

# Scroll

Temple Beth Shalom - Needham, Massachusetts

May 2015

Iyar/Sivan 5775



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Volume 42, Issue 9

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From the Editorial Board

# Metamorphosis

This month Ed Shems illustrates our season of change for the Scroll. From old to new, we have transformed and grown with our community. In this issue, we reflect on the past year and look forward to a colorful and warm summer ahead!



From the Clergy

# This Year

By Rabbi Jay Perlman

More vibrant....more engaging..... more active than ever. Our TBS community continues to burst at the seams with activity. This past year, especially, Jewish life has been aglow in every corner of our congregation.



This year hundreds of adults have engaged in adult learning....filled our *Shabbat* services with song and spirit.....participated in acts of *Tikkun Olam* (“Repairing the World”)....and in acts of compassionate outreach to support members of our own temple family.

This year saw our largest ever Women’s Spirituality Retreat, Men’s Spirituality Retreat, and Women’s Seder. This year our Garden Club and Three Score and More programming reached new and beautiful heights.

This year, nationally acclaimed scholar Dr. Ron Wolfson inspired and challenged us to become an even deeper community of care – and received rave reviews by the over 200 who experienced his teaching!

This year our *Mayim* program continued on its path of ‘in-the-forefront’ educational innovation – receiving national recognition as a model of Jewish learning for our children. Our programming for – and community creation amongst – families with young children had already been outstandingly full.

This year, with the successful creation of “Bumps, Babies, and Beyond” we have engaged well over 100 additional families – not members of our community, but who are stepping into Jewish life at an early and exciting time for them....and for us!

This year 78 of us travelled to Israel – walking the streets of Israel and developing a deeper relationship with our people’s ancestral home.

And this year, hundreds of us celebrated together as Rabbi

## MAY 2015 SERVICES

### FRIDAY, MAY 1 (13 IYAR 5775)

6:15 PM – Tot *Shabbat*  
7:15 PM – Contemplative Prayer *Shabbat* Service  
7:15 PM – *Simchat Shabbat* Service

### SATURDAY, MAY 2 (13 IYAR 5775)

*Torah: Emor, Lev. 21:1 – 24:23*  
8:30 AM – *Shabbat* Morning *Minyan*  
9:00 AM – *Torah* Study  
11:00 AM – *Shabbat* Morning Service  
*Bat Mitzvah*: Shayna Tribush

### FRIDAY, MAY 8 (20 IYAR 5775)

6:15 PM – *Kehillah* Kids *Shabbat* Service  
7:15 PM – *Shabbat* Evening Service

### SATURDAY, MAY 9 (20 IYAR 5775)

*Torah: B’har, Lev. 25:1 – 26:2*  
8:30 AM – *Shabbat* Morning *Minyan*  
9:00 AM – *Torah* Study  
11:00 AM – *Shabbat* Morning Service  
*B’nei Mitzvah*: Matthew Ritzer and Josh Alpert

### FRIDAY, MAY 15 (27 IYAR 5775)

6:15 PM – *Shabbat* Evening Service

### SATURDAY, MAY 16 (27 IYAR 5775)

*Torah: Bechukotai, Lev. 26:3 – 27:34*  
8:30 AM – *Shabbat* Morning *Minyan*  
9:00 AM – *Torah* Study  
11:00 AM – *Shabbat* Morning Service  
*B’not Mitzvah*: Grace Kosowsky and Felicity Taylor

### FRIDAY, MAY 22 (5 SIVAN 5775)

6:15 PM – *Shabbat* Evening Service

### SATURDAY, MAY 23 (5 SIVAN 5775)

*Torah: B’midbar, Numbers. 1:1 – 4:20*  
8:30 AM – *Shabbat* Morning *Minyan*  
9:00 AM – *Torah* Study  
11:00 AM – *Shabbat* Morning Service  
*Bat Mitzvah*: Sarah Kates

### SUNDAY, MAY 24 (6 SIVAN 5775)

9:00 PM – *Shavu’ot* Morning Service  
*Yizkor* Read

### FRIDAY, MAY 29 (12 SIVAN 5775)

6:15 PM – *Shabbat* Evening Service

### SATURDAY, MAY 30 (12 SIVAN 5775)

*Torah: Naso, Numbers. 4:21 – 7:89*  
8:30 AM – *Shabbat* Morning *Minyan*  
9:00 AM – *Torah* Study  
11:00 AM – *Shabbat* Morning Service  
*Bar Mitzvah*: Nate Goldberg

Continued on Page 15

From the President

# An Appeal to the Heart

By Ed Zaval



*Temple Beth Shalom is a warm, vibrant and diverse community of individuals and families... Through worship, celebration, lifelong learning and service to others, we seek to inspire spirituality, nurture personal growth, promote social justice, deepen Jewish experiences and enrich the life of each member.*

- TBS Mission Statement

Over the past many months, we have been learning more and more about the *Mikdash* project, understanding what the plans look like, the anticipated cost, and our timeframe for construction. We have come to better understand the unique opportunity that *Mikdash* brings for our community as we embrace the rebuilding of our spiritual home. Our hearts are moved when we expand our vision beyond floorplans to see all of the ways in which our new building

can raise up our community as a whole, how it can support our TBS mission, further our efforts of inclusion for all people, provide much needed prayer and learning spaces for us and all of our community's children -- and reflect the religious values of an entire congregation acting in unison. Truly, when we see this, we are seeing a vision rooted deeply in the heart.

