

Scroll

Temple Beth Shalom - Needham, Massachusetts

February 2015

Shevat/Adar 5775



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From the Editorial Board

Planting the Seeds

As we all hunker down for another New England winter, let us all keep in mind that this is a time when seeds germinate under cover so that they can be ready to bloom in an artistic manifestation of natural beauty come Spring (and it WILL come - We promise!).

This artful blooming is the theme of this issue of the Scroll, but not just in the obvious ways, such as the feature story on the Garden Club's upcoming Art in Bloom event or the *Chai* Lights and Committee Profile focus on the Club and its leadership. In a larger sense, this issue of the *Scroll* is itself an example of art in bloom.

Six months ago, we planted the seed for a new *Scroll* that would engage and involve the community in new ways. Since then, this seed has begun to bear fruit, with new columns, designs, and, if the feedback is any indication, new found interest from our members and many from outside our TBS family as well.

While we have some new buds in place, to make an arrangement worthy of our award-winning Garden Club and our amazing community, we need more flowers and more gardeners. That is why we ask all of you to send your ideas and advice to scroll@tbsneedham.org so that we can continue to fertilize and prune the publication and everyone can continue to find beauty and art in it every month.

Whether you are a writer, a photographer, an artist, or just someone who found inspiration in your daily life (which we hope you do daily) and wanted to share it, the *Scroll* is here for you. It is your publication and we hope to hear from and see more of you in it. While the *Chai* Lights columns and feature stories have afforded new opportunities to introduce and get to know each other, the potential for further engagement and interaction is endless! All it takes is an idea and a willingness to share.

We want the *Scroll* to be a place where our community can step back and appreciate its own beauty, especially during this time of growth and renewal for our building and our community.

So as we look forward to Spring, take some time to germinate your own seeds and to bring them to artful bloom.

Be well and in touch.

L'shalom,

The Editorial Board

From the Clergy

Congregational Communications

By Rabbi Todd Markley



Dear Temple Family,

It is noteworthy that, in the first chapter of Torah, God speaks the entire world into being. Later in the narrative of the Jewish people, we become bound to Torah, putting sacred text and the writings of our Rabbis and Sages at the center of our lives. For centuries Jews have been known as the People of the Book. The written and spoken word matters deeply in our tradition, and we therefore know that how we convey our messages to one another is of tremendous importance.

This year the editorial team of this publication has done a wonderful job in taking “The Scroll,” so expertly and lovingly crafted by Linda Rosenberg for so many years, and continuing her tradition of excellence with a new look, feel, and content for the next phase of our monthly bulletin. Inspired by their work, our temple leadership has chosen to reflect upon and assess all of our TBS communication platforms. Work on this multi-year goal has already begun, and we have chosen to focus first on three arenas of congregational communication:

Our Weekly E-Newsletter – Each Wednesday we share important information about upcoming events and programs in our community and beyond. Given the sheer volume of information we need to convey, we are exploring new platforms and new organizational strategies what will improve the user experience and, we hope, make it easier for you to find the information you seek.

Our Communications Regarding Finance and Payments – Our new Synagogue Pay system has brought many of the intended benefits to our congregants and staff, allowing members to set up and make their payments electronically and automating some of our billing procedures, saving much needed

Continued on Page 7

FEBRUARY 2015

SERVICES

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 6 (18 SHEVAT 5775)

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

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 7 (18 SHEVAT 5775)

Torah: Yitro, Ex. 18:01 – 20:26
8:30 AM *Shabbat* Morning *Minyan*
9:00 AM – *Torah* Study
11:00 AM – *Shabbat* Morning Service
Bar Mitzvah: Ethan Goldstein

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 13 (25 SHEVAT 5775)

7:15 PM – *Shabbat* Evening Service

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 14 (25 SHEVAT 5775)

Torah: Mishpatim, Ex. 21:1 – 24:18
8:30 AM – *Shabbat* Morning *Minyan*
9:00 AM – *Torah* Study
11:00 AM – *Shabbat* Morning Service
Bat Mitzvah: Maya Dephoure

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 20 (2 ADAR 5775)

6:15 PM – *Shabbat* Evening Service

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 21 (2 ADAR 5775)

Torah: Terumah, Ex. 25:1 – 27:19
8:30 AM *Shabbat* Morning *Minyan*
9:00 AM – *Torah* Study
11:00 AM – *Shabbat* Morning Service
Bar Mitzvah: Daniel Cohen

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 27 (9 ADAR 5775)

6:15 PM – *Shabbat* Evening Service

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 28 (9 ADAR 5775)

Torah: Tetzaveh, Ex. 27:20 – 30:10
8:30 AM *Shabbat* Morning *Minyan*
9:00 AM – *Torah* Study
11:00 AM – *Shabbat* Morning Service
Bat Mitzvah: Kayla Barnet

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

It is a little commitment, but a BIG *mitzvah*!
We hope to see you ALL there!

