

January-February 2017
Vol. 9 No. 3

B'nai Torah TIMES

A BREATH, BREEZE, AND SPIRIT OF THE TIMES



Tu B'Shevat Service

Seder & Dessert

– Friday, February 10th –



B'NAI MITZVAH

January 16
Dylan Mednick
Joel & Stacey



February 11
Luke Melfa
Anthony & Elisa



Congregation Breakfast

by TBT Brotherhood



The Next Best Thing to Breakfast-in-Bed!

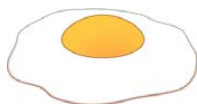
Brotherhood will once again prepare a delicious breakfast on most Sunday mornings when Religious School is in session. Check the calendar below.



Coffee (decaf too!), eggs, bagels,
assorted omelets & more!



Serving 9:15am



Donation is a nominal \$4.

Please circle the dates and plan to join us!

- January 8th
- January 22nd
- January 29th (Blood Drive)
- February 5th
- February 12th
- March 5th
- March 19th
- April 2nd
- April 23rd
- May 7th

BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS NOVEMBER 5TH



TBT Book Club

Psst!!! Do you enjoy reading???



Can you answer “yes” to any of these questions?

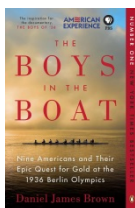
Have you found a book you really enjoyed? Yes? Let us know.

Have you missed something in a story? Join us. We will welcome your questions...

Do you want to meet some enthusiastic readers? We are here.

Sometimes, we are pleased with our choices. Sometimes we are not.

Either way, we have friends to share with us.



Our next meeting is on Sunday, January 22, 2017 in the TBT Library between 9:45am to 11:45am. We will be reviewing The Boys in the Boat by Daniel James Brown.

If you cannot join us this month, contact: Marilyn Block for our next selection. Telephone 516-541-6222 or cell 516-859-6773.

RITUAL CALENDAR – JANUARY



Friday,	January 6	7:30 pm	Family Service
Saturday,	January 7	10:30 am	Shabbat Service
Tuesday,	January 10	7:30 pm	Ritual Committee Meeting
Friday,	January 13	5:30 pm	Tot Shabbat Service
		6:45 pm	Shabbat Picnic & Service
Saturday,	January 14	No Service	
Monday,	January 16	10:30 am	Service – 1 BM
Friday,	January 20	6:00 pm	Pre-Neg
		6:30 pm	Kabbalat Shabbat
Saturday,	January 21	No Service	
Friday,	January 27	8:00 pm	Shabbat Service
Saturday,	January 28	No Service	



Friday,	February 3	7:30 pm	Scout Service – Siddur Ceremony
Saturday,	February 4	No Service	
Friday,	February 10	5:30 pm	Tot Shabbat Service
		7:30 pm	Shabbat/Tu b'Shevat Service
		8:15 pm	Tu b'Shevat Seder/Dessert
Saturday,	February 11	10:30 am	Shabbat Service – 1 BM
Tuesday,	February 14	7:30 pm	Ritual Committee Meeting
Friday,	February 17	6:00 pm	Pre-Neg
		6:30pm	Kabbalat Shabbat
Saturday,	February 18	No Service	
Friday,	February 24	8:00 pm	Shabbat Service
Saturday,	February 25	10:30am	Shabbat Service
Friday,	March 3	7:30 pm	Family Service – Shabbat Across America
Saturday,	January 4	10:30 am	Shabbat Service – 1 BM



INSPIRATION FROM OUR RABBI



The Holidays have all come and gone. Some of us may say “thankfully.” Others may miss the hustle and bustle of getting ready, preparing for family visits, planning trips, shopping, making dinners and the like.

Some of us may have been busy making New Year’s resolutions, or perhaps we are about to, or at least we’ve been thinking about doing so. I know that for most people those resolutions are personal; things like, “I’m going to exercise more,” or “I’m going to lose some weight,” or similar goals. Also, I know that most of these types of resolutions usually are more general, rather than specific when it comes to detailed implementation plans. And experience has taught me that most people’s resolutions fall by the wayside by February or March, if they even last that long.

So, if you’re someone who likes to make New Year’s resolutions, but hasn’t had much success with them in the past, let me make a suggestion for 2017. In place of a resolution that’s personal, make one for the community. Perhaps resolve to volunteer once a week (or twice a month to start) at a food bank, or a homeless shelter, or a nursing home, or at any organization that is working to help our community. Maybe even make a joint resolution with a

friend, or spouse, to do this together. Together you will probably stay at it much longer. You will wind up helping others in the community and feeling good about yourself, both for doing it and for keeping your resolution longer than you otherwise might have.

If you like that idea, but can’t think of a worthy organization, let me suggest Temple B’nai Torah. We are always in need of more people to help out with Bingo, our largest fundraiser. Some of our volunteers head south for all or part of the winter, but the Bingo players come twelve months of the year. We could really use your help. And I guarantee you will have some fun in the process. Just contact Rita Hofer, she’ll be happy to hear from you.

If Bingo is not for you, our Sisterhood, Brotherhood, Chai Club and Circle of Friends can always use more help in planning and running their many activities. Or join Les Richards in taking care of our grounds.

Let’s make this resolution together, “Do good and feel good in 2017.” And remember the daylight hours are already getting longer. Spring will be here before you know it.