Agreements are being signed relating to construction and relocation. Our application for project approval has been filed with the town. Our timetable includes much work to be done, by staff, lay leaders, and our professional partners, during the next several weeks.

When we understand that *this is the moment* for us to embrace a project for future generations, the moment when we can create the proper environment for learning, for worship, for an even stronger sharing of Jewish values and relationships, then we know that this is a compelling matter of the heart.

In addition, when we recognize that every individual pledge is a vital link in a *communal chain of giving*, that our participation at this time is absolutely necessary to make our *Mikdash* – our new sacred space - a reality, then surely we view this to be a matter of the heart.

Although we may make our pledges to the campaign individually and as families, we do so in support of community, and in so doing we create a whole that is far greater than the sum of its parts.

If you haven't already, please visit our website at [www.tbsmikdash.org](http://www.tbsmikdash.org) and support our *Mikdash* campaign this month by making your pledge. We need and welcome your participation. If you have already committed to the campaign, thank you for being part of this historic effort!



## FEATURE STORY



# Sisterhood 2014-2015

## Our Moments from a Momentous Year

The excitement and support for the rebuilding of our temple home resulted in Sisterhood committing \$54,000 to the Mikdash campaign. This is the single largest donation that we have ever made. Sisterhood women over the years have allowed us to achieve this shehecheyanu moment.

With over 35 new members and over 160 women in attendance, Lauren Greenstein and Tricia Sherman orchestrated a fantastic Membership Dinner in the fall. Many of these new members attended our Girls, Gelt and Gimlet Chanukah party in December. Thanks to Jill Lerner for organizing this festive Chanukah party.



Eileen Agranat and Janice Epstein chaired our standing programs of Lilith Salons and College Night, respectively. Diane Novick and Cindy Elias co-chaired the Murder Can Be Marriage brotherhood/sisterhood event, along with their spouses. It was a great event with over 140 people attending a wedding, dinner and dancing. The band “Boys to Mensch” featuring Rabbi Todd got everyone up and dancing.

Retreat continued to be a hallmark of our Sisterhood with 57 women attending this year’s program. We have been holding retreats for seventeen years and each year improves upon the past year’s successes. Betty Weiner and Amy Willis co-chaired the retreat.

Rummage, our largest fundraising activity, is successful due to your donations of clothing and donation of time to staff the event. Bonnie Littman, our enthusiastic leader of rummage, makes it fun to ‘do rummage’.



Women’s Seder, led by Monica Markstein and Elise Miller, allows women to participate in a seder that is infused with a female perspective. We shared our recipes and food and took turns leading the seder. It was a relaxing and inspiring evening.

Senior Luncheon allows us to honor and toast Needham seniors by hosting a luncheon for them. Linda Lourie, Margie Glou and Peggy Gassman have capably organized this year’s luncheon event.

Donor Dinner is the capstone event for our year’s activities. This year we are thrilled that Anita Diamant and Kimberly Bookman will be our guests of honor. Wendy Segal and Judy Ravech have been tirelessly working on this event, which will prove to be creative and interactive. Join us on May 14th for this important event at which we approve next year’s budget, approve our tzedakah recipient, vote upon the slate of officers and then sit back and enjoy our guests and the remainder of the evening.



An essential group of women, the officers of Sisterhood, tirelessly gave of themselves to help create our many moments this year. Todah rabah to Gail Lustig, Susan Patkin, Marcy Hirschen, Magda Schmalz, Barbara Pack, Lisa Shapiro, Lisa Channen, Roberta Gerson, Elissa Grebber, and Jane Blauvelt.

TEMPLE BETH SHALOM  
BROTHERHOOD



# Brotherhood 2014-2015

## A Year in Review

*Shalom!* Your TBS Brotherhood shared a wide range of activities in the past calendar year (and it is not over yet). As we look back on the year I'd like to call out the entire Brotherhood board for their stable hand in guiding our organization. Taken as a whole, we probably have over 50 years of experience in temple leadership among the board.