Mikdash: Our Sacred Home

By Beth Pinals, *Mikdash* Chair

Having just immersed in *parashat Shemot*, we've witnessed God's conversation with Moses instructing him to tell the Israelite slaves that they are to be freed. There is uncertainty, disbelief, and questioning, but the sacred mandate moves forward and our people begin their journey to their more permanent home in the Promised Land.

One may wonder how the Israelites communicated that it was time to go. How did they know that they could rely on the path to the next place, that they should bring along their questions and wishes to live freely as they should, and that they themselves could create a well-matched place in which to build a sacred community?

It must have been like a telephone chain with each family passing along the mandate to the next. It seems like an enormous undertaking. But every single Israelite got the message and came to cross the waters of the sea.

Similarly, like an old fashioned row of phone operators connecting the wires for each call, our *Mikdash* team would like to ensure that each call, visit, and conversation is undertaken with the utmost care in offering updates, attending to questions, receiving feedback, and helping to relay information

regarding building design, and giving opportunities that enable our families to shape a gift that's feasible and meaningful for them.

Behind the scenes, the *Mikdash* Leadership team sees on a daily basis the gifts being bestowed upon our community that will become the nuts and bolts, the nails, and bricks and pillars of our new home – the home that houses our prayer, learning, daily business and communal activities and celebrations. So many have contributed to what is now over \$7.6 million in support and many more have scheduled conversations about both our building plans and the possibility of generous family donations. Soon, we hope to have every one of our perspectives, hearts and gifts accounted for and each name engraved in our alphabetical listing on the walls of our *Mikdash*.

Please feel free to call or answer the call.

L'Shalom,

Beth Pinals



TBS in Israel: A Traveler's Diary, Part 2

by Amy Willis

January 1, 2015

Since my family and I returned from Israel a few days ago, many people have asked, "What was the highlight of the trip?" My response has been, "Truly, every day was a highlight!"

Fast-paced and exciting, the trip was a whirlwind of interesting sights and facts about Israel's history and landscape, meaningful moments shared with family and friends, and just plain fun.

Led by Rabbi Jay and Emily, our group of 78 people included adults, children and teens. The group was divided into two buses, each with its own charismatic tour guide. While much of our time was spent riding and touring with our own bus, there was also plenty of time to share meals and socialize with the entire group. A unique sense of community quickly developed. We began to feel as if the rest of the world had stopped and we were in our own traveling bubble.

One often hears that visiting Israel is like coming home, and indeed I felt that way immediately upon arriving at our first stop, Mevasseret Zion, a Reform synagogue that overlooks Jerusalem's Old City. Tired and weary from the hours of travel, our group was welcomed for Shabbat services and a lovely oneg. The beautiful, familiar melodies of the service; the warmth of the rabbi and congregants; and the presence of Sasha Kopp, a former TBS educator and mentor to my daughter Juliana, made me feel as if the long plane ride had just melted away. My transition from Needham to Israel was seamless.

The ten days of touring included something for everyone. My husband Ken is a history buff and he relished learning the details about Israel's founders, its wars and hard-won borders. My nine-year old son Daniel enjoyed bouncing up and down on a jeep ride through the Golan Heights, seeing old bunkers where Syrian fighters hid, and practically touching the cows that came up close to our passing jeeps. Juliana, ever the teenager, soaked up the foreign culture, noting the "cool boots" and "perfect hair" donned by the glamorous Israeli girls, including the soldiers who were only a few years older than she is.

As for me, I loved everything about this trip and perhaps most treasured the small moments of personal reward

and connection. Laughing at a joke with friends to pass the time on the airplane...placing tiny folded prayers into cracks in the Western Wall once again after my first experience 27 years ago, this time with my precious daughter by my side...Havdalah led by Rabbi Jay, with Emily playing the guitar...the triumph I experienced reaching the top of Masada (albeit among the last of the climbers)...floating in the Dead Sea...seeing the gorgeous Chagal windows at Hadassah Hospital and learning about their history...watching Daniel play touch football with his Hebrew teacher from TBS, Aaron Gurvis, and ten other boys at Kibbutz K'far Blum...hearing the moving story of our young jeep guide who had lost his wife to terrorism...enjoying delicious, relaxed dinners with old friends and new friends...and finally, visiting the spot where Yitzak Rabin was assassinated after hosting a rally for peace, and wondering, sadly, what might have been had he lived.

Many people in our group spent part of our free day in Tel Aviv visiting with Israeli family and friends. Our family had a special experience having dinner with one of Juliana's counselors from Crane Lake Camp. Noam is Israeli and finished her army service a year ago. She told us in the army, her job had been to train younger soldiers to drive and operate a tank. Our jaws dropped as we remembered the size of the tanks we had seen at Latrun, Israel's armed corps museum, the previous day. Noam, like many young Israelis, enjoyed the camaraderie she experienced in the army, and she took pride in defending Israel.

It was fascinating to hear Noam's stories. She also had questions for us; she wanted to know if we had enjoyed Israel and, as Americans, whether we felt at home there. I said I felt very at home in Israel, and Juliana declared without hesitation, "I feel more Jewish here!"

