

Temple Beth O'r/Beth Torah

# BETH REPORTER

TEVET-SHEVAT 5777

JANUARY 2017



## **New Member Shabbat Kiddush**

*Join Us in Welcoming and Honoring Our New Members on  
Saturday, January 14, 2017*

Daniel, Jaclyn, Elizabeth & Jonathan Eckert

Sondra Eisenberg

Gavin, Gianine, Benjamin, Shoshana & Jacob Handwerker

Jeffrey, Meryl, Tamara & Matthew Itzkowitz

Richard Parness

Aron, Joan & Alan Richman

Michael & Michelle Shulman

David, Stacey, Hailey & Hunter Simon

Leo & Doris Terr

Ari, Tanya, Benjamin & Gabriella Weintraub

*Attend a beautiful Shabbat service at 9:30 AM followed by a delicious Kiddush.*

*Please RSVP by January 9 to allow us to prepare!*

**If you would like to co-sponsor this Kiddush, please contact the  
Temple office at 732-381-8403, extension 11.**

## From the Cantor



I was working at my desk the other day, and I asked my research assistant – Google, to come up with something interesting on the subject of the New Year. What I got was a list put out by Time Magazine of “The

Top 10 Commonly Broken New Year’s Resolutions.” There were no surprises there, just the expected items that included: lose weight & get fit, eat healthier, be less stressed, get out of debt and save money, learn something new, and the like.

Nor was it at all surprising that the list was virtually identical to most top ten lists of resolutions made, such as the one put out by the Nielsen organization. In other words, we tend to make resolutions and then we break them -- year after year after year. Resolutions are not easy to keep. If they were, we would just do what we need to do and stop resolving to do so!

Why is it so difficult? First of all we are, to a large extent, creatures of inertia, and anything that takes us off our set trajectory is difficult. Moreover, we have competing needs and desires, so deciding to head to the gym three times a week has to contend with both time constraints as well as the pleasure of relaxing on the couch with the remote control in hand.

But resolutions are important. That is because there is hardly anyone who at any given time is set on a perfect course in life, who would not benefit from some mid-course correction to get to a better destination, or to get there more directly.

Life passes all too quickly, and the days turn to weeks, which turn to months and then to years, and before we know it we realize that we have not accomplished the things we recognize as most important. A regular pause, whether it be at the beginning of the New Year, or at the High Holidays, or at any time on the calendar, to contemplate how we might adjust our trajectory is a really good thing and a worthwhile practice.

But I don't really like the term resolution. It just sounds too, well, resolute. I think I prefer the term intention. So I would rather intend to attempt to do the things I want and should do rather than resolve to do so.

And finally, it might be helpful not to begin the whole process with resolutions or intentions, but rather to start by asking ourselves what is it that is important? What do I wish for the coming year, for myself, for my loved ones, for this world that I inhabit, and then to attempt to figure out which resolutions or intentions would best get me to a place where I can see my wishes fulfilled.

As we embark upon this New Year 2017, may all our wishes be ones that are worthwhile, and may we find within ourselves both the will and the way toward their realization and fulfillment.

With all my best wishes,  
Cantor Steven Stern

## From The Co-Presidents

2016 is history. The Winter Solstice has passed. The days are slowly growing longer. We welcome the secular year 2017 with resolve to do better and with hope for a brighter future.

If you happened to be at Temple Beth O'r Beth Torah on a Sunday morning, as I was recently, when our Religious School was in session, you will know that our future is very bright. You can hear a member of the Olim class, our Bar and Bat Mitzvah students, learning trope or leying Torah with Cantor Stern. The K'ton class may be reciting the Alef Bet or listening to Bible stories. Our Yaldeinu students are singing Adon Olam or discussing the meaning of a prayer. In word and song our children are learning the precepts, customs and rituals of Judaism in a happy and relaxed atmosphere.

We are fulfilling the instruction Moses gave to the Children of Israel. Each generation has the duty to educate its children so they might know the moral principles that are at the heart of Judaism and thereby keep those principles alive l'dor v'dor, from generation to generation.

The photos in the "Happenings at TBOBT" centerfold depict the children happily learning as they make latkes, attend the outdoor Menorah Lighting, sing Hanukkah songs and feast on jelly donuts and latkes.

Yasher Koach to our members whose devotion to our Religious School make all this possible, our Board of Education, Cantor Stern, Elaine Kolker, Thelma Purdy, Genie Berry, the teachers, parents and, of course, the children.