We would also like to call out a few individuals who owned some of our biggest events. Marty Goldberg has run the annual retreat for the past several years, and every time it gets just a little better. It is a lot to do and Marty has done admirable job. Next on the list is Alan Novick. Alan had dual leadership roles this year. The first being our blood drive and the second being the Brotherhood leader for "Marriage can be Murder", last February's sisterhood/brotherhood combined event. (Alan also applied his handyman skills on the new *sukkah*). Lastly I'd like to recognize everyone who comes out to help prepare the breakfasts we make. (For some) it is not easy getting up before 7 AM on a Sunday to slice veggies, lox, bagels, and make coffee. (Many need the coffee first).

We still have a few events on the calendar for this year. On Sunday May 24th we have a block of tickets to see the

Red Sox. On Thursday June 11th, we have our annual President's BBQ at the home of Jim Winterman.

We always appreciate the involvement of the entire temple community. So contact Jon Cohan ([joncohan@gmail.com](mailto:joncohan@gmail.com)) if you are interested in being a part of any of the events/activities listed below:

- Softball league
- Fantasy football league
- Leroy Davis sports breakfast
- Annual retreat
- Sukkah* build and take-down
- Quarterly drinks and appetizers
- Scholar in Residence (breakfast)
- Rabbi's breakfast
- Blood Drive
- Brotherhood/sisterhood meetings
- Monthly board meeting (all are invited)
- Hold 'em poker game (need new organizers)

## Garden Club An Artful Year

So far this year the Beth Shalom Garden Club has been very successful. We are up to 96 members!!! We just had our Needham's Art in Bloom at the Needham library (see page 16 for photos). People of all ages came to enjoy the High School student's art work with floral interpretations from 50 of our club members. We had over 2,000 people attend. This is a community event that takes place the first full weekend in March and is not to be missed.

Of course the Garden Club has its annual favorites such as our Antique Show Fundraiser, Tri-Club meeting and our February luncheon with this years theme of "Its not your Grandmothers Garden Club Anymore." We continue to meet our objectives of promoting an interest in flower arranging, gardening, horticulture, conservation, allied

activities, and to beautify the Temple with our weekly *Bima* arrangements.

After such a harsh winter maybe you are ready to bloom? Come join us May 11 at 7:00 PM to learn about "Container Gardens." Hope to see you then.



# BESTY 2014-2015



This has been a big year in BESTY! We have had successful events, attended amazing NFTY-Northeast experiences, and started making some changes to our leadership structure to better meet the needs of our community.

We began the year with our progressive dinner, a beloved annual tradition, where we had 40 teens travel throughout Needham, stopping at different families' homes to enjoy dinner. Our most recent event was a movie night at TBS, where we watched *Hairspray* and had a lot of conversation about the social justice and Jewish themes in the movie.

For the first time in several years, we have sent teens to every NFTY-NE event, as well as NFTY National Convention in Atlanta, GA. Recently, two of our teens, Josh Shapiro and Michelle Saylor, were elected to the NFTY-NE Regional Board, which is a great honor!

Our BESTY board has been hard at work considering how teens can take ownership over all youth programming at TBS. A group of teen participants in our Winter Shabbaton created a new mission statement, which was revised by members of the youth community and adopted by the BESTY Board. The new mission statement is:

*The Youth community at TBS is a welcoming and safe community that fosters leadership development and Jewish identity and community in a joyful and family-like environment.*

We have also been reworking our leadership structure to better meet the needs of our community and broaden



opportunities for teens to take on leadership roles. Keep an eye out for updates!

If you have any questions about how your teen can get involved, please be in touch with Rahel Block ([rblock@tbsneedham.org](mailto:rblock@tbsneedham.org)).



# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## TBS Teacher Wins Prestigious Award

Maria Gonzalez Griffith, Children's Center teacher, was recently chosen as the Boston area winner of the Grinspoon Award for Excellence in Jewish Education.

This award recognizes innovative local educators who make a lasting impact on the lives of Jewish

children. It was given in recognition of Maria's development and implementation of creative and engaging instructional activities and her ability to inspire, motivate, and challenge Children's Center and Mayim students at TBS over the last seven years.



### A Talented Educator

The award program seeks to highlight talented educators who are "helping to shape the future of Jewish education while honoring the richness of our tradition." The many TBS families who have experienced Maria's classroom know that she is a prime example of such educators. In her nomination of Maria, Ellen Dietrick, Director of Early Childhood Learning, described Maria's innovative teaching skills. "Maria is a masterful teacher, continually making a lasting impact on children, families, and our community as a whole. One of the greatest gifts she brings to the classroom is her ability and effort to know and understand each individual child, fostering their inquisitiveness and wonder in meaningful ways. She conveys her understanding of each child to parents helping them to better understand their own child and how the child is learning at school."

