

MEGILLAH



NISAN-IYAR 5773

ISSUE 65 - APRIL 2013

TJ & Sisterhood's Patriotic Concert Rocks the House!



















Rumor has it....

Rabbi Lisa Bock

One of my often used resources on the internet is Snopes.com. Why? Well, let me give you a few statements – read them and see if this would inform or even alarm you (I'll tell you if they're true or false at the end of this column):

- A. The color of plastic tags used to close bread bags indicates what day the loaves were baked on.
- B. Fast food restaurants and school cafeterias use "Grade D but edible" meat.
- C. "Sun tea," tea brewed by being left to steep in sunlight, can harbor dangerous bacteria.
- D. A freighter carrying tapioca nearly sank when a fire in its hold, and the water used to extinguish it, cooked the cargo.
- E. Cooking instant noodles along with the contents of their flavor packets turns the MSG contained in it "toxic."
- F. The lines on the red Solo cups are designed for measuring alcohol.

You see, I've received emails from time to time warning me or informing me about this or that, and until I found out about Snopes.com, I may be guilty of having passed a few along. (My apologies!)

Another story that turns out to be an urban legend of sorts is the origin of the Orange on the Seder plate.

First the urban legend: When Jews place an orange on their Seder plate, it dates back to an incident in Miami Beach in which a man angrily denounced Susannah Heschel when she gave a lecture (she is a professor of Jewish studies at Dartmouth College), saying that a woman belongs on the bimah of a synagogue no more than an orange belongs on a Seder plate. – That's the rumor, and it is not true.

In the *Forward* this week, Susannah Heschel herself writes:

"At the height of the Jewish feminist movement of the 1980s, inspired by the abundant new customs expressing women's viewpoints and experiences, I started placing an orange on the Seder plate. At an early point in the Seder, when stomachs were starting to growl, I asked each person to take a segment of the orange, make the blessing over fruit and eat the segment in recognition of gay and lesbian Jews and of widows, orphans, Jews who are adopted and all others who sometimes feel marginalized in the Jewish

community.

When we eat that orange segment, we spit out the seeds to repudiate homophobia and we recognize that in a whole orange, each segment sticks together. Oranges are sweet and juicy and remind us of the fruitfulness of gay and lesbian Jews and of the homosociality that has been such an important part of Jewish experience, whether of men in yeshivas or of women in the Ezrat Nashim."

She writes of the rumor,

"...it never happened! My custom had fallen victim to a folktale process in which my original intention was subverted. My idea of the orange was attributed to a man, and my goal of affirming lesbians and gay men was erased. Moreover, the power of the custom was subverted: By now, women are on the bimah, so there is no great political courage in eating an orange, because women ought to be on the bimah."

So first, I want to clear up for anyone who has heard about the "Orange on the Seder Plate" – to be equipped to now tell the story and the meaning of the Orange at the Seder in its original form and meaning. We must correct this story, and attribute the origin, meaning, and practice of this beautiful creative

ritual to Susannah Heschel. I am delighted that she has written such a timely piece in the Forward so that we may all learn and benefit from it.

Hmm... how many times might we unknowingly pass along incorrect stories and information, even subverting the original intention? Perhaps this realization may serve to bring us to an important place in our own lives: to be open to questions, challenges, and to question what we think we know. Otherwise, we become slaves to fixed patterns instead of being people who enjoy the freedom of questions.

May our seders and our journey from Pesach to Shavuot celebrate and ensure the freedom to ask questions. May we be blessed with the willingness to hear different answers and voices.

Answers:

A: True, B: False, C: True, D: True, E: False, F: False For more information, go to www.snopes.com/food/prepare/prepare.asp



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www.TempleNerAmi.org

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Remember the Holocaust

Yom Ha'Shoah - Day of Remembrance Sunday, April 7th, 3 pm Temple Ner Ami



- Memorial service, Candle Lighting & Recital of the Kaddish
- Featuring the Film, Holocaust Survivors: Interviews with Ner Ami 7th and 8th Grade Students
- Recognition of Survivors
- Recognition of 7th & 8th Grade Students
- Light refreshments will be served





Musically Inclined Temple Ner Ami Members!

We need your talent to help us start a music group. All types of instruments are welcome.

Contact Moises/Moises Mercado mnm1955@gmail.com

Cell 818-489-4447 Home 805-499-7774



Sol & Sarah Brejensky Arlene Cohen Jean Shev Jim Williams Betty Fink Joel Zneimer

7th Grade Students Tour the Museum of Tolerance by Julia Newman

On Sunday, March 10th, eight 7th grade students and their parents including Grayson Baratta, Cooper and Rene D'Inca, Ayla and Aaron Dvoretzky, Alex and Gary Goltz, Evan and Marc Grossmann, Jackson, Becky and Russell Kamola, Justin and Cathy Lieb, Noah and Halli Steinberg, Avram Kohls, Saul Lessler and Julia Newman, visited the Museum of Tolerance in Los Angeles. This was a private tour, with our own docent. We were accompanied by teachers Avram Kohls and Saul Lessler. This annual tour is sponsored by the Jewish Federation of Ventura County and marks the 14th year that we have taken our B'nai Mitzvah students to the Museum.

Our visit is a culmination of the year-long studies that the students have in Holocaust Education. I have talked to other Educators and many schools do not formally study the Holocaust until 8th or even 10th grade. I've thought a lot about this over the years and have not changed my mind about having this course of study in the 7th grade. In conversations with our Rabbis and faculty, they have agreed with me-that a child should not stand on the Bimah on the day of his or her Bar or Bat Mitzvah and not have some understanding of the Holocaust.

In addition to the Holocaust section of the Museum, there are other exhibits that we experienced there. This year, the focus was on bullying: how it relates to our kids and how we can look at the bigger picture of perpetrator, victim and bystander. The students also saw online "hate" websites and a portrayal of the abuse of children around the world--including child slavery, child labor, and child pornography.

