

November 2014
Vol. 7 No. 3

B'nai Torah TIMES

A BREATH, BREEZE, AND SPIRIT OF THE TIMES



It's OUR Tree of Life

B'NAI MITZVAH



Nov. 1

Carley Leibowitz

David & Cathy

Carley Leibowitz, an energetic and vivacious eighth grader at Grand Ave Middle School, is proud to be celebrating her bat mitvah at Temple B'nai Torah. Carley loves gymnastics and competes on the team for All-American Gymnastics in Bellmore. Carley is the captain of the cheerleading squad for the eighth grade at Grand Ave. School. She is also an excellent student having made the honor roll in seventh grade, and she hopes to do the same this year. Carley's parents, Cathy and David, and her little sister, Jessica, are extremely proud of Carley as she reaches her bat mitzvah. Carley also loves animals and volunteers at a shelter to help out with the dogs and cats.



Nov. 15

Jordan Gluck

Stuart & Felicia

Hello, my name is Jordan. I am a student at Grand Avenue Middle School. My favorite hobbies are ice-skating, drawing and playing with my dog Zoe. For my mitzvah project, I am taking up a collection of supplies (blankets, towels, newspapers and pet food) to give to the North Shore Animal League. I want to thank Mrs. Altman for her help in preparing me for my bat mitzvah and Rabbi Bellows for making going to services enjoyable. I especially want to thank my family for all that they have ever done for me.



Nov. 22

Joshua Curry

Brenden & Sharon

My name is Joshua Curry, and I am an eighth grade honors student at MAMS. I am also a madrichim at the TBT Hebrew School and a member of the TBT teen choir. I love theater, Kempo Karate, track, cross country, and playing the trumpet. For my mitzvah project, I hosted a breakfast at Applebee's and raised funds to fight Type I Diabetes in honor of one of my best friends. Being a bar mitzvah is important because I am becoming a young man in the Jewish community. I will have more responsibilities and I am excited to continue my Torah studies. Thank you to Mrs. Emily Altman and to Rabbi Bellows for preparing me for my special day.



Nov. 29

Dylan Goldstein

Kenneth & Sheri

I am an eighth grader at Wantagh Middle School, where I am a member of the Chess Club and Drama Club. I recently received the Justin Neickarz Memorial Award. I am also a member of the PAL bowling league. My bar mitzvah project supports Sing for Hope. I am selling wristbands to give tzedakah for children and adults in hospitals within NYC where musical recital are performed to help them heal physically and mentally through music. I would like to thank my parents, my brother Ian, my grandmother Betty, my aunt Lori and uncle Curtis for their continuous support and guidance.

FROM THE EDITOR'S PEN

Holidays change. Some holidays increase in prominence – Chanukah comes to mind -- and some holidays wane – Labor Day and Veterans' Day come to mind. I'm not certain where Columbus Day is headed.

Which brings us to Thanksgiving! – possibly everyone's favorite holiday. The 'fall festival' that commences in October, with pumpkins and autumnal decorations on lawns everywhere, leads to a feast of favorite foods, many



with a seasonal taste. History of Thanksgiving connects through presidents FDR, Lincoln, Washington -- all the way back to Sukkot! (The idea of Pilgrims huddled in a sukkah never caught on.)

How could we be aware of how Thanksgiving is less about thanks and more about shopping? Will the Thanksgiving Feast become a quick nosh on the way to the mall? With Thanksgiving increasingly appearing like the first day of Christmas, will future Jews still feel comfortable embracing this holiday?

Best wishes from our family to yours for a happy Turkey Day, with all the trimmings.

Mark Chester, Editor TBT Times



OUR COMMUNITY

NOVEMBER RITUAL CALENDAR

Saturday, November 1	10:30am	Shabbat Service
Friday, November 7	7:30pm	Family Service
Saturday, November 8	10:30am	Shabbat Service
Tuesday, November 11	7:30pm	Ritual Committee Meeting
Friday, November 14	8:00 pm	Shabbat Service - Kristallnacht/Jewish War Vets
Saturday, November 15	10:30am	Shabbat Service – 1 BM
Friday, November 21	6:30pm	Kabbalat Shabbat
Saturday, November 22	10:30am	Shabbat Service – 1 BM
Wednesday, November 26	8:00pm	Community Thanksgiving Service
		The First Presbyterian Church of Levittown
		474 Wantagh Avenue
		Levittown, NY 11756
Friday, November 28	8:00 pm	Shabbat Service
Saturday, November 29	10:30am	Shabbat Service – 1 BM

*We extend our thanks to all our
congregants for their
continued support of our successful*

New Year's card fundraiser.

*We thank Sue-Ellen Pennington, Marilyn
Pomerantz, and Paula Metzger for gladly
assisting us in record keeping related
to the project, and in producing
and mailing the card.*

A healthy and happy new year to you all.

The New Year's Card Committee

Michael C. Horwitz, CPA, P.C.

**4190 Sunrise Highway
2nd Floor**

Massapequa, NY 11758

Tel: 516-795-7100

Fax: 516-795-7125

E-Mail: mhorcpa@aol.com

Lifecycle Learning: Bar/Bat Mitzvah Celebrations



Shalom, Chaverim,

The term Bar or *Bat Mitzvah* (literally, “son or “daughter of the commandment”) is a title given to all Jews upon reaching age 13 to signify that they are now prepared to take personal responsibility for their own religious actions and moral behavior through performing *mitzvot* (commandments). It is equivalent

to reaching the age of legal majority. Although no ritual or service is necessary to establish this status, the *Bar* and *Bat Mitzvah* celebration, over the past few centuries, has emerged as a way for 13-year-olds to demonstrate commitment to Judaism. Before the congregation, family, and friends, the young person reads from the Torah (Five Books of Moses) and *Haftarah* (selection from the Books of the Prophets) and leads worship. In offering this privilege, the congregation says to its 13-year-olds: you are now participating adults in our religious community. Thus, *Bar* and *Bat Mitzvah* celebrations bear witness to the continuity of Judaism embodied in a new generation of committed Jews. Certainly the beginning of a young person’s transition from childhood to responsible Jewish adulthood is a time of celebration.

Bar Mitzvah

In the traditional Jewish world, there are several festive occasions in a boy’s life. The first is the eighth day after his birth, when he is introduced into the Covenant of Abraham through the ritual of *brit milah*, or circumcision. Another is when he is first initiated into Jewish study – a celebration that echoes our Consecration observance today. When a boy turns 13 years and one day old, he becomes a *Bar Mitzvah*, a “Son of the Commandment,” legally bound to fulfill the obligations of Jewish law and practice, and to a continuing commitment to Jewish learning.

