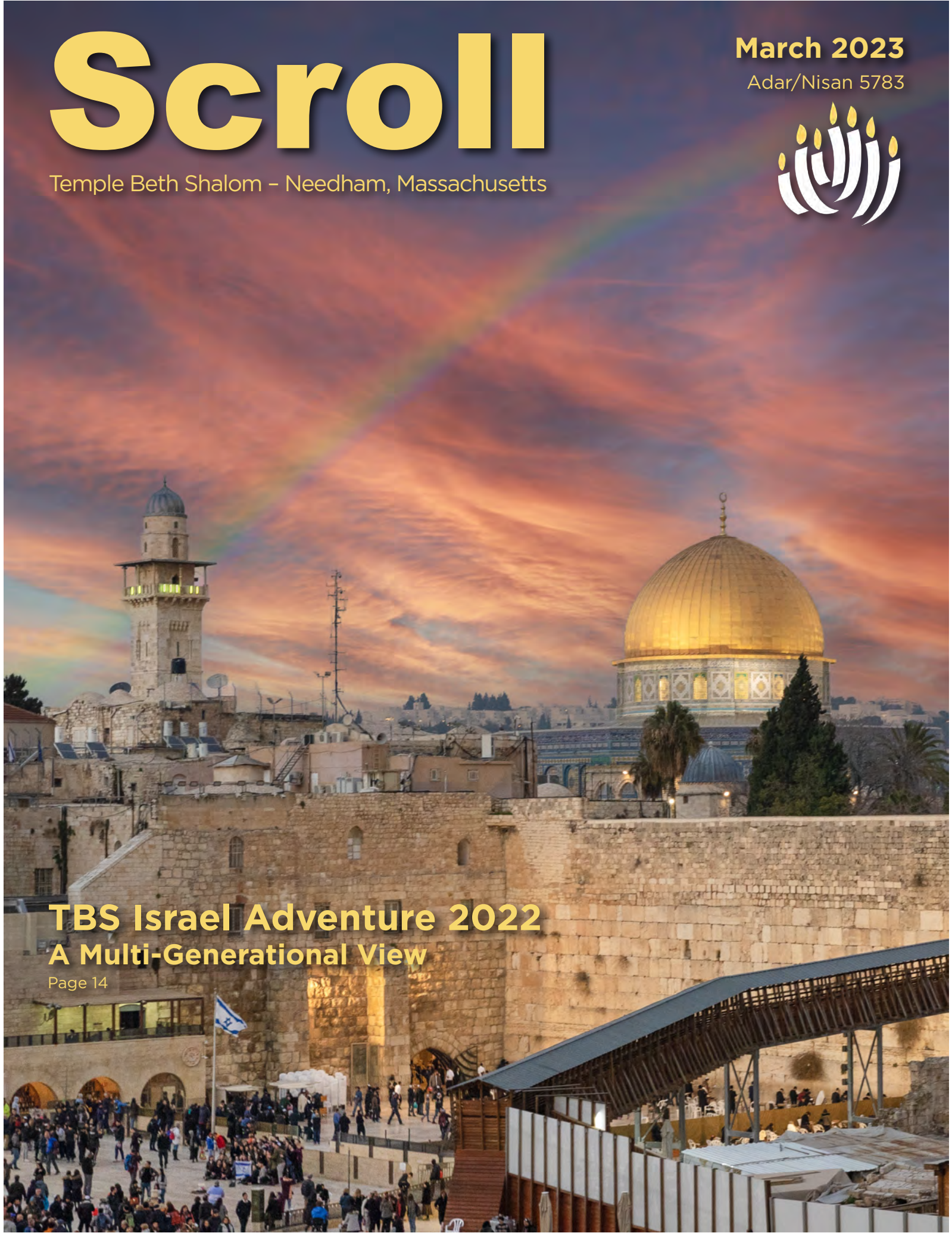


Scroll

Temple Beth Shalom – Needham, Massachusetts

March 2023

Adar/Nisan 5783



TBS Israel Adventure 2022 A Multi-Generational View

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On the Cover

"Fire Above the Kotel"

© 2018 - 2023 Alan Novick

Editorial Board

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To join the *Scroll* Editorial Board, please email: scroll@tbsneedham.org

To contribute content, go to: tbsneedham.org/submit

From the Editorial Board

At TBS, every generation is engaged in our religion and culture, both at home and in our Jewish homeland. In this *Scroll*, you'll read how our children, together with their parents and grandparents, are exploring Judaism - from the enthusiasm of those who traveled with the TBS trip to Israel in December to the excitement of touching our Torahs during visits to the sanctuary. You'll also find opportunities to engage in this month's Purim festivities, celebrating the braveness that led to our survival. *Chag Purim sameach* (Happy Purim) and Happy Spring!

By Joni Burstein on behalf of the Editorial Board

TBS ANTISEMITISM AWARENESS INITIATIVE (ASAI)

The Anti-Defamation League reports multiple antisemitic incidents have occurred in New England on college campuses, in retail establishments, schools, at parks and public buildings.

To join us in fighting back contact asai@tbsneedham.org.