Our visit to the Museum was especially meaningful this year as this B'nai Mitzvah class has participated in a Mitzvah project to interview and record Ventura County Holocaust survivors. A compilation of their interviews will be shown at the Community Yom Hashoah Program on Sunday, April 7th at 3:00 at Temple Ner Ami.



Exciting New Adult Education Series!

eries. Israel Then and Now:
The Struggle for Land
and Peace



4 Tuesday Evenings April 2, 9, 16, 23 7:00 - 8:30 pm

Each session will be led by Gil Ramot, our incoming Torah School Principal



- Class Fee: \$10/session. Open to all.
- These classes will also be held at Temple Beth Torah on 5/7, 5/14, 5/21, 5/28.
- The Israel Consul General in Los Angeles will be speaking at Temple Beth Torah on Sunday, June 2nd.
- A final round table discussion with Gil Ramot, Rabbi Lisa Hochberg-Miller and Rabbi Lisa Bock will be held, TBA, after June 2nd.
- No reservation required but an RSVP is requested. Call 388-3824.

April 9th
The Israeli Political
System: History and

Development

April 2nd



April 16th
Politics in Israel: The
Influence of Different
Groups



April 23rd

Recent Israeli

Elections: What We

Need to Know







Cheder Chappenings at Temple Ner Ami by Julia Newman

This month's Cheder Chappenings features our early childhood education teachers, *Iris Daniel* and *Revital Ramot.* Their full biographies can be found on our Temple website: www.templenerami.org. Click on Torah School. Scroll down and click on Torah School Brochure.

IRIS DANIEL



Iris was born and raised in southern Israel, in the working town of Dimona, not far from the Dead Sea and Israel's famous nuclear reactor (she tells us, don't worry – she hasn't been radioactive in years!). After serving in the Israel Defense Forces, Iris worked and went to school in Be'er Sheba, and then decided to join her mother and brother in Camarillo. She

became the nanny for Chabad families, and when they opened the Gan Camarillo preschool, she was invited to teach there. She took a break to be a mom to her beautiful baby daughter, Ellah. She has been teaching at Ner Ami for 2 years and is enjoying her return to teaching and working with kids.

Here are some things Iris says about herself: "I love to travel to faraway lands with rich history and cultures as well as I enjoy exploring my 'back door'. I enjoy cooking and experimenting in the kitchen, mostly with vegetarian cuisine. My husband, who's a true carnivore, seems to enjoy the results. I used to do kickboxing every day, but now my main hobby is raising my beautiful 3 year old Ellah. I hope to return to kickboxing after she turns 18. In the meantime, I like to stay in shape dancing with her to her favorite Disney and Israeli songs, which my husband and I see as a great way to pass along our shared Israeli heritage and favorite memories from our own childhoods. I also love hiking, the beach, and nature. But when it's cold or rainy, an engaging book, a great movie shared with

Guy, my husband (foreign or independent, preferably), repeat episodes of Friends, and any cooking and design shows, are my favorite.

REVITAL RAMOT



Revi teaches our youngest children in the "Mommy, Daddy and Me" class. She has especially enjoyed sharing her love of music by teaching them Hebrew songs like "Ooga Ooga." Revi has a wonderful voice, and loves karaoke (you should have seen her at the Purim party!) and dancing (especially zumba). Preparing healthy food for her family is

important to Revi. She likes to bake, creating healthy, delicious desserts. She says that husband Gil thinks that her hobby is looking at food labels!

Revi grew up in Bat Yam, Israel, which is a city by the sea. She loved going to the beach, and still loves to go and just watch the water—saying "It's very relaxing for me." Revi came to California when she was 13, went back to Israel when she was 32, and met Gil Ramot, who brought her back to the United States. They were married and are now the proud parents of 3 year old, Healey (shown below).



AIPAC – HERE I COME!

by Naomi Brill

When my older daughter and her husband, who live in Glenview, Illinois, a suburb of Chicago, invited me to join them at the AIPAC (American Israel Public Affairs Committee) Conference in Washington, DC, this last March, I accepted with alacrity! They have attended these events many times and have always raved about how inspiring and exciting they were so I knew I would be in for a memorable time. I was not disappointed!

First, let me state that AIPAC is the Jewish lobby working for Israel. It is a bipartisan organization whose members are from every state in the US representing all faiths, Democrats and Republicans, seasoned political veterans, as well as high school and college students. AIPAC works with leaders in Congress and the administration to ensure a US-Israel relationship that makes both countries safer, smarter and stronger.

About 13,000 pro-Israel activists from all 50 states filled the halls of the Washington Convention Center. The theme for this year's Conference was "Shaping Tomorrow Together". I assure you that security was very tight. We had to show our AIPAC badges and personal identification every time we entered the Convention Center.

The Plenary Sessions, which were the larger sessions involving everyone, were held in the largest room I have ever seen! It was said that if the Washington monument were laid down next to this room, that they would be the same length! No wonder I was so tired at the end of the day – the amount of walking in this Convention Center was unbelievable!

Many Break-Out sessions were held throughout the day. To get

for smaller groups of people and for a great variety of topics. They would last for approximately two hours and were led by experts in their respective fields. To give you



some idea of the diversity of the topics discussed at these Break-Out Sessions, here is a partial list of them: IRAN AS A GLOBAL THREAT, THE EUROPEAN RESPONSE TO IRAN'S NUCLEAR EFFORTS; ISRAEL AND THE CAUCASUS REGION; ISRAEL, IRON DOME AND THE LAW; THE CAMP DAVID ACCORDS: WHAT THEY SAY AND WHAT THEY MEAN: RE-CONCEPTUALIZING ISRAEL: **GETTING OUR CONGREGANTS** UNITED BEHIND ISRAEL: EASTERN INTERESTS: CHINA'S MIDDLE EAST STRATEGY. As you can see, a great variety of topics were offered and it was no easy task to decide which ones to attend.

I was especially moved by Vice-President Joe Biden's speech at one of the Plenary Sessions when he declared:

"The united states and Israel share a strategic commitment in the world. Let me make clear what that commitment is—it is to prevent Iran from acquiring a nuclear weapon. Period. Period. End of discussion. Period. Prevent, not contain. Prevent. The president has flatly stated that. President Barack Obama is not bluffing. We are not looking for war. We are looking to and ready to



negotiate peacefully. But all options, including military force, are on the table."

