

Temple Beth El Bulletin

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Rabbi's Message ~ Dov Gottesfeld

Shalom to all:

This past Memorial Day, as I have made it a tradition for many years now, I went to a local cemetery to honor those who had taken part in fighting for freedom – either at home or abroad.

Dying while fighting for freedom has been considered as the most selfless and noble sacrifice a person can make. I remember, as a young student in Israel, learning about a Jewish commander, Yosef Trumpeldor, a veteran of numerous Russian wars – who immigrated to Palestine, just as it became a British mandate. Yosef had been posted by the Jewish defense organization Hashomer ("The Guardian") to defend Jewish settlements on the northern border with Lebanon from Shiite Arab attackers.

In an attack on March 1, 1920, Yosef was mortally wounded. As he was dying he whispered to the person who was desperately trying to save his life, the following words, which eventually became a popular Israeli slogan:



Dov Gottesfeld

"Never mind, it is good to die for our country" (*Ein davar, tov lamut be'ad artzenu* רבד ןיא דעב תומל בוט, רבד ןיא דעב תומל בוט, רבד ןיא דעב תומל בוט).

Andy Rooney, a commentator on the CBS program "60 minutes" some years ago made a memorable observation about Memorial Day, which is worth repeating:

"Today we have set aside to honor by remembering all the Americans who have died fighting for all the things we like most about our America – the freedom to live as we please. No official day to remember is adequate for something like that to form. It gets like another day on the calendar. No one would know on Memorial Day that Richie M who was shot through the forehead coming on Omaha beach on June 6 1944, had on different color socks on each foot because he thought it brought him good luck.

No one would remember on Memorial Day that Andy G had promised to marry Julie W the day he got home after the war, but didn't marry Julie because he never came back from the war. But the men – boys really – who died in our wars deserve a few moments of reflection during which we consider

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June Schedule of Services:

Anita Friedman (June 1st)
Andi & Jeff Portney (June 8th)
Rabbi Gottesfeld (June 15th)
Lori Meltzer-Sutton (June 22nd)

Educational Activities:

Intermediate Conversational Hebrew
(Tuesdays at 6 pm)

Library is open at all congregation functions

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what they did for us – they died. Because I was in the Army during in World War II, I have more to remember on Memorial Day than most of you. I had good friends who were killed. I won't think of them any more tomorrow, Memorial Day, than I think of them any other day of my life. Remembering doesn't do the remembered any good of course, it's for us – the living.

I wish we could dedicate Memorial Day not to those who have died at war, but to the idea of saving the lives of the young people who are going to die in the future if we don't find some new way, some new religion, maybe, that takes war out of our lives. That would be a Memorial Day worth celebrating."

The pinnacle of a good life according to the Bible is enough food to eat, security and a decent degree of satisfaction. And of course it can be done only through God's intervention. That is articulated throughout the Bible including by Micah the prophet in the Book of Micah (4:3-4): "And HE shall judge between nations, and shall decide concerning far away strong nations; and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks. Nation shall not lift up swords against nations, nor shall they learn war anymore. But they shall sit – every man - under his vine and under his fig tree; and none shall make them afraid, for the mouth of the Lord has spoken".

It is obvious that God is taking His time, to implement His plan for world peace, which He could have done easily with the power of his words like when he said: "Let there be light... *and there was light*". Therefore perhaps, we Humans, who are sick and tired of endless wars should become proactive and take the initiative and proclaim "Let there be peace... and future generations will say... *and there was peace!!!*"

Best Wishes.
Rabbi Dov

Apples and Honey Festival

The SLO JCC 3rd Annual Apples and Honey Festival will be Sunday, Sept 16, 1-4 at Mitchell Park in SLO. Temple Beth El would like to participate this year and we need your help. We need someone to organize a booth, maybe selling baked goods, maybe taking orders for specialized honey deliveries, maybe just arts and crafts - your choice. If this is something interesting to you, please call Suzanne, 805-934-0477

Not everyone was lucky enough to have had a Bar or Bat Mitzvah at age 13. Some of us are interested in giving it a try. That means taking some interesting classes, learning the meaning of the Shabbat service and the proper Hebrew pronunciation of the prayers. It means understanding the Jewish Calendar, the holidays and festivals. If this appeals to you, speak with Yael Gott or contact me. It could be a profound and exciting experience.

