

TEMPLE BETH O'R/BETH TORAH

BETH REPORTER

ADAR / NISAN 5775

APRIL 2015



June 4th at 7 pm



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FROM THE CANTOR



There is a time every day when I try to turn my attention strictly to Israel and the Middle East, perusing various sources for the latest news, for analyses of what is happening now, and for what the future may hold. In recent days, I like many have been focused on the election in

Israel and its aftermath. There has been so much been written and reported on Bibi and Buji, Labor and Likud, policies uttered and then presumably reversed. At the center of our attention, of course, remain the high stakes negotiations with Iran, with accusations and denials of all sorts flying back and forth. And all this is only a part of the overall picture whose focal point is a turmoil that is besieging the entire region.

It often feels as if there is a surreal quality to so much of what is taking place. It is of grave concern to us even though we live at a significant distance and in relative comfort and security. How much more so for those closer to the epicenter of the turmoil. I was amazed to read not very long ago of a survey that ranked Israelis, with all the tensions within their society, and with all the existential threats from without, as among the most happy of all peoples in the world!

But happiness can be elusive, and sometimes the most one can hope for is distraction, so it was not an unwelcome diversion – (although it was in a sad context) – that I read today in the Israeli press of a new Ten Commandments. No, these were not meant to replace those that came down from Sinai. These were rather promulgated in New York by Yehuda Avner. There is sadness because I read that he passed on just today. Avner served the State of Israel in a career spanning several decades. He was an adviser and confidante to five prime ministers, and he served as an Israeli ambassador to both Britain and Australia. He was particularly close to Menachem Begin, and was described as “Begin’s Shakespeare...an articulate champion of the Jewish people and the State.” Of his book, *The Prime Ministers*, Avner wrote, “Only after I finished my book did I realize that I was living the first 50 years of Israeli history.”

It was in 2013 at an event sponsored by the New York Jewish Week that he put forth his Ten Commandments for Jews everywhere to live by. In contrast to the

Sinaitic version, Avner’s list (with the notable exception of # 10) has more to do with peoplehood than with religious law. It is a list worth reading and contemplating, and so to honor this man, and to give us something to think about regarding what our priorities and responsibilities as Jews ought to be, I hereby list Avner’s TC.

1. When an enemy of our people says he seeks to destroy us, believe him.
2. Stand tall in the knowledge that every tyrant in history who has ever sought our destruction has himself been destroyed.
3. Protect Jewish dignity and honor at all cost. Life is holy, but there are times when one must risk life for the sake of life itself.
4. Never raise a hand against a fellow Jew no matter the provocation.
5. Give the enemy no quarter in demolishing his malicious propaganda.
6. Whenever a threat against a fellow Jew looms, do all in your power to come to his aid, whatever the sacrifice.
7. Never pause to wonder what others will think or say.
8. Be forever loyal to the historic truth that Israel is the nation state of the Jewish people and Jerusalem its eternal capital.
9. Love peace, but love freedom more.
10. Build Jewish homes not by the accident of birth, but by the conviction of our eternal Torah.

Yehi zichro baruch -- May the memory of Yehuda Avner be for a blessing. Am Yisrael Chai!

I wish everyone a zisssen Pesach!

Cantor Steven Stern

P.S. I send my heartfelt thanks to all who graciously sent *shalach manot* baskets and Purim greetings. I appreciate so much your good wishes!

Combined Morning Minyan

In April Minyan will be held in Cranford.

Monday & Thursday – 6:50 am; Tuesday,
Wed., & Friday – 7:00 am;

Sundays & Holidays in Clark - 9:00 am.

Evening services are held every day at 7:30 pm in
Cranford.

FROM THE CO-PRESIDENTS



Shalom,

Well, spring has finally sprung (?) At least the calendar says so. We can be very proud of things around our Temple Beth Or/Beth Torah. In spite of the frigid

temperatures and the snow, we have been able to have regular services with our wonderful Spiritual Leader Cantor Steven Stern. He is the glue that keeps us together.

Your Board of Directors continues to work hard with new programs and ideas to keep up your interest. So please, as we have previously said, "support these programs and services." Without you we cannot continue.

On that thought our Morning Minyan is having great difficulty getting 10 each morning. We must consider changing the schedule to Monday, Thursday and Sunday, or perhaps discontinuing the weekday minyan altogether.

Please, help us keep this vital service! If you can give up one morning a week or a few times a month, it would be greatly appreciated. We need you to allow those observing a yahrzeit or saying Kaddish, to fulfill their obligations. What a mitzvah that would be!