By the rabbinic period of Jewish history (from 70 to 600 CE), the age of 13 was recognized as the age of maturity for a boy. Legally, these young men were considered adults – that is, they were responsible for themselves in a religious sense and could testify in a Jewish court of law. Interestingly, they were not yet allowed to make a contractual agreement involving real estate, since they were still considered to be inexperienced in the ways of life and business.

The *Bar Mitzvah* celebration dates back to the 13th century. Although customs recognizing a boy’s reaching this milestone varied from place to place, the responsibilities of *Bar Mitzvah* were always the same: a boy was considered to have reached the age of maturity; he accepted personal

responsibility for the *mitzvot*, he was thereafter counted as part of a *minyan*, and he was looked upon as a full participant in the “community of Israel.”

Bat Mitzvah

The history of *Bat Mitzvah* is very different from that of *Bar Mitzvah*. By rabbinic times, a girl was considered to be legally responsible for herself at age 12 or 12 ½ (depending upon which text you read), but girls did not have a celebration dedicated to recognizing this milestone. This absence of celebration is most likely because, according to traditional Jewish law, a woman is not obligated to fulfill *mitzvot* that have to be performed at a particular time of day, freeing her to fulfill her family responsibilities. Thus, women were not required to attend synagogue worship services, to pray three times a day, or to be counted in a *minyan*.

The idea of recognizing young women at the “age of commandment” was introduced in Europe in the 19th century, when some families honored their daughters on their twelfth birthday with a party and a festive meal.

The first recorded *Bat Mitzvah* celebration involving a synagogue service occurred in the United States in 1921. The *Bat Mitzvah* was Judith Kaplan, the daughter of Rabbi Mordecai Kaplan, who founded the Reconstructionist movement in American Judaism. The importance given to becoming a *Bat Mitzvah* seems to have paralleled the development of Women’s Rights. In the earlier part of the 20th century, very few girls elected to celebrate becoming *Bat Mitzvah*, but with the advancement of feminism and the recognition of equal rights and opportunities for women, more and more girls choose this spiritual path. Today in Reform Judaism, in the spirit of equality, both girls and boys celebrate becoming *B’nai Mitzvah* at age 13.

B’nai Mitzvah at TBT

Religious studies begin long before this day. At Temple B’nai Torah, preparations start with the study of Hebrew and Jewish customs, holidays, and history. Each student also learns Biblical chanting, extending his or her commitment to Jewish study, prayer, and service to the community.

A *Bar* or *Bat Mitzvah* celebration occurs as part of our regular *Shabbat* morning service. The student helps lead the congregation in Hebrew and English passages from the *siddur* (prayer book), and reads or chants from the *Torah*, the hand-lettered parchment scroll that contains the Five Books of Moses. The student explains the portion to the congregation, demonstrating an understanding of the text. Family and friends share the blessings before and after the reading.

(continued on page 5)

CONGREGANT CORNER



Ray and Bonnie Russolillo

Ray and Bonnie Russolillo joined Legacy Temple Judea in the fall of 1991 and were among the founding families of Temple B'nai Torah in 2008. Ray is a CPA and partner with WithumSmith+Brown. Bonnie is a financial services representative at Dreyfus. They have two adult children, Steve (age 29) and Alexandra (age 23).

When asked what they enjoy doing when not 'at the office', Ray replied he is a long distance bicyclist and, for sentimental reasons, is restoring his childhood bike. Bonnie enjoys line dancing and is a performing member of the Long Island Cabaret Theater here at Temple B'nai Torah.

Regarding the clergy, the Russolillos said "We love the rabbi and cantor! They have brought the fun back to Shabbat services and temple life and have been very successful the past five years in helping us meld our "legacy cultures" into that unique blend called TBT!"

Ray was president of Legacy Temple Judea when the merger discussions with the Legacy Suburban Temple began in earnest. He was faced with the very real possibility that the Jewish community he loved and cherished would fade away. That was all the incentive he needed to make sure that the merger happened! "Today, we both kvell every time we enter the building because we know that our community is safe, thriving, and helping new generations of South Shore Jews connect!" (Ray along with congregant Larry Bloom were co-presidents at the 'birth' of TBT).

When asked if he noticed the improvements in and around the temple, Ray said, "The latest artistic addition to the Temple, the combined Trees of Life, is awesome! Its design captures the essence of the blended legacies while providing plenty of room for growth of TBT memories. It is drop-dead gorgeous, and we thank Harvey Drucker and his committee for their inspired execution."

We thank the Russolillo family for all their contributions to TBT as well.

Jeff Cohen

(continued from page 4)

After the *Torah* is read, the young Jewish adult reads a passage taken from one of the prophetic books of the Hebrew Bible, a selection known as a *Haftarah*. Parents offer blessings of thanks and expressions of joy and pride.

Here at Temple B'nai Torah, we are very proud of our *B'nai Mitzvah* students and of the commitment to Jewish life and lifelong learning they make.

*L'shalom,
Rabbi Marci N. Bellows*

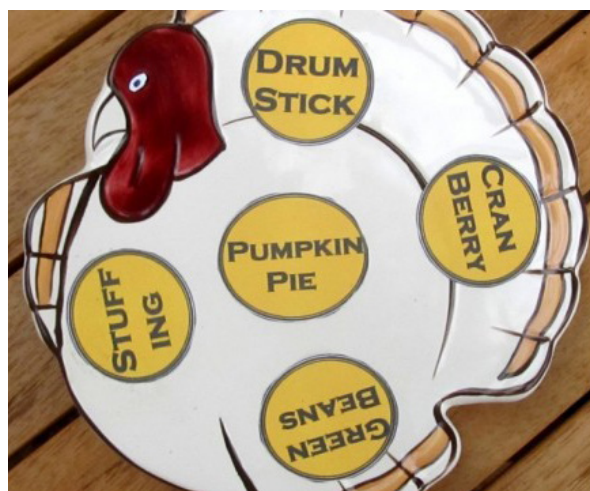
TBT Gift and Food Certificate Program

By now you have received your dues letter including a flyer with an update on this program. This year, thanks to Herb Price, we now offer several new vendors. They include Outback, Pizza Hut, Walgreens, Payless Shoes, Smashburger (our favorite), JC Penneys, and i-Tunes. We are hopeful everyone will support this program. It is great for your food shopping and for gifts. You save money, the Temple makes money and it costs you nothing.

Looking forward to seeing you on Sundays purchasing your certificates in the lobby.

