

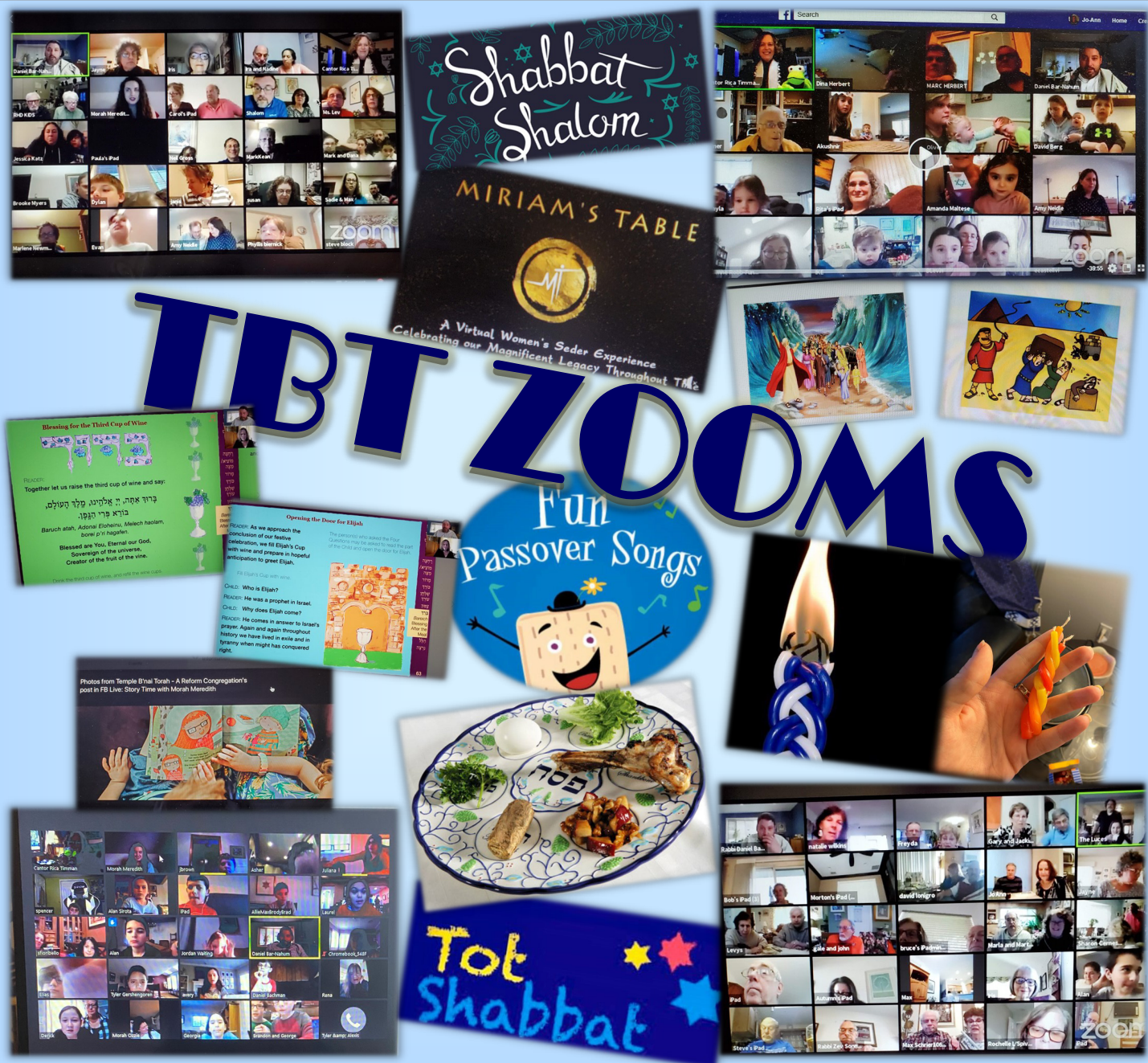


The TBT VOICE



Volume 2, Issue 9

Iyar/Sivan 5780



Please be aware that due to the Coronavirus and circumstances out of our control, events have either been postponed or cancelled. Temple is doing everything possible to make everything available. However, please check our website (www.tbtwantagh.org) and/or Temple Office (516-221-2370) for more up-to-date information.



RITUAL COMMITTEE

When we last gathered in our Sanctuary, happily celebrating Purim, we were not quite aware of the scope of the Covid-19 situation. I don't think that many of us realized that night would be our last in-person ritual event for the foreseeable future. As TBT dove into the uncharted territory of the virtual synagogue, we have been so pleasantly surprised. Who knew that ZOOM could feel as intimate as it has?

Every Friday night since March 13, Rabbi Bar-Nahum and Cantor Timman have been leading the congregation with meaningful Shabbat Worship via the meeting platform called ZOOM, while simultaneously broadcasting live on Facebook. These services have been a wonderful way to "connect" with the Temple family each week. Honors, including candle lighting and Hamotzi, have added special touches to these Shabbats. Shabbat Services will continue to occur this way until we are able to be together again. If you would like a Shabbat honor, please let me know!

Every Saturday evening, to end Shabbat, we have been holding Havdalah Services over ZOOM. These Havdalah Services are fun, quick, and a wonderful way to begin the week. In the middle of April, we began to ask different members to lead the service for the entire congregation. There is nothing quite as special as being able to ring in the new week led by a friend from the temple. Thank you to the Minkowsky Family and Emily Altman for leading our first two Havdalah Services.