On behalf of the Mandlebaum and Silverman families we want to wish you a Zissen Pesach.

Shalom,
Wendy and Howard

CONGREGATION MEETING MONDAY, APRIL 13 AT 7:30 PM

THE BUDGET FOR 2015-2016 FISCAL YEAR
WILL BE PRESENTED.

PESACH COMMUNITY SEDER

First Seder

Friday, April 3, 6:30 pm

Led by Cantor Steven Stern

**Thank you to
Toby Prince and Audrey Silverman**
for their generous donation of a hot water urn
to the temple.

April

Happy Anniversary!

*Alvin & Barbara Barr
Glenn & Edie Bloom
Russel & Nancy Kelner
Robert & Elaine Kolker
Arnold & Myrna Young*

Happy Birthday!

Amy Alters	Felella Millman
Joel Berman	Rebecca Phillips
Michelle Berman	Carol Richstein
Louise Cangelosi	Martin Richstein
Ellen Cohen	Andrea Rochman
Stephanie Curtis	George Schisler
Benjamin Fries	Eva Silbert
Robert Kolker	Yuli Vaidman
Danielle Kosberg	Rayna Warner
Judi Kronick	

Got a Simcha?

**Birthday? Anniversary?
Graduation? New grandchild?
Host a Kiddush at TBO/BT**
Sponsor a simple Kiddush for \$136 or
make a donation
of \$18 or more to the Kiddush Fund.
Contact Julia at 732-381-8403 x11 or
tbethor@gmail.com.

What's Up for Shabbat in April?

Dress Down Shabbat—Come casual for our Shabbat services on Friday & Saturday, **April 17 & 18.**

Simcha Shabbat—We will celebrate all birthdays and anniversaries in the month of April on Saturday, **April 25.** Come for a blessing and share your simcha with your TBO/BT family!



SISTERHOOD PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

April is an especially busy month, with all the cleaning, shopping and preparation for Passover. However, Sisterhood has several activities to get you out of the house after the holiday with none of the stress or work. We want you to have fun and relax!

On Wednesday, April 15 at 7:30 pm is our annual Close the Books Meeting. Come out and see how much donor credit you have earned this year. We will also have some surprise snacks. You can socialize after Pesach and do some shopping in our great Gift Shop. Nancy has lots of new products that would make lovely housewarming or engagement gifts.

Then on Sunday, April 19th, we are having a guest speaker at 10 am for a Rosh Chodesh Brunch Program. In fact it is so special, that we are opening it to the entire congregation. Cantor Aviva Marer of Temple Emanuel in Edison will talk on the Jews of India and the Malida ceremony. She will serve various foods associated with it. In addition, we will serve breakfast. You must make reservations with Julia in the office by April 16. There is no cost for this program. So make plans for a fascinating speaker!

Chag Sameach!
Joleen Fridson

Special Fund

Donations to Special Fund can be made for any occasion for a minimum donation of \$5.00. You will receive 100% donor credit. To send a beautiful Special Fund card call: Gene Berry (732-388-3453).

Golden Books

To send a Golden Book for any occasion, call: Joan Oberman (732-381-4322)
Evie Shulman (908-276-6894)
Betty Needleman (908-389-0911)

Cards are sent for \$3.00 and you will receive \$1.50 donor credit, or pick up a pack of 10 cards for \$20.00 with \$15.00 donor credit and send them yourself. They can be picked up from the office. Please send checks to Esther Schlesinger (9 Pine Ridge Dr., Edison, NJ 08820) or call (732) 548-7132 for the amount owed.



JUDAICA SHOP NEWS

This month, we're highlighting one of the more unusual items we have -- a Mayim Achronim pitcher and bowl set. Here is what it is used for (from chabad.org): *At the conclusion of a meal in which we ate bread, we say the Grace after Meals, thanking G-d for giving us sustenance. Before reciting the Grace after Meals, we rinse our fingertips. This washing is called Mayim Achronim, "final waters."* Remember -- we have so many items, they don't all fit in the case.

If you don't see what you want, ask me! Nancy Kelner = nkelner@aol.com or 908-272-9072.

SISTERHOOD ROSH CHODESH PROGRAM SUNDAY, APRIL 19 at 10 am

Cantor Aviva Marer of Temple Emaniel in Edison will talk on the Jews of India and the Malida ceremony.
(see more info in Joleen's article)
Reservations are a must with the temple office by April 16.

