Bat Mitzvah Scrapbook Belonging to Sarah Leavitt

Extracted on Feb-14-2020 09:32:20

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Our daughter, Sarah Abigail will be called to the Torah as a Bat Mitzvah on Saturday, the twenty-second of October nineteen hundred and eighty-three at half past ten o'clock in the morning Temple Beth El 2702 Arbor Drive Madison, Wisconsin

Please join us for the service and luncheon following

Judith and Lewis Leavitt
Trees for Israel

AND WHEN YE SHALL COME INTO THE LAND AND YE SHALL PLANT (Leviticus 19,23)

planted through Hadassah

To: Mrs. Sally Walzer
In honor of Sarah's Bat Mitzvah
From: Harold & Bea

JNF
Jewish National Fund

1 TREE
LUNCHEON MEETING

Tuesday, October 4th 12:15
Catered by Sisterhood $3.50
Baby Sitting Available 222-4026

Program
"JEWISH CALLIGRAPHY - The Ketubot"
A talk with slides will be given by Judith Spicehandler, artist.

Call Temple office, 238-3123 for reservations

CONGRATULATIONS
The Congregation sends congratulations to
Charlotte & Erv Schwartz upon the marriage of their son, Sam to Shanit Keter,
Bernard & Annette Howards upon the marriage of their daughter, Laurel to Bert Hefty,
Bob Breslow upon his marriage to Jean Enelow
Russell & Rita Sinaiko upon the marriage of their daughter, Sara to John Weber,
Henry & Marge Tobias upon the marriage of their daughter, Amy to Marty Fields,
Martin & Ann Wolman upon the marriage of their daughter, Nicky to David Fulker,
Herta Schmidt upon her marriage to Martin Revesz.

RUMMAGE SALE
On October 25 Sisterhood's semi-annual Rummage sale will be held. If you have not already cleaned closets, now is the time to do it. We welcome all donations of any kind. Leave all items behind the stage curtains in the Swarsensky Auditorium.

DAVID CONNE
BAR MITZVAH

DAVID CONNE, son of Judy & Richard Conne, 5 Oxwood Cir., will be called to the Torah as Bar Mitzzvah on Saturday, October 8, 10:30 a.m.
His parents invite the congregation and their friends to worship with them.

AARON TROST
BAR MITZVAH

AARON TROST, son of Susan & Barry Trost, 209 N. Whitney Way, will be called to the Torah as Bar Mitzvah on Saturday, October 15, for a Havdalah service at 5:30 p.m. His parents invite the congregation and their friends to worship with them.

SARAH LEAVITT
BAT MITZVAH

SARAH LEAVITT, daughter of Judith & Lewis Leavitt, 1910 Adams St., will be called to the Torah as Bat Mitzvah on Saturday, October 22, 10:30 a.m. Her parents invite the congregation and their friends to worship with them.

JOY

The Temple sends felicitations to

Lester & Ann Druck upon the birth of their granddaughter, Shayna Rebecca, born to William & Sue Druck, great-granddaughter of Willard Fantle,

Margaret & Norman Levin upon the birth of their grandson, Alexander Henry, born to Nancy & Robert Atkind,

William & Jill Cohen-Kolb upon the birth of their daughter, Leah.

ADDRESS CHANGE?
It costs the Temple 25c to receive you address change from the Post Office. Please send us your address changes as far in advance as possible.
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Judith and Lewis Leavitt
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Please reply by October 8

_______________________
will_________attend
UNIONGRAM

We wish to share your parents’ pride today as we sincerely wish you happiness & success.

Sherry & Al Goldstein

SPEECH IS THE MESSENGER OF THE HEART
UNIONGRAM

Mazel Tov on your Bat Mitzvah. May you always be a strong link in the chain of Jewish tradition.

Board & Congregation of Temple Beth El

SPEECH IS THE MESSENGER OF THE HEART
UNIONGRAM

Volumes of good wishes on your Bat Mitzvah and always.

