

OUR GALA HONOREES

ED AND FRAN HANDLER



A romantic evening at Nibblers sealed the deal for Fran (Sanzone) and Ed Handler. After a disastrous blind date followed by a “horrible” Gordon Lightfoot concert, their relationship appeared doomed. However, what was expected to be their final break-up date, became a three-hour conversation, which turned into a long and loving marriage.

Fran was born in Ohio to a family with Sicilian,

German and Irish roots and moved to L.A. with her parents, two sisters and brother when she was 13 years old. At 16, she lost her mother and needed to grow up quickly. After graduation from Fairfax High, she attended City College and began working in the advertising recruitment business.

Meanwhile, Ed, who moved to L.A. from his birthplace of Minneapolis at six months, graduated from Hamilton High and enrolled at UCLA to study political science. Ed’s father died when he was 15, so he, too, had to take on added responsibility at a young age.

At 22 and 20, Ed and Fran decided to marry, despite protests from both families that they were too young. Ed worked 35 hours a week and carried a full load of classes. Raised Catholic, Fran agreed to learn about Judaism and have a Jewish marriage and raise Jewish children. “The more I learned, the more I liked it. Religion is very personal, and today I am more Jewish than Ed is,” she said. They were married by Rabbi Heller at Temple Emanuel on March 23, 1975.

From a game of basketball in 1978, Ed was introduced to Barry Cohn, who later hired Ed as a staff accountant for his firm. This led to Barry asking Ed to join him in a new firm

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RABBI SHAWNA AND ISAAC BRYNJEGARD-BIALIK



Camp romances come and go. They are as fleeting as the summer breeze, fueled by the conviviality of campfires, stoked by the memorable music, fired with teenage angst. But, once in a harvest moon, they actually become lasting romances, continuing through the decades.

As a 15-year old, Shawna Brynjegard was a camper at Hilltop in Malibu when she spied 16-year old Isaac Bialik playing his guitar and singing a rock song by Love and Rockets “No New Tale to Tell.” This encounter was the beginning of one of those real camp romances. Isaac and Shawna became a couple that summer, and their partnership was firmly cemented.

Born in L.A., Isaac attended Hebrew school at Temple Israel of Hollywood, where he became a bar mitzvah and completed confirmation (and worked as a T.A. for Bruce Udelf, a former TAS teacher!). Through Temple Israel he got involved with the Greater Los Angeles Jewish Federation, which led him to a summer at Camp Swig, a summer in Israel with L.A. Ulpan and participation in programs like Dor Hadash, Havurat Noar and Halutz — where he met Shawna, and where they worked as counselors together.

Shawna grew up at TAS, where she was both consecrated and confirmed. She was a T.A. in our religious school and

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MAZEL TOV TO OUR APRIL B'NAI MITZVAH FAMILY

April 11

Mark and Briget Miller and Family on
the B'nai Mitzvah of Jason, Hannah and
Kaitlyn Miller



Temple
Ahavat
Shalom



TEMPLE AHAVAT SHALOM 2015 ANNUAL GALA



Honoring **Fran & Ed Handler**
Rabbi Shawna &
Isaac Brynjegard-Bialik

May 30, 2015 6:30 p.m.
Cocktails, Silent Auction, Dinner and Dancing
Calamigos Equestrian Center - Burbank



To order tribute ads, tickets or combination packages, please visit TASnorthridge.org/gala-2015

CONTINUED FROM COVER...

HANDLER CONTINUED...

in 1980 at which Ed became an equal partner. That firm is now called Cohn Handler Sturm. Ed continues to specialize as an expert in accounting for the apparel industry.

The Handler family grew to include two sons—Seth, 32, a CSUN grad who is a bass player and is building a career in the business side of the music industry; and Jared, who also earned his degree from CSUN, who works in management with Granville Cafe. When it came time to buy a home, they moved to the Valley and attended services at Temple Beth Ami, where Fran's sister (who also married a Jew and converted) belonged with her family.

In 1993 they moved to Northridge and began looking for a temple for their sons' Jewish education. Fran attended services at TAS and met some people she knew from Mayall Elementary School, where she was active on the PTA board and worked as a volunteer. She said she felt warmly welcomed by Rabbis Brown and Stern. The next week, Ed came to an open house to join. "I walked in and knew no one. Three people greeted me and walked me through the process. They were so friendly, and it felt so comfortable," Ed commented.

BRYNJEGARD-BIALIK CONTINUED...

remembers Rabbi Lutz convincing her to attend the BJE camp programs. Shawna credits Rabbi Phil Nadel for helping her realize that she wanted to be a rabbi by sending her to Cincinnati to attend a retreat when she was 17. Shawna said, "It made it seem possible for a normal person to be a rabbi and have a life. I found out I could do all the things I loved at camp in the rabbinate. It was a real possibility."

Married in 1994, the B2s graduated from UCLA before heading off to Israel for Shawna's first year at Hebrew Union College. The year in Israel provided Isaac with the time to explore his creative side. He visited Israeli artists in their studios, spent a lot of time at the Israel Museum and taught himself paper cutting and Hebrew calligraphy; and he began making his own art. The first piece he completed was a gift for Shawna. He began experimenting by adding comic books to his work a decade ago, finding a way to merge his love of comics and making art with his joy in reading Jewish text. "Shawna inspires me — she's my muse," he said. "We study together, and her ideas drive a lot of what I create." His work is truly a collaboration and holds layers and layers of meaning.

After three years at the Cincinnati campus of HUC, the B2s returned to L.A. where Shawna wrote her thesis on Interfaith Families and the Synagogue while caring for a newborn and a two-year-old. She was ordained in 2002 and

Soon, Fran got involved in Sisterhood where she received the same warm welcome. "TAS never disappoints," she said. "This place is like home for our family." Both Seth and Jared celebrated their bar mitzvahs at TAS. The Handlers, along with Karen and Howard Schnee, are founding members of Havurah Nagillah, a very involved and connected havurah.

Fran is a very creative artist who teaches classes on tole painting and decorative arts...another link to the Gala theme. Ed has been very active with a number of charities including the City of Hope and also with the Board of Directors and Executive Board of the California Fashion Association.