Some of the other speakers were House Majority Leader ERIC CANTOR (R-VA), House Democratic Whip STENY HOYER (D-MD), Senator JOHN MC CAIN (R-AZ), Senator KIRSTEN GILLIBRAND (D-NY), ISRAEL PRIME MINISTER BENJAMIN NETANYAHU (via satellite from Jerusalem), ISRAEL DEFENSE MINISTER EHUD BARAK, and many other high government officials in both the United States & Israel.

It truly was an exciting and inspiring experience to attend this Conference. If you ever get the chance, I urge you to attend one of these Conferences. I can assure you of experiencing a most memorable event.



Amongst the interesting demonstrations of products from Israel was the **ReWalk**, an invention that allows paraplegics to bring walking back into their lives. Shown watching is Dr. Amit Goffer, the inventor of the device. His company, Argo Medical Technologies, is marketing it in Europe and is pending FDA approval in the U.S.

RASPBERRY, SHMAZBERRY, SCAMBERRY?!!

by Steve Moore

Just a heads up on an internet scam targeted for myself and all of my fellow fatties. I got an email the other day that almost made me lose \$200, not 200 lbs.



So I get this email from a friend and fellow family member of TNA who happens to be a doctor, Cathy Lieb. She sends me diet/nutritional tidbits when she sees something that she thinks may help me with my never ending journey to find the skinny guy trapped inside me (truth is, I ate him long ago), so I did not question the authenticity of the email.

The email has a link to a YOU TUBE video from a Dr. Oz show were they were showing the positive effects of Raspberry Ketones for fat loss. Dr. Oz was promoting the effects and even called them " the #1 miracle in a bottle for burning fat". That video coupled with the fact that it was presented to me by my good friend the doctor, I'm thinking heck yeah, little drops of fat burning raspberry, this is a no brainer! I couldn't get my credit card out fast enough to get my "60 day treatment" of Raspberry Ultra Drops (57-61 lbs. of potential weight loss), as I am day dreaming about how good I will look as I'm fishing the banks of the Kenai River in Alaska this summer in my thong and tank top (you have some competition Brian).

So now the transaction is complete and I am now buying some walking shoes at Future Track in Agoura and my credit card is declined. I get on the phone and call the credit card company and find out that they suspended my card because they thought there was a fraudulent charge to an overseas company for \$212. I tell them no, I made that charge and it's okay, so now I can pay for my new walking shoes (just in case the drops don't work).

It's about 11:30 that night as I am eating a few chocolate chip cookies and washing them down with a tall glass of ice cold milk (fat free of course) and I get a frantic call from Cathy. "Steve, my email account



got hacked today and there was a fraudulent email that went out to my contact list and at least one other person emailed back and asked if I was suggesting them to buy the Raspberry Ultra Drops and I just saw your text saying you bought them."

Needless to say I immediately called my credit card company back and told them to cancel that payment due to fraud.

I did a little research on the

raspberry ketones and couldn't find any scientific facts proving their fat burning claim, only people with success stories that were most likely paid for their before and after pictures and a little lie.

Now I'm thinking, crap, I still have to do it the old fashioned way with hard work and discipline....DIET and EXERCISE. Should have known better but you gotta figure one of these days they will figure it out and then I will eat all the cheese and bread I want (sorry Gregg).

I would like to thank all of you who pledged for my weight loss. It was definitely a help having the feeling of you all on my shoulder as I drove past countless drive thrus.

My total loss was 29 lbs, quite a bit short of my goal; so for any of you who would like to help me keep going or if you want to start (329 lbs) then I will weigh in again at OY VEYGAS on October 12th. If you did pledge, it would be great if you could send in a check for what you pledged 'cuz I know that the temple can use it. Also it goes towards your Donor Circle status and I know we are going to have some sort of thank you luncheon for those of you in the Donor Circle soon.

As always, coming to you from the fat side of things,

Steve Moore

PS - *Mazel Tov* to my buddy Dr. Jack Milner for completing the LA Marathon again in 7 hours and 17 minutes. I don't think he stopped for a bucket of chicken at Popeye's this time like he did when I did it with him in 2008!



Many of us wish life would flow smoothly

...until one day we fall peacefully asleep to never wake again. This is not how life usually goes. Life is busy and congested with

much to accomplish and experience, frequently leading to unexpected thrills and joys, but also often to pain, sorrow and difficult decisions. Many find it challenging to make hard decisions about life choices during happy times, let alone painful and sad times. Life teaches us that most decisions can often be put off, but usually in the end, not avoided, especially when the decisions pertain to our choices for medical care when we are unable to decide for

ourselves. An Advance Health Care Directive is the legal document where the choices are recorded and referenced if and when we cannot make them ourselves. It is the document that says who may make decisions for us if we cannot make them. April 16 is National Decision Day, the day to complete and Advance Health Care Directive. If you would like assistance with this please call

Terri Helton RN, PHN, MSN, FCN

Community Outreach Liaison Livingston Memorial VNA 1996 Eastman Ave., Suite 101 Ventura, CA 93003 (805) 612-7741

Join us to Do a Mitzvah!

Spend 4 hours to help build a house in Ventura County!

Habitat for Humanity: Sunday, April 28th, 2012 from 8-12 noon

We are invited to join in with the Brotherhood of Temple Adat Elohim to work on a building site.

No cost to participate – just your time.

Working on Habitat projects is a lot of fun, and good old-fashioned hard work all at the same time.

Youngsters 15 and up may participate with a parent.

Please RSVP to David Shain at: dshain310@aol.com.





Don't Miss This Major Opportunity!

by Shlomo Kreitzer

Motivated by personal experiences with loss, **Terry Kaldhusdal** and **Mike Bernhagen** produced a powerful and inspiring documentary film that examines how 21st century Americans live at the end of their lives. Most of us have gotten away from openness about end of life decisions.