These are trying times, and the ritual committee is committed to making our virtual Temple as welcoming and warm as possible. If you have any suggestions, or need help setting up ZOOM, please reach out to me at Alisab.Ca@gmail.com or (917)847-8232.

Laura Marney wrote: "No matter who you are or where you are, instinct tells you to go home." My instinct is telling me to go to our home at TBT. I know, without question, that our reunion will be as sweet as the wine we tasted when we were last together on Purim.

Alisa Baroukh

THE MITZVAH MAKERS ARE HERE



TO LEND AN EAR

TO PROVIDE SOME CHEER

TO HELP WHERE WE ARE NEEDED!

If you find yourself in need ...

... we can lend an ear, provide some cheer,

run an errand or shop, or maybe even provide some tech help ...

just reach out to our **TBT Mitzvah Makers**

**Please contact any one of us below if we can be of service
in ANY way now or in the future.**



Amy Neidle agneidle@gmail.com 917-734-2575

Gail Grossman cowlover51@optonline.net 516-221-4802

Jan Friedman janleyf@verizon.net 516-781-5041

Joni Christie lollipop@optonline.net 516-781-4426



INSPIRATION FROM OUR RABBI



April was another hard month for us, to be sure. The Coronavirus continued to ravage our world, nation, and community. The vast majority of us continued our social distancing practices. So much had to be rethought and reconsidered in all aspects of our lives.

It was not different for us at the Temple. I know that while we worked hard to create opportunities for connection and community, nothing takes the place of physically being alongside our friends and loved ones at holidays. Passover was especially difficult, and not just because it was hard to find a shank bone! It was hard in part because Passover is a holiday that most of us celebrate at home. Yes, there are special prayers and services, but the centerpiece is always the multi-generational Seder, as children learn the traditions, flavors, and sounds of our past from their parents and grandparents. Social distancing made that all but impossible in the traditional ways. We may have opened the door for Elijah, but we didn't welcome others in as we do year after year.

Rather, many of us were forced to hold small family Seders at home, cobbling together the many items needed to celebrate the holiday. What has been inspiring to see is that no matter how complicated this year was, no one considered not celebrating Passover. People may have thought to skip it, sure. Instead, as has so often been the case for our people in difficult times, we sought creativity. Creativity borne out of our inherited understanding that nothing stops us and our people from celebrating this most important of holidays. It has been celebrated for generations, often under more difficult circumstances. We seem to know this in our DNA: nothing, not even a pandemic is going to stop our celebration of liberation, freedom, and covenant with God!

And from this year's creativity, also came new blessings. A Zeder (ZOOM Seder) might have meant that families and relatives who normally don't or can't join for this holiday did so this year, bringing together families and friends in new configurations, and possibly starting new traditions. New Haggadahs were written, new prayers inserted and offered, new items placed on the table, including computers and iPads. Old recipes were tried and adapted by new generations since no seder is complete without that particular dish. Passover 2020, as every year, told not just our eternal story, but the story of our lives today. This year we felt it more starkly.

Each year I am struck by which parts of the Seder resonate most, and each year it is almost always different. Sure, the plagues were especially resonant this year. I was more struck by what the Torah and Haggadah refer to as: *The Watch Night of the Eternal*. On the night of the Israelites' leaving Egypt, the Torah tells us it was a night of vigil. The commentators will debate whether this means God kept watch over the people or the people kept watch for God. Some say that God was keeping vigil throughout the entire sojourn in Egypt, waiting for the day that God would finally redeem the people. God foretold and planned the redemption for that very night, waiting and guarding the Jewish people until the moment that had been chosen.

The other understanding of that phrase is that the people were keeping watch, waiting for redemption not fully knowing when it would come. Something we can all certainly relate to this year. Our quarantine is not equivalent to the slavery in Egypt; but the sense of waiting and anticipation of an unknown endpoint resonated as we came to those words. When will this be over? When will we be able to see our loved ones in person again? When will we be able to pray together as a community again? We are all watching and waiting and keeping vigil from our homes.

As of this writing, we still don't know how long we will be socially distanced, though the curve seems to be flattening. We still don't know when restrictions might be lifted and we might begin to inch back toward our normal lives. The Israelites never lost faith, and never stopped believing in their eventual redemption. They spent the night of Passover waiting for God, in their homes, with their families, teaching their children, while outside remained dangerous and deadly.

I cannot recall feeling the same sense of anticipation as our ancestors. We have never before felt the same sense of uncertainty. We can only hope that as we make our way to and finally reach Sinai at Shavuot, toward the end of this month, that we can all be together to hear God's word proclaimed. The Midrash reminds us that we were all there together at Sinai, even if not physically. Every Jewish soul was present. I pray that we can all be together this time around as well. And if we cannot be, may we bring our souls together in spirit, and allow our creativity and faith to carry us through until the day that we are together again as a community.

Wishing you peace and health,
Rabbi Daniel Bar-Nahum



NOTES FROM OUR CANTOR



Music has always been a profound source of comfort and joy for me. And if you are like me, listening to music is now more important than ever as a source of healing. Throughout this pandemic, our TBT community has come together through Zoom technology. We are praying and singing to each other through our Zoom services and programs, and my hope is that our familiar melodies are helping to find some normal in these very abnormal times. Singing together in unison, in harmony, and in choir is one of the things I miss the most! Everyone who enjoys singing has their own relationship with the music, the text, and with those who share it with them. It can be powerful and transformational.

I asked Jayne Kromprier, one of the newest members of our Adult Choir, if she might share with us her journey and its significance to her. See below for her beautiful personal story.