The Handlers have been extremely generous to TAS over the years, in their very quiet way. Ed says he would like to be more involved, but his disabling spinal condition prevents him from participating fully. Their style, they said, is to remain anonymous. We are all glad they accepted the invitation to share this Gala with the Brynjegard-Bialiks. Fran, Ed, Jared and Seth are looking forward to celebrating with their entire family and their temple community.

Fran Krimston

has worked at TAS ever since—teaching Hebrew, conducting High Holy Day services, leading Torah study, directing the Caring Community and handling the myriad duties of a congregational rabbi. She led the Torah restoration project for our synagogue, and got Isaac involved to lead the marketing efforts associated with it.

Isaac is an artist with a day job — he's been employed by Deloitte for 18 years in a variety of capacities, including six years as the senior communications manager for Deloitte's chairman. His current role is a creative one, and he describes it as "where communications strategy, design, and new media converge." What makes their family function smoothly is that Isaac telecommutes, working with his national team from his home studio.

Shawna claims that what makes their marriage work is that Isaac does the dishes! With the activities of their daughters—Aviva, 11, Yael, 13 and Mira, 15—they manage to carve out time together to do the things they love. You will find the family hiking in various national parks, white water rafting, riding their bikes at the beach and going to Camp Newman. Both parents have served as faculty for the last nine years. Isaac commented, "Shawna and I grew up together, and now we are watching our daughters thrive in an environment enriched with Jewish life."

Fran Krimston

TO OUR TEMPLE FAMILY,

As many of you know, we were given devastating news at the end of December that Cheryl was diagnosed with AML, a form of Leukemia. We were told that Cheryl would need intense chemotherapy and eventually followed up with a bone marrow transplant. Lynn and Mike Doner and Bruce and Terry Hatkoff went



into action to put together a bone marrow drive, with the help of so many others from the temple and our family. We had no idea if anyone would show up, but we hoped to get a dozen people tested. That Sunday, February 8th, while Cheryl was taken by private air ambulance to MD Anderson Cancer Center in Houston, we had no idea of the turnout at the temple. We have been told that over 100 people showed up with almost 80 people being tested. People stopped by to support what was going on. The outpouring of concern, support and love from our temple community as a whole was overwhelming, and we thank you from the bottom of our hearts.

One of the reasons we belong to our temple is to have a support system during good times and during bad. The temple membership truly has stepped up in our case with constant prayers, concern, cards and letters. I know the community has stepped up for others when in need.

Our very grateful thanks to one and all. Although we are still in Houston, we will beat this and we will be back.

With love,

Brian and Cheryl Hatkoff.

T A S T O N Y C

As a former TAS member, I've called NYC home for nearly 10 years. Over the last 7 years I've had the privilege of helping TAS members, their family and friends to rent, buy, sell and invest in residential real estate in New York City.

"You made what was overwhelming for us... easy. You are knowledgeable, organized and professional. You were fully prepped for us to succeed during our very limited time frame and we left with a signed contract and an apartment Kim loves." -- Wendy Krowne (TAS Member)

Would you like to receive information on the real estate market and happenings around NYC? Please call or send me your email address. You can unsubscribe at any time.

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MEN OF TEMPLE AHAVAT SHALOM (MoTAS)

MoTAS AS ROLE MODELS

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

"It's In You"



Recently, I had the pleasure of attending a Shabbat service at Wilshire Blvd. Temple. During the service, Rabbi Leder talked about the Torah portion, which included a detailed description of the building of the Tabernacle. He pointed out that although one might think the Tabernacle

was being built as the home for G-d, the portion is clear that it wasn't. Rather, the notion was that G-d would reside in the Jewish people, G-d would be a part of each and every one of us.

That resonated with me, and that resonance became strong when I thought of MoTAS. What makes us strong as

MoTAS is not the buildings we meet in or even the specific things we do — it is the spirit within us that binds us as brother to brother. It is the relationships between men that turn into friendships, and those friendships that turn into unbreakable bonds that are essentially at the level of family. It is this connection and spirit that makes MoTAS special. It is one of the reasons why those of use active in MoTAS love our MoTAS brothers.

We invite you to join the bond: be part of our brotherhood of friends. Come to a membership meeting, come to one of our activities, or just come up to one of us at a Shabbat and say "Shalom." You're always welcome with us.

Note: These commentaries are first posted as a featured entry on the MoTAS Website, www.tasnorthridge-motas.org; they are then shared in the Menorah the month after they are posted. You're invited to discuss this article at <http://wp.tasnorthridge-motas.org/2015/03/01/its-in-you/>.

MOTAS ANNUAL APPEAL

The doors haven't yet closed on the MoTAS Annual Appeal. This appeal is very important, for MoTAS has no membership dues.



Being a man and being a member of TAS automatically make you a member of MoTAS. Further, TAS does not financially support MoTAS, so the dues you pay to TAS are not indirect dues to MoTAS. MoTAS survives on your contributions — they provide the funds that permit MoTAS to do many of our activities over the year. I urge you to participate in the MoTAS Annual Appeal — and other TAS fundraisers such as the Gala -- at a level that is comfortable to you. Numbers are suggested on forms, but what is truly important is to demonstrate that MoTAS and TAS are important through your participation. To support MoTAS, visit <http://support.tasnorthridge-motas.org/>. We thank you in advance for your contributions; contributions \$100 or over will be acknowledged on our Wall of Honor. Information on supporting TAS through the Gala is elsewhere in this issue.

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

APRIL MEETING - FOOD FORWARD

On Sunday, April 12, MoTAS is joining with the Social Action Committee for their regular Sundays of Service. We start at the MoTAS Meeting, where our speaker will be from Food Forward (<http://foodforward.org/>), a volunteer-powered non-profit that rescues fresh local produce that would otherwise go to waste, connecting this abundance with people in need, and inspiring others to do the same. Volunteers convene at private properties, public spaces, and farmers and wholesale markets to recover excess fruits and vegetables, donating 100% to local direct-service agencies who feed our community's most vulnerable. Combined, our diverse distribution partners provide food to over 100,000 clients a month across Southern California.



