

# Scroll

Temple Beth Shalom – Needham, Massachusetts

February 2024

Shevat/Adar I 5784

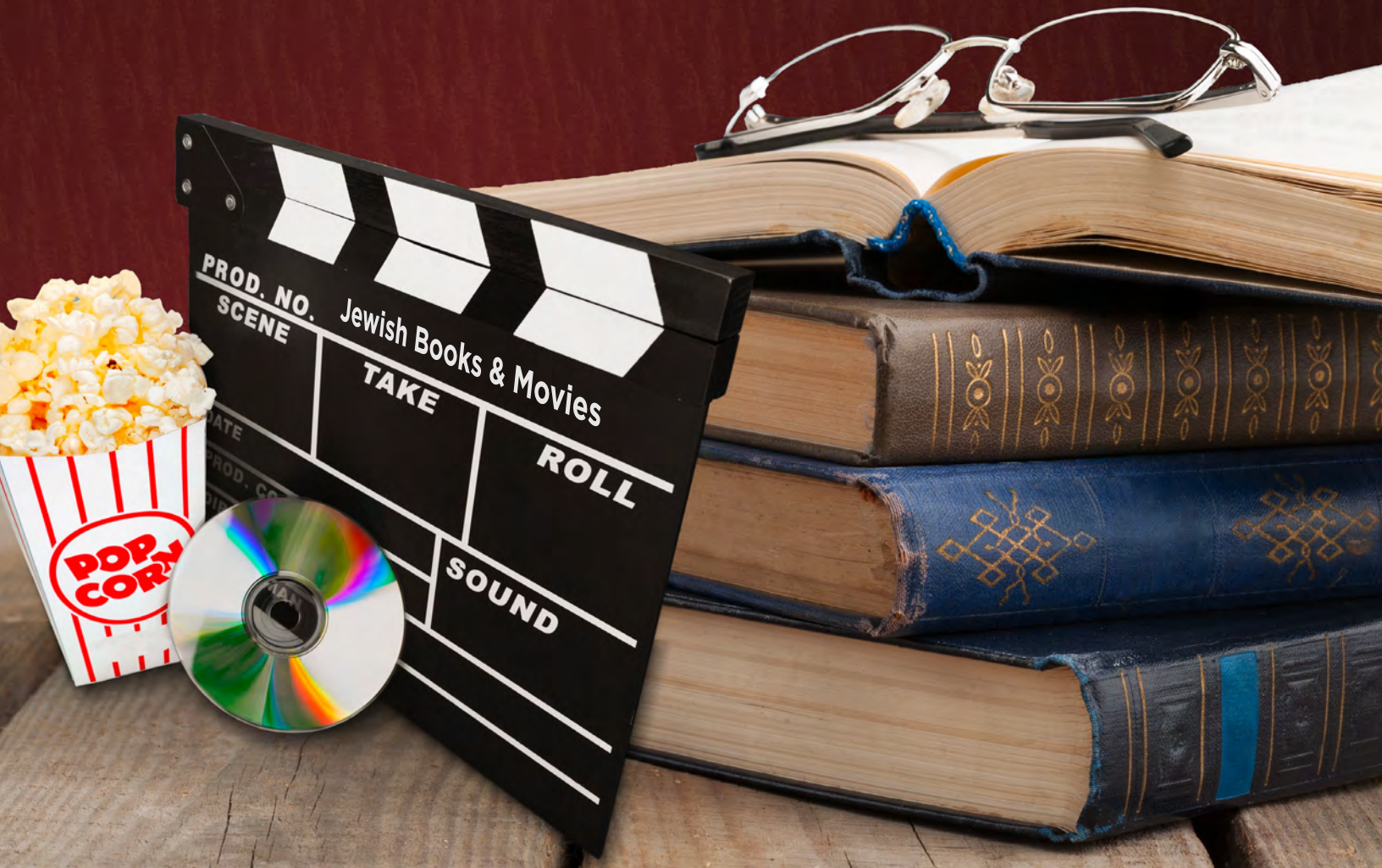


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## On the Cover

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To contribute content,  
go to: [tbsneedham.org/submit](http://tbsneedham.org/submit)

## From the Editorial Board

With all that is going on in our world, a bit of escapism can be welcome. What better time than now to curl up with a good book or snuggle under a blanket and take in a movie! Thanks to fellow Temple members, we now have some wonderful suggestions for books and movies to enjoy – all with a Jewish angle. Don't be afraid to read every word they wrote; each was careful not to give away anything other than their loving recommendation.

In this issue, you'll also find out about the ways our educators ensure their teaching matches the needs of each student, and how your donations are saving lives of young soldiers on the frontlines in Israel.

### Ask the Rabbi

Do you have a question you've always pondered but never had the chance to ask? This might be your solution! Submit your questions to [scroll@tbsneedham.org](mailto:scroll@tbsneedham.org). Questions will appear anonymously, together with the rabbi's response, in upcoming issues of the *Scroll*.

*Please note: "Ask the Rabbi" is a chance to explore areas related to Judaism. It is not intended for questions about Temple policies, business, or personal questions.*

### Let Us Hear from You – and/or Join Us!

- We always welcome your input and help. Are there articles you'd like to see included or topics that should be covered? Let us know!
- Might you like to write an article? How about joining us to do editing or layout? Want to help with advertising?

Please email [scroll@tbsneedham.org](mailto:scroll@tbsneedham.org) with your ideas, suggestions, or offers to join in the fun of producing the *Scroll*!

*By Joni Burstein on behalf of the Editorial Board*

## Welcome New Members

Sarah and Brett Groper and Dylan (1)  
Ian and Abby Klein and Carson (10)  
Tara and Ethan Sales and Beau (1)

# Services in February

*Services will be in person and via livestream for the month of February.  
Please check the TBS website and emails for livestream links.*

## **FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 2 (24 Shevat 5784)**

6:15 PM Erev Shabbat Service (Sanctuary)

## **SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 3 (24 Shevat 5784)**

Torah: *Yitro* Ex. 18:1 - 20:26

8:30 AM Shabbat Morning Service (Sanctuary)

9:00 AM Torah Study (Beit Midrash)

9:15 AM Finding Our Jewish Values in the Torah  
(Front Conference Room and online)

## **FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 9 (1 Adar I 5784)**

5:30 PM Tot Shabbat Service (Sanctuary)

6:15 PM Erev Shabbat Service (Sanctuary)

## **SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 10 (1 Adar I 5784)**

Torah: *Mishpatim* Ex. 21:1 - 24:18

8:30 AM Shabbat Morning Service (Sanctuary)

9:00 AM Torah Study (Beit Midrash)

9:15 AM Finding Our Jewish Values in the Torah  
(Front Conference Room and online)

B. Mitzvah: Daniel Mooney

B. Mitzvah: Danielle Schreiber

## **FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 16 (8 Adar I 5784)**

6:15 PM Erev Shabbat Service (Sanctuary)

