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Temple Beth Shalom - Needham, Massachusetts

May 2016

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From the Editorial Board

Wearing Our Hats

We all sport different hats throughout our lives – from child to parent, employee to manager, volunteer to leader, doer to enjoyer. And then some.

One of the amazing aspects of our clergy is their ability to rap with the adolescents one moment and comfort someone in grief the next; to turn any moment into a teachable one and any thought into one worth contemplating; to remember our names and what we're all up to; and well, even to sing on key.

Yet with all their overabundant talents, they could not keep our Temple community running without the caring contributions of our many congregants.

In this issue you'll read about our many Temple committees and get a feel for what they do, what they're like, and how to join. Just as you wear your hat as a member, we hope you'll don additional hats as a committee member too. Every role you play is another connection you'll make in our Temple home, making it more and more... your Temple home.

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Hats off to our committees and all the good they bring to TBS.

- The Scroll Editorial Board

This month in lieu of a letter from the clergy, we share some photos of our new temple home in progress.

TBS Rising

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MAY 2016
SERVICES

FRIDAY, MAY 6 (29 *NISAN* 5776)
7:15 PM —*Shabbat* Contemplative Prayer Service (Rashi School)
7:15 PM — *Simchat Shabbat* Service (Rashi School)

SATURDAY, MAY 7 (29 *NISAN* 5776)
Torah: Kedoshim, Lev. 19:1— 20:27
8:30 AM — *Shabbat* Morning *Minyan* (Rashi School)
9:00 AM — *Torah* Study (Rashi School)
9:00 AM — Finding Our Jewish Values in *Torah* with Rabbi Orkand (Rashi School)
10:30 AM — *Shabbat* Morning Service (Rashi School)
B'nei Mitzvah: Max Allaire and Sofia Herman

FRIDAY, MAY 13 (6 *IYAR* 5776)
7:15 PM — *Shabbat* Evening Service (First Parish)

SATURDAY, MAY 14 (6 *IYAR* 5776)
Torah: Emor, Lev. 21:1 — 24:23
8:30 AM — *Shabbat* Morning *Minyan* (TBD)
9:00 AM — *Torah* Study (TBD)
9:00 AM — Finding Our Jewish Values in *Torah* with Rabbi Orkand (TBD)
10:30 AM — *Shabbat* Morning Service (First Parish)
Bat Mitzvah: Talia Mesnik

FRIDAY, MAY 20 (13 *IYAR* 5776)
6:15 PM — *Shabbat* Evening Service (Rashi School)

SATURDAY, MAY 21 (13 *IYAR* 5776)
Torah: Behar, Lev. 25:1 — 26:2
8:30 AM — *Shabbat* Morning *Minyan* (Rashi School)
9:00 AM — *Torah* Study (Rashi School)
9:00 AM — Finding Our Jewish Values in *Torah* with Rabbi Orkand (Rashi School)
10:30 AM — *Shabbat* Morning Service (Rashi School)
B'nei Mitzvah: Eli Blumenstein and Sean Haviland

FRIDAY, MAY 27 (20 *IYAR* 5776)
6:15 PM — *Shabbat* Evening Service (Rashi School)

SATURDAY, MAY 28 (20 *IYAR* 5776)
Torah: B'Chukotai, Lev. 26:3 — 27:34
8:30 AM — *Shabbat* Morning *Minyan* (Rashi School)
9:00 AM — *Torah* Study (Rashi School)
9:00 AM — Finding Our Jewish Values in *Torah* with Rabbi Orkand (Rashi School)
10:30 AM — *Shabbat* Morning Service (Rashi School)
B'nei Mitzvah: Jacob Farber and Serena Reed

From Our Leadership

An Honor to Serve

By Ed Zaval, President

As I sit here, putting pen to paper (well, actually finger to keyboard), I reflect on what an incredible experience being Temple President has been these past two years – the hundreds of special moments interacting with our lay leaders, staff, clergy, and Temple members – all with a common interest of safeguarding our Temple home while creating new spiritual and programmatic opportunities. It has been such a pleasure to work with so many trusted and caring members of this community while Janet and I formed new and lasting friendships.

The challenges of these past two years, including this year in the wilderness, could not have been met without the dedicated effort of so many members of our congregation. Indeed, it took a "TBS village" to oversee our operations while simultaneously creating our new *Mikdash*.

-- *Our Board:* How fortunate I have been to work, hand-in-hand, with such a talented group of trustees who meet constantly to consider issues significant to the Temple. Whether it concerned *Mikdash* – reviewing and hiring our professionals, approving contract terms, discussing building design, construction matters, relocation issues, the campaign, our plan of financing – or the more traditional matters of operations, such as new programming, child and adult learning, staffing, membership needs, and the annual budget -- we remained a strong and cohesive team. And hats off to Bernice Sue Behar and Jeff Shapiro for your extra special leadership!

-- *Our Leadership Council:* Consisting of Committee Chairs, past Presidents, and Trustees, this backbone of lay leadership faced the unique challenges of our relocation year with a passion. Our committees have worked tirelessly to keep our community together by emphasizing home meetings, maintaining and growing key programs, and focusing on the values of Relational Judaism as they maintained Temple-wide engagement.

-- *Our Clergy and Staff*, who have brought new meaning to the concept of extended family and have allowed me to grow over these past two years within a framework of Jewish values. You have increased my understanding of how TBS is uniquely positioned in the reform Jewish community to lead by example. Rabbi Jay and Rabbi Todd, thank you for constant advice and support, your wisdom, and helping me translate leadership into Jewish service. To the staff, I can only express my deep admiration of your dedication and your unending patience as we waded through the unknowns of a year "off campus."

-- *Our Mikdash Leadership Team*, led by Beth Pinals, with masterful efforts from Richard Luskin, Paul Alpert, Ellen Dietrick, and Bruce Tribush. Just imagine a large team of knowledge-able congregants and senior staff, poring over plans, schedules, renderings, engineering reports, costs, and contracts – oh, so many contracts! – while constantly liaising with our professional partners to make our project succeed, on time and on budget. Not to mention a great *Development Team*, who have so far raised over $10 million in gifts and pledges, led with both heart and precision by Jason Chudnofsky, Louis Grossman and Steve Snyder.

> "The color, cut, carat, and clarity of who we are never ceases to amaze me."

Surrounded by such a whirlwind of activity, I was able to sample the multitude of facets that define our community. The color, cut, carat, and clarity of who we are never ceases to amaze me. The values of Relational Judaism, of *tzedakah*, inclusion, empathy, and compassionate outreach (*chesed*) – these are the qualities that need to be absorbed into everything we do as lay leaders and as congregants.