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Our speaker will be Samantha Hill, Backyard Harvest Coordinator, a Los Angeles native who recently moved back to California after a 6 years in NYC. While she enjoyed her time living in the big apple earning a Masters Degree in Food Studies from NYU, operating a youth education program at farmers markets by day and crafting cocktails behind the bar by night, she always knew (particularly during the winter months) Southern California would eventually be where she called home again. She is thrilled to bring her experience educating students about the importance of eating fresh, local produce to Food Forward to help Southern Californian's further appreciate and engage with the bounty of regional fruit trees we are blessed to live among.

As usual, we start with breakfast at 8:45 a.m., followed by our activity review at 9:00 a.m. and our speaker at 10:00 a.m. At this meeting, we'll be announcing the results of the nominating committee. If you are interested in running for MoTAS office, please contact Bob Levine at pastpresident@tasnorthridge-motas.org.

After a lunch break, we'll be rejoining the Social Action crew to pick fruit from a designated household in Northridge. The picking will start at 1:00 p.m. and go until 3:00 p.m. To RSVP, contact TAS SOS Coordinator, Shellie Turer at (818) 993-2255, or via e-mail at: PetsRPeopleToo@att.net. Space is limited to 15-20 volunteers, so sign up now!!

APRIL MEN'S HANGOUT

On Sunday, April 12 at 7:00 p.m. — the evening of our next speakers meeting, we will be having our bimonthly Men Only Hangout. No dinner this time — just dessert and wine. This is coordinated by Dave Friedman, so if you are interested in attending, please contact Dave at vp2@tasnorthridge-motas.org or call (818) 360-2323. Space is limited.

MAY ACTIVITIES

Due to, Mothers' Day on May 10, and the Congregational Meeting on May 17, our monthly speaker meeting, featuring Jerry Fenning will be on Sunday, May 3. Jerry will be talking about the work



being done to foster a vibrant renewal of Judaism in Poland. Working together, the Friends of Jewish Renewal in Poland along with the World Union for Progressive Judaism and the European Union for Progressive Judaism are opening the doors of Judaism to many of Poland's estimated 200,000 potential Jews and building the framework for renewed religious life. Our outreach programs focus on educating individuals and helping them build Progressive religious communities, or havurot, which are incipient congregations. So far we have established havurot in numerous Polish cities. Some are on their way to becoming congregations. Jewish Renewal in Poland embraces continuity with the Jewish past in Poland, but it is not a memorial project.

RECENT ACTIVITIES

MAN OF THE YEAR DINNER

On Saturday, March 7th, MoTAS was pleased to join MRJ West in honoring our Man of the Year, Bob Levine, at the MRJ West Regional Man of the Year Dinner. The picture to the right shows Charlie Niederman



(Past President of MRJ-West), Scott Yollis (2014 Man of the Year), Bob Levine (2015 Man of the Year), Mark Singer (Past President of MRJ-West), and Steve Zonis (2014 Man of the Year).

PURIM CARNIVAL THANK YOU'S

Thank you to all the men that volunteered to help with the food service at the Purim Carnival: Mike Rayfield, Les Birken, Howard Miller, Rick Mervis, Mike Thornhill, Jeff Shulman, Scott Yollis. Special thanks to Bob Levin for coordinating the activity. Thank you also to all the men who weren't on our list because they were volunteering at other booths, such as Larry Hoffman at the ticket booth. All of you are MoTAS volunteers as well (and apologies to any we missed). Additionally, the President of MoTAS ran the board gaming activity.

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YELLOW CANDLE PROJECT



The March meeting of MoTAS was the annual Yellow Candle preparation meeting, where we assemble and pack yellow Yom HaShoah candles for mailing to all congregants. Hopefully, you have received your candle by now.

Yom HaShoah begins the evening of April 15 (who can forget that day), and the Men of TAS invites you to join us in lighting our candles — a congregation strong — to remember the holocaust and to keep the fight against antisemitism alive. Thank you to Steve Zidell for coordinating the activity this year, to Mike Rayfield, Frank Soronow, and Howard Miller for helping with the post office, and to everyone who helped pack boxes and assist with the logistics of this activity.

With the candles, we enclosed information on how to observe Yom HaShoah, as well as a calendar of events for MoTAS that extends into early 2016. We hope you'll be able to make some of our events. We also encourage you to use the envelope enclosed with the mailing to send in a little something to help cover the cost of mailing the candles.

SPORTS SQUARES

The Grants committee has chosen to fund the activities out of the Superbowl Squares proceeds: (1) a contribution to support alumni outreach from TAS to the children of TAS members attending college; (2) a gift for the students graduating from the TAS High program to encourage them to practice Judaism as they move into the real world. We also planned to purchase additional Shabbat-Only and Large-Print prayerbooks, but it turned out we already have those available – please remember to ask an usher if you need one. We will add the funds allocated to that purchase to the NCAA grant activity.



FOR MORE INFORMATION

Keep up to date with MoTAS with our weekly newsletter, which is also posted on the MoTAS Website at www.tasnorthridge-motas.org. Contact Aaron if you are not receiving the email. The best way to learn about us is to come to a MoTAS event or a TAS Shabbat, introduce yourself to anyone with a MoTAS nametag, and participate. We want to build a relationship with you.



EVENTS COMING SOON!

CAMP NEWMAN

FAMILY FUN FESTIVAL and
OPEN HOUSE with PJ LIBRARY®



SUNDAY APRIL 26TH, 11AM - 3 PM

Spend the day at Camp Newman in Santa Rosa!

Join our camp team and PJ Library® for a special day of fun camp activities for the whole family!

We will be providing tours and answering your questions about camp.

All ages welcome. Bring your friends. Bring a picnic or enjoy a camp style BBQ. Free admission.

Register at: CampNewman.org

URJ Camp
NEWMAN

PJ Library
JEWISH BIRTHDAY SERVICES AND MORE

JCF JEWISH COMMUNITY
FEDERATION
& ENDOWMENT FUND

FORMER TAS INTERN RABBI DENISE EGER ASSUMES PRESIDENCY OF CCAR



Temple Ahavat Shalom can take pride in having nurtured Rabbi Denise Eger, who, on March 16, 2015, became the president of Reform Judaism's Central Conference of American Rabbis. The CCAR, founded 126 years ago, is the oldest and largest rabbinic organization in North America. While pursuing her rabbinic studies, the future Rabbi Eger interned at TAS in 1985-86 under Rabbi Solomon F. Kleinman. Following her ordination in 1988, Rabbi Eger was appointed as the full-time rabbi of Beth Chayim Chadashim in Los Angeles, the world's first gay and lesbian congregation.