The program is free & open to the entire congregation.

INCOME TAX INFORMATION

Sisterhood makes a 5% profit on all ShopRite and A&P vouchers sold. Therefore you are entitled to claim that 5% as a charitable deduction on your income tax. If you are not sure how much donor credit (also 5%) you have received for vouchers, please contact Esther Schlesinger (732-548-7132).

Vouchers:

ShopRite and A&P (accept at Pathmark) vouchers are available at Sisterhood functions and in the temple office.

GOLDEN BOOKS

MAZEL TOV

To: Esther & Jay Schlesinger on the birth of their granddaughter Sammie Jordan
From: Iris & Lenny Weiner, Joleen & Bob Fridson, Gloria Sern
To: Howard Silverman in honor of his 70th birthday
From: Gloria Sern

PAINT AND POUR

All who attended our Paint and Pour event Sunday March 22nd had a very good time.

After eating and drinking in the youth lounge we proceeded to the social hall. On each long table were our canvas, easel, paints and pallets along with aprons.

The artist Rosalia Tignini Verdun was a wonderful instructor and before long we all picked up our brushes, dipped them into the paint, and started to create our very own masterpieces.

In between instructions we sipped on wine and noshed on snacks while complimenting each other's paintings.

Please look for our works of art displayed in the temple lobby.

Next time please don't miss out on a fun event and join us while helping the temple meet its fundraising goals.

Thanks.

Ways & Means Committee

School Days

The past few weeks of education for our Hebrew School class, Yaldenu and K'Ton classes have been focused on the holiday of Purim, of course. The main ideas of the Purim story, as well as why Esther was chosen queen, how she saved the Jewish people, and the four mitzvot of Purim were among the things the children discussed. The costume parade and Megillah service were lots of fun and prizes of gift certificates to Deli King were given out to all the winners.

The curriculum of learning prayers, Hebrew reading and writing, Bible stories, etc. also continued during this time.

And now we look forward to celebrating Passover.

A special thank you to all who have made donations to the School Fund.

Spring Jewish Film Festival

Co-sponsored by TBOBT & the JCC of Central NJ

Tuesday, April 28 - *Above and Beyond*

Thursday, May 7 - *The Art Dealer*

Wednesday, May 13 - *Get: The Trial of Viviane Amsalem*

Monday, May 18 - *Kidon*

Wednesday, May 27 - *The Green Prince*

All films will be shown at
Rialto Theater in Westfield at 7:30 pm.



Save the Date!
Sunday, May 3rd

TBO/BT Walking & Fitness Group

meets in the park.

Details to follow.

Thank you - תודה רבה

Thank you to our TBO/BT friends and family for their good wishes on the birth of our granddaughter, Sammie Jordan.

Esther & Jay Schlesinger

My sincere thanks to the temple family for cards, donations, and calls with condolences on the passing of my brother. Special thanks to the Cantor, Michael Miller and Men's Club members for great comfort.

Marilyn Weinstein

I would like to thank all who sent my family and me Purim baskets. It is greatly appreciated.

Julia

Happenings at TBO/BT

Dinner, Costume Parade, and the Ganze Megillah at our Purim Celebration!



Happenings at TBO/BT

Reading Maimonides and enjoying desserts at the Cantors Torah Café at the Bayit



TBOBT artists display their talent at our Paint & Pour fundraiser



TBO/BT USY

If You Understand this Jumble - We Want You in the Mix!

Our USY President is currently in Israel. He wrote the following after attending a recent USY Shabbaton:

" I stood along the perimeter of the circle in the dark room. To my left was someone who was always there to talk to me about anything, while to my right, the sweetest person on the planet held me close. In this moment, I was truly surrounded by people who loved me and would always support me. As a singular light danced elegantly though the center of the room, I began to understand the sheer power of the camaraderie that charged the air. With the joint sounds of all the voices coming together in song, it would be hard not to give in to the spirit of the occasion. At the end of it all, the light was extinguished, and the salvo of hugs and PDA began as tears streamed down my face. This was the very last time I would be experiencing the magic of Havdalah in my career at USY.

While I certainly still reflect on the mark I made on our organization, and will do so for a very long time to come, I believe it's time to begin thinking about my future. On February 23, I will be shipping off around the world with the rest of the seniors of Golda Och Academy on our 3-month Neshama program. During my journey, I will be visiting Poland, and many of the somber memories that it comes with. I will spend a week where millions of others have stood before, and I can only hope to feel a fraction of the emotions running through my head.