Welcome New Members

Ilana Bareket and Avi Shertok and Shalev (1)
 Deborah and Alan Beck
 Jared and Dana Beckerman and Emma (7) and Hailey (5)
 Julia and Aaron Kanarek and Dana (1)
 Samantha and Joshua Kogan and Oscar (not yet 1)
 Howard Locker and Neha Kaushal and Serena (not yet 1)
 Gila and Alexander Modell and Myka (1)
 Farrah and Steven Narkiewicz and Stella (2)
 Elizabeth and Andrew Perlmutter and Maya (not yet 1)

Services in March

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

FRIDAY, MARCH 3 (11 Adar 5783)

5:30 PM Tot Shabbat Service (Beit Midrash)
7:15 PM 'Om Shalom' Yoga Service (Community Hall)
7:15 PM Simchat Shabbat Evening Service (Sanctuary)

SATURDAY, MARCH 4 (11 Adar 5783)

Torah: *Tetzaveh* Ex. 27:20 - 30:10
8:30 AM Shabbat Morning Service (Beit Midrash)
9:00 AM Torah Study (Beit Midrash)
9:15 AM Finding Our Jewish Values in the Torah
(Front Conference Room and online)
B. Mitzvah: Hayley Reiser

MONDAY, MARCH 6 (14 Adar 5783)

6:00 PM Megillah Reading for families (Sanctuary)
7:00 PM Megillah Reading and Text Study (Beit Midrash)

FRIDAY, MARCH 10 (18 Adar 5783)

7:15 PM Erev Shabbat Service (Sanctuary)

SATURDAY, MARCH 11 (18 Adar 5783)

Torah: *Ki Tisa* Ex. 30:11 - 34:35
8:30 AM Shabbat Morning Service (Beit Midrash)
9:00 AM Torah Study (Beit Midrash)
9:15 AM Finding Our Jewish Values in the Torah
(Front Conference Room and online)
B. Mitzvah: Ella Wigder and Isabelle Lafont
B. Mitzvah: Molly Spear

FRIDAY, MARCH 17 (25 Adar 5783)

6:15 PM Erev Shabbat Service (Sanctuary)

SATURDAY, MARCH 18 (25 Adar 5783)

Torah: *V'Yak'hel-Pekudei* Ex. 35:1 - 40:38
8:30 AM Shabbat Morning Service (Beit Midrash)
9:00 AM Torah Study (Beit Midrash)
9:15 AM Finding Our Jewish Values in the Torah
(Front Conference Room and online)
B. Mitzvah: Jillian Malver and Gavin Batt
B. Mitzvah: Bodhi Meyers-Light and Eden Gorman

FRIDAY, MARCH 24 (3 Nisan 5783)

6:15 PM Erev Shabbat Service (Sanctuary)

SATURDAY, MARCH 25 (3 Nisan 5783)

Torah: *Vayikra* Lev. 1:1 - 5:26
8:30 AM Shabbat Morning Service (Beit Midrash)
9:00 AM Torah Study (Beit Midrash)
9:15 AM Finding Our Jewish Values in the Torah
(Front Conference Room and online)
B. Mitzvah: Mira Berk
B. Mitzvah: Evelyn Cukier and Zachary Syatt

FRIDAY, MARCH 31 (10 Nisan 5783)

6:15 PM Erev Shabbat Service (Sanctuary)

Please join the TBS Community for *Minyan*

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

Committee Meetings in March – Stay Involved!

Committees not listed will not meet formally this month.

Committee Name

Adult Learning
Archives
Brotherhood Board
Communications
Environmental Action
Garden Club
Library
Sisterhood Leadership Council

Date and Time

Wed. March 1, 7:30 PM
Fri. March 31, 10:30 AM
Tue. March 14, 7:15 PM
Wed. March 15, 7:15 PM
Thur. March 23, 8:00 PM
Tue. March 7, 7:15 PM
Every Wednesday, 9:30 AM
Thur. March 2, 7:30 PM

Email Contact for Information

AdultLearning@tbsneedham.org
Archives@tbsneedham.org
Brotherhood@tbsneedham.org
Communications@tbsneedham.org
EnvironAction@tbsneedham.org
GardenClub@tbsneedham.org
Library@tbsneedham.org
Sisterhood@tbsneedham.org

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



From Our Board of Trustees

Not the *Shpiel* Deal

By Wendy Gutterson, Congregational President



The month of March is always one of my favorite times of the year. I actually love the unpredictability of the weather even as I wonder if we should put away our winter coats or get ready for the best ski week of the year. I love the harbingers of the warmer seasons such as the first crocuses, the release of the Tanglewood summer schedule, and this year, Opening Day at Fenway on March 30 (Sox vs. Orioles).

March also typically brings us an outstanding Purim Shpiel - an evening of laughter, our own TBS Purim Band, and, of course, Rabbi Todd's lyric-writing genius. This year, we've given Rabbi Todd a pass on writing, and instead we will laugh and celebrate and enjoy being together as Jewish comedy troupe The Bible Players brings us a super fun Unkosher Comedy Purim Improv Show on March 4. I hope to see you there.

And now, for your pre-Purim amusement, I took a stab at modifying the lyrics to *My Favorite Things*, by highlighting some of my own favorite things. Don't worry, I'm not giving up my day job!