This has been a period of sacrifice and dislocation, but also one of extraordinary anticipation and excitement. For me, it has been two years of a personal journey, with lasting friendships and new beginnings. It has been an honor to serve this congregation.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

American Cancer Society Relay For Life

The annual American Cancer Society Relay for Life will take place at Newman Elementary School, with teams from Needham, Dedham and Wellesley. The Relay for Life is both a fundraiser and an inspirational way to celebrate Survivors and those currently battling cancer, to remember loved ones, and to fight back against cancer. The Relay is conducted around the globe and has been taking place in Needham for over 15 years. Survivors kick off the event at 4:00 PM, followed by teams of supporters. Participants walk on the track throughout the night because cancer never sleeps. Most teams remain overnight in tents but that is not required. This event is run and coordinated almost exclusively by students, many of whom are TBS members, and has raised over $150,000 each year. TBS is always an active participant with one or more teams. Please join us at Newman, or support the teams with a donation!

Saturday, May 21, 2016, starting at 4:00 PM at Newman Elementary School, 1555 Central Avenue, Needham.

To join a team, to donate directly, or for more information: Go to the "Team Cancer Stinks" webpage at http://bit.ly/237IQDG

Questions? Contact: Steve Peljovich (steven.peljovich@gmail.com,781-775-1522)

TBS Brotherhood Update

In March, TBS Brotherhood bestowed the Marc Comras Award for Outstanding Service upon Paul Alpert. Paul is a deserving winner of this award, and we had a great turnout to see him receive this honor. Thanks to all who pitched in to help. May always brings with it many happy and festive occasions: from Mother's Day to high school and college graduations, there is always something to celebrate. This month we plan on having a joint event with the Temple Aliyah Men's club. At press time, the details have not been finalized, but for the first time we had the leaders of the Temple Aliyah Men's club attend one of our board meetings. We hope that this can be the start of an annual tradition! On a personal note, I cannot extend enough thanks to the Brotherhood, the Sisterhood, and the entire Temple community for their support after the loss of my father on March 3, 2016. The warmth, love, and caring so generously given to myself and my family was overwhelming. I thank you all from the bottom of my heart.

TEMPLE BETH SHALOM BROTHERHOOD

In Brotherhood, Marty Goldberg

Gift of Life Foundation Walk/Run

Exercise is good for you. And we all need a little fresh air. Now you can get both and help others at the same time by walking or running in the First of May 5K to support the Gift of Life Foundation! Gift of Life finds potential blood and bone marrow donors for patients suffering leukemia, lymphoma, and other cancers and genetic disorders. Many of us swabbed our cheeks during the 2014 high holidays and at our recent TBS blood drive to join the registry of possible donors. Now folks of all ages can help the cause. A kids' area, food, and music will make it festive, but most important, you will be able to witness a transplant recipient meet his lifesaving donor for the very first time. Come support Gift of Life, get a nice new t-shirt and enjoy the first day of May.

Sunday, May 1, 9:00 AM at the Chestnut Hill reservoir next to Boston College.

Please register to walk, run, or donate at: http://support.giftoflife.org/goto/teamburstein

Questions? Contact: Joni Burstein (jfburstein@rcn.com, 617-469-2424).

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

L'Dor V'Dor
With Marcia and Ken Brier

L'dor v'dor – from generation to generation – is a phrase that has resonated deeply for Marcia and Ken Brier - beloved, longtime members of our Temple community.

Ken's parents, Charlotte and Phil Brier, were among the founders of the Temple, having been active in the Needham Jewish Community Center, which later became Temple Beth Shalom. They participated actively in the Temple's growth from 1952, when they moved to Needham, through the time of Charlotte's passing in 1999. Ken remembers his father, a CPA, quietly keeping the Temple's books for several decades and his mother heading up the youth group and singing with the adult choir for many years. Ken grew up as part of the TBS community. Ken also remembers his parents stretching themselves financially to support the community over the years. In 1965, when the Temple building was being expanded to include a new education wing and Sanctuary, Charlotte and Phil dedicated a new classroom. Ken fondly recalls that this was the year of his Bar Mitzvah.

Marcia was an "immigrant" from neighboring Newton, but she eagerly joined the TBS community when the Briers' own two children, Michael and Jennifer, were tots. Michael and Jennifer themselves became Bar and Bat Mitzvah and were Confirmands as well at the Temple. Though Marcia and Ken's children are now adults and have moved away from Needham, the Briers continue to deepen their involvement in all that TBS stands for and does.

When the Temple inaugurated its current Mikdash building project and Community Campaign, Ken and Marcia were moved by their family's deep tradition at TBS. As Marcia shared, "Ken and I felt we could, and should, do more than we ever had done in the past. So even before we were asked, we offered to give the amounts to dedicate the Main Office Reception Area, as well as a Cloak Room."

As a tax and estate-planning lawyer at his own boutique firm, Brier & Ganz LLP, in Needham, Ken realized that philanthropy should be as smart as it is generous. He led an educational program at the Temple last year on tax-wise charitable giving, and now he has sought to make use of the very advice he provided there. Rather than giving cash, he and Marcia are giving shares of appreciated stock. He says, "That way we get a double-barreled tax advantage. We get a deduction for the full value of the stock but avoid any capital gain tax on it. No one pays a tax on the capital gain. The government subsidizes our giving. And the Temple's option to spread the gift over five years is making it even easier for us."

While Ken is a fan of gifting appreciated securities, he makes a point that charitable giving arrangements should always be tailored for the giver's particular goals and circumstances. He says that other arrangements might fit another person's situation better. "I talk to my own clients about a wide range of charitable gift vehicles, both for gifts during life and upon death. These can include lifetime gifts from IRAs for taxpayers over age 70½, designations of charities to receive IRA balances upon death, gifts of life insurance policies, charitable gift annuities, pooled income funds, charitable remainder trusts, charitable lead trusts, bargain sales, private foundations, and donor advised funds."

With son Michael engaged to his lovely fiancée Andrea, and with the wedding to be conducted in June by Rabbi Jay, the Briers see further possibilities to extend the links of Jewish life to yet another generation. And even beyond their own children, the Briers see their gift as a way to strengthen the links to the next generations of all families who will make Temple Beth Shalom their Jewish home.

Ken says it's all in keeping with another piece of estate-planning advice he gives to clients, that at some point "we need to figure out a way to move from success to significance."

Events This Month

For the most current and complete event notices, please see the TBS calendar (http://tbsneedham.org/calendar) and the weekly email. Planning an event? Submit it here: http://bit.ly/tbs-scroll

TBS Brotherhood Uno de Mayo Social Event

Please save May 1, 2016, for the Brotherhood's Uno de Mayo social event. Every year around Cinco de Mayo we get together for one of our quarterly social events. This year will be no different, except it will be Uno de Mayo on May 1, 2016. Place and time to be determined - watch your emails.