## **SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 17 (8 Adar I 5784)**

Torah: *T'rumah* Ex. 25:1 - 27:19

8:30 AM Shabbat Morning Service (Sanctuary)

9:00 AM Torah Study (Beit Midrash)

9:15 AM Finding Our Jewish Values in the Torah  
(Front Conference Room and online)

## **FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 23 (15 Adar I 5784)**

6:15 PM Erev Shabbat Service (Sanctuary)

6:15 PM Om Shalom Yoga Service (Carmen Hall)

## **SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 24 (15 Adar I 5784)**

Torah: *T'tzaveh* Ex. 27:20 - 30:10

8:30 AM Shabbat Morning Service (Sanctuary)

9:00 AM Torah Study (Beit Midrash)

9:15 AM Finding Our Jewish Values in the Torah  
(Front Conference Room and online)

### **Please join the TBS Community for *Minyan***

- *Monday and Thursday mornings at 7:00 AM in person, in the Sanctuary.*
- *Tuesday through Thursday evenings at 6:45 PM online only. Zoom links are published in the "TBS This Week" email.*

# Committee Meetings in February – Stay Involved!

*Committees not listed will not meet formally this month.*

## **Committee Name**

Adult Learning  
Brotherhood Board  
Garden Club  
Library  
Scroll Editorial Board  
Social Action Open

## **Date and Time**

Thur. Feb. 8, 7:45 PM  
Tue. Feb. 13, 7:15 PM  
Tue. Feb. 6, 7:15 PM  
Every Wednesday, 9:30 AM  
Wed. Feb. 21, 12:00 PM  
Sun. Feb. 4, 7:00 PM

## **Email Contact for Information**

adultlearning@tbsneedham.org  
brotherhood@tbsneedham.org  
gardenclub@tbsneedham.org  
library@tbsneedham.org  
scroll@tbsneedham.org  
socialaction@tbsneedham.org

*Please check with the email contact in case of a change in date and for meeting location.*



From Our Clergy

# Introducing The TBS House Band

By Cantor DJ Fortine



If you've been to Friday evening services at TBS lately, you may well have noticed the work we've done to enhance the musical elements of our prayer experience. The rotating members of our Shabbat "House Band" have brought added joy and meaning to our *t'filot* (prayers), thanks to our "Shabbat Reimagined" initiative (see page 20 for more information).

I want to take this opportunity to introduce to you the people behind the music. Please enjoy these brief artist bios from our brilliant Shabbat musicians!

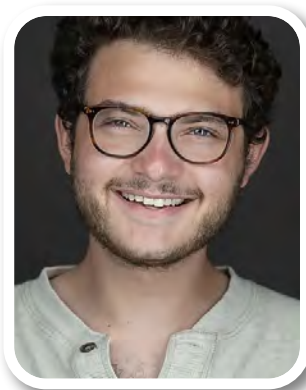
## Sam Powers, Mandolin:

Sam brings a wealth of knowledge and passion to his role at TBS, where he is not only a member of our Shabbat House Band, but also instructs Hebrew and leads engaging 5th/6th-grade classes and 10th/11th-grade Etzim programming. A proud graduate of the Berklee College of Music, Sam's educational background includes studies in Music Business, Mandolin Performance, and American Roots Music. His commitment to excellence is evident in his multifaceted role at TBS, where he seamlessly integrates his musical expertise with his passion for education.

Sam's journey extends beyond the classroom, having toured nationally as a Bluegrass mandolin player. He has shared the stage with some of the genre's finest musicians, showcasing his talent and dedication to the art form. In addition to his professional accomplishments, Sam is deeply rooted in his cultural heritage, contributing not only as a musician but also as a mentor and guide in the exploration of Jewish traditions.

## Zac Gondelman, Song Leader:

All of Zac's work strives to create community, build empathy, and leave our world a bit better through



story and song. A Near Eastern and Judaic studies major at Brandeis University, Zac believes deeply in the power music has to create change. Zac is involved in all aspects of Jewish community life and believes in creating a welcoming, uplifting, and youthful space for prayer and discussion. Thirteen years ago, Zac began training at the New England Conservatory of Music, and is a classically trained violinist and vocalist. Zac is thrilled to serve as a Jewish Learning Guide and song leader at TBS.

## Devon Gardner, Fiddle:

Originally from Arizona, Devon is a fiddle player who now considers himself a true Bostonian. Devon studied at Berklee College of Music, where he dove into American Roots Music. Today he plays in a Bluegrass trio called "Red Luck," and frequently performs throughout the New England area. Devon has taken the stage at many local festivals/venues such as Joe Val Bluegrass Festival, Club Passim, Ossipee Valley Music Festival, Thomas Point Bluegrass Festival, and many more.

Our newest musicians so appreciate the warm TBS welcome that our congregation has extended to them over these past months, and have enjoyed schmoozing and getting to know our congregants following services! We hope that you, dear *Scroll* readers, enjoy the opportunity to sing and pray along with them in the near future!



# My Favorite Game

By Wendy Gutterson, Congregational President



Monopoly, Sorry, Canasta, etc. are all popular games. I'm willing to bet, though, that Jewish geography tops them all in popularity. Most of us have "played" this many, many times. It helps us create connection and a sense of belonging when we meet new people, when we are in new places, when we are seeking common threads and experiences. It's easy to play, there's no equipment needed, and it's fun. In fact, on one of our first dates, David and I realized that our moms both went to the James Madison High School in Brooklyn. After that, the rest was easy!

Musical artist Craig Taubman writes, "Wherever you go, there's always someone Jewish. You're never alone when you say you're a Jew. So when you're not home, and you're somewhere kinda... 'new-ish' The odds are, don't look far, 'cause they're Jewish too."

Granted, it's kind of easy to play Jewish geography at a Jewish overnight camp in Massachusetts. Nevertheless, when we were dropping our daughter Sam off for her first summer at Crane Lake Camp, we were excited to discover that her counselor from out of state knew about TBS. She turned out to be a close college friend of one of our favorite babysitters. This connection created a sense of calm, and David and I left camp confident that all would be good.

Just the words "bat mitzvah" in a hair salon conversation led to a business partnership and ongoing friendship. Having shared stories such as these – and about my family and about growing up in Brooklyn – in my monthly *Scroll* column, I've enjoyed hearing from congregants who are familiar with the Sheepshead Bay neighborhood of my childhood and even one who attended Erasmus High, my dad's high school (It turns out they did overlap!).

We all have our Jewish geography stories and I'd love to hear yours. Please reach out to me at [president@tbsneedham.org](mailto:president@tbsneedham.org).

L'Shalom,

Wendy

## Fighting Antisemitism

"You cannot fight antisemitism without some dialogue with antisemites."

"We are avatars of hope."