Another sign of our bright future is our New Member Shabbat on January 14th. Thanks to Audrey Silverman, our Membership Chair, and her committee, we are pleased to welcome 10 new families into our Temple Beth O'r Beth Torah community. A very special and very delicious Kiddush will follow Shabbat Services. Please join us. I look forward to seeing you there.

May our Temple Beth O'r Beth Torah family always go from strength to strength.

Lillian

## Education Report

December always brings joyous anticipation of Hanukkah.

The K'ton class continues with the Aleph-Bet with emphasis each session with a different letter. They continue to review the prayers Modeh Ani, Torah Torah and Shema. Recently, Bible studies focused on Isaac and Rebecca, and Jacob, and Rachel and Leah. The student's craft project was a dreidel-shaped hat, which they not only enjoyed making but had fun wearing!!

The Yaldeinu class continues with their Hebrew language studies as well as learning the Shema prayer using the Hebrew in the Harmony program. They also were involved in a Hanukkah craft project.

Our oldest Olim class also continues with Hebrew language, but at a more mature level. The study of the letters and their significance in the Torah was most interesting to our students. They also discussed the deeper aspects of the Hanukkah festival and viewed a video.

With the generous help of Martin and Elianna Goldman, K'ton parents, all three classes engaged in the preparation and eating of latkes on December 18th. This activity was enjoyed by all!!

The Outdoor Hanukkah Menorah Lighting was held on December 28th at 6pm.

We now have six students joined in Kadima. We know they will enjoy the fun of making new friends and be involved in Kadima's wonderful activities!! Aaron Bloom and Benjamin Weintraub recently participated in a Kadima Shabbaton.

Happy New Year to all from Thelma, Genie, Elaine and Cantor.

## Sisterhood President's Message

Since the new year 2017 is now upon us, it is always comforting and a good sign to start it with a fun tradition. Here at TBOBT, if it is January it can only mean it's Game Night! Once again, Esther Schlesinger will host a great social evening. No need to dress up, just a relaxing time to have dinner, schmooze and play a board game together. The date is Thursday, January 26th at 6:30pm at Esther's home on 9 Pine Ridge Drive in Edison. The cost is just \$15. Just reserve a spot by calling Esther at 732-548-7132.



The following night on Friday, Jan. 27th, Sisterhood members will conduct Shabbat services and sponsor a special Oneg Shabbat. This year marks the 100th anniversary of Women's League, which oversees all of the Conservative Movement Sisterhoods in the US and internationally. The celebration will continue on Saturday, when Sisterhood hosts a special Kiddush luncheon after Shabbat services.

So, who says January is a cold boring month? Not here at Temple Beth O'r Beth Torah, where it's warm and inviting. You don't have to travel far to enjoy yourself spiritually and socially! See you at Game Night and services!!

Joleen

### 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.

## Goldenbooks

To Sebley Hausler: In memory of William Hausler

From: Iris & Lenny Weiner  
 Allan & Rayna Warner  
 Glenn & Edie Bloom  
 Fern & Joe Cammy  
 Diane & Michael Goldstein  
 Jon-Henry & Lauren Barr  
 Barbara & Mitchell James  
 Suzanne & Michael Miller  
 Janie & Jonathan Phillips

### 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:  
 Genie Berry (732-388-3453).



**Remember to buy ShopRite Gift Cards**  
 5% of the amount of Shop Rite gift cards purchased is tax deductible.  
 Contact Bonni at the Temple office:  
 732-381-8403, ext. 11

### Morning Minyan Services

**Sundays at 9:00 AM:**  
 Temple Beth O'r Beth Torah

**Thursdays at 7:00 AM:**  
 Congregation Beth Israel  
 in Scotch Plains

If you have any questions, please call Howard Silverman, Fern Cammy or Cantor Stern.

### TEMPLE BETH O'R BETH TORAH BOARD OF OFFICERS & TRUSTEES MEETING SCHEDULE 2016-2017

Mondays, at 8:00 pm

January 9	Congregation Board
February 13	Congregation Board
March TBA	Congregation Board
April TBA	Congregation Board
May 8	Congregation Board
June 12	Congregation Board

# From The TBOBT Men's Club

## December Activities

At the December 11<sup>th</sup> Men's Club meeting a committee was formed for the Adults with Special Needs 30th anniversary celebration to take place on Men's Club Shabbat March 18<sup>th</sup>. We would appreciate ideas from the congregation. We would appreciate pictures, temple bulletin articles, and documents from the early years. This is a big deal.