After the powerful experiences of Poland, I will be spending the following months with my peers in Israel. I've had class with all of them at some point or another, but I never truly felt at home with them. I hope to become as close with my class as I am with USY.

I will miss the great times we had as a family, Hagalil. Rest assured, I will remember you all, and you will always be in my heart. In the words of the great staff member Seth Fenster, "I'll always be there. Farewell, USY. It's been good."

Steven Langer

Looking ahead!

August 23rd – 30th Encampment for USY & Kadima.

Kadima Happenings:

Roll-A-Rama—April 19th Woodbridge, 2:00-4:00 PM
Cost: \$12 includes admission, skate rental and a slurpee!

CHECK IT OUT: If you have a Jewish friend who isn't a USY member, but wants to check us out—let 'em come to any chapter program! We can't wait to meet them.

TBO-BT Men's Club SHOMREI HA'ARETZ STEWARDS OF THE LAND PROTECT VS USE PASSOVER 2015

Have an environmentally responsible Passover:

1. Use non-toxic cleaning supplies.
2. Compost your chametz.
3. Purchase paper and plastic supplies made from +60% post-consumer recycled material.

Try the soy candles for the holidays; www.FJMC.org

The Men's Club wishes to thank the following for helping with our projects during March:

The TBO-BT Sisterhood for providing Purim baskets for the Special Adults.

Bob Kolker and Mike Miller for organizing the Yellow Candle distribution.

Dick Lavroff, Howie Silverman, Dennis Berry, Paul Hymanson, Michael Roth, Fern Cammy, Ed Miretskiy, Bill Hausler, Theo Moreines, Alan Coen and Mike Miller for the delivery of the Yellow Candles.

Cantor Stern for organizing and directing the Model Seder for the Special Adults. Also, thank you to Howie & Audrey Silverman, Roberta Makow, Wendy Mandelbaum, Mariela, Mike Miller and Russ Kelner (Music Man) for helping host the Special Adults.



ISRAELI DANCE

Tuesday Nights

Beginners from 7 pm to 8 pm

Intermediate from 8 pm to 11 pm

\$10.00 per class/ \$45 prepaid for 5 classes

Proceeds go to TBO/BT.

Led by Elyse Litt 732-396-8299

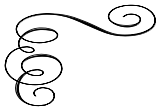
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Congregation, Sisterhood
Edward & Irina Miretskiy

PLEASE!
NOTE

TBO/BT still has
cemetery plots at
Beth Israel Cemetery
in Woodbridge
available.

Please call the temple office
if you are interested.



THE TBO/BT WISHES MAZEL TOV TO:
Jane & Sheldon Halper on the Bat Mitzvah of their granddaughter Jesse

CONDOLENCES TO:

Sheri Freedman on the passing of her stepfather Joe Luchansky

**WE GRATEFULLY ACKNOWLEDGE THE FOLLOWING DONATIONS MADE TO
TBO/BT DURING THE MONTH OF MARCH**

(To make a donation in memory of a loved one or in honor of a special occasion, call or email the temple office)

YAHREZIT FUND

Donated by	In Memory of
Lenard Weiner	Rachel Weiner
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Paula Hymanson	Louis Diamond
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Marilyn Weinstein	Ida Plotkin
Anna Vaidman	Leah Shkolnik
Elaine Kolker	Albert Unger
Dr. Dennis Turner	Henry Turner
Marlene Plymack	Morris Plymack
Yuli Vaidman	Inda Vaydman

CANTOR'S DISCRETIONARY FUND:

Harriet Rothschild in memory of her father-in-law
William Rothschild, uncles Leon & Meyer Vineberg,
aunt-in-law Amalchin Zimerman
Marilyn Weinstein, in appreciation

GENERAL FUND:

In honor of Howard Silverman on his 70th birthday:

Dr. Joyce Halper
Mike & Mary Ann Fusko
Rosemary Cherego
Kyriaki Kalikas
Bruce Gant
Irene & Lawrence Wodkiewicz-Wheat
Norma & Jack Weinshanker
Harriet Rothschild
David & Michelle Nash
Patricia & Albert Ashmont
BJ Dicellis
Joe & Mary Ellen Goodman
Greg & Gerry Miller
Goodman Realty
Judy & Steve Hurok
Debbie & Arthur Freeman

Alison Goldberg in honor of Toby Prince's birthday
Corona Frankel to commemorate Mindy Cohen being
honored by the American Cancer Society

Corona Fankel in honor of Myrna & Arny Young's
continued good health

MINYAN BREAKFAST FUND:

Alan & Rayna Warner in honor of Howard Silverman
Genie & Dennis Berry in honor of Howard Silverman

SCHOOL FUND:

Genie & Dennis Berry thanking all who sent Shalach
Mones to them.