In 1992, Rabbi Eger played a seminal role in the founding of Congregation Kol Ami, a Reform synagogue in West Hollywood with a diverse membership of LGBT and other individuals. Rabbi Eger also has served as president of the Board of Rabbis of Southern California. She is a nationally recognized human rights activist and an advocate for gay marriage with full equality for all couples regardless of sexual orientation.

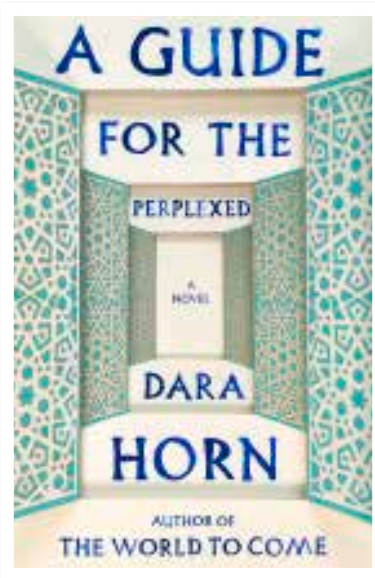
Hal Bass



BOOK GROUP APRIL MEETING WILL FEATURE DARA HORN'S "A GUIDE FOR THE PERPLEXED"

Borrowing her title from Maimonides' seminal work, author Dara Horn has written a novel that combines compelling contemporary characters with such historical figures as Rabbi Solomon Schechter and the sage Moses Maimonides himself.

The plot involves Josie Ashkenazi, wife, mother and computer software genius, who travels to present-day Egypt on a consulting job. When Josie is kidnapped, the story recalls the biblical tale of the imprisoned Joseph. The plethora of data available in the digital frontier, as exemplified by Josie's work, intersects with the voluminous material discovered in the



1890s in the medieval Cairo Geniza by Solomon Schechter. In addition, several sets of siblings and their rivalries spice up the story.

Cathy Meyers will facilitate our discussion on Thursday, April 9. Refreshments are available in the Rothenberg Library/Chapel at 7:00 p.m. and the discussion begins promptly at 7:30 p.m. A \$5 per person donation is requested.

Phyllis & Hal Bass

ECEC



We spent last month preparing for Purim. The children made costumes to wear at our school parade. In keeping with the theme of the TAS Purim Carnival, our costumes reflected fun and games. Our littlest children were the dice that we need to play these games. Our Monkeys became Candy Land game boards and our Lions were the clowns that made us laugh. We all paraded around the building, led by our clergy and Barb, who also dressed up for the day. They acted out the Purim story for us and led us in much singing and dancing. Of course, everyone baked and ate many very delicious hamantaschen.

The ECEC faculty spent a day at the BJE Bebe Feuerstein Early Childhood Institute. The theme this year was *Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Math through a Jewish Lens*. The keynote speaker was Deborah Schein, who spoke about bringing spirituality into the classroom. There was much for us to learn, and we returned to school with renewed energy and excitement.



Our ECEC luncheon, our major fundraiser, was a great success. Thanks to Brooke Lieberman and her wonderful committee for all their hard work, and to all of you who supported our school. We were thrilled to have had such a wonderful turnout from the ECEC. The delicious lunch was catered by Falafelicious, followed by an amazing dessert table prepared by Allison Miles.

Now, we are preparing for Passover. The children have learned the story, made seder plates, afikomen holders, matzah plates and frogs, which are jumping here, there

and everywhere. We have invited parents to join us for the ECEC seder and plan on impressing everyone with the children's rendition of the Four Questions, or at least the first one of the four. Expect this event to be one with as much singing as eating.

We will be closed throughout the week of Passover and will return to see much progress has been made with our beautiful new playground on the west side of the school.



Thanks to Temple member and SK Landscaping owner, Steven Kinzler, for his work designing and preparing the great space. Thanks also to all the donors that made this new addition happen!

Later this month, we will celebrate Yom Ha'Atzmaut by flying on a "school airplane" to visit Israel. While in this lovely land, we will visit the Western Wall to put messages in the crevices, go to a shuk for a snack and definitely practice some Israeli dancing. These different areas will all be made and set up by the children and the teachers.

Our enrollment for the 2015/2016 school year has started. If you know of anyone who might be interested in touring the school or receiving an application form, please ask them to contact me. We will be enrolling children from 18 months old to 4 years old, starting this August, and our Infant Toddler Childcare Center is targeted to be up and running by January 2016.

Wishing you all a Chag Sameach.

L'Shalom,

Tessa Cramer,
ECEC Director



CHILI COOK OFF!

**Sunday April 12 11am
Temple Parking Lot**

**Chili!
Ice Cream!
Drinks!**

**\$1/taste or
6 tastes for \$5
Vote for your
favorite!**



PURIM CARNIVAL THANKS!!



All good things must come to an end. Jill Cullen and I have co-chaired the Purim Carnival for the past four years, and the time has come for others to put their own stamp on this always joyous event. We have been so fortunate to have had the best and most enduring committee

members to help make this event run so smoothly year after year. We hope they will continue to help out the next Chair or Chairs as they have done so for Jill and I.

We could not have considered even planning an event without the generosity of our Purim Carnival Underwriters. They are the foundation upon which we are able to begin to design. We are also thankful for the kindness of our sponsors, both temple related and individual families.

All of the volunteers, who give generously of their time

and energy, especially Bob Levin who kindly donated not only his time, but also the wonderful falafel and all of the ice for the drinks in the TAS food tent manned by the Men of TAS. We also appreciate the involvement of the ECEC moms and we hope that they will continue their involvement!

Our dedicated committee is the structure that forms all of the components of the carnival that make it run so smoothly and makes it such a pleasure to work together and watch our ideas come to fruition- Lynn, Ken, Sue, Dori, Sarah, Ava, Doris, Sheila, Bob, Lane and Sandy.

We hope that everyone who attended had a blast!