Rita and Tessa

T-GIVING PLATE



RELIGIOUS SCHOOL



When I think of summer, it is not so much in memories of being at the beach or eating ice cream, although I do love both. To me, the summer invokes images of days spent at camp: playing with friends, sharing meals in a noisy dining hall, sleeping in bunk beds and learning so much about life and myself from my bunkmates and from counselors I looked up to and sought to be like.

Anyone who knows me, knows I am a big believer in camp, especially Jewish camping. I have spent the bulk of my summers in camp and the majority of those in overnight camp. I am always amazed at the life, the energy, and the creativity that permeates every aspect of it.

Educationally speaking, few places, if any, provide a better environment for enhancing self-esteem and for making lasting friendships. Camp is a natural extension of the Religious School Education. It immerses campers in a Jewish Life in a way that is difficult to replicate. When the HaMotzi (blessing over bread) is said at each meal, when every day places and objects are referred to by their Hebrew names, and when the entire camp stops to welcome Shabbat, there is a special feeling, a kind of magic, that is so unique to camp.

If you have already sent or now send your child to a Jewish camp, I thank you. If you have a child in second grade or above, please consider opening his or her eyes to this amazing world. I know not all children are suited for overnight camp. However, if you think yours might be, please join us on Sunday, November 23, 2014 at 11:00am to hear about Crane Lake, Eisner Camps and 6-Points Sci-Tech Academy, our Northeast region camps affiliated with the Union for Reform Judaism. There will be a representative from the camps here to meet with perspective campers and their parents. He will tell us how each camp is unique, have lunch with us, and do some fun camp activities with us. If you are interested in hearing about these wonderful camps and would like to join us on Sunday, November 23rd please RSVP to me no later than November 16th at eblank@temple-bnai-torah.org. Please note there is no cost for this program, but reservations are a must. Regretfully, walk-ins cannot be accommodated.

If you have any questions, please be in touch with me. Together we can find just the right place for your child for a life changing summer.

*L'Shalom
Elisa Blank, Director of Education*

From the TEMPLE B'NAI TORAH BOARD MEETING MINUTES

August 26, 2014 at 8:00 pm

Meeting called to order by Vice President Rob Saunders at 7:59pm

Education Report – Elisa Blank –Hebrew School is fully staffed and currently has 183 students. (This is down from 250 last year). There may be a new leader for BNTY soon.

BINGO/Gift Certificates/Purchasing Report – Rita Hofer – Report stands. More workers are needed for Sunday Triple Bingo. There is some concern about Nassau casinos opening next year.

Caring Committee Report –. Joni Christie has joined the Caring Committee.

President's Report –. Our Nursery school has closed and we are looking for a Social Action Chair.

Community and Fundraising - Les Kule –. There will be some upcoming changes on fundraising. 11/9 is the Budget Committee meeting. Thank you to Wendy Ser for help with ads. Thank you to Brian Levy for publicity. Please note that publicity must be received by e-mail 3 weeks in advance. Wendy Ser provided a reminder that we still need to scan our Pathmark card to get credit. July Kule noted that, regarding Amazon, we will no longer be able to give our members credit against the Capital Fund due to a situation where a member did not receive personal credit. Discussion ensued regarding the terms of the agreement with Amazon.

Respectfully submitted: Sharon Curry

ROSH HASHANAH FLOWERS

Colonial Florists did an outstanding job creating our holiday arrangements – as they always do. It was great to hear from our members who were so pleased with their Rosh Hashanah flowers. It's that extra special touch we can always expect from Debbie and Claudio! Be sure to mention Temple B'nai Torah when you call them at 785-2069.

Ellie Dayton



OUR COMMUNITY

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The Grove

Have you been to the lobby of the Temple lately? If you haven't you are missing a most beautiful sight.

The new Tree of Life has been installed, with the tree of life from legacy Temple Judea on the left and the tree of life from legacy Suburban Temple on the right. Our Temple B'nai Torah tree has sprouted in the middle. With the leaves intertwining, they give the impression of blowing together in the wind.

This work of art could never have been completed without the hard work of Harvey Drucker and his committee. They are to be commended for their effort and determination to find just the right design. Right down to the color of the background, Harvey made sure that everything was perfect. During the High Holidays, there were throngs of people congregating by the trees, looking to find where their personal leaves had been positioned on the wall.

Many congregants have already purchased a new leaf and many have made inquiries regarding obtaining one. If you are interested in adding your name or family names to the new tree, the cost is \$180.00 per leaf. Please contact Sue- Ellen in the office.

Speaking of Harvey Drucker, he and his beautiful wife Rita will be honored at the UJA breakfast on Sunday, November 2nd. Please attend to support the UJA and honor Harvey & Rita Drucker for all of the hard work that they have done and continue to do.

From my family to yours, have a safe and Happy Thanksgiving

*Sherrill Spatz
Congregation President*



BROTHERHOOD SPEAKS



I can't believe that Thanksgiving is almost upon us. The Sukkah has been constructed and disassembled by the Brotherhood Carpenters. Thanks to all involved in the process.

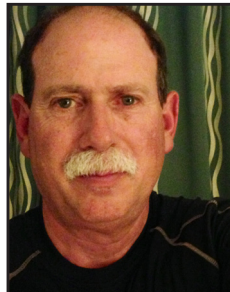
Our October Dinner (Taco Bar) showcased a number of our celebrated chefs: Eric Altman, Chuck Coene, and Brenden Curry. They arranged for a Comedy Roast as entertainment.

Thanks to the Brotherhood Breakfast Crew for preparing the Sunday after Yom Kippur Pancake Breakfast, as well as the UJA Breakfast Honoring Rita & Harvey Drucker.

We are looking forward to our upcoming Brotherhood/Sisterhood Dinner on Tuesday, November 18th, our Holiday Vendor Fair with the Roosevelt Raceway Flea Market Vendors on Sunday, November 30th, as well as the weekly Sunday breakfasts while Religious School is in session. It is not too late to join our great group of men and partake in our many cultural and culinary activities. Dues are a modest \$45 annually and are complimentary for new members.

Thanks to everyone who helps make our award winning Brotherhood a success. Enjoy Thanksgiving, Black Friday and the Holiday Vendor Fair.

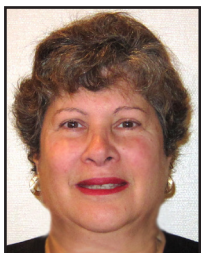
Shalom from Bruce Jaffe and Harvey Wiener



BUILDING TBT SUKKAH



OUR TBT SISTERHOOD SOURCE



I hope you receive this monthly edition of the TBT Times early enough to get my reminder to vote. We can't complain too much about our government leaders if we don't take part in learning about and electing them.

