



CHAI TIMES

TEMPLE BETH EMET OF BURBANK

Mark H. Sobel, Rabbi | Mark Greenfield, President

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JUNE, 2009

Rabbi Says:

“In a place where there are no Mensches, be thou a Mensch.” (Pirke Avot)



One morning last month, Mina woke me up telling me that neighbors were giving away a table for free. I said, “Okay”, turned over, thinking to myself, I Rabbi Mark H. Sobel, do not need to take freebie tables and chairs into my house, and promptly went back to sleep. About an hour later, being the dutiful husband that I am, I drove over and saw that it was, in fact, a nice table, but being it was too large for my car, went home to bring my wagon to carry it. By the time I got back to the front yard where the table was, someone else was loading it on his car.

Oh well. I thought, too late. But then it hit me. My pride had gotten the better of me. If someone had put a price tag on that table of \$50-\$100 dollars and Mina had prefaced her original statement with there’s a nice table someone is selling for \$50 let’s go look, I would have complained over the hour, not the price and gone right away to look. How our attitudes change when someone else puts an artificial price on something. How we discount when something is given freely without cost. How I hate the adage, “You get what you pay for”. It negates all concepts of volunteerism.

That same weekend, one of our graduates, to fill a large personal goal, devoted and donated himself, his family, his friends and some Temple members an entire day to beautifying the Temple. I could only marvel at the amount of aggravation we gave that young man and his father. We heard, we listened, we spoke, we doubted, we argued, we established committees and we criticized. Me, too, I am sorry to say. At the end of the day, the courtyard looked magnificent and there is more to come!!!!

(Continued on page 3)

June 6 – Last day of Religious School
“Teacher Appreciation Day”

Tuesday, June 9, 2009 at 7:30 PM
**Annual Meeting
of the membership of
Temple Beth Emet
& election of officers & directors
for the term
July 1, 2009 to June 30, 2010**



Saturday, June 27
**Men’s Club
BBQ & Raffle**

Monday, June 29 8:00 AM
to 5:00 PM

Life Line Screening

Temple Beth Emet is going to Israel
December 27, 2009 to
January 10, 2010
If you are interested in going, call Temple office. and leave your name with Lucy or Sylvia

President's message



Dear friends and fellow temple members,

This letter represents my culminating message as president of Temple Beth Emet. For the previous eleven months I have endeavored to share with you my thoughts, hopes, and feelings about issues relevant to our congregation and our community, and to sprinkle those messages with a bit of humor, when possible. Those of you who know me personally know I strive to face life's realities with a positive, take-charge, get-the-job-done approach, whether replacing a bulb or a computer system.

I believe that when a problem becomes apparent, it is incumbent upon leadership to resolve it in a logical, ethical way. This year, like all years, has had its share of problems, some carried over from previous years and others which are new.

When Naoma Goodman, a past president and valued member of our community, passed away this year, our membership, including myself, was unaware and unable to demonstrate our respect by attending her memorial. This was an injustice to a dear woman and to the people who loved her. As a result, I charged a committee with the task of investigating and setting up a temple-wide communication system. The result of this committee's work is our current phone tree.

Another concern was that over the past ten years or so, membership has hovered at around two hundred families, barely enough to sustain the temple during good economic times. To increase membership, the board discussed advertising methods. Some people pushed for wholesale distribution of a mailer coupon at \$2,500 a shot, some wanted to spend similar sums of money on newspaper ads, a dying medium. I pushed to reach out to the younger folks through an up-to-date, functional website. We now have a functioning website.