Marsha Epstein

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President's Column ~ Suzanne Levy



Suzanne Levy

All of us have times in our lives when we are experiencing challenges. When these times come, who do you rely on to hold you up when all you want to do is fall down? I once read a book titled "Feel the Fear and Do it Anyway" by Susan Jeffers, PhD. Though I got more from just the title of the book than the contents, one chapter in the book resonated and stayed with me. The chapter said to make a box with about nine sections (like a tic-tac-toe board) and to put the major parts in your life in each box (ie. work, family, community, religion, friendship). It's okay to vary the number of boxes a bit. Dr. Jeffers stated that the goal is to keep all those boxes about the same size so that if one box suddenly collapses (you lose your job, or get a divorce) you have the other boxes to still hold you up. This has been my goal ever since. I work hard to maintain friendships, to interact with my family, and to make sure that a temple community is there to support me when I need it.

That being said, look at the names (elsewhere in this newsletter) of the new 2018-19 board members. Everyone has been on the board before (admittedly Amber for only two months), some for many, many years. What will happen to this community when these people are no longer able and willing to serve? Will there be others ready to step up? I don't know. This is why it is important for all of us to do what we can to bring people to the temple to help us grow. We want to keep this box large for everyone else in the community who are depending on it. I am not asking for you to do anything more than what you are already doing, except to invite someone new to join you. A perfect example is our Temple's 4th of July BBQ. It is a fun event that all our welcome to. Please come, being a friend, and work on filling two boxes (religion/community and friendship) at the same time.

Suzanne

July 4 at T.B.E!

Featuring fabulous Santa Maria-style BBQ
and Bluegrass music provided by the

WILD RIVER RAMBLERS



When: Wednesday, July 4th starting at Noon

Admission with advanced reservations: \$18 for non-members; \$12 for members; \$20 for any without reservation.

Call: Diane 805-478-1463 by June 28th

Where: Temple Beth El, 1501 E. Alvin Street
Santa Maria, CA 93454

Members should bring side dish, salad or dessert.

Bulletin Briefs

June Anniversaries

- 18 Howard Stern & Beth Ladin
- 21 Karen & Sid Goldstien
- 23 Linda & David Goldstien
- 25 Mel & Joey Bilow
- 27 Barbara & Michael Sachs

June Birthdays

- 1 Sarah Epstein
- 5 Jeff Portney
- 9 Gary Epstein
- 14 Jodi Goldstien
- 15 Linda Goldstien
- 19 Nathaniel Okonina
- 23 Myra Wapner

Donations

In honor of Ethel Skolnick's 95th birthday
by Boots and Seymour Hersh

Trees for Israel
In memory of Marsha Miliman by Ken
Wolf
In memory of D. Hole by Suzanne and
Ron Levy

Brotherhood

The Brotherhood met on Sunday, June 3rd and enjoyed the usual fabulous breakfast and great conversation, which focuses primarily on current events, especially involving Israel. Our meetings are on the first Sunday of the month unless a holiday intervenes. The next meeting of the Brotherhood will be held on Sunday, July 1st. All Jewish men (and women) are invited to attend.

Michael LeCover

Sisterhood

The June dinner meeting will be held on Tuesday, June 12th, 6:00 pm, at the Ichiban Japanese Restaurant, 2011 S. Broadway, Suite L (in the same mall as the Auto Club). This is a long-time favorite and it will be fun going back again. Men are also welcome (they usually choose to sit at their own table). All Jewish women are invited to join us.

Marsha Epstein

A Message from Diane Borad-Mirken:

Mamma Mia is coming to PCPA in July and I have tickets available for Thursday night, July 19th and Saturday night, July 21st. This is a fundraiser for the temple and a "funraiser" for anyone who attends the show. It's lively, funny, and so joyful! And coincidentally, the sequel to this show is opening in movie theaters that same weekend. I have a limited number of tickets available for Thursday's show at \$36 and \$38 and for Saturday night at \$40. Call me to choose your date and seats. Diane (805) 478-1463.

A message from Tom Geiger

I want to thank our lay service leaders for their leadership in the month of May:

Yael Gott (May 4th),
Andi & Jeff Portney (May 11th),
Diane Borad-Mirken (May 25th)