It's a busy time of year for Sisterhood. On a regional level, the WRJ Northeast District will have its convention from November 6th to 9th. Of course, we'll have some representatives going. Our very own Patti Nacht and Stephanie Jacobson have been nominated to serve as area directors.

Besides the convention, these are our other Sisterhood activities for the month:

- Tuesday, November 11: The Night of Beauty fundraiser at Bangz. I don't know how our women can possibly get any more beautiful than they are already, but everybody who goes always loves this evening of pampering.
- Tuesday, November 18: The Brotherhood/Sisterhood Joint Dinner. The first of the two joint dinners for the year is held at the temple. At a cost of only \$10 (\$15 for non-members), the dinner is a bargain. You'll enjoy this social evening with your "brothers" and "sisters."
- Sunday, November 23: Rosh Chodesh. Rabbi Bellows will lead this second of five programs centering around the book A Bride for One Night. (Don't worry if you missed the first session; each one is independent.)

Ladies, if, for some reason, you have not yet joined Sisterhood for the 2014/2015 year, you are still welcome to do so. Many more wonderful events are in the works and we'd love for you to be part of them. Please go to our temple Website (www.tbtwantagh.org), click at the "Community" link, and it will get you to Sisterhood. There's a wealth of information.

I'm sure you're aware that Thanksgiving is on Thursday, November 27. It's one of my favorite holidays. While we all go through some trying times, I think about all that is going right in my life and I am truly thankful. I hope you get to spend the day with those close to your heart.

*Sincerely,
Diane Schoenberg
Sisterhood President*

TBT-PTA

Hi everyone. Fall is going by fast and the PTA has been very busy with the celebrations.

We'd like to thank everyone who volunteered to help out with apples & honey for Rosh Hashanah. During Sukkot many of the PTA members helped to decorate the Sukkah and serve snacks to the students.

On October 18th, the PTA held Pizza, Prayer, and Pajamas, and it was a blast. The kids had a great time hanging out and watching movies. The adults also had a great time schmoozing. We would like to thank Cantor Sher for conducting the Havdalah Service. We would also like to thank Diane Schoenberg, President of Sisterhood, for her donation.

The first annual PTA service was held on Friday evening, October 24th. Thank you to Meredith Rothstein, Rabbi Bellows and the Ritual Committee for their assistance. It was a beautiful service and we look forward to doing it next year.

Our next meeting will be on Sunday, November 23rd at 10:00 AM in the library. Please stop by, we always welcome new members.

*Alissa Neches
Co-vice President*

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COUPLES CLUB

Living With a Living Legend



We have chronicled the many accomplishments of our Couples Club's illustrious figures without considering what life is like in that stratosphere of fame and fortune. To afford our readers a glimpse into this world, we have interviewed the

wives of several of these elites.

Vicki (The Fairy Card Mother) Deutsch, the wife of Bowlerman Bernie, has a unique philosophy in dealing with the ever-present paparazzi. Every few months she hosts a party in which photo shoots, and question and answer periods are held. She stated that one of their proudest moments was when the neighbors paid for an automatic sound system that plays Strauss's "Also Sprach Zarathustra" whenever the Bowlermobile pulls into their driveway.



Patty, the inspiration behind Dave (The Terminator) Schuster, is happy to report that the construction of their new climate-controlled trophy complex is complete. This facility houses Dave's 436 bowling trophies, in glass-enclosed cases. Patty is so happy that the awards will no longer need polishing and dusting.

Bonnie Russolillo (L.I. Cabaret Star) loves riding on the sidesaddle of Rolling Ray's (The New Kid On The Block) bike as they transverse the various highways and byways to Binghamton, N.Y. She mentioned that the Highway Patrol escorts, with blaring lights, are slightly overdone.

Our calendar for the last few weeks has been extremely hectic: On October 25th the Couples Club gladiators met in the Kiddush lounge for a no-holds-barred round of Military Bridge, hosted by Gerry (The Marksman) Morgenlender, and Arthur (The Chairman) Schlesinger, both dressed as Jedi Knights. The teams of four, competed in several high intensity rounds, making the "Lord of the Rings" look like a nursery rhyme. Finally one valiant team with the acumen of Sun Tzu, achieved everlasting glory.

Couples Club membership is open to any couples, married or not. Our exciting Couples Club functions welcome all congregants, whether singles or couples, and many singles participate in our activities. Why not come down to our next event and join in the fun?

The planned events for this year include: in November we will be at the Cabaret Show supporting our Couples Club Stars; the Annual Membership Dinner is scheduled for November 15th at H.R. Singletons; Sunday December 14th we will repeat our outstanding Chanukah Party. As seating is limited early reservations are recommended even though we have arranged for a larger room to meet the demand; January 11th, Bowling Tournament. A Temple Costume Dance, Temple Square Dance, Games Night, Theater Evening, Hi Line and Chelsea Market (NYC visit), and other events are in the works.

A special reminder to new TBT members. As new members, you automatically get a free year of Couples Club Membership. Take advantage of this opportunity to get to know us and discover for yourselves, how great the Couples Club is. You will be welcomed into the group, and very soon you will feel as if you were a long-time member. We would like to share this feeling with all TBT couples, married or not. If there is anything you would like to know about our group, please call us at (516) 798-5724 or email us at fdinstell@yahoo.com.

The casting for the full-length feature film "Couples Club: The Movie" is continuing. The roles of the three Amigos - Arnie (YOLO) Minsky, Alan (The Brewmeister) Loewenstein and Les (Green Thumb) Richards will be played by Michael Keaton, Al Pacino and George Clooney.

Couples Club's monthly word of wisdom: "To be blind is bad, but worse is to have eyes and not see." - Helen Keller

Fred Dinstell



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CHAI NOTES



All year, we are thankful for so much, but in November we often stop and think about what we are so "Thankful" for. My dad recently passed away. How lucky I have been to have had him in my life. He was almost 98 years old. Every year, for all my 70 years, he played Happy Birthday to me on his trumpet.

How thankful, too, are we to have had Alva Fromm in our lives. Our Chai Club member had been a "caller" for Bingo for over 40 years. We will truly miss our classy friend. How much we learned from our Chai Club Vice-President, Mark Kean! I am so thankful I had the opportunity to laugh, and learn about computers, publicity and flyers from my dear friend. His skills are not replaceable.