In his nomination of Maria, Rabbi Todd Markley described his personal experience with Maria as his children's teacher, "I am blessed that both of my children grew up in her care. When my daughter Mia was in Maria's class, Mia mentioned that her great grandmother's 95th birthday was approaching and that she wanted to make something special for her Bubbe Sara. Maria asked what Mia thought her great grandmother might need, and Mia noted that her Bubbe was often cold. So – after asking our permission – Maria took our daughter to a fabric store, helped her to pick out fabric, brought it back to our house along with her own sewing machine, and proceeded to teach Mia how to make a blanket for her great grandmother. Not only did she volunteer her own time to guide our daughter through this incredibly special project, and not only did Maria teach her the skills

required to do so, but Maria also modeled the Jewish values of honoring the elderly, celebrating s'machot, and giving of oneself for the sake of others. These lessons stuck with our daughter, and I know that Maria's selfless dedication to her craft, to our children, and to their learning has inspired countless others as well."

### A National Award

The Grinspoon Award for Excellence in Jewish Education is a national award, locally awarded by Combined Jewish Philanthropies (CJP). This year, CJP selected Maria as the only teacher from the entire greater Boston area. It is an incredible honor for Maria and for all of our TBS community. The award includes a cash prize, a scholarship to a Jewish education conference in August, and the Boston-area nomination for the national award. *Kol hakavod*, way to go, Maria!

## Why L'Chaim?

For the last eight years, our congregation has held an event each spring to celebrate our visionary and engaging learning programs for children of all ages. Each year this has been an opportunity to not only rejoice in all the ways we have been able to bring families closer to Jewish tradition and to our Temple Beth Shalom community, but also a chance for us to raise much needed funds to support these programs. Were it not for this annual gala we would not be able to create excellence in all the ways that we do and we would not be able to strive for new levels of accomplishment in the year ahead.

While the event has evolved from year to year several of its key features remain consistent.

- A fun and social evening with friends old and new
- Great food, this year provided by La Morra
- A variety of opportunities to financially support all we do for our children at TBS. This year's live auction items include chances to root for the home team, see U2 with Rabbi Todd and Michele Markley, attend a Billy Joel concert, enjoy a gourmet wine tasting in your home and so much more.

Come be a part of this fun and exciting evening for the best of causes...our children!



# EVENTS THIS MONTH

Here is a selection of events this month. For the most current and complete event notices, please see the TBS calendar (<http://tbsneedham.org/calendar>) and the weekly email.

## L'CHAIM: A TOAST TO OUR CHILDREN



An evening of fun and friendship to enhance our children's learning programs. Enjoy an elegant dinner with friends, bid generously to benefit Children's Programs at TBS, and show your love and commitment to our community!

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**Saturday, May 2, 2015, 7:00 PM - 11:00 PM**

## GARDEN CLUB: CONTAINER GARDENS



Donna Lane will do a program on "Container Gardens." Please bring in any containers you would like to swap.

Donna Lane has been a member of our club since 2003. She is a designer, lecturer, writer, garden coach and consultant. She is a lifetime master gardener. Past President of the Rhode Island Dahlia Society and an ADS accredited Dahlia Judge. She is on the Board of the GC Federation of Ma. Donna is author of numerous gardening and design articles including a bi-weekly gardening column entitled "The Addicted Gardener."

She has also won many horticulture and design awards. Please join us!

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**Monday, May 11, 2015, 7:00 PM**

**QUESTIONS? CONTACT:** Fawn Hurwitz ([fhurwitz@aol.com](mailto:fhurwitz@aol.com) or 781 444-3219)

## SISTERHOOD DONOR DINNER: WEAVING A TAPESTRY OF COMMUNITY



Join Sisterhood for a very special evening! This year's Donor Dinner will feature a magical journey back to the biblical era - experience a taste of the times through all your senses, while supporting the important work of Sisterhood. Members are invited to join us for dinner starting at 6 pm; non-members are invited to join us at 7:30 pm for a Q&A with acclaimed author Anita Diamant, who will be interviewed by WCVB reporter Kimberly Bookman. Anita has written numerous books including *The Red Tent* and most recently, *Boston Girl*, and is the visionary founder of *Mayyim Hayyim*. The program will be followed by a special dessert reception.

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**Thursday, May 14, 2015 6:00 PM-9:00 PM**

# EVENTS THIS MONTH

## CONFIRMATION SERVICE

Join us as we celebrate our 10th grade Confirmation students and their year of learning and growing together. We will prepare for the upcoming holiday of *Shavuot* as we rejoice in all the ways that these extraordinary teens continue to contribute to our Jewish community -- and draw inspiration from it! Service will be followed by a festive *oneg*.

**Thursday, May 21, 2015, at 7:30 PM**

## KOLOT KEHILLAH: VOICES OF THE COMMUNITY



Join Cantor Jonas and learn a new piece of music in the style of an “instant choir” to be sung during services. No musical knowledge, vocal training, or Hebrew proficiency is necessary. This is for all ages but an adult must accompany children under the age of 13. No registration required; just arrive ready to sing!

