



Temple Beth Shalom *Scroll*

VOLUME 37, NUMBER 4 • 670 HIGHLAND AVENUE • NEEDHAM, MA 02494 • DECEMBER 2009

Project Ezra

On Friday December 25, Temple Beth Shalom will once again join hands with The Needham Community Council to provide holiday dinners.

Each year the need seems to increase, so please help us; we cannot do this mitzvah without you!

Volunteers are needed to cook the turkeys, assemble the dinners, deliver the dinners and bake "finger desserts"

Please participate!

Call Lois Sockol at 781-449-1226 or June Atkind at 781-449-6343

A Mitzvah You'll Never Forget!

Please call Lois Sockol at 781- 449-1226 or June Atkind at 781-449-6343 before December 21 if you know someone in Needham who needs a dinner on Christmas Day.

Co-chairs: Lois & Ron Sockol June & Richard Atkind

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Another Mitzvah You'll Never Forget!



The need is constant. The gratification is instant.
Give blood™

**Temple Beth Shalom
Brotherhood
American Red Cross
Blood Drive**

**Sunday, December 13
8:00 am - 1:00 pm**

To sign up to donate or volunteer to help,
contact Howard Ostroff at 781-801-9696
or hostroff@rcn.com.

Enter to win a flat screen TV and more
from Best Buy!

All presenting donors will receive a \$5 off
coupon to Wachusett Mountain Ski Area

TBS Keshet: Making Connections and Differences in Our School and Our Community

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historic passage of the Matthew Shepard and James Byrd Jr. Hate Crimes Prevention Act. This federal hate crimes law that had faced opposition and delay for more than a decade, extends federal hate crime law to include crimes motivated by a person’s actual or perceived gender, sexual orientation, identity, or disability. It’s about time.

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Rabbi Michele Lenke

Chanukah

*This year the first candle is lit on Friday night, December 11, 2009.
The eighth and last candle is lit on Friday, December 18, 2009.*

Chanukah begins on the 25th day of the Hebrew month of Kislev and lasts for eight days. It commemorates the victory of Judah Maccabee and his followers over the forces of the Syrian tyrant Antiochus Ephiphanes over 2,000 years ago. The story of Chanukah is the age-old struggle of the Jewish people to remain Jewish in a non-Jewish world. To celebrate their victory and to rededicate the Temple, the Maccabees proclaimed an eight-day festival, which was to be observed annually. According to the Talmudic legend, when the Hasmoneans recaptured and cleansed the Temple, they were able to find only a single cruse of oil with the seal of the

High Priest, sufficient for one day’s lighting of the Menorah. But, as the story goes, a miracle occurred, and it burned for eight days.

The nightly kindling of the Menorah with its increasingly brighter light has become a symbol for both our physical and spiritual resistance to tyranny and assimilation. Jewish tradition has preserved this twofold concept of resistance. The heroic Maccabean triumph is counter-balanced by the words of the prophet Zechariah: “Not by might and not by power, but by My Spirit, says the Lord (4:6).”

From: *Gates of the Seasons*, CCAR

ברוך אתה, יי אלהינו, מלך העולם, אשר קדשנו במצותיו וצונו להדליק נר של חנוכה.

Ba-ruch a-ta, A-do-nai E-lo-hei-nu, me-lech, ha-o-lam, a-she-ki-de-sha-nu be-mits-vo-tav ve-tsi-va-nu le-had-lik ner shel Cha-nu-ka.

Blessed is the Lord our God, Ruler of the Universe, by Whose mitzvot we are hallowed, Who commands us to kindle the Chanuka lights.

ברוך אתה, יי אלהינו, מלך העולם, שעשה נסים לאבותינו בימים ההם, בזמן הזה.

Ba-ruch a-ta, A-do-nai E-lo-hei-nu, me-lech, ha-o-lam, she-a-sa ni-sim la-a-vo-tei-nu ba-yamim ha-hem ba-ze-man ha-zeh.

Blessed is the Lord our God, Ruler of the Universe, Who performed wondrous deeds for our ancestors in days of old, at this season.

ON FIRST NIGHT ONLY:

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Blessed is the Lord our God, Ruler of the Universe, for giving us life, for sustaining us, and for enabling us to reach this season.

Religious School



One Mitzvah, one act of G'milut Chasadim at a time...

This year, Veteran's Day for me was quite different than any other. On Memorial Day and Veteran's Day each year, I take time to seriously consider the value of the service that men and women and their families offer to the rest of the country as soldiers engaged in wars both abroad and on home soil. On the anniversary of Kristallnacht (the Night of the Broken Glass), Yom HaZikaron (Israel's Day of Remembrance) and even Yom HaAtzma'ut (Israel's Independence Day), I think of those who served and lost their lives standing up for their beliefs in the Middle East and all over Europe.

This year however, there is a face that I know well, frozen at eighteen years of age for me, that is now missing from his family, his fiancé, his friends, acquaintances and this world. Capt. Ben Sklaver was on my second NEFTY (Northeast Federation of Temple Youth) regional board in my former "life" as the Director of Youth for the Union for Reform Judaism. Ben was the regional religious and cultural vice president, who was responsible for teaching his peers how to write a creative prayer service, choose meaningful liturgy and readings and generally model what it meant to be a good leader. For an entire year, I worked closely with Ben and his nine fellow board members to help them grow into themselves, become better leaders and strong role models and to shift from high school to life beyond. Then as young adults do, Ben and his peers moved on.

On October 5, I learned that Capt. Benjamin Sklaver had been killed in Afghanistan. In the few hours I spent in Connecticut the day of his funeral, I discovered more of who this now 32 year old Ben was, than I learned in my entire year of working with him. In the civil affairs unit he worked in, Ben was about bringing basic infrastructure such as water and schools to a people and region that have little of either. After a tour in Uganda, Ben returned to the States to create ClearWater Initiative, a non-profit organization focused on bringing water to conflict-laden areas in Uganda. Villagers who benefited from having safe drinking water

refer to him as "Moses Ben." Ben was a peacemaker, not a combatant. Meeting with locals outside of Kandahar, this young American was bringing hope and safety to a terrorized people.