Unfortunately, while we remain in our homes, platforms like Zoom have a delay that will not allow our voices to sync up. Believe me, there are many who are looking for new technologies to solve this! In the meantime, I am grateful for the ability to see your faces and smiles each time we gather on Zoom, knowing you are singing along in your home and allowing the music to give you a bit of shalom, a bit of peace. Stay safe, stay healthy, and find music that brings you joy. See you on the other side!

With blessings,
Cantor Rica Timman



What Temple B'nai Torah Choir Means to Me

By Jayne Kromprier

Music has always been an important part of my existence, from Elementary school through High School, I had always participated in the school's choirs. Throughout high school I was actually a music major planning to attend college to study music. Music theory, writing music and being part of Mephram High School's Acapella Choir was the highlight of my school experience. Over the years I participated in two high school alumni choir concerts and joined the Oceanside Choir group for a very short time. Whenever there has been a group to sing parodies, or just to sing, I eagerly joined the group. When I joined Temple Emanu-El in 1998 I quickly got involved in the temple shows and for the first time I had a solo part as Mrs. Bumbles in Oliver. I had a microphone on and could not believe it was my voice coming out to the audience. After a few years I decided that being the lead Makeup artist for the show was more important than singing in the cast.

Music has always soothed me. Often times I listen to Native American Drum music, or music from the 1970's. I always love coming to temple and being part of the service. Many times, I had thought about joining the temple choir but I had also wanted to sit next to my husband Barry or help him during the High Holidays to locate people who would be receiving their Aliyahs. The Choir had to take a back seat.

Being a solo singer has never been important to me. It has always been the sound of the choir that has brought me joy. It is the feeling of being connected and achieving a sound that can convey different emotions. I realized that singing has been the connection to my soul and it is when I feel closest to G-d.

In April 2019 my husband Barry passed away. I guess during Shiva I allowed myself to feel all the emotions through the minyan prayers. Shortly after Shiva, Cantor Timman approached me and asked if I would be interested in joining the Temple Choir. Timing was actually perfect. As much as I wanted to go to services, I knew it would be difficult. So, I started to attend TBT Choir rehearsals. Initially I was very nervous as I had to relearn what many of the symbols were, timing, and the notes. After a short while all that I had learned started coming back. I am enjoying the challenge of learning. I may not be great, but I have to say my musical confidence has started to return.

What I love about being a TBT choir member at this time in my life is the comradery that I experience. I appreciate the sharing of knowledge and the feeling of satisfaction when we are ready to be part of the service. Everyone has been helpful. I especially felt the connection during the High Holidays. Cantor has been most encouraging. Anna our Music Director/accompanist is delightful to work with. I always feel at the end of each rehearsal that I have accomplished something. I have learned, I have been part of a group. I am at peace.



PRESIDENTS' MESSAGE



At first, I thought that this would be a very difficult article to write for The Voice. I would like to be writing about all the successful events that we've been having at TBT and let you know what exciting things are on the horizon. Instead, everyone is sheltered in place now and what am I going to write about.

Instead, as it turns out, this is a wonderful article to write. First, I want to thank Rabbi Bar-Nahum and Cantor Timman. They both jumped in wholeheartedly to make sure we have uplifting and beautiful Services every week (including Havdalah on Saturday evening), prepared a beautiful second night Passover Seder, continued with Torah Studies – all in addition to their regular duties. They both have seen the need for pastoral care among our congregants increase in these hard times and also, unfortunately, funerals have increased. They also had to find new dates for all of the B'nei Mitzvah children scheduled for this spring. Rabbi and Cantor have both done outstanding jobs taking care of their congregation.

Morah Meredith and the teachers have been working hard to continue Hebrew and Religious School classes with their students. Morah Meredith has a read-along story hour as well as hosting an online cooking class for the students. Our Music teacher, Michael, conducted classes online as well.

I would also like to give a shout out to Sue-Ellen Pennington, our Office Administrator. Since our Temple has been closed because of the Covid-19, she has been going into the office to make sure the building is safe, gets cleaned once a week, our bills are paid, congregants' questions get answered, etc. She also worked very closely with our congregant, Jeff Kraut, preparing and timely filing a Security grant request. She also worked closely with our Treasurer, Ray Russolillo, preparing and filing a payroll relief loan/grant. Paula, Marilyn and Joanne have also been keeping up with their jobs and helping the Temple stay in good working order while we are away.

Last, but absolutely not least, I want to thank all of the Executive Board, Board of Trustees, Arms of the Temple and Committees. We have been trying to keep in touch with everyone and hold all of our meetings to not only deal with immediate events and occurrences, but to plan for the future when we can all gather in our Temple home again. We all want our post-Covid-19 Temple to be just as busy and full of life as it was before Covid-19. We want to be able to sit in the sanctuary and enjoy services, k'vell with our students and B'nei Mitzvah children, enjoy the various programs and events offered throughout the year and just genuinely enjoy being back together with our Temple community and family.

Please reach out to any of us if you need any help during this time or just need a sympathetic ear to listen. We want everyone to get back to Temple safe, healthy and happy and ready to enjoy being back in our Temple home!

L'shalom,

Karen Friedlander, Co-President

Joni Christie, Co-President



Simcha (Hebrew: שמחה; Hebrew pronunciation: [sim'χa], Yiddish pronunciation: ['sɪmχə]) is a Hebrew word that means gladness, or joy, and is often used as a given name.

Have you recently celebrated a simcha...

A life event; engagement, marriage, the birth of a child or a grandchild, there are so many celebrations. Anything that has brought happiness and joy; graduation, Bar/Bat Mitzvah, the list is endless? Share your news with your Temple B'nai Torah fellow congregants. Everyone loves exciting news!