*Deena Widran
Jill Cullen
Co-Chairs*

WE WISH TO THANK THE FOLLOWING IN HONOR OF THEIR GENEROSITY AND SUPPORT:

UNDERWRITERS

RON & SANDY FRIEDMAN
ED & FRAN HANDLER
PAUL & SUE ISSLER
BARRY & WENDY KROWNE
KEN & LYNN MILES
BARRY & CATHY PEARLMAN

BOOTH SPONSORS

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PURIM CARNIVAL SPONSORS

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PAK'D PIZZA
THE SILVER FAMILY
VILLAGE TANDOOR
THE WIDRAN FAMILY

SPECIAL THANKS

JENNIFER CULLEN
TAS CUSTODIAL STAFF
THE DELI DOCTOR TRUCK
THE ECEC MOMS
FROZEN CRUSH
THE GREASY WIENER
KEN MILES-GAMEMAKER
EXTRAORDINAIRE
THE PARADISE COOKIE TRUCK
REAL GENIUS
ENTERTAINMENT
SOPHIA REDONDO
AARON SOLOMON

PURIM CARNIVAL COMMITTEE

DEENA WIDRAN - Co Chair
JILL CULLEN - Co Chair
DORIS BAUM
SUE DUBOW
DOROTHY HOFFMAN
LANE JOEL
SANDY JOEL
BOB LEVIN
SARAH LONDER
KEN MILES
LYNN MILES
SHEILA REBACK
AVA SILVER

*Thank
You!*

SPOTLIGHT ON SISTERHOOD

PROGRAMMING



On Thursday evening, March 19, we had our annual Sisterhood Seder. This year the theme was Asian and everything, from the amazing Haggadah that told the story of the Jewish journey to China and life in the Far East to the menu, the

ritual foods on the Seder plate, the decorations, and even the clothing that many women wore, had an Asian flavor. It was a wonderful event attended by 130 women.

Many, many thanks to our committee for their hard work in making this Seder so successful: Laraine Miller, Rhonda Mayer, Karen Schnee, Sue Issler, Mel Birken, Judy Stehr, Alyce Schultz-Rozsa, Dana Zinderman, Sheila Reback and Diane Levine. Thank you to Rabbi Shawna, Cantor Jen, and to Cantorial Intern Lily Tash for leading such a beautiful service. A special thank you to caterer Marcy Feldman and Chef Scott Gordon of Cielo Catering for going above and beyond to create a menu and atmosphere that captured the theme perfectly. Thank you to Sherry Lucks for preparing all the delicious charoset, made with Korean pears, and to Sandra Mast for making amazing kosher-for-Passover almond cookies. Please let me know if you would like the recipes.

The Seder was sold out, and we even had a waiting list! Who knows where we'll go next year, but we hope you'll join us on the journey.

Arlene Stone, Committee Chair

CHILI COOKOFF

Sunday, April 12, right after Religious School, we are hosting a Chili Cookoff in the Temple parking lot. Come pick up your kids and partake of the chili! Sample the various chilis and vote for your favorite. There will be ice cream and drinks to cool your palette. Only \$1/taste - taste as many as you like and vote for (up to) as many as you taste.



APRIL SISTERHOOD EVENT

Rabbi Lutz will be joining us to discuss how we can make prayer real. We will learn what the Shabbat prayers mean

and how to write our own special prayers based on the traditional ones. Come join us on Thursday, April 16 at 7 p.m. in the Social Hall. Sisterhood members are free; \$5 for non-members. Any questions- email Erika Barnathan taserika@gmail.com.

WANT A MORE ADULT CELEBRATION?

Then come to Bingotini on Saturday, April 25 at 7 p.m. in the Activity Center. The cost is \$30 for the best martinis and bingo around -that is if you RSVP before April 18. The price goes up to \$36 after and at the door. Not a martini drinker? Don't worry - we will have yummy smoothies for anyone who eschews alcohol. Mail checks to Sue Cohen, 22349 James Alan Circle, Chatsworth, CA 91311. Call Carol Bizar-Morton at (818) 894-6113 with questions.



MAH JONGG



Mah Jongg enthusiasts will want to be at the Temple on Sunday, April 26, for our annual Mah Jongg tournament (the best Mah Jongg Tournament in the Valley!)

SAVE THE DATE:

Friday, May 8th - Sisterhood Dinner and Shabbat (more info to come)

Sunday, May 31st - Sisterhood Donor Luncheon

EDUCATION



Thank you to the youth who applied for our Campership Applications in March.

Roseanna Sculler at rsuller@aol.com, (818) 886-7320 or Eileen Roseman at scoobydoodle1@mac.com, (818) 807-3917 Education Co Vice Presidents.

... CONTINUED ON PAGE 14

ONEG SPONSORSHIP



Is there an event, a person or a memory you would like to honor in a special way?

Are you celebrating a birthday or an anniversary? Have you experienced a career change, a graduation or a new home? Are there people in your life you

want to pay special tribute to, or would you like to honor the memory of loved ones?

If you want to celebrate, to honor or to remember, please consider marking the occasion by sponsoring an Oneg Shabbat. We would like to share the time with you, hear the story behind the sponsorship and help you make the occasion a bit more special. In addition, your sponsorship will go a long way to support the work of the Sisterhood for our Temple, our youth and the Jewish community.

If you have questions or are interested in sponsoring an Oneg, please contact the Temple Office at: (818) 360-2258.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT MAH JONGG

Don't miss out on our monthly Mah Jongg games. We play on the fourth Wednesday of every month at 6:15 p.m. at the Temple. We always have a teacher there to give lessons, but you can't learn if you don't show up! Every level of play is accommodated.

Don't miss out. There is a \$5 donation to play. Contact Anita Hoch for more information anitapearl47@gmail.com.



COUPONS FOR MILITARY FAMILIES



TAS Sisterhood is pleased to announce that this month we were able to send two boxes of coupons to overseas bases. The coupons went to Japan, to the Air Force/Marine Unit and to the Navy. The families appreciate the coupons, as prices are very high overseas.

Thank you for cutting and sorting your coupons. They should be sorted into envelopes and labeled "FOOD" and "NOT FOOD" This makes it more convenient for the recipients to find what they need.