This past summer, two of our dedicated teachers of the Holocaust and Human Behavior course in our seventh grade traveled to Whitwell, TN to participate in a program entitled "One Clip At A Time". This program was based on the learning experience of eighth grade Whitwell public school students documented in a nationally distributed film called "Paper Clips". What these teachers explored is how every classroom throughout this country and around the world has the opportunity to help create positive change in the world by performing simple mitzvot (commandments) and acts of *g'milut chasadim* (acts of loving kindness). Every classroom can create positive change: one change at a time, one classroom at a time, one school at a time and one synagogue at a time. As Jews, I believe we not only have the opportunity to create positive change, but even the obligation to make a positive difference in our world.

Bringing this theme home, Sheira Rosenfield and Amy Degen have created a *G'milut Chasadim* board outside of the education office. Students are sharing on a small piece of paper an act of loving kindness that he/she has done and then clipped it onto this board. As students and temple guests read about these experiences and acts of positive change, it is our hope that they, too, will be inspired to find one or more ways to make a positive change in our world. One mitzvah, one act

of *g'milut chasadim* at a time ~ this is all it takes to repair the broken parts of our community. Capt. Ben Sklaver had taken the opportunity to repair the brokenness of a community on the other side of the globe one water well at a time. I believe that each well constructed in the future will bear his memory, evidence to remind others that one person, one classroom, one community can make a difference.

Perform an act of loving kindness and thank a US soldier for standing up for our beliefs and working toward peace. Perform a mitzvah by donating cans of tuna to the Family Table collection basket in the atrium of the temple. Sign up and work on the Needham Habitat House with members of our community. Shut off your car when waiting to pick up a child at any place he/she learns and grows. We can make a difference one person, one act at a time.

L'shalom,
Sandy

December School Schedule

December 4-6: Sha'arim Kallah at Eisner Camp, Great Barrington, MA

December 5: Congregational Shabbat Dinner & Simchat Shabbat Services, Grades K-2 participating

December 7 & 9: Rappin' with the Rabbi for grades 3-5

December 8 & 22: 7th Grade TELEM class serves dinner at First Parish Soup Kitchen, Cambridge

December 11-14: 10th Grade trip to the Religious Action Center, Washington, DC

December 16 & 21: Social Justice Yom Chugim for grades 3-5

December 23 - January 3: No School Winter Break

Healthcare for Orphans

Grandmothers are raising young children because their parents have died of AIDS or Malaria.

We would like contributions to help these children have free healthcare.

Please send donations to TBS member Paula Rosen at

*21 Tanglewood Road
Needham, MA 02494.*



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Habitat for Humanity

“If you build it, they will come.”

Perhaps it is because the 2009 season is now over for the Red Sox, but lately I've been thinking about the movie *Field of Dreams*. It is one of the most popular baseball movies of all time, and yet it is so much more than a movie about baseball. Many of us remember the most famous line, “If you build it, he will come” and we are transported back to the cornfields of Iowa, where anything is possible and dreams do come true.

I've also been thinking a lot about the realization of dreams, as I have been blessed with the opportunity to spend a couple of days working on the Needham Interfaith Habitat for Humanity house on the corner of Bancroft and Brookline Streets. As many of you know, the dream to build a Habitat House in Needham has existed for many years and this is the year of its reality. As the mission statement of Needham Interfaith Habitat states, “In response to the strong need for affordable housing in Needham, the faith community joins together to develop a Needham Interfaith Habitat for Humanity house.” Over the last several months, the members of the Needham Clergy Association divided the build

days among each of our houses of worship, we dedicated the land as holy ground, and this summer several of our members spent the day together putting up walls in this nascent home. The dream, step by step, is becoming a reality.

Just recently, I spent another day at the Habitat House with a team assembled from our very own TBS community. It was exhilarating to move from the first floor to the second and witness the progress that has been made thus far, and to anticipate the next steps. It truly was a wonderful community building experience as well, as we shared stories, got to know each other better, laughed a lot, and helped one another

to accomplish our goals. There are basically no prerequisites for working on a Habitat house other than the desire to help and the strength to share. We were ably led by our site supervisor, Matt Smith, who is among the most patient of people I have ever encountered.

We often joked with him that we were taking out almost as many nails as we were hammering in.

If you build it, they will come. When it is completed, this Needham house will become the home of Manuel and Yocayra Fernandez and their children. They too will help to build this house. This is truly a community effort and I would encourage you to drive by or take a walk past and witness the growth of the Fernandez home. Who knows, you might even see someone you know.

I want to give a special shout-out of thanks to my fellow builders that day: Bernice Sue Behar, Michael Cohen, Howard Ostroff, Jeremy Serwer, Stacie Shapiro, and Glenn Stern. If you are interested in helping out Habitat in the future please go to the temple's website for more information. Habitat for Humanity is much more than about building a house. It is an opportunity to give back to our community, it is about hope, it is about making someone's dream come true, and it is a way to use our hands to do God's work.

The psalmist wrote, “May the favor of Adonai our God be upon us and let the work of our hands prosper, O prosper the work of our hands.” (Psalm 90:17)

From the bottom of my heart, thank You, O God for prospering the work of our hands.

Rabbi Michele Lenke



BESTY Opens it's 2009-10 Year with 52 Participants!

On Sunday, October 25th, BESTY had it's first trip of the year to Fire and Ice in Harvard Square. 52 8th-12th graders ate, schmoozed, shopped, and had a great time!

The event's success was in no small part due to the incredible efforts of this year's BESTY board:

Becca Pleskow, *President*
 Dana Kappel, *Programming VP*
 Maggie Cohen, *Co-Membership VP*
 Laura Sutherland, *Co-Membership VP*
 Matt Lerner, *Religious and Cultural VP*
 Alison Cohan, *Social Action VP*
 Steve Berul, *Financial VP*
 Mikah Atkind, *NFTY-Northeast Rep.*
 Andrew Fisher, *Secretary*
 Ben Grebber, *Co-9th Grade Rep.*
 Jodi Grosberg, *Co-9th Grade Rep.*



It was a fabulous event and BESTY is looking forward to its most successful year yet!

If you have questions about BESTY, please contact Allie Klein, Youth Educator, at youth@tbsneedham.org

Children's Center



"Do not train a child to learn by force or harshness; but direct them to it by what amuses their minds, so that you may be better able to discover with accuracy the peculiar bent of the genius of each."