**Friday evenings May 15, and June 19 from 5:45-6:10pm (in the sanctuary)**

## TBS SISTERHOOD SPRING RUMMAGE SALE



It's that time of year again and sisterhood needs your donations and assistance. Costume and better jewelry is also welcome. No computers or monitors, unless they are new. Please no broken and damaged items. **Call to volunteer!**

**Drop-off: Sunday, May 31, 9:00 AM - 12:00PM**

**Sale: Sunday, May 31, 2:00 - 5:00 PM**

**Bag Sale: Monday, June 1, 5:00 - 8:00 PM**

**QUESTIONS? CONTACT:** Bonnie Littman (bonlitt@gmail.com or 781-449-8793)

**Planning an event? Submit it to the Scroll: <http://bit.ly/tbs-scroll>**

# SAVE THE DATE

Planning an event? Submit it to the Scroll: <http://bit.ly/tbs-scroll>

## TBS ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING 2015



Please join us as we celebrate the accomplishments and mark the events of 2014-15 at TBS, elect our Board for 2015-16, approve our congregational budget for 2015-16, and thank those leaving our Board for their service.

We will also provide a *Mikdash* update along with a detailed timeline for construction and relocation.

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**Wednesday, June 3, 2015, at 7:00 pm**

## GARDEN CLUB - ANNUAL MEETING



Garden Club will be having its Annual Meeting and Dinner. Installation of the new board members will take place.

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**Tuesday, June 9, 2015, at 6:00 PM**

# EDUCATION

## Our Guiding Principles

By Ellen Dietrick, Director of Early Childhood Learning



At Temple Beth Shalom Children’s Center our school guiding principles are a core element of how we set limits and expectations for children. Children use the guiding principles to help navigate their days and organize themselves within the school routine. Each of the three guiding principles is a key part of our functioning as a community and is represented by a Hebrew word, symbolizing an aspect of that principle.

**We Take Care of Ourselves:**  
*Kavod (Respect)*

**We Take Care of Each Other:**  
*Chesed (Caring)*

**We Take Care of Our World:**  
*Tikkun Olam (Repairing the world)*

The guiding principles are carefully designed to help each child develop the internal compass that helps us evaluate the best option from many different possible behaviors available to us at any given point. They are

formatted to appeal to a preschooler’s sensibilities. We know that most young children are not able to easily flip a negative statement into a positive one until about age six or seven, when the brain develops the ability. This means, for example, that to a young child, “no hitting” and “hit” can



sound the same. Therefore, the principles are framed in positive language, providing not just aspirational goals, but meaningful and actionable directives that young children can understand and do.

You might wonder how such young children can possibly understand such large, abstract concepts. We teach these concepts like we would any other, through many concrete experiences. You will hear us saying, “At school we take care of ourselves by washing our hands before snack.” Or you might notice us providing reflective feedback to children such as “You went and got a bandaid because we take care of each other.” These recognitions of their behaviors invite children to notice and repeat the desired caring actions.

Recently, one of our pre-k classes brought the principle “We take care of the world” to life. After a group brainstorm on tikkun olam the children decided to choose the recipients of the tzedakah money they had been collecting in class. The first step was to research charitable organizations. The teachers carefully designed an experience that would both help the children choose a charity and strengthen their connection to the temple community as a whole. The class visited the atrium where they studied the posters created by TBS students celebrating an upcoming bar or bat mitzvah. The children noticed that Stephanie Kaplan chose to do her mitzvah project with the local organization Cradles to Crayons. After reading the details of Stephanie’s poster, the children recorded their thoughts about what they could do to help others in just the way



Stephanie had: Give love. Give food like apples. Give crayons. Give chairs. Give tables. As the children use the coin they have collected to bring their ideas to fruition, they truly are becoming a community who engages in tikkun olam.

Foundational to the structure of the principles is that they can be applied broadly, in many circumstances, and over a long period of time, so that the learning the young children of our TBS community do now has the potential to carry over to their elementary years and beyond. Through direct and consistent teaching, the guiding principles become a powerful tool for each child’s development, connecting them to Jewish values and each other.

### “From the Clergy”, Continued from Page 3

Todd stepped forward to become a beloved senior rabbi for us all.

And yet, as full a retelling as this is, truthfully, it doesn’t even begin to tell the story of the past twelve months in our community.

What is the meaning of Temple Beth Shalom? Whether we physically enter our doorways several times a week or a few precious times during the year, the meaning of our community is clear: At TBS we inspire joy, offer guidance, and provide strength. We dance, study, sing and reflect. We teach the next generation so that they will be inspired by and proud of their heritage and so that they, in turn, will pass it on to their children. We celebrate our simchas/the most joyous times....and we hold each other unconditionally when tragedy touches our lives or the lives of our loved ones. We support Israel and share deep relationships with our interfaith partners in and around Needham. As well, we are proud-beyond-words that our TBS community brims not only in activity, but in the care that we extend to one another – at every age and stage in our lives.