The boxes sent are the very largest Flat Rate. These go to an APO, therefore we pay domestic postage. The boxes are stuffed as full as possible, and several pounds of coupons make



their way to those who need them.

While they do accept expired coupons, all coupons must be cut. Sheets of uncut coupons cannot be sent out and will be recycled. Volunteers who can cut coupons are welcome. If you have any questions or would like to volunteer to cut coupons, please

call Mel Birken at (818) 366-2397.

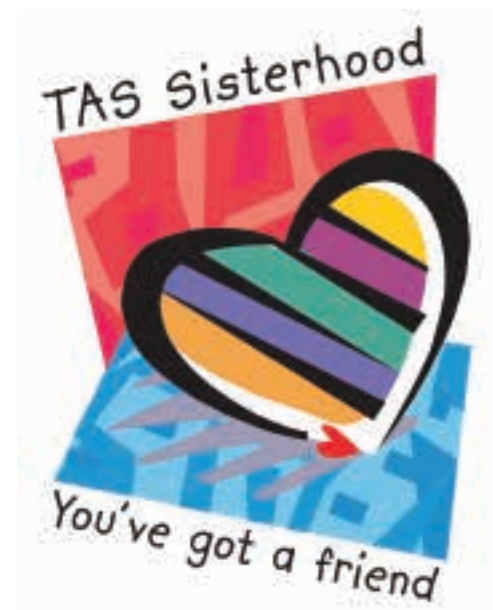
MENCHIE'S FUNDRAISER

Please support us on every 20th of the month till June by stopping in any time all day for some Frozen Yogurt at Menchie's by the Winnetka Theaters ONLY. **Just say "TAS SISTERHOOD fundraiser"** and TAS Sisterhood will get a percentage of your purchase.



Menchie's: 9201 Winnetka Ave, Unit E Chatsworth (818) 717-8128 (next door to Winnetka Theaters)

Sue Sculler
Temple Ahavat Shalom Sisterhood President





SISTERHOOD TRAVELS TO THE FAR EAST TO CELEBRATE PASSOVER





TEMPLE AHAVAT SHALOM SISTERHOOD



CORDIALLY INVITES YOU TO OUR SPRING 2015
MAH JONGG TOURNAMENT
SUNDAY, APRIL 26, 2015



Continental Breakfast & Registration at 8:30 am
Play begins promptly at 9:00 am
Cost \$36

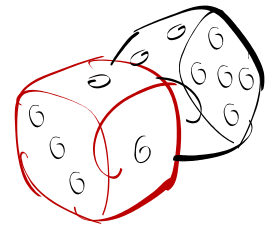


Includes play, delicious chicken lunch, snacks & dessert
Fun opportunity drawings with great gifts
No refunds for cancellations less than 5 days before the event
Find us at: 18200 Rinaldi Place Northridge, CA 91326
(Rinaldi and Chimineas-Reseda Exit off 118)

- I will bring my Mah Jongg Set and Dice
- I am willing to be East & keep score

Any questions:
Email -
Phyllis Bigelson
phyllis@bigelsoncpa.com
or
Call—
Judith Nachenberg
(818) 764-6240

Please make check payable to:
TAS Sisterhood and mail check & form to
Judith Nachenberg
7037 Park Manor Avenue
North Hollywood, CA 91605



Name: _____
 Address: _____
 City/Zip: _____
 Phone: _____ Email _____

TAS SUNDAYS OF SERVICE

WALK WITH TAS TO HELP END GENOCIDE



Join the TAS team! Do your part to help innocent victims of human rights abuses around the world by participating in the **Jewish World Watch Walk to End Genocide**.

The 9th Annual Walk to End Genocide, **Sunday, April 19, 9:00 a.m. to 1:00**

p.m. starting at Pan Pacific Park, 7600 Beverly Blvd. in Los Angeles. Jill Cullen, our Jewish World Watch liaison, has registered our congregation's team for this year. Please register today at <http://la.walktoendgenocide.org/> (be sure to sign up under 'Team TAS'), and help spread the word! If you are unable to walk yourself, you may also participate and support the event from this web site as a "virtual walker".

The Walk is a 5K (just under 3 miles) around the Park and is on paved surfaces. Registration begins at 9:00 a.m. and the Walk program starts at 10:00 a.m. JWW has arranged for parking at Pan Pacific Park and at the CBS Parking lot accessible off of North Genesee Ave. Carpooling is encouraged.

Before and after the Walk, check out the information and advocacy booths, solar cooker demonstrations, crafts, merchandise, food, music and more. It's not just a walk – it's a celebration of our community of conscience.

We will walk to let our local community and the world know that we will not stand idly by while human rights violations continue to impact the lives of innocent men, women and children. Come make a difference as part of our TAS Team!



ASSIST HOMELESS MEN WITH YOUR CLOTHING DONATIONS



The Social Action Committee and our TAS family have an opportunity to assist the homeless! During April we are collecting new and gently used underwear to benefit homeless men through our TAS Social Action Partner, MEND (Meet Each Need With Dignity).

MEND Pacoima specially assists the homeless each Tuesday. They have recently expanded their homeless services, giving showers to 20 of the Valley's neediest people. We are collecting clean men's underwear (t-shirts and loose boxer shorts; no socks) to aid in their campaign.

Please leave donations in the blue marked barrels. If you would like a receipt, leave your name, address and list of what you are donating.

Thank you for being a great support to our partner MEND and doing mitzvot at this Passover time of year.

Questions? Contact Judy Stehr at jesterjudy@gmail.com or call (818) 744-6227.

TAS SUNDAYS OF SERVICE AND MEN OF TAS JOIN FOOD FORWARD TO:

- HARVEST FOOD
- FIGHT HUNGER
- BUILD COMMUNITY



This month, TAS Sundays of Service (SOS) will be teaming up with our very own Men of TAS (MoTAS) and Food Forward, together; we join this incredible organization to nourish the needy in our community. And it's wonderful to volunteer with Food Forward since 100% of the harvested fruit and vegetables are donated to local food pantries across Southern California, including our social action partners SOVA and MEND.

Since forming in 2009, Food Forward has harvested almost 1.4 million pounds of fruit from its Backyard Harvest Program, all of which has fed the hungry. That impressive quantity has increased almost six-fold – to nearly 8 million

... CONTINUED ON PAGE 18

pounds of food recovered, altogether – through the successful launch of its Wholesale Market Recovery Program last year. Let's celebrate the spring season by picking fruit for others in need. You'll be so glad you did!