May 1, 2016, 5:30 PM
Questions? Contact: Jon Cohan (joncohan@gmail.com)

Three Score and More: A Gershwin Celebration at the Boston Pops

Plan to join Three Score and More for another "Night at The Pops." As with last year, a bus will be provided from Needham. A flyer has been distributed. Look for more details in the weekly email.

Wednesday, May 18th at Boston Symphony Hall
Questions? Contact: Judy Gordon (jgordon721@comcast.net), Lois Sockol (lsockol@comcast.net), or Linda Lourie (781-444-7069)

Post-Passover Pizza Party

Join us in a post-passover pizza party- a tasty and nutritious way to help raise money for Temple Beth Shalom. Twenty percent of all tracked dine-in and carry-out sales will go directly to our congregation - just tell your server that you are dining to support TBS.

Monday, May 2, 2016, all day - Anthony's Coal Fired Pizza, 119 University Avenue, Westwood

May Shabbat Hike

Join special guest leader Rabbi Jay for the final Shabbat Hike of the year - a return to Wilson Mountain! The trail will take us over rocks and roots to the view at the top. This beautiful reservation is in Dedham, past the entrance to Rashi/Newbridge and over the bridge on the right. Meet in the parking area.

Saturday, May 14th, 2016, at 2:00 PM
Questions, and to RSVP, contact: Jane Evans (JaneLEvans@verizon.net, 781-254-4508)

TBS Garden Club

Marisa McCoy will present "Dining with Flowers."

May 17, 2016, 7:00 PM at The Village Club
Questions? Contact: Fawn Hurwitz (fhurwitz@aol.com, 781 444-3219)

Sisterhood Donor Dinner

Join us for the Temple Beth Shalom Sisterhood Donor Dinner at the Needham Golf Club. Share cocktails and dinner while we listen to author Jill Ebstein share stories from her book *At My Pace*. Keep an eye on your mailbox and email inbox for your invitation.

Tuesday, May 24, 2016, 6:30 PM - 9:30 PM
Questions? Contact: Tricia Sherman (tjsherman314@yahoo.com, 617-388-3769) or Lauren Greenstein (laurenk75@yahoo.com)

LEARNING

"What's Nu?" – A Monthly Conversation with Rabbi Lenke

Join Rabbi Michele Lenke on the first Wednesday of each month and engage in discussion regarding a current event affecting the Jewish community. Conversations will explore meaningful issues as well as their implications, impact, and influence on our lives as Jews or as part of a Jewish family. Feel free to attend any or all of the sessions as each month will focus on a different topic. No RSVP necessary.

Wednesdays, May 4 and June 1, 2016, 10:00 AM - 11:30 AM, in the Wingate Board Room, 235 Gould Street, Needham
Questions? Contact: Rabbi Lenke (Rabbilenke@tbsneedham.org, 781-444-0077)

Shabbat Morning Yoga

Come and do something that is good for your body and good for your mind. Whether you are looking to change up your routine, try something new, or already understand the benefits of yoga, join Stephanie Javaheri for an invigorating yoga flow incorporating mindfulness and breathing. This class is for beginners or veterans of yoga. Come with an open mind and experience what yoga can do for you. Please bring a yoga mat if you have one and a can of tuna or salmon for a donation to Family Table.

Saturdays, May 14, and June 11, 2016, at Avita of Needham (Northbridge), 880 Greendale Avenue, Needham, in the Community Room.

TBS past presidents celebrate Rabbi Rifat Sonsino's 50th year in the rabbinate.

Shofar Appeal

A special thank you to all of our 2015-16 Shofar Appeal Donors.

We are so fortunate to be a part of a vibrant and growing community here at Temple Beth Shalom. We are a dynamic and caring Congregation offering members a myriad of ways to make meaningful and joyful connections to Judaism through participation in worship, life celebrations, learning and community service. With your support we are able to continue to provide important programming and services to benefit us all.

Man'higim (Leaders)

Jamie & Sarah Fleckner
John & Beth Gamel
Noah & Becky Loren
Roger & Susan Patkin
Jerry & Lucille Sands
David & Wendy Waldman
Dave & Joyce Wilson

Tom'chim (Supporters)

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Sam & Bernice Sue Behar
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Marjorie Golden
Ellen Hurvitz & Barry Strasnick
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Roger & Myrna Landay
Rabbi Todd & Michele Markley
Richard & Vivian Marson
Jim & Soni Masur
David & Sherri Noon
Stephen & Sally Patkin
Rabbi Jay & Emily Perlman
Bill Jewett & Beth Pinals
Doug & Randi Pleskow
Mike & Chris Shusterman
Steve & Sandy Shusterman
Steve & Terri Snyder
TBS Sisterhood
Bruce & Anne Tribush
David & Jackie Waller

Chaverim (Friends)

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Phil & Carole Aronson
Richard & Ruth Aronson
Norm Ashkenas & Stacy Martin
Rich & June Atkind
Irving Bailit & Carol Cole
Irving & Elaine Baker
Bruce & Lynn Barnet
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Bob & Marilyn Brooks
Rami & Joni Burstein
Vera Burtman
Susan Carp
Ken & Cindy Carson
Adam & Marcy Cheifetz
Harvey Cohen & Arlene Katzman
Howard Cohen
Lou & Nancy Cohen
Michael Cohen & Cheryl Weisman-Cohen
Steven & Nancy Cutter
Heide Davis
Steve & Nanci Dephoure
Ellen Dietrick
Paul & Cindi Elias
Jeffrey & Karen Euse
Arnold & Carol Farber
Alice Fastov
David & Sydney Feldman
Jon & Stephanie Fox
Marc Friedman & Sandy Jacobs
David Frischling
Mark & Amy Furman
Andy & Peggy Gassman
Harold & Carol Gershman
Roberta Gerson
Tiziana Getz
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Joel Golden & Sharon Margulies
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Andy & Denise Goodman
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Judith Gordon
Michael & Jennifer Green
Jeff & Lauren Greenstein
Daniel & Debbie Greiff
Jake & Liz Grossman
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Bill & Wendy Shulman
Jon & Becky Shusterman
Gary & Deena Siegel
Eric Silverstein
Michael & Lisa Simon
Stanley Simon
Steve & Malerie Singer
Josh & Jenny Small
Mike & Stacey Smalley
David & June Smith
Robert & Sara Jane Smith
Ron & Lois Sockol
Rabbi & Ines Sonsino
Rob & Mira Spiegel
Zachary & Kristina Spilman
Stephen Staum & Carol Urwitz
Larry & Suzanne Stein
Eliot & Joyce Sterling
Glenn Stern & Daphne Davidson
Andy & Jane Streisfeld
Larry & Lesley Sugarman
Harvey Swack
Elbert Taitz
Stephen & Susan Tanner
Stew & Lisa Taub
Howard & Ruth Taylor
Joshua & Leesy Teeter
Jay & Elaine Timmons
Herb & Suzy Tobin
Sandra Torrisi
Marc & Judy Weinberg
Peter & Jill Weiner
Brian & Jane Weinstein
Phyllis White
Barry & Wendy Wilensky
Ken & Amy Willis
Josh & Lara Winn
Seth & Sharon Wright
Les & Linda Yampolsky
Marty & Harriet Yogel
Jerry & Abbe Young
Stephen & Caren Zeitler
Mike & Maddy Zeylikman