L'Shalom,
Wendy

A Few of My Favorite (TBS) Things

(Please sing it to the tune of My Favorite Things; it will improve the words.)

Shabbat Services and Torah Study
A new parking lot that is still muddy
A clergy team who truly can sing
These are a few of our TBS things

A huge warm welcome to all who enter
And a truly outstanding young children's center
K-through-12 faculty with knowledge to bring
These are a few of our TBS things

With much talent and kindness to spare
Our congregants show how much they care
From our lay leaders, inspiration springs
These are a few of our TBS things

Challah, and bagels, and hamantaschen
We'll all stay safe with lots of hand washin'
A Brotherhood spread that's fit for a king
These are a few of our TBS things

The super *Scroll* team that gives more and more
Sisterhood, Garden Club and, of course, Three Score
A ConNEXTions event with axes to fling
These are a few of our TBS things

When we need light
When we need warmth
When we want to share
We simply remember our TBS things
And then we know, we care





“Unkosher Comedy” Adult Interactive Purim Comedy Improv Show

Saturday, March 4, Doors open 7:15 PM, Show begins 8:00 PM, TBS

Join your TBS friends for a night of comedy and improv with The Bible Players! Each admission includes appetizers, dessert, and one drink ticket. Additional drink tickets available for purchase in person at the event.

This event is co-sponsored by TBS Brotherhood, Sisterhood, Three Score/More or Less, and ConNextions.

Register at t-b-s.me/purim5783. For questions contact Jessica Baim at jbaim@tbsneedham.org.



Purim-Palooza!

Sunday, March 5, TBS

Choose your session:

10:00-11:00 AM: Families with Young Children (geared towards ages 6 and under)

11:30 AM-12:30 PM: Families with Elementary-Age Children

Wear your costumes and come join the Purim fun! Purim-Palooza will be packed with games, activities, food, inflatable fun, and more, and will include both indoor and outdoor activities.

Register at t-b-s.me/purimpalooza.

Teens: We need your help to make this program happen! Volunteer at t-b-s.me/purimvolunteer.



Megillah Reading

Monday, March 6, TBS

Choose your session:

6:00-7:30 PM: pizza dinner, *megillah* reading, *hamantaschen* dessert (geared towards families with elementary age children; all are welcome)

Join us for a fun-filled evening of Purim celebration, including a retelling of the Purim story, a brief *megillah* reading, and songs! Wear either a full costume or just a great mask or hat and be sure to bring a noisemaker!

7:00-8:30 PM: *hamantaschen* nosh, adult *megillah* reading and discussion (for our adult and teen community)

Come and share in the joy of Purim with a wonderful evening service and abbreviated *megillah* reading. Bring your grogger and *hamantaschen* appetite!

To register go to t-b-s.me/megillahreading.



B. Mitzvah

Hayley Reiser, Saturday, March 4

School: Brimmer & May School

Interests: Hayley loves to hang out with friends, playing volleyball, basketball, hiking, art, and time at Camp Walt Whitman.

Mitzvah Project: Hayley served on the Teen Leadership Corps of Cradle-to-Crayons. She planned and threw a benefit dance party for her entire grade.

Ella Wigder, Saturday, March 11

School: Pollard Middle School

Interests: Ella spends lots of time playing sports, including basketball and volleyball.

Mitzvah Project: Ella collected money for the organization Birthday Wishes and purchased items to make 20 birthday boxes for homeless children.

Isabelle Lafont, Saturday, March 11

School: Dedham Middle School

Interests: Isabelle loves animals and is very athletic.

Mitzvah Project: Isabelle raised money for Doctors without Borders by walking and taking care of dogs.

Molly Spear, Saturday, March 11

School: Pollard Middle School

Interests: Molly loves animals, adventures and exploring her creative side.

Mitzvah Project: Molly's mitzvah project of course involved animals. She volunteered her time at GOFI and the MSPCA.

Jillian Malver, Saturday, March 18

School: Pollard Middle School

Interests: Jillian loves to create art in several mediums and enjoys golf, volleyball, and spending time with friends and family.

Mitzvah Project: Jillian collected used children's DVDs to donate to area hospitals.

Gavin Batt, Saturday, March 18

School: Pollard Middle School

Interests: Gavin loves sports, music and spending time with friends. His favorite sport is basketball, and he plays the drums.

Mitzvah Project: Gavin is collecting food for those in need, partnering with Needham Food Bank.



Bodhi Meyers-Light, Saturday, March 18

School: Pierce Middle School, Milton

Interests: Bodhi loves soccer, playing guitar and ukulele, and working out at the gym with his friends.

Mitzvah Project: Bodhi volunteered his time with TOPSoccer, a soccer program for athletes with intellectual, emotional, and/or physical disabilities.

Eden Gorman, Saturday, March 18

School: High Rock Middle School

Interests: Eden loves to socialize and spend time with her friends.

Mitzvah Project: Eden is a Junior Volunteer for the Boston Adoption Center, MSPCA. Her work includes animal care and support chores.

Mira Berk, Saturday, March 25

School: Pollard Middle School

Interests: Mira likes to dance, play the piano, play volleyball, sew, play Rummikub, and hang out with friends.

Mitzvah Project: Mira is sewing pillows and donating them to a hospital to distribute to young patients to cheer them up.