- WHO:** Everyone of all ages can join in the harvesting fun!
- WHAT:** A local backyard fruit pick
- WHERE:** Designated residence in the Northridge
- WHY:** To supply our local food pantries with fresh fruit to nourish others in need in our community
- WHEN:** Sunday, April 12, 2015
1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.
- HOW:** Roll up your sleeves, grab your gloves, and start pickin'!
- RSVP:** To TAS SOS Coordinator, Shellie Turer at (818) 993-2255, or via e-mail at: PetsRPeopleToo@att.net
Space is limited to 15-20 volunteers, so sign up now!

MAY 17TH - CITRUS SUNDAY AT TAS

What is Citrus Sunday?



Citrus Sunday is an annual fruit-picking drive that brings tens of thousands of pounds of fresh oranges and grapefruit to Valley families served by food banks. This wonderful

event is co-sponsored by Councilmember Englander of Council District 12, its Neighborhood Councils, and Valley Interfaith Council, in a community-wide effort to provide more than 100,000 struggling San Fernando Valley residents with this nutritious food supplement.

For the fifth consecutive year, our Social Action Committee is again partnering with Porter Ranch Neighborhood Council (PRNC) to offer Citrus Sunday. As a temple community and first-time co-sponsor of Citrus



Sunday in May 2011, we had a tremendous outpouring of support from our members. We picked citrus fruit by the bushel, collectively donating nearly a ton of fresh fruit – filling 35 boxes – to nourish our neighbors in need.

We need you! Let's pick more than a ton this year!

- WHAT:** Citrus Sunday
A fresh fruit drive co-sponsored by Council District 12 to benefit struggling San Fernando Valley families
- WHERE:** TAS Parking Lot -- A designated drop-off location (for PRNC)
- WHY:** To help our community neighbors by providing families served at food banks with fresh fruit
- WHEN:** Sunday, May 17th
8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
- HOW:**
- ~ Pick your citrus fruit
 - ~ Recruit your friends and neighbors, too
 - ~ Bring it all to TAS

CONTACT: TAS SOS Coordinator Shellie Turer at (818) 993-2255, or by e-mail at petsrpeopletoo@att.net with any questions.

Remember: It takes a village to feed a village.

BIG SUNDAY - PITCH IN! HELP OUT! GIVE BACK!

What is Big Sunday?

Big Sunday is a nonprofit organization that works to build community through community service with the belief that everyone has some way they can help someone else. Last year on Big Sunday weekend, thousands of volunteers turned out

to lend a hand at hundreds of different projects from San Diego to San Francisco, making it one of the largest regional community service events in America.



... CONTINUED ON PAGE 19

Big Sunday Weekend is a three-day festival of service, bringing together tens of thousands of people, of all ages and all backgrounds, to work together at hundreds of nonprofits, schools and other agencies that need their help. Projects are scheduled throughout the weekend, and can last anywhere from one hour to two days.

If you'd like to volunteer for a **Big Sunday Weekend** project on **May 1, 2 & 3**, you can join their e-mail list. Reminders, news and updates will be sent out starting on April 1, when the projects are posted on their website.

Here's the **Big Sunday** website link: <http://bigsunday.org/get-involved/project-signup/>

Please contact TAS' SOS Coordinator Shellie Turer at PetsRPeopleToo@att.net or at (818) 993-2255 with any questions.

"EVERYONE has some way that they can help somebody else."



**What
could be
better
than...**



+



=

FUN

Please join Sisterhood for a Temple Wide

Bingotini Night

Saturday, April 25, 2015

7:30pm

at Temple Ahavat Shalom

We will provide

Bingo, Martinis, Beer, Smoothies, Appetizers and Dessert

You provide the camaraderie

\$30 for RSVPs before April 18 - \$36 at the door



RSVP by sending a check payable to TAS Sisterhood to: Sue Cohen, 22349 James Alan Circle, Chatsworth 91311 or to the Temple Office.

Questions? Contact Carol Bizar-Morton at (818) 894-6113 or carolthebizar@yahoo.com



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- Create a Strategic Roadmap for long-term growth on your leadership journey



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An Evening with the Rabbi

Please join Rabbi Lutz for
Making Prayer Work



*Rabbi Lutz will discuss how we can make prayer real.
We will learn what the Shabbat prayers mean
to us and how to write our own special
prayers based on traditional ones.*



Thursday, April 16, 2015
7:00 · Social Hall
\$5 for non-members



TOYS...TOYS...TOYS



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Matthew Halpern's Mitzvah Project

**I Am Teaming Up With The Concern Foundation To Bring Toys To Children With Cancer!!!
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GENEROUS GIFTS

ANNUAL GIVING/ GENERAL FUND

Ken and Nancy Levin with our heartfelt condolences in memory of Dorothy Schwartz, the mother of Dr. Mark Schwartz
Bryan and Myrna Davis
Deborah S. Weissman

CANTOR'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

Howard and Bobbi Lehrman to Barry and Wendy Krowne and Sonny Siegel, "Thanks for a great evening", Love, Howard and Bobbi

CARING COMMUNITY FUND

Andy and Barry Mann to David Korduner sending wishes for a speedy recovery from shoulder surgery

EARLY CHILDHOOD FUND

Dr. Leon Hasson to support the new yard area
Anita and Steven Hoch in memory of Charlotte Weisberg

RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

Bonnie Covelli
Mark and Shelly Schwartz in memory of Dorothy E. Schwartz
In honor of Rabbi Shawna from our Havurah: Carol and Neil Bernstein, Vivian and Doug Gee, Gayl and Scott Gluck, Dori and Larry Hoffman, Toni Speyer, Laurie and Chuck Mondrus and Sharon and David Weinberg

VI AND DAVID LIEBER MEMORIAL MUSIC FUND

Amy Lieber and Family from Fran Krimston, "Amy Dear, May the wonderful memories of your Mom be a blessing." Love, Aunt Fran Marilyn Glick from Fran Krimston, "Sending you lots of love for a wonderful birthday. You are an inspiration to all." Always, Fran