Wishing you and your families
a very Happy and Healthy 2017
Rabbi Howard Nacht

BLOG FROM ISRAEL

Tu B’Shevat, the holiday of the trees, arrives “late” this year, almost mid-February. In Wantagh it is still winter and it must be hard to imagine the almond trees blossoming. Are there almond trees in Wantagh? This tree is fairly non-descript, not at all imposing, until....it blossoms, and then it comes as a stunningly beautiful surprise to rediscover them. When the almond trees don’t blossom “on time”, for Tu B’Shevat, it is distressing. Then we wonder if to attribute the delay to global warming and other environmental issues.

This year, there will be heartbreaking evidence of the need for reforestation due to the November fires that broke out all over Israel. Perhaps by when you read this, there will be explanations as to the cause of the fire. Was it the high winds and lack of rain? Negligence and stupidity? Arson and incitement? What is certain is that the Fire Authority, while still in need of its own spray planes, was better equipped than it had been in 2010 when the Carmel Forest tragedy took over forty lives as a bus was engulfed in flames with no way out. This horrific event led to the formation of a special rescue unit within the Fire Authority, creating a small elite group of firefighters who are generally second responders, to help firefighters in distress or civilians in particularly difficult situations. This group of fewer than thirty men, distilled from 8,000 who tried out for the unit, is trained to be medics, divers and speed boat drivers, men who

learn ziplines and dangerous chemical materials, who learn how to deal with fire in tunnels, ships, skyscrapers.

Before these recent fires, they were involved in rescue when a parking garage under construction collapsed. During this current rash of fires, they were in small communities near Jerusalem and in Haifa, sleeping on the sidewalk when a break was necessary. Fifteen of them were at my house for ice cream on their way back to the station from fighting a fire in the Jerusalem hills. Why? Because my son is in that special rescue unit....a little humor amidst the grimness and the ashes that reached even Gezer, was that members of the kibbutz driving home one evening found themselves behind a fire truck entering Gezer, and were concerned that the fires had spread to Gezer. (In our own case, we thought about where we would go if we had to evacuate, because the fires were not that far away). Sure enough, they later saw a posting on Facebook with the fifteen firefighters eating ice cream on our porch, served by Judy Herbert’s brother David. We were thrilled to help out and show our appreciation to these brave young men.

On Tu Bishvat we will be planting trees by our new synagogue building. I hope you have a chance to visit us on your next trip to Israel.

Rabbi Miri Gold is the spiritual leader of Kehilat Birkat Shalom at Kibbutz Gezer.

INSPIRATION FROM OUR CANTOR



"Forward to the Past!"

Every secular New Year, we are reminded that, in going forward, we have an opportunity to improve upon what has passed. Hence, we create those insurmountable "New Year Resolutions," we never seem to be able to keep. We gain the weight we had intended to lose, realize our lacking in the diligence we need in realizing goals that seem just out of our reach.

But wait! Maybe stumbling backwards is actually progress! Remember the film series, "Back to the Future?" Perhaps it's time for something new: "Forward to the Past!" In the Arts section of the December 6, 2016 issue of the New York Times (to which I am a daily subscriber and, brace yourself, I receive it in the paper "hard copy," at my door every morning) Michiko Kakutani reviewed a most pithy, profound and entertaining book, "Revenge of Analog: Real Things and Why They Matter," by the reporter David Sax. I urge you to read it!

Mr. Sax presents the concept that remaining in the binary world of 1s and 0s leads to the atrophy of those most important skills of interpersonal interaction and sharing that are at the heart of our progress as a species. To quote Mr. Sax,

"The choice we face isn't between digital and analog... that simplistic duality is actually the language that digital has conditioned us to: a false binary choice of 1 and 0, black and white, Samsung and Apple. The real world isn't black or white. Not even gray. Reality is multicolored, infinitely textured, and emotionally layered."

The real world manifestation of that quote is an allusion to almost every student I see, buried in his or her cell phone, i-Pad or laptop, faithfully copying their parents also preoccupied with same. Why is this important to us as Jews?

I'm glad you asked! Constant dependency on our technology has created a binary socialization of our young people, robbing them of the experience and challenge of the risk taking and creativity that best results from personal interaction and the sharing of ideas.

In olden times, students would be concentrating on the environment surrounding them at any given moment, bringing with them the awareness of others passing into and out of their focus and their lives. Once upon a time, in pre-binary times, students and teachers would greet each other on their occasional passing, often sharing pleasantries

that brought recognition to a student and fulfillment to a teacher. Now, they are reduced to two phones passing in the hall, in whose possession are those clueless to the concept that, what makes our species superior is our ability to communicate emotionally, intellectually, and physically. When physical intimacy becomes a function of hardware and software, we will have steeped to the lifeless level of "artificial intelligence."

Jewish tradition is based upon the interaction of groups of people, sharing all forms of interaction. Why do we traditionally need more than one person for prayer, for mourning support, for study? Our ancient leaders were profoundly intuitive, long before there were the formal studies of sociology, anthropology and group process.

They understood that direct human interaction and the sharing of information and ideas were essential to personal growth, creativity and spiritual nourishment. These all are the antecedents of the analog process.

What separates us from almost every other religious community, is the phenomenon of liturgical text as a uniquely vocal musical expression. Music is the greatest common language of our people since our beginnings.

Our music is that language that functions with the multicolored and textured nuance alluded to by David Sax, and achieved, solely, through the exchange of thoughts, ideas and feelings.

And, "souly" achieved through the eyes meeting, and the voices exchanging, all that is lost to the high tech world.....of 1s and 0s.

A little backward thinking can go a long way.....

