

TEMPLE BETH O'R/BETH TORAH

# BETH REPORTER

IYAR – SIVAN 5776

JUNE 2016



*Join Us on Saturday, June 11, 2016  
for a special Graduation Shabbat*

*In Honor of*

*Alex Cammy*

*on his graduation from Ithaca College  
with a B.S. in Television and Radio  
and*

*Stephanie Weiner*

*on her graduation from Towson University  
with a degree in Deaf Education.*

## **Tikun Leil Shavuot**

### **Cheesecake & Study**

Join Cantor Stern for an evening  
of delightful desserts and  
an immersion into Torah texts.

**Saturday, June 11 at 8 pm  
in the Youth Lounge at TBOBT.**



## FROM THE CANTOR



On a recent, quiet and sunny afternoon, I picked up a copy of *Seven Brief Lessons on Physics* by the Italian scientist Carlo Rovelli. It is, as the title suggests, not a big book and so I was able to

finish it in one sitting. The author takes you through some of the great theories of modern science, from Einstein's theory of relativity, to quantum mechanics, to loop quantum gravity.

Now, not being a scientist, and having taken my last physics class decades ago, it was not for me an easy read. But while it was quite difficult trying to understand black holes and the warping of space and time, I read the book in an attempt to simply gain a better appreciation for the utter magnificence of the universe we inhabit. And in that sense, not nearly grasping all the details was perhaps, in a way, an advantage.

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Last month I had the great privilege to be invited back to offer the invocation and benediction at the spring commencement ceremonies for Union County College, held at Kean University. At one point, I borrowed from the great Jewish theologian A.J. Heschel and from the British scientist J.B.S. Haldane, who both suggested that the world lacks not for wonders but for our sense of wonder. And I challenged the graduates to recognize that while the world we inhabit is fraught with difficulties, challenges and much strife, it is, at the same time, a magnificent place with infinite possibilities, and that approaching the future with a sense of awe and wonder would help them to better imagine how they could better make their own contributions in life.

Approaching the summer months, it is a good time for all of us to reconnect with the majesty and glory of everything. However we choose to do it, whether by communing with nature while spending some time at the beach or in the mountains, or even while just sitting in the backyard with a good book, opening our eyes to the grandeur of it all will surely enrich our lives.

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I wish to thank everyone who helped bring a sense of wonder to TBOBT this past year -- our hardworking Board and officers, our staff, our teachers and students -- in short, each and every one of us. Together, we continue to make this a truly special, and indeed, an often magical place!

B'Shalom u'bivricha,  
Cantor Steven Stern

"The day is short, the task is great...

You are not obligated to complete it all,

But neither are you free to desist from it."

Avot 2:20-21

## FROM THE CO-PRESIDENTS



Dear Friends,

As Howard and I prepare to leave office, we would like to thank you for your support during the last years. Stepping down as your co-

presidents is not an end to our commitment to TBOBT, instead it is a continuation of dedication and hard work. (I will say that we do look forward to sitting with the congregation instead of on the bima!)

Please continue to support our shul spiritually, ritually and financially.

Our future does have challenges. Together we will work through those challenges and continue to be the center of our Jewish community.

Thank you.

Wendy Mandelbaum

## EDUCATION REPORT

On May 22nd, we completed a very successful 2015-2016 school year with a day chock full of many events. We had an Open House for prospective new students on the same morning. Our students and families joined us in the sanctuary at the end of the day for our final program of the school year. The students joined the Cantor and the Education Committee on the Bima and each presented his favorite experiences of the year. They were insightful, thoughtful, delightful and positive!!

Each student was presented with a beautiful Certificate of Achievement along with a gift certificate for an ice cream treat!! The teachers were presented with a Spring flower plant in appreciation for a job well done. We all joined the Cantor in singing his original song about their appreciation of the TBOBT Hebrew School. As the program ended, we came together for bagels, doughnuts, coffee, juice, conversation and fun in the Social Hall. A good ending for a good school year!!!!