This month we can all be so thankful to be able to get together and share with one another at the Annual Chai Club Fall Membership Dinner on Monday, November 3rd. Hope you all made your reservations. (Call me if not and you wish to attend.) The day before we will celebrate our very talented Chai Club members, Harvey and Rita Drucker, at the TBT UJA Breakfast on Sunday, November 2nd. We should all be there, if possible, to share with them how thankful we are for

all they have done at TBT - love you guys so much.

So much else is coming up. Besides holidays and other Temple events, the Chai Club December General Meeting will feature Artie Schlesinger, Barbara Held and crew with our popular old songs sing-a-long. In January, we will have the highly requested Martha Kolodkin speaking concerning where ice cream cones came from (maybe we will even taste). Cantor Sher's Adventures-in-Music, will continue in the spring. Mark your calendar for the 5 Arm Square Dance on Saturday, January 24th.

Welcome new members: Jerry and Regina White-Chereskin, Alyson Garvey, Pearl Schlissel, Elaine Schechter, Stephen and Tina Finkel, Barbara and Alan Gurien, and Rabbi Howard and Patti Nacht. plus all other members (we'll get your names) who joined after September. We are so thankful that you joined our over 150 members.

So have a good month, a very Happy Thanksgiving and I look forward to being with you Monday, Nov. 3rd at our Membership Dinner.

*Rita Hofer,
Chai Club President*



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OUR COMMUNITY

A Love Letter.....

Dear Ann Lazare and TBT Nursery School staff,

This is written with a full heart of overwhelming sadness as our synagogue no longer houses our Nursery School within its walls. There is a shared sense of loss as we no longer hear the sweet, enthusiastic voices of children passing through the school wing and temple office on a daily basis. We will miss the wide eyed delight of students' reciting their weekly Shabbat prayers. There won't be the irresistible aroma of little handmade Challah or Hamantaschen as they bake in the TBT kitchen. There will be a bittersweet feeling driving into the temple parking lot, only to see a mournfully overgrown playground.

Ann, you did everything humanly possible to keep the Nursery School vital. Your networking skills were unmatched. Without your enthusiasm, energy and unshakable will this letter would probably have been written a year or two sooner. Your teachers, Olivia, Cindy, Wendy, Elaine and Robin taught with tender loving care and educational integrity.

TBT's Nursery School's legacy will live on through its students who were provided with a strong Jewish foundation. I pray that the monthly Tot Shabbats will continue to build on what Ann and her staff taught with open, loving arms. TBT is a second home for many of us. Somehow it doesn't feel quite as complete without TBT Nursery School. I will never give up hope that one day we will again hear those enthusiastic voices fill TBT's corridors.

I'm very grateful to have been part of something so special.

*Love,
Ellice Toscano*





OUR COMMUNITY

BLOG FROM ISRAEL

I would like to thank Sol Goldstein, Alan Lowenstein and all members of the Brotherhood, who put thought and effort to send packages for our Israeli soldiers and school children. We could see the love and caring in the collection of things intended to make the lives of our soldiers a little easier. The first packages arrived this summer, in the midst of Operation Protective Edge, when many of our soldiers were in the thick of battle, with little opportunity to get home to a hot meal, a good shower, and the supportive love of their family and friends.

The supplies for the school children will be distributed to schools where there are children from needy families, who cannot afford the basics. Almost 1 million people in Israel live below the poverty line. According to the findings, Israel maintains a poverty rate of 20.9 percent – nearly twice the OECD average of 11.3%. Despite this statistic the document said that 9.3% of people in Israel reported they could not afford to buy enough food, a rate that falls below the OECD average of 13.2%.

What is heartwarming is that so many people volunteer to help out, even while the government is criticized for not doing enough. In this modern age of text messaging, one can easily donate 18 NIS to one of the organizations that provide meals during the holidays. The Reform Movement in Israel has yearly campaigns before Rosh Hashanah and Pesach to collect foodstuffs and funds. We at Birkat Shalom put out boxes at the entrance to the synagogue and in the kibbutz store, just as in the big supermarkets there are cartons, with a sign asking people to buy one extra item and put it in the box.

This year, the Reform Movement had television and radio announcements asking for funds, and noting that a Muslim holiday occurs very close to Rosh Hashanah. The appeal was to help all needy families, not only Jews, to celebrate their holidays with dignity.

Most inspiring and uplifting for me before the holidays, was the outpouring of good wishes from my Christian and Muslim women friends, with whom I participated in a fifteen-session workshop for mutual understanding and friendship. Their good wishes were truly heartfelt, and gave me a sense of hope that together we can make strides for a more peaceful society.

So too are we heartened by the spirit of good will from members of B'nai Torah, who feel a strong connection to Birkat Shalom and to Israel. In the past we have received donations from the Sisterhood, and now we have seen the generosity of the Brotherhood. I hope that this year will bring more opportunities for connections. Those of you who are planning trips to Israel, whether individually or with a synagogue group, are invited to contact us and arrange a visit. This year at Birkat Shalom!

Rabbi Miri Gold, of Kehilat Birkat Shalom at Kibbutz Gezer, is raising funds for a new synagogue building, with the foundations to be in place by the end of 2014.

Rabbi Miri Gold

IN THE HOUSE...

Hooray! Our Tree of Life is finally up. Please examine our grove of trees which, according to the Tree of Life Committee, will maintain the legacy trees, and merge the leaves with the new trunk. You may purchase leaves for \$180. Rocks are available. - Contact Marilyn in the office to place orders. Please keep the number of words you want to be engraved on your leaf in line with existing leaves.

Did you see how our building looked during the holidays? Thank you to Prestige Maintenance for working so diligently in sprucing up our building for the holidays. Thank you Sue-Ellen for directing the activity.

Our Kiddish Lounge looks so new. Please note the new placement and framing of our artwork in the Kiddish Lounge and in the lobby. Thank you Shelley Lomove and Ellice Toscano.

Thank you to Anthony and crew for painting various areas inside and outside our building. Our building is beautiful. Tell your friends so that they can become members and enjoy our building and our spiritual environment.

The House Committee never finishes. We are always looking for new projects to make our building beautiful. Look up, down and around to see the improvements. Join us at our next meeting on Monday, November 17. Bring your ideas or contact me (tessakean@gmail.com) with your thoughts. New ideas are always welcome.

by Tessa Kean



SPECIAL GIFTS

SPECIAL FUNDS AND DONATIONS

Temple B'nai Torah follows a long and rich heritage of Tzedakah, consistent with our Jewish tradition. Such giving often recognizes a birth, birthday, Bar/Bat Mitzvah, wedding, anniversary, or death. Your generosity, large and small, continues to provide for Temple B'nai Torah by sustaining programs for its members. A beautifully inscribed card is sent acknowledging and commemorating your gift.