The Committees of TBS

In addition to clergy, staff, and the lay leadership, TBS runs through the generous efforts and talents of its committee volunteers. The committees are where the fun work gets done to make our community thrive. The committees are a great place to meet new friends, strengthen bonds, and contribute your talents. We encourage you to review the following "catalog" of committees and invite you to join in on the fun. You will find the name and email address to contact committee chairs at the end of each section.

Communications Committee

Ironically, the Communications Committee at Temple Beth Shalom may be our community's best-kept secret! The committee includes dedicated members of our community with a wide range of marketing, communications and technical backgrounds, as well as members who are interested in lending a hand and trying something new. We work closely with our professional staff and clergy to make sure that congregants and the wider community are up-to-date on all the great work and activities at Temple Beth Shalom.

We're responsible for big projects like *The Scroll,* the Member Directory, the Temple website, the TBS Community Bulletin Board, and our online Member Business Directory as well as the solicitation of advertisements that fund many of our publications. We meet monthly at Mandarin Cuisine and welcome you to join us (even if you're not hungry!) to help shape the ways our community stays current and shares our stories. To join us, please communicate with Steve Sherry (Communications@tbsneedham.org or ssherry@rcn.com).

Member Relations Committee

The Member Relations Committee is all about community and making connections, and we would love to connect with you! We focus on welcoming new members to our community, creating new connections between existing congregants, and helping everyone feel at home at Temple Beth Shalom.

Our two favorite holidays are Sukkot and Purim, and we are especially excited about organizing events next year in our new building. Be sure to join us for our Sukkot Welcome Event and the Adult Purim Shpiel. As well, all congregants are invited to take part in a Shabbat Share dinner and to become part of the welcoming team at Friday night services. Member Relations welcomes new members! Please contact Wendy Gutterson (Member_Relations@tbsneedham.org or wgutterson@rcn.com).

Worship Committee

The Worship Committee has been very busy this year. No, not worshipping any more than usual, although we enjoy every moment we do. What has kept us busy recently is helping work through the year-long services at Rashi while our Temple home is undergoing its expansion.

Throughout the year our committee works closely with the clergy to help develop new goals, and acts as a sounding board and information-gathering group for them. We also assist with the High Holy Day services, as well as helping to review service content, music, service start times, and congregational feedback.

We would love to welcome members of the congregation to assist in this work; not only do we get to work closely with the clergy, we have a lot of fun doing so, and even manage to sneak in a worship service or two! Please join us in supporting our clergy and congregation; contact Eugene Stein (worship@tbsneedham.org or eugene.p.stein@gmail.com).

Adult Learning Committee

Are your Hebrew skills rusty or nonexistent? Not sure what the Talmud is? Memories of Hebrew School a little foggy? You have come to the right place! In addition to weekly Torah study and Israeli dance classes, every year our TBS rabbis and guest scholars offer an inspiring array of classes and lectures on Hebrew, Jewish prayer, Israel, current events, and more. These classes attract dozens of participants each month.

Members of the TBS Adult Learning Committee (ALC) come up with many of the topics for these annual series. And this year, members of the ALC have also been working closely with Rabbi Jay to kick off some fun new learning opportunities for congregants with a variety of interests.

While the ALC seeks to help TBS members broaden their knowledge of Judaism, the goal of creating a dynamic community of adults who are connected through Jewish engagement and learning is equally important. Exercising, tasting delicious foods, and channeling our creativity can be just as educational as text-based learning.

Some new cultural programs this year have included:

- Shabbat morning Jewish-themed yoga with TBS member Stephanie Javaheri;
- An evening cocktail party/art gallery soiree and a morning, family mezuzah-making workshop with nationally known artist Gary Rosenthal;
- A delicious lunch with guest speaker Professor Ted Merwin, author of *Pastrami on Rye: An Overstuffed History of the Jewish Deli.*

Interested in joining the ALC? Fear not - no special training or knowledge is required! The desire to brainstorm and plan engaging group activities is all you need. Programs in the works for next year include Jewish cooking classes and a series on Jewish meditative practices and health. The ALC is a warm, diverse group of TBS members who are passionate about Jewish learning in all its forms. Please join us by contacting Amy Willis (Adult_Learning@tbsneedham.org or willisamy@comcast.net).

Library Committee

Our library has been on a sabbatical this year! Over the summer and into the fall, all the books, DVDs, CDs, and other periodicals were packed up. Nothing remains of the actual space any more. Once construction is completed, the Adult and Young Adult collections will be housed in the new Mikdash right near the main entrance and the Children's books and CDs/DVDs will be shelved in the new Children's Center.

Despite its temporary closure, not all has been quiet in the library this year. Rabbi Todd has been busy selecting and purchasing new books for our Library in honor of this year's B'nei Mitzvah students, thanks in large part to the generous donation and support of Bob and Marilyn Brooks every year. We welcome you to help us set up the library in our new spaces and provide ideas on programming and new initiatives. We'd also like help automating our check-in/check-out facilities and building a database of our collection. Please contact Roberta Gerson (Library@tbsneedham.org or robertaellengerson@gmail.com) if you are interested in being on our committee.

Social Action Committee

"On three things the world stands:
The Torah, Service and Deeds of Loving Kindness"
- Shimon the Righteous

Judaism teaches that each of us has the obligation to make the world a better place. TBS' Social Action outreach is directed - but not limited to - three important causes: feeding the hungry, providing for the homeless, and supporting learning for children.

Most of our projects are ongoing or repeated each year, addressing continuing needs in our local community and beyond. *Tikkun Olam* Day is a particularly uplifting experience. Some of those knitting caps for Israeli soldiers have been in Israel with Rabbi Jay when the caps were presented to "our" soldiers. And it is so heart-warming to see mothers and their children, or even grandmothers and their grandchildren, bent over sewing machines together, creating isolette blankets for needy newborns.