Olivia Post, Saturday, March 25

School: Pollard Middle School

Interests: Olivia is a wise, kind and compassionate daughter, sister, granddaughter, and friend.

Evelyn Cukier, Saturday, March 25

School: Pollard Middle School

Interests: Evelyn likes to spend time with friends and family and loves basketball, volleyball, and her summers at Camp Tevya.

Mitzvah Project: Evelyn volunteers at Family Promise Metrowest by preparing meals and supporting families who are in temporary shelters.

Zachary Syatt, Saturday, March 25

School: Pollard Middle School

Interests: Zach loves playing sports and skiing, spending time with family and friends, and rooting for the Celtics.

Mitzvah Project: Zach held a food drive, collecting donations for the Needham Community Council food pantry, helping fight hunger in our community.



March Highlights

Brotherhood's Virtual Texas Hold'em Poker Night

Tuesday, March 7, 7:00-10:30 PM, TBS

We'll pay out the last 6 finishers/ chip leaders. This year we will use PokerBros (a phone app) to play and zoom to see each other. Only \$36.00 admission fee to join, since there will be no sumptuous pre-game meal.

A week before the game we will send the event Zoom link, directions to download the PokerBros App, and info regarding sandwich options from Michael's Deli. Space is limited to 36 players due to a 4-table limit on the app.

Register at t-b-s.me/BHPoker if you want to ensure a seat at the table.



Needham's Art in Bloom 2023

Saturday, March 11, through Sunday, March 12, Needham Public Library

Needham's Art in Bloom is coming back to the library after two years. Beth Shalom, Needham and Kalmia Garden Clubs will again be interpreting Needham High School students' artwork in many floral designs.

Step into spring with Needham's Art in Bloom!

Playing the Part of the Jewish Mother - and other insights from Caroline Aaron

Sunday, March 12, 9:30 AM, TBS

Caroline Aaron portrays Shirley Maisel, Joel's mother on the hit Amazon Prime show *The Marvelous Mrs. Maisel*. Hear about her experiences as an accomplished film and TV actor and her interesting life having grown up in the South. Caroline's late mother, Nina Friedman Abady, was a Selma, Alabama, civil rights activist who walked with Martin Luther King, Jr., and she had to endure cross-burnings on her Virginia front lawn. Caroline Aaron next will be seen in the upcoming Israeli comedy series, *Chanshi*, selected for Sundance international screenings, as well as the independent feature *Theatre Camp*.



She has a recurring role on Amazon's *Transparent* and Showtime's *Episodes* and plays Annie Schmidt in the *21 Jump Street* franchise. In addition to the many film and TV appearances during her career, Caroline has appeared in four films directed by Woody Allen: *Crimes and Misdemeanors* (1989), *Alice* (1990), *Husbands and Wives* (1992) and *Deconstructing Harry* (1997).

A bagel breakfast will be served.

To register go to t-b-s.me/maisel (Free for members, \$10 per non-member). For questions, contact adultlearning@tbsneedham.org.



Diaper Drive Supporting Beantown Baby Diaper Bank

Wednesday, March 15, 9:00-9:45 AM, TBS Front Parking Lot

Join TBS Social Action in supporting Beantown Baby Diaper Bank (BBDB), a non-profit organization that collects and distributes diapers to local providers of child and family services.

One third of families with young children in the Commonwealth cannot afford a sufficient supply of diapers. To help, Social Action is hosting a drive-through collection on behalf of BBDB. We will be accepting donations of any brand of disposable diapers, new or open packages, loose diapers, pull-ups and swim diapers.

To participate, sign up at t-b-s.me/diaper. We will be in the TBS Front Parking Lot, ready to transfer your items from your car. Or you may email socialaction@tbsneedham.org to arrange a dropoff at a TBS member's home from March 1-14.



Garden Club: TriClub Program - Spring Fling of Flowers

Tuesday, March 14, 7:15 PM, TBS

Beth Shalom Garden Club's TriClub program is an annual collaboration with Needham and Kalmia Garden Clubs that allows us to interact with the other two garden clubs in Needham and provide an exceptional program of floral designs. Stacey of Paeonia Designs will present a "Spring Fling of Flowers" program and will focus on flower and foliage sourced from local and American farms, mechanics and armatures used to create large designs, and information on how to use them together with new and innovative sustainable industry products. Check out their website: paeoniadesigns.com.

Guests are welcome with a fee. For questions contact gardenclub@tbsneedham.org.



Brotherhood Breakfast with the Rabbis and Marc Comras Award Pre presentation

Sunday March 19, 9:00-11:00 AM, TBS

Open to all TBS members! Join Brotherhood for a nosh with our clergy followed by a lively question-and-answer session we like to call "Stump the Rabbis." Before the Q&A we will present our annual Marc Comras Community Service Award. This year's recipient is Linda Hill! Linda is Vice President of Tikkun Olam, a co-founder of the TBS Welcome Corps, an usher, and has worked on a number of other committees. We are delighted to honor Linda while munching on bagels and lox. Don't be left out!

To register go to t-b-s.me/comras. For questions contact brotherhood@tbsneedham.org.