– Rabbi David J. Wolpe

*Until recently, Rabbi David J. Wolpe was a Visiting Scholar at Harvard Divinity School. He previously taught at Jewish Theological Seminary of America in New York, the American Jewish University in Los Angeles, Hunter College, and UCLA.*



# B. Mitzvah

## Daniel Mooney, Saturday, February 10

**School:** Pollard Middle School

**Interests:** Danny loves all things baseball, reading, summer at Camp Avoda, hanging out with friends, and his dog Leona.

**Mitzvah Project:** Danny volunteers at NewBridge on the Charles spending time with the residents.

## Danielle Schreiber, Saturday, February 10

**School:** Pollard Middle School

**Interests:** Danielle loves playing soccer and basketball, skiing, summers at camp and on Cape Cod, and relaxing with family and friends.

**Mitzvah Project:** Danielle volunteered with the MSPCA and collected money and donations for the MSPCA and the Animal Rescue League of Boston.

*To participate in B. Mitzvah services,  
join us in person in the Sanctuary, or check your Shabbat email for Vimeo links.*

## Look What Project EZRA Volunteers Did!

**W**ow! We didn't think we could do it!

- 160 meals,
- 17 turkeys to carve,
- 100 pounds of potatoes to mash, and all the traditional fixings.



*But once again Temple Beth Shalom's dedicated Project EZRA volunteers proved we could. It is through their efforts that 160 of our Needham neighbors enjoyed a healthier, happier day.*

*We all thank you for your generous gifts of kindness and caring.*

*Project EZRA Co-Chairs Anne Braunstein, June Atkins, and Lois Sockol*



# February Highlights

## Refugee Shabbat 2024

### Friday, February 2, 6:15 PM Erev Shabbat Services, TBS

In the wake of the crisis unfolding in Israel, it feels even more important to invite you to join TBS, HIAS (originally the Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society), and congregations across the country for our Sixth Annual Refugee Shabbat.

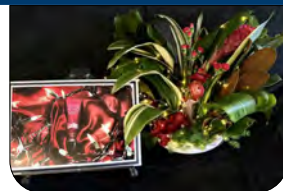
Refugee Shabbat is our opportunity to recognize the profound impact of the global Jewish movement working on behalf of refugees, asylum seekers, and displaced people. Even as we grapple with the myriad challenges of this moment, it is important to take time to catch our breath, reflect on our accomplishments, and gather our energy for the work that lies ahead.

Contact: Deena Mesnick Siegel at [tzedek@tbsneedham.org](mailto:tzedek@tbsneedham.org)

## Needham's Art in Bloom Workshop and Lunch

### Tuesday, February 6, 9:30 AM-1:00 PM, TBS

Beth Shalom Garden Club will provide its annual Needham's Art in Bloom Workshop to prepare members for our Needham's Art in Bloom in March at the Needham Public Library. Members will watch a demonstration of how to interpret artwork in flowers and then attempt to do the same with their chosen artwork. Workshop leaders will provide assistance to anyone who needs help.



Our Workshop will be followed by a luncheon and lots of conversation. Become a member and join the fun!

Contact: Garden Club at [gardenclub@tbsneedham.org](mailto:gardenclub@tbsneedham.org)

## Novels at Night

### Wednesday, February 7, 7:30-9:30 PM, Offsite

Cozy up with a good book this winter and join TBS Sisterhood for our second installment of Novels at Night. Please bring your thoughts, opinions, questions, and insights about our book, *Mr. Perfect on Paper*, by Jean Meltzer. If you have never made it to Novels at Night, don't let that dissuade you from joining us. Each time we have new and returning attendees.

Register: [t-b-s.me/NovelsatNight](https://t-b-s.me/NovelsatNight)

Contact: Sarah Fleckner and Kate Basch at [sisterhood@tbsneedham.org](mailto:sisterhood@tbsneedham.org)

## TBS Hosts GBIO Campaign for Housing Justice In-District-Meeting (IDM) with Legislators

### Tuesday, February 13, 7:15-8:45 PM, TBS

Senator Becca Rausch and Representative Denise Garlick are coming to Temple Beth Shalom! If you attended the vigil for Israel and heard them speak, you know that they are powerful supporters of issues important to us. If you did not attend, these are our legislators and this IDM presents a significant opportunity for us, their constituents, to demonstrate our deep concern for Housing Justice.

TBS's social justice theme for the year is Housing Justice. In collaboration with the Greater Boston Interfaith Organization (GBIO), our primary objective is to have Senator Rausch and Representative Garlick publicly commit to support budget increases and bills related to housing justice and mental health by the conclusion of the legislative session in July 2024. We want a clear record of this commitment to hold them accountable.

During the meeting, we will share personal stories — from public housing residents, returning citizens, and others — that illustrate how these issues affect us and our communities. We will advocate for specific systemic or policy changes that will tangibly enhance our lives and promote justice. Our focused approach allows us to harness our collective influence for maximum impact.

Register: [t-b-s.me/gbioidmrausch](https://t-b-s.me/gbioidmrausch)

Contact: Magda Schmalz at [tzedek@tbsneedham.org](mailto:tzedek@tbsneedham.org)



# February Highlights continued...

## History of Modern Israel

**Thursdays, February 29, March 7, 14, 7:15-8:45 PM, TBS**

The primary objective of our course is to help provide foundational knowledge about Israel's modern history, particularly as it relates to the history of Zionism, the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, and what has occurred in the aftermath of October 7th. The interactive class will invite thoughtful discussion and will explore key source material. Participants will encounter important, oftentimes contrasting, viewpoints expressed by Israeli historical figures. The subjects include varying perspectives regarding the nature of Israel as a sovereign state, the peoples who inhabit the state, and its neighbors.

Instructors Jonathan Golden (Shalom Hartman Institute) and Yoni Kadden (Chair, History Department at Gann Academy) will lead this series.

Register: [t-b-s.me/modernisrael](https://t-b-s.me/modernisrael)

Contact: Jessica Baim at [jbaim@tbsneedham.org](mailto:jbaim@tbsneedham.org)

## Recurring Events

### Sisterhood Mah Jongg

**Thursdays, February 1, March 7, 7:15-9:15 PM, TBS**

Join other sisterhood members on the first Thursday of the month for Mah Jongg. New and seasoned players are welcome.

Register: [t-b-s.me/mahjongg](https://t-b-s.me/mahjongg)

Contact: Holli Bassin and Abby Harmon at [sisterhood@tbsneedham.org](mailto:sisterhood@tbsneedham.org)

### Pre-Shabbat Yoga

**Fridays, 9:00-10:00 AM, TBS and online**

Move with strength, balance, and alignment through the practice of yoga. Join experienced yoga teacher Stephanie Javaheri for a weekly mindful yoga 'work in' to cultivate awareness physically and mentally. Feel better in your body and your mind. Slow physical movement, breathwork, and meditation blend together in this one-hour class.