You can email the TBT voice at jport1029@gmail.com, and we will share the news!!



RELIGIOUS SCHOOL



Let me start by saying that I don't think it's any secret that we write these articles weeks before they are published for you to read. Usually, I am very good at pretending it's a month from now as I tell you all what's on tap for the school and youth, but the truth is that right now, I just don't know.

It has been quite a week. Quite a few weeks, actually. I know that by the time this gets to everyone, we'll either be very used to the way things are or just starting to return to normal, but as I said: right now, it's very hard to tell. Here is what I do know:

I have never been prouder of this community. We have done some pretty great things together in the years since I came to TBT, but in the last 2 and a half weeks, as we collectively watched the world turn upside down, I have, on the whole, been blown away by this congregation.

I have watched members of this community instantly volunteer to help those who absolutely cannot leave their homes. I have seen people find and share humor where there is little, and lend moral support to their Temple family when they are struggling with the weight of it all, and countless other acts of kindness both small and large. I have seen and continue to see smiling faces on numerous Zoom grids, be they for Shabbat services, special programs, or just plain old Religious School. I have watched as the teachers quickly adapt to uploading lessons, livestreaming music classes, and thinking outside the box to ensure that our students continue to learn. I myself have had to learn how to effectively use technology, that until recently, I viewed as a last resort. In short, I have seen us be the best versions of ourselves.

In the coming weeks, we have both a Confirmation and a Graduation scheduled. As I sit here and type, I am not sure how or when either of those things are going to happen, but I am sure that they will. You see, earlier this week I talked with two different (but equally amazing) groups of teens who, just like the rest of us, are uncertain about a lot of things. Rabbi Bar-Nahum and I assured them both that whatever happens, they will be recognized for the milestones that they have both worked hard for and looked forward to for some time. I hope you will join us for both ceremonies, however and whenever they happen, because these teens deserve nothing less than the full support of their Jewish community.

I hope that as things begin to return to normal, we'll all remember the way we feel now and continue to show up and support one another, even when it seems hard. I hope as we move forward, whatever may come, we continue to act with such caring, togetherness, and love.

SISTERHOOD SHMOOZING



In trying to write my article this month, the following English translation of a part of our Hashkiveinu prayer kept coming into my mind:

"Let there be love and understanding among us.

Let peace and friendship be our shelter from life's storms."

This has been a pretty overwhelming time for all of us. Not knowing when we will be returning to live as we know is pretty scary to say the least.

We have had to cancel many Sisterhood activities, our Seder, our Shabbat service, but I know that next year these activities will have very special meaning for us all. The Women of Reform Judaism opened up the Friend Leadership Conference to all of us virtually, which allowed us to connect with sisters all over the country. Our book club was and is still alive and vibrant thanks to zoom. We are hoping to reschedule some of our activities to late May or June so keep an eye out on the Web, Scroll and of course the Voice.

I know we are still looking forward to the League of Women Voter's tea which I hope will still be held over the summer.

There is still time to let Louis Ponticello and Caryn Suckle know that you would like to join us on the Sisterhood board next year. We are always looking for new women and new ideas to help us be a strong and welcoming arm of TBT.

B'shalom

Emily Altman
President



OUR COMMUNITY

BIG BUCKS RAFFLE



VIRTUAL COCKTAIL PARTY

SATURDAY MAY 9TH @ 8:30PM

POP OPEN A BOTTLE OF WINE * PUT OUT SOME CHEESE AND CRACKERS

JOIN YOUR TEMPLE FAMILY FOR AN HOUR OF FRIENDSHIP AND FUN

WE WILL DRAW THE WINNERS OF THE BIG BUCKS RAFFLE AT 9PM

Directions to the party will follow

HAVEN'T HAD A CHANCE TO BUY YOURS YET?

DON'T WORRY WE HAVE TICKETS AVAILABLE

CONTACT LES AND JUDY KULE @ JUDLES@MSN.COM

Hello from your Temple Fundraising Committee –

We wanted to reach out and tell you we miss you; we care about you all, and we can't wait until we can be together again. I know we have all used those words so often over these past weeks and have never meant it more!

Temple committees have been having ZOOM meetings and we spend half our time just saying hello to everyone and expressing love and concern. That is because we truly are a family, and I realize it now more than ever.

We feel so lucky to be part of a temple community that is working together to navigate our way through this storm. We are trying to come up with ideas to reach out and stay in touch. We are trying to predict, as a temple, what we will be able to do to regroup and flourish when life gets back to a new normal.

We care so much about this congregation. We are NOT stopping our future plans. We refuse!!!! We are going forward with our "Big Bucks Raffle" drawing on May 9th as a Virtual Cocktail Party and can't wait to see who our lucky winners will be. Some good news is that so far we have sold \$7100 worth of tickets.

Our Auction WILL take place – that we promise. We have gathered a collection of incredible prizes so stay tuned for updates.

We are all lucky enough to have been touched by the love and compassion of our congregation and TOGETHER we will move forward, celebrate, plan and take care of our temple and temple family.

Much love,

Dee Greenberg and the entire Fundraising Committee



BROTHERHOOD / MEN'S CLUB



The Brotherhood of *Temple B'nai Torah* is running its annual Summer Flea Market Fundraiser, July 26, 2020. We will be having quality flea market; vendors selling new merchandise, crafts, antiques and collectibles, and local merchants and politicians with tables to advertise their stores or campaigns. The Brotherhood members will be running a food concession as well with bagels and coffee for breakfast, and hamburgers, hot dogs, popcorn and cold drinks for lunch. Vendors will be both inside and outside, around the Temple grounds, with their displays.