Looking back, that was a climactic moment, and maybe even the highlight of the trip - "I feel more Jewish!" she said.

Perfect, I thought. Priceless.

For a group photo of the trip participants, see page 7.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chesed Volunteers Needed NOW

Chesed cares for our Temple members in so many important ways, providing meals, visits, rides, and so much more. Wouldn't you like to help us support members of our community in times of need?

There are so many ways you can help. Sign up to visit an isolated or ill Temple member or provide a ride to a medical appointment or deliver a meal. Call to offer condolences on a loss or knit a caring wrap. Deliver a package, write a card, make a phone call or help us develop new outreach programs. There are so many ways you can help and we need your participation. Please get in touch so we can find the right fit for you. Contact Wendy Shulman (wshulman1@gmail.com).



Even the smallest gestures make a huge impact. Don't wait! Get in touch with us now to offer your help.

A Reflection on *Kolot Kehillah* by Diana Traylor

I never thought of myself as a singer until after my first day at a Circle Song workshop (a workshop that I attended outside of TBS led by Bobby McFerrin at the Omega Institute) where 200 people came together to explore improvisation through song. I came back feeling the need to sing -- not so others could hear my voice, but for joy and the want for others to feel the same.

Something special happens when people sing together.

When the invitation came to sing with Cantor Jonas in the TBS *Kolot Kehillah* (voices of the community), pop-up choir, I entered the date into my calendar and looked forward to it for weeks. The evening came and rehearsal alone exceeded my expectations. I felt a spiritual connection through singing in Hebrew and in rounds. When I returned to my seat, I felt a new sense of community -- not just with those who also sang -- but by those sitting around me who welcomed me back with smiles and expressions of gratitude for

the music. I immediately felt a new connection to a congregation I've been a member of for 10 years.

I've returned since and I intend to do so as often as possible. Won't you join me?

Are You Ready to Sing?

Kolot Kehillah: voices of the community is an opportunity to 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. Join Cantor Jonas in the sanctuary on the following Friday evenings 5:45-6:10 PM (prior to services): February 20, March 20, April 17, May 15 and June 19. Please e-mail Cantor Jonas (mjonas@tbsneedham.org) for more information and to be put on the e-mail list for advance notice of upcoming singing opportunities. No ongoing commitment necessary - come once or occasionally if you like!

Thank You TBS EZRA Volunteers



For three decades, Temple Beth Shalom of Needham has collaborated with The Needham Community Council and Roche Brothers to provide needed dinners on Christmas day to Needham residents.

This year 156 delicious, hearty meals left the kitchen of Temple Beth Shalom, a third more than any

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

"From the Clergy", Continued from Page 3

number we have done before. The greater need was there, and we at TBS met it.

How grateful I am to all the TBS volunteers who made this feat possible. Some arrived early to man the TBS kitchen where they skillfully carved the succulent turkeys while others began peeling 120 pounds of potatoes for mashing. All the dinner fixings: the stuffing, vegetables, cranberry sauce and gravy were made ready. Still more volunteers came with their delicious home baked finger desserts, brownies and cookies of all descriptions, individually and invitingly wrapped. Just beyond the kitchen doors, additional volunteers did the difficult task of making the bags ready for delivery. After almost three hours of labor, the preparations were done. More than a score of TBS volunteers then arrived to collect the dinner bags and deliver them to the waiting recipients. Our hearts are filled with gratitude for all the volunteers. You made the lives of 156 people brighter, easier, and more joyful. Thank you.

*Lois and Ron Sockol,
June and Richard Atkind*

Project EZRA Chairs

time. We are now working closely with Nelnet, the company which operates Synagogue Pay, to improve upon the language used in their notices to our members and to bring all of our financial communications in line with our community values.

Our Communications with Prospective Members and New Members – We are blessed that so many people express interest in becoming part of our TBS family. We want to make sure that their questions are being answered appropriately and promptly, that the written communications they receive truly depict our congregation's core values, and that those who step into life at TBS receive the information, and the warm welcome, they deserve.

We hope that you will begin seeing changes and evolution in all these realms beginning later this spring as our work comes to fruition. Your time is precious, and our relationship with you is precious, so we want to be sure that we are always communicating in ways that effectively inform, educate, and inspire. We are working hard to do just that.



The TBS Israel Trip Participants - December 2014

Needham's Art in Bloom

By Allison Shapiro

On Saturday, March 7th through Sunday, March 8th, the Temple Beth Shalom Garden Club will be presenting the Needham's seventh annual Art in Bloom exhibit. It will feature 60+ pieces of incredible Needham High School student artwork with creative floral interpretations by Garden Club members.

The Garden Club's decision to model their event after The Boston Museum of Fine Arts' Art in Bloom concept was a perfect way to help them achieve the goal of creating a community event that people of all ages could enjoy together. Even so, the members of the TBS Garden Club never imagined seven years ago just how welcomed and successful Needham's Art in Bloom would become today! Fortunately, the Needham Cultural Council and the Dedham Institute for Savings both did. It was their grant programs that financed the early years of this free multi-generational community event. Roche Bros. has been the prime sponsor ever since.