Please mail this form to the Temple, together with your check payable to Temple B'nai Torah. This will ensure that your donation is acknowledged in a timely fashion.

Enclosed is my gift of: ___\$10 ___\$18 ___\$36 ___\$54 ___\$100 ___ Other \$_____

Get Well to: _____ In Honor of: _____ In Memory of _____

From _____ Send Card To _____ Relationship _____

Address _____

For either the Rabbi's Discretionary Fund or Cantor's Discretionary Fund, please make your check payable to the fund; for all other fund donations, please make your check payable to TEMPLE B'NAI TORAH.

Send to: Temple B'nai Torah, 2900 Jerusalem Avenue, Wantagh, NY 11793-2025

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from Vicki & Bernard Deutsch

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In appreciation of:

Rabbi's beautiful service for Rita Gross
from Jonathan & Maryann Gross

In memory of:

Mark Kean from Pat & Herb Berger

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In appreciation of:

Cantor Sher from Dr. Regina White-Chereskin
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In memory of:

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Maurice Berlow from
Sheila & Stanley Solomon

Robert Robb from

Adrienne Robb Fund & Jay Fund

CHOIR FUND

In honor of:

Marriage of Jared Bloom & Deborah Kim
from Tom & Ellice Toscano

In memory of:

Mandell Ziegler from Harvey & Rita Drucker

CARING COMMITTEE FUND

In memory of:

Robert Robb from Adrienne Robb Fund & Jay Fund

ADULT LIBRARY/THE RABBI DEANNA PASTERNAK

CHILDREN'S LIBRARY FUND

In honor of:

**The birth of our grandchildren Lillian Riley &
Hudson Reed Desimini**
from Beverly & Arthur Miller

DORIS & ED KLEGMAN ADULT EDUCATION FUND

In honor of:

Rhoda Schwartz's birthday from Sarita Keyser

In memory of:

Benjamin Sussman from Herbert & Ruth Sussman

Mandell Ziegler from Sol & Elaine Goldstein

Mandell Ziegler from Herbert & Ruth Sussman

PRAYER BOOK/PLAUT COMMENTARY

In honor of:

Rhoda Schwartz's 90th birthday
from The Shabbat Torah Study Group

YOUTH ACTIVITIES FUND

In honor of:

Marriage of Matthew & Leah Christie
from Marilyn & Michael Woronoff

Marriage of Jared Bloom & Deborah Kim
from Jan & Stan Friedman

Marriage of Jared Bloom & Deborah Kim
from Jan & Stan Friedman

In memory of:

Donna Coene from Jan & Stan Friedman

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In memory of:

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Alva Fromm from Shelley & Barry Lomove

Alva Fromm from Dorothy Duckstein

Alva Fromm from The Bingo Workers

Mark Kean from Joyce Ogradnik

Sanford Dick from Astaire & Bob Greenberg

Leonard Sommer from Paul & Helayne Stoopack

Thomas Saccio from Tom & Ellice Toscano

Mandell Ziegler from Marcia Kotkin

In honor of:

Marriage of Beth Deutsch and

Dr. Eric Andrew Joseph

from Vicki & Bernard Deutsch

Engagement of Elizabeth Kennedy to

Dr. Matt Cleveland from Janis Beldner,

Heather Gottfried & Barbara Gouveia

Marriage of Matthew Christie & Lisa Eichenbaum

from Tom & Ellice Toscano

In appreciation of:

The kindness of TBT's congregation

from Marcia Kotkin

JOANNE SCHERZER YOUTH FUND

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Harry Mintz from Les & Arlene Friedman

Michael Rosenfeld from Les & Arlene Friedman

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Mark Kean from his friends at TBT

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from Stuart & Felicia Gluck

Bar Mitzvah of Dylan Goldstein

from Kenneth & Sheri Goldstein

Bat Mitzvah of Carley Leibowitz

from David & Cathy Leibowitz

Bat Mitzvah of Jessica Nealon

from Mark & Jacqueline Nealon

MAZEL TOV TO:

Allison & Larry Bloom on the marriage of
their son Jared to Deborah Kim

Sue & Neil Matzkin, Barbara & Marty

Kimmelblatt on the birth of their grandson
Jordan Parker Kimmelblatt

Beverly & Arthur Miller on the birth of their
grandchildren Lillian Riley & Hudson
Reed Desimini

Marcia & Les Ratcliff on the marriage of
their son Blake to Jillian Gladstone

YISKOR ELOHIM:

Donna Coene,

stepmother of Charles Coene

Claire Lidsky, mother of Terry Nyer

Gregory Neuhaus, brother of

Audrey Neuhaus-Axelrod

Ruth Rosenfeld, mother of

Michael Rosenfeld

Thomas Saccio, brother-in-law

of Barbara Carpenter

Mandell Ziegler, husband

of Marjorie Ziegler



SPECIAL GIFTS

YAHARZEITS

Max Altman from Esta Regent
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Jean Schuster from Esta Regent
Morris Bergman from Esta Regent
Alex Rafael from Lorie Schultz
Judith Bardavid from Bill Bardavid
Aaron Lewis Nyer from Neal & Terry Nyer
Jack Lurkis from Sydel & Stan Schwartz
Sylvia Keats from William Keats
Sarah Schindler from
Arthur & Sharon Schindler
Sophie Feldman from
Sharon & Arthur Schindler
Stanley Nochlin from
Sharon & Arthur Schindler
Philip Nochlin from
Sharon & Arthur Schindler
David Kussoy from Doris Kussoy
Patricia Kussoy from Doris Kussoy
Eric Kussoy from Doris Kussoy
Mitchell Rudick from Matt & Linda Rudick
Lillian Rudick from Matt & Linda Rudick
Howard Daniel Dienstag from
Ellen & Peter LeNoble
Abe Finkel from Carol & Jeff Finkel
Dorothy Epstein from Carol & Jeff Finkel
Leah Bobis from Florence Karmel

Blanche Wasserman from
Dr. & Mrs. E. Karmel
Morton Held from Glen, Sharon, Eden,
Zach & Shayna Held
Jerome Weinstein from Fradell Serpe
Abraham Isaacson from
Dr. & Mrs. Sidney Isaacson
Saul Locke from Elaine & Sol Goldstein
Abraham Newberg from Eileen Newberg
Lowell Golden from Audrey Golden
Louis Leidner from Marilyn Leidner
Blanche Leidner from Marilyn Leidner
Irwin J. Leidner from Marilyn Leidner
Joseph Bloomfield from Marilyn Leidner
Max Chaus from Arnold Chaus
Yvette Rhoda Moed from Linda Nussbaum
Barbara Conn from Shelley & Barry Lomove
Annie Meirowitz from Andrea & William Rifkin
Robert Meirson from Andrea & William Rifkin
Blanche Berkowitz from
Andrea & William Rifkin
Erwin Becker from Elaine Becker
Joseph Meizler from Elaine Becker
Morris Meizler from Elaine Becker
Pauline Goldman from
Sande & David Horowitz
Beatrice Noll from Richard & Francine Tepper