We all will be looking forward to this event this summer.

Regards,
Richard Tepper
President TBT Brotherhood/Men's Club





OUR COMMUNITY

Connected Through The Love of BNTY

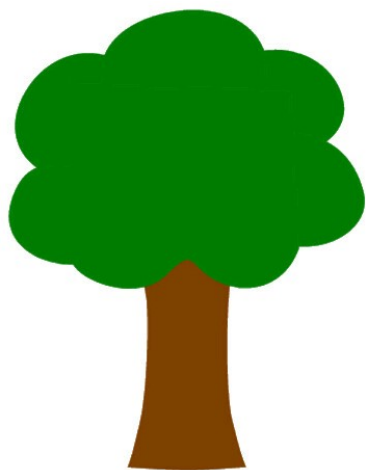
By Samantha Herman and Michele Spiller

Covid-19 has taken many things away from us, school, the ability to go out and meet our friends, and the opportunity to go to temple. We, the teens of Temple B'nai Torah, believe that the corona virus will never take away one thing; our BNTY group. Although things are difficult and we're unable to physically see each other, we stay connected. Not just through technology, but through the love we have for each other and the group that brought us together.

Beginning with normal Monday, in Hebrew School we have Zoom classes. We are given the chance to continue to learn and express who we are through the values of Judaism. BNTY, our youth group, after all the serious learning is done, consists of playing games and hanging out. Those of us in BNTY are incredibly close; the seniors know the freshman as well as siblings know each other! We've had events from the Purim carnival to staying in the Temple until almost midnight! I'm sure you can guess, but it's a bit more difficult to have a Zoom meeting with a group like this. That won't stop us from having time to chat and just be teenagers for a bit, rather than being serious in a Hebrew School environment.

Social media nowadays plays a huge role during this time, especially now with the virus. The media isn't just there to "rot our brains", we have it to stay in touch and to continue forming a bond with our friends in these difficult times. GroupMe, group chats, Snapchats, Instagram, and even TikTok allow us to spread smiles and joy to our BNTY friends. Receiving that notification that your friend sent you a meme, is just a small thing that can brighten your days in this gloomy time. When not on Zoom with teachers, facetimeing and private group chats allow us to stay connected. We always reach out to see how one-another are doing and if there is anyone who needs extra support.

As Passover passes, us teens in BNTY make sure to still spread the love we have for our religion. Beginning with a simple "Happy Passover!" text in a group chat, leading to Zooming each other to be face-to-face for this holiday. The technology we have has really allowed us to do amazing things and to stay connected with those we care about most, like our families - because BNTY is our family.



WE DID IT!

**During the High Holy Days,
Rabbi Bar-Nahum Challenged Us to Plant
5780 Trees.**

**We Are Proud to Announce
that we went above and beyond!**

**Let's keep going and see how far we can go
to heal our world.**

**To purchase more trees, go to
<https://www.classy.org/fundraiser/2435875>
Or contact Rabbi Bar-Nahum**



CHAI CLUB



Last night, we had our monthly Board meeting using the Zoom Telephone Call-In. It was a little confusing at first, but we wanted to accommodate our Board members who didn't have a working Computer or Smart Phone. We were very happy to Welcome Joni and Karen to the meeting. They summarized some of the recent cancellations for us and were very supportive of our work.

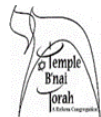
Like the other Arms, we are concerned when all of this will be over and what adjustments the temple is planning for the May schedule; the Congregation meeting especially. Another change; for the first time, we will e-mail our proposed slate of Trustees and Officers instead of a postal letter!

Even though we are cancelling most of our programs, we still want to be "Up-beat." The Second Seder was on Zoom instead of in person! It was done beautifully, and members were able to participate. Vice President of Programming, Ben Cernese, will be rescheduling our very interesting speakers and musical programs starting in September. The terrific speaker, James Cole, a program; "Famous First Ladies, from Martha Washington to Melania Trump," the program; "R-E-S-P-E-C-T! The Soul Music of Aretha Franklin, and The "Mazeltones" Art Schlesinger, joined by Steve Block and Fred Spivack.

Please watch for updates in this column, in future issues of the "Voice," as well as your email and The Temple Scroll.

Joan and Brian Levy

Seal983jl@gmail.com , Bellobl@gmail.com



Chai Club

Scheduled: Our May 18th 7:30 PM General meeting as a Video/Audio Zoom Program.

We invited back "H & H who will provide us with a very interesting program "Famous First Ladies, from Martha Washington to Melania Trump."

Watch for detailed information in the TBT SCROLL.

SOCIAL ACTION



When I wrote in last month's Voice (which was actually written in early March) about trying "to navigate this time of uncertainty, confusion and anxiety concerning the coronavirus pandemic," I really didn't consider that we would still be in the thick of things when you would be reading the May issue. Alas, we still are. I truly hope that you are all well and have found comfort in the support of the TBT community.

Many of us had virtual Passovers. Strange by any sense of the word, but since distance was no barrier, many were able to participate from other states, and perhaps even other countries, who would otherwise have been missed. Hoping that, however, you were able to arrange for your Passover it was a good one.

Having to stay at home during March and April severely limited our ability to plan for this year's Mitzvah Day. As it happens, it is still not a good idea for us all to be together in the way it is usually conceived.