Sisterhood Seder and Rosh Chodesh

Sunday, March 19, 6:30 PM, TBS

Catered light bites, dessert, and drinks - Passover style! Just us for conversation and community bonding. We will also have an opportunity to take part in the creation of our community mosaic! Cost is \$18.

To register go to t-b-s.me/SHSeder. For questions contact sisterhood@tbsneedham.org.

Moses & Miriam Passover Puppet Show

Sunday, March 26, 10:00 AM, TBS

Talking Hands Theater comes to TBS. This Passover, you'll learn Miriam's side of the story as well as Moses', and watch these two characters as they grow into leaders. Just watch out for flying locusts! Designed for children ages 1-6 and their families. All are welcome.

To register go to t-b-s.me/passoverpuppetshow.



Recurring Events

Pre-Shabbat Yoga

Fridays March 3, 10, 31, 9:00-10:00 AM, TBS and online

Join Stephanie Javaheri every Friday morning for pre-Shabbat yoga. Yoga is all about the inside and not the pretty or bendy postures that we see on the outside. It's about self inquiry, observation and awareness of your body, breath and mind to help feel more grounded.

Set aside preconceived yogic notions and come experience an hour of bliss with slow mindful movement. No experience necessary. Just an open mind.

Drop in at TBS for the in person class, or join in online at t-b-s.me/yoga. No registration is necessary.



Israeli Dance

Mondays, 7:00-8:30 PM, TBS (no class March 6)

Join Emily Perlman for a wonderful Israeli dance experience. Israeli dance is a great way to engage the culture of Israel and the Jewish people through music and movement. This is an intermediate-level class for those who have some Israeli dance experience. Those who are willing to learn by watching others are also encouraged to attend. The tuition is \$5 per session, which is paid when you attend.

For more information or questions contact eperlman@tbsneedham.org.



Finding Our Jewish Values in the Torah

Saturdays, 9:15-10:15 AM, TBS and Online

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

Drop in at TBS to join the discussion in person, or go to t-b-s.me/findingvalues to join in via Zoom. No registration is necessary.



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

Friday, March 17, 9:15-9:45 AM in the TBS Front Parking Lot

We look forward to your participation as we donate bag lunches and breakfast foods to homeless shelters in the Father Bill's network of shelters in Brockton. This is a great project to do individually or as a family! Participate in this mitzvah every month, and help us provide 100 bagged lunches and lots of breakfast foods needed to help feed guests at these homeless shelters. You can donate any of the following: bag lunches, cases of water, packages of juice boxes, bottles of condiments, a variety of breakfast items including muffins, individual-size cereal boxes, yogurts, fruit cups, or ground coffee. Just drive up and we will be ready to unload your bagged items from your car.

Can't make it to the collection? No problem! Non-perishable donations may be dropped at a Needham address prior to the collection day by emailing us (see below).

To sign up for specific food donation items, go to t-b-s.me/baglunch.

If you can't make it on March 17, just sign up for your food donation items and then email us at socialaction@tbsneedham.org to arrange for an earlier delivery date.

For more information or questions contact socialaction@tbsneedham.org.



A History of Antisemitism: The Age of Enlightenment Until Today Lunch and Learn with Rabbi Bob Orkand

Wednesdays, 12:00-1:30 PM, online

The past few years have seen a dramatic increase in antisemitic language and acts. During our course, we will be looking at the history of “the world’s oldest hatred” to better understand what has driven both individuals and governments to target Jews.

Register at t-b-s.me/falllunchandlearn.



‘Om Shalom’ Yoga Service

Friday, March 3, 7:15 PM, TBS

Om Shalom Yoga Shabbat creates a spiritual space that centralizes healthy movement and breath work as part of a Shabbat service. The practice includes Shabbat prayers, music, and ceremony woven together into a movement-practice that makes for a unique prayer experience.

Ages 12 and above are invited to participate. All physical abilities are welcome. Yoga mats are available; feel free to bring your own if you prefer.

Our Om Shalom leader, Andrew Tanner is a global yoga teacher and public speaker known for his yoga industry advocacy, soulful style of teaching, and unshaken faith in his students' ability to transform for the better. Andrew is proud to have grown up at TBS and thrilled to be coming home to share his passion for yoga.

**Note: Our new monthly “Om Shalom” service will run concurrently with our regular “Simchat Shabbat” musical service. Both services will conclude at approximately the same time and participants will enjoy a sweet oneg together.*



Save the Date

Adult Education: End-of-Life Considerations

Sunday, April 2, 9:30 AM, Beit Midrash

Join us for a joint Adult Ed - Chesed program on “End-of-Life Considerations.” This question-and-answer session is a follow-up to the article that ran in the June 2022 *Scroll* on “End of Life Doula.” Rabbi Jay will be joined by end-of-life doula Marcia Zais, hospice volunteer Sabra Sherry, and end-of-life planning advocate Ariel Sherry.

They will answer your questions and calmly offer guidance on end-of-life planning and the value of adding a doula to the care team with the goal of creating a customized and gentle passage. Useful literature and a nosh will be provided.

For questions contact Chesed@tbsneedham.org.

Pizza and Bingo at TBS!

Sunday, April 16, 4:00–6:30 PM

Have your first pizza after Passover with your TBS community! And, after you’ve had your fill of pizza, enjoy the challenge of 90 minutes of bingo with entertaining twists on each game.