(Continued on page 9)

TEMPLE BETH EMET CONTACTS

President.....	Mark Greenfield.....	818-749-2839
Gift Shop.....	call Temple.....	818-843-4787
Havurah.....	Ruth Glick.....	818-780-9134
Host an Oneg.....	call Temple.....	818-843-4787
Men's Club.....	Jerry Engelberg.....	818-843-4787
PTA.....	Beth Rosen.....	818-843-4787
Reach Out.....	call Temple.....	818-843-4787
Singles Group.....	call Temple.....	818-843-4787
Sisterhood Membership	Ruth Glick.....	818-780-9134
Temple Enrichment.....	call Temple.....	818-843-4787
Temple Membership.....	Ruth Glick.....	818-780-9134
Temple Usage.....	call Temple.....	818-843-4787
Tributes.....	John Eisinger.....	818-842-5439
Ways and Means.....	Lisa De Luca.....	818-843-4787
Youth Group.....	call Temple.....	818-843-4787
Publicity.....	Yvonne Beltzer.....	818-848-6204

Rabbi William M. Kramer Z"L* Rabbibill.com

*May his memory be a blessing."

CHAI TIMES TempleBethEmet.com

Chai Times is a free, monthly newsletter delivered by mail or available on the Temple Beth Emet website.

Article submissions are welcomed and may be emailed directly to the Chai Times at

Office@TempleBethEmet.com

or by delivery to the Temple office. Articles will be published based on space available, relevant content, and at the discretion of the Editing Staff, Temple Officers and Directors.

Tribute Cards

Tribute cards are always in order for happy or sad occasions. These cards are a wonderful way to remember or honor someone. The cost of our Tribute cards is now \$3.00 each.

If you would like to send a card, just contact our Tribute Chairperson, John Eisinger at 818-842-5439, and he will do the rest.

If you have any suggestions or ideas on how we can better serve our members, Temple President, Mark Greenfield would like to hear from you. He can be reached at (818)749-2839 or you can call Temple office at (818) 843-4787.

Temple Beth Emet Officers and Board Members for 2008-2009

President:

Mark Greenfield

Executive Vice President:

Ira Goldstein

Vice Presidents:

*Ruth Glick Natalie Greenfield
Yvonne Beltzer Vicki Margolin
Neil Margolin*

Corresponding Secretary:

Naomi Aronoff

Recording Secretary:

Shirley Abramson

Treasurer:

Steve Abrams

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*Alana Beltzer George Davis
John Eisinger Jerry Engelberg
Jodi Gross Andrea McKinnon
Lucy Rafaeli Roni Rozankova
Barry Verdi Craig Weisman*

Rabbi Says: (Continued from page 1)

My point about both of these incidents is this: sometimes in our vision of what the Temple is to be, we lose sight on what it was built upon and what it is. It was built upon the foundation of REFORMING THE JEWISH COMMUNITY OF BURBANK AND GREATER LOS ANGELES. No matter how we view that, reform does mean to reform. The Jewish world of 5769 (2009) is much different than the Jewish world of 5719. The Burbank community today is much different now than in 1958. Temple Beth Emet was formed by people who sought an alternative vision to what was available to them then. These people, as they sought that vision, were each very different from the other. But one thing they had in common, they knew the way to grow would involve alternative dreams. Dream B could or would be the alternative to A; C could or would be the alternative to B, etc. Most importantly, our congregation, from the founding fathers and mothers on, has held most dearly and clearly in its Heart, that in order to make TBE the "Temple with a Heart", not just a 'part time Temple', we must have people willing to give their ideas, their thoughts, their blood, their sweat, their bones, their sinews and their spirits to help build the Temple. This commitment of time, energy and emotion some would call Volunteerism. I call it the highest form of TZEDAKAH, righteous behavior. And as one of the most important parts of my position as Rabbi is encouraging and increasing Tzedakah, here are my first sets of Mitzvoth of Tzedakah of Temple Beth Emet:

Say, I disagree, with any newly proposed idea and, then, provide a non-emotional why or at least an objective objection. Say, that idea is inconsistent with Temple Beth Emet policies and, then, provide an idea that is factually consistent with Temple Beth Emet's favorite policy which is "Always do Alternatives to Establishment Judaism when the need arises." Then, when the discussion has ended, in whichever way it does, devote your energies to making that decision a success, even if you question it. Friends, each of us gives from his/her unique reservoir of Giving, each has particular needs for his/her vessel of Receiving. Let us give to those who are in need from our need to give and let them give to us for our needs. B'ahava,