Benjamin Chain from
Richard & Francine Tepper
David Wolf from Lowell F. Wolf
Libby Kozsalka from Elaine Neimeth
Leo Scheer from Elaine Neimeth
Walter Wiener from Harvey & Monica Wiener
Herman "Hy" Goldman from Monica Wiener
Pearl Lerman from Louise & Carl Ponticello
Isadore Jaffe from Edith & Bert Lane
Edna Lane from Edith & Bert Lane

Bea Freedman from Elaine & Al Weinstein
Hyman S. Freedman from
Elaine & Al Weinstein
Herbert Weinstein from
Elaine & Al Weinstein
Sara "Syd" Rosenblum from
Diane & Jay Schoenberg
Joseph Schoenberg from
Diane & Jay Schoenberg
Leonard Dolgenos from
Diane & Jay Schoenberg
Edwin Alpert from Harvey & Gerry Alpert
Alec Alpert from Harvey Alpert
Mary Christie from The Christie Family
Yetta Slutsky from Sondra Spielberg
Irving Slutsky from Sondra Spielberg



**PLEASE JOIN US
FOR OUR 2ND ANNUAL**

CONGREGATION HANUKKAH BREAKFAST

**Sunday, December 14th @ 9:15 am
in our Social Hall**

**This breakfast is our Hanukkah gift to our congregants
(compliments of The Membership Committee)**

**Come join us for some Latkes, Sufganiyot, and all the usual
Brotherhood breakfast goodies**

Dreidel Games will be played and recipes will be shared

We hope to see you there!

**Co-Chairs of The Membership Committee
Robin Galardi & Julia Brite**



SQUARE DANCE 2015

SATURDAY JANUARY 24, 2015

7:00 P.M. - MIDNIGHT

FEATURING "THE SQUARE DANCE MAN"

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WATCH FOR MORE INFORMATION & A SIGN-UP FORM!**

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OUR COMMUNITY

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
NOVEMBER						
2 Daylight Savings Time Ends <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:00am Religious School 10:00-12:00noon UJA Breakfast (K/L) 11:45-12:30pm Producer's Mtg (Kids Lib.) 12:30-3:30pm Kids Show Reh. (S/H) 	3 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 12:00pm Torah Study (K/L) 2:00pm Chai Club Set-up (S/H) 5:30pm BNTY Jr. Y/L 6:30pm Chai Club Mem. Dinner (S/H) 6:30-7:00pm Teen Choir (Rm. 201) 7:00-9:00pm Kids Show Reh. (Y/L) 7:00-8:30pm Religious School 7:30-9:30pm Adult Choir (Rm. 201) 8:30-10:00pm BNTY Sr. (Y/L) 	4 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No Religious School 10:00am Al Anon (K/L) 6:45pm Sisterhood Exec. Mtg (101/103) 7:00-9:00pm Kids Show Reh. (S/H) 7:00pm Brotherhood Exec. Mtg (104) 7:30pm Sisterhood Board Mtg (101/103) 8:00pm Brotherhood Board Mtg (K/L) 	5 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10:30am Bingo 	6 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> WRJ N.E. District Convention (Away) 6:00-7:30pm Cub Scouts (Y/L) 7:30-9:00pm Boy Scouts (Y/L) 7:30pm Bingo 	7 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> WRJ N.E. District Convention (Away) 3:00pm B/M Rehearsal (Sanc.) 7:30pm Family Service 7:30pm New Member Service (Sanc.) 	8 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> WRJ N.E. District Convention (Away) 9:30-11:00am Torah Study (K/L) 10:30am Service (1) B/M Nealon 5:00pm-1:00am Cabaret Show (S/H)
9 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:00am Rel. School 9:15am Brotherhood Breakfast (S/H) 9:30am-noon Book Club (Library) 11:30-1:00pm PTA Mitzvah project (K/L) 11:30-noon Youth Choir (Rm. 201) 11:45-12:30pm Prod.Mtg (Kids Lib.) 12:30-3:30pm Kids Show Reh. (S/H) 2:00pm Jewish Exper. on Film (K/L) WRJ N.E. District Convention (Away) 	10 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 12:00pm Torah Study (K/L) 5:30pm BNTY Jr. Y/L 6:30-7:00pm Teen Choir (Rm. 201) 7:00-8:30pm Religious School 7:00-9:00pm Kids Show Reh. (S/H) 7:00pm Fund-raising Mtg (Clisrm) 7:00pm Jewish War Veterans Mtg (104) 7:30-9:30pm Adult Choir (Rm. 201) 8:30-10:00pm BNTY Sr. (Y/L) 	11 Veterans Day <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No Religious School 7:00pm Sisterhood Night of Beauty (Away) 7:00-9:00pm Kids Show Reh. (S/H) 7:30pm Ritual Com. Mtg (K/L) Veterans Day - Building Open 	12 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10:30am Bingo 	13 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6:00-7:30pm Cub Scouts (Y/L) 7:30-9:00pm Boy Scouts (Y/L) 7:30pm Bingo 	14 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> NFTY Fall Kallah (Away) 3:00pm B/M Rehearsal (Sanc.) 5:30pm Tot Shabbat Service 8:00pm Erev Shabbat Kristallnacht/Jewish War Vets Svc 	15 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:00-11:30am R.S. Bonim Fam. Shabbat-Grade 3 (Y/L) 9:30-11:00am Torah Study (K/L) 10:30am Service (1) B/M Gluck 3:00-6:00pm Set-up Leiva (S/H) 6:00-11:00pm Leiva Party (S/H) 7:00-11:00pm Couples Club Event (Away) NFTY Fall Kallah (Away)
16 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:00am Rel. School 9:15am Brotherhood Breakfast (S/H) 10:00-11:00am Memb.Mtg (Library) 11:30-noon Youth Choir (Rm. 201) 11:45am B/M Orientation Nov 2015 Fam. (K/L) 11:45-12:30pm Prod. Mtg (Kids Lib.) 12:30-2:00pm Kids Show Reh. (S/H) 2:00-3:30pm Kids Show Reh. (Y/L) 2:00pm Bingo Set-up (S/H & K/L) 6:45pm Triple Bingo Kutz CampBNTY (A) 	17 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 12:00pm Torah Study (K/L) 5:30-6:30pm BNTY Jr. (Y/L) 6:30-7:00pm Teen Choir (Rm. 201) 7:00pm Housing Mtg (K/L) 7:00-9:00pm Kids Show Reh. (S/H) 7:00pm Budget Meeting (Rm. 104) 7:30-9:30pm Adult Choir (Rm. 201) 8:30-10:00pm BNTY Sr. (Y/L) 	18 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10:00am Al Anon (K/L) 4:30-6:00pm Religious School 7:00pm Brotherhood/Sisterhood Dinner (S/H) 7:00-9:00pm Kids Show Reh. (Y/L) 	19 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10:30am Bingo 	20 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6:00-7:30pm Cub Scouts (Y/L) 7:30-9:00pm Boy Scouts (Y/L) 7:30pm Bingo 	21 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3:00pm B/M Rehearsal (Sanc.) 6:00pm Pre-Neg 6:30pm Kabbalat Service 6:30pm 60 Yr. Anniv. B/M Regina White-Chereskin 	22 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:15am B/M photos Curry (Sanc.) 9:30-11:00am Torah Study (K/L) 10:30am Shabbat Service (1) B/M Curry 1:00pm Beldner Baby Naming (Sanc.) 1:00-4:00pm Beldner Baby Naming Celebration (K/L) 5:00pm 7th Grade Shul-In (Y/L)
23 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:00am 7th Grade Shul In pick-up (Y/L) 9:00-11:30am Rel. Sch Dance Cls (K/L) 9:00am Rel. School 9:15am Brotherhood Breakfast (S/H) 10:00am Outreach Meeting (K/L) 10:00am PTA Mtg (Library) 11:00am URJ Camp Presentation (Y/L) 11:30-noon Youth Choir (Rm. 201) 11:45-12:30pm Prod.Mtg (Kids Lib.) 12:00pm Rosh Chodesh (K/L) 12:30-3:30pm Kids Show Reh. (S/H) 	24 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 12:00pm Torah Study (K/L) 1:00-3:00pm Womens Mead. Init. (K/L) 5:30pm BNTY Jr. Y/L 6:30-7:00pm Teen Choir (Rm. 201) 7:00-8:30pm Religious School 7:00-9:00pm Kids Show Reh. (S/H) 7:30pm Chai Club Board Mtg (K/L) 7:30-9:30pm Adult Choir (Rm. 201) 8:30-10:00pm BNTY Sr. (Y/L) 	25 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10:00am Al Anon 4:30-6:00pm Religious School 6:45pm Exec. Board Mtg (Rm. 104) 7:00-9:00pm Kids Show Reh. (S/H) 8:00pm Board Meeting (K/L) 	26 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:00pm Interfaith Thanksgiving Svc (Away) @First Presbyterian Church NO Bingo 	27 Thanksgiving <ul style="list-style-type: none"> NO Bingo Building Closed - Thanksgiving Day 	28 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Office Closed 3:00pm B/M Rehearsal (Sanc.) 8:00pm Erev Shabbat Service 	29 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:30-11:00am Torah Study (K/L) 10:30am Service (1) B/M Goldstein 1:00am-4:00pm Holiday Fair set-up (S/H, K/L, Lobby)
30 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6:00-10:00am Winter Holiday Fair set-up 10:00am to 5:00pm Winter Holiday Fair - Entire Building 5:00pm Winter Holiday Fair clean-up 6:30-9:00pm Kids Show Reh. (S/H) No Religious School 						