Cantor Steve Sher



ELLIE DAYTON
President

edayton@totaltravelmgmt.com

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BROTHERHOOD NEWS & VIEWS



Greetings to all. On Sunday November 29th, Brotherhood held our 22nd annual winter Street Fair, which along with the summer fair

is our largest fundraiser. We had seasonable dry weather and a steady flow of shoppers all day. There were over 100 vendors selling varied types of merchandise and services. We also had a food truck and with Chef Gail, who being familiar with *kashrut*, operated her fare as dairy kosher. She served both breakfast and lunch cuisine. Thank you to Vendor Chairman Ben Cernese and your entire staff of literally dozens, including volunteers from Brotherhood and Sisterhood. While the final numbers are yet to be determined I believe we had a very successful day.

Thank you to our Social Action guru Brian Levy for all his efforts on Brotherhood's continuing project to support our deployed Troops. Sgt. Matt Hayes in Bagram, Afghanistan, was so appreciative of the last package sent by Brotherhood that Brian sent him a 2nd care package. On December 4th Brian also spoke to the PTA kids on behalf of the Jewish War Veterans who will be designing holiday greeting cards to be included in the next package. We need snacks and other non-perishable food items as well as travel size personal care items such as soaps. Please drop them off in the "Troop" box in the lobby. Used books were collected at the vendor fair and we continued to collect books at our breakfasts on December 4th & 18th, which will be delivered in January to be used by the veterans at the VA Hospital in Northport.

Our breakfast and dinner programs are going well. Thank you to Mike Bruno and the entire Brotherhood kitchen crew. Come down and schmooze with us on Sunday January 8th and 22nd for a great breakfast while Religious School is in session. Also, on January 24th don't miss our annual homestyle "mystery" meatloaf dinner thanks to head chefs Mark Chester and Dave Schuster. We have a great program scheduled with Nolan Altman of the Jewish Genealogy Society of Long Island, who will speak on "Exploring Our Jewish Roots". Also, watch the flyers for our dinner on February 21st with a menu yet to be determined.

Brotherhood is proud to be the chartered organization for Pack and Troop 189. Friday February 3rd is Jewish Scout Sabbath which will occur in conjunction with the family service that evening. A Scout Sabbath Patch (courtesy of the Jewish Committee on Scouting), will be

given to all scouts attending in full uniform.

On behalf of my Co-President Mark Chester, the entire Brotherhood Board and its membership, I want to wish everyone a happy, healthy and prosperous (secular) New Year. Until the next issue of the TBT Times, I remain yours in Brotherhood.

David Schuster
Brotherhood Co-President

LOOKING FOR INVITATIONS?

**Sisterhood is pleased to help you
shop for wedding, b'nai torah invitations.**

Social stationery is available as well.

All invitations are 25% off retail prices.

Shop at your convenience.



Call Sharon Forman (516-799-8043)

**for more information
or to make an appointment.**



OUR COMMUNITY

OUR TBT SISTERHOOD SOURCE



A new year is upon us! As we welcome 2017, I hope that this year holds an abundance of health and happiness for you and your families.

Our paid up membership dinner was an evening where both new members and old had a chance to mingle while enjoying a delicious meal. More than 100 women attended! This successful event was due to the combined efforts of dedicated sisterhood members. Are you interested in volunteering for sisterhood? We could use your assistance! There are many areas available at different levels of involvement. If you would like more information, please contact me at arnopol51@gmail.com. I would love to hear from you!

The weather outside may be frightful, but we have some events that are delightful:

Sunday, January 22nd - The Sisterhood's First Mah Jongg Tournament. Get your friends to form your own groups, or we can put together singles. Lunch will be served, and there will be prizes awarded to the winners.

Monday, January 23rd – Line Dancing. Winter can cause us to become sedentary. To combat this, professional line dance teachers Fred and Pat will get you out of your chair and on the dance floor. No previous experience is necessary. If you can count to eight you can line dance!

Sunday, January 29th – Brokerage Comedy Club – Save the Date! We can all use some humor to get through these

cold winter months, so join us for a night of fun and laughter at the Brokerage Comedy Club in Bellmore. In addition to seeing talented and upcoming comedians, there will be door prizes and raffles.

Monday, February 13th – Arts and Crafts. Our own sisterhood artist, Stephanie Jacobson, will show us how to create photo coasters. With her guidance, even those of us who are creatively challenged can produce a beautiful piece to bring home!

Also, February marks the beginning of our new fundraiser, Pick Three. Every day during this month, someone will win a prize if they have the Pick Three number chosen by the New York lottery. We are selling these tickets now, and they are going fast! If you are interested in purchasing a ticket, please contact Joni Christie at lollipop@optonline.net.

Your Sisterhood works hard to provide a variety of events to appeal to everybody. If you haven't yet joined Sisterhood, it is not too late! Please check us out by coming to our events and feel free to bring your friends.

L'Hitraot,

Marlyn Appelt, Sisterhood President



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OUR COMMUNITY

PACK AND TROOP 189

It has once again been an event-filled couple of months for our Scout units!

Let's start with the Troop. In September, we went camping out at Mount Allamuchy Scout Reservation. The Scouts worked on basic skills and 'Leave No Trace' principles. Let's be clear about these camping trips: every one helps develop independence, pro-active thinking, and leadership skills, all of which will help the Scouts turn into shining examples of Character, Citizenship, and Fitness.



In October, the Troop helped staff the Cub Scout Fall Festival (more on that below), and in November, we held our annual Turkey Trip. 7 huge turkeys this year, as we invited out Webelos working on the Arrow of Light and helped them work on two different adventures, while at the same time showing off what makes our Troop special. The Webelos learned about wilderness survival, fire building, potable water safety, and other important skills as they look to transition into being Boy Scouts.