According to Needham Reference Librarian and Program Specialist Gay Dennett, over 2,500 people came to the Needham Public Library last year during the first weekend in March to experience this special free event. Originally, the exhibit mainly attracted Needham residents, but since the TBS Garden Club received the Special Achievement Award from the Garden Club Federation of Massachusetts for the successful creation and execution of Needham's Art

in Bloom, the exhibit draws people from near and far. Needham resident Suzanne S. expressed the sentiments of many locals who love coming back each year and watching it grow when she wrote, "This is my fourth year attending and I wouldn't miss this for the world! Maryalice S. commented in the guestbook,



"We're so glad we came from Belmont. The student artists are very talented and the garden club captured the artist's expressions so well."

Needham's first Art in Bloom consisted of 27 displays. By 2011, the number of displays doubled! In addition to 44 student artists, there were 11 special tercentennial exhibits under the collective title "Needham Notables: Then and Now." This special exhibition featured floral interpretations of notable historic and contemporary Needham artists and authors



FEATURE STORY (CONTINUED)

(including TBS congregants Rose Lewis and Jim Hirsch) in honor of the town's 300th birthday celebration. A special photo collage of Needham's Art in Bloom 2011 was proudly submitted by the TBS Garden Club to be included in the town's most recent time capsule for future generations to see.

Enthusiasm for this event from the community has been evident from the beginning. Since the exhibit's inception, Needham High School art and photography teacher Shireen Yadollahpour has coordinated the collection of pieces with the faculty of the Fine Arts Department. Dennett arranged for the Needham Public Library to serve as the main venue. From the first year, The Senior Center and Town Hall provided space for a small Friday preview to kick-off the entire exhibit. Needham resident Jean H. was truly captivated after viewing the art and flowers. She described the sentiments of many visitors in the guest book when she said, "What a wonderful demonstration of the talent in Needham. The students' work is impressive and thought-provoking. The floral demonstrations are beautifully creative and inspiring. This is a lovely example of informal education combined with community spirit. Thank you!"

It's breathtaking to see the entire library blooming with art and flowers paired together. Come and see for yourself!

The 2015 edition of Needham's Art in Bloom will be held once again at the Needham Public Library on Saturday, March 7th from 9 AM – 5 PM and Sunday, March 8th from 1 - 4 PM. Visit www.NeedhamArtin-Bloom.com and like us on Facebook.



Education

Mayim T'fillah: An Opportunity for Prayer, Reflection, Community Building, and Learning

by Rachel Happel, Director of K-12 Learning



It is Monday afternoon, and the *Mayim* 2nd-5th graders are in the sanctuary with Stephen, our *t'fillah* (prayer) leader. They have just finished chanting the *Amidah* prayer, and Stephen invites the children to take two minutes to pray silently. Some of the children close their eyes; others flip through the pages of their *siddurim* (prayer books). When the two minutes have passed, Stephen leads the group in singing *Oseh Shalom*, the prayer for peace. Then he asks: "There are a lot of prayers that we chant out loud together. Why do you think we also pray silently during *t'fillah*?" Several hands go up, and Stephen calls on the children one-by-one. Answers include:



- "Because maybe sometimes we have something to pray about that is private, that we don't want anyone else to hear."
- "Because then we can think about our day and the things that happened just to us."
- "Because when we pray silently, we can pray about a lot of things at once."
- "So we can think about what we are thankful for and thank God."
- "Maybe because we can concentrate more when it is quiet."

The answers keep coming, and it is clear that the children have given this some thought. This is just one example of the many ways in which *Mayim* children are learning and reflecting on prayer each and every time they come to *Mayim*.

Every week, children in *Mayim* spend 30 minutes of their day in *T'fillah* (a prayer service) in the sanctuary. *T'fillah* is led by one of our talented songleaders (Stephen Brickman, Nick Burka, Matt Emmer, and Sara Miller), who infuse the experience with music, singing, brief *kavanot* (intentions), and opportunities to reflect on the experience.

Parents are invited to join us for *Mayim t'fillah* each week. Many of our families have shared with us that joining their children for *t'fillah* is a highlight of their week.

Our goals for *Mayim t'fillah* are:

- To develop the children's capacity for a meaningful prayer experience, including an understanding of the meanings of our prayers and the reasons why people pray
- To practice singing, chanting, or reciting our *t'fillot* (prayers) on a regular basis – a reflection of our tradition's invitation to engage this practice regularly
- To learn melodies, styles, and "prayer choreography" regularly used at TBS
- To provide older children with opportunities to lead prayer.

For the first half of the year, children in grades K-1 have their own separate *t'fillah* experience, which includes lots of singing, hand motions, and abbreviated prayers. Over the course of the year, we introduce these younger children to the sanctuary and to prayer, gradually adding to the number and length of the prayers we explore. Children in grades 2-5



end their day with a *t'fillah* experience that includes full-length prayers, brief discussions, age-appropriate songs, and opportunities to lead prayers.