The Eckhart and Goldman families, accompanied by Cantor Stern and Mike Miller attended the Sunday school family trip to The Model Railroad Club "Sound and Light Show" in Union NJ. Everyone had fun and the children had a chance to operate some trains on the layout and lay some track ties. Pictures are in this issue.

The Adults with Special Needs Hanukkah Party and Dinner was held December 29<sup>th</sup>. Thanks to all the volunteers who assisted. Sustainable and Compostable dinnerware were used. Details will be in the next issue.

## January Activities

Adults with Special Needs January 7<sup>th</sup>. The breakfast "Hearing Men's Voices -- In Sickness and in Health, I do Thee Wed," a personal exchange of men's issues lead by Harvin Freedman, will be January 15 after Minyan. The subject explores men's experiences in dealing with a chronic illness of their spouse. What is discussed among the men remains in the room.

The Worldwide Wrap will be February 5. Mike Miller registered to Partner with a Masorti congregation. Michael Goldstein and Cantor Stern will teach and help people put on Tefillin. The Olim Hebrew School class will participate. Men's Club will sponsor breakfast. All congregants are invited.

Pictures from the joint Men's' Clubs Veterans breakfast have been added to this issue.

**FJMC Hearing Men's Voices Program.**  
**January 15<sup>th</sup> 10:00am after Minyan and Breakfast**  
**"In Sickness and In Health, I Do Thee Wed"**  
**Moderated by Harvin Freedman**

When a family member becomes chronically ill, a woman usually steps forward to manage the care. When the wife becomes ill the husband must step up.

This program explores men's experiences in dealing with chronic illness of their spouse. This is a conversation between **men** using the FJMC program guide. What is discussed among the attendees remains in the room. Join us.

## **Tu B'Shevat the greening of Judaism**

**Tuesday, February 14, 2017**

Time to Prepare

**Tu B'Shevat** is the Jewish New Year of the trees. Trees are a metaphor for nature and the environment. The celebration and blessings give thanks for the sustenance and material provided to humans. Originally a time for farmers to record the age of their trees so they would know which trees were old enough to harvest, it has become a time to connect Jewish values of taking care of the earth with contemporary concerns about pollution, climate change and the preservation of the environment.

This year's Project: How Old is your Tree? A Program for Children Ages 7-14 presented by our Men's Club. Knowing the age of a tree can help us all appreciate trees. Normally a forester will take a core-boring into a tree and count the annual rings if he or she would like to know the age of a tree. Unfortunately, this method can be very harmful to a tree, since the boring will leave a hole in the tree which insects may enter. The method for aging trees described below was developed by the International Society of Arboriculture. This method will give a good estimate of a tree's age.

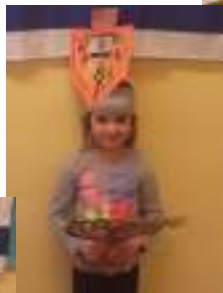
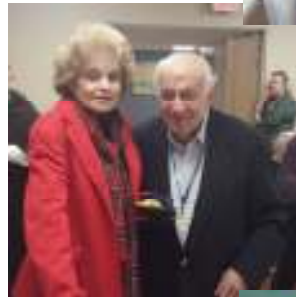
### **Try This!**

- Pick a tree, take a picture and collect a leaf; this helps identify the tree
- Draw an age ring diagram of your tree. (concentric rings with increasing diameter from a center point)
- Mark the rings of your tree by writing in the year on various lines (i.e. mark the lines corresponding to the decades...1990, 1980, 1970, etc.)
- Find years of historic importance--both nationally and locally in your own city--and mark it on your diagram next to the year it occurred.
- Students could ask their parents for the year of a significant event in their past, or for a significant event that occurred in a specific year plotted on your tree line.
- Next, students could ask their grandparents for the year of a significant event in their past, or for a significant event that occurred in a specific year plotted on your tree line.

How does your rate of growth (human growth) compare to the rate and direction of tree growth? What factors can influence both of these rates?

For more information, contact Dr. Mike.