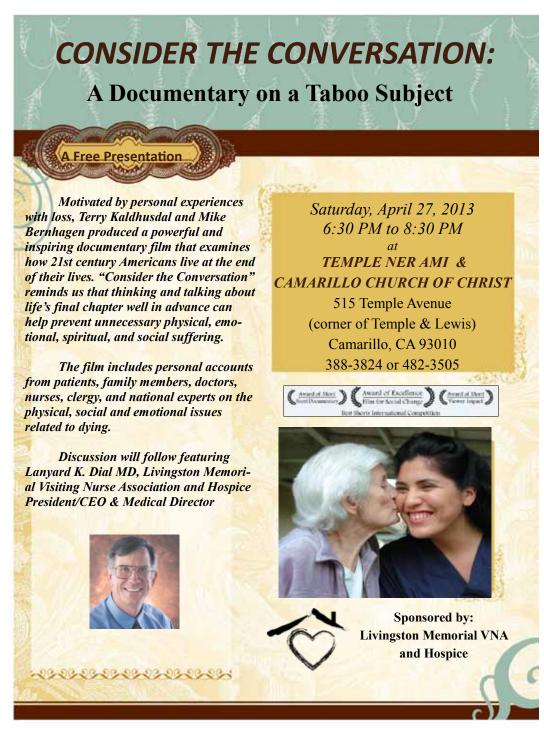
"Consider the Conversation" reminds us that thinking and talking about life's final chapter well in advance can help prevent unnecessary physical, emotional, spiritual, and social suffering, that is, to help avoid regrets.

This program, "Consider the Conversation", goes beyond the issue of whether a person has an Advance Directive. (That, of course is fundamental and important.) This documentary invites people to start to talk about the natural, sometimes difficult, and, of course, emotional event called end of life.

This documentary shows people who are looking at questions like:

- Are there things you want to say to one another while you can talk and hear?
- Does everyone know and understand the wishes of the person who may be dying?
- Who gets to make the important decisions at this time: the physician, the family or the person whose life it is?
- Is it okay, even if very emotional, to put into words that the person is dying (and we're saying goodbye)?

After the documentary, we will have an opportunity to talk with **Dr. Lanyard Dial**, Livingston Memorial Visiting Nurse Association and Hospice President/CEO & the Medical Director. Dr. Dial is so wonderfully down to earth. Also it's great that the temple and the church are joining together to provide this important program to the community fourth. This program may also be a "gift," a reminder, to the people who see it of doing something so important for you and your family.





Sisterhood News!

by Bobbe Jacobs

The Sisterhood of Temple Ner Ami hopes you all had a wonderful Passover Seder.

We look forward to our April 25th event with our "Garden Lecture", with

Master Gardener, Carol Haverty.

It all starts at 7 pm at the Temple, with light snacks afterwards. We will all learn about planting a garden in the Pleasant Valley-Camarillo area (see separate article). Looking forward to seeing you there.

Sunday May 19 is our visit to the Skirball Museum and a sign-up sheet is already there waiting for you to join us.

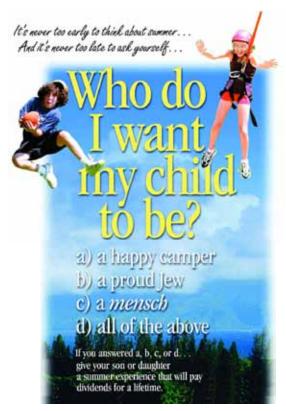
June is "Let's Make A Deal", and a sign-up sheet is already there wanting you to join us.

Please remember that Sisterhood meetings are usually the $4^{\rm th}$ Thursday of every month.

Reminder that the Sisterhood membership is \$18 till June 1st. New membership forms are now available, and the dues for 2013 – 2014 will be \$25 for the year.

We look forward to meeting and greeting you at all our events. Please think about joining this great group of Temple Ner Ami ladies.

Bobbe Jacobs Sisterhood President 805-389-4320 bobbejacobs@gmail.com



SUMMER CAMP. NEW PROGRAMS, NEW OPTIONS. NEW PLACES. NEW FACES!

6th to 12th Grades: June 10 to July 19:

Teen Haverim is back with an amazing FIVE weeks of teen programming.

Highlights: Boat trip to Channel Islands, Hurricane Harbor, train trip, Dodger game, kayaking, SkyHigh, MB2 Raceway, campout, and beach days. Plus, an amazing option for Junior Life Guard Certificate and fun at the pool in Camarillo. We'll have our favorite community service at the Rescue Mission, and much, much more.

Be a part of the planning. Send us your ideas!

NEW PROGRAMS:

- 4th & 5th Grades: July 22-26: ONE week of FULL DAY with the possibility of adding more weeks.
 - 1st, 2nd, 3rd Grades: July 29-Aug. 6th: TWO weeks of FULL days

Do not miss this amazing opportunity.

The program is very affordable due to a generous grant from The Jewish Federation of Ventura County. This program is county wide, and a joint venture of Ner Ami and Temple Beth Torah.

Do you know about the Donors Circle?

A strong Jewish community requires resources to thrive and by contributing above your standard annual commitment dues amount. you will become part of the Donors Circle. This circle helps our Temple grow and maintain the long-term vitality we thrive for. As a Donor Circle member, you are entitled to additional benefits as well. In fact, you may already be in it and not know it. Did you attend *Oy Veygas* and sponsor a torah school child for \$500? If yes, that just bumped you up from annual commitment to the Avodah Donor Circle level! Did you give \$1000 beyond your dues which subsequently helped cover membership fees for those who cannot afford full dues? If yes, now vou are a Chai Donor Circle level! Please consider being a Donor Circle contributor at any level and see the value in helping Ner Ami grow.

Donor Circle Levels & Benefits

AVODAH (annual commitment + \$500)

- Listing in the "Donors Circle" Shabbat Announcement Sheet
- Five Tributes in the Megillah
- Invitation to Donors Circle Member Appreciate event.