The Perloffs

"...SPEECH IS THE MESSENGER OF THE HEART"
UNIONGRAM

May your life be richer + fuller because of the faith which is yours.

Hal + Sue Blotner

"...SPEECH IS THE MESSENGER OF THE HEART"
GUNNE SAX
by Jessica

JEUNES FILLES
Bikinis
by
Warner's

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Heartiest congratulations upon your Bar Mitzvah + very best wishes for your future success + happiness.

Sherman + Sandy Dutch

"...SPEECH IS THE MESSENGER OF THE HEART"
UNIONGRAM

May the spirit of this day in your life be with you always + may you be worthy of your noble heritage.

Julie + Louis Swedarsky

"...SPEECH IS THE MESSENGER OF THE HEART"
Best wishes + good luck to you. Please accept our congratulations on your Bat Mitzvah.

Beth El Temple Sisterhood

"...SPEECH IS THE MESSENGER OF THE HEART"
UNIONGRAM

Mazol Tov. We are proud and happy for you on this joyous occasion.

Pat & Melvin Weinswig

"...SPEECH IS THE MESSENGER OF THE HEART"
UNIONGRAM

As you stand on the threshold of life, our best wishes are with you and your family.

Sally + Nate Balkin

"...SPEECH IS THE MESSENGER OF THE HEART"
UNIONGRAM

To you, Sarah, + to your family we extend our blessings, congratulations + very best wishes on your Bat Mitzvah. May this occasion prove to be a milestone in your spiritual life.

Rabbi Kenneth + Helen Roseman

"...SPEECH IS THE MESSENGER OF THE HEART"
SARAH LEAVITT

A

SHEAF OF UNIONGRAMS

SPEECH IS THE MESSENGER OF THE HEART

1065
This is the Hebrew text of a haftarah, a scriptural reading from the Prophets that accompanies the Sabbath reading from the Five Books of Moses. The haftarah is typically chanted by a bat mitzvah girl. The scan of the page is upside down.
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This is two pages from a book called a tikun in Hebrew. The book is a learning tool for a bat mitzvah girl. The scan is upside down. It presents the Hebrew text of the weekly portion of the Five Books of Moses in two layouts. The page with bold, black letters is the layout of the page as it appears in a Torah scroll handwritten by a scribe. The page with numbered verses is the printed version of the same text, with vowels and cantillation marks. A bat mitzvah girl learns the text from the printed page in order to be able to read from the scroll.
[This is an upside down scan of a page of Hebrew text from the Five Books of Moses, probably the portion read by the bat mitzvah girl as part of her ceremony.]

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My Torah portion is about the beginning of a family. The first Jewish family, in fact. Abraham, Sarah, and Isaac. When Sarah was told she was to bear a child at the age of 90, she laughed, because she didn't believe it. When her son was born, she named him Isaac, which is Hebrew for laughter. Now there was a family. The first one: a loving father, mother, and son. Even though this was long before the ten commandments were given to Moses at Mt. Sinai, Isaac was already observing the fifth commandment, Honor Thy Father and Thy Mother. He was even ready to give up his whole life so that his father would not have to disobey God's commands.

As I was writing this, it occurred to me that not only was this the first Jewish family, it was the one which we have been using as an example for the perfect family for over 3,000 years. Or have we? When Abraham was told by God, "Take thy son, thine only son, Isaac, whom thou lovest," up to Mt. Moriah to prepare him for the sacrifice, he went to do so without a moment of hesitation, never questioning God's will. Of course, as you know, Isaac was not sacrificed at all. Was it joy that Abraham felt then, or was it only the satisfaction of knowing that he had proved his willingness to obey God's commands?

Had I been willing to do what Abraham did, which I doubt, I would have felt much joy that my family was still together. I think families are of the utmost importance. Maybe I should start by telling you my definition of a family. A family does not have to be
a mother, a father, and a child. It could be any combination of two or more people who share a sense of trust.