We are a community where we reach for our highest aspirations of compassion, justice, and blessing, and follow upon our visions with action. No wonder that this year has also seen our largest and most ambitious building project and campaign effort in our history. Given the worn state and inadequate size of our existing building is there any question that we need a new home? A thousand thank you’s to the countless *Mikdash* volunteers and to the hundreds who have already given to help us reach our goal...as well to those who will be giving as our community campaign continues into the year ahead! We can and will build a vibrant future together!

An exciting year has passed.....and an exciting year awaits. May we continue to keep the light of Jewish life aglow amongst and within us all!

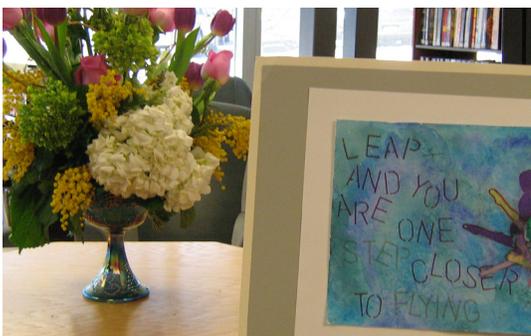
Please join the TBS community for

### **Minyan**

Monday **and** Thursday at 7:00 AM  
Monday **through** Thursday at 6:45 PM  
Sunday at 8:45 AM

# EVENT HIGHLIGHT

## Art in Bloom



Do you have pictures from a TBS event that you would like featured in the Scroll? Submit event photos with captions to [scroll@tbsneedham.org](mailto:scroll@tbsneedham.org)



# KIDS PAGE

## SHAVUOT FUN!

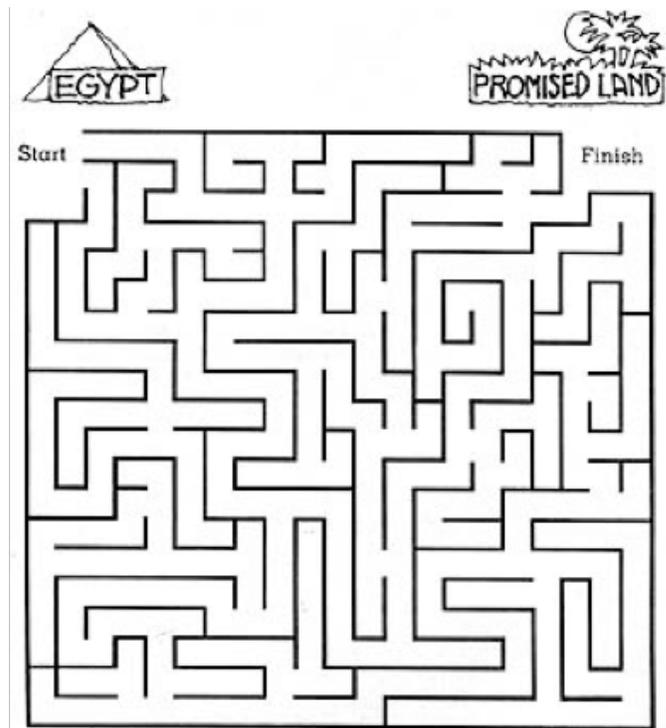
### What in the World is Shavuot?

The holiday of *Shavuot* comes seven weeks after Passover and marks the giving of the *Torah* at Mount Sinai. *Shavuot* began as an ancient agricultural festival that marked the end of the spring barley harvest and the beginning of the summer wheat harvest. At Temple Beth Shalom *Shavuot* is a celebration of *Torah* and education and is the day where our 10th graders celebrate their confirmation.

### Make Your Own Edible Torah

Celebrate *Shavuot* with a *Torah* snack! In Eastern Europe, it was customary at a child's first *Torah* lesson to write the Hebrew alphabet in honey on the child's slate, and giving it to the child to lick off. In this way, would the child always associate sweetness with *Torah* study. Instead of using honey, make cookies in the shape of Hebrew letters or *Torah* scrolls, or choose another sweet treat to share with your children as they begin their religious studies.

*Take Moses into the Promised Land.*



#### Ingredients:

- 1 flat tortilla
- 2 pretzel rods
- Cream cheese, hummus, peanut butter or your favorite spread
- 1 licorice string per child

#### Instructions:

Cut the rounded edge off the top and bottom of the tortilla. Spread cream cheese or your spread of choice over the tortilla. Put a pretzel rod on the left and right edge of the tortilla. Wrap the tortilla around the pretzel rods, starting at each side and meeting in the middle of the tortilla. Use the licorice string to tie around the "Torah." Enjoy!

