

Tenth Annual Schloss Summer Lecture at Temple Beth El

Israel's Channel 10's Gil Tamary

Gil Tamary, the Washington bureau chief for Israel's Channel 10 News will join our community to discuss the topic: A New Israeli Knesset - What does it mean for Israel? What does it mean for us?

Known by virtually every Israeli as a top news reporter, Gil has worked for Israel Broadcasting Authority, Israel Public Radio, and as anchor and chief editor of "Good Morning Israel." Gil cov-

ers a wide range of Middle East issues from the U.S. and conducts exclusive interviews with many dignitaries, including: political figures, including Presidents, Secretaries of State, Senators, and heads of the World Bank. Gil is the only Israeli journalist who maneuvered former Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad into answering a question from an Israeli, thus forcing him to "recognize" an

Israeli when he never admitted Israel's right to exist. Gil Tamary is a native Israeli, with a Master's Degree in Economics from Tel Aviv University, and served as the International Editor for Forbes.

Temple Beth El invites the entire community to what is sure to be a fascinating presentation and discussion on the latest political situation in Israel.

Friday, July 17, 2015

6 PM - Shabbat Evening Summer Service - everyone invited.

7:15 PM - Shabbat Dinner and Lecture

Dinner is \$15 per person, \$10



Gil Tamary of Israel's Channel 10.



Gil Tamary appears at Temple Beth El through the generosity of Israel Bonds.

From its launching in 1951 and continuing through the present day, Israel Bonds has played a unique role in Israel's rapid progression from struggling agrarian nation to global economic powerhouse.

The Schloss Summer Lecture was established by Marc and Matye Silverman in memory of Marc's uncle, Simeon Archibald "Happy" Schloss, Jr., who was a founder of Temple Beth El. ☆

Josh Rubin's Plumbing, LLC



**LICENSED - BONDED - INSURED
COMMERCIAL & RESIDENTIAL**

Layouts for slabs - Rough-in and Finish
Water Heater Repairs and Replacement
Kitchen/Bath Remodeling
Toilets, Tubs, Faucets, Sink, and Disposal
Repairs/Replacement

~ 10 YEARS EXPERIENCE ~

NC State Lic. #29197

SC State Lic. #M110508

704-517-4918

Dr. Scott Menaker, DDS

Dr. Tricia Rodney, DDS

- General Dentistry for all Ages
- CEREC Same Day Crowns and Veneers - no temporaries
- Same Day Smile Makeovers
- 3-D X-Ray/Cone Beam Imaging for Implant Planning and Placement
- All aspects of Cosmetic Dentistry and Smile Enhancement Services
- 7:00 AM Appointments Daily
- Multiple Clear Orthodontic Options for simple to complex cases
- Care Credit Financing- 12 month no interest options
- Technologically advanced practice including digital x-rays, imaging, and email and texting communications.
- Experienced caring professionals serving the community since 1985



Scott is a long time community volunteer, leader, and sponsor in the Jewish community since 1985. Both he and Tricia, along with their dental team, volunteer their time and expertise to make a positive impact in our community.

:) CLT

SmileCharlotte.com

New Patients Always Welcome

2711 Randolph Road, Suite 205 Charlotte, NC 28207 704-377-2503

THE RIZZO LAW FIRM, PLLC

Scott J. Rizzo



The Rizzo Family

**FOCUSING ON CIVIL LITIGATION
ESTATE PLANNING AND ADMINISTRATION
REAL ESTATE AND CRIMINAL LAW**

BALLANTYNE ONE
15720 BRIXHAM HILL AVENUE, SUITE 300
CHARLOTTE, NC 28277

704.401.5280 P • 704.314.4258 F
SRIZZO@SRIZZOLAW.COM
SRIZZOLAW.COM

Renewal at the Mikveh

By Heidi Yalowitz-Lasser, Temple Or Olam

I never knew she wasn't Jewish. All I saw was a lovely woman in her twenties who radiated her inner Torah. It mattered little what her actual pedigree might be.

A call. "It's M," the tentative voice begins. "The Beit Din is meeting on Thursday night." Apparently the arrangements fell together rather quickly, and she, with her fiancé, planned on completing the process with a mikveh that same night. The plan was to use an undisclosed location in a nearby lake at about 10 PM. My reputation as an early riser is well-established, but I accepted the opportunity to be her witness within seconds. "I'll drink extra coffee that day," I said, to reassure us both.

I hung up the phone and rejoiced. I felt a maternal connectedness. She had given me a chance to feel like a mother - protective and proud. I worried about the cleanliness of the lake. I worried about the cold, the need for an immediate shower, and stopped just short of getting her a Neti pot. I kept most of my opinions to myself and when Thursday came, I tossed an extra blanket in the car.

One by one we arrived at the parking lot of a fellow congregant's home. Then, we waited, as though we were a secret society preparing for an initiation. Other than the homeowners, I was the oldest present, but I am welcomed into the circle of twenty-somethings. I am enlivened by their energy and their stories inspire me to vow to develop my own course of

study when I retire. Our rabbi has secured our future as Jews by engaging the young and encouraging the rest of us to experience rituals and concepts we never encountered in partnership alongside them.

Eventually, the newly Jewished couple arrive with our rabbi and her husband, like a collective Shabbat Bride, fresh from the Beit Din. Without knowing every detail, we sense the life changing experience for all involved. Ancestors from all tribes, invisible to the mortal eye, made themselves known through the sheer joy in the room. My new Jewish daughter and I made eye contact in preparation of what was to come.

Our gracious homeowner directed them to an upstairs bedroom to change into bathing suits, easily removable in a dark lake. Concurrently, our rabbi rehearsed the process with the teams of witnesses in the kitchen. Three distinct prayers for each person. In combination, they form an affirmation that this couple will become part of the Jewish soul, officially.

Were they Jewish (in their own way) before their beit dins? Is Jewishness an ongoing process that takes multiple forms for us all?

It was a cold and rainy night. Umbrellas were gathered to shield those of us who were to remain clothed and to keep the couple dry before entering the water. The grass was wet and the ground muddy. Several flashlights ensured none of us tripped. We ar-

rived at the pier, and separated, men in one direction and women in another.

"I want you to do it," she says to me in a sweet girlish way. She gave me the honor of being the woman who would hold a towel up in readiness of her ascent out of the water. In that instant, I ended my unconscious shame of being childless by choice. I recognized that mothering has been part of my life for decades. I had been trivializing that.

True to our rehearsal, we recited each prayer. When she emerged, I wrapped my girl in the towel as I would a babe in swaddling clothes. Somehow she managed to get her bathing suit back on. As the group of us returned to our cars, I walked alongside her wishing to extend my body warmth to stop her shivering. Most importantly, I wanted her to know she was loved.

"Mazel tov" falls short of expressing the sense of being a spiritual midwife. A sense of awe was quietly shared between us, while our individual souls proclaimed into the night sky "Hineni: here I am." ☆



Members of Temple Emanuel in Gastonia Enjoyed a Festive Passover Seder



Temple Emanuel