~ Plato

These inspirational words from Plato dovetail perfectly with the Jewish teaching from Pirke Avot: "Know before whom you stand." Early childhood teachers, in fact all teachers, have an undeniably critical role in the lives of children. Not only that, but to do this well, one must know the children, know what "amuses their minds," and guide them to learn via those interests. It sounds lofty. And is. Yet, it is what we love to do each and every day in the Children's Center!

Dr. Theodore Sizer was a renowned educator, whose philosophies, research, and wisdom guided educators around the world. Dr. Sizer had been the Dean of the Harvard Graduate School of Education, Chairman of the Education Department

at Brown University, and Headmaster of Phillips Academy. I first learned of his work while in graduate school. He believed, like Plato, that above all else, students should want to learn, they should be developing "habits of mind." Dr. Sizer also believed that time was best spent on powerful concepts, rather than on memorizing facts. While he wasn't specifically referring specifically to early childhood, his education philosophies



The three year old children at TBSCC build their own Aron Kodesh.

speaking to early childhood in that we also focus on developing children's dispositions to want to read, learn, and question. As a staff, we focus on learning goals and concepts for each topic that we teach to the children, rather than on specific facts. Sadly, Dr. Sizer passed away last month. His work, no doubt, will be his blessing to many in education for years to come.

As we move into the holiday of Chanukah, I am thinking of those who bring light into our lives. There are those philosophers and educators who have inspired and driven me to this field of early childhood education and for that, I feel grateful. I am thinking, as I always do, of the children, who are a daily blessing, bringing light into my life. I have the opportunity to see the world through the eyes of children each and every day, appreciating a good song, hearing a favorite story, the perfect shade of purple, the first snowflake of the year, and witnessing the joy of a hug from a friend. I think of the light that the staff brings to one another, sharing their ideas, their compassion for each other and support, as well as the light they bring to the children and families. Of course, I also think of how blessed I am by my own family!

Please take a moment—many moments, this Chanukah season, to reflect on the light in your lives! Charlie, Andrew, Steve and Jared join me in wishing all of you much light, love, and happiness this Chanukah!

L'shalom,
Marcie



TBS Children's Center is partnering with Cradles to Crayons to provide new and gently-used children's essentials to children in need in Massachusetts. You can make a difference by bringing donations to:

Temple Beth Shalom's Atrium or Children's Center Hallway
December 7-18

We're Collecting

Children's
Winter Outerwear
Mittens
Gloves
Hats
Jackets
Coats
Boots

Questions:
Email Beth Shulman at bethjs@yahoo.com
or visit www.cradlestocrayons.org

Invitation to Tea and Crafts
for the benefit of Zack Weinstein
Sponsored by Devra's Designs

Come do your holiday shopping.
Handcrafted necklaces, earrings, bracelets, scarves,
table runners, placemats, pocketbooks,
shell frames and dried floral wreaths.
All proceeds go to Zack through the NTAF
(Northeast Spinal Cord Injury Fund)

Where: Devra Bailin's home
3 Brentwood Circle, Needham

When: Saturday, December 5 & Sunday, December 6

Time: 10:00am - 5:00pm

Phone: 781-444-0083

Email: dgbailin@aol.com



Sisterhood

Sisterhood has had a busy fall, with many events we hope have appealed to a broad range of our membership. We were excited to welcome over a dozen new members during our **Membership Dinner**. Over 100 members and guests enjoyed a fun evening including dinner and a fashion show which included nine beautiful Sisterhood models; it was a wonderful opportunity to welcome our newest "sisters" and take pleasure in our existing friendships.

Our Sisterhood team raised over \$2,800 for the American Cancer Society by our participation in the **Making Strides Against Breast Cancer** walk along the Charles River; fortunately the expected rainy weather held off and the event provided another opportunity to connect with each other while getting some exercise and raising funds for this very worthy cause. We felt great joy in saying "we did it!" as we finished the 5.7 mile walk, along with 40,000 other participants.

Our **Fall Rummage Sale** was also an unprecedented success this year! Bonnie Littman, our Rummage Chairperson extraordinaire, and all the volunteers who helped out in so many ways, raised much-needed funds for Sisterhood while providing a service to our community that seems especially necessary in these current economic times, in which so many amongst us are experiencing financial hardship.

Knowing the difficulties so many in our own temple community are experiencing, we are making scholarships available to our members who wish to attend our upcoming Spirituality Retreat Weekend in January, as well as dues scholarships to those who wish to join – or rejoin – Sisterhood. We hope that financial difficulty will not prevent any woman who wishes to be part of Sisterhood from doing so – and I know that the friendship and warmth of-



ferred by this group of women can be a powerful source of spiritual sustenance to anyone in this situation. Please contact me if you or anyone you know could benefit from the gift of Sisterhood.

As we look forward this month to the brightness of the Chanukah menorah filling our homes with light, and we consider the gifts we may be thinking of giving or receiving, I



Pictured left to right: Aimee Bierman, Becky Sarette, Emily Aransky, Judy Ravech, Alyssa Ravech, Judy Chudnofsky, Arline Aransky, Joanna Barker, Jane Spigle and Betty Weiner

hope you will all take a moment to evaluate the gift of your involvement with Sisterhood – for it is surely one in which you both give **and** receive. While blessing the Chanukah candles this year, I hope you will also count the many blessings in your life – no matter how difficult your circumstances may seem - and that the warmth of friendship and the love of family shine radiantly on your home.

*In Sisterhood,
Judy Ravech*



Essential Dates:

Monday, December 7 - Our monthly board meeting starts at 7:30 pm in the Library. All Sisterhood members are welcome.

Sunday, December 13 - Our first Rosh Chodesh meeting of the year will be held at the home of Trina Novak for a Chanukah-themed meeting.

Wednesday, December 16 - Join Book Club for our second meeting; we'll be discussing **A Pigeon and a Boy, A Novel** by Meir Shalev at 7:30 pm. Location is to be announced.

Sunday, January 10 - Temple Beth Shalom and Temple Aliyah present the award-winning Israeli reggae-folk-soul trio Habanot Nechama in their first Boston-area appearance at Temple Aliyah. Co-sponsored by TBS Sisterhood and Brotherhood.

Thank you to:

Bonnie Littman for her incredible energy and dedication, and to all those who volunteered to assist in many ways, in making our Fall Rummage Sale an unprecedented success! Thanks also to Jane Spigle, Membership Vice President, for a wonderful effort in reaching out to welcome new and prospective Sisterhood members.