Committee co-chairs Alison Davis and Judy Weinberg agree that it's a great feeling to see the immediate impact our group can have on so many:

- Collecting and distributing food for the Needham Community Council pantry and JF&CS Family Table
- Partnering with teachers at the Mozart School in Roslindale to tutor and read to elementary age schoolchildren
- Organizing Shabbat dinners for K'shaarim, a group of adults with developmental disabilities
- Providing meals on Christmas to Needham neighbors through Project Ezra
- Organizing a variety of community projects for *Tikkun Olam* Day each spring
- Encouraging the Gift of Life Program at TBS to expand the pool of potential bone marrow and stem cell donors

A core group of congregants have consistently participated in Social Action projects for many years. Their efforts and those of new participants are always welcome. There's no shortage of projects!

Judy and Alison report that they always get the highest attendance at their first meeting of the year, when an Israeli dinner is served! They would love to have you join TBS' Social Action committee. For more information, please contact Alison Davis (Social_Action@tbsneedham.org or abgdavis@aol.com) or Judy Weinberg (Social_Action@tbsneedham.org or judithfweinberg@gmail.com).

Continued on Page 16

Happenings at TBS

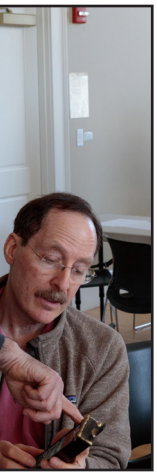
Photos by Alan Novick

Tikun Olam Day

Artist in Residence Weekend

Purim at Kidville

The Marc Comras Award



Pastrami on Rye

Continued from Page 13.

Chesed Committee

"We are a community of *Chesed* - compassionate outreach..." Each year, through the efforts of scores of TBS volunteers, we reach out during times of loss, illness and celebration. We are the call you get when you've lost a loved one; we are the friendly visitor to the homebound and the meals lovingly provided when you've been injured. We deliver the hand-made caring wrap and the cup with goodies when you are ill or in treatment. We drop off a sweet remembrance of a loved one during Rosh Hashanah. We celebrate births and weddings with gifts and educate you on important issues around health and aging. We take care of each other, offering a helping hand and a calm voice and soothing touch when that is what is needed most. Even our TBS kids get in the act, visiting and delivering goodies to our more senior members and learning all about *Chesed* ... compassionate outreach. We welcome your involvement; please contact Wendy Shulman (Chesed@tbsneedham.org or wshulman1@gmail.com).

Leadership Development Committee

The TBS Community is blessed to have volunteers involved in myriad aspects of Temple life. As a collective group, we are engaged in activity nearly every day of the week and nearly every week in the year. It's a tremendous effort to keep all these initiatives running, and our amazing TBS Professional Staff does yeoman's work to help support it all. In addition, there are many within our community who stand up and take on leadership roles to help vision, create and direct these efforts.

The Leadership Development Committee works with these volunteers in two different ways. Every other year we run a Leadership Workshop, bringing together Committee Chairs who are new to their roles in order to provide guidance and teach some of the nuts and bolts of leading a committee at Temple Beth Shalom.

In alternate years we run a *Dor Chadash* (New Generation) Program, inviting those who have expressed or demonstrated an interest in leadership to an evening of exploration, reflection and inspiration as we discuss what leadership means at TBS. These programs continue to evolve as the community grows and changes, but the grounding principle remains the same: we must invest in our people and provide them the tools and resources they need in order to sustain and grow our community as a whole.

If you have an interest in leadership at TBS or expertise in helping leaders develop and grow, we'd love to talk to you! Please reach out to Meredith Fried (Leadership_Development@tbsneedham.org or meredith_fried@yahoo.com, 781-801-9150).

Personnel Practices Committee

The Personnel Practices Committee serves as an advisory committee to the TBS Executive Board. Our responsibilities cover a broad array of Human Resources matters from updating and interpreting HR policies and procedures, to reviewing employee benefits offerings, compensation topics and more. We're currently working on a Manager's Handbook/Manual to help guide TBS Managers through their various roles and responsibilities including employee issues, budgeting, etc.

We're looking for new members – so if you have interest in helping TBS create a positive work environment, and you'd like to experience the personal gratification that comes from helping solve problems that directly affect TBS and our employees, we'd love to hear from you! Please contact Chrys Heier (Personnel_Practices@tbsneedham.org or cheier@sullivan-benefits.com or 617-510-2577).

House Committee

House Committee (sometimes called Building Committee) is dedicated to breaking down the stereotype that Jews are allergic to power tools (or at least things like hammers and screwdrivers). After all, isn't the word "Maccabee" derived from the Hebrew root for "hammer?" We are responsible for advising on and helping with the maintenance of our congregational home. We work closely with Sandy Hain, Director of Facilities and Event Planning, to ensure our building and grounds are inviting and safe for all to enjoy.

Our challenge in 2015 was readying the building for the Mikdash construction project. We worked behind the scenes to remove and store the wall art, memorial plaques, and other adornments around TBS. Looking for them on eBay? Sorry – we guard them carefully, and will be moving them back in when construction is complete. So you may ask, "What does the Building Committee do when we're in a diaspora year with no building?" The answer is, we plan...a lot. Even though only a small amount of programming is happening on site at "TBS North," there is still plenty of maintenance to be addressed as we keep the alarm, HVAC, plumbing, and electrical systems working through the construction. We are also creating a budget for our future needs with our

enlarged school building, two function halls, and Beit Midrash.

Some of our members have backgrounds related to engineering or construction. Others are DIYers with a knack for tools. As for the rest of us? We're very good at getting estimates. We would welcome anyone who would like to be involved with our beautiful new home at this exciting time in our congregation's history! If you're interested, please contact Loren Shapiro (House@tbsneedham.org or lshapiro@villagemtg.com).

Safety and Security Committee

"Be careful!" "Watch your step!" "Call me when you get to the curb…" We Jews take our safety seriously. And that's never more evident than in the TBS Safety and Security Committee. From patrolling the parking lot during the High Holy Days to designing new procedures within the Mikdash project, we endeavor to make the Temple experience as safe as possible. Unfortunately, the world has changed in the last few years. The challenges we face are different. Anyone who is interested in volunteering for Safety and Security is welcome to contact Ed Moller (enmoller@comcast.net).

