine, four questions, four children, four expressions of redemption and four special foods. Four symbolizes completeness and stability. Even ancient people, although they imagined it flat, believed the earth to be bordered by four boundaries, creating a square space. Thus, four is representative of firmness and well-defined boundaries, perhaps not only spatially speaking but also reflective of emotional and spiritual stability and completeness.

The four cups of wine in the Passover seder represent national redemption; the four questions a life of study and the four children a complete family. The four expressions of redemption – *I will bring you out...I will deliver you...I will redeem you...I will take you* (Ex. 6:6-7)—demonstrate the completeness of God’s unifying force. The four special foods are the roasted shankbone, *matzah*, *maror* and *charoset*. Of course, each of these foods carries its own symbolism, but as a set they express the eternal hope of ultimate and complete redemption for our people.

Although it is of great interest to learn about the significance of numbers in our tradition, it is important to note that this perspective is but one of many ways of interpreting our history and liturgy.

Steve and I wish you and your families a sweet and happy Passover celebration, a seder rich in symbolism, family tradition and new ways to express our rituals.

*Cantor Leslie Friedlander*

### *Alice Hoffman to Speak at the JCC on April 10, 11:00am*

Alice Hoffman, whose latest book is *The Dovekeepers*, a novel dealing with four women at historic Masada, will be speaking and signing books at the Sid Jacobson JCC. Temple Isaiah members can purchase general admission tickets at the discounted price of \$20.00. Passover refreshments will be served. (Call 484-1545, Ext. 144 for more information.)

## THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

### Ask What You Can Do For Your Temple

Since this is the presidential season, and some of us are leaving shortly, and others are taking the reins, I'm reminded of President Kennedy's inaugural address "Ask not what your country can do for you....."

Temple Isaiah just had a very successful auction, based on those that put it together and those that bid, but I can only imagine how well we would have done if more people participated. It was truly a fun Saturday night that you could have invited your friends to and they would not have been disappointed. In fact, they would have thanked you for the bargains they might have gone home with, like a trip around the world for less than you might pay to get across the country. The temple again is hosting the second night of Passover—reservations are a must, and no one leaves hungry or without a better understanding of the traditions and rituals associated with the seder.

We have another great event coming up shortly, our annual Journal/Dinner, and even if you don't like the male honoree, I can guarantee you a fun/fine evening. This year's event is at the Manhasset Bay Yacht Club, a beautiful venue with great views and food. It is a wonderful opportunity to socialize with fellow temple members and meet new friends, hear a few boring speeches and have no fear of rubber chicken. If you can't attend please support the event by taking out an ad in the Journal. The rates are very affordable, and it goes a long way to helping the temple meet its financial needs.

Another way you can help the temple at no cost to you is to attend Board meetings. You need not be a board member to show up and have your voice heard. The annual Congregational Meeting is also coming up shortly, and if you would like your voice heard before dues are set for the coming year, this is your opportunity to be heard.

Lastly, I would like to invite all members to support our Adult Bar/Bat Mitzvah on Saturday May 5th. This group has been working very hard for the past two years to have their day on the bima, and it would mean a lot to them to have temple members share what I know is a very proud and important moment in their lives.

The Temple Isaiah calendar is winding down, but we hold services every Friday evening throughout the year, and our blockbuster temple show "My Fair Sadie" is deep in rehearsal to open in June (yes, I want you to attend).

You can do a lot for our temple, with very little effort and maximum results. Please tell your friends to try us out. We have found that our most successful method of recruiting new members is from the people reading this column now.

*Martin Secofsky*

## A Service of Renewal and Wholeness

Friday, April 20 at 7:15pm

The congregation and community is invited to a Service of Renewal and Wholeness at 7:15 PM prior to Friday evening services. This brief service, led by Rabbi Ted Tsuruoka and Cantor Leslie Friedlander, is an innovative service rich in liturgy and music focused on spiritual and physical healing and renewal. The Hebrew term for wholeness – completeness and unification of body and spirit – is *Shaleim* which has the same root as *Shalom* or peace. To be whole, that is, to be at one with God and the universe (*Shaleim*) is to be at peace (*Shalom*). Participants will have an opportunity to call out (if they desire) names of loved ones in need of wholeness whether it be spiritually or physically.