February is an important month in the children's *t'fillah* journey in *Mayim*. After school vacation, the children in grades K-1 will begin joining the children in grades 2-5 for *t'fillah*. We have been preparing them for this transition by introducing them to the *siddur* and gradually adding new prayers to their repertoire. We have also been preparing the older children to welcome the kindergarten and first graders into their *t'fillah*. Our 4th and 5th graders have been preparing to be "*T'fillah* Buddies" and will be paired with the younger children to help them navigate

the *siddur* and follow along with the service. The 4th and 5th graders will also take a more active role in leading prayers and songs, which is a wonderful opportunity for them to practice the Hebrew reading and chanting skills that they have been developing in their small-group Hebrew classes.

It is always inspiring to hear the children's thoughts about specific prayers, about God, and about why people pray. It is delightful to hear their voices raised in song. And it is a blessing to see families praying and singing together as part of the *Mayim* day.



Events

in February

Here is a selection of events this month. For the most current and complete event notices, please see the TBS website and the weekly email.

BETH SHALOM GARDEN CLUB: ANNUAL WORKSHOP/LUNCHEON



Sue Kaplan will help us learn to prepare for Needham's Art in Bloom (March 6-8) by teaching us how to interpret art at our workshop. Followed by a delicious potluck luncheon. Members only.

Tuesday, February 3, 2015, 9:00 AM, Simon Hall

QUESTIONS? CONTACT: Fawn Hurwitz (fhurwitz@aol.com)

COLLEGE NIGHT FOR PARENTS AND TEENAGERS



All community members are welcome to College Night, an evening of advice for parents of high school students who are exploring their college options. On Wed Feb 4th, Linda Shapiro, a psychologist, independent college admissions consultant, and former head guidance counselor at Newton North High School, will offer information to help you move smoothly through the process of identifying the right college, and filing applications. The event is sponsored by the Sisterhood of Temple Beth Shalom and is free.

High schoolers can take part in a separate program about college and Jewish life on campus. Meet with current college students.

Wednesday, February 4, 2015, 7:30 PM

QUESTIONS? CONTACT: Janice Epstein (janiceeps@comcast.net)

THE BLACK-JEW DIALOGUES



TBS is proud to host this humorous, important and thought provoking theatrical presentation for adults and teens. During a time when race and diversity are very much at the center of our national discussion, the Black-Jew Dialogues – through humor and wit - provides a wonderful opportunity for exploration and consideration of cross-generational and cross-cultural dialogue. This extraordinary two-actor play explores the absurdity of prejudice and racism and the power of diversity.

The goal of the Black-Jew Dialogues is to promote open, honest, and respectful conversation about our differences and move audiences to action. The program combines fast-paced sketches, improvisations, multi-media, puppets, a game show, and a post-show discussion. Light refreshments will be served following the program.

Thursday, February 5, 2015, 7:00 PM

QUESTIONS? RSVP: Deb Hecht (dhecht@tbsneedham.org)

Events (continued)

BROTHERHOOD/SISTERHOOD PRESENT: "MARRIAGE CAN BE MURDER"



The Brotherhood and Sisterhood of Temple Beth Shalom invite you to attend the wedding that will end all weddings. The mother of the bride has planned the perfect wedding, but before her beautiful daughter can even say "I do" a bloody killing mars the happy day. It is up to you, the wedding guests to find the killer.

Saturday, February 7, 2015

TICKETS: <http://tbsmurder.eventbrite.com>

JEWISH BIG BROTHERS/BIG SISTERS' K'SHARIM GROUP SHABBAT



The TBS Social Action Committee is hosting the Jewish Big Brothers/Big Sisters' K'Sharim group on Friday, February 13. The goal of K'sharim is to bring people with disabilities into Jewish life by providing opportunities to attend Shabbat or holiday services and special programs in synagogues throughout Greater Boston. This connection allows K'sharim participants to celebrate Jewish traditions and Jewish life. Our guests and their hosts will have dinner in Simon Hall, and then join us for services and for the *oneg* after services. Please make a special effort to attend this Shabbat service. This opportunity for us to get to know this wonderful group of young men and women is especially well-timed, as February is Jewish Disability Awareness Month. Please stay tuned for news from the TBS Inclusion Task Force about other information and events.

Friday, February 13, 2015, 6:15 PM, Sanctuary

HA'SHABBAT ASHER LISHLOMO: THE SHABBAT OF SALAMONE ROSSI HEBREO



Come celebrate *Shabbat* in the court of the Scuola Grande (Great Synagogue) of Mantua, circa 1624.

On Friday, February 27 at 6:15 PM, TBS will be transformed into an ancient Italian synagogue, compete with authentic period music, courtesy of Il Concerto di Salomone Rossi Hebreo. A nine member *a cappella* ensemble will perform religious compositions of this celebrated 17th Century Jewish Italian musician and composer.

TBS, in association with the Boston Jewish Music Festival (<http://bostonjewishmusicfestival.org>), presents this special evening of music and worship, co-directed by Cantor Louise Treitman and Richard Lustig, Ph.D.