Sisterhood Book Club

Our next meeting is Wednesday, December 16 at 7:30 pm to discuss **A Pigeon and A Boy: A Novel, by Meir Shalev**

The author interweaves two remarkable personal stories: Yair Mendelsohn, a middle-aged Israeli tour guide and a new American client who fought in a clandestine military force in Israel's 1948 war of independence. This book has been described as "a gem of a story about the power of love" that "brims with originality."



Newcomers welcome!
To RSVP and to learn location, call Gail Lustig at 781-444-7508, or gaillustig@rcn.com

Brotherhood

I stand with my brothers. I stand with Brotherhood members that can be counted on time and time again as volunteers, participants, leaders, and friends. You know who you are; our core members who will consistently step up to the plate, and who have my back. Not just to support the temple, but each other, without question or fail. Whether it's waking up at 6:00 am to get the coffee started for the Leroy Davis breakfast, or spending the entire day sorting bottles and cans in the cold pouring rain, they are there. In time of a family emergency, an hour of need, or to share each other's successes and life's celebrations, they are there. In brotherhood, we stand together for each other during good times and bad. Sometimes who you stand with can be just as important as what you stand for.

Our annual **Brotherhood Blood Drive** will be happening on **Sunday, December 13**. Hopefully, you have received a call from a Brotherhood volunteer as a reminder, as well as assisting you in reserv-

ing a donor appointment for you and others in your family. If you have not scheduled an appointment yet, please contact Howard Ostroff at hostroff@rcn.com, who is chairing this event and would be happy to accommodate you. This event is also open to the community and we ask that you spread the word or even bring a friend. A bountiful bagel and lox breakfast with all the extras will be served by an army of brotherhood volunteers.

Every pint counts and the Red Cross has promised an ample number of professionals to handle our usual heavy turnout and avoid delays as much as possible. Please consider donating and making a difference once again this year.

Tuesday evening, December 22, is the date for our annual **Celtics Game Night**. At the time of writing this article, the Celtics are undefeated and looking to make another run deep into the playoffs and towards number 18. Larry Bird and the Indiana Pacers will be in town. Please note that the following Wednesday is the last

school day before winter vacation and the kids can make up for lost sleep Thursday morning. Plus, think of the family memories of taking the kids into North Station on the green line and everything that goes with a Celtics garden experience. Ken Davis (pkedavis@aol.com) has a block of 40 Loge seats available on a first come first serve basis.

Please visit our Brotherhood homepage, www.tbsneedham.org/temple_groups/brotherhood, to see photographs taken at our most recent brotherhood retreat.

Jim Winterman

Tuesday, December 8: 7:00 pm

Brotherhood Meeting
TBS Library - All brothers are welcome

Sunday, December 13: 8 am

Brotherhood Blood Drive - Simon Hall

Tuesday, December 22: 7 pm

Celtics Game Night vs. Indiana Pacers

Upcoming January Events:

Saturday Evening, January 23

Brotherhood/Sisterhood Event

Sunday, January 24

Annual Rabbi's Breakfast

*The Sisterhood of Temple Beth Shalom,
Temple Aliyah Sisterhood and Needham Hadassah present a*

MAH JONGG TOURNAMENT

Thursday, January 21, 2010
Doors open at 6:30 pm • Start time: 7:00 pm
Temple Beth Shalom 670 Highland Ave., Needham
\$18.00/person Refreshments Cash Prizes
Any questions, please call
Aimee Bierman - 781-400-1665
Jan Feinstein - 781-449-5662 or Ellen Pulda - 781-444-1635

Name: _____

Partner Request: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

RSVP by January 14

**Make checks payable to Temple Aliyah Sisterhood
and mail to:**

Jan Feinstein 15 White Pine Rd. Needham 02492

**Beginner Table: (This is not a teaching table, just for
new players who want to play with other beginners)**

Can provide set **Can provide table**

The Brotherhood is expanding our events and is looking for a few golfers. This Spring we'll be forming a golf league. This will likely be a friendly par 3 game (maybe at Lost Brook in Norwood). To help us determine if this is a go, please email Jon Cohan at joncoco@yahoo.com with your interest and the best days/times for you to play. We'd like to kick off our first season with 4 teams of 4.



Welcome New Temple Members

**We welcome the following new members
to our Temple Beth Shalom community**

Susan Brookman Porro and Alessandro Porro

John Dennis

Michele and Philip Petteruti, and their children
Benjamin and Kate

Richard and Susan Brisk

Alice and Fred Rapkin

Karen and John Levine
and their children Jonah, Matthew and Samuel

Ira and Rebecca Shaw and their son Jacob

Danielle and Gregg Darish and their son Jacob

From Rabbi Markley



During the first week of November, I was privileged to be a member of Temple Beth Shalom's delegation to the Union for Reform Judaism Biennial convention in Toronto.

The entire event was eye-opening in many regards, and Rabbi Perlman will be sharing his own reflections on the event in his *Scroll* article this month. We both encourage you to visit <http://biennial.urj.org/> when you have a few moments. On that site, streaming video is available of the many inspirational and thought-provoking speakers who shared their own Torah with Biennial delegates.

Additionally, I was fortunate to attend a pre-convention symposium for synagogue and communal educators on the topic of "Jewish identity." For many in the world of Jewish education, this is often our stated aim for students from preschool through adulthood – we teach, inspire, and engage people with the hope of fostering a strong and healthy "Jewish identity" through our classrooms and programs. It became clear throughout the course of our learning time at the symposium that identity (the condition of being oneself) may look quite different for the next generation of Jewish adults (those roughly ages 18-35 right now) than it has for their parents' and grandparents' gen-

erations. The good news is that this cohort of Jews in America is very strong when it comes to Jewish identification – between 80 and 95% say that they are proud to be Jewish! This generation will, however, encourage our synagogue to consider, and reconsider, what our congregation has to offer them that will prove enriching, meaningful, and affirming of their (or perhaps "our" – Michele and I are in this age cohort) evolving identities and worldviews.