OUR COMMUNITY

SAVE THE DATE

Comedy Club

SUNDAY, JANUARY 25, 2015

BROKERAGE COMEDY CLUB
7:00 – 10:00 P.M.

BRING YOUR FRIENDS !
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CALL MARILYN 785-0628

UNIONGRAM ORDER FORM

The following is a list of the boys and girls who will be celebrating their Bar/Bat Mitzvah November through December 2014.

Circle the names of those to whom you would like to send congratulations, and PRINT your name as you want it to appear on the Uniongrams.

<u>DATE</u>	<u>CHILD'S NAME</u>	<u>PARENTS</u>
Nov. 1	(F) Carley Leibowitz	David & Cathy
Nov. 8	(F) Jessica Nealon	Mark & Jacqueline
Nov. 15	(F) Jordan Gluck	Stuart & Felicia
Nov. 22	(M) Joshua Curry	Brenden & Sharon
Nov. 29	(M) Dylan Goldstein	Kenneth & Sheri
Dec. 6	(M) Andrew Almont	Daniel & Cori
Dec. 13	(M) Matthew Moser	Gary & Jennifer Opas

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President

edayton@totaltravelmgmt.com

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www.totaltravelmgmt.com
333 Earle Ovington Blvd, Ste LL10
Uniondale, New York 11553
Tel: 516-222-9229 Fax: 516-222-9242

TEMPLE B'NAI TORAH

2900 Jerusalem Avenue

Wantagh, NY 11793

Tel: 221-2370

Fax: 221-5082

WEB SITE: www.tbttwantagh.org

Rabbi Marci N. Bellows

Cantor Steven Sher

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Editor:

Mark Chester

Email:

TBTTIMES@TEMPLE-BNAI-TORAH.ORG

Associate Editor: Rob Saunders

Staff Photographer: Harvey Drucker

Proofreaders:

Laurie Chester

Tessa Kean

Lynne Happes • Brian Levy

Main Telephone: 516-221-2370

Ext.

#10 Marilyn Pomeranz, Admin Asst.

#11 Linda DeStefano, Clergy Asst.

#13 Sue-Ellen Pennington,
Temple Administrator

#15 Paula Metzger ,
Bookkeeping & Billing

#19 Cantor Sher

#20 Kitchen

#21 Rabbi Bellows

#22 Suzanne Kranz,
Religious School Asst.

#24 Elisa Blank, Religious School Director

Direct Dial Departments:

Religious School: 221-2374

Rabbi Emeritus:

Rabbi Sanford Jarashow

Rabbi Robert Raab

Mission Statement

Temple B'nai Torah's mission is to embody, enhance and perpetuate Jewish tradition by providing a welcoming spiritual home where the community gathers to worship God, study Torah, engage in acts of Tikun Olam (repairing the world), participate in Jewish rituals and life cycle events, and experience the joy of being part of a caring community.



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Pack 189

Our Scouts Had A Summer Adventure at the Onteora Scout Reservation

