

# Havurat Tikvah Welcomes the DeGroots and "G&S"

Havurat Tikvah will have a Welcome Home party on January 17, 2004 for Donna and David DeGroot, long-time members of Havurat Tikvah, and their daugh-

ters, Hadas and Tali. The family spent two years in Israel during the Intifada and will talk about their experiences during that difficult time and what it is like to be back. Donna is a teacher at the Jewish Day School and Hebrew High School. Friends of the DeGroots and interested members of the community are invited to attend. The Welcome Home event will take place at 7:30 PM at 1700 Tippah Avenue, Charlotte. Please bring a kosher dessert and contact Sharon Kugelmass at 704-344-1353 if you plan to come.

Havurat Tikvah's December 20 Hanukkah Party and Talent Show was a splendiferous affair, enriched by local chutzpah and the verbal wit and charm of Havurat Tikvah producer Barbara Thiede in the style of Gilbert and Sullivan. A flapdoodle crowd of Havurat Tikvah and community Pooh-Bahs enjoyed the festival of lights (and laughter), which includ-



ed Havdalah, menorah-lighting, Yum-Yum latkes and other kosher and vegetarian fare, along with the pratfalls.

### HT Hebrew Reading Group

With only a year of weekly classes under their kippot, the HT Hebrew reading group is reading, translating and interpreting the

Tanach - with a lot of help from UNC-Charlotte Philosophy professor and rabbinic student Laura Kaplan, an assortment of Biblical and traditional dictionaries and the Chumash. Members of Havurat Tikvah and the community are welcome to join us. Hebrew classes are held Tuesday evenings at 7:15-8:30 PM at Laura and Charles Kaplan's home. Please contact them at 704-333-3949 x1 for details.

### Other Havurah Happenings:

**January**  
January 10 — Shabbat Services, 10 AM. Woollen home at 4301 Belknap Rd. Bring a kosher dish (vegetarian or dairy) for the Kiddush lunch following.

**February**  
February 7 — Shabbat Services and Tu B'shevat Seder.

10 AM. Teichman home at 600 Cherokee Rd. Bring a kosher dish (vegetarian or dairy) for the Seder following services.



**Jewish Reconstructionist Federation**

February 14 — Shabbat Services, 10 AM. Kaplan home at 2900 Somerset Dr. Bring a kosher dish (vegetarian or dairy) for the Kiddush lunch.

Havurat Tikvah, an affiliate of the Jewish Reconstructionist Federation, offers monthly services, adult study, holiday celebrations, special minyans, and a cooperative Religious School. For more information, visit the Havurat Tikvah website (<http://free.prohosting.com/havtikva/>) or call Karen Rubin, member services, at 704-825-3421. ☆

**NEED ROOM TO RENT**

Professional, single, 40, non-smoker, Jewish male looking for a room to rent in north Charlotte - Lake Norman area.

Call Igor at 704-582-4257

**WHEN IT COMES TO INSURANCE, I COULD USE A LITTLE HELP.**

STOP BY FOR COFFEE. WE'LL CHAT ABOUT YOUR INSURANCE NEEDS.

MIKE LITTAUER AGENCY  
MIKE LITTAUER  
HOODS CROSSROADS SHOPPING CTR  
(704) 844-8290  
Mlittauer@allstate.com

P.S. I can schedule appointments to fit your schedule

Insurance subject to availability and qualifications. Allstate Insurance Company and Allstate Property and Casualty Insurance Company, Northbrook, Illinois © 2003 Allstate Insurance Company

## Temple Beth El Happenings

(Continued from page 10)

This course is designed to give basic understanding of Judaism - its beliefs, values and practices. Topics include: Fundamental Jewish beliefs, Jewish history, Jewish holidays, life cycle, liturgy, sacred texts, the commandments, Israel, philosophy, and Judaism and Christianity.

**Learner's Shabbat, January 9, 6:00 PM Dinner, 8:00 PM Service**

Join us for a detailed glimpse at the traditions of Shabbat. Discover the beauty and meaning of this weekly ritual and learn how to incorporate it into your family's life. The Temple service will be more explanatory than usual for this evening.