On Sat. Oct. 1st several scouts from Wantagh Troop 189 volunteered at the Garden City Bird Sanctuary. They helped clear weeds, bushes and vines in over grown areas so they could transplant Blue Spruce saplings. It was a great learning and fun experience for all scouts.



The Pack has been just as busy. In October, we went out to the Fall Festival. This is a relatively new event for our Council, having just started last year, and this year's event was even bigger. The event has five zones of fun activities, with everything from bouncers and slides to field games, shooting sports (archery, BB guns, and sling shots) to crafts. An event of this size takes an enormous staff to pull off,

and when I was asked to run a zone, I turned to Troop 189, and they came out with enormous support, running most of the activities in Zone 1 and preparing the staff lunch. It did rain, but that didn't stop the approximately 1000 participants from having a great time. Saturday evening finishes off with "trunk-or-treating" (trick-or-treating out of leaders' car trunks), religious services, and a fantastic campfire. Everyone who attended, in both the Troop and Pack, had a great time!

The Pack also took trips to the Atlantis Aquarium (Riverhead) in October and the Intrepid museum at the start of November. At the aquarium, the Cubs and their families (almost everything the Pack does is for the entire family) got the whole experience, including petting rays and watching the sea lion show, and at the Intrepid we got to see the USS Growler (the guided missile submarine docked next to the Intrepid), the aircraft on the flight deck, and the bridges of the ship. These were two awesome days.

Yesterday (I am writing this Thanksgiving Weekend), both units went on the 20th Annual Ten Commandments Hike, which was in Bellmore this year. This is a wonderful event, where the Scouts get to learn about different faiths and their perspective on the 10 commandments. We walked over 7 miles to 7 different houses of worship, plus a stop at a North Bellmore FD station with two other participating houses. The Scouts were able to hear about Judaism (at a conservative synagogue), Hindu, Islam, Sikhism, and multiple branches of Christianity as we walked off some of the calories from Thanksgiving. This is one of my favorite events of the year!



Scouts Visit Temple Beth-El of Bellmore

Of course, all of this is on top of our usual service to the community, advancement, and fun and games.

On behalf of the Troop and Pack, I wish everyone a happy winter holiday season! Talk to you next newsletter.

*-J.J. Scotch, Assistant Cubmaster
and Assistant Scoutmaster*

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Chag Sameach Chanukah! And a happy secular New Year to you and your family!

The Temple year is racing by! Already halfway over, which means that there are just 181 days left in my term as president (and only 53 days until the start of spring training!). But

it has really been a blur... seems like the older I get, the faster the weeks and months seem to speed by.

Kudos to the cast and crew of "Guys and Dolls"; I hope you had a chance to catch the TBT Jr Players production last month. It was really good, and I really enjoyed it!

So, just to bring you up-to-date a little bit: we are still moving towards our proposed merger with Temple Emanu-El of East Meadow (TEEM). We had a wonderful program on the morning of December 11th, when Rabbi Daniel Bar-Nahum visited with us, giving us an opportunity to learn a little bit about him, hear him do a story-lesson with our religious school children, and ask him questions. A tremendous "Y'asher Koach" to Barbara Cohen for putting it all together and making it work seamlessly. If you missed it, no worries; we are already working to plan another one in late January or early February.

Speaking of the merger, we are going to need volunteers, lots and lots of them, as we seek to populate dozens of committees that will deal with everything from what we display on the walls to which prayers we do during our services. If you are interested in serving in any capacity during this transition, please contact me by e-mail (president@temple-bnai-torah.org), and I will make sure that your name gets forwarded to the correct person. This is but one opportunity for you to make a difference in your Temple.

Another is serving on the Board of Trustees. The work of the Board can be difficult: the monthly meetings can run a little long; the other responsibilities (such as attending committee meetings, ushering on Friday night and Saturday morning, and representing the Temple on the bimah during services) can be a little intimidating, but ultimately, there is a satisfaction in being part of the solution to the numerous issues, big and small, that the Temple faces. If this sounds like you, or if you've

ever thought or said "Why do they do it like that?", I strongly encourage you to "audition" for the Board: the Nominating Committee is going to begin its work this month, and as I might have mentioned during the High Holidays, we need you to get involved! Again, if you are interested, e-mail me and I will forward the information to the proper person.

I will see you around the Temple!

*Rob Saunders,
Congregation President*

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TBT-PTA

The TBT-PTA has had a wonderful autumn and early winter filled with fun and meaningful events. On September 11th, the school year started with a blast as we hosted “The Shofar Project” in which students from grades three and up learned about crafting Shofars and were actually able to craft their own to keep. They were even given a lesson on how to blow the Shofar! It was an experience all who attended will never forget. Thanks to Alyson Garvey for chairing this event. On Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur our students were invited up onto the bema to blow their handcrafted shofars.

Friday, November 4th was the PTA/Consecration/Family Shabbat service. This lovely service is always a wonderful way to welcome our youngest members into the TBT family. This year was particularly meaningful as PTA members shared their part of “The TBT Story” and a rousing dance around the sanctuary with the children to “Miriam’s Song”. It was a beautiful evening for temple members big and small!

On Sunday, November 6th we hosted our first “Pizza, Prayer and Punchlines” event featuring the magician/comedian Jim McClenahan. It was a hilarious evening for kids of all ages and a great chance to catch up with all our religious school and PTA pals.