Drop in at TBS for the in-person class, or join in via Zoom; no registration is necessary.

Join in online: [t-b-s.me/preshabbatyoga](https://t-b-s.me/preshabbatyoga)

Contact: Stephanie Javaheri at [yoga@tbsneedham.org](mailto:yoga@tbsneedham.org)



### Finding Our Jewish Values in the Torah

**Saturdays, 9:15-10:15 AM, TBS and online**

Led by Rabbi Bob Orkand, each week we will focus on a single Jewish moral or ethical value found in that week's *parshah* (Torah portion). These will include, but not be limited to, Justice, Compassion, Environmental Ethics, and Business Ethics. A variety of rabbinic sources will enrich our exploration as we seek to apply each week's value to our lives today.

Drop in at TBS for the in-person class, or join in via Zoom; no registration is necessary.

Join in online: [t-b-s.me/findingvalues](https://t-b-s.me/findingvalues)

Contact: Jessica Baim at [jbaim@tbsneedham.org](mailto:jbaim@tbsneedham.org)





## **Panim el Panim/Face to Face - A Special Discussion Series with Israelis**

**Sundays, February 4, March 10, 12:00-1:00 PM, Online**

For many years, Congregation Mevasseret Zion (CMZ), a progressive community outside Jerusalem, has been Temple Beth Shalom's "sister congregation." When this program was originally created, the ongoing topic for conversation was to be the Israeli judicial reform proposals. With the current crisis in Israel, we will now be supporting our Israeli partners as they struggle during war. Each month, we will gather via Zoom in a conversation facilitated by Rabbi Perlman and Rabbi Alona Nir Keren of CMZ.

Register: [t-b-s.me/panim](https://t-b-s.me/panim)

Contact: Rabbi Perlman at [jperlman@tbsneedham.org](mailto:jperlman@tbsneedham.org)

## **Israeli Dancing**

**Mondays, February 5, 12, 26, TBS**

Join Emily Perlman for a wonderful Israeli dance experience. Israeli dance is a great way to engage the culture of Israel and the Jewish people through music and movement. This is an intermediate-level class for those who have some Israeli dance experience. Those who are willing to learn by watching others are also encouraged to attend.

Contact: Emily Perlman at [eperlman@tbsneedham.org](mailto:eperlman@tbsneedham.org)

Cost: \$5.00, which is paid when you attend

## **Moms Supporting Moms**

**Thursdays, February 8, March 14, 7:30-9:00 PM, TBS**

Is your child struggling with mental health issues? Come and join this confidential group with other TBS women whose children are at various stages of their mental health journey. Share and receive support from women who have been where you are or who are there right now. Dealing with a child's mental health can be a lonely and scary place for parents, and we want you to feel that you are not alone!!!

Register: [t-b-s.me/moms](https://t-b-s.me/moms) (Registration is anonymous)

Contact: Jackie Waller, Liz Webb Green, or Michelle Hoffman at [sisterhood@tbsneedham.org](mailto:sisterhood@tbsneedham.org)

## **Breakfast Food and Bag Lunch Drive-Up Collection for Homeless Shelters**

**Fridays, February 9, March 15, 9:15-9:45 AM, TBS parking lot**

We look forward to your participation as we donate bag lunches and breakfast foods to homeless shelters in the Father Bill's network of shelters in Brockton. This is a great project to do individually or as a family!

Participate in this mitzvah every month and help us provide 100 bagged lunches and lots of breakfast foods needed to help feed guests at these homeless shelters!

Donate any of the following: bag lunches, bottles of water, juice boxes, condiments, breakfast items including muffins, individual-size cereal boxes, yogurts, fruit cups, or ground coffee.

Between 9:15 and 9:45AM, we will be ready to unload your items from your car as you drive up.

Can't make it to the collection? No problem! Non-perishable donations may be dropped at a Needham address prior to the collection day by emailing us and signing up for your donation. Thank you for helping to feed the stranger.

Register: [t-b-s.me/baglunch](https://t-b-s.me/baglunch)

Contact: [socialaction@tbsneedham.org](mailto:socialaction@tbsneedham.org)



# Recurring Events continued...

## Community Shabbat Hike

**Saturdays, February 10, March 9, 11:00 AM-12:30 PM, Offsite**

Join fellow TBS members for a hike in the woods! Designed for adults and teens, these hikes will range from 3-5 miles and will include time for personal reflection, community connection, and opportunities to experience awe at the wonders of the natural world. Specific locations for each date will be shared with those who register. Hikes take place “drizzle or shine” but will be canceled for heavy rain or other extreme weather conditions.

Register: [t-b-s.me/shabbathikes](https://t-b-s.me/shabbathikes)

Contact: Rachel Happel at [rhappel@tbsneedham.org](mailto:rhappel@tbsneedham.org)

## Sisterhood Canasta

**Thursday, February 15, 7:15-9:15 PM, TBS**

Join other Sisterhood members on the third Thursday of the month for Canasta. Seasoned players are welcome!

Register: [t-b-s.me/canasta](https://t-b-s.me/canasta)

Contact: Holli Bassin or Abby Harmon at [sisterhood@tbsneedham.org](mailto:sisterhood@tbsneedham.org)

## Om Shalom Yoga Service

**Friday, February 23, 6:15-7:30 PM, TBS**

Om Shalom Yoga Shabbat creates a spiritual space that centralizes healthy movement and breathwork as part of a Shabbat worship service. The practice includes Shabbat prayers, music, and ceremony woven together into a movement-practice that makes for a unique experience of worship. Ages 12 and above. All physical abilities are welcome. Registration is appreciated but not required.



Om Shalom Yoga will run concurrently with our regular Shabbat services. Both services will conclude at approximately the same time and enjoy oneg together.

Register: [t-b-s.me/omshalom](https://t-b-s.me/omshalom)

Contact: Jessica Baim at [jbaim@tbsneedham.org](mailto:jbaim@tbsneedham.org)

# Save the Date

## High Tea With Sisterhood

**Sunday, March 3, 2:30-4:30 PM, Vintage Tea & Cake Co. Belmont**

Please join us for a traditional high tea at the Belmont Tea Room. Space is limited to 25 people, so register soon!

Register: [t-b-s.me/hightea](https://t-b-s.me/hightea)

Deadline: February 25

Cost: \$40

Contact: Sisterhood at [sisterhood@tbsneedham.org](mailto:sisterhood@tbsneedham.org)



# Save the Date continued...

## Interfaith Potluck Conversation on Confronting Antisemitism: It's Not Just a Jewish Issue

**Sunday, March 3, 5:00-7:00 PM, TBS**

Join us to explore how antisemitism is not just a Jewish issue, and learn how we can bring ourselves closer to a larger, more inclusive community. The keynote speaker will be Rabbi Jonah Steinberg, Regional Director from ADL New England. Sponsored by At My Neighbor's Table and TBS Antisemitism Awareness Initiative.