Bring the whole family; kids, teens, adults, and seniors are all welcome. The cost of \$10 per person (maximum \$40 per family) includes pizza, non-alcoholic beverages, cookies, bingo, and cash prizes.



Save the Date continued...

We anticipate a great time among friends, old and new, with some schmoozing, a bit of competition, plenty of excitement, and tons of fun.

To register go to t-b-s.me/bingoandpizza. To pay by check, after registering send a check payable to Temple Beth Shalom to 670 Highland Ave., Needham, MA 02494. Please include 'pizza & bingo' in the check memo. You may also register and pay at the door.

For questions contact threescoremoreorless@tbsneedham.org.

Garden Club: How to Create Your Own Cutting Garden

Tuesday, April 18, 7:15 PM, TBS

Mary Beth Hayes will guide us in how to create our own cutting gardens. She is the lead designer for the Semper Virens Flower Studio in Chelmsford, MA. She previously worked as an environmental consultant and now tries to reduce our environmental footprint by growing local flowers in New England and by using sustainable practices. Mary Beth Hayes uses locally grown flowers in her designs, including those grown at the studio. Check out her website:

www.sempervirensflowers.com.

Guests are welcome with a fee. For questions contact gardenclub@tbsneedham.org.



Brotherhood Shabbat Service

Friday April 28, 6:15 PM, Sanctuary

The Archives Committee will honor Brotherhood at a special Shabbat service. Two speakers from Brotherhood will talk about the history of Brotherhood. A slide show of many special Brotherhood moments will accompany the service. Delicious pre-neg will be served before the service.

For questions contact Archives@tbsneedham.org.



Entering the Sanctuary

By Ellen Dietrick

One of the primary goals of the weekly TBS Children's Center Friday Shabbat celebrations is for children to learn about the sanctuary, a special place for adults and children alike. The theme for our worship space is based on a text from the book of Exodus in which God commands the Israelites: "Build for Me a Sanctuary so that I might dwell amongst you" (Exodus 25:8). The designers of our space wanted anyone who entered this special room to feel God's presence, and so included elements intended to inspire a sense of warmth and community. The windows open out to the beauty of nature, allowing natural light and views of the sky, and often, in the early evening, the sunset.



The design is intentionally simple, focusing on the ark and, most specifically, our five Torah scrolls. The ark doors are made of frosted glass so that the bright colors of the Torah covers are visible. The ark itself is designed to look like two hands (the darker wood on each side) embracing the Torah itself.

Our children learn that the sanctuary is a special place as they notice and appreciate the intentional design and beauty. The one- and two-year-olds can't wait to find their seats and take in their surroundings. While there, they know how to act in special ways. The three- to four-year-olds further learn that the sanctuary is a holy place where we can be together with our community, celebrate, and talk to God. They become familiar with the parts of the sanctuary, identifying that the ark is the home for the Torah. By the time they turn five, children begin to learn about the many objects and symbols in the sanctuary that remind us of Judaism and identify the sanctuary as a place where we can gather with our Jewish community. In the sanctuary, our children learn that participating in services ranges from joyful singing to quiet thinking.



As we call them up to the *bima* to lead us in song or prayer, children are developing a comfort with the Jewish traditions and beginning to see themselves as leaders of their community. Some children lead us through hand motions, others through singing, and others simply stand in front of our community. This experience of leading from the *bima* happens well before they become B. mitzvah, establishing an ease and eagerness from the youngest of ages.

For many of us, our encounters with the Torah have been limited, maybe holding it when we became b. mitzvah. As we engage a new generation in Jewish ritual, we want to provide

meaningful and regular experiences with the Torah. Each Friday, one class is given the honor of hosting the Torah as we sit together in the sanctuary. As a parent, grandparent, or teacher holds the Torah in their lap, children delight in the special up-close experience with the Torah next to them. At the conclusion of the service, the class is invited to help open the ark doors, view all the Torah scrolls, and get a prime view of the ark as the Torah is returned home. That is something special we do; it doesn't happen everywhere. Many adults even comment that it was their first time holding the Torah, as touching a Torah was forbidden to them when they were growing up. Our Torah wall hosts photos of the many who have held Torah during Children's Center services over the years. These early experiences with Torah and sanctuary enable comfort and confidence as our TBS children grow in their Jewish Temple home.



TBS Israel Adventure 2022: A Multi-Generational

TBS's biennial Israel trip led by Rabbi Jay and Emily Perlman resumed this past December. Hear from some of the travelers!

"37 people we didn't really know became our family in just a few days."

Beth McCarthy, mother

I *t was a wonderful nine days - a whirlwind tour of early mornings and long days packed with adventures.*

Although I had been to Israel a few times before this, I had not been back in about 25 years, so I was unsure what to expect. The beauty of the Jerusalem stone and the connection to being Jewish does not change – it is quite amazing and indescribable. The fact that it was the last three nights of Chanukah and there were *Chanukiot* everywhere and maybe only one Christmas tree was a great experience since we so often encounter the opposite here in the States.