We look forward to our two students' Bat Mitzvahs--Alina Antonucci on June 4th and Rachel Burkhard on June 29th.

Elaine, Genie Thelma and Cantor.

### TBOBT SISTERHOOD WALL CALENDAR 2016-2017

Birthdays - Anniversaries  
Yahrzeit Listings - Business Listings

Cost : \$10.00 for 6 listings.  
Additional listings: 50¢ each.  
Extra Calendars: \$2.00 each.  
Business Ads: \$49.00

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

*“Select for yourself a teacher,  
Acquire a colleague for study;  
When you assess people, tip the  
balance in their favor.”*

Avot 1:6

## SISTERHOOD PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Although Sisterhood held its last regular meeting in May, there are still several year end events to take place.



On Thursday, June 2nd, our Sisterhood will be honoring our long-time, hard working Treasurer, Judy Hurok at the Garden State Region's First Chai Tea. It will be held at Temple Beth Ann Yisroel in Springfield from 6:30 - 9pm. There will be 12 people attending from our temple!

Then two weeks later on Thursday, June 16th at 6pm, will be our annual Donor Dinner. Remember, if you did not make Donor this year it costs only \$36 to attend for a catered meal and live entertainment. Enjoy the evening with your new and old friends. It's also a night away from the kitchen! This year with Shavuot being late it is being held in mid June. So the days are longer! If you haven't made your reservation yet, call Sebley@609-860-6715.

Finally, although Sisterhood may not meet formally over the summer, the Board will be busy planning many activities for next year. If you have any suggestions we gladly welcome them! Have a safe, healthy and relaxing summer ladies!!

Joleen



Judy Hurok being honored at Garden State Region of Women's League

## GOLDENBOOKS

To Dr. Gloria Schragger in memory of her son Ralph Schragger

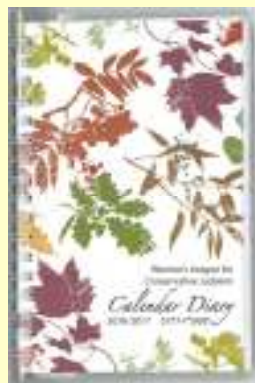
From:

Lorraine & Milt Loshin  
Harriet Rothschild  
Gloria Sern

To Judy Turner in memory of her father Irvin "Buddy" Solomon

From:

Lorraine & Milt Loshin  
Harriet Rothschild



The Women's League Calendar Diary for 2016-2017 is now available in the Temple office.

The cost is \$9.25.

### 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.

# FROM THE TBOBT MEN'S CLUB

## May Activities

The Men's Club elected a slate of officers for 2016-17 -- Co-Presidents Michael Goldstein & Michael Miller, Executive Vice President Harvin Freedman, Financial Vice President Jay Schlesinger, Membership Vice President Dennis Berry, Recording Secretary, Corresponding Secretary. Trustees are Alan Coen, Richard Lavaroff, Alan Mandelbaum, Theodore Moreines and Arthur Purdy.

The May game night was a billiards and ice cream social with Congregation Beth Israel Men's Club, organized by Jay Schlesinger at the Route 22 Billiards Parlor and Scoops. Everyone had an enjoyable time. Other joint activities will be planned.

## June Activities

Harvin Freedman and Michael Miller represented TBOBT MC at the FJMC 8<sup>th</sup> Biennial Regional

Retreat at Camp Zeke in the Poconos. The Ruach during Shabbat services, Birkat Ha-Mazon and at social activities was amazing. Seventy men were having a rousing time. Saturday morning there was a Traditional service as well as an alternative minyan for people not fluent in Hebrew and with explanations of the meaning and organization of the service. Sessions on club programming, membership, finances and ritual service were held, led by regional leaders. There was a training program on "Minyan of Comfort," with the focus being on meeting the needs of the mourners.

On June 15<sup>th</sup> the Northern New Jersey Region of FJMC will honor all incoming club presidents in the region at the Region's Presidents Dinner. Michael Goldstein and Michael Miller will be honored and all are welcome to attend. The dinner is in Caldwell, NJ. Contact Jay Schlesinger for details.