It is sure to be una grande notte of musica and preghiera! Unitevi a noi (Please join us)!

Friday, February 27, 2015, 6:15 PM, Sanctuary

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

Learning

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 in the sanctuary ready to sing!

Fridays, 5:45 PM - 6:10 PM, 2/20, 3/20, 4/17, 5/15, 6/19

TEACHER: Cantor Marcie Jonas

REFORM JUDAISM: WHAT IT IS AND WHAT IT IS NOT



Rabbi Bob Orkand will lead participants in a look at Reform Judaism’s development, including its American origin, its philosophy, principles and institutions. Students will review Reform Jewish practice, including life cycle events and worship. This course will also touch on topical issues such as the role of women, homosexuality and mixed-marriage. As always, no prior knowledge is necessary and each class session will stand on its own. **Bring your own lunch. We’ll supply the drinks.**

Mondays, starting February 23, 11:45 AM - 1:00 PM

REGISTER: Deb Hecht (dhecht@tbsneedham.org)

TEACHER: Rabbi Bob Orkand

“BIBLE STORIES ARE NOT JUST FOR CHILDREN” TO RESUME IN FEBRUARY



This special course runs at the same time as our weekly “Torah Study,” providing a different learning alternative. Please join us for Shabbat morning minyan at 8:30 am, grab a nosh in between, and then choose a great learning path for your Shabbat!

We all have our favorite Bible stories: Adam and Eve, Noah and the flood, Jonah and the whale are three examples. We go through life remembering these biblical passages as stories for children but as not having as much relevance for adults. These Biblical stories contain important insights into human nature that can and will inspire much discussion. Each session will stand alone, so participants are free to attend all or some sessions. No prior knowledge is needed, only a desire to learn and an open mind.

Saturdays, starting February 7, 2015, 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM

TEACHER: Rabbi Bob Orkand

Learning

SHABBAT MORNING TORAH STUDY



Join us for our very popular weekly discussion of the week's *Torah* portion. Each week, between 40 and 70 members of our community gather to share, question, laugh, eat and encounter the stories of the *Torah* in ways that help shape how we see the world, each other, and our lives. No experience is necessary and all are welcome!

Every Saturday 9:00-10:00 AM, Community Room

TEACHERS: Rabbi Jay Perlman and Rabbi Todd Markley (September - June)

THE JOY OF JEWISH DANCE: ISRAELI DANCING



Israeli dance is a wonderful way to engage the culture of Israel and the Jewish people through music and movement. For all those who love Israeli dance or who have said that they would love to learn, this class is perfect! Instructor Emily Perlman is an outstanding teacher of music and dance to both adults and children. She has loved Israeli dance since her time living on a *kibbutz* almost twenty years ago. Emily looks forward to sharing the joy of dance with one and all. All ages and abilities are welcome.

Mondays, 7:00-7:30 PM (beginner); 7:30-9:00 PM (intermediate), Simon Hall. Wednesdays, 9:30-10:30 AM, Room 15

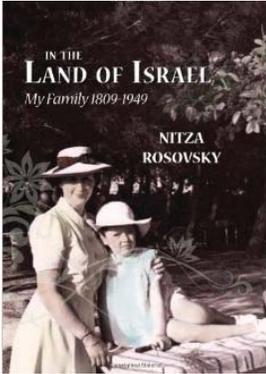
TEACHER: Emily Perlman

COST: \$5.00 per class (at the door). No registration necessary.

Save the Date

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

IN THE LAND OF ISRAEL: MY FAMILY 1809-1949 - A TALK WITH NITZA ROSOVSKY



Three Score and More is sponsoring a talk with Nitza Rosovsky about her book, described as "...a remarkable combination of social history and personal reminiscence." Nitza has written and lectured on history, archaeology, photography, and travel. She is the seventh generation of her family to be born in Palestine, and lives in Cambridge, MA with her husband Henry.

Her book will be available for purchase. This event is open to the entire congregation.

Sunday, March 1, 2015, 10:30 AM (coffee) followed by talk at 11:00 AM
COST: \$5.00 per person

RSVP: Mail your check (payable to Temple Beth Shalom) with name, phone #, and number of guests to Millie Cohen, 67 Noanett Road, Needham, MA 02494

TBS GARDEN CLUB PRESENTS: NEEDHAM'S ART IN BLOOM 2015



Now in its 7th year, award winning Needham's Art in Bloom will return by popular demand to the Needham Public Library. There will be 55+ mixed medium pieces of artwork by talented Needham High School students and creative, colorful, floral interpretations of each art item by members of the Beth Shalom Garden Club. Roche Bros. has generously sponsored this FREE event.

Saturday, March 7, 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM,
Sunday, March 8, 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM, Needham Public Library

SCHOLAR-IN-RESIDENCE WEEKEND: DR. RON WOLFSON



We are excited to welcome professor and author Dr. Ron Wolfson as our scholar-in-residence in March. This promises to be an exciting and educational experience for all. More information to follow.