CHAI (annual commitment + \$1000)

- All of the above, plus:
- Ten Tributes in the Megillah
- A gift book specially chosen by the Rabbi

CHESED (annual commitment + \$1800)

- All of the above, plus:
- Two guest High Holy Days tickets

GEVURAH (annual commitment + \$3600)

- All of the above, plus:
- Two additional High Holy Days tickets (total of four)
- Reserved parking and seating at High Holy Days
- Special dinner with the Rabbi and Temple President

TORAH (annual commitment + \$5400)

- All of the above, plus:
- Twenty tributes in the Megillah
- Credit of \$1000 towards Israel trip with the Rabbi



The Board of Directors wishes to thank those members who have made an extra special financial committment this year to support Temple Ner Ami.

Isabel Blau
Naomi Brill
Howard & Shari Brody
Robert & Joyce Brown
Seth & Charlotte Brandes
Walter & Gina Burstein
Jay & Arla Crane
Karen Dworsky
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Moises Mercado & Bonnie Shubb
Arthur & Fran Titen
Ron & Sarene Wallace
Doris Weinberg
Marc & Cynthia Wolfsohn
Allen & Marcia Zatkin
Joel Zneimer & Betty Fink

UNDER 5' - BUT A GIANT AMONGST WOMEN

Wife - Mother - Author - Educator -Founding Member of Temple Ner Ami (Jewish Families of Camarillo)-and Dear Friend

We all have such fond memories of Lillian, especially during our formative years at JFC. She was inspirational, supportive, and soon became one of our most active and admired members. Lillian had

a remarkable ability to relate to others and was very much a "21st century woman" (even though she grew up in a much different era). Lillian never stopped learning, teaching, writing and being involved in life. When the founding mothers began the journey of creating what is now TNA, Lillian's priority was to bridge the generational gap. Lil made sure she was an integral part of our design, and made it important to bring in the senior point of view regarding the wants and needs

of her community, while dispensing her wisdom and sense of humor to us along the way. While on the Board, we got to know Lil even better and integrated many of her ideas into our plans, making JFC a place for all.

Lillian shared -- she gave her advice to the world by writing books on aging, from caring to care-giving. Given more time, we are sure we would have seen a 4th book entitled, "I'm 88 and Living Alone For The First Time". We suspect she is currently writing another book... "Life With Ed On The Other Side". It would have been impossible to meet Lillian and not know you were in the company of someone exceptional. Dinners with Lil were always special. We loved that she truly enjoyed sharing personal stories with us, because after all, she was just "one of the girls", and we were proud to be considered her West Coast daughters. She entertained us with past adventures and impressed us with her knowledge.

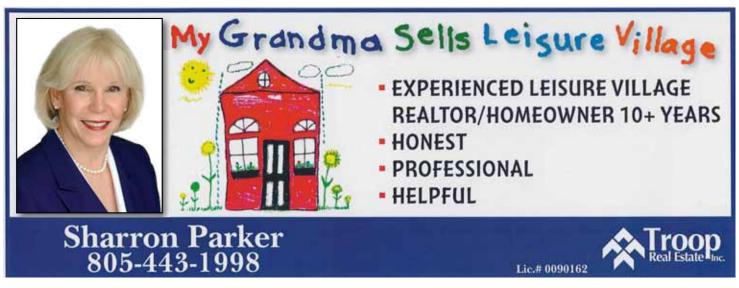
Lillian was married to Ed Hawthorne, the love of her life, for 65 years. She and Ed were role models in many ways – from their enduring marriage to their steadfast support of JFC and Temple Ner Ami. Lillian and Ed

showed it IS possible for Democrats and Republicans to get along (it was a treat to see this loving couple during a presidential election.... our country could have learned a few good lessons from them). We will miss her terribly but always remember how she enriched our lives and our community. Lillian showed us that regardless of age or physical challenges - learning, questioning and being a part of life did not have to stop.

Written with love and admiration,

"The Founding Moms" (Alyse Borla, Jeri Belzer, Lihi Gershater, Teri Milner, & Cindy Wolfsohn)





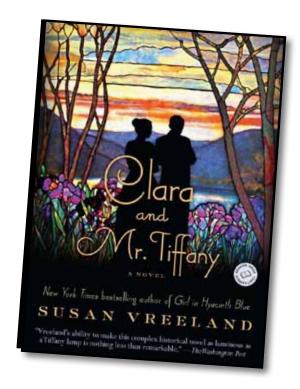
Eager Readers Book Club

Meets Tuesday, April 9th, 11am

April Book: **Clara and Mr. Tiffany by Susan Vreeland**

It's 1893, and at the Chicago World's Fair, Louis Comfort Tiffany makes his debut with a luminous exhibition of innovative stained-glass windows that he hopes will earn him a place on the international artistic stage. But behind the scenes in his New York studio is the freethinking Clara Driscoll, head of his women's division, who conceives of and designs nearly all of the iconic leaded-glass lamps for which Tiffany will long be remembered. Never publicly acknowledged, Clara struggles with her desire for artistic recognition and the seemingly insurmountable challenges that she faces as a professional woman. She also yearns for love and companionship, and is devoted in different ways to five men, including Tiffany, who enforces a strict policy: He does not employ married women. Ultimately, Clara must decide what makes her happiest—the professional world of her hands or the personal world of her heart. (Book summary from amazon.com)

"Susan Vreeland has once again revealed the people and the stories behind Art. 'Clara and Mr. Tiffany' makes for compelling and enjoyable reading. It's a good story that happens to be based on fact. And although this was my first foray into the novels of Susan Vreeland, I now want to go back and read a few of the others. I love books that help me understand 'the rest of the story.' Vreeland's volumes appear to do just that. " (Customer review from amazon.com)



Each month a member selects a book for all members to read and discuss at the next meeting. Joining the club means you are reading at least one outstanding book every month. What a great idea! Please join us April 9th, in the Irv Dubin Library, at 11am.

Starting a Havurah

Diane L. Gough

As a new member of Temple Ner Ami, I am delighted to be welcomed by Rabbi Lisa and the wonderful members of the congregation. I am interested in starting a Havurah. If you would like to join me in this effort, please call me at (805) 279-7160. Thank you!