*From ReformJudaism.org*



# Sylvia Jaffe

By Matt Robinson

Proudly describing herself as a “Zionist” from the age of six when she went door-to-door with a Jewish National Fund tin box collecting coins to support the Jewish State of Israel, Sylvia Jaffe was fortunate enough to marry her “childhood sweetheart” (Teddy Jaffe) and to raise four “wonderful” children, all of whom were bar/bat mitzvah-d and confirmed at TBS (and two of whom were married here as well!). She is now a proud grandmother of seven and great-grandmother of two.

Speaking of TBS, Jaffe remembers being present when the cornerstone was laid in 1959. Today, she remains a cornerstone of the TBS community, having served as the Temple’s first chairperson of the Association of Reform Zionists of America (ARZA) and a member of the TBS Board, among other devoted duties. “I have been truly blessed,” Jaffe says.

### **What does being Jewish mean to you?**

For me, being Jewish is all encompassing. It’s who I am in thought and deed. I grew up in Dorchester. I was Orthodox for the first 30 years of my life. In 1959, Ted and I and our four children moved to Needham. My brother and his family were already here. We became member of TBS because it was the only shul in town. Becoming a member of the Reform stream of Judaism was - and is - a fascinating and exciting journey and a journey of learning that knows no bounds. I love being a Jewish woman!

### **What is your favorite Jewish holiday?**

I truly enjoy all our holidays. However, I was taught that Shabbat is our most important holy day. For me, it takes on a special aura of peace, moving slowly and taking time to read and think about the past week and the week ahead. I love Shabbat!

### **What is your fondest memory involving Jewish life?**

My fondest memories involving Jewish life are all entwined with ARZA and Israel. I have Rabbi Sonsino to thank for that! He asked me to be the first TBS ARZA chairperson. Thru ARZA, I eventually served on the Boston board with Rabbi Gittelsohn, co-chaired the New England region of ARZA, chaired the National Assembly in Boston in 1987 and represented ARZA as an alternate delegate to the 31st World Zionist Congress in Jerusalem in 1987. When it comes to my Jewish life, my cup runneth over!

### **What brought you to TBS?**

I came because my brother Norty and his wife Joan were here before me, I knew many people in the Needham Jewish community socially through them. I helped Sisterhood with their rummage sale at the Boston Horticultural Hall even before I moved to Needham and joined the Temple officially.

### **Why did you become involved in Temple leadership?**

I became involved in Temple leadership because I seem to have been an activist all my life. The year I came to Needham, I was President of Mayflower Chapter, B’nai Brith. We used my chapter’s by-laws to help draw up the By-laws of our Temple’s sisterhood!

### **How do you hope to contribute to the TBS community?**

I hope to continue to contribute to our Temple community as best I can at my tender age of 88. I’m part of our Torah study group on Saturdays, a member of Sisterhood and a member of Three Score Plus. I’ve helped add to the Temple’s coat drive and food bank by initiating separate drives here at Coleman House where I live and will continue to do so. I’m available to do that which I’m able to do whenever called upon.

# The 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. Do you like the new version of The Scroll? Be sure to thank Peter Mesnik for leading the charge to reimagine The Scroll and building a team starting with Daniel Barkowitz, Matt Robinson, Ed Shems, and Steven Sherry to



update the look, feel and accessibility of our most visible publication. Roberta Gerson has also been hard at work managing the relationships with new and current advertisers in The Scroll and other publications like the Member Directory. Yes, thanks to the hard work of committee co-chair Steve Sherry, the Communications Committee also produces the Member Directory every two years to give congregants a handy way to get in touch with one another.

Speaking of getting in touch, we've heard your feedback about email from the temple and Daniel and Peter have been evolving the format and frequency of this ubiquitous tool for keeping our community informed in a timely manner. We also heard you when you asked for an easy way to ask other temple members for help or ideas. Co-chair Michael Goff worked with Joni Burstein to build and manage the TBS Community Bulletin Board mailing list. Behind the scenes, we also manage the website as well as the Google Drive folders that the lay leadership and professional staff use to share and collaborate on documents.

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 up-to-date and shares our stories. Email Michael Goff ([msgoff@gmail.com](mailto:msgoff@gmail.com)) or Steven Sherry ([ssherry@rcn.com](mailto:ssherry@rcn.com)) for more information.