# Happenings



# at TBOBT



## Mazel Tov to our Bat Mitzvah!!!



Sofia Pollack will become a Bat Mitzvah on January 21, 2017. Sofia is a 7<sup>th</sup> grade student at Orange Avenue School in Cranford, New Jersey. She plays piano in her school's jazz band.

She has been dancing since she was 3 and studies jazz and tap dancing. She loves performing. Her favorite subjects in school are math and science. She has an older brother named Harrison who is 16.

Sofia is very excited for her big day!

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### Workshop on How to Lead Friday Evening Services

Sunday, January, 8 at 10:15 am  
Led by Fern Cammy

### Lecture on Medicare Fraud

Sunday, January 22 at 9:45 am.  
Charles Clarkson of Senior Medicare Patrol  
Please RSVP to the temple office by January 18 if you plan to attend.



## Israel Support Committee's 2017 Israel Documentary Film Festival



**Jan. 29<sup>th</sup>, 2 PM:** "It Is No Dream", the life of Theodor Herzl and his 8 yr journey leading to the political movement resulting in the establishment of the State of Israel. Congregation Israel, 339 Mountain Ave, Springfield, NJ

**Feb 12<sup>th</sup>, 2 PM:** "A Woman Called Golda", Part 1 at Temple Beth O'r Beth Torah, 111 Valley Rd, Clark, NJ

**Feb 19<sup>th</sup>, 2 PM:** "A Woman Called Golda", Part 2 at Temple Beth El Mekor Chayim, 338 Walnut St., Cranford, NJ

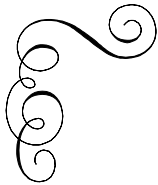
**Mar 5<sup>th</sup>, 2 PM:** "Six Days in June" at Congregation Beth Israel, 18 Shalom Way, Scotch Plains, NJ

## A Messages from our Member

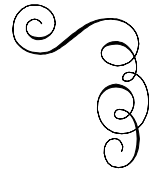
*The family of Bill Hausler wishes to thank its TBOBT family for the outpouring of support and condolences during our time of mourning. Your kind words and thoughtfulness have been a source of comfort during this difficult time.*

*Sebley and Family*





**We gratefully acknowledge the following donations  
made to TBOBT during the month of December:**  
(To make a donation in memory of a loved one or in honor  
of a special occasion, call or email the temple office.)



**Yahrzeit Fund**

<b>Donated By</b>	<b>In Memory Of:</b>
Janice Hymanson	Samuel Rothstein
Eva Silbert	Mildred Silbert
Marlene Plymack	Edward Plymack
Lillian Makow	Rose Tannenbaum
Muriel Tannenbaum	Rose Tannenbaum
Jane Halper	Albert Kaufman
Barbara Roth	Augusta Epstein
Eva Silbert	Dora Reinkraut Rogath
Dr. Sharon Katz	Estelle Katz
Meryl Rubin	Hannah Monheit
Bess Berg	Abraham Berg
Bess Berg	David Melnick
Evelyn Schisler	Julius Schisler
Evelyn Schisler	William Schisler
Evelyn Schisler	Isaac Schisler
Evelyn Schisler	Ernest Sinclair
Florence Bernstein	Hymie Amster
Florence Bernstein	Hannah Amster
Florence Bernstein	Ronald Amster
Anna Malkina	Riva Shtrikman
Iris Weiner	Miriam Serchuk
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Sheryl Traum	Raymond Porter
Mark Traum	Morton Traum
Sylvia Wolkin	Sidney Wolkin
Jane Halper	Martha Kaufman
Susan Barr	Oscar Bohrer
Fred Roth	Mary Roth

**Kiddush and Oneg Fund**

Joan and Leon Oberman  
Mitchell and Barbara James  
Toby Prince  
Steve and Judy Hurok

**General Fund**

Norma Fuerst: In memory of Bill Hausler  
Stanley and Fay Fink: In memory of Bill Hausler  
Lillian Makow: In memory of Bill Hausler  
Sebley Hausler: In appreciation  
Jeff & Sheri Pruden: In memory of Bill Hausler  
Ruth Dengrove: In memory of Bill Hausler  
Roslyn Gordon: In memory of Bill Hausler  
Michael & Ruth Margolin: In memory of Bill Hausler  
Eva Silbert: In memory of Bill Hausler

**Harold & Doris Presser Memorial Fund**

Louise and Joseph Cangelosi: In Memory of Bill Hausler

**Religious School Fund**

Mike and Suzanne Miller: In memory of Erna Nitrai  
Arthur & Thelma Purdy: In memory of Rabbi Savitz  
Genie Berry & Mollie Josephson: In memory of Pauline Maltzer