Caring Community: We're here...

Hineynu means: We are here.

- to visit or call those who are ill,
- deliver a meal for someone who is ill or recovering from a surgery,
- to take care of the mourner's kitchen for the reception after a funeral,
- for this and more,
- Hineynu, we are here.



We can only help, call, visit, be there, if we know there's a need. Let us know by calling the Temple office, (805)388-3824 and speak with Rabbi Lisa or Mark Malloy, or you may call Naomi Brill at (805)388-8511, and also you may email us at caringcommunity@templenerami.org.

The importance of these kindnesses towards each other cannot be overestimated. We usually think of our temple as a place to pray and practice our religion, which it certainly is. But it's also a caring community and the love we show each other can truly be a lifeline in times of trouble.

If you'd like to be a part of Caring Community – if you'd like to make a meal, make a call, or visit, our team is stronger and can be of greater service with your help. Call or email us!

Our Caring Community,

Naomi Brill, Libby Pierce, Verna Merrin, Nadine Frankel, Diane Gough, Rabbi Lisa Bock

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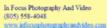


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~PORTRAITURE

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1 Rena Dvoretzky

- 1 Judy Sitko
- 11 John Kerwien
- 12 Deborah Blum
- 12 Noah Gill
- 12 Sandra Goodwin
- 13 Michael Clark
- 15 Talia Lieb
- 16 Irving Bergman
- 19 David Schneider

April BIRTHDAYS

Members & Children

- 20 Richard Gough
- 20 Sharon Hartman
- 21 Bennett Gill
- 21 Noah Harris
- 22 Barbara Hoff
- 24 Muriel Rosenkranz
- 25 Chloe Kamola
- 26 Mel Dick
- 30 Robert Cohen
- 30 Leonard Lowenschuss

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



April ANNIVERSARIES

Name	Day	Date	Year
Mel & Vicki Dick	Thursday	April 4th	42 th anniversary
Jack & Teri Milner	Friday	April 12th	32 nd anniversary
Moises Mercado & Bonnie Shubb	Monday	April 22nd	6 th anniversary
Jim & Allyson Williams	Friday	April 26th	10 th anniversary

^{*}Listings based on Temple records. If your info is missing or in error, please contact the Temple office so we may correct our database.

Sisterhood to Host Garden Guide Carol Haverty Thursday, April 25, 7:00 pm

Don't miss out!

Plan to come to this presentation sponsored by the Sisterhood of Temple Ner Ami! You'll be glad you came and it is free!

Ms. Haverty loves the life long learning element of the Ventura County's Master Gardener program. She has lectured on "Sustainable Landscape Design" for five years. She presents workshops all over the county. One of her many achievements has been to establish a sustainable garden with Tony Hepton and Diane Beeler for the City of





Her class will be entitled "Welcome to the Garden" and will explore the many aspects of gardening with sure-fire success. Her motto: Don't try to ski uphill...grow what likes to grow here and is beautiful as well.

Samples will be provided. Reserve your space today by email: sisterhood@templenerami.org. See you on the 25th of April at 7:00. For further information call the Sisterhood at 987-2000.



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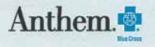
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TODAH RABBAH - Means Thank You!

Dear Members: THANK YOU AND CONGRATULATIONS! I am delighted to tell you that we had a record number of people volunteer to help with our Onegs in March. They were:

3/1: HARRIET LIT volunterred in memory of husband, MORTY LIT; MAX and JOSEPHINE FREIFELD in memory of MAX'S former wife, LOUISE FREIFELD.

3/8: JOYCE and ROBERT BROWN in memory of their friend, DOROTHY FRIEDMAN.

3/15: SANDRA GOODWIN in memory of her son, MARC GOODWIN, and her husband, ROBERT GOODWIN. MAX & JOSEPHINE FREIFELD in memory of MAX'S mother, DORA FREIFELD.

3/22: RODEAMA ABRAMS in honor of her brother, JAY CRANE.

3/29: JACK and MARLENE VOTION in memory of MARLENE'S father, ARTHUR JAY GOODMAN.

Thank you to all of the generous people listed above for helping us. We are a small synagogue and really need the help of our members to continue having the Onegs after our Friday night services. Please remember that all you have to do to volunteer to help is call ARLA CRANE at (805) 987-2000 and tell her which Friday night you wish to serve and whether you wish to bring some of the food or a check to the Temple. This is a great way to not only help our Temple but to remember a loved one who has passed away or to celebrate a happy event.







She is waiting for your call. Please don't disappoint her.

Your Oneg Committee:

JOSEPHINE FREIFELD, Oneg Chair ARLA CRANE, Chair-Volunteer Sponsors (805) 987-2000

NAOMI BRILL, Editor





EVERY DAY IS A NEW BEGINNING

By Harriet Lit

The sun is shining, the birds are singing, and you? Are you depressed, crying, feeling alone or in pain? Or are you "acting as if", and walking out the door with a smile on

your face?

Camarillo Hospice has taught me that grief comes in waves and you have to learn to surf the waves. Some days, I don't have the energy to put on my bathing suit, and I definitely don't feel up to surfing. I have really been pushing myself these past two months. I was pleased to learn that Kaiser Permanente offers free classes. I just completed six weeks of learning positive changes. One important revelation to me was that distractions help reduce pain. Whether you are feeling physical or emotional pain, distractions may help to reduce the feeling. An exercise that helped to prove

the point to me was: push your thumb nail into the skin between your thumb and index finger of the opposite hand. Hold that for 30 seconds. It really hurts! Next,

redo this exercise counting backwards from 100 by 3's. The pain was less and the time appeared to be shorter. Some distractions work better than others. You'll have to figure out what works best for you. Laughter, which produces endorphins, is a popular healing device. Watch

some funny movies or go to a comedy show. Walking, volunteering, attending classes, and attending services also help to reduce pain. Just getting outside of your own head and thinking of others is a positive way to reduce pain.