Sociological research on this era of Jews in young adulthood, spanning "Generation X" and "Generation Y Millennials," yields insights into how they are experiencing Jewish life in ways that might signal paradigm shifts for Jewish institutional life throughout North America:

- We are living in a land of post-identity politics in America, and young Jewish adults largely expect that everyone has a right to access and leadership in the community regardless of gender, ethnicity, sexuality, or skin tone.
- Geographical dispersion and great separation from immediate family are accepted as norms.
- There is little or no differentiation made between being an American and being a Jew. The two appear to be in perfect harmony with seemingly no barriers to life in this country.
- Young Jewish adults have much more diverse social networks than their grand-

parents' generation, and many – if not most – of their friends are not necessarily Jewish.

• Amongst non-Orthodox Jewish households, at least 50% have created, or hail from, homes where multiple faiths are practiced. This yields to a heightened insistence on pluralistic values.

• In the 1970's the average age of marriage for an American male was 26. Today, men and women who choose marriage are much more likely to do so in their early to mid 30's.

• Israel has less resonance for these generations than for their parents and grandparents. They agree on little about Israel except that "it's complicated."

• Many are happy to live out their Judaism in non-traditional Jewish spaces... at art galleries, concert halls, theaters, university classrooms, bars, and coffee shops.

• Technology is pervasive in the lives of young Jews, and while "virtual connections" often lead to real human interaction, they are happy to begin relationships with people and groups online.

What will these Jewish identity shifts mean for Temple Beth Shalom? I look forward to the discussions, the outreach, the questions, and the debates that will guide as we create a synagogue home that will be just as sacred and vibrant 100 years from now as it is today!

BESTY's David Aronson Memorial Bagel Day - Sunday, February 7

BESTY is the senior youth group at Temple Beth Shalom for grades 8-12.

Bagel Day is our annual fundraiser to help continue to improve upon the quality of programs & activities we are able to offer and the event scholarships we are able to provide members towards regional & national events.

On Sunday, February 7, BESTY members will deliver fresh bagels to your doorstep. We can deliver your bagels to your house from either: 8:30 - 9:30 am or 10:00 - 11:00 am, or you can pick up your bagels at the Temple between 8:00 - 11:00 am.

Bagels will cost \$12 per dozen.

We cannot mix different types of bagels or sell fewer than a dozen.

If you are able to support BESTY please fill out the order form below and make your checks payable to "BESTY" and mail to Temple Beth Shalom, 670 Highland Ave., Needham 02494. Forms and checks must be received by January 27, 2010.

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____ Do you want your bagels delivered? Yes No

What time do you want your bagels delivered? (circle one) 8:30 - 9:30 a.m. 10:00 - 11:00 a.m.

Directions from Temple: _____

Dozen Plain Dozen Poppy Dozen Egg Dozen Cinnamon-Raisin Dozen Sesame

We do not want any bagels, but please accept our donation to BESTY. Cream cheese - no charge

From Rabbi Perلمان



Chanukah is known as the holiday of rededication – recalling the legend of the rekindling of the menorah in the ancient Temple in Jerusalem. Last month, a team of ten from TBS

joined together in Toronto as part of the Union for Reform Judaism Biennial Convention to rededicate our commitment to creating a vibrant Jewish community. Several of our members were also delegates at the Women for Reform Judaism Biennial – exploring the many different facets of Sisterhood locally, nationally, and internationally. (Judy Ravech, our TBS Sisterhood President shares information about the WRJ Biennial and several of our participants offer personal reflections on their Biennial experience in a special insert to this edition of the Scroll.) In all, over 3,500 lay leaders, rabbis, cantors, and educators from Reform congregations around the world met in Toronto.

The purpose of the URJ Biennial is to provide a venue for our movement to gather, focus and reflect upon the core issues facing the Reform Movement, hear from compelling and inspirational speakers, learn from the ‘best practices’ in congregational programming (Rabbi Markley and I were invited to give workshop presentations on our TBS Youth Program, our High Holy Day Family Service, and our TBS Employment Assistance Program), gain insight into the direction of the Reform Movement as a whole, study with outstanding teachers and leaders, and vote upon resolutions. To be at a Biennial is not only inspirational it is also an opportunity to glean

important information as we consider our own course as a Beth Shalom community.

Full information about the Biennial, including many video presentations, can be found at www.urj.org/biennial. Among the many programs and offerings presented a number of broader themes emerged:

- **Deepening Our Connection to Judaism and Each Other:** Many of the discussions at Biennial focused on the need to deepen the connection Jews feel to their Judaism – both through individual congregations and beyond. The “Synagogue 3000” effort created by Dr. Ron Wolfson and Rabbi Larry Hoffman is focusing energy, creativity, and resources on outreach to 20’s and 30’s who are not yet (or who may never become) part of congregational communities. The Biennial presenters encouraged us to think differently about how we reach out to Jews – younger and more mature – to deepen our relationships with our members and to share the richness of Jewish life in even more meaningful ways. We were asked to consider how the use of on-line social networking, new technology, camping programs, and other opportunities can enrich our communities.

- **The Importance of Interfaith Outreach:** I attended an outstanding workshop entitled “Children of Abraham: Muslim-Jewish Dialogue at a Time of Transition.” The program featured Azhar Azeez from the Islamic Society of North America. He shared how he sees the Muslim community in America growing in the same ‘footsteps’ as the Jewish community – with the same potential. In this, he spoke about how he sees important opportunities for interfaith partnership and learn-

ing. As well, the entire Assembly was moved by the words of Eboo Patel, the Founder and Executive Director of the Interfaith Youth Core and appointee by President Obama to the Advisory Council of White House Office of Faith Based and Neighborhood Partnerships. His message of understanding and the need for society to differentiate between extremists and the thoughtful practitioners of Islam, Judaism, and Christianity struck a chord in the aftermath of the shooting at Fort Hood. Tony Blair, former Prime Minister of Great Britain and Northern Ireland spoke of his work as the founder of the Tony Blair Foundation to promote understanding between the major faiths and the increased understanding of the role of faith in the modern world.

- **The Essential Relationship Bridging Israel to the Rest of the Jewish World:** We had the unique opportunity to hear from Avishay Braverman, M.K., Minister of Minority Affairs in Jerusalem and H.E. Miriam Ziv, the Ambassador of Israel to Canada as well as to meet with leaders from the Israeli Movement for Progressive Judaism.

It was a privilege to attend the Biennial as a representative of TBS. We look forward to taking these thematic threads and weaving them into our own local initiatives. If you are interested in becoming more involved in any of the above, please let me know. Without question, our entire group returned rededicated to having our congregation shine with an even brighter light.