Sunday, December 4th was our annual Mitzvah Project offering two meaningful opportunities for the kids to give back to the community. First, students wrote letters to Jewish war veterans, expressing their gratitude to the brave people who have served our country in times of war. A visiting veteran spoke to the children about his experiences and provided an age appropriate understanding of his sacrifice and a lesson in the importance of supporting our veterans and active military. We also had our “Crayon Project”, in which the children melted down old crayons they had collected to create and package new crayons for kids in need. Thanks to everyone who donated their old crayons to the cause and to Steve Schwartz and Meredith Rothstein for bringing us these programs.

Sunday, December 18th was our Hanukkah Party. Students joined us in the youth lounge before or after shopping at the Sisterhood Hanukkah Fair for crafts and games, including an always rambunctious game of dreidel. It’s hard to know who has more fun at this event, the kids or the volunteers!

Right now, we are busy cutting out felt leaves and organizing our glitter glue and pom poms for our Tu B’Shevat tree project. Each year, students decorate their

own leaf to be hung on the TBT Religious School Family Tree. It is such a colorful and festive way to celebrate the New Year for the Trees! Keep your eye out for an email if you wish to volunteer for this fun project.

Mark your calendars for our upcoming meetings: Sunday, January 22, 2017 at 11:30am (babysitting available during this meeting), Sunday, February 12, 2017 at 10:00am and Sunday, March 19, 2017 at 10:00am. Attending meetings is a wonderful way to learn about all the fun events being planned for the school as well as to catch up on temple news. If you have not yet joined the TBT-PTA, please do! 100% of your \$18 family membership fee goes to fund programs for the students and support the religious school.

*Warmest regards,
Ilene Hellman*



PTA Pizza, Prayer & Punchlines



PTA Shofar Event



TEMPLE B'NAI TORAH
AND
THE STATE OF ISRAEL BONDS
ARE PROUD TO HONOR
RABBI HOWARD NACHT
AND
PATTI NACHT
ON
SUNDAY, MARCH 26, 2017 at 10AM
at
Congregation Beth Tikvah,
3710 Woodbine Ave, Wantagh, NY

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Look for your invitation in the mail. Reservations are strongly suggested. For more information about the event, please email jab873@aol.com or HowardTBT1@gmail.com. For information about State of Israel Bonds please visit www.events@israelbonds.com.



OUR COMMUNITY

IN THE HOUSE



Our House Committee appreciates our office staff, under the direction of Sue-Ellen Pennington, and custodial staff who make our building function so professionally.

At our last meeting, the House Committee reiterated our policy of having all work to be done (office or custodial) go through

Sue-Ellen. This makes our building function like a well-oiled machine. Work requests will be completed in an organized fashion. Requests for office and custodial work must be submitted to Sue-Ellen so that all requests may be taken care of in priority order. Everyone's needs can then be addressed.

Thank you to our volunteers who escorted guests from Temple Emanuel prior and after our Simchat Torah service. All guests were impressed by our beautiful building and our pathway of bricks. Remember: you can always purchase a brick to be placed in our walkway. Please note our art room, thanks to Stacey Spiller, is now itself a work of art.

We have more plans for our building. We are interested in long term savings on energy costs. Replacing Religious School windows would accomplish this. We are always concerned about replacing the floor in the Social Hall. Who knows?

We are striving to maintain our building just as we strive to keep our homes updated. Keep ideas coming to anyone in the committee. Join us on January 9th at 7:00 p.m. to contribute your ideas.

Remember: continue to pray for minimal snow this winter to keep our snow removal costs at a minimum!

by Tessa Kean

FROM THE EDITOR'S PEN



Do you like February? I do. I really do. It may be a cold winter month, but it has the good sense not to wear out its welcome. Twenty-eight days is a sensible length for a winter month, don't you agree? If only January and March would get the hint.

February holidays are colorful and fun, but don't hang around all month long. Valentine's Day is short and sweet. Luckily it is no longer "St." on any calendar, making it easy for Jews to participate. Presidents' Day has morphed to a week-long mid-winter recess, but any pretext to fly to Florida and Disney World is a plus.



Astronomers may have given us the best reason of all to adore February. It turns out that each year winter (Boo!) lasts for only 88 days. Summer (Yay!) is ours to enjoy for about 93 days. Astronomers inform us it results from the Earth's elliptical, not circular, orbit around the sun. But I just give all credit to February! Let's enjoy all 28 days. Spring is just around the corner!

Mark Chester, Editor TBT Times



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 \$_____

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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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the Rabbi Deanna Pasternak Children's Library Fund
Lowell Golden Mailing Center Fund
Prayer Book Fund
Rabbi Raab Fund
Rose Mandel Holocaust Education Fund
Sandi and Joel Friedman Stage Fund
School Enrichment Fund
Social Action Fund
Tot Shabbat Fund
Temple Beautification Fund
Torah Repair Fund

YOUTH FUNDS

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OUR COMMUNITY

CHAI LIGHTS



Thank you to all who attended our December 5th informative General Meeting and to the representative from the New York State Attorney General's Office who spoke on scams against seniors. All of us, seniors or children of seniors, must be aware of scams against seniors. At another meeting I attended on this topic, seniors (yes, I am happily included in the senior group) were told not to answer the phone if they did not recognize the phone number. This is a great use of our answering machine and was great advice to heed.

Come to our January 9th General Meeting at 1:30 p.m. and enjoy a program by Lois Morton who will entertain us in song. Our February 6th meeting at 1:30 p.m. will feature a terrific speaker, James Coll. We will learn information about his serving as a detective in the police department. Come to enjoy our programs.