Rabbi Mark

June Yahrzeit Donations

Helen Taenzer Lott

*...In loving memory of **Erwin Taenzer***

Manuel Silverstein

*...In loving memory of **Dora Silverstein***

Mr. & Mrs. Roger Wasserman

*...In loving memory of **Madelynne Wasserman***

Alan Young

*In loving memory of **Ruth Young***

Jr. Choir in Shabbat ShaBroadway



Temple Member Chai Lights

Pursuant to the by-laws of Temple Beth Emet, notice is hereby given that the annual meeting of the membership of Temple Beth Emet will be held on Tuesday, June 9, 2009 at 7:30 p.m. at the Temple. The purpose of this meeting is the election of the officers and directors for the term July 1, 2009 to June 30, 2010, and such other and further business as may be presented.

Jeannie Mintz is teaching a summer math and algebra class for small groups of five to ten students. This is a lower cost alternative than private tutoring for students who haven't yet mastered these concepts during the school year. Classes are available through the Burbank Parks and Rec system. New brochures are out or sign-up on-line at: <http://tiny.cc/XFT9e>.

Thanks to Cody Weisman and Boy Scout Troop 210, our temple courtyard received a ***much-needed face-lift***. The Scouts replaced, sanded and stained five wooden benches, sanded and re-stained the wood trim on the patio floor, cleaned storm drains and gutters and repaired light fixtures. Congratulations, Cody, for a job well done!!



June
**Happy
Anniversary**

Rabbi Mark & Mina Sobel
Vickie & Abe Feinberg
Mary & John Manocchia
Merry & Ron Dacher
Genevieve & James Rosenberg
Tamara & Lance Sands
Shari & George Bloch
Barbara & Morris Bolter

Mitzvah of *bikkur holim*

We would like to know if you are ill, in the hospital (or being treated at home), not as an exercise in gossip, but as an opportunity for ***bikkur holim***, to extend a helping hand or a word of encouragement to the sick person. Yet it is quite possible you are not yet ready to share the private fact of being sick with us. We are ready, whenever, you are ready.

Sylvia Sutton was in the hospital, **Stuart Friedman** had knee surgery, **Lee Stacel**, **George Davis** and **Cecilia Kaufman** have been ill.

We miss seeing **Evelyn Jackman** at Temple. Hope to see her back soon.

**Remember the sick with cards,
calls and visits.**

Temple Beth Emet Community Needs

- ◆ Are you in need of employment?
- ◆ Are you in need of someone to employ?
- ◆ Do you need help with chores?
- ◆ Do you have housing needs, vehicle needs or miscellaneous needs?

This column was created to assist members in finding help with their needs. If you would like to place an announcement in this column, call the office and describe the need in 25 words or less, leave a suitable telephone number and your first name. We will post it in the next month's Chai Times for two issues.

**Please let us know if you are in
need of a job or if you are in need
of someone to employ.
Call Temple office.**

**Employment wanted:
Eager college student looking for
part-time/full-time employment.**

**Contact Temple office if you have
employment needs.**

Sisterhood



To Stacie Barlow,

A HUGE thank you for all your involvement with our Temple. From your help with the Bar/Bat Mitzvahs to all the home made goodies with which you shower us. Your enthusiastic participation and generosity have been invaluable and so very much appreciated.

Stacie, Thank you!

Life Line Screening will be here at the temple on Monday, June 29. They offer five tests:

Stroke/Carotid Artery Screening, Heart Rhythm Screening (Atrial Fibrillation), Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm Screening, Peripheral Arterial Disease Screening and Osteoporosis Screening. Pre-registration is required. Call: 1-800-679-5192.