There is a vicious cycle to pain: disease/grief -- tense muscles -- pain -- stress/anxiety -- difficult emotions -- depression -- fatigue -- disease/grief---- etc.

Be proactive and find some ways of breaking this negative cycle which can produce both mental and physical chronic pain.

If you'd like to talk, share your story, help others, or form a support group, please call me at: (805) 484-9119.

Remember, every day is a new beginning.



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The Temple Gratefully Acknowledges the Following Tributes & Contributions

General Donations

for the Torah School John & Beverly Kerwien

Max Freifield in honor of his mother, Dora Freifield, and his wife, Louise Freifield

Max & Josephine Freifield

In loving memory of her father AbrahamTenenbaum, and her motherin-law, Sarah Rosenkranz. Muriel Rosenkranz

In memory of her friend, Lillian Hawthorne Naomi Brill

For the yahrzeit of Irv Weiss Ruth Weiss

In loving memory of her husband, Robert Goodwin, and her son, Marc Goodwin

In loving memory of her sister, Roberta Borovoy Verna Merrin

Sandra Goodwin

In appreciation of the lovely Purim basket

Seymour & Myrna Zimmerman

Honorariums & Memorials

In loving memory of her son, Edward Markus Charlotte Markus

Thank you to everyone who bought her a Purim basket!

Deborah Blum

In living memory of my husband, David Blum

Deborah Blum

Condolences to Karen Dworsky for the loss of her father, and to the family of Gudi Amerikaner Della Carmona In honor of her beloved husband, Nathan Kuznitz
Edith Kuznitz

In loving memory of his mother, Rebecca Seiden

Frank & Marilyn Seiden

In loving memory of her father, Dr. Herman Cohen

Frank & Marilyn Seiden

In memory of Mignon Schneiderman Gerald & Natalie Rosen

In loving memory of her mother in law and father in law, Jenny and Isadore Brodie, and in memory of her friend, Lillian Hawthorne Gloria Brodie

In Loving Memory of her father, Victor Pergament Harriet Lit

In memory of Max Heller and in honor of Naomi Brill Howard & Shari Brody

*In loving memory of Helene Shifren*Iris Shifren

In loving memory of Andrea's mother, Evelyn Berkman Irwin & Andrea Granat

In loving memory of Marlene's father, Arthur Goodman Jack & Marlene Votion

*In honor of Lillian Hawthorne*Jay & Arla Crane

In memory of her friend, Marvin Krantz Jean Shev

Jaffe Memorial Library Fund

In memory of her long time and beloved friend, Lillian Hawthorne Carolyn Mernoff

Newman Scholarship Fund

From a devoted husband, in loving memory of his wife, Clarice Feingold Dr. Israel Feingold

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

In remembrance of their dear friend, Dorothy Friedman Robert & Joyce Brown

Sisterhood

In memory of Lillian Hawthorne Terri and Jack Milner

Thank you to Rabbi Lisa and Ken Bock, Jay and Arla Crane, Joan Frank, Saul Lessler and Julia Newman, Sharron Parker and Libby Pierce for the nice surprise.

Sylvia Leventhal

Note: The above listings cover donations received between February 20th and March 19th.

April Members' Yahrzeits

Friday, April 5 for March 31-April 6 (Nisan 20-26)

Bertie Okun... Grandmother of Kaila Kaden
Louis Kouffman**... Father of Tony Kouffman
Victor Pergament... Father of Harriet Lit
Morry Sterling... Stepfather of Alan Crane
Doris Sterling... Mother of Alan Crane
Toula Pessah**... Mother of Elvira Cabelli
Katherine Skluth... Grandmother of Dana Mascot
Eric Wachovsky... Grandson of Muriel Rosenkranz
Max Stolman... Brother of Betty Stallman
Emanuel Levy... Father of Arlene Bergman
Ruth Wagner... Sister of Joan Frank

Friday, April 12 for April 7-13 (Nisan 27-Iyyar 3)

Kyra McCarty... Daughter of Nadine Frankel Jenny Brejensky... Mother of Sol Brejensky Samuel Okun... Grandfather of Kaila Kaden Rose Friedman**... Mother of Beverly Kerwien Herman Rosenberg... Grandfather of Barbara Michaels Mac Barrett... Brother of Sol Brejensky Anna Adelson... Mother of Joyce Brown Moses Kadish**... Father of Barbara Michaels Lisa Banon... Mother of Sonia Banon

Friday, April 19 for April 14-20 (Iyyar 4-10)

Brandon King**... Son of Sandra King and
Brother of Jennifer Moore
Ann Leventhal... Mother of Elaine Jaffe
Daniel Kerwien**... Son of John Kerwien
Ethel Zneimer... Mother of Joel Zneimer
Benjamin Schwartz**... Father of Lyn Mesirov
Israel Rubinstein... Father of Raja Desenberg
Jack Koenig**... Father of Sharon Green
Jon Kerwien**... Son of John Kerwien
Donna Gold... Mother of Allyson Williams,
Grandmother of AJ Williams
Anna Jacobson... Grandmother of Shari Brody
Samuel Titen**... Father of Arthur Titen

z"I In blessed memory.

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 \$360.00 per plaque beginning in May; available now for \$325.

Friday, April 26 for April 21-27 (Iyyar 11-17)

Elaine Kesselman... Mother of Lisa Schwartz
Jack Okun... Father of Kaila Kaden
Blanche Smith... Mother of Fran Titen
Sam Smith... Father of Fran Titen
Kos Lertzman... Father of Della Carmona
Harlan Felder... Father of Jeffrey Felder
Morton Leventhal... Husband of Sylvia Leventhal
Sidney Zneimer... Father of Joel Zneimer
Annelies Regen**... Remembered by Temple Ner Ami

Friday, May 3 for April 28-May 4 (Iyyar 18-24)

Sophie Morris... Aunt of Rita Cooperman
Carol Sobelman**... Late Wife of Darryl Sobelman
Esther Zeitz... Mother of Judy Sitko
Marian Siegel... Mother of Elinore Felder
Ruth Rosenthal... Grandmother of Sarene Wallace
Sam Milner... Father of Jack Milner
Myer Bennett**... Father of Joel Bennett
Maizie Pomerantz**... Mother of Karen Rosenstein



Yizkor Service

in our Sanctuary Tuesday, April 2nd 10 am

Yizkor means "may (God) remember," and is derived from the root word, zakhor, "remember."