**Men's Club**

Sharon and Wayne Traub: In memory of Bill Hausler  
Dick and Lisa Lavroff: In memory of Bill Hausler  
Sheila and Allan Dauber: In memory of Bill Hausler

**Cantor's Discretionary Fund**

Harriet Rothschild: In memory of J. Justin Rothschild  
Arthur & Felella Millman: In memory of Bill Hausler  
Alan & Sherry Abeel: A special thank you

**A Message from Our Friends**

Hi ya'll, Happy New Year to all our Clark friends.

xxxx the Millers of North Carolina. Shabbat Shalom



**The Temple Office Hours  
are:  
Monday through Friday**



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**DELI-KING CLARK**  
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30 Clarkton Drive, Clark, N.J. 07066



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

If you are interested, please call the temple office at 732-381-8403 ext. 11.

**Advertise Your Business!**

Call us for monthly and yearly advertising rates.

Various ad sizes are available.

Contact Bonni at the Temple Office  
**732-381-8403, ext .11**

## LIST OF TBOBT 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 \$350.

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. Call Temple Office for more info.

December

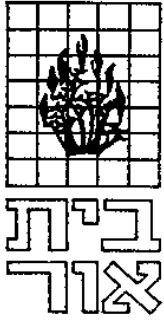
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February

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# 2017 JANUARY

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 9:00a Morning Minyan New Year's Day Hanukkah 3 Tevet	2 4 Tevet	3 5 Tevet	4 7:00p Israeli Dancing 6 Tevet	5 7 Tevet	6 4:28p 8:00p Services 8 Tevet	7 5:47p 10:00a Adults w/Special Needs 9 Tevet
8 9:00a Morning Minyan 9:45a Men's Club Breakfast Meeting 10:15a Workshop on How to Lead Friday Evening 10 Tevet	9 8:00p Congregation Board Meeting 11 Tevet	10 12 Tevet	11 7:00p Israeli Dancing 13 Tevet	12 14 Tevet	13 4:35p 8:00p Services 15 Tevet	14 5:54p 9:30a Services/New Member Shabbat 16 Tevet
15 9:00a Morning Minyan 10:00a FJMC Hearing Men's Voices Program. 17 Tevet	16 6:30p Sisterhood Board Dinner and Meeting Martin Luther King Day 18 Tevet	17 19 Tevet	18 7:00p Israeli Dancing 20 Tevet	19 21 Tevet	20 4:43p 8:00p Sisterhood - Women's League Shabbat 22 Tevet	21 6:02p 9:30a Services/Sofia Pollack Bat Mitzvah 23 Tevet
22 9:00a Morning Minyan 9:45a Lecture on Medical Fraud 24 Tevet	23 25 Tevet	24 26 Tevet	25 7:00p Israeli Dancing 27 Tevet	26 28 Tevet	27 4:51p 6:30p Sisterhood Game Night 7:30p Men's Club Game Night 8:00p Services 29 Tevet	28 6:11p 9:30a Services 11:00a Sisterhood Kiddush Rosh Chodesh 1 Shevat
29 9:00a Morning Minyan 9:45a Snow Date: Lecture on Medical Fraud 2 Shevat	30 3 Shevat	31 4 Shevat				



## Temple Beth O'r Beth Torah

111 Valley Road, Clark NJ 07066

732-381-8403

tbethor@gmail.com

www.bethorbethtorah.org

Steven Stern, Spiritual Leader

Lillian Makow & Janice Hymanson, Co-Presidents

Jonathan Phillips, Executive Vice-President

### **Got a Simcha?**

**Birthday? Anniversary?  
Graduation? New grandchild?  
Host a Kiddush at TBOBT**

**Sponsor a simple Kiddush for \$136  
or make a donation of \$18 or more  
to the Kiddush Fund.**

**Contact Bonni at the Temple office  
732-381-8403 ext. 11  
or  
tbethor@gmail.com.**



### **ISRAELI DANCE**

Wednesday Nights

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

Proceeds go to TBOBT.

Led by Elyse Litt 732-396-8299

Any new dancers should contact:

Elyse via email prior to first class at [dancesfrom-theheart@gmail.com](mailto:dancesfrom-theheart@gmail.com)