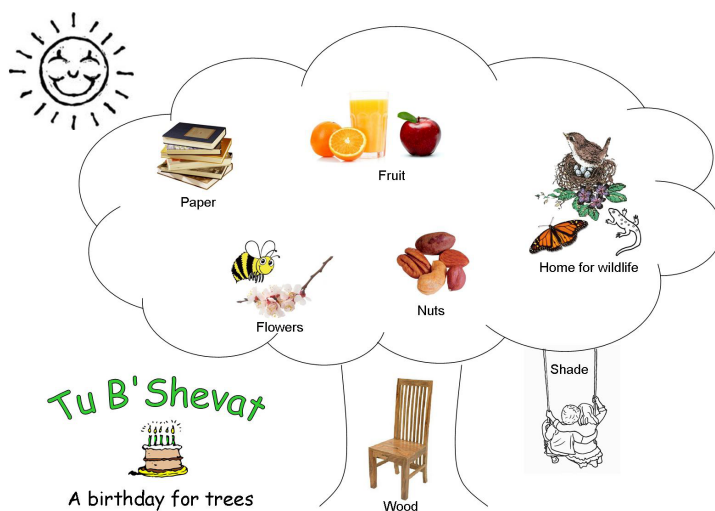
We thank Rita Hofer and all who helped shop, set up, serve, and clean up for a most successful membership dinner. What a great event! So many people are needed to make the evening a successful one

Do you need to socialize? Ask a friend to a Chai meeting

or come to a Friday night service. We are there. We enjoy each other's company. Come join us.

May we all enjoy a happy Chanukah and a healthy secular New Year.

Tessa Kean
(tessakean@gmail.com or 516-504-0012)



Save The Date – Sunday, March 26, 2017, 10AM - Israel Bond Breakfast.

So what are Israel Bonds?

Israel Bonds are issued by the State of Israel used for the general operations of the national government of Israel. When these bonds mature they pay interest to the owner. You can give Israel Bonds as a Bar/Bat Mitzvah gift or a great wedding present. They show you care about the recipient and the future of Israel.



This year we will be honoring Rabbi Howard Nacht and Patti Nacht for their tireless efforts for our temple, The Union for Reform Judaism, Israel and the Jewish community.

Please start making your list of who you want to buy an Israel Bond for: a grandchild, a special anniversary couple, a new baby or even yourself. What could be a better investment?

Stay tuned for more information.

SPECIAL GIFTS

YOU MAKE THE DIFFERENCE

RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

In honor of:

The marriage of Josh Macy & Sarah Weiss
from Shari & Mitchell Macy

In memory of:

Esther Sackstein Seigel
from Richard & Ilene Roth

In appreciation of:

Rabbi Nacht's services
at the funeral of Howard Waters
from The Waters Family

Rabbi Nacht's services
at the funeral of Sandra Honig
from Leonard Honig

Rabbi Nacht from Richard & Laurie Epler

CANTOR'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

In appreciation of:

Cantor Sher from Richard & Laurie Epler

MUSIC & CHOIR FUND

In honor of:

Rita Hofer from TBT Chai Club

TEMPLE GENERAL FUND

In appreciation of:

All those who sent me honey
from Marcia Kotkin

RABBI ROBERT RAAB SCHOLARSHIP FUND

In memory of:

Ralph Abofsky from Janis Beldner

In honor of:

Marriage of Josh Macy & Sarah Weiss
from Heather & Lou Gottfried & Family

Marriage of Andrea Macy & Eric Niederman
from Heather & Lou Gottfried & Family

DORIS & ED KLIEGMAN ADULT EDUCATION FUND

In honor of:

Iris Kelmenson's 85th birthday
from Elaine Goldstein

Birth of Robert Cooper Berg
from Elaine Goldstein

In memory of:

Herbert Sussman from Elaine Goldstein

HOLOCAUST FUND

In honor of:

Arnold Treff's 90th birthday
from Shelley & Barry Lomove

ROSE MANDEL HOLOCAUST EDUCATION FUND

In memory of:

Eva Reich from Dr. Regina White Chereskin
& Jerry Chereskin

Henry Bialick from Dr. Regina White Chereskin
& Jerry Chereskin

CARING COMMITTEE

In memory of:

Tibby Brown from The Galardi Family

PRAYER BOOK FUND

In memory of:

Herbert Sussman from Cindy & Randy Heller

Herbert Sussman from Esther & Jack Phillips

Herbert Sussman from Zelda & Burt Goldstein

Herbert Sussman from Bernice Rosenthal

Herbert Sussman from Marcia Kotkin

Herbert Sussman from Babette Gaines

Sandra Honig from Esther & Jack Phillips

Sandra Honig from Marcia Kotkin

In honor of:

Andrea & Bill Rifkin's special anniversary
from Diane & Jay Schoenberg

PLAUT COMMENTARY

In honor of:

Iris Kelmenson's 85th birthday
from Sandy Dabrusin & Babette Gaines

CHILDREN'S PRAYER BOOK

In memory of:

Aida Gouveia from Barbara & Donald Gouveia

Roz Pearlman from TBT Sisterhood

HARVEY BELLER FUND

In memory of:

Leo Streickler from Sharon & David Forman

Frances Kimmelblatt
from Martin & Barbara Kimmelblatt

BEAUTIFICATION FUND

In memory of:

Herbert Sussman from Rita & Harvey Drucker

Sandra Honig from Bernice & Harvey Albert

Sally Leonard from Shelley & Barry Lomove

William Leonard from Shelley & Barry Lomove

In honor of:

Birth of Robert Cooper Berg
from Rita & Harvey Drucker

JUDY BARDAVID FUND

In memory of:

Herbert Sussman

from Barbara & Ira Sandler & Family

Herbert Sussman

from Yvette & Harvey Consor

RELIGIOUS SCHOOL ENRICHMENT FUND

In memory of:

Robert Robb from Adrienne Robb-Fund & Jay Fund

Annette Robb from Adrienne Robb-Fund & Jay Fund

Roz Pearlman from Rita Hofer

Roz Pearlman from TBT Board/Caring Committee

In honor of:

Birth of Robert Cooper Berg
from Tom & Ellice Toscano

ONEG SHABBAT & FLOWER FUND

Bar Mitzvah of Dylan Mednick

from Joel & Stacey Mednick

Bar Mitzvah of Luke Melfa

from Anthony & Elisa Melfa

SPECIAL GIFTS

Yahrzeits

Yahrzeits:

Morris Okon from The Okon Family
Phyllis Maus from Tom Maus
Gurly Maus from Tom Maus
Henia Sukienik from Gale Calo
Benjamin Sussman from Ruth Sussman
Kate Goodman from Charlotte Bornstein
Joseph Askin from Jeffry & Joanne Wengroff
Isabella Allweiss Goldschmidt from Monica Wiener
Rosaline Solomon from Rita & Harvey Drucker
Max Smolar from Linda Lazarus
Sol Tepper from Richard & Francine Tepper
Jules Gaines from Babette Gaines
Lillian Abrams from Samantha Rosen
Brajna Stolak from Janine & Michael Berg
Jacob Stolak from Janine & Michael Berg
Lillian Berkow from Phyllis & Andrew Lubell
Elaine Iuzzini from Irene Nelson
Cortney Colby from Tom & Ellice Toscano & Family
Lillian Meyer from Tom & Ellice Toscano & Family
Jack Gallin from Yvette & Harvey Consor
Paul Kussoy from Doris Kussoy
Robert Greenbaum from Laurie Greenbaum Epler
Esther Gornitsky from Florence Garnet
Max Press from Sharon & Barry Berman
Irina Lyubarskaya from Boris Likht
David Lewis from Michael & Janine Berg
Jennie Meirson from Andrea & Bill Rifkin
Esther Locke from Elaine Goldstein
Lena Cohen from Debbie & Bart Cohen
Abraham Horowitz from Sandee & David Horowitz
Marilyn Adler from Carrie Levitt
Fanny Noll from Richard & Francine Tepper
Saul Duckstein from Dorothy Duckstein
Hyman R. Garnet from Florence Garnet
Rose Miller from Arthur Miller
Dave Albert from Harvey Albert
Louis Locke from Elaine Goldstein
William D. Keyser from Sarita Keyser
Edward Posner from Sarita Keyser
Louis Krelenstein from Sarita Keyser
Nieves Sesma Krelenstein from Sarita Keyser
Rabbi Moses Krelenstein from Sarita Keyser
Shirka Krelenstein from Sarita Keyser
William S. Keyser from Sarita Keyser
Thomas Roemlein from Sarita Keyser
Hortense Keyser from Sarita Keyser
Israel Miller from Alvin & Maxine Jacobs
Larry Schulman from Hannah & Herb Feldman
Sol Schindler from Sharon & Arthur Schindler
Freda Horowitz from Edward Horowitz
Diana Weissman from Jules Weissman
George Feldstein from Jules Weissman
Martin Kane from Paula Grant
Mac Zinderman from Herman & Nora Weiner
Sophie Campi from Herman & Nora Weiner
Arthur Becker from Elaine Becker
Blanche Swawite from Lois & David Swawite
Freida Wein from Barry Worgan
Joseph Leidner from Marilyn Leidner
Irwin Chaiken from Beth & Jeff Cohen
Hyman Blackbeer from Rita & Harvey Drucker
Nathan H. Klein from Jan & Stan Friedman
Dorothy Newberg from Eileen Newberg
Eva Lewis from Janine Berg
Jack Meyerowitz from Laura & Mel Yorke