**In keeping with the Jewish Tradition of Mitzvot, members**

### of Temple Beth El participated in December's Mitzvah of the Month:



### The Giving Tree

The holiday season can be very difficult for those in need and our members made a difference.

A star or heart asking for food, clothing or toys was selected from the Giving Tree to help make someone's Christmas or Hanukkah wishes come true. Unwrapped gifts were brought into the Temple office daily and Program Chair, Kelly Gaines, collected the items not once but twice a day. Thank you.

What a wonderful Mitzvah to help provide for our less fortunate neighbors and create a sense of community. Not one heart or star was left on the tree (we started with 150). Items from the Giving Tree were presented to Jewish Family Services in time for Hannukah and to area churches in time for Christmas after the presents were wrapped at a Giving Tree Wrapping Party held at Temple Beth El. Donations of wrapping paper were greatly

appreciated. This was a fun Mitzvah for all. Many thanks to following participants:

The Abrams Family, Harriet Allweiss, Howard Andell, Maddy Baer, Elka Bernstein, The Blanco Family, Aaron Blotnick, Scott and Donna Boyar, Ron Boyd, Jill Blumenthal, Marian and Walter Brawer, Pat Burnham, Michele and George Campos, The Cantor Family, Lynne Cojac, Betty Crawford, Jape Crown, Marcy Dumas, The Emerson Family, Cherie Flitton, The Fox Family, Lisa Garfinkle, The Greenberg Family, The Greenblatt Family, Todd and Samara Gummel, The Hamilton Family, Susan Jacobs, Vicki Jones, Sis Kaplan, Gary, Laura, Rachel and Sarah Kaplan, Barbara and Alan Katz, Taylor and Susan Kent, Ellyn and Neil Kirschner, Sue Klein, Judy and Marc Levine, June Levine. The Lintz Family, Rabbi and Mrs Sanford Marcus, Kelly Markiewitz, Jennifer Maxwell, Robbie and Michael McGinley, Betsy Meltzer, Elly Miller, Elsa and Martin Multer, Judi and Michael Norman, Norma Pepper, Harriet Perlin, Allie Plepler, Jonathan Plepler, Helene Rivlin, Betsy Rosen, Mara Rosenberg, Joshua Rosenfeld, Courtney Rosenthal, Mary Rothkopf, Fran Russ, Marion Samuels, Joanna Schneider, Judy and Michael Sidell, Ruth Ann, Tom, Allison and Katy Smith, Marsha Stickler, Talia and Robin Stier, Nancy Tarbis, Phyllis Thompson, The Torcellini Family, Stephanie Block and Denise Walker, Howard Widis, Kyle Worrel, Reid Worrel, Eva Yaffe, Barbara and Herm Ziegler, and to all of those who took a heart or star from the Giving Tree. ☆

**Bold. Confident. Fearless.**  
Is it possible to be jealous of a car?

**2004 JAGUAR X-TYPE 2.5**  
Permanent all-wheel drive. Standard.

If you're talking about the Jaguar X-TYPE, the answer is, undoubtedly, yes. Few cars come close to its amazing personality. Even fever can claim to possess the kind of innovative technology that affords you complete power and control over every road, curve and driving condition. We're talking about highly evolved technology such as variable-ratio, road-speed-sensitive steering, an occupancy-sensing safety system, leather-trimmed interior, eight-way adjustable driver's seat and complimentary scheduled maintenance. And that's only the beginning. Slip into the driver's seat of a Jaguar X-TYPE and jealousy quickly follows.

**MSRP Starting at \$29,995**

**JAGUAR**  
SCOTT JAGUAR

400 Tyvola Road • 1-866-200-3031 • [www.scottjag.com](http://www.scottjag.com)

*"If God is testing us, He must know by now that many of us fail the test. If He is only giving us burdens we can bear, I have seen Him miscalculate far too often."*

—Harold Kushner, author and rabbi of Temple Israel in Natick, MA, *When Bad Things Happen to Good People* (1981)