New Advice About Bone-Density Tests
(taken from an article that appeared in a
UC Berkeley Wellness Letter)

Do all women in their fifties need a bone-density test? No, but a great many could benefit from knowing how their bones measure up. And at age 65 all women should be tested.

Osteoporosis is the abnormal thinning of the bone that often accompanies aging. It may lead to fractures and disability or even death; it affects men, too, though usually at more advanced ages.

Everyone, beginning as early as possible, should take all possible steps to keep bones strong. Regular weight-bearing exercise (brisk walking, weight-lifting, stair-climbing, or physical labor) is essential. So is a good diet, with an emphasis on calcium: low-fat or non-fat dairy products as part of a diet based on fruits, vegetables, and whole grains. Most older women need a calcium supplement to get their intake up to the recommended daily 1,200 to 1,500 milligrams of calcium. As you get older, you may also benefit from supplemental vitamin D, which is essential for bone-building. Many multivitamins contain 400 IU of vitamin D, the recommended daily intake for those age 51 to 70 (those over 70 need 600 to 800 IU). Of course, smokers should quit smoking, and drinkers should keep their intake moderate (at most two drinks daily for a man, one for a woman).

The last day of Religious School is Saturday June 6. It is also **Teacher Appreciation Day.** On behalf of everyone, I'd like to thank our teachers, Lucy and Rabbi Mark — we value your work!

As the 2008-2009 school year comes to an end, I want to thank everyone (Parents, Teachers, Students, Members) for participating. Whether your participation was providing the Religious School with requested items or volunteering at an event, your message to your child and the school was clear: I want to be involved in my child's Jewish education.

If you know of a child or family that would like to join us, please recommend our religious school. Adding friends to our Temple family makes us a stronger Temple community.


See you in September at our first day **Family Brunch & School Registration.**

Beth Rosen

Editorial--

As noted in this and last month's newsletter, temple elections will be held on Tuesday evening, June 9th. These elections will be part of the Annual General Membership meeting. "General Membership" — each and every member of the temple with an interest in seeing the temple flourish and grow should attend this meeting. Attending does not commit one to anything more than becoming informed, maybe asking a question or two and casting a vote as an "owner" of the temple. Our Temple With A Heart is coming to a crossroads. Unity and the desire for success and survival are what should be in everyone's hearts and minds as we start a new temple year. We are going to see new names joining the Board of Directors alongside an impressive list of seasoned veterans. This multi-generational involvement is what we need — the veterans guiding the [equally qualified] newbies. We all have so much to learn from each other! Our differences, various opinions and expertise, sometimes even a little conflict, are what make the world go 'round. Be informed, join the dialogue, *open your minds and hearts* and be a part of the give and take that makes our beloved Temple so special. — Andrea McKinnon

2009		June		5769
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	
	1	2	3	
7 <i>10:00 AM Sisterhood Meeting</i>	8	9 <i>7:30 p.m. Annual Meeting of the membership & election of officers & directors</i>	10 <i>6:15 PM Cribbage Club</i>	
14  <i>Flag Day</i>	15	16	17 <i>6:15 PM Cribbage Club</i>	
21 <i>9:30 AM Men's Club meeting and breakfast Father's Day The greatest gift I ever had came from G-d; I call him Dad! author unknown</i>	22	23	24 <i>6:15 PM Cribbage Club</i>	
28	29 <i>8:00 AM to 5:00 PM Life Line Screening</i>	30	1 <i>6:15 PM Cribbage Club</i>	
5	6	7	8 <i>6:15 PM Cribbage Club</i>	

2009		June		5769	
Thurs		Friday		Saturday	
4		5 7:30 PM Shabbat Services Oneg Shabbat hosted by Naomi Aronoff		6 9:00 AM Religious School (last day) "Teacher Appreciation Day" Alissa Aronoff Confirmation	
11		12 7:30 PM Shabbat Services		13	
18		19 7:30 PM Shabbat Services		20	
25		26 7:30PM Shabbat Services		27  Men's Shabbat Raffle	
2		3 7:30PM Shabbat Service		4 Independence Day	
9		10 7:30 PM Shabbat Services		11	