Yahrzeits

Shelly, Lori, Jamie and Adam Garelik in memory of Meyer Garelik
Elaine and Jerald Pfefferman in memory of Bertha Fineman
Allan and Linda Guttentag in memory of Mark Guttentag
Rhonda, Michael and Carly Mayer in memory of Betty Krantz
Stacey Siegel and Marcia Siegel in memory of Ceilia Horowitz
Cherrill Mann in memory of Barnet Bornstein
Hildie Gold in memory of Lloyd D. Gold
Dorothy and Yale Doberne in memory of Goldie Brody
Anita and Steven Hoch in memory of Robert Heller
Anita and Steven Hoch in memory of Cynthia Purdy
Jim and Jo Schwartz in memory of William Schwartz
Jim and Jo Schwartz in memory of Anna Epstein
Aaron and Lisa Labowitz in memory of Estelle Aaron
Ethan and Ivy Stein in memory of Vivian Stein
Ethan and Ivy Stein in memory of Abraham Stein
Dorothy and Yale Doberne in memory of Morris Doberne
Jason and Christine Horowitz in memory of Seymour Fleit
Ethel Brook in memory of Marsha Ruth Hill
Beth and David Meltzer in memory of Joseph Meltzer
Shelly and Philip Trop in memory of Pearl Zelanka
Shelly, Lori, Jamie and Adam Garelik in memory of Adele Brook
Sheila Reback in memory of Charles R. Glass
Ruth and Max Lupul in memory of Arthur Werner
Ruth and Max Lupul in memory of Goldie Ann Werner
Alan and Jill Morgenstein in memory of Pauline Morgenstein
Arthur and Mary Hirsch in memory of Michael Hirsch
Roger and Bonnie Chlowitz in memory of Dorothy Chlowitz
Bruce and Terry Hatkoff in memory of Leon Hatkoff
Bruce and Terry Hatkoff in memory of David Alan Hatkoff
Joyce and Elliott Edelson in memory of Helen Milicov
Cathy Meyers in memory of Anna Goldfield
Cathy Meyers in memory of Goldye Grauer
Rebecca and David Breuer in memory of Ben Young

Robin and Michael Simon in memory of Meyer Greenberg
Robin and Michael Simon in memory of Martin Simon
Laura Weissnar in memory of Augusta Green
Sue Miller and Daryn Pakcyk in memory of Marvin Yellin
Sue Miller and Daryn Pakcyk in memory of Phyllis Goldenberg
Daryn Pakcyk in memory of Natalie Chessler
Marcy Eisenman in memory of Herbert Weissman
Michael and Jan Saltsman in memory of Joseph Saltsman
Isy and Jim Wiefel in memory of Esther Goldstein
Isy and Jim Wiefel in memory of Shirley Bernhardt
Anita and Steven Hoch in memory of Alfred Sherman
Mel and Les Birken in memory of Sophie Brown
Alan and Melissa Kassin in memory of Dennis Koran
Alan and Melissa Kassin in memory of Lee Kassin
Sheldon and Lynda Spector in memory of Pearl Spector
Sheldon and Lynda Spector in memory of Sara Liebert
Sheldon and Lynda Spector in memory of Ruby Liebert
Barry and Cathy Pearlman in memory of Barbara Furgatch
Barry and Cathy Pearlman in memory of Ruben Pearlman
Harriet and Keith Rosen in memory of Leonard Sway

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For more information call:
Fran Krimston
Family Advisor and Liaison to Temple Ahavat Shalom
310.641.0707 x 272
fran@hillsideMemorial.org

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APRIL 2015 AT TEMPLE AHAVAT SHALOM

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 No Hebrew School	2 11:00am - ECEC Passover Seder 4:00pm - Adult Intermediate Hebrew	3 Erev Pesach - First Seder Temple Offices Close at 3:00pm No Lay-led Torah Study No Erev Shabbat Service	4 Pesach - Second Seder
5 No Religious School	6	7 6:00pm - Sisterhood Board Meeting	8 7:15pm - JNET Meeting	9 4:00pm - Adult Intermediate Hebrew 7:00pm - Book Group Meeting 7:00pm - Gala Meeting 7:30pm - ECEC Parent Board Meeting 7:30pm - Religious School Parent Board Meeting	10 Last Day of Passover - Temple Offices and School Closed 6:45pm - Yizkor Service 7:30pm - Erev Shabbat Service	11 9:00am - Shabbat Morning Yoga 10:15am - B'nai Mitzvah of Jason, Hannah and Kaitlyn Miller 5:00pm - New Member Shabbaton
12 8:45am - Men of TAS Meeting 9:00am - Adult Hebrew 11:00am - Chili Cook Off 7:00pm - Men of TAS Men's Hang Out and Discussion with Dessert - Away	13 10:00am - Judaica Art Class	14 9:30am - Torah Study	15 6:00pm - Yom HaShoah Service 7:15pm - TAS Board Meeting	16 10:00am - Melton Class 4:00pm - Adult Intermediate Hebrew 6:00pm - ECEC Behavior Management Class 7:00pm - Sisterhood presents "Making Prayer Real" with Rabbi Lutz	17 7:00pm - Erev Shabbat Service 8:30pm - Lay-led Torah Study	18 9:30am - Torah on the Trail
19 9:00am - Adult Hebrew 5:00pm - Song Leader Boot Camp Concert	20 10:00am - Judaica Art Class 6:00pm - ECEC Rosh Chodesh Mom's Night Out	21 9:30am - Torah Study	22 6:15pm - Sisterhood Monthly Mah Jongg	23 10:00am - Melton Class 4:00pm - Adult Intermediate Hebrew 7:00pm - Budget and Finance Committee Meeting 7:00pm - Social Action Meeting - Away	24 6:00pm - Synaplex Cocktail Party 6:45pm - Erev Shabbat Early Service	25 9:00am - Spring Shabbaton 6:00pm - Bingotini
26 8:30am - Mah Jongg Breakfast and Check In 9:00am - Mah Jongg Tournament 9:00am - Adult Hebrew	27 10:00am - Judaica Art Class	28	29	30 10:00am - Melton Class 4:00pm - Adult Intermediate Hebrew		

The Menorah is . . .

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