# April 2012

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2 Adult Intermediate Hebrew, 10:00am; Hebrew Practice & Review, 7:30pm	3 Religious School, 4:00pm  Show Rehearsal, 7:30pm Board Meeting, 7:30pm	4	5 Religious School Closed  Pirke Avot Class #5, 7:30pm	6 Kabbalat Service, 4:15pm  First Seder	7 Passover Morning Service, 10:30am; Second Seder at Temple Isaiah 6:30pm
8	9 Adult Intermediate Hebrew, 10:00am  <i>Lunch &amp; Learn, 11:30am at Temple Isaiah</i>	10 Religious School closed  Show Rehearsal, 7:30pm	11	12 Religious School closed Adult Bar/Bat Mitzvah Class, 6:30pm; Pirke Avot Class #6, 7:30pm	13 Passover ends—Yiskor, 10:30am  Shabbat Service, 8:00pm	14 Torah Study & Service, 9:30am Cantillation class, 11:00am
15	16 Adult Intermediate Hebrew, 10:00am; Hebrew Practice & Review, 7:30pm;	17 Religious School, 4:00pm  Adult Ed, Judi Bosworth, 8:00pm	18 Erev Yom Hashoah	19 Yom Hashoah; Religious School, 4:00pm; Adult Bar/Bat Mitzvah Class, 6:30pm; Show Rehearsal, 7:30pm	20 Service of Renewal & Wholeness, 7:15pm; Shabbat Service, 8:00pm	21 Torah Study & Service, 9:30am; Cantillation Class, 11:00am
22	23 Adult Intermediate Hebrew, 10:00am	24 Religious School, 4:00pm (Early dismissal)  Show Rehearsal, 7:30pm	25	26 Religious School, 4:00pm  Rabbi Class: Intro to Jewish Philosophy I #1, 7:30pm	27 Kabbalat Shabbat Service, 6:15pm	28 Torah Study & Service, 9:30am
29	30 Adult Intermediate Hebrew, 10:00am					May 5  Adult Bar/Bat Mitzvah, 10:30am

## “LIVES” BARBERSHOP QUINTET

At the barbershop today I noticed that the youngest of the three barbers keeps his Siddur on the counter. I mentioned that when I was a little boy my parents sent me to a Hebrew summer camp. What I remember well was Adon Olam, and I softly sang the first two lines, whereupon the boss barber joined in, as did the third barber. A customer, already in a chair waiting for his haircut, joined in, singing loudly and lustily. Soon we were five, joyously belting out Adon Olam.

For a moment we were in a huge domed temple, richly decorated with ornaments of gold and silver, encrusted with rubies, diamonds, and precious stones. As our voices rose, God looked down upon us and smiled upon us - five men in a small barbershop on Middle Neck Road.

*Al Graham*

*If you would like to share your nostalgic memories in our “Lives” series, please submit a brief column by email to [isaiahgn@yahoo.com](mailto:isaiahgn@yahoo.com).*

### Study with the Teachers Who Teach Our Rabbis

*An insider's report on the URJ Summer Learning Institute, to be held this August at the birthplace of American Reform Judaism*

Sonia and I attended our first URJ Summer Learning Institute almost 20 years ago, when we traveled to Brandeis University for four wonderful days of study and personal enrichment as Reform Jews. We've been SLI regulars ever since, attending sessions at Brandeis in the 90's, then at Franklin Pierce University in southern New Hampshire, and most recently, right here in our own backyard at the Glen Cove Mansion conference center. Our Friend Ruth Mandelbaum attended that one with us, and loved it.

Every SLI session has been special. But the one scheduled for this summer – August 8 to 12 - will be super special. The venue is Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion, in Cincinnati – the birthplace of our American Reform Movement. As one who is privileged to serve on the URJ committee that supports this program, I can give you an insider's look at what to expect if you should decide to attend.