Register: [t-b-s.me/table](https://t-b-s.me/table)

Deadline: February 28

Contact: Gary Goldman at [asai@tbsneedham.org](mailto:asai@tbsneedham.org)

## Wine & Cheese, Women & Torah

**Tuesday, March 5, 7:15-8:15 PM, TBS**

Please join TBS Sisterhood for Wine & Cheese, Women & Torah with Rabbi Elyse Pincus Abrahams. Look at familiar Torah stories from the women's often untold perspective and through the lens of women whose contributions are too often omitted from our commentary. Join us for a lively discussion; you're sure to learn something new!

Register: [t-b-s.me/WomenAndTorah](https://t-b-s.me/WomenAndTorah)

Contact: Diane Novick and Barbara Pack at [sisterhood@tbsneedham.org](mailto:sisterhood@tbsneedham.org)

## ASAI Book Discussion: *How to Fight Antisemitism* by Bari Weiss

**Tuesday, March 5, 7:30-9:00 PM, Online**

Join ASAI for a guided discussion of National Jewish Book Award winner *How to Fight Antisemitism* by Bari Weiss. We will also take a look at the fascinating reference book *A Brief and Visual History of Antisemitism* by Israel Bitton. You need not read the Bitton book cover to cover to participate, but may find familiarity with the work helpful. This discussion is part of the Massachusetts Intersynagogue Antisemitism Task Force.

Register: [t-b-s.me/bookdiscussion](https://t-b-s.me/bookdiscussion)

Contact: Gary Goldman at [asai@tbsneedham.org](mailto:asai@tbsneedham.org)

## Needham's Art in Bloom

**Saturday, March 9, 9:00 AM-5:00 PM and Sunday, March 10, 1:00-4:00 PM, Needham Public Library**

View 50 works of art by Needham High School students, interpreted in flowers by members of Beth Shalom Garden Club with participation from Kalmia Garden Club and Needham Garden Club. The student artwork and the floral interpretations are spectacular! Come and see for yourself!

Contact: Garden Club at [gardenclub@tbsneedham.org](mailto:gardenclub@tbsneedham.org)



## Havdalah Rosh Chodesh

**Saturday, March 9, 5:30-6:30 PM, Offsite**

Join Sisterhood for a Havdalah Rosh Chodesh Celebration. Sign-up coming later.

Contact: Sandy Cisternelli and Stacey Smalley at [sisterhood@tbsneedham.org](mailto:sisterhood@tbsneedham.org)



# Save the Date continued...

## Five Tips for Thriving in Perimenopause and Beyond

**Wednesday, March 13, 7:30-9:00 PM, TBS**

Come for conversation with Health and Hormone Coach Kathy Fritz.

Contact: Sisterhood Presidents at [sisterhood@tbsneedham.org](mailto:sisterhood@tbsneedham.org)

Save the Date

# Celebrating OUR COMMUNITY

Celebrate our Temple Beth Shalom Community  
with a joyful weekend of festivities!

**May 3 - 5, 2024**

**20 years with the Perlman Family**  
**L'Chaim**  
**Sefer Torah Siyyum**

[www.tbsneedham.org/celebratetbs](http://www.tbsneedham.org/celebratetbs)



# Inclusion in K-12 Learning Programs

By Sara Berk and Didi Poliak

We feel blessed to work in a community that values inclusivity. The TBS Vision Statement reads, “We see each other as having been created *B'tzelem Elohim* – in the image of God – with a spark of the sacred in each of us. We strive to make membership in our congregation and education for our children accessible. We recognize and celebrate our commonalities, while honoring and cherishing our differences.”

In our K-12 Learning Programs, we endeavor to bring this vision statement to life. We welcome children of all backgrounds as well as learning styles and abilities. At our core, we believe that all children want to learn and succeed. Our educators work collaboratively to create meaningful lessons that are tailored to fit the needs and interests of each *mifgash* (group).

Our programming comes from Universal Design for Learning (UDL), which posits that figuring out what one child needs (e.g., a visual schedule) can benefit the whole group as well. We train our educators to differentiate their teaching and create individualized plans as needed to help meet the needs of individual children. In addition to planned lessons, we work with our educators in being flexible and modifying schedules and activities, depending on the needs of the day.

In Mayim (K-4), Shorashim (5-7), and Etzim (8-12), most of our children attend our programs after school, where they are often either tired or full of energy! We have developed key supports that allow children to engage with the learning and find success. A team of professionals floats throughout groups to provide additional support to our educators and our children, both in the classrooms and one-on-one.

We recognize that some children need to take breaks, especially during long periods of learning. Our educators, and often our *madrachimot* (teen helpers), will accompany children on short walks for movement breaks. We also create break spaces for children either inside or just outside of their rooms. The children know they are always able to take time away from the group, as needed.

This emphasis on finding success for each child extends to the Hebrew component program as well. Our Small Group Hebrew sessions each have no more than six children, allowing us to group children by learning style and pair them with the right educators. Additionally, we know that not all children learn Hebrew best in a group, due to learning differences or social-emotional needs. For those children, we offer one-on-one Hebrew sessions where educators spend time creating unique tools and approaches for the learner.

By tailoring our programs and our learning to fit the needs of each child, we can bring our TBS vision of lifting up the value *B'tzelem Elohim* to life. Each child has something unique to offer and makes our TBS K-12 community truly special. We look forward to continuing to be a space where children are celebrated, and all are welcome.



MEET THE TEAM! (pictured left to right)

- Didi Poliak, Assistant Director of K-12 Inclusion
- Liron Riess, Director of Mayim Tamid
- Sara Berk, Director of K-12 Learning and Inclusion
- Julia Zinn, Associate Director of K-12 Engagement



# ISRAEL IN CRISIS

## Maglan: Where Your Donations Have Gone

By Rami and Joni Burstein

So often we make donations with hope in our hearts that some good will come of them; rarely do we know for sure where our dollars go. We would like to tell you where the donations you made just within these past months to Maglan and its affiliated commando units have gone and the difference they are making.

At the time we began seeking funds, we mentioned basic equipment to protect the reservists. The elite commando units' needs quickly evolved into life-saving equipment.

At 3 AM his time just days before this Scroll went to edits, the doctor who set up the medical logistics for the Maglan fighters facing Hamas as well as Hezbollah made a special point of getting away from Gaza to tell us that thanks to specialized combat gauze your donations purchased, two Israeli young men who would have died from their wounds have already been kept alive. This combat gauze stops life-threatening bleeds when tourniquets are not possible. He sent us photos of their fellow soldiers showing their gratitude.