Finance Committee

The TBS Finance Committee plays a key role in helping to develop internal fiscal procedures; provides critical financial analysis and modeling of the proposed annual Temple budget; fills a unique role in partnership with the clergy, professional staff and Board on all matters of finance; and regularly works on projects to assist the budgetary and administrative operations of the Temple. I know - this really sounds like a lot of fun - how is this happening and I never knew about it? This dynamic group of fiscally-minded professionals meets monthly on Friday mornings (slightly more during budget season). We are always looking to welcome new members. If you are interested in joining us, please bring your abacus, slide rule and lots of #2 pencils to our next meeting. For more information please contact Jeff Shapiro (Finance@tbsneedham.org or jsshapiro@rcn.com) or Eugene Stein (Finance@tbsneedham.org or eugene.p.stein@gmail.com).

Investment Committee

The TBS Investment Committee is charged with oversight of the Temple Endowment, approximately $650K as of the end of 2015. The endowment funds are managed as part of the CJP Endowment Pool "JCEP." JCEP manages over $1.4 billion in assets (part of a $3.1 billion CareGroup/CJP collaborative) for a number of temple endowments and Jewish Federations nationally. Using CJP provides the Temple with a high level of investment management expertise and diversification as well as a means to provide continuity for the lay-led investment committee. If you are interested in learning more about the committee, please contact Elliot Herman (Investments@tbsneedham.org or elliot.herman@comcast.net).

Archives Committee

Who were the first Jews in Needham?
Where and when was the first Jewish high holiday service held in Needham?

We know the answers to these questions - and many others - thanks to the Temple archives. David and Elizabeth Simon, the first Jews in Needham, arrived in 1897 from the West End in Boston. Simon Hall is named after them.

The Jewish population grew slowly in Needham, but in 1953 the Needham Jewish Community Group, the forerunner of Temple Beth Shalom, held its first high holiday services at First Parish in Needham because the group did not have its own dedicated space. The Temple building did not open until 1955, when the group also became a Reform congregation.

And here we are 63 years after that first service, still turning to our friends at First Parish for space to meet because our Temple building is under construction. In our new building the Temple's archives will have dedicated space for the first time that will allow the archives to grow. The Archives Committee's main goal in the next year will be to outfit the archives room and to display the existing archival materials. An important new direction will be digitizing the existing archives to increase access for anyone interested.

The Archives Committee welcomes new members to expand the archives. If you are someone who enjoys history, collecting, or you are just curious about the past or have a good eye for what items to save so future generations will know who we were, please join us. We always welcome new ideas and materials. We especially need someone with computer skills to help in digitizing the archives. Contact Florence Schumacher (Archives@tbsneedham.org or fschumach@gmail.com).

One last question: *How long has Joe Policelli been the temple's organist?*

Answer: 40 years! This makes him the longest-serving employee we have. Thank you, Joe!

Children's Center Learning Committee

The Children's Center Learning Committee is a group of dedicated members of the TBS community who share a commitment to making the Children's Center a program of excellence.

Our recent work focused on a key question: What are the essential factors when parents are choosing a preschool for their child? Last year Combined Jewish Philanthropies (CJP) released a Boston-wide study on how families with Jewish children in Greater Boston make early childhood educational choices. A key finding was that that almost all of the responding parents (91%) were interested in making new friends. We know this is true at TBS, where many of our community members, children and adults alike, have met through their involvement in our Children's Center. We also learned that out of 21 decision factors, 55% of parents chose teacher quality as one of their top three factors and 36% chose program hours.

Wanting to preserve TBS Children's Center as a popular choice for our local community, the Children's Center Learning Committee, together with the Board, studied these results with the CJP researchers who conducted the study. As a result, for the 2016-17 school year, the Children's Center will offer a full-day, year-round program while still preserving the tremendously successful part-time, school-year program. This addition will enable us to serve those in our TBS community who seek a more full-time preschool option, allowing us to open our doors to any family who would like to become a part of the TBS family.

Guided by Jewish tradition, we study educational practices, assist with policy development, and make connections to the larger Temple community. If you are interested in learning more about what we do, please contact Liz Grossman (Childrens_Center_Learning@tbsneedham.org or elizabeth.d.grossman@gmail.com).

Elementary Learning Committee

Have you been losing sleep at night, wondering what we do on the Elementary Learning Committee (ELC)? Our job on the ELC is to support the work of Rachel Happel and the Mayim elementary learning programs.

This year, with the new building on the horizon, we had a lot of thinking to do. First, we helped Rachel troubleshoot plans for the new multi-day after-school option, which includes Jewish learning, Hebrew, and community building (if you have questions, email rhappel@tbsneedham.org). We have also been working to find new and varied ways to engage families in order to enhance and strengthen the Mayim community. Stay tuned for some of our creative ideas coming this spring or next fall!

As a committee, we learn together, laugh together (a lot), and sometimes nosh together. And this is just a small taste of what we do. This year, without our normal Temple space, our meetings have been held in different committee members' homes, and it has been quite a treat to get to know each other on a new level! (And an improvement from the one time we ended up meeting in one of the preschool classrooms, sitting on mini chairs. Think we need this new building?) And that is the ELC...in a nutshell. To join us, please contact Michele Markley (Elementary_Learning@tbsneedham.org or michelemarkley11@gmail.com).

Early Engagement Committee

The Early Engagement Committee provides opportunities for families with young children to make meaningful connections to others in the TBS community. We support family events and our Bumps, Babies, and Beyond classes, and welcome new and prospective members.

In preparation for Purim, we created an opportunity for parents to teach their children that they have the power to positively influence the lives of others. Children worked to roll and cut hamentaschen dough and then carefully filled each treat with jam. They then decorated Purim cards and gift bags and chose goodies to go along with their hamentaschen. Each family selected an address of a TBS community elder and delivered the gift right to their front door. In turn, many of the recipients surprised the children with their own beautiful letters and cards in the mail. One read, "It was a great surprise to see all of the goodies you sent. Hoping you all have as wonderful a celebration as you and all involved brought to me!" *L'dor v'dor*, from generation to generation!

If you are interested in examining the needs of our current and prospective families with young children, learning how TBS serves those needs, and envisioning a future where all TBS families with young children feel known, connected, and part of our Jewish community, please join us by contacting Liz Grossman (Early_Engagement@tbsneedham.org or elizabeth.d.grossman@gmail.com).

Teen Engagement Committee

Ever wonder why 75 teens are hanging out at TBS despite their busy lives juggling school, sports, theater, music, homework, and driving lessons? It's because they are engaged in our innovative and inviting teen programs!

Initiated two years ago, the Teen Engagement Committee is a group of parents who help with the process of keeping our teens excited about staying involved at Temple. Amidst lively discussions, we support TBS educational director Rachel Happel and the educators of the Gesher L'Noar (grades 6 and 7) and Sha'arim (grades 8-12) programs. Bringing our reflective, poignant, and personal perspectives about events and happenings in our sons' and daughters' lives, we act as a sounding board for the professional teachers who are leading classes with our teens.

