

SYNAGOGUES & CONGREGATIONS

Temple Israel News

Mother's Day Brunch May 10 Free for Mom

Mother's Day Brunch is coming up on May 10 at 10 AM. This is the perfect way to show your mom, wife, special friend or family member, just how much you appreciate her. There is no charge for the special mom in your life. All others pay \$5 each. If you donate a non-perishable kosher food item you'll receive \$1 off per paying guest. The food will be donated to Jewish Family Service's food pantry.

Shavuot and 2009/5769 Confirmation Class Dinner May 29

Come join us as we celebrate Confirmation, Shavuot and more. Services begin at 6:15 PM and dairy dinner at 7 PM. Adult Dinner is \$14 each and children under 12 are \$7 each. Confirmants and parents eat free. Please RSVP by May 22 to Terri Cathcart at 704-362-2796.

Baccalaureate Service Saturday, May 30

Come join us on Shabbat morning as we honor our high school graduates.

Wanted: High School Graduates for Baccalaureate Service

Please e-mail Mary Beall, mbeall@templeisraelnc.org, in the Rabbi's office, no later than May 9, with your High School graduate's name, the school name they are graduating from, and their plans for after High School graduation.

Temple Israel Youth Department Car Wash May 3 at Temple Israel

Jr. Kadima, Kadima, and USY will be holding a free Car Wash, 10 AM-1 PM. A \$5 donation is suggested. Make up rain date: May 17. ☆

Temple Israel Book Club THE MINISTRY OF SPECIAL CASES BY NATHAN ENGLANDER Tuesday, May 19, 7:30 PM, Temple Israel

Discussion Leader: Jay Jacoby

A reviewer of *The Ministry of Special Cases* notes that it has been eight years between Nathan Englander's short story collection *For the Relief of Unbearable Urges*, and his latest book – a novel - *The Ministry of Special Cases*, but that because of its "depth, poignancy, humor, thoughtfulness complexity, irony and maturity," it is well worth the wait.

The novel takes place in 1976, the beginning of the bloodless military coup that removed Peron from the presidency of Argentina. Tens of thousands of "subversive elements" disappear. Kaddish Poznan works at the behest of the middle-class Jews in Buenos Aires to erase the names of their unsa-

vory relatives from graves. His nineteen year old son, Pato, reluctantly helps Kaddish with this thankless task. The relationship between father and son resonates throughout this "extraordinarily well-paced, suspenseful and often surreal story." Pato is snatched and his parents become obsessed with finding him, despite the fact that no members of the Jewish community will assist him.

Important questions about identity, aspiration, ambivalence, and family politics and psychopathology are raised in Englander's book. With an intensive novel such as this, a powerful discussion leader is called for, and Jay Jacoby meets that need. English Professor Dr. Jay Jacoby, formerly with

UNCC and now with UNC Asheville, has led many Temple Israel Book club meetings, and the Temple Israel book club is delighted to have him back to lead the May 19 discussion.

Copies of Englander's *The Ministry of Special Cases* are available at the public library, the Levine-Sklut Judaic Library and Resource Center and may be purchased at local book stores or online for about \$15.

Temple Israel Book Club meetings are open to all community members. For additional information call Linda Levy (704-366-6362) or Sandra Hirschman (704-867-7051). ☆

The Temple Israel Social Club-for active couples and singles-invites you to join our social group. Meet new people and enjoy our interesting programs and trips. Call Janine Rosner, 704-366-5631, for information.

Sunday, May 31 - The trip we've been waiting for, departing at 8:30 AM from Temple Israel – the Mystery Bus Ride. Members, \$35.00 per person; non-members, \$40.00. Includes comfortable bus and snacks. Individual lunch checks. Send your check before May 18 to: Douglas Mann, 137 N. Canterbury Rd., Charlotte 28211. For more information call Ruth Goldberg, 704-366-8903.



"I love learning to read Hebrew, and about our history, and the kids are really nice too!" - Britney Good

"We learn lots of new things about being Jewish that I never knew before and it's even FUN...not boring!" - Max Lahn

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