In addition to the gauze, your donations also purchased:

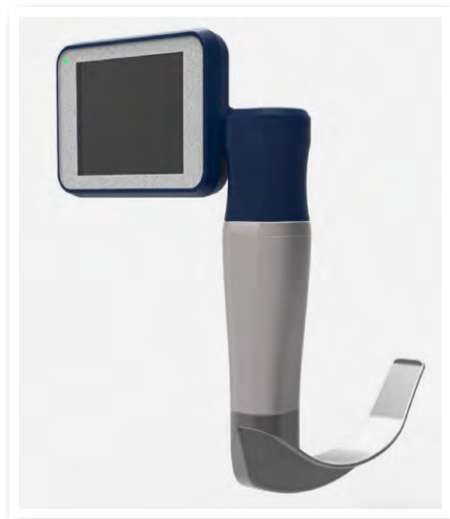


*Wireless vital sign monitoring systems that allow medics to assess the severity of the injury at time zero*





*Rain jackets and pants*



*Laryngoscopes to keep airways open for breathing, with monitor to enable accuracy of placement*




*Backpacks for heavy loads*



*Night-vision goggles*

As you know, this battle for Israel's existence is a fight not by "soldiers, reservists, and troops" – but by the cousins, brothers, and children of people we know or those once removed from us. So when you help, you are helping a beloved member of our collective extended family.

*As the toll of war continues to wreak its impact, the need for medical equipment continues to evolve. If you would like to make a tax-deductible donation to help, please find Maglan in the Crisis in Israel section of the TBS website, also available through the TBS This Week emails, [tbsneedham.org/crisis-in-israel](https://tbsneedham.org/crisis-in-israel). *

# Favorite Jewish Books and Movies

*What a treat!*

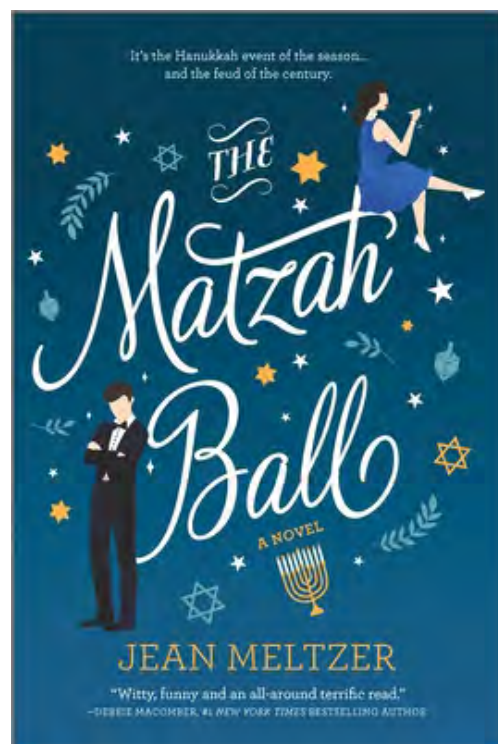
*Fellow TBS members pique our interest in Jewish-themed books and movies - without giving away the plot or punchline. Read on to find old favorites and new ideas for entertainment from the comfort of your own home.*

## Elayne Crystal

I have read two books by the Jewish author Jean Meltzer. In her real life, Jean spent five years in rabbinical school before her chronic illness forced her to withdraw. Her father encouraged her to write Jewish stories. In both books the characters have illnesses that affect their day-to-day lives just as happened to Meltzer.

Her first book is a light comedy called *The Matzah Ball*.

Story: Rachel Rubenstein-Goldblatt is a nice Jewish girl with a shameful secret: she loves Christmas. For a decade she's hidden her career as a Christmas romance novelist from her family. Her talent has made her a bestseller and then her publisher wants a Chanukah romance. Can she do it?



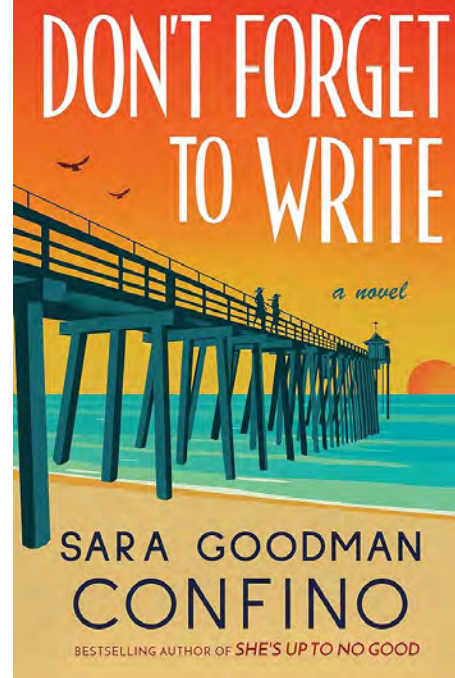
The second book she wrote I enjoyed even more: *Mr. Perfect on Paper*.

Story: Third-generation matchmaker Dara Rabinowitz, while searching for love of her own, is thrust into the spotlight when her grandmother outs her list for the "Perfect Jewish Husband" on live television. The story continues with a nationwide search for her perfect match. Very humorous and good lessons as well. This book will be discussed at the upcoming Sisterhood Novels at Night. See page 7 for more information.



## Hannah Elbaum

*Don't Forget to Write*, by Sara Goodman Confino, is such a fun and engaging read! It's set in the 1960s on the East Coast, and the main character, Marilyn, is bucking the expectation from her father (and society) that she get married soon. As a punishment for one of her recent adventures (this one with the rabbi's son, during services), she is sent to spend the summer with her great-aunt Ada, but it doesn't turn out to be quite the punishment Marilyn expected. The book is feisty and feminist with just a hint of romance. I share more Jewish book recommendations on [instagram.com/hannahslibrarycard/](https://www.instagram.com/hannahslibrarycard/).



## Kenneth Goldberg



**1**988 movie *Crossing Delancey* is a modern-day romantic comedy imbued with Jewish culture. Eschewing the "boy gets girl, boy loses girl, boy gets girl" formula, the story follows Sam, a nice guy from the Lower East Side, who cannot spark the interest of the cosmopolitan Izzy, to whom he was introduced by the local matchmaker. The movie made a lifelong impression on me because in the final act, Sam learns the secret formula to landing the woman of his dreams from Izzy's scene-stealing bubbie. Her words of wisdom, as simple as they are profound, are bound to work for any mensch in any century.

## Jerome Schultz

**A**lthough he has been accused of some scandalous behavior, the fact remains that Woody Allen's humor, especially his Jewish humor, is classic, as this article attests: [jpost.com/j-spot/article-748161](https://jpost.com/j-spot/article-748161).

*When Jews Were Funny* (2013) is a documentary that examines the history of Jewish comedians in America, and interviews some of the funniest people in show business.



# More... Favorite Jewish Books and Movies

Jerry T. Sherman

I like the movie that I think everyone will like: *Fiddler on the Roof*. It is what I think every Jew grew up with.