W *e walked, we toured, we ate delicious food, we celebrated two amazing B.mitzvah at the top of Masada, and so much more!*

Our favorites included *Yad LaKashish*-Lifeline for the Old, the jeep tour through the Golan Heights, visiting Safed (cobblestone alleys, artsy stores, old temple, mystical atmosphere), hiking up Masada, and for me personally being able to participate in Israeli dancing in Israel. It was my daughter's first trip to Israel so it was meaningful to see things through her eyes as well.

I had visited *Yad LaKashish* when I was 16 and was in Israel for six weeks with my youth group. *Yad LaKashish* provides a place for elderly residents to learn a craft and to be an active, contributing member of society.

It touched me then to meet these elderly people who were making such beautiful things and had found their purpose each day. I got a little emotional seeing it again and seeing how much it has grown and how many people it has helped. My teen daughter in turn got emotional as well. She said we should be doing this in the States. I said, yes we really should! Needless to say, we spent a lot of time buying gifts there, as did many on the trip!

As Rabbi Jay said, "It was an adventure which created memories that will last a lifetime." We'll definitely be back (per my daughter)!



rational View

"Faith in the Future"

Debby Beck, mother/grandmother

When we were at Masada, Bruce, our fabulous guide, used the metaphor of a table supported by five legs to describe the uniqueness of the identity of Israel. The five legs were: 1) Family, 2) Community, 3) Memory, 4) Tradition, and 5) Hebrew. As a result of this trip, I have added a sixth leg to this important list: 6) Faith in the Future.

In this multi-generational trip, it was the younger generation who inspired my faith in the future. From our two group members who beautifully performed their B. Mitzvah on Masada, to their peers from TBS who were on the trip, and also to the articulate and welcoming students from the Leo Baeck Education Center in Haifa – all of these young people demonstrated enthusiasm, curiosity, commitment, and resilience.

As one who has been extremely frightened by the recent increasing incidence of antisemitism abroad and at home, I was deeply impressed by the strength demonstrated by these individuals and also by the same characteristics in the TBS parents, who shepherded their youngsters throughout our travels. Being with them as part of this amazing once-in-a-lifetime experience has definitely done a great deal to inspire my faith in the future for Judaism and the Jewish people!



"We have WMTTS - We Miss The Trip Syndrome"

Andrew Arvedon, father

Fruit anxiety! Vegetable color and freshness let down! *Babke* withdrawal! And... "You call this a breakfast buffet?" because you've never seen a buffet until you've seen an Israeli buffet! Well, these are just a few of the issues we've had to face as we returned to normal Needham life after our incredible TBS trip to Israel. The vivid colors, freshness, and taste of the fruits and vegetables were beyond incredible. The tomatoes were definitely more 'tomato-ee-er', the cucumbers were most certainly more 'cucumber-ee-er' and the *babkes* were fresher and more 'chocolate-ee-er' than anything we have tasted in this side of the world. Also, after a certain day trip to a Kibbutz, we can now never walk into a bakery here and NOT wonder if there might just be a secret factory below the ovens!

The lands of Israel from north to south went from the lushest greens to the richest brown soils to every shade of beautiful beige in the desert and the most gorgeous Jerusalem stone imaginable. The sunsets simply must be experienced to be believed as the layers of colors in those Israeli sunsets were breathtaking. We counted eight colors layered in one sunset. It was as if the heavens had a paint brush.



This trip has inspired all of us to have greater appreciation for memories and family experiences.

This is a trip that will never be forgotten. How can we ever forget the students we met, the families we shared Shabbat with, the songs we sang, the meals we experienced, the hanging time with our new friends from the trip, continuing to learn from Rabbi Jay and Emily, the mud slathering at the Dead Sea, climbing Masada, standing at the Western Wall on the eighth night of Chanukah in the pouring rain, and simply feeling fortunate to be part of TWO such amazing communities...the world-wide Jewish community and the TBS community!

Why are we Jewish? We are Jewish because we want this world to be a better place!

We NOW really get it! Thank you, Israel. You ARE AMAZING! See you again!



TBS Israel Adventure 2022: continued...

"My favorite things"

Max Damelin, Age 8

My favorite things from our trip to Israel were finding salt crystals in the Dead Sea, the jeep ride in the Golan, and seeing the Golden Dome!

"I could go to Israel a million times, and it would never be the same."

Naomi Damelin, Age 15

I went to Israel, and it was not my first time. I had been to the Western Wall before; I had walked the streets of Tzfat before; I had read the plaques at *Yad Vashem* before. For none of these things was this trip my first time.

But it sure felt like it was.

The Western Wall looks different in the evening, with a flash of lightning and a resounding *boom* of thunder. So different that it might not even be the same place; so different that I really *felt* it in a way I never had before.

Tzfat looks different at sunset, when the horizon is bright and beautiful, and the windows all reflect shades of orange-pink. So different that the city seems to have personality; so different that it seemed to be alive.



The plaques at *Yad Vashem* remind us that our people have not always had a place. We have not, until very recently, fit into the puzzle of the world. I understood this years ago, when I first went to Israel. But that was before I read *Night* by Elie Wiesel and had a Holocaust unit in *Etzrim* and a WWII class in History. And, knowing what I'd learned, the difference between past and future struck me. Because we do really need to, as an entire world, learn from our mistakes, lest everything happen again.