Yizkor is the communal observance of remembering those who have passed – *Yizkor* is the way we remember together, in community.

Most familiar to us is likely the *Yizkor* service that we have after the Torah is read on Yom Kippur day, but we also have a *Yizkor* service at the end of Sukkot, the end of Passover, and on Shavuot.

I hope that you will consider attending. We have a warm and meaningful service planned. Our Yizkor service is open to all, and all are welcome.

Rabbi Lisa Bock

^{**} Name on the Yolanda Cramer Memorial *Yahrzeit* Board.

TORAH SCHOOL CALENDAR **APRIL & MAY 2013**

APRIL

Mon/V	Ved 1/3	SPRING VACATION
Sat	6	Shabbat Service (10:00 a.m.)
Sun	7	Yom Hashoah Community Program
Mon	8	Regular session - Yom Hashoah
Wed	10	Regular session
Mon	15	Regular session + Camp Kadimah – Yom Ha-Zikaron & Yom Ha'atzmaut
Wed	17	Regular session + Camp Kadimah – Yom Ha-Zikaron & Yom Ha'atzmaut
Mon	22	Regular session, Junior Youth Group 6:15 – 7:30)
Wed	24	Regular session
Fri	26	Family Shabbbat with Prek-Kinder class
Mon	29	Regular session
MAY		
\Mod	1	Pogular Session

-			
	Wed	1	Regular Session
	Sat	4	Shabbat Service (10:00 a.m.)
	Mon/Wed	16/8	Regular session
	Fri	10	Shabbat service with the 1st, 2nd, 3rd grade
	Mon/Wed	13/15	Regular session, Wed. Camp Kadimah – Shavuot
	Sat	18	B'nai Mitzvah Family Education (10:00 – 12:00)
	Mon	20	Regular session, Jr. Youth Group 6:15 -7:30
	Wed	22	Regular session
	Fri	24	Tot Shabbat (5:30) Family Shabbbat Dinner
			(6:00), Service (7:00)
	Mon	27	NO TORAH SCHOOL (Memorial Day)
	Wed	29	ALL SCHOOL PARTY-TEACHER APPRECIATION

TEEN CONNECTION Calendar March & April (6:00-8:00)

<u>APRIL</u>

Mon	1	SPRING VACATION
Mon	8	OLAM – Yom Hashoah
Mon	15	NAUTY - ISRAEL (Yom Ha Zikaron/Yom Ha'Atzmaut)
Mon	22	Teen Talk
Mon	29	Community service

MAY

Mon	6	OLAM
Mon	13	NAUTY
Fri	17	NFTY Spring Kallah
Mon	20	TEEN TALK
Mon	27	Memorial Day Holiday
Wed	29	ALL SCHOOL PARTY Teacher Appreciation

April Outside Organization Meetings







CITY OF HOPE

Board Meeting, Mon. 4/22 9:30am Regular Meeting, Mon. 4/8, 12:30 pm Joan Rines, Co-President - 805-987-2147 Al Schwartz, Co-President - 805-482-4299

NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS

Tues. Men & Womens Meeting 7-8:15 pm Wed. Men & Womens Meeting 7-8:15pm Sat. Men & Womens Meeting 6:30-7:30 pm Sunday (Men only) 7-8 am

ORT

Board Meeting- Thursday, April 4, 2013 - 10am General Meeting -Thursday, April 25, 2013-Noon

To RSVP for lunch call Silvia Lippe at 987-4477 For info call Shirley Law, 987-5468 President, Sharron Parker - 443-1998

Shoshelot Hadassah

Speakers will cover the Hadassah Centennial Convention in Israel they attended last October and about the new Sarah Wetsman Davidson Tower at the Hadassah Hospital. Tuesday, 4/16, Program begins at 7 pm, refreshments follow.

TEMPLE NER AMI - April 2013

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	65	On	10	11	12	13
Sp Yom HaShoah Event	12th day of the Omer 12:38p City of Hope Regular Mig. 41:5p Totah School Grades 45:67 8p Cholices, 8th Grade Program 8p Teen Connection	11 Eager Readers Book Club	Rosh Chicksin Ivar 12p Totah - Women's Perspective 4:15p Mommiy, Daddy & Me 4:15p Totah School - Prek, Kinder, 1s 7p Board of Directors Meeting	15th day of the Omer Rosh Chodesh ryar 7p Brothemood Meeting	77th day of the Omer 7:07p Candle lighting 7:30p BirthdaylAnniversary Shabbat	9 Torah Study Class
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	Go to www.	TempleNerAn	Go to www.TempleNerAmi.org for the latest Calendar Information!	atest Calenda	r Information	i



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CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED



Oy Veygas Casino Night Annual Fundraiser - Oct. 12, 2013

We are looking for sponsors and donations of goods and services to be utilized as prizes. If you can assist, please contact OyVeygas@TempleNerAmi.org



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if you would like to make a contribution, the following	
funds are available. All donations are graciously accepted.	The MECHIAN is mublished monthly
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will be published in the following month's MEGILLAH :	Complimentary copies are available by
Temple General Fund	contacting the Temple Office.
Temple Building Fund	Suggested donation for non-members
Newman Scholarship Fund	is \$36.00 per year. Make your check
Irv Dubin Teen Scholarship Fund	payable to Temple Ner Ami.
Rabbi's Discretionary Fund	For information call 805-388-3824, or
Temple Music Fund	eMail your request to:
Art Fund	admin@templenerami.org
Sigmund Jaffe Memorial Library Fund	Submission date for all material:
Temple Prayer Book Fund	15 th of each month
Social Action Fund	
Cantor's Discretionary Fund	
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In loving memory of:	
From:	