Our leaders and educators, who understand and are in synch with our teens' needs, welcomed our support in making changes to the Gesher L'Noar program and emphasizing leadership opportunities found in the Sha'arim program. These were typical examples of fabulous discussions, brimming with ideas and support: How can we help support our teens in their quest to find meaning and relevance in their lives? What does it mean to be engaged in meaningful activities and thought-provoking discussions? These questions are at the heart of the Teen Engagement Committee.

In a memorable experience, the committee met at a Temple member's home this fall, and sat in a circle holding pictures that visually represented the themes of the TBS Vision for Learning and Excellence. These photos symbolically depict how our teens are engaging in a wide variety of activities each week. The programs have a purposeful connection to our Seder Plate, which is the visual representation of the TBS Vision for Learning and Excellence. We each chose photos that exemplified a piece of the vision. It was an engaging way to reaffirm our knowledge of TBS vision.

The core of this committee is a lively, passionate, and thoughtful band of people who listen and advocate. In a world filled with obligations and logistics, we wrestle with how best to inform parents about the many happenings and events that comprise our teen programming: weekly electives (cooking, famous Jews in history from pop culture, tikkun olam, etc.), leadership opportunities (being an active YOUth Board member, leading events as a "Rosh"), social gatherings (Shabbatons, Rosh Chodesh), and trips (NYC, Washington, DC, Tennessee, Costa Rica). We want our teens to experience much and at the same time keep a healthy balance in their lives as they grow not only physically in their development but also spiritually in mind and heart. To join us, please contact Stacey Smalley (Teen_Engagement@tbsneedham.org or staceyjrsmalley@gmail.com).

CONTRIBUTIONS

THE MINIMUM DONATION FOR CONTRIBUTIONS IN THE *SCROLL* IS $18.00.

RABBI PERLMAN'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

DONOR	IN APPRECIATION OF
Scott & Caren Simmons	Rabbi Perlman

DONOR	IN HONOR OF
The McConchie Family	Rabbi Perlman
Dolores & Stanley Chaban	Barry Freid's 60th birthday
Amy & Rick Gordon	Barry Freid's 60th birthday
Nancy Simons & Scott Green	Barry Freid's 60th birthday
Laura Epstein	Barry Freid's 60th birthday
RNC Trust	Barry Freid's 60th birthday
Valerie & Daniel Fleischer	Barry Freid's 60th birthday
Elise & David Cherny	Barry Freid's 60th birthday
Lisa & Bob Haas	Barry Freid's 60th birthday
Marjorie & Mitchell Muroff	Barry Freid's 60th birthday
Lynne & Stuart Elfland	Barry Freid's 60th birthday
Paul Winnick & Thais Gaffiraro	Barry Freid's 60th birthday
Judy & Marc Cutter	Barry Freid's 60th birthday
Mark & Shelly Tobin	Barry Freid's 60th birthday
Ira & Michelle Lefkowitz	Barry Freid's 60th birthday
Nancy & Paul Dembling	Barry Freid's 60th birthday
Jonathan & Linda Kay	Barry Freid's 60th birthday
Madeleine & Peter Jacobson	Barry Freid's 60th birthday
Mark & Cindy Kaplan	Barry Freid's 60th birthday
Christine and Michael Argiros	Barry Freid's 60th birthday
Andrew Tuchler	Barry Freid's 60th birthday
Beth & Bruce Ravech	Alexa Ravech becoming a Bat Mitzvah

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Jim Hirsch	Gloria Hirsch
Karen Goldsmith	Samuel L. Stockman
Robin & Ari Milstein	Louis Goldberg

RABBI MARKLEY'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

DONOR	IN APPRECIATION OF
Ellie & Steve Shaer	Rabbi Markley's time & kind words after the passing of our mother, Ida Baker

DONOR	IN HONOR OF
Mona & Marty Wiener	Their grandson, Mason Valentino's, Baby Naming

DONOR	IN MEMORY OF
Eric Lipman	Maurice Lipman
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Cindi & Paul Elias	Lillian Shore
Lori & Jon Shaer	Ida Baker
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Michael Cohen & Cheryl Weisman-Cohen	Louis L. Cohen & Marci Cohen

CANTOR JONAS' DISCRETIONARY FUND

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Michael Herman	Leah Herman
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THE CHESED FUND

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CHILDREN'S CENTER FUND

DONOR	IN APPRECIATION OF
David Berg	Receiving the "*Shalach Manot"* from the Children's Center

DONOR	IN MEMORY OF
Ann Sherman	Lawrence Cohen
Eric Shaff	Frances Short
Lora Hammer	Vivian Krafchik
Eric Leskowitz	Sidney Leskowitz

EDUCATION FUND

DONOR	IN HONOR OF
The McConchie Family	Sabrina Shemesh
The Rashi School	Rabbi Jordi Schuster Battis for the inspirational words she shared with the Rashi community
Irving Bailit & Carol Cole	Jerry Schultz for receiving an Outstanding Contribution Award from the Learning Disability Association

DONOR	IN MEMORY OF
Jonathan Tamkin	Jacqueline C. Tamkin
Cindy & Ron Matloff	Judith Schreider
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GENERAL FUND

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The McConchie Family	Sandy Hain
Nancy & Paul Dembling	Gabrielle Reiser becoming a *Bat Mitzvah*
Lauren & Jeff Greenstein	Harriet & Marty Yogel's new grandson

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TBS Brotherhood	Judith Schreider
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S. DAVID GOLDBERG MEMORIAL FUND A NAMED GENERAL FUND OF TEMPLE BETH SHALOM

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The McConchie Family	Emily Perlman

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George & Chris Markley	Rabbi Rifat Sonsino's 50 distinguished years in the Rabbinate

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Ellie & Steve Shaer	Louis Grossman for leading the *Minyan* service at the *Shiva* for Ida Baker
Lori & Jon Shaer	Louis Grossman for leading the *Minyan* service for Ida Baker

DONOR	IN HONOR OF
Judi & Marc Kahn	Rabbi Sonsino's 50 years in the Rabbinate

DONOR	IN MEMORY OF
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The Schleifer Family	Arthur Schleifer becoming a *Bar Mitzvah*
The London Family	Maddy London becoming a *Bat Mitzvah*
The Resnick Family	Sydney Resnick becoming a *Bat Mitzvah*
The Kaufman Family	Maxwell Kaufman becoming a *Bar Mitzvah*
The Tobasky Family	Jillian Tobasky becoming a *Bat Mitzvah*
The Cheifetz Family	Matthew Cheifetz becoming a *Bar Mitzvah*