Friday, March 13 - Sunday, March 15, 2015

A SPECIAL RITUAL OF "ASCENT" TO NEW RABBINIC LEADERSHIP



Please join us during Shabbat evening services for a special ritual of "ascent" honoring Rabbi Todd Markley on becoming Senior Rabbi of TBS.

Friday, March 20, 2015, 6:15 PM, Sanctuary

AND...

Sisterhood Women's Seder - March 26th. Invites will be emailed in February.
Questions? Contact Monica Markstein (monica100mail@gmail.com).

Kids' Page

ALL ABOUT HAVDALAH

The *Havdalah* ceremony marks the end of Shabbat each week. It is a short ceremony that includes only four blessings. It is easy to do at home!

The *Havdalah* Ceremony

You will need: A cup of grape juice, a bowl or bag of cinnamon, cloves, or other sweet spices, and a *Havdalah* candle (see below for how to make one).

The Blessing over Wine or Grape Juice

בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה יי, אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם, בּוֹרֵא פְּרֵי הַגֶּפֶן.

Baruch atah, Adonai, Elohaynu melech ha'olam, boray pri hagafen.

Blessed are You, Adonai, Ruler of the universe, Creator of the fruit of the vine.

The Blessing over Spices

בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה יי, אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם, בּוֹרֵא מִיְּנֵי בְּשָׂמִים.

Baruch atah, Adonai, Elohaynu melech ha'olam, boray minay vesamim.

Blessed are You, Adonai, Ruler of the universe, Creator of the different spices.

The Blessing over the Candle

בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה יי, אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם, בּוֹרֵא מְאוֹרֵי הָאֵשׁ.

Baruch atah, Adonai, Elohaynu melech ha'olam, boray me'oray ha'aysh.

Blessed are You, Adonai, Ruler of the universe, Creator of the fire's lights.

The Blessing over *Havdalah*

בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה יי, אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם, הַמְבַדֵּיל בֵּין קֹדֶשׁ לְחוֹל, בֵּין אֹר לְחֹשֶׁךְ, בֵּין יִשְׂרָאֵל לְעַמִּים, בֵּין יוֹם הַשְּׂבִיעִי לְשִׁשְׁתַּיִם יְמֵי הַמַּעֲשֶׂה. בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה יי, הַמְבַדֵּיל בֵּין קֹדֶשׁ לְחוֹל.

Baruch atah, Adonai, Elohaynu melech ha'olam, hamavdil bayn kodesh lechol bayn or lechoshechbayn Yisrael

la'amim bayn yom hashevi'i leshayshet yemay hama'aseh. Baruch atah, Adonai, hamavdil bayn kodesh lechol.

Blessed are You, Adonai, Ruler of the universe, who separates between the holy and the everyday; between the light and dark; between Israel and the other nations; between the seventh day and the six days of the week. Blessed are You, God, who separates between the holy and the profane.

How to Make a *Havdalah* Candle from Leftover *Chanukah* Candles



Make sure you ask an adult for help!

1. Gather all materials:
 - o Two *Chanukah* candles (including extras in case you make mistakes)
 - o a source of boiling water
 - o a disposable bowl
 - o paper towels
 - o matches or a lighter
 - o a disposable fork
2. Ask an adult to boil water.
3. Select two candles in different colors and place them in the bowl.
4. Ask an adult to pour boiling water on top of the candles and allow them to sit for 30-60 seconds.
5. When the candles are soft and flexible, have an adult use the fork to remove the candles from the water.
6. Twist the candles together and smooch them so they stick.
7. Let the candles cool and dry on the paper towel. Do not touch them for at least ten minutes.

Note: You can also use three candles and braid them together, but this is difficult and requires hotter water.

Fawn Hurwitz

Beth Shalom Garden Club



Roger, Fawn, Austyn and Jarrett Hurwitz

Moving to Needham from the Big Apple when her daughter was in the seventh grade, Fawn Hurwitz frantically burst into the TBS office asking for a *bat mitzvah* date. Although her not-so religious family belonged to a conservative temple in New York, they decided to join a reform synagogue in Needham. Beth Shalom was the perfect place to join!

What does being Jewish mean to you?

Even though my family does not attend a lot of services or light the Sabbath candles, being Jewish is important to us. That is what I cherish about the Jewish religion - Everyone can live by their own rules. I did not enforce “Jewishness” upon my kids, yet they both wanted to have a *bar/bat mitzvah*. They say they want to marry Jewish, and my family enjoyed our trip to Israel. My son attends Gann Academy, and my daughter occasionally goes to the Hillel and is a sister of Alpha Epsilon Phi at Boston University. Who would have known?

What is your favorite Jewish holiday?

Passover is a very special holiday to me. Growing up, my family always celebrated Passover with a large meal. It was not until I went to college that I attended my first *seder*. I was so moved by all the singing and prayers that I told my parents that I would only come home for Passover the following year if they had a formal *seder*. When I got married, I received my own *seder* plate, and decided that I would start hosting annual *seders*. Family and friends are finally no longer surprised by the fact that I start cooking and freezing in February.

What is your fondest memory involving Jewish life?