June Yahrzeits

NAME	REMEMBERED BY	DATE	NAME	REMEMBERED BY	DATE
<u>June 5 at Temple</u>			<u>June 19 at Temple</u>		
Peter Goldman	MM Ralph Sterling	June 1	Irene E. Kleinberg	Carole Eisinger	June 18
Susie Ferran	The Schaffer Family	June 1	Edward a. Goldsmith	Gary Goldsmith	June 18
Edith Schoen Borisoff	Paul Borisoff	June 2	Edward A. Goldsmith	Maion Goldsmith	June 18
Shirley Mason	Harriett Schwab	June 2	Dorothy Copalowitz	Congregation	June 18
Mildred Broomfield	Bernard Berman	June 3	Simon Kramer	Betty W. Kramer	June 19
Leonard N. Segall	Dee Segall	June 3	Stephen Kayser	Bennett Kayser	June 19
Marilyn Baker	Belle/Jack Baker	June 4	Jacob Nudelman	Harland Green	June 20
Sarah Weitzman	Jack Weitzman	June 5	Helen Pappert	Marilyn Pappert	June 20
Joseph Frischman	William Frischman	June 6	Herman Hahn	Fritz Philipsborn	June 20
			Ruth Levin	Nachama Bernard	June 20
<u>June 12 at Temple</u>			<u>June 26 at Temple</u>		
Peter Hurkos	Stephanie Hurkos	June 8	Belle Klivans	Dean Klivans	June 21
Judy Dangoor	Yonat Silvers	June 8	Aleck Hoffman	Linda Kranz	June 21
Rabbi William Kramer	Betty W. Kramer	June 8	Morris Feinsilber	Russell Beck	June 21
Maurice Beare	Audrey Beare	June 9	Morris Feinsilber	William Feinsilber	June 21
Selma Beck	Russell Beck	June 10	Ida Shvalb	Louis Schwab	June 22
Karl Teller	Mickey Teller	June 10	Helen Walton	Jeff Walton	June 23
Sidney Dash	Jerry Dash	June 10	Anna Carton	Elizabeth Rosen	June 23
Adele Pashow	Richard Emerson	June 12	James Pollard	Penny Pollard	June 23
Abe Jacobs	Roslyn Block	June 12	Albert Nelson	Arda Paley	June 24
Cecilia Feldman	Pamela Franklin	June 12	Nathan Mehlman	Phyllis Mehlman	June 26
Grace Libman	Gerald Libman	June 12	Seymour Steinberg	Steve Daniels	June 27
<u>June 19 at Temple</u>			<u>July 3 at Temple</u>		
Samuel Polakoff	Bertha Yaras	June 15	Irving Bibicoff	Bruce Bibicoff	June 27
Samuel Leon Bay	Sam Bay	June 15	Lona Katz	Frances Kleinberg	June 27
Regina Glatzer	Flo Mazzei	June 16	Melva Green	Harland Green	June 28
Mary Mazor	Joan Strauss	June 16	Minerva Sandelman	Joyce Feinsilber	June 28
Max Rosen	Elizabeth Rosen	June 16	Jerry Fox	Jules Fox	June 29
Minnie Stacel	Leroy Stacel	June 16	David S. Rudnick	Jules Fox	June 29
Vivian Liberson	Katie Liberson	June 17	Charles Kayser	Bennett Kayser	June 29
Vivian Liberson	Philip Liberson	June 17	Martin G. Kashuk	Warren Kashuk	June 29
Ida Kadish	Elizabeth Rosen	June 17	Morris Beck	Russell Beck	June 29
Annie Salisch	The Salisch Family	June 17	Arthur Philipsborn	Fritz Philipsborn	June 30
Frank Rattner	Arnold Rattner	June 17	Anna Sommerfield	Gil Somerfield	June 30
Kay Miriam Ferris	Nissim Ferris	June 18			
William Blakeman	Lillian Blakeman	June 18			