Susan Sloane

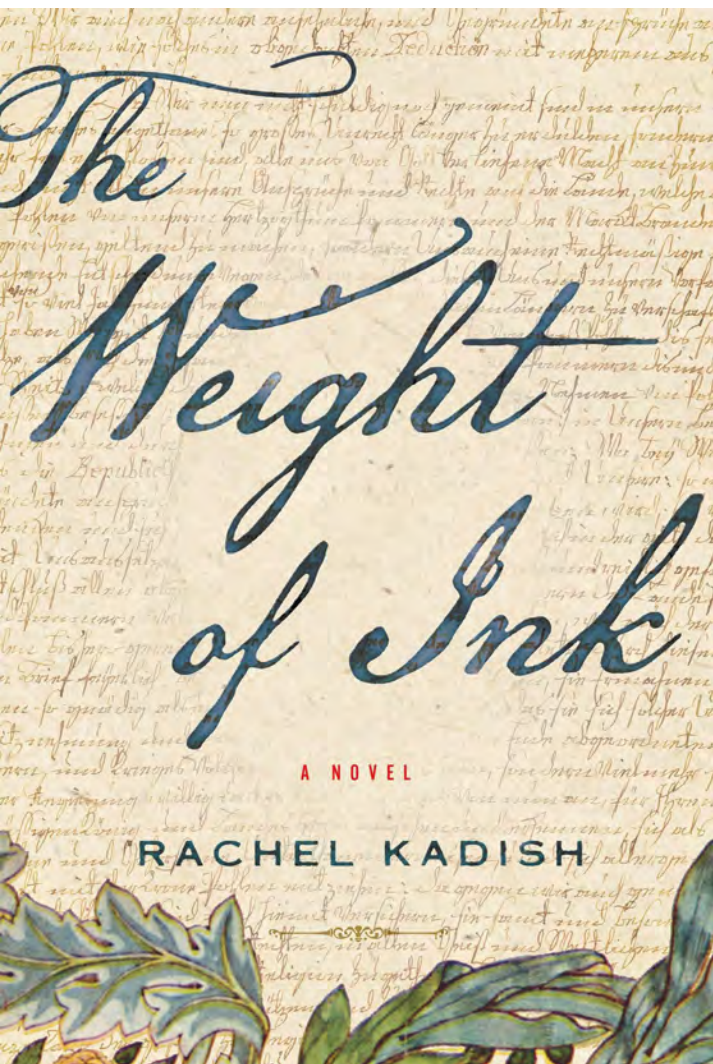
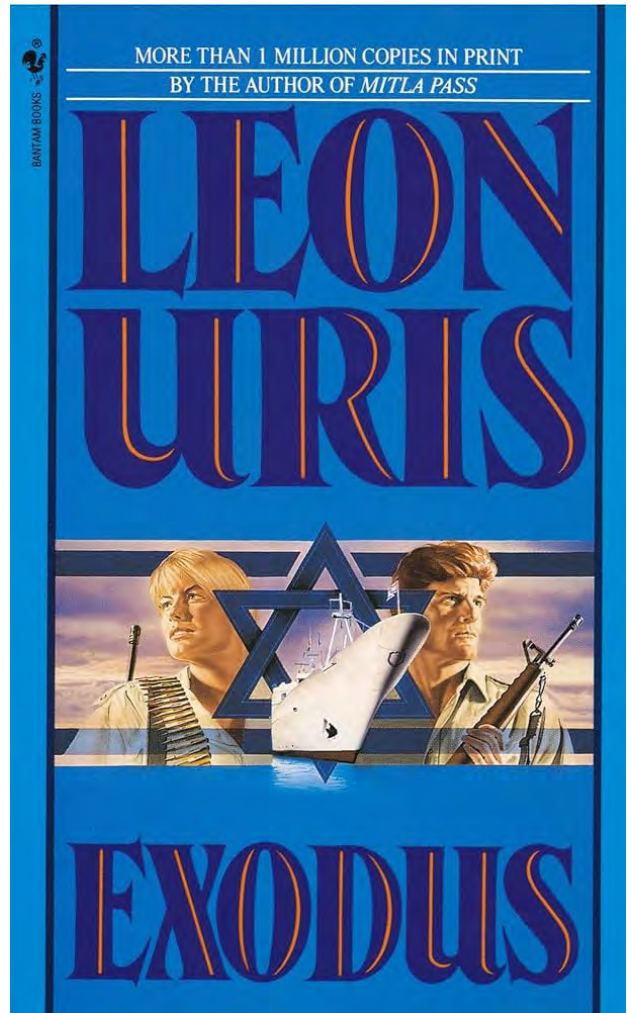
I never tire of watching *Crossing Delancey*, set on New York City's Lower East Side. Joan Micklin Silver directed this 1988 romantic comedy, which stars Amy Irving, Peter Riegert and Yiddish theater actress Reizl Bozyk.



## Lois Sockol

It's hard to choose my favorite book in the theme of Judaism. There are so many important, powerful works but I forced myself to zero in on one: *Exodus*, a work of historical fiction by Leon Uris. Perhaps my choice is driven by my age at the time I read it or perhaps by my degree of ignorance at the time and the light it made visible for me.

In vivid, passionate language, *Exodus* tells the story of the conflicts involved in the founding of the new state of Israel as it struggled in the midst of its enemies. The story is told so powerfully, so vividly that I felt a part of the struggle.

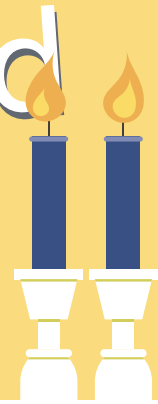


## Cheryl Weisman-Cohen

*The Weight of Ink*, Rachel Kadish's 2017 Jewish historical fiction best seller and winner of many book awards, brings to the table fascinating details of the daily routine of London's 17th-century Jewish community. Her creative narrative includes the status of women, literacy, Spinoza and more, masterfully interspersed with 21st-century characters — an interwoven tale of two women of remarkable intellect separated by several centuries. The author poignantly and at times surprisingly includes the women's choices and sacrifices that they must make. Not a quick read, this hardcover tome kept my interest right to its conclusion. 📖



# Shabbat Reimagined



Experience Shabbat in exciting and reimagined ways that provide even more opportunity for engagement, connection, celebration and joy with our vibrant TBS community!

For registration and more information, visit [tbsneedham.org/shabbat](https://tbsneedham.org/shabbat).



## Community Dinners

Enjoy delicious food and community connection each month.

**Fridays** • 7:30pm following Erev Shabbat Services

**January 26** | Sisterhood Honored by the Archives Committee

**February 23**

**March 8**

**April 12** | ConNEXTionsPLUS

**May 3** | Celebrating Community & The Perlman Family



## Om Shalom Yoga

Engage in spiritual, healthy movement as part of a Shabbat worship service.