Chag Sameach! Happy Chanukah!

2010 TBS Israel Adventure

An informational meeting will take place on **Thursday, December 17 at 7:30 pm** about our

December 2010
TBS Trip to Israel.
We will travel from
December 23 - January 2, 2011.



Save The Date!
TBS Family Kallah
Friday, April 30 - Sunday, May 2
Camp Eisner,
Great Barrington, MA
More information will follow!



Temple Aliyah and Temple Beth Shalom
present a *Community Concert* with

Habanot Nechama
award-winning, platinum-selling
Israeli songwriters in
their first Boston area appearance.

Sunday, January 10 at 7:30 pm
Temple Aliyah
1664 Central Avenue
Needham

Tickets: \$18 - Available November 15 - 30 only at Temple Aliyah & Temple Beth Shalom
Available December 1 also at www.templealiyah.tix.com
Made possible with support from the Israeli Consulate & The Boston Jewish Music Festival.





12th Annual Sisterhood Spirituality Retreat

January 29 – January 31, 2010

Resort and Conference Center At Hyannis

www.capecoderesortandconference.com

Are you looking for a way to recharge your social, spiritual, and creative batteries in a Jewish setting?

The women of Temple Beth Shalom have a unique opportunity to come together for an exciting weekend retreat filled with learning, laughter, creativity, worship and song.

We will share our stories, make new friends and reconnect with old friends.

This year's program is going to be inspiring and thought –provoking, in a warm and friendly environment.

Our theme for the retreat:

Exploring SPIRITUALITY Through Ritual and Relationships

Whether this is your 12th retreat or your 1st retreat, this is a weekend you won't want to miss.

Name: _____ Email: _____

Address: _____ Phone: _____

Is there someone with whom you'd like to room? _____

Price includes lodging, meals, and program

	Sisterhood Member (Dues paid)	Sisterhood Member (Dues unpaid)	Non- temple member
Per person, double occupancy	\$240	\$285	\$294
Per person, single occupancy	\$330	\$375	\$384

To reserve your space, please send a \$120 deposit (payable to Sisterhood of Temple Beth Shalom) ASAP to:
Amy Willis, 10 Holland Terrace, Needham, MA 02492

For more information, please contact
Barbara Pack at barbpack@yahoo.com or
Emily Aransky at emilya6461@aol.com.

Full and partial scholarships are available for current Sisterhood members. All inquiries are confidential.

Please contact Judy Ravech at 781-856-8200 or jravech@rcn.com.

Space is limited to 40 participants – first come, first served!

CANCELLATION POLICY: No refunds will be provided at any time unless a replacement can be found by the retreat committee. If a replacement is found, all but \$50 will be refunded.

PLEASE JOIN US FOR

Sisterhood Rosh Chodesh Group

Sunday, December 13 from 3:00 - 4:30pm

Chanukah fare will be served

At the home of Trina Novak 33 Gilbert Road
RSVP to Trina: 781-449-6747, kermittf@rcn.com

Rosh Chodesh: Female-centered **Rosh Chodesh** observances vary from group to group, but many are centered around small gatherings of women, called **Rosh Chodesh** groups. These groups engage in a wide variety of activities that center around issues important to Jewish women, depending on the preference of the group's members. Many **Rosh Chodesh** groups explore spirituality, religious education, ritual, health issues, music, chanting, art, and/or cooking.

Rosh Chodesh is a monthly holiday based on the new month.

We will celebrate the beginnings of the month in our own unique way as the new group comes together to form its own traditions. Enjoy a spiritual and social gathering to create connections and relationships among your sisterhood friends. Be a part of shaping this group into an exciting new addition to your spiritual life in Sisterhood.

Mark your calendars for upcoming **Rosh Chodesh** dates:
February 7 and April 11.

There is no charge for this event. Please contact Trina if you can help with refreshments.



WE WANT YOUR PJ'S!

While we are warm and cozy in our homes, there are children in shelters, group homes, and foster care who are not as lucky.

Many have been abused or abandoned; they are alone and feel unwanted.

During the winter months, warm pajamas are needed more than ever.

The Pajama Program, a nationwide organization that collects and distributes new pajamas and new books to these children in need, gives them a sense of love and belonging.

In the spirit of Tzedakah, we will be collecting for the Pajama Program.

Please bring a pair of **NEW** pajamas (for a boy or a girl –

toddler to early teen) and/or a **NEW** children's book to the Temple and leave it in the PJ Box in the Atrium. Let's help the Pajama Program create a warm and nurturing bedtime environment for vulnerable youngsters living under difficult circumstances.

If you have any questions, please contact:

Alison Davis

abgdavis@aol.com

or Betty Weiner betts235@yahoo.com



Library

Temple Beth Shalom's Library is located across from Simon Hall. The library's mission is to create and provide a user friendly library that is available to the entire congregation. Our specific responsibilities are to purchase both adult and children's library materials (including books, and audiovisual materials) and process the items and catalog them so that people can find them on the shelves.

The library accepts donations of materials from congregants. Materials must be fairly recent (within the last five years and in good condition). The library also makes recommendations for congregants in terms of reading materials through the temple web site and monthly *Scroll* articles.

A "mobile" used book sale is located in the atrium of the temple. All proceeds go directly back into the library fund to purchase more materials. The Library Committee is always seeking to increase the library usage. We want to be an important aspect of the temple.

Volunteer opportunities:

We could use help with staffing the library during religious school hours, so that classroom teachers could bring their children to the library on a regular basis. We would also like help with shelving and regular maintenance of the collection. The library is investigating purchasing an on-line circulation and catalog system. We will need help entering the collection into a new computer.

If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Lisa Rothenberg at lbrgsr@mail.com or 781-455-9849.

Sharing Our Lives

We extend our sympathy to המקום ינחם

Jeff Green and Liz Webb Green, Emma, Jay and Joshua on the passing of their mother and grandmother, Arlene Green

Nanci and Steve Dephoure, Adam and Wendy on the passing of their mother and grandmother, Anne Weiss

Marcie Akell and Murray Hurvitz, Jason, Samuel and Andrew on the passing of their father and grandfather, Harry Akell

Amy and Ken Willis on the passing of their cousin, Lorraine Goren

Karen and Aaron Goldberg, Deborah and Jennifer on the passing of mother and grandmother, Selma Davidson

Beth Pinals and Ken Barringer on the passing of their aunt, Sue Pinals

Jeff Cotton, Jordana and Tova on the passing of their father and grandfather, Joseph Cotton

Philip and Lisa Channen, Rebecca and Sarah on the passing of their mother and grandmother, Vivian Channen

We extend Mazal Tov to מול טוב!