Tom Geiger, Religious Practices chair

June Yarzheits

6/2/18	Albert Maguire	28	Iyar	Friend of Corinne Bernstein
6/2/18	Seymour Schwartz			Husband of Shari Schwartz
6/3/18	Marcus Kellman	17	Sivan	Cousin of Gary Epstein
6/3/18	Jacob David	20	Sivan	Father of Joel David
6/4/18	Betty J. Vincent Wolf*	27	Iyar	Mother of Kenneth L. Wolf
6/5/18	Douglas Edluend	2	Sivan	Friend of Corinne Bernstein
6/5/18	Betty Rosen Kalish			Mother of Mel Kalish
6/6/18	Sally Gwen Hershfield			Wife of Syd Hershfield
6/6/18	Harold Stern*			Husband of Clara Stern
6/8/18	Selma Hersh	26	Sivan	Sister-in-law of Seymour & Boots Hersh
6/11/18	Michael Libonati	8	Sivan	Nephew of Tom Geiger
6/12/18	Leo Wall*	29	Sivan	Husband of Florence Wall
6/13/18	Mary Dempsey	27	Sivan	Mother of Mike Dempsey
6/13/18	Elsie May Seims			Mother of Paula Kushnick
6/14/18	Martin Lassen*	1	Tammuz	Father of Abby Lassen
6/15/18	Samuel Aaron Linet*			
6/15/18	Evelyn Vincent Wasserman*	2	Tammuz	Aunt of Kenneth L. Wolf
6/16/18	Lil Langer	6	Tammuz	Mother of Jan Dreyer
6/17/18	Rose Meisler	14	Sivan	Sister of Mike Kaver
6/17/18	Rachel Kram	4	Tammuz	Mother of Marilyn Friedman
6/19/18	Nathan Borad			Father of Diane Borad Mirken
6/19/18	Harry Pregozen			Father of Herb Pregozen
6/19/18	Jack Zicherman*	21	Sivan	Father of Marsha Epstein
6/20/18	Mark Epstein			Cousin of Gary Epstein
6/21/18	Shirley Kaver*	8	Tammuz	Wife of Mike Kaver
6/22/18	Helen Hitchcock Martin	5	Tammuz	Sister of Ruth Zuckerbraun
6/23/18	Robert Koch			Father of Katherine Koch
6/24/18	Cathy Fenton	21	Sivan	Friend of Rose Russell
6/24/18	Alisa David	11	Tammuz	Mother of Joel David
6/25/18	Macey Levy	12	Tammuz	Father of Ron, Karen and Linda
6/26/18	Esther Epstein	23	Sivan	Aunt of Ken Wolf
6/27/18	Meyer Rosen	14	Tammuz	Father of Boots Hersh
6/29/18	Joe Krinsky*	5	Tammuz	Husband of Lilyan, Father of Deborah, Nicole & Gary

Months of Mourning

Jerry Wikes	Friend of Boots Hersh	8/30/17
Pam Gollub	Niece of Myra Wapner	8/31/17
Kathlin (Kathy) Bakst	Mother of Leslie Bakst	10/11/17
Stanley Gollub	Brother of Myra Wapner	10/15/17
Lois Pawlan	Mother of Suzanne Levy	10/18/17
Charles Dietz	Brother-in-law of Niki Eschen	
Ed Isenson	Friend of Gary & Marsha Epstein	11/27/17
Rose LeCover	Mother of Michael LeCover, Grandmother of Aliya & Rachel	12/8/17
Leonard Davidman	Friend of Gary & Marsha Epstein	12/29/17
Shari Schwartz	Former member of Temple Beth El	12/30/17
Millie Kring	Member of TBE	1/31/18
Marsha Miliman	Sister of Yael Gott	4/4/18

JUNE

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1 Shabbat service led by Anita Friedman (7:30 PM)	2 Etz Chayim religious school for children 10:00 am
3 Brotherhood Breakfast meeting (8:30 AM)	4	5 Intermediate Conversational Hebrew class with Joel David (6 pm) Two voting precincts for primary election	6	7	8 Shabbat service led by Andi & Jeff Portney (7:30 PM)	9 Etz Chayim religious school for children 10:00 am
10	11 TBE Board meeting (7 pm). Caring Committee at 6 pm	12 Intermediate Conversational Hebrew class with Joel David (6 pm) Sisterhood dinner meeting at Ichiban (6 pm)	13	14	15 Shabbat service led by Rabbi Gottesfeld (7:30 pm); Potluck (6 pm)	16 Rabbi Gottesfeld leads Torah discussion group (10 am)
17	18	19 Intermediate Conversational Hebrew class with Joel David (6 pm)	20	21	22 Shabbat service led by Lori Meltzer-Sutton (7:30 PM)	23 Etz Chayim religious school for children 10:00 am
24	25	26 Intermediate Conversational Hebrew class with Joel David (6 pm)	27	28	29 Shabbat service led by Diane Borad-Mirken (7:30 PM)	30 Etz Chayim religious school for children 10:00 am