Instead, we are introducing a Stay at Home Mitzvah Day. Many of the activities originally planned for actually lend themselves to being family activities. A list of activities and links to their instructions is in this issue of the Voice and will be on the Temple Scroll as well.

We encourage you to participate along with us on May 17. Don't feel limited by our suggested activities. If you think of something, do it. In fact, let us know about it so we can pass it on to others as well. We do not want anyone to go out to purchase supplies, use what you already have at home.

Whatever your family chooses to do, send us pictures of what you're doing, post your activities on the TBT Facebook page and we will try to bring as much of the spirit of the day to life for all of us.

Wear your t-shirts if you have them and include them in your "photo ops." Sorry, we will have to wait and take orders again next year, for those who want them.

For information about the Stay at Home Mitzvah Day, Social Action/Social Justice Committee, TEVA, or any of our projects contact Rona Kauffman at ronakauffman@yahoo.com



OUR COMMUNITY

About Some Special Good-Deed-Doers

by Nadine Salzman

I was taught that the purest form of giving is done namelessly, where the recipient of your kindness never knows from whence it came. Sometimes, it's hard to do that.

During these unprecedented times, our TBT Mitzvah Makers, joined by members of the Board of Trustees, have been reaching out to all members of our TBT family. We've been calling our congregants to see if they needed help with *anything at all*. The reactions have been positive and appreciated. The truth of the matter is, these reaching out actions, are all mitzvahs no matter who finds out.

Mitzvah Makers recently delivered Purim bags (or sent contributor lists) to members who had been unable to come to Temple to get them. Those deliveries (with a smile, of course) were well received.

Reaching out isn't limited to the Mitzvah Makers. The Membership Committee's plan to honor our *Fifty Year Plus* members during an April Erev Shabbat service was curtailed when Governor Cuomo asked us all to "stay home" to help flatten the curve.

Fast forward to March, and imagine this "techNOTasaurus" running a meeting on ZOOM (what's Zoom?). With help we did it! A new plan was hatched involving a letter of gratitude, gold pens, and bags of Passover goodies. We shopped, packed and delivered them to our Fifty Years Plus members.

So, all the above recipients knew who made the calls, who dropped off the Purim bags, and who acknowledged and thanked the Fifty Years Plus members. But that doesn't matter. What matters most is we are people caring about others with a smile, a kind word and a prayer for our safe and healthy path out of this Covid 19 life.

So, Mom, rest in peace knowing I am still following your advice to give without expectations, and I have met and shared this honor with so many others who must have been raised the same way. Thank goodness for that.

I can't wait to see you all in person when we can share *real* hugs again!

ISRAEL Quiz

1. What is Israel's tallest mountain? A) Mount Scopus, B) Mount of Olives, C) Mount Meron, D) Mount Hermon.
2. What kind of tree constitutes approximately 80 percent of Israel's planted species? A) the olive tree, B) the pine tree, C) the cedar tree, D) the cypress tree.
3. Which city boasts Israel's only subway? A) Tel Aviv, B) Haifa, C) Jerusalem, D) Rehovot.
4. Approximately how high is the Western Wall? A) 23 feet, B) 46 feet, C) 54 feet, D) 72 feet.
5. Which Israeli site is the lowest point on the earth's surface?

The All New Jewish Quiz Book - Barbara Spector

ISRAEL Quiz Answers

1. C) Mount Meron
2. B) the pine tree
3. B) Haifa (the Carmelit)
4. C) 54 feet
5. The Dead Sea Valley

The All New Jewish Quiz Book - Barbara Spector



SOCIAL ACTION



**Just as our day-to-day lives have been transformed,
Mitzvah Day 2020 has been transformed.
Announcing TBT's:**

STAY AT HOME FAMILY MITZVAH DAY Sunday May 17

Join us as we come together in spirit
to do the important work of Mitzvah Day and Tikkun Olam

Many of the activities originally planned for Mitzvah Day can easily be adapted for home activities. There are also new activities and you and your family can even design your own!

Directions will be provided and plans for the safe distribution of the items created will be arranged.

Pick one or two (or more) activities and let us know what you are doing. Base your selections on what you already may have in the house. ***Do not go out to shop for supplies.*** Email us to let us know what activities you are doing. Send us pictures of your efforts, and we will post them on the Facebook page as well in upcoming issues of The Voice.

Here are some suggestions and info links:

Make Masks for your families and others who need them: There are several places on the web with instructions on how to make masks. Try <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/diy-cloth-face-coverings.html> or <https://www.nytimes.com/article/how-to-make-face-mask-coronavirus.html?action=click&module=RelatedLinks&pgtype=Article>

Write Letters of Gratitude – to all the health care providers and first responders who have put their lives on the line for us; and to the grocery store workers who kept our food supply available.

No-Sew Fleece Blankets – There are 10 No Sew Blanket Kits available for the first 10 families who request them. Janet Goldstein will deliver them using appropriate safeguards, will provide instructions and even a video to those working on the blankets. She will then arrange for their delivery to Bethany House. For info: Janet Goldstein at djagold@aol.com

T-Shirts to Tote Bags- for residents of A. Holly Patterson Extended Care -gently used T-shirts, can be made into reusable tote bags. Here are some links to instructions <https://www.scatteredthoughtsofacraftymom.com/how-to-make-tote-bag-from-t-shirt-no-sewing/> If you have a sewing machine, try this one: <https://www.instructables.com/id/FASTEST-RECYCLED-T-SHIRT-TOTE-BAG/> Note: There are others to be found on-line. Make sure the one you choose can be hung on the back of a wheelchair. Dog Toys – can also be made from used T-shirts. These can be plain or colorful. For instructions: <http://www.sewhistorically.com/5-different-diy-no-sew-t-shirt-dog-toys/>.