Amy and Josh Goldfine, big sister Emma and big brother Jake on the birth of their daughter and baby sister, Lindsey Claire

Mimi Kaplan on the birth of her first grandchild, Andrew John Kaplan
Proud parents are Stephen and Sabrina

Contributions

The minimum donation for recognition in The Scroll is \$10.00.
"At birthdays, anniversaries, yahrzeits, etc., support your Temple Fund."

Rabbi Perlman's Discretionary Fund

Donor
Margie & Alan Glou
Mimi & Richard Klein
Kim & Howard Silverman
Jerry Sherman
Jerry Sherman
Jerry Sherman
Jerry Sherman
Sandra Torrisi
Judy Ravech
Essie & Karl Kaizerman
Denah Greenberg

Elizabeth & Stephen Marshak

Marcy Abrams
Emily Dreifus & Mark Maremont

Louis & Patti Grossman

Roger & Susan Patkin
Sharon Salinger
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Sharon Rosenberg
Jerry Sherman
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Carole & Phil Aronson
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Boris & Irina Guralnik
Boris & Irina Guralnik

Rabbi Markley's Discretionary Fund

Donor
Haley Alpert

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The Weinstein Family
Marge Lewin & Hilary Jean
Jerry Sherman
Jerry Sherman
Jerry Sherman
Emily Dreifus & Mark Maremont

Edward & Rene Katersky
Diane Sparr

In appreciation of
Our High Holy Day Honor
Our Special Honor at Rosh Hashanah
Our High Holy Day Honor
Rabbi Jay & Emily Perlman
Rabbi Lenke
Being Part of High Holy Days
15 great years as member
High Holy Day Honor
High Holy Day Honor
Rabbi Perlman
An inspiring & enjoyable Rosh Hashanah Service
Rabbi Perlman for Sienna's beautiful baby naming
Lovely High Holy Days
Rabbi Perlman's support following my mother's passing
Rabbi Perlman for a beautiful wedding ceremony for Jake & Liz
Our Temple Community
Rabbi Perlman's prayers & compassion
Our wedding ceremony
High Holy Day Honor
Betty Weiner
Rabbi Jay's warmth & support before, during & after Gabi's Bat Mitzvah
Rabbi Jay with hopes for a good New Year

In honor of
Jackie Agranat's chanting Torah on Yom Kippur
David Berg's Torah reading
Emily Perlman's Torah reading
Steven Weiner's Torah reading
Fred Katz's Aliyah
Rabbi Perlman
Rabbi Perlman
The birth of Gabriel Zev Waller
Peter & Lorraine Harper's 50th Wedding Anniversary
Gabrielle Sherman's Bat Mitzvah

In memory of
Senator Kennedy
Michael Shulman
John C. Athans
Irving Olin
Marianne Brinz
Hymen Holtzman
Sumner Brunswick
Herman Rosin
Laura Jean Levine
Bernard Roseman
Murielle Gerard
Arthur Robbins
Charles Friedman
Judah M. Silverman
Samuel G. Goldenthal
Joel Weinstein
Bernard Kline
Igor Guralnik
Igor Bezverkhnay

In appreciation of
Rabbi Todd for his kindness & assistance before & during my Bat Mitzvah
Rabbi Todd's warmth & support before, during & after Gabi's Bat Mitzvah
The funeral conducted for Joel Weinstein
Shabbat Torah Study
Rabbi Sonsino's High Holy Day Sermon
15 great years as member
Sukkot Block Party
Rabbi Markley's support following my mother's passing
Rabbi Markley
My Temple Family for their loving support

Donor
Mildred Krieger
Jerry Sherman

Donor
Carole Aronson
Charlotte Francer

Donor
Pam & Mark Fisher

Donor
Lucille & Jerry Sands
David Grossman & Dara Seidman
Nancy & Monty Krieger

Donor
Roberta Gerson
Susan & Cappy Goldberg
The Halpert Family
The Halpert Family
Ina & Ron Glasberg
Ina & Ron Glasberg

Donor
Diane & Ira Tarlin
Jeff, Dan & Rachel Wolfson
Mia Markley
Mia Markley

Donor
Haley Alpert

Haley Alpert

Jacquie & Michael Sherman

Jacquie & Michael Sherman

Donor
Susan & Cappy Goldberg
Debbie & Jeff Kublin
Diane Sparr

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The Kublin Family
Rabbi Rifat Sonsino
Meredith & Gabe Fried

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The Agranat Family
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Monty & Nancy Krieger & Family
Jane Garshick
Laura, Michael, Alexis & Ian Deutsch

Donor
Susan & Cappy Goldberg

Donor
Edna Bello
Ralph & Ina Melen

Donor
Marilyn & Bob Brooks

In honor of
Rabbi Markley becoming an Associate Rabbi
Rabbi Todd's Torah reading

In memory of
Dorothy Margulies Goldenthal
Louis Strasberg

The Chesed Fund

In appreciation of
Our High Holy Day Honor

In honor of
Fred Waldman's special birthday
Patti & Louis Grossman
Gabrielle Sherman becoming a Bat Mitzvah

In memory of
Thelma Gerson
Joseph Kalikow
Virginia Hyde
Neal David Kertzman
Michael Shulman
Anne Weiss

Children's Center Fund

In memory of
Sylvia Karol
Judy Wolfson
Arlene Green
Jesse Barnett's great grandfather

Education Fund

In appreciation of
Rabbi Lenke for helping me prepare for my Bat Mitzvah
Sheira Rosenfield for always being so nice and for helping me prepare for my Bat Mitzvah
Rabbi Lenke's guidance & good humor during Gabi's Bat Mitzvah preparation
Sandy Whitecross for inspiring Gabi to continue her education

In honor of
Gabrielle Sherman's Bat Mitzvah
Michaela Furman's Bat Mitzvah
The engagement of David Grossman to Dara Seidman