**Fridays** • 6:15pm

**January 26**

**February 23**

**March 8**

**April 12**

**May 17**



## Friday Night Lights & Family Dinners

Celebrate among friends and family with festive services designed to be experienced by our entire TBS community and particularly enjoyed by school-age children (K-6) and their families.

**Fridays** • 5:30pm Family Dinners; 6:15pm Services

**January 5** | Family Dinner

**February 2** | Family Dinner

**March 1** | Family Dinner

**April 5**

**May 10** | Family Dinner

**June 7**



## Shabbat Morning Worship

Gather on Shabbat mornings for services led by members of our community, followed by Torah Study centering around lively group discussion and thoughtful conversation with clergy.

**Saturdays** • 8:30-9am Services; 9-10am Torah Study



## Tot Shabbat

Experience Shabbat designed for Families with Young Children (ages 0-5) and enjoy music, snacks, and connecting with other families.

**Fridays** • 5:30pm Tot Shabbat Services; 6pm Cookie Oneg

**January 12** | Pre-Service Dinner (5pm)

**February 9** | Pre-Service Dinner (5pm)

**March 8** | Pre-Service Tater Tot Snacks (5:15pm)

**May 17** | Pre-Service Tater Tot Snacks (5:15pm)



## Guided Meditation

Participate in an added element of Shabbat peace as part of our evening services through a brief guided meditation.

**Fridays** • 6:15pm

**January 26**

**February 23**

**March 29**

**April 19**

**May 31**



## Shabbat Hikes

Delight in beautiful guided hikes including personal reflection, community connection, and the opportunity to experience peaceful moments in nature.

**Saturdays** • 11am Community Hike; 2pm Family Hike

**January 13**

**February 10**

**March 9**

**April 13**

**May 11**

All Shabbat Reimagined programs are free for TBS members. Registration is required for dinners and requested for yoga and hikes.



TEMPLE BETH SHALOM

Erev Shabbat Services are held every Friday evening at 6:15pm, with light nosh before and sweet Oneg after.

## Contributions The Minimum donation for contributions to be listed in the *Scroll* is \$18.00.

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#### IN APPRECIATION OF

Another great year of learning &  
 spirituality at Temple Beth Shalom  
 Rabbi Jay's leadership of Ben's Bar  
 Mitzvah  
 Rabbi Jay as Madison became a Bat  
 Mitzvah  
 Rabbi Jay for leading a beautiful Bar  
 Mitzvah service

#### IN HONOR OF

Caitlin Cooper becoming a Bat  
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#### IN MEMORY OF

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Another great year of learning &  
 spirituality at Temple Beth Shalom  
 Rabbi Todd's loving presence at our  
 wedding  
 Rabbi Todd blessing our new home  
 Rabbi Todd as Madison became a Bat  
 Mitzvah  
 Summer Camp

#### IN HONOR OF

Jonathan & Lori Shaer's special  
 birthdays

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Rabbi Elyse for the beautiful naming  
 ceremony for our granddaughter  
 Rabbi Elyse for helping prepare Zach  
 for his Bar Mitzvah

#### IN HONOR OF

Rabbi Elyse joining the Temple Beth  
 Shalom family

#### IN MEMORY OF

Tom Fleckner



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Cantor DJ for his participation before  
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Cantor DJ as Madison became a Bat  
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Cantor DJ for leading a beautiful bar  
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Olga Kogan  
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Michal Turiel Winter  
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M. Boyd Zinman

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Herman Fialkov  
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Martha Markley  
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Naomi Spigle  
Irving Stern  
Bertha Taub  
Tuvia Yanai Weisman  
Ellen Zeltserman

## FEBRUARY 9

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Stephanie Allman  
Paul Bloch  
Jacob Borson  
Ruth Brodsky  
Michael Brooks  
Abby L. Brown  
Billie Burstein  
Irving P. Cohn  
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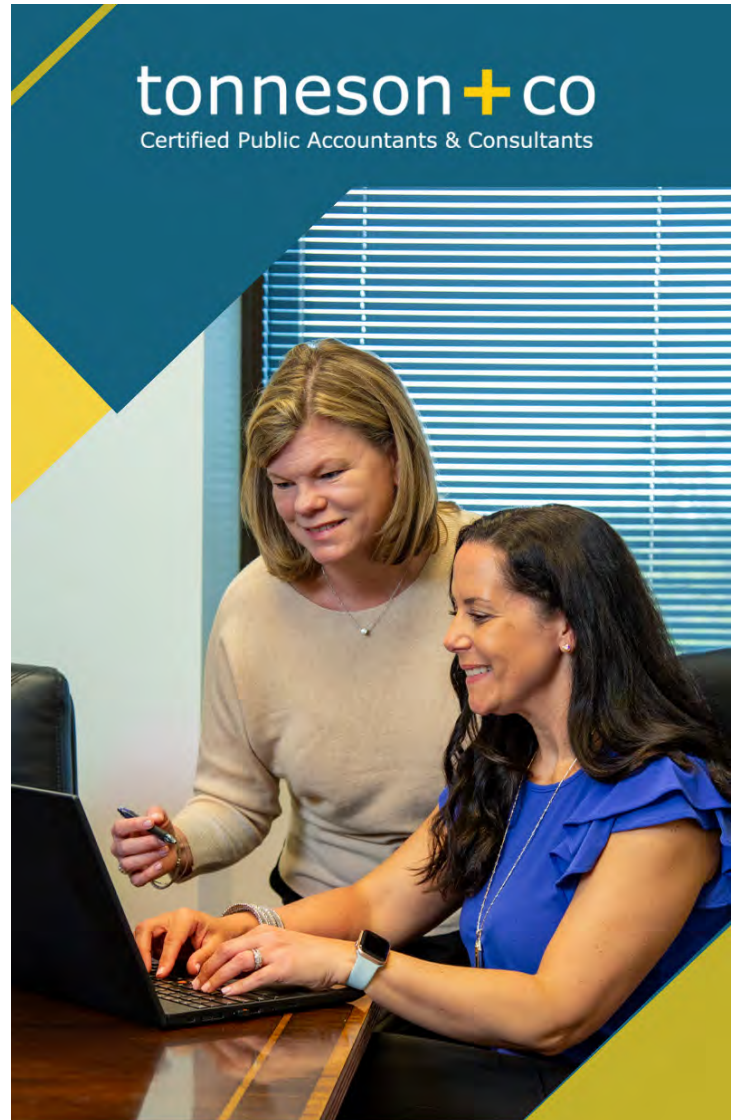
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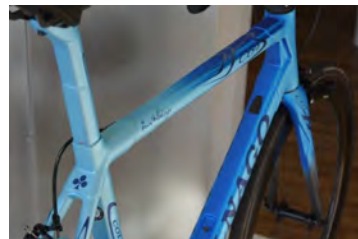
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