SOCIAL ACTION

STAY AT HOME MITZVA DAY (cont'd from page 12)

T-Shirts to Tote Bags- for residents of A. Holly Patterson Extended Care -gently used T-shirts, can be made into reusable tote bags. Here are some links to instructions <https://www.scatteredthoughtsofacraftymom.com/how-to-make-tote-bag-from-t-shirt-no-sewing/> If you have a sewing machine, try this one: <https://www.instructables.com/id/FASTEST-RECYCLED-T-SHIRT-TOTE-BAG/> Note: There are others to be found on-line. Make sure the one you choose can be hung on the back of a wheelchair. Dog Toys – can also be made from used T-shirts. These can plain or colorful. For instructions: <http://www.sewhistorically.com/5-different-diy-no-sew-t-shirt-dog-toys/>.

Mazel Tots Suggestions: (1) Create and deliver pictures/notes for a neighbor or a friend; or put one in the mailbox of a loved one that doesn't live close by. (2) Facetime loved ones to remind them we love them from afar. (3) Send a picture/note to a healthcare worker in the community?

"To Go" Bags - for the INN and to keep in your car or commuter bag - If you have any of the following already at home (do not go to the store to get supplies), consider making some individual To Go Bags to for the clients of the INN and for those you may encounter (once we are back to being in public of course). Decorate the bag and include messages of comfort/encouragement.

Items you can include: Small water bottles/juice boxes; tuna and crackers, peanut butter or cheese cracker sandwiches; small bags of chips/pretzels, crackers, granola or protein bars; raisins, nuts, fruit cups, applesauce, etc.; NEW socks, small pkgs. of baby wipes, combs, lotion, toothbrushes, deodorant, band-aids, tissues, personal care items.

Plant an Extra Row - for any home gardeners out there, plant an extra row of veggies to be donated to a food pantry at harvest time

Bags of Cheer/Greetings Cards - make a Bag of Cheer for a homebound Senior. Items needed: new hair brushes or combs, hair accessories, hand cream, scarves (warm or decorative), greeting cards (birthday, thinking of you thank you, get well, sympathy - do not fill out, leave blank write a letter of friendship for them to read as well.

Be Kind To and Responsible For Yourself and Others - Pick something that makes sense to you and your family from among the 100 ideas for a Virtual National Chesed Day suggested by Areyvut - <https://www.areyvut.org/events/2020-virtual-national-mitzvah-day/?fbclid=IwAR3Db75TIWgvw4xMNMq9q9KCTXSEv48YBM2XxsiB2IXvAC5v0b45-aa-jDQ>

Advocacy– There are so many current issues out there that need our attention. This is a perfect opportunity to write to your elected officials about the issues important to you and your family. Find out how to contact them by going to: <https://www.usa.gov/elected-officials>. Check out <https://rac.org/advocacy-activism> for information on the advocacy initiatives of the Religious Action Center of Reform Judaism

The League of Women Voters (LWV.org) can point you to voter registration info, as well as some current initiatives and the contact information for your elected officials (<https://www.lwv.org/other-issues>)



SOCIAL ACTION



Temple B'nai Torah's Social Action/Social Justice Committee would like to share the following community information:



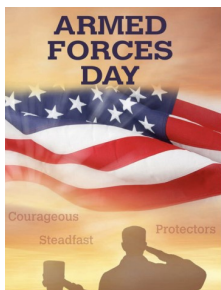
National Nurses Week is celebrated annually from May 6 through May 12, the birthday of **Florence Nightingale**, the founder of modern nursing. Find ways to thank the many nurses who have bravely put their own lives on the line for us during this coronavirus crisis.



This year, **Mother's Day is celebrated on May 10th**. Happy Mother's Day to all our mother's and all the important women in our lives who have nurtured us.



May 10 - 16, **2020**. **National Women's Health Week** is a **national** effort by an alliance of government organizations to raise **awareness** about manageable steps **women** can take to improve their **health**. The focus is on the importance of incorporating simple preventive and positive **health** behaviors into everyday life.



May 16, 2020 is **Armed Forces Day** is a federal holiday. It is dedicated to paying tribute to men and women who currently serve in the United States' **armed forces**, as well as those who have served, both active and former military. Thank someone for their service, send a care package overseas, donate to or volunteer through a local veteran's organization.

<https://militarybenefits.info/armed-forces-day/#ixzz6llkj9vaW>



"Join" us on May 17 for our Stay at Home Mitzvah Day! Info and suggested activities are on page 13 in this issue of the Voice



CLASS OF 2020



Class of 2020

Our Graduates

Dahlia Frier
Seth Getreu
Jacob Goldstein
Jacob Liebovitz
Kayla Rose Nietsch
Arinn Schnall
Danielle Skibins

We hope you will join the 2020 graduating class, and their families, as they celebrate the completion of their Religious School education. While we don't yet know when this celebration may be, when it does take place it will be a graduation to remember! The class will lead the service, teach us Torah, and speak to us from their hearts. Please stay tuned for details!!