In memory of
Abraham Kublin
Albert Sonsino
Claire Sylvia White

Endowment Fund

In memory of
Harold Brick

General Fund

In honor of
Jackie Agranat's Aliyah on Yom Kippur
Beth Pinals' Presidency
The Bat Mitzvah of Jacqueline Davis
The wedding of Jake & Liz Grossman
Jacqueline Davis' Bat Mitzvah

In memory of
Ruth S. Rosen
Sadie Waxman
Norman Gurwitz
Norman Gurwitz
Norman Gurwitz
Norman Gurwitz
Terry Krieger
Arthur Robbins
Sarah Goodman

Richard Todd Sacks Jewish Life Education Fund

In honor of
Jesse Faneuil's engagement

In memory of
Gertrude Belitsky
Ada Greenberg

Library Fund

In memory of
Anne Weiss

Music Fund

Donor
Michael & Jacquie Sherman

Michael & Jacquie Sherman

In appreciation of
Emily Perlman's warmth & guidance in preparing Gabi for her Bat Mitzvah
Marcie Jonas for her guidance & beautiful music at Gabi's Bat Mitzvah

Donor
Irving J. Baker & Family
Joan Berman
The Seri Family
Nancy & Steve Cutter & Family
Harold & Ellie Shufro
Roberta Gerson

In memory of
Marilyn Baker
David Gibgot
Abraham Seri
Sheldon Shapiro
Michael Shulman
Michael Shulman

Jerry Aransky Passport to Israel Fund

Donor
Marcy & Seth Livingstone

In honor of
Freddie Waldman's birthday

Donor
The Bookman Family
The Sheetz Family

In memory of
Harry Bookman
Leonard Pasternak

Permanent Memorial Funds

Gersten/Hoisington Memorial Lecture Fund

Donor
Steven & Barbara Popper

In appreciation of
High Holy Days Honors

Donor
Sue Rosen

In honor of
Linda & Allan Gersten

Kivi Grebber Memorial Fund

Donor
Charlotte Francer
Charlotte Francer

In memory of
Anna Francer
Maurice Fisher

Amy Sanker Kappel Memorial Fund

Donor
Wendy Storch, Emily & Brett Cohen
Wendy Storch, Emily & Brett Cohen

In honor of
Selma Storch
Nelson Storch

Ned Saltzberg Memorial Fund

Donor
Toby & Edward Fox
Nat, Phyllis, Lenny & Ashleigh Reisner

In memory of
Bertha Fox
Leonard S. Feuer

Prayerbook Fund

(The minimum donation for a bookplate is \$54.00)

Donor
Bev & Rich Luskin
Roberta Gerson
Roberta Gerson

In memory of
Helen Dwin
Lena Pearlman
Thelma Gerson

Sanctuary Flower Fund

Donor
The Freidman Family
The Hochman Family
The Sherman Family
The Silverstein & Kruglak Families
The Wasserman Family
The Weil Family
The Turner Family
The Weinstein Family
The Goldstein Family

In honor of
Lexi Freidman becoming a Bat Mitzvah
Allison Hochman becoming a Bat Mitzvah
Gabrielle Sherman becoming a Bat Mitzvah
Nikki & Jeremy becoming B'nei Mitzvah
Kailey Wasserman becoming a Bat Mitzvah
Ben Weil becoming a Bar Mitzvah
Isabelle Turner becoming a Bat Mitzvah
Jacob Weinstein becoming a Bar Mitzvah
Daniel Goldstein becoming a Bar Mitzvah

Donor
Nate & Judy Levine
Nate & Judy Levine
Carol & Hal Gershman

In memory of
Samuel Jacob Levine
Eliot Levine
Ebba Jacobson

Sisterhood Oneg Fund

Donor
The Freidman Family
The Hochman Family
Jacquie, Michael & Nathan Sherman
The Silverstein & Kruglak Families
Kenneth & Sharon Wasserman
The Weil Family
Lauren & Michael Turner
Lewis & Denisa Weinstein
Eric, Amy, Max & Andrew Goldstein

In honor of
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Allison Hochman becoming a Bat Mitzvah
Gabrielle Sherman becoming a Bat Mitzvah
Nikki & Jeremy becoming B'nei Mitzvah
Kailey Wasserman becoming a Bat Mitzvah
Ben Weil becoming a Bar Mitzvah
Isabelle Turner becoming a Bat Mitzvah
Jacob Weinstein becoming a Bar Mitzvah
Daniel Goldstein becoming a Bar Mitzvah

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In appreciation of

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Sandy Hain & Tiziana Getz for being so kind & helpful during the preparations for Haley's Bat Mitzvah

David Wilson blowing the Shofar on Yom Kippur for the residents of Golden Living Center - Heathwood

Lucille & Jerry Sands

Speedy recovery

Jean Sands

In memory of

Michael Shulman

Youth Fund

In appreciation of

Allie Klein

In honor of

Rabbi Markley
The adult B'nei Mitzvah Class
The birth of Liam Charles Levin
Nikki Silverstein becoming a Bat Mitzvah

In memory of

Igor Bezverkhny



Yahrzeits



DECEMBER 4

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Fanny Marzynski
Milton Novack
Ann Popper
Evelyn Price
Joyce Rockmore
Bertha Rosenberg
Leon Samet
Eva Shore
Julius Sparr
Harry Spigle
William Weitzen
Harry Witkin

DECEMBER 18

Sylvia Berkman
Eva Cantor
Patricia Ruth Cohen
William Cohn
Hannah Deutsch
Birdie Kray
Isabelle Krugman
Anna Langerman
Melvin E. Lowe

Esther Ostroff
Richard Bernard Pearlman
David Perlmutter
Ruth Finkelstein Sandler
Sam Segal
Barnet Shapiro
Hazel Stieber
Judith Wallack
Sarah Esther Weener
William Weisman
Leon Weiss

DECEMBER 25

Robert S. Abeles
Saul Adams
Molly Adler
Morton Bloom
Madeleine Bramson
Harold Brody
Israel Cohen
Shirley Rosenberg Cohen
Florence M. Covell
Rosalind Danzig
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Rose Farber
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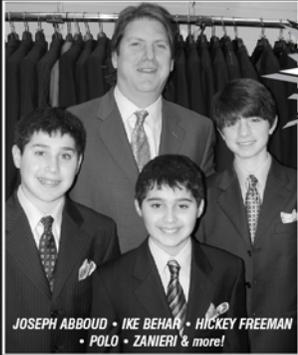
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