Just a few years ago, a friend of mine asked me to go to a Beth Shalom Garden Club meeting with her. The next thing I knew, I was joining! I always looked forward to the monthly meetings, and eventually I was elected President. The Garden Club is filled with very talented people who want to pass along their knowledge. It is very relaxing to learn about flowers and create arrangements. I am not a professional gardener, but there is no right or wrong when working with flowers. In fact, it is a lot like being Jewish in that you can make what you want out of it.

How do you hope to contribute to our temple community?

I hope that by teaching other members about garden club I am making a positive contribution to the temple community. Hopefully new garden club members will discover a similar passion as the one that I found from the moment that I initially joined.

Garden Club

Did you ever wonder who makes those beautiful arrangements for the sanctuary or other temple functions? Why it's the Beth Shalom Garden Club. The Beth Shalom Garden Club was founded in 1957 with the objectives to promote an interest in flower arranging, gardening, horticulture, conservation, allied activities and to beautify the temple.

We meet once a month and have either a program (such as cooking with herbs) or a hands-on workshop (such as making a centerpiece for Thanksgiving).

We do weekly floral arrangements for the sanctuary, supervise the Meditation Garden outside the temple, provide community service (such as the Vietnam War Civic Beautification) and Needham's Art in Bloom where club members interpret art work from the Needham High School art department, as well as our annual Antique Show fundraiser.

We are members of the National Garden Clubs Inc. - New England Region and The Garden Club Federation of Massachusetts, Inc. - Metro West District.

Anyone can join the Garden Club; I joined without even owning a pair of scissors or knowing

what an oasis is (the green stuff you put the flowers into). It's a fun way to meet new people and learn from some very talented, well-known women.

Our recent meeting, "Gardening is Murder" was with Neil Sanders. Neil is an author of several mystery books and his wife Betty is a master gardener. Neil gave a humorous husband's point of view of gardening. He had good horticultural advice as well.

February 3, 2015 at 10 AM in Simon Hall is our Annual Workshop/Luncheon with Sue Kaplan. Sue will teach us how to interpret art with the use of flowers, in preparation for our Needham's Art in Bloom (March 6-8, 2015 at the Needham Library). In addition we have a potluck luncheon with this year's theme as "It's Not Your Grandma's Garden Club Anymore," since we have so many younger members joining. This is a really fun day and not to be missed. Members Only.

Whatever you do with the Club, I promise you will have fun!

See you soon.

Fawn Hurwitz (fhurwitz@aol.com)



CONTRIBUTIONS

The Minimum donation for contributions in the *Scroll* is \$18.00.
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Rabbi Perlman's patience & inspiration
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Rabbi Jay & Emily's warm support &
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their grandmother and great-grandmother, Rose Liner

Florence and Daniel Weener on the passing of their brother and
brother-in-law, Jack Gershman

Richard Kaufman on the passing of his uncle, Robert Tucker

Stephen Brickman on the passing
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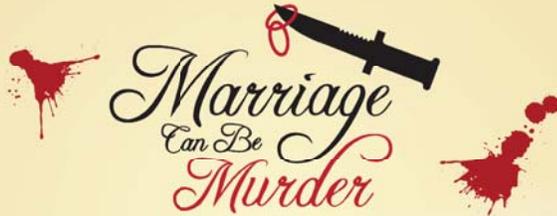
Steven and Nancy Cutter, Matthew, Shelby and Davis
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Barbara Susan Kaplan on the passing of her husband, Rabbi
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**Saturday Night - February 7, 2015
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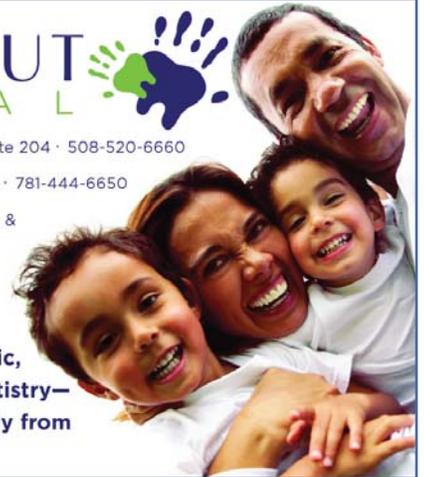
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See details on Page 3





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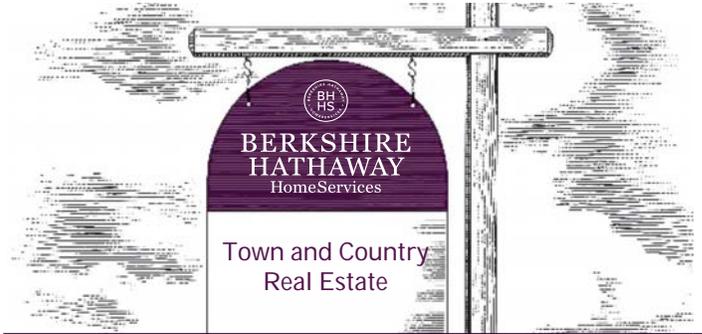
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