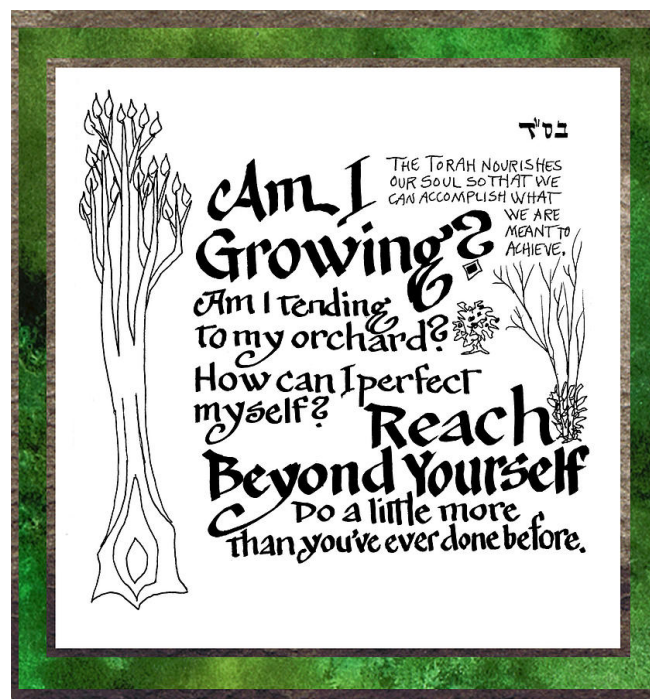
Ely Rosenzweig from The Rosenzweig Family
Barbara Rosenzweig from The Rosenzweig Family
Faye Press from Sharon & Barry Berman
Anna Marziliano from Tom & Ellice Toscano & Family
Herbert Spindel from Steve & Helen Spindel
Ronald J. Jackson from Jane Jackson
Charlotte Berlow from Rita Hofer
Raymond St. George from Yolanda & Ira Friedman
Morris Nacht from Rabbi Howard & Patti Nacht
Jacob Krasky from Rabbi Howard & Patti Nacht
Milton S. Berger from Herbert Berger
Rita D. Goldstein from Marcia & Les Ratcliff
David Prosky from Jane & Larry Prosky
Paul Zinder from Newton & Clarice Zinder
Jennie Zinder from Newton & Clarice Zinder
Rosemary Lallathin from Diane Lewis
Sally Chinowsky from Iris Kelmenson
Murray Fishman from Charles & Ellen Fishman
Bertha Golden from Audrey Golden
Sally Drucker from Harvey & Rita Drucker
Martin Kaplan from Barbara & Gerry Morgenlender
Rose Nochlin from Sharon & Arthur Schindler
Bluma Weisberg from Sharon & Arthur Schindler
Kevin Robert Swawite from Lois & David Swawite
Emily Wagner from Karen & Dennis O'Donovan
Loretta Post from Jerry Post
Bert Gauber from Leonard Honig
Rebecca Sactor from Lisa Evans
Ida Schwartzberg from Barry Worgan
Jean Feldman from Hannah & Herb Feldman
Harvey Morgenlender from Barbara & Gerry Morgenlender
Morris Jacobson from Helene Kamper & Maureen Dominguez
Charles Herbert from Marc & Judy Herbert
Sandra Maltz Saccio from Barbara & Russ Carpenter
Russell G. Carpenter from Barbara & Russ Carpenter
Frances Klein from Jack Klein
Nathan Feierstein from Pearl Sutz

YISKOR ELOHIM:

Herbert Sussman,
 husband of Ruth Sussman
Gabrielle Marie Angelique Curry,
 sister of Brenden Curry
Howard Waters,
 brother of Scott Waters
Sandra Honig,
 wife of Leonard Honig
Roz Pearlman,
 mother of Fran Pearlman
Marni Ogrodnik,
 daughter of Joyce Ogrodnik,
 sister of Carri Pazos

MAZEL TOV TO:

**Adrienne Robb-Fund
 & Jay Fund** on the birth
 of their grandson,
 Robert Cooper Berg
Marlene & Jerome Proct
 on the birth of their
 great grandson,
 Miller Gray Shenkin



OUR COMMUNITY



UNIONGRAM ORDER FORM

The following is a list of the boys and girls who will be celebrating their Bar/Bat Mitzvah

JANUARY THROUGH JUNE 2017

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. Please return the list promptly with \$1.25 for each Uniongram made payable to

TEMPLE B'NAI TORAH SISTERHOOD

and send to Neysa Levenstein

15 Downhill Lane, Wantagh, NY 11793

516-221-7046

DATE	CHILD'S NAME	PARENTS
Jan. 16	Dylan Mednick	Joel & Stacey
Feb. 11	Luke Melfa	Anthony & Elisa
Mar. 4	Alexa Gottlieb	Adam & Lori
Mar. 11	Sarah Popeck	Howard & Deanna
Mar. 18	Jessica Leibowitz	David & Cathy
Mar. 25	Julia Froese	Michael & Cara
Apr. 1	Aiden Rubano	Steven & Linda
Apr. 8	Madeline Dagger	Suzanne
Apr. 22	Samantha Darr	Brian & Abbe
May 13	Hannah Herman	Robert & Amy
May 20	Patrick Fioribello	Michael & Susan
June 3	Connor Waiting	Paul & Lori
June 10	Aydin Eichenholz	Scott & Amy
June 17	Rachel Chillemi	Robert & Jennifer
	Molly Pernick	Ira & Amy

Uniongrams @ \$1.25 each = \$ _____

PLEASE PRINT _____

PLEASE NOTE: All uniongrams requested must be submitted **TWO WEEKS IN ADVANCE**, either by mail or left in the Uniongram box in the Temple office.

PLEASE DO NOT LEAVE CASH IN THE MAILBOX.

We cannot be responsible for lost money.



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Rabbi Howard Nacht

Cantor Steven Sher

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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.



Address Correction Requested

Dated Material - Please Rush!

I am happy to announce that this spring we will be producing Shrek The Musical.

"Once upon a time, there was a little ogre named Shrek...." And thus begins the tale of an unlikely hero who finds himself on a life-changing journey alongside a wisecracking Donkey resists her rescue. Throw in a short-tempered bad guy, a cookie with an other fairy tale misfits, and you've got the kind of mess that calls for a one on hand... and his name is Shrek.

Shrek presents a treasure trove of creative opportunities, including costumes, sets, puppets (there is a fire-breathing dragon after all) and more! Irreverently fun for the whole family, Shrek proves that beauty is truly in the eye of the Ogre.

We need cast, crew, artists, musicians and more. If you are interested in working on the production you can contact the Director, Steven Epstein at stevenepstein007@gmail.com.

Performances are to be held April 29 and 30 and May 6 and 7.

Auditions will be held on January 4, 8 and 11 at 7pm at Temple Emanu-El, located at 123 Merrick Avenue, East Meadow. Please prepare a song from the show to sing or if unable we will find a song for you to sing.

We look forward to seeing you in the swamp.
Steven B. Epstein



For the most up-to-date TBT calendar please visit:
<http://ournewtemple.org/calendar/main/webcal.html>