# YAHREZEITS

## MAY 1

Sue-Sara Akell  
Marsha Gayle Alperin  
Laurel Fay Brandt  
Ronald Carpe  
Philip Faneuil  
Barbara Franceschini  
Alan H. Freedman  
Zoltan Fried  
Rose Friedman  
Cele Glou  
Morris Goldberg  
Laura Goldner  
Molly Goldstein  
Richard Gordon  
Irene Grebber  
Ann Greenberg  
David Hasha  
Gertrude Isikoff  
Lillian Jacobs  
Arlene R. Kahn  
Lowell Keller  
Miriam Landy  
Jeannette Malkin  
Nancie Ostroff  
Esther Duker Pollack  
Samuel Pressman  
Louis Reiss  
Doris Robbins  
Alfred "Al" Rotman  
Esther "Bobbi" Sadow  
David Sandberg  
Harry Sherman  
Philip Simon  
Harry Slawsby  
Joseph Solinsky  
Philip Stein  
Beatrice Taitz  
Edward Talcoff  
Albert Timmerman  
Frederic VanderKloot  
Benjamin Wiener

## MAY 8

Morris V. Aarons  
Esther Rose Bloom  
Harold Davis  
Anita Eriksson  
Kate Gabrilove  
Benjamin Green  
Herbert Katz  
Ellen Hyman Langer  
Thomas Luskin  
Eva Narcus  
Moshe Menachem HaLevi Nir  
Nathan Order  
Rose Padawer  
Richard L. Poses  
Richard Lee Robbins  
David Rubin  
Hyman Schapiro  
Lillian Shapiro  
Maurice L. Shapiro  
George Shuman  
Tillie Shusterman  
Anne Silverman  
Evelyn L. Stockman  
Shmuel Weinberg  
Ray Weissman  
Charles Sol Wynn

## MAY 15

Sophie Aliber Court  
Gerald Aransky  
Joseph L. Baker  
Max Cohen  
Steven Chesin Cohen  
Louis Golden  
Israel Goldstein  
Edith Gordon  
Howard Grayson  
Shirley Greenfield  
Marshall Huberman  
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Betty Tishman  
Frances Weinberg  
Anne Weiner  
Harvey Weinstein  
Leonard Winterman  
Herman Joseph Yogel  
Rose Riesman Young  
Amy Zeltserman

## MAY 22

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Morton Q. Bello  
Joseph Berg  
Edward Brown  
Jennie Steinberg Brown  
Charlotte Chaffin  
Herman Joseph Doff  
Abraham Dwin  
Belle Ediff  
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Alec Goldin  
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Rhoda Janov  
Ceil Keller  
Ethel Lezberg  
Jack Lubotsky  
Connie Mandel  
Julian Joseph Palmer  
Wendy P. Ravech  
Jeffrey Riskin  
Harry Rodman  
Samuel Z. Rosen  
Lewis S. Rubin  
Celia Rumpler

Frances R. Sadolsky  
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Edward Seltzer  
Leo Shafer  
Blanche Skolnick  
David Tanner  
Esperanza Velez  
Mildred Vogel  
Esther Weiner  
Ida Zaff

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Edward Barkin  
Edward Berman  
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Michael Cohen  
Philip Cope  
Howard Crandell  
Estelle Davis  
Gladys Distler  
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Rabbi Perlman on the Bat Mitzvah of  
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Melanie Kelfer & David Spiegel for their  
generous & wonderful hospitality  
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& wonderful hospitality during TBS  
South weekend

Rabbi Jay & Emily's trip to Florida  
David Spiegel & Melanie Kelfer for  
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David Spiegel & Melanie Kelfer for  
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David & Joyce Wilson's Shabbat brunch  
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The lovely, warm & enjoyable Friday  
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Kayla Barnet becoming a *Bat Mitzvah*  
Rabbi Markey becoming a Senior Rabbi  
Ben Lobel becoming a *Bar Mitzvah*  
Rabbi Todd  
Rabbi Todd - you are truly a blessing for  
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Rabbi Todd becoming a Senior Rabbi  
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Abigail, Kelsey, Jackson, Nikki, Danielle and Court  
on the passing of their husband, father and grandfather,  
Gerald "Jerry" Silverstein

Rabbi Bob Orkand and Joyce Orkand  
on the passing of their father, Herbert Orkand

Margie and Jim Silver, Lauren Baum and Alison Daglow,  
and Zachary, Matthew and Jackson  
on the passing of their father, grandfather  
and great-grandfather, Milton Rosenthal

Andy and Peggy Gasman, and Isabel  
on the passing of their father  
and grandfather, Lester Gassman

Leah "Lee" Landy on the passing of  
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Aimee and Jason Stone, Marlee and Brett  
on the passing of their grandmother  
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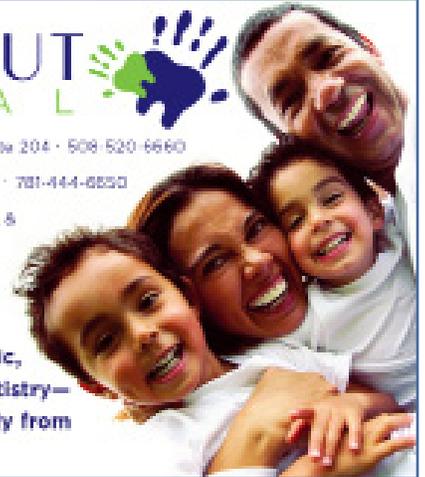
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