I could go to Israel a million times, I realize, and it would never be the same. So going with classmates and family and friends all at once was really very special. It was another layer to the trip, and it made a remarkable place that much more remarkable.



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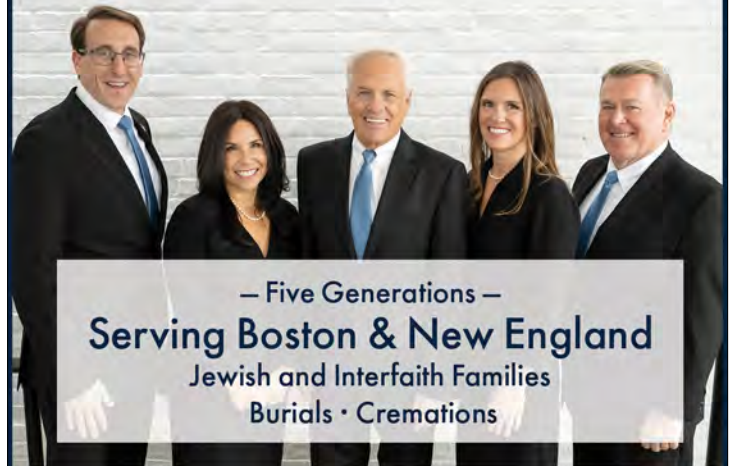
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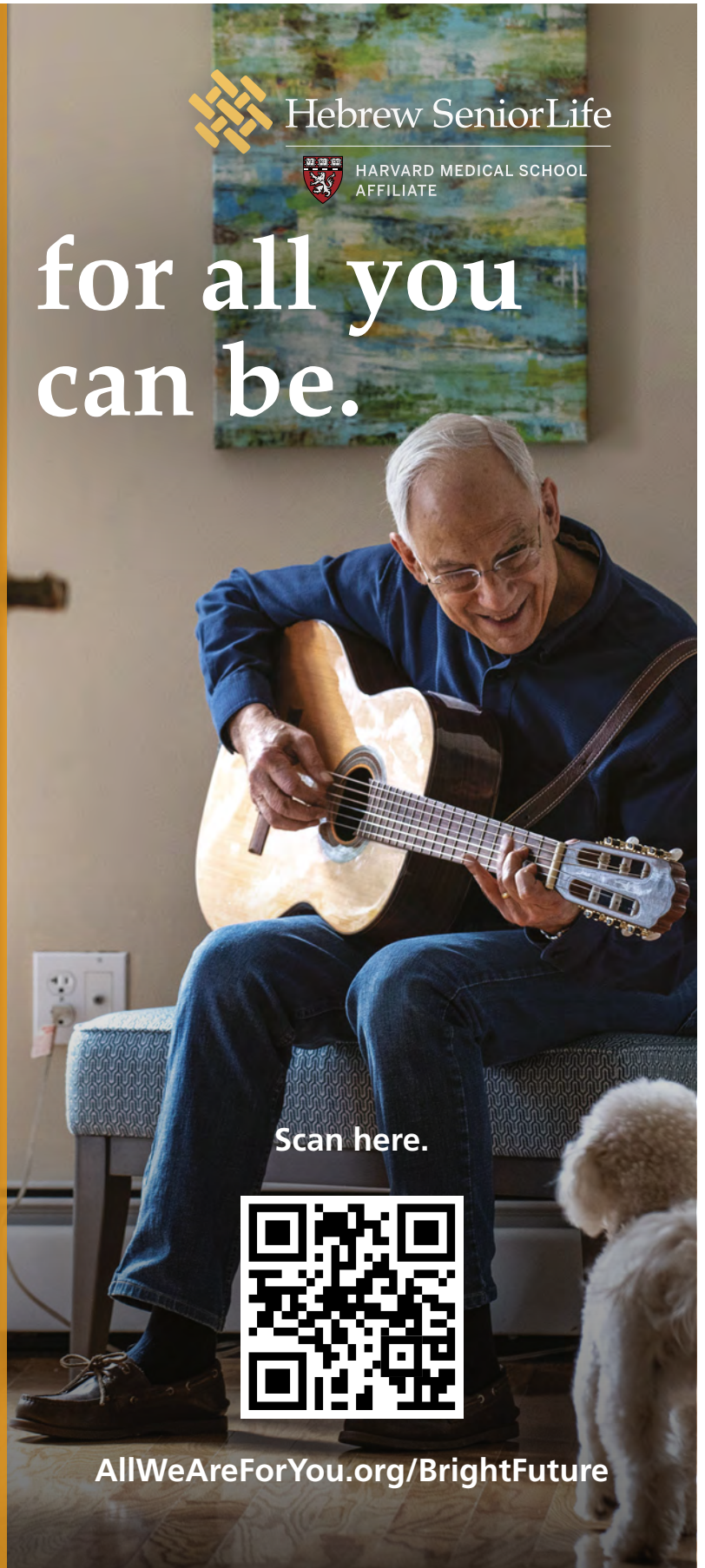


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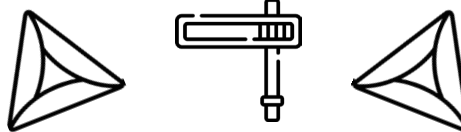
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Sunday, March 12 Needham Public Library 1:00pm - 4:00pm

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