SOL SERN FUND:

Marvin Greenberg
Stacey Sern & Jonathan Greenberg

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2015 APRIL

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3  7:04p	4 
5 	6 	7 	8 	9 	10  7:12p 	11 
9:00a Passover Services Passover 2nd Day 16 Nisan	8:00p Sisterhood Board Meeting Passover 17 Nisan	7:00p Israeli Dancing Passover 18 Nisan	8:00p Ritual Meeting Passover 19 Nisan	8:00p Men's Club Meeting Passover 20 Nisan	8:00p Services Passover 7th Day 21 Nisan	9:30a Services & Yizkor Passover 8th Day 22 Nisan
12	13	14	15	16 	17  7:19p	18
9:00a Morning Minyan 23 Nisan	7:30p General Congregation Meeting 8:00p Congregation Board Meeting 24 Nisan	7:00p Israeli Dancing 25 Nisan	26 Nisan	YOM HASHOA 27 Nisan	8:00p Services 28 Nisan	9:30a Services Special Adults 29 Nisan
19	20	21	22	23 	24  7:26p	25
9:00a Morning Minyan 10:00a Sisterhood Rosh Chodesh Program Rosh Chodesh 30 Nisan	Rosh Chodesh 1 Ivar	7:00p Israeli Dancing 2 Ivar		7:30p Men's Club Game Night YOM HA'ATZMAUT 4 Ivar	8:00p Services Special Adults 5 Ivar	9:30a Services 6 Ivar
26	27	28	29	30		
9:00a Morning Minyan 7 Ivar	8 Ivar	7:00p Israeli Dancing 9 Ivar	10 Ivar	11 Ivar		

Happy Passover!

List of TBO/BT Funds for Donations

Cantor's Discretionary Fund – is a vehicle by which the Cantor assists individuals and organizations that come to his personal attention in need of additional funds for emergencies, on-going activities or special projects in the US, Israel or anywhere in the world.

Jewish National Fund Trees – certificates can be purchased for all occasions in denominations of \$18. Please contact the temple office, 732-381-8403.

Oneg Shabbat/Kiddush Fund – used for a nosh after Shabbat services. To sponsor an entire Oneg, Kiddush, or Seuda, please contact the temple office, 732-381-8403.

Minyan Breakfast Fund – provides breakfast for the Morning Minyan.

Ritual Fund – is used to purchase religious supplies.

Yahrzeit Fund – It is a tradition to make a donation in memory of deceased loved ones. This fund is used to support all aspects of the synagogue.

Sol Sern Memorial Lecture Fund – is used to provide speakers and refreshments for our annual lecture in memory of Sol Sern.

General Fund – supports all aspects of Temple Beth O'r/ Beth Torah.

Prayer Books – Please contact the temple office to obtain up-to-date information.

Bikur Cholim and Chesed Fund – is used on behalf of those who are ill or in need of mitzvot of loving kindness.

Harold & Doris Presser Memorial Fund – has been established to assist in the maintenance of the temple facilities and the repair of ritual items.

Yahrzeit Plaques – Honor your departed loved ones with a permanent yahrzeit memorial plaque in our sanctuary. A light will be lit next to the plaque every year during the week of the Yahrzeit. Cost is \$300.

- Information needed: English & Hebrew names, including the father's and/or mother's Hebrew name, and secular & Hebrew dates of passing.

Sanctuary Seat & Pew Dedication – This project honors or memorializes a dear one with a special plaque mounted on the back of a sanctuary seat. Each plaque costs \$180. Dedication of an entire pew (row) includes a larger plaque inscribed with the family name mounted at the end of the row and two individual seat plaques in that row. The cost of an entire pew dedication is \$1800.

Religious School Fund – supports our Hebrew School & K'Ton program.

Simcha Tree – Honor your family by dedicating a Leaf (\$180), Rock, or Trunk Letter, on our "Simcha" Tree of Life, for any and all occasions – Births, Weddings, Special Anniversaries or Birthdays, Bar/Bat Mitzvah, or other special honors or events.