This summer's SLI offers three different courses of study, all of which draw on the HUC-JIR faculty – the master teachers and scholars who teach our Reform Rabbis. Here are the choices:

**Kallah , or general Jewish studies.** My own name for Kallah is adult ed on steroids: four days of seminars and workshops on a variety of subjects, stimulating mealtime discussions, innovative worship with great music, even nighttime entertainment. No exams or papers. The only requirements are a love of Jewish study and a desire for spiritual and intellectual growth.

**Had'rachah, the para-rabbinic seminar.** This is a two-year training program designed to provide lay leaders with a variety of skills to help them fill in for a rabbi. Curriculum for the summer of 2012 includes leading high holy day worship services, conducting baby namings, visiting the sick, and preparing divrei Torah. You'll need a rabbinic recommendation to enroll.

**Schindler Fellows Program for Interfaith Certification.** Interested in mastering the most effective methods of reaching out to interfaith couples and families? This course provides the training and tools you need to create a welcoming environment. You'll explore the issues of interfaith relationships, and learn how engage interfaith couples and encourage Jewish choices in their lives.

For more details about each of the three courses – plus general information about accommodations and costs – please visit [urj.org/summer](http://urj.org/summer). If you'd simply like to get a feel for what it's like to experience an SLI session Sonia and I will be delighted to chat.

*Calvin Greenbaum,  
[calvingee@verizon.net](mailto:calvingee@verizon.net)*



*Temple Isaiah of Great Neck Proudly Announces  
Its Gala Dinner Honoring*

*Alisa & Martin Secofsky*

*Thursday Evening*

*May 17, 2012*

*Manahasset Bay Yacht Club*

*Rabbi Ted Tsuruoka  
Cantor Leslie Friedlander  
President Martin Secofsky*

*Journal Chairs:*

*Bea Aubrey (482-6588)  
Arlene Soifer (487-3341)*

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*Name \_\_\_\_\_*

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# Religious School News

Our students have been busily preparing for Pesach. This year, Moreh Avraham has the class writing parts of the Haggadah we will use at the Model Seder in school on Tuesday, April 3<sup>rd</sup>. We will also be putting on a skit re-living the Israelites' Exodus from Egypt, through the Sea of Reeds, and on their way to the Promised Land. All are invited to the Model Seder – especially parents – **reservations are needed!** The educational goal of the Model Seder is to familiarize the students with the rituals, meaning and music of the Pesach Seder. Most importantly, it is our goal to instill a sense of joy and wonder of the season.

Looking ahead to May, the last day of Religious School is Thursday, May 10<sup>th</sup>. The next evening, Friday May 11<sup>th</sup>, the School will lead Friday evening Shabbat services. Please join us as we recognize and support our students and our teachers as we fulfill the commandment that is part of the Shema recited daily: “...and you shall diligently teach them to your children...”

*L'Shalom, Rabbi Ted Tsuruoka*

## Yom HaShoah

Yom HaShoah will be observed during Friday evening services on April 20<sup>th</sup>. Please join us as we remember with words and songs, those whose lives were lost in the Shoah – the Holocaust. An update on our Holocaust Archive Project will be given.



**Tuesday, April 17th 8:00pm**  
**Guest Speaker:**  
**Nassau County Legislator Judi Bosworth**

Please come to hear our representative on the Nassau County Legislature, Judi Bosworth, who represents the 10th District, which includes Great Neck, Manhasset, New Hyde Park, Manhasset Hills and part of Herricks.

Legislator Bosworth has lived in Great Neck for 28 years, and was active on the Board of Education for many years. She has taken an active part in the environment and has been a good friend to Temple Isaiah. Please come and hear what Judi has to say about local community affairs.

Question and answer period to follow.