When Abraham and Isaac returned home, our tradition tells us, Sarah had died. Now the family was without a mother, but Sarah stayed with them in memories. Loving memories are all we have when any member of any family dies. You may never be able to talk to that person again, but you can think about them. In that way they never really die, and as long as you can remember them, as I remember my grandfather Joseph Walzer, it can be said that they are never really dead. In that way, also, our Matriarch Sarah is with us still. And even if you can't remember them, even if you never met them, they can be kept alive by others who will pass their memories on to you through generations, as my dad has done for me, to keep my grandmother Sarah Leavitt (whom I was named after) and my grandfather Isaac Leavitt, along with my Grandpa Joe, with me on this very special day.

My extended family is small compared to others, but that doesn't matter. A family of three, like the first Jewish family, is as much of a family as a family of 20. A family needs to be able to communicate. If they can't communicate, then neither can the world, because a family unit is the closest group of people there is.

In the case of my family, the branches all live far apart from each other. But I don't think that stops us from being close. In fact, it might make us more close also, because we have to take time out to see each other.

I'd like to talk about just what makes families close. To do that, I think we have to take a look at other people's families also.
Maybe even in other countries. Actually, I'm thinking of one family in particular. The Ioffee family in Leningrad, USSR. To back up a bit, when I was at camp this summer, we had the opportunity to identify a twin, to share our Bat Mitzvah with somebody. The person I chose is Ogla Ioffee. She was 13 years old September 2 of this year. Her family is a good example of a close family, because they are all working together to get to Israel. They have been refused twice by the Russian government.

I think, as I have said, that families are very important. It is important to really get to know your family, and to understand them. That is why communication is so vital. Within a family, there are often words or gestures that mean something to those members but not to anyone outside the family. I think those words help to make a family understand what the other people can do for them and just how special each person is. Because families are special.

If you are part of a family, you have a job to perform. You have to keep that family together and close. You have to make your family members understand that you care for them. You have to help and encourage them. That is what families are for, after all. Each family member is special, just as you are. If my family hadn't helped me by encouraging and just loving me, I certainly wouldn't be standing here today.

I hope that you will try some of these things. It just may help get your family the closeness it needs to make it work. Think of other families in other countries who don't have the opportunities we have. Think of families like the Ioffes who are forbidden to practice their religion and who are not free to move about as they want. Think about these things and talk about them with others.
Soon, I hope, we may have a world of people who care: One world family who will share with others without war, who will be friends with at least most people, and above all, who will have a close family of their own who will love and care for them. That is what I wish for the world: love, peace, and sharing.

Right now, I'd like to take a moment to thank my family and friends. I would like to thank Rabbi Roseman for helping me today, and Rochelle Rubin for helping me get to today, Larry Kohn and all the Sunday School and Hebrew School teachers I've ever had for their time, trouble and encouragement, and all my friends for just being there when I needed them. I would also like to thank my parents for all they've done for me, and my brother, for his mostly good intentions. I thank my grandmother for sharing special times with me, my uncle and aunt and cousins for crossing the country to be with me today.

Last, but definitely not least, I would like to thank everyone here for coming to share this special occasion with me.
BEHOLD A GOOD DOCTRINE HAS BEEN GIVEN YOU FORSAKE IT NOT PROV.4-2

BAT MITZVAH CERTIFICATE

THIS IS TO RECORD THAT Sarah Avigayil bat Yehudah Aryeh Halevi Vehudit

[[Hebrew Text]]

Sarah Abigail Leavitt ENGLISH

WAS CALLED TO THE TORAH AS A

[[Hebrew text]]

ON SABBATH Vayera October 22, 1983 15 Heshvan 5744

IN THE PRESENCE OF CONGREGATION Temple Beth El Madison, Wisconsin CITY

[[signed:]] Kenneth D. Roseman RABBI

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