President's Message (Continued from page 2)

Our ability to serve the community had been hampered by an outdated, inefficient recordkeeping system. Unfortunately, the computer and software sat, gathering dust, for two years after being purchased. In response to my urging, my son, Jeremy donated hundreds of hours to set up and prepare the temple's current computer system. When Jeremy returned to school, Beth Rosen took over arranging the remaining set-up. Now we have a more modern system, although it is still not fully functional.

This year has been special: it is the 50th anniversary of our temple. Over 100 people celebrated at the Castaway with a magnificent Gala that included dinner, entertainment, dancing, presentations, and a silent auction. As a bonus, it raised \$7,600 to benefit our temple, all accomplished by the hard-working and dedicated committee of a mere 14 individuals, four of them in my family. This event followed the success of last year's first Harvest Ball, which served as "practice" for the Gala and, despite the naysayers' predictions, cleared over \$6,500, a total of over \$14,000 raised in two years. As the chairs of this fundraiser, my wife and I created a detailed manual for the temple to aid future fundraising efforts.

I have long believed that this temple could be strengthened if the parents of our religious school children had a reason to stick around and form a community. Therefore, I donated the two large market-style umbrellas and arranged for, at cost only, a special wholesale purchase on two patio tables and stands, all of which now are available for our members' use in our patio. An additional result of this push to involve our parents in the temple community was the creation of our new havurah, already boasting a membership of more than 20 families

Recently, the board approved the new prayer books now used for Friday night services. I arranged to purchase these books through my company, at no profit, for a much better price than the temple could have gotten on its own.

Our temple has also hosted other significant events this year including Shabbat Across America, a Community Seder and a Women's Seder, and a dog and car wash that raised \$500.

These are only some of this year's accomplishments. While I am proud of what we have

accomplished, I am concerned for the future of our temple. Our building is showing its age. This year alone we paid large sums to repair our sewer line (\$13,000), the roof (\$1,300), a water fountain (\$700), and an air conditioner (\$500). Our parking lot is in need of repaving but has been deferred due to cost. We anticipate more problems with our physical plant as our well-loved and well-used building ages. According to the treasurer's reports delivered by Ira Goldstein, we have been running a consistent deficit of \$4,000 per month. It doesn't take too much math to realize we must find ways to both reduce costs and to raise funds in order to survive. To this end, I again encourage our membership to spend our funds wisely and to create major fundraising activities.

In my monthly message as president and through my presentation during High Holy Days, I have urged everyone to support our community. As a leader, I have worked diligently for this temple, not for power or glory or profit, or to be re-elected, but because it is the right thing to do. Now it is the time for you to do what is right, not what is easy. Judge a plan by its merits. Judge a person by what he or she does, not just what he promises.

Sincerely,
Mark Greenfield,
President, Temple Beth Emet

To the Caring Community of Temple Beth

Emet: Please remember our Children's Hospital toy box located in the foyer of the Temple. Toys play an important role in the hospitalization of a child. They can alleviate fear, anxiety and in some cases, can even diminish pain. Children's Hospital distributes approximately 500 toys each week to the young patients at the hospital. Oftentimes they cannot keep enough toys on their shelves. If you can, please bring a new toy to temple to donate to Children's Hospital. Remember, **toys must be brand NEW** (to prevent infection) and something a child can play with in bed.

In addition, the hospital has a "Literally Healing" program. They use books every day to help their patients during their care and recovery. Books are used to provide over 2,000 hours of "Read Aloud" activities during Story Time and Bedside Reading. Each year, the hospital gives away 15,000 books to their patients. Their need for books is great. Again, books must be brand new. Their greatest need is for bilingual (English/Spanish) board and picture books.