## General Donations

### ***In Loving Memory Of:***

Morris Kaminetsky, Father of Beatrice Alpert  
Beatrice & Irving Alpert  
Edgar Bendor, Husband of Susan Bendor and  
Father of Cathy & Jane  
Cathy Bendor & Shelley Klein  
Jane Bendor & Brian Graham  
Mitchell Benjamin, Husband of Thelma Benjamin  
Thelma Benjamin  
Barry Weinstein, Brother of Harriet Gellert  
Harriet Gellert  
Gabriel Saacks, Father of Minnie Goldwater  
Harry Goldwater, Husband of Minnie Goldwater  
Minnie Goldwater  
Gertrude Kalish, Dear Friend of Alvin Graham  
Alvin Graham  
Irving Levine, Husband of Miriam Levine  
Ruth Isaac  
Ida Kerievsky, Mother of Bruce Kerievsky  
Mac Gusler, Stepfather of Diana Kerievsky  
Diana & Bruce Kerievsky  
William Nusbaum, Father of Ruthe Klein  
Ruthe & Harold Klein  
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Herbert Mandelbaum, Husband of Ruth Mandelbaum  
Ruth Mandelbaum  
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Denise Miller & Steve Fein  
Leo Fleischmann, Father of Gisela Oloff  
Gisela Oloff  
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Bradley Reider  
Leslie Reider  
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Alisa & Martin Secofsky  
Anita Chertok, Mother of Diana Want and Paula Kirsch  
Eli Tyles, Father of George Tyles  
Roslyn Siegal, Mother of Bernice Siegal  
Bella Bekker-Silver & Jonathan Silver  
Jacob Soifer, Father of Hank Soifer  
Arlene & Hank Soifer  
Natalie Braun Gumas, Sister of Esther Sparberg  
Esther Sparberg

### ***Memorial Plaque:***

In Memory of Lillian Gordon, Aunt of Robert Gordon  
Gail & Robert Gordon

### ***Holocaust Memorial:***

Frank Galasso

### ***President's Wall:***

Judy & Helman Brook  
Claude Springer

### ***In Honor of :***

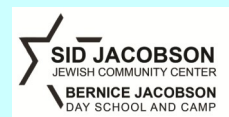
The Speedy Recovery of Richard Davis  
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Ruth Mandelbaum  
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Alisa & Martin Secofsky  
Shelley Sherman  
In Honor of Jean Lesser  
In Honor of Terry Joseph  
In Honor of Richard Joseph  
June & Allan Feldman  
In Honor of Ruth Isaac, Denise Miller & Steve Fein,  
And Claude Springer  
Alvin Graham  
The Birthday of Robert Lesser, Son of Jean & John  
Lesser  
Jean & John Lesser  
The Speedy Recovery of Jack Menashe  
Kathie & Richard Davis  
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June & Allan Feldman  
Mindy & Howard Israel  
Terry & Richard Joseph  
Ruth Mandelbaum  
Denise Miller & Steve Fein  
Alisa & Martin Secofsky  
Shelley Sherman

### ***Rabbi's Discretionary Fund:***

Margery & David Kashman

## Social Worker @ Our Synagogue

**As a benefit of Temple Isaiah's membership, Randy Hight, LMSW, is our synagogue social worker from UJA-Federation's Partners in Caring (PIC) at Sid Jacobson JCC. Randy and her colleagues are available for short term individual and family counseling, support groups, and a variety of resources and referral information. Even a brief phone call or simple question is welcome!**



**Call Sid Jacobson JCC  
516-484-1545  
Ext. 196**

UJA-Federation of New York's  
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## **Bequests to Temple Isaiah**

**It's both impressive and heartwarming—leaving a legacy to our temple for your favorite program or general funding.**



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“I hereby give, devise, and bequeath \_\_\_\_\_ (a dollar amount, or all or a percentage of the rest, residue, and remainder of my estate) to Temple Isaiah of Great Neck, now or formerly in the Village of Great Neck Plaza, 1 Chelsea Place, in the State of New York, for its general purposes.”

**[Our federal tax ID number is 11-2202208]**

**For further information, contact the office—we'll be happy to help.—or contact Steve Fein, who has generously volunteered to provide a free consultation on the topic.**



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[www.templeisaiiahgn.org](http://www.templeisaiiahgn.org)

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Issue No. 126 Published Monthly

**Deadline for submissions—10th of the Month**

## ***On-Line Edition***

### **BULLETIN**

*President:* Martin Secofsky  
*Rabbi:* Theodore Tsuruoka  
*Cantor:* Leslie Friedlander  
*Production:* Cathy Reibstein  
*Photos:* Sheila DeFazio

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an FDIC insured fund for pre-paid funeral arrangements.

