

agogue's "Green Team" purchases eco-friendly cleaning supplies as well as paper towels and toilet paper made from recycled waste. Tuesday is "no energy" night, during which no functions or meetings are held. And a new organic flower garden on synagogue grounds will supply flowers for synagogue functions. All the while, explain "Green Team" co-chairs Frances Ginsberg (photo #3) and Lisa Sandler (photo #4), "We endeavor to teach our community not just *what* we can do as stewards of the earth, but *why* we need to do it, both as Jews and as citizens of the world."

In Kensington, Maryland, Temple Emanuel published a "Green Shalom Action Guide" featuring ecologically responsible actions to make members' homes more environmentally friendly, supports reforestation projects that reduce CO<sub>2</sub> emissions and benefit ecosystems, and composts waste from the temple's on-site gardens.

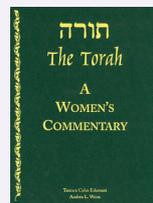
In Austin, Texas, Congregation Beth Israel maintains a paper-recycling dumpster in the parking lot which is also used by the larger community.

In Erie, Pennsylvania, Temple Anshe Hesed is set to become a carbon neutral facility in 2009—and, when the initiative is complete, it will be the first carbon neutral synagogue in the United States. According to Eric Pallant (photo #5), the congregation's treasurer and a professor of environmental science at Allegheny College, to offset Anshe Hesed's carbon footprint (36.5 tons in 2007, to be offset at \$85.50 per ton of CO<sub>2</sub>, a total cost to the congregation of approximately \$6,200), the temple installed compact fluorescent light bulbs, retrofit portions of its energy system, and acquired solar panels for a dormitory roof from the Arava Institute for Environmental Studies in Israel (with which the temple has an ongoing relationship). The panels, which are set to be installed

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## NOTEWORTHY

**Guide to *The Torah—A Women's Commentary*:** Visit <http://www.womenofreformjudaism.org/the-Torah-a-womens-commentary> to download the Women of Reform Judaism guide designed to facilitate exploration of selected Torah portions through the lens of *The Torah: A Women's Commentary*. Guidelines for successful Torah study programs are also posted.



**Training Jewish Scholars:** Starting in 2009-2010, the Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion's pre-doctoral M.A. program in Jewish Studies will train select students to become scholars of classical Jewish texts, history, culture, and tradition as part of HUC-JIR's mission to develop future intellectual leadership for the international Jewish community. For more information on the program, available at HUC-JIR's Cincinnati, Los Angeles, and New York campuses, click on [www.huc.edu/academics/programs.pdf](http://www.huc.edu/academics/programs.pdf), email [sgreengus@huc.edu](mailto:sgreengus@huc.edu), or call 513-221-1875 ext. 3230.

**Israel Advocacy—The Teen Toolkit:** The North American Federation of Temple Youth completed a comprehensive online toolkit for teen Israel advocacy (<http://www.nfty.org/israelcentral/dak/>), a 9-year effort engaging more than 70 NFTYites and alums in researching and creating the programs.

**Technology—Learn All About It:** Is your temple website all you'd like it to be? Are policies in place to protect members' privacy? The new Union for Reform Judaism website [www.urj.org/tech](http://www.urj.org/tech) can help Reform synagogues use technology effectively in communications.

## HAPPENINGS For Adults & Youth

### → For Youth

**June 22–August 5:** Travel with fellow teens on the **NFTY in Israel** 4-week outdoor Israel adventure program or the 5-week Europe and Israel L'Dor V'Dor experience. [www.NFTYIsrael.org](http://www.NFTYIsrael.org)

**June 24–July 19:** Train to become a Reform leader of tomorrow at the **NFTY Leadership Academy**, Kutz Camp, Warwick, NY. [www.kutz.urjcamp.org](http://www.kutz.urjcamp.org)

**June–August 2009:** Engage in a 3- to 6-week **NFTY Mitzvah Corps** program in San Francisco, New York, New Jersey, or New Orleans. [www.mitzvahcorps.org](http://www.mitzvahcorps.org)

### → For Adults

**April 19–21:** Learn political engagement hands-on at the RAC's **Consultation on Conscience** in Washington, DC. [www.rac.org/consultation](http://www.rac.org/consultation)

**April 23–26:** New and incoming temple presidents—strengthen

your skills at the **Scheidt Seminar** in Atlanta. <http://www.urj.org/synmgmt/scheidt/>

**May 13–16:** Be trained to serve congregations without clergy or assist your clergy at the **Had'rachah Seminar for Lay Leadership in Religious Life**, URJ Kutz Camp, Warwick, NY. [www.urj.org/worship/hadrachah](http://www.urj.org/worship/hadrachah)

**May 14–24:** Study, tour, and celebrate the State of Israel with other dedicated adult learners at the **2009 Israel Kallah**. <http://urj.org/educate/adultstudy/>

**May 27–31:** Learn how to lead others in singing new Reform songs at the **Hava Nashira Song Leading and Music Workshop**, OSRUI, Oconomowoc, WI. <http://osrui.urjcamp.org/yearound/programs/havanashira/>

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CANTOR ELLEN DRESKIN TEACHES AT THE CHORALE FESTIVAL, 2004.