IRA L. GOLDSTEIN

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Ralph's grocery store has changed their community contribution/Ralph's Reward program. Even if you have signed up for rewards in the past, you must do it again. You may do so in store or go to this link: <https://customer.ralphs.com/ManageCommunityRewardsStep1.aspx> and you will be directed through the sign in process, it is very easy! We are listed as Burbank Temple Beth Emet. Every time you shop and use your rewards card, the temple will get a percentage of the total. No easier fundraising than this!!

Temple Beth Emet 600 N. Buena Vista St
Burbank CA 91505
(818)843-4787



*"the temple
with a heart"*

An Independent Reform Congregation
Fran Bernstein
Kiddush Planner

We Welcome You To Our Friday Services – 7:30 PM

When I was a boy of fourteen, my father was so ignorant I could hardly stand to have the old man around. But when I got to be twenty-one, I was astonished at how much he had learned in seven years.

*Mark Twain,
"Old Times on the Mississippi"
Atlantic Monthly, 1874*

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Recycling

**Raise Funds for the Temple
 and Help the Environment
 at the Same Time!**



CELL PHONES: Simply collect cell phones from your parents, friends, neighbors, & from businesses in your community.



ALUMINUM CANS: Don't throw that empty soda can away. Collect aluminum cans from your friends, family and neighbors and bring them to the Temple so they can be redeemed for cash. (Please rinse out)

TONER, INK JET CARTRIDGES & USED BATTERIES:
Bring them in and we will recycle them for you.

Havurahs!



Shachar Havurah is our new, exciting Havurah consisting primarily of Religious School parents.

Havurah 007 met during the month of May and heard a report about Shavuous, had blintzes made by Jerry Engelberg and took turns telling about their own lives and aspirations. In June they plan to go to the Men's Club BBQ and then in July they are planning a bus trip to Solvang.

Havurah Simcha/L'Chaim got together in May for a pot-luck dinner and game night. Bernice Dacher is planning an activity in June for this Havurah.

PLAN AHEAD. IT'S A GIFT OF LOVE.

Rebecca O'Brien,
 Advanced Planning Representative
800-600-0076 ext 337
robrien@mountsinaiarks.org



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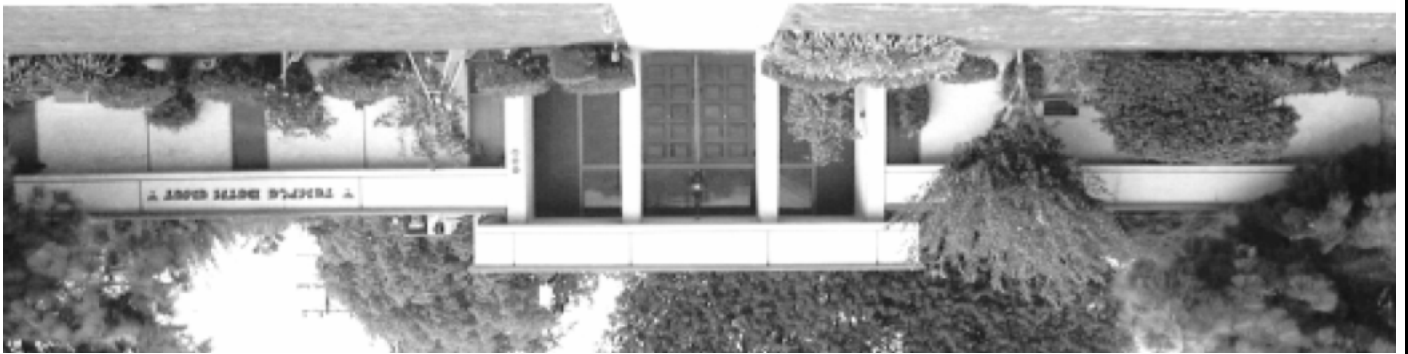
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Mark H. Sobel, Rabbi
Mark Greenfield, President

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