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Judy & Nate Levine	Robert Epstein
Judy & Nate Levine	Evelyn Epstein

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The Resnick Family	Sydney Resnick becoming a *Bat Mitzvah*
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The Tobasky Family	Jillian Tobasky becoming a *Bat Mitzvah*
The Cheifetz Family	Matthew Cheifetz becoming a *Bar Mitzvah*

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Jerry T. Sherman	Paul Alpert
Barbara Lyndon-Levine	TBS

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Harvey Leavitt	Jacob David Leavitt

YOUTH FUND

DONOR	IN APPRECIATION OF
Ethan Nash & Family	Aaron Gurvis, Jess Green & Sara Wittenberg for a fabulous trip to Costa Rica

DONOR	IN HONOR OF
Linda & Les Yampolsky	Alex Shifman on his *Bar Mitzvah*

DONOR	IN MEMORY OF
The Reiser Family	Gladys "Lally" Seltzer
Jeffrey Greenstein	Michael Zeidman
Elsa Reiss	Harry Needle
Judith Shapiro	Sheila Fish

YIZKOR ELOHIM

We extend our sympathy to...

Stephen and Eleanor Shaer
Jon and Lori Shaer, Ben and Madeline on the passing of their mother, grandmother and great-grandmother, Ida Baker

Marty and Julie Goldberg, Leah and Ian on the passing of their father and grandfather, Louis Goldberg

Steven and Elizabeth Handler, David and Matthew on the passing of their father and grandfather, Harry Handler

Amy and Fred Gold, Zachary and Orli on the passing of their father and grandfather, Paul Sheiber

Ellen Fine on the passing of her partner, Christopher J. Guokas

Anne and Steve Baritz, Maurice and Ray on the passing of their father and grandfather, Michael Freeman

Melissa and Aaron Grossman, Bennett and Liza on the passing of their father and grandfather, Robert Polen

Randy and Carole Grosberg, Lauren and Jodi on the passing of their father and grandfather, Stephen Grosberg

Lee and Diane Saltzberg, Adam and Sarah On the passing of their mother and grandmother, Frances Saltzberg

Jen and Mathew Tuttelman, Ally and Joshua on the passing of their father and grandfather, Alan Dver

Lesley and Nelson Nemser
Michele and Rabbi Todd Markley, Mia and Adam on the passing of their mother, grandmother and great-grandmother, Sara Riseman

Please join the TBS community for

Minyan

Monday **and** Thursday at 7:00 AM
Sunday **through** Thursday at 6:45 PM
at 670 Highland Avenue

YAHRZEITS

MAY 6
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Rose Becker
Benson Brown
Anita Eriksson
Steven Feingold
David Fisher
Barbara Franceschini
Dinah Goldsheid
Molly Goldstein
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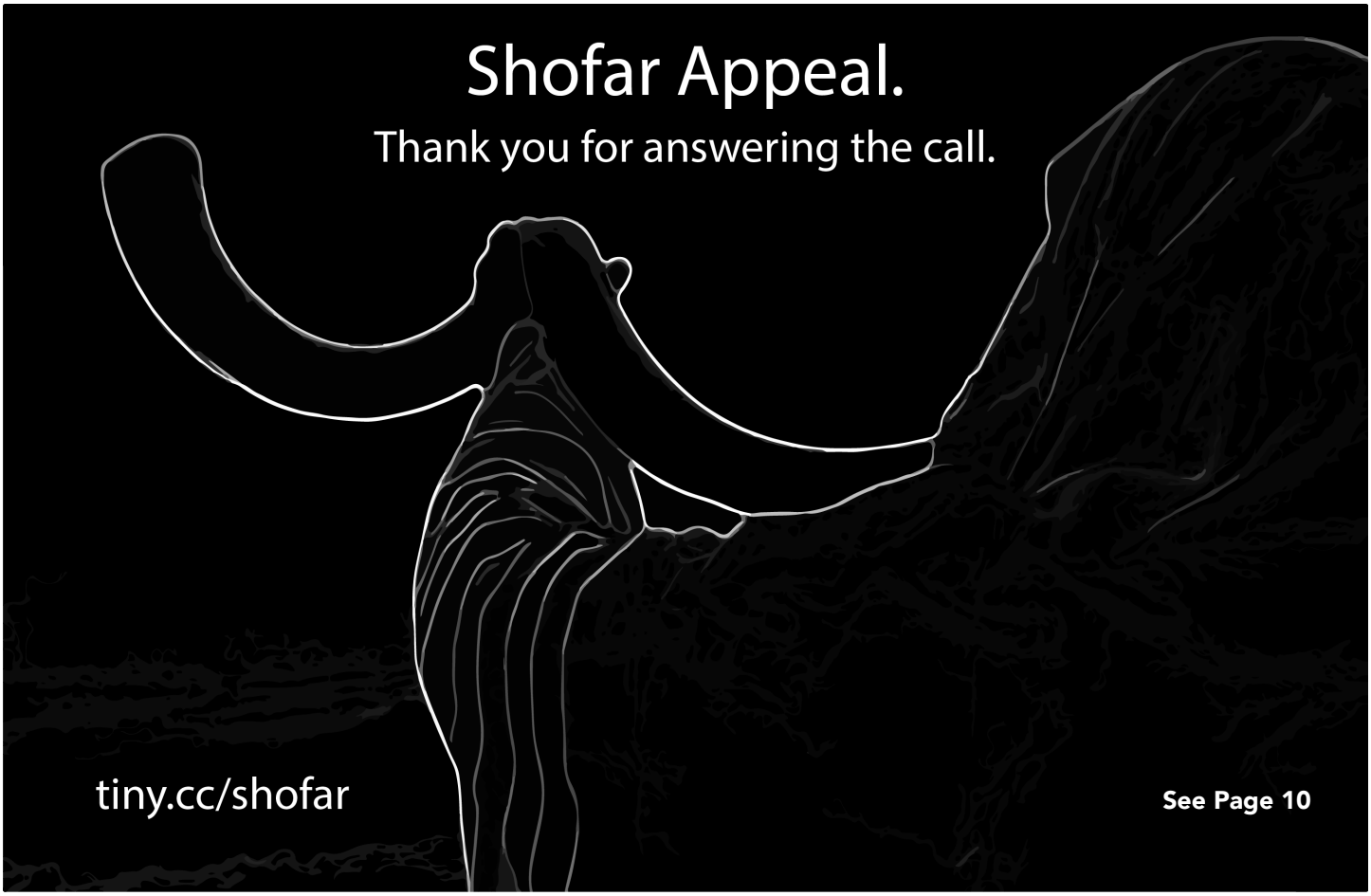

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