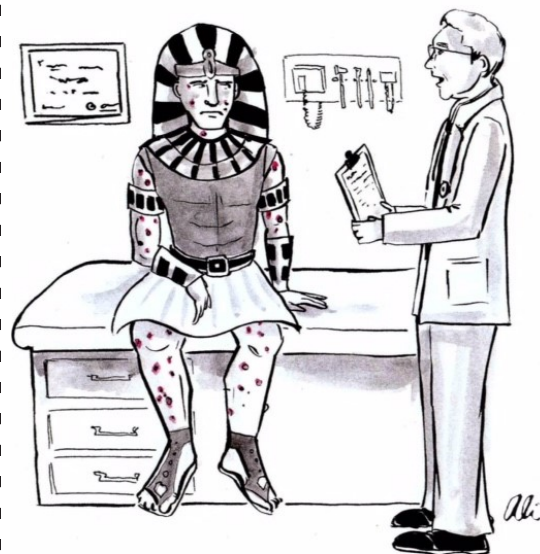
Please look for our Confirmands in upcoming issues of the Voice.



YAHREZEITS

Harvey Alpert from Gerry Alpert
Betty Schneider from Ellie Dayton
Michael Leifer from Gary Leifer
Morris Dworkin from Rita Bogatch
Marilyn Bogatch from Rita Bogatch
Siegfried Krieger from Lorie Schultz
Janet Goldberg from Eugene Goldberg
Helen Derry from Micky Alterman
Fannie Weitzner from Fran Harelick
Harry Chinowsky from Iris Kelmenson
Stuart Morris from Cary Pallat
Jeanette Rebhun from Andrea Chanzis
Selma Goldberg from Mindy & Allan Cohen
Florence J. Alterman from Edward Alterman
Albert Geller from Jackie Wasserstein
Herbert Grossbard from Bruce & Stacy Grossbard
Clara Okon from The Okon Family
Irving L. Chait from Jeff Wengroff
Nelson Lallathin from Diane Lewis
Konksr & Kessler families from Sheila & Norman Konksr
Barbara Cohen from Joni & Steve Christie
Robert Silverman from Jeffrey Silverman
Howard Schmertz from Judy Schmertz
Regina Staub from Zelda Goldstein
Rhonda Ernst from Michelle Yelner
Minnie Pachernick from Leslie Packer
Yetta Slutsky from Sondra Spielberg

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Abraham Moskowitz from Jan & Stan Friedman
Isador L. Friedman from Jan & Stan Friedman
Gerald Kussoy from Doris Kussoy
Betty Kussoy from Doris Kussoy
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Bessie Dunn from Marilyn & Morty Kugal
Lee Herbert Boyarsky from Marc & Judy Herbert
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Juliette Hendrickx from Deborah Schlesinger
Isaac Noll from Richard & Francine Tepper
Kate Feinberg from Doris Derwin
Martin Block from Marilyn & Stephen Block
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Bernard Portnoy from JoAnn & Lloyd Portnoy
Mark Albert from Harvey Albert
Robert Prosky from Larry & Jane Prosky
Joseph Friedman from Yolanda & Ira Friedman
Barry Krompier from Jayne Krompier
Arthur Goldstein from Zelda Goldstein
Mildred Jacobson from Helene Kamper & Maureen Dominguez
Debbie Horwitz from Michael Horwitz
Daniel Kelmenson from Iris Kelmenson
Joseph Honig from Len Honig



"Have you tried letting his people go?"

A Little Jewish Humor...

As you may know, in a slalom race the skier must pass through about 20 "gates" in as little time as possible. Well, it happened that Israel had the fastest slalom-skier in the world, and the country had great expectations for an Olympic gold medal. The day of the finals came, and the crowd waited in anticipation. The French champion sped down the course in 38 seconds. The Swiss was clocked at 38.7 seconds, The German at 37.8 seconds, and the Italian at 38.1 seconds. Then came the turn of the Israeli. The crowd waited, and waited SIX MINUTES! "What happened to you?" screamed his trainer when the Israeli finally arrived.

The exhausted Israeli replied, "Who affixed a mezuzah to each gate?"



TZEDAKAH

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In appreciation of:

Rabbi Bar Nachum from Amy & Dan Neidle

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Sam Raab from Marjorie Raab

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In honor of:

The marriage of Joshua Beldner and Sofia Martin from Janis & Jim Beldner

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In honor of:

Temple B'nai Torah from Warren Vandewater

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In memory of

Harriet Steinhardt from Rosalyn Walowitz

Harry Walowitz from Howard Walowitz

BEAUTIFICATION FUND

In memory of:

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Irving Krantz from Ruth Sussman

MAZEL TOV TO:

Janis & Jim Beldner on the marriage of their son, Joshua to Sofia Martin

YISKOR ELOHIM:

Stanley Shubin, father of Lisa Shubin & Randi Dresner

Martha Zaretsky, wife of Larry Zaretsky

George Katz, father of Evan Katz

Patricia Schriro, mother of Jane Rubinstein

David Julie, cousin of Cantor Timman

Alice Berman, aunt of Steve Christie

Elaine Brown, mother of Debbie Goldman & Rich Brown

Victor Cohen, father of Audrey Sturm





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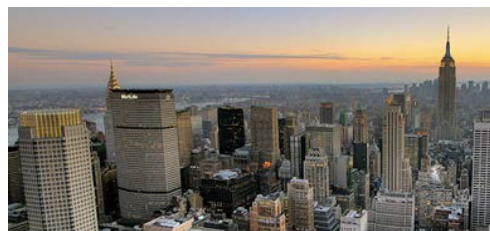
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Cantor Rica Timman

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Mission Statement

Temple B'nai Torah is a diverse caring congregation that embraces a progressive and inclusive vision of Reform Judaism through worship, study of Torah and righteous deeds. We are creating a multi-generational home in our region by staying connected to our roots, as well as offering spiritual enrichment, Jewish education and community engagement.



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Address Correction Requested



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