Michael Miller & Michael Goldstein

## **The following is an excerpt from the Dvar Torah given by Dan Guttman on May 28 in celebration of his and Marvie's anniversary.**

Nicknames can elevate or eviscerate. Nicknames even have nicknames- nom de plume, nom de guerre, sobriquet, alias, pen name, AKA and so on. Nicknames can also obfuscate, reiterate, promulgate and castigate. They can be at the vanguard of revolutions, be the touchstones of great religions, strike terror or conversely, cut demagogues down to size. A Nickname can be a transitory annoyance or adhere to you for decades with the ferocious tenacity of superglue.

Who would remember Alexander the Macedonian if his moniker was "Alexander the Pretty Good" rather than "The Great"? How many sizes was Napoleon cut down when he was referred to as "The Little Corporal"? It is doubtful if that name would have stuck if he had won the battle of Waterloo and New York was called Nouveau Paris. Would Stalin, which means "man of Steel", have seemed as terrifying and implacable if he was called "aluminum Foil"?

Of course the primary distinction between nicknames and regular names is the former's lack of formality. Nicknames are generally not the names bestowed by your parents at birth unless you are Frank Zappa and have named your kid Moon Unit. Solzhenitsyn got a decade in the Gulag archipelago by obliquely referring to Stalin as "The man in the mustache" in a letter. Imagine what would have happened to him if he had sent a few derogatory tweets or shared Stalin's picture on Facebook with a funny caption.

If you have any doubts as to nicknames' power, just ask Little Marco, Low Energy Bush or Lyin' Ted. No matter what you think of his character or his politics, The Donald destroyed his opposition largely by the incessant repetition of memorable, if empty, epithets that substituted for substantive attacks and were immune to rebuttals.

The parsha this week is about Yovel or the Jubilee. Even land that you own must lie fallow periodically and the leavings distributed to the poor. One takeaway is that nothing is permanent and ownership and even existence is ephemeral. How much more so for nicknames?

In the Jewish Hero department, does anyone know what Maccabee means. Yes, it is The Hammer. Who would have rallied around Yehuda and would we celebrate Chanukah if his nickname was Judah the Chisel?

Most people know that Jacob or Yaacov was renamed Yisrael because he wrestled with an Angel of God. I could make a case that we should rename my wife Marvie, Yisraela, because of the valiant fight she waged and won against severe odds several weeks ago.

Speaking of Great Women, among the several competing theories of history is the "Great Man" theory of which Carlyle was an eminent exponent. I might posit an alternate, the great Nickname Theory of History. After all, without a great nickname attached to a leader, who would you follow to the gates of hell and beyond?

Shabbat Shalom

# Happenings



Our Hebrew School students at our year end program singing, "We love Beth O'r."

*"Sing to the Lord a new song..."*

On Friday, May 27, music and spirit reverberated throughout our sanctuary. A full house of worshippers -- members of TBOBT along with our guests from The Ebenezer A.M.E. Church of Rahway, joined together in prayer and in communal fellowship. Our Psalm 150 Band provided the music and got everyone literally dancing in the aisles. Cantor Stern spoke about the relationship between the Sabbath and Memorial Day. Rev. Erika Crawford addressed the congregation on the subject of communities coming together. After the service, at the magnificent Oneg there was much conversation and camaraderie. All in all, this was a Kabbalat Shabbat that will long be remembered!!



Alison Burkhard enjoys her Friendly's treat courtesy of our Hebrew School Committee.



Our teachers receive a special gift from our Hebrew School Committee.

# at TBOBT



Cantor Stern with Union County College President Margaret McMenemy and Board Chair Victor Richel at commencement.



Clark Councilman and TBOBT member Al Barr with Cantor Stern at the Clark Memorial Day Commemoration.



Men's Club May Game Night at Route 22 Billiards Parlor and Scoops

**2016–2018 TBOBT  
SLATE OF OFFICERS**

Co-President	Janice Hymanson
Co-President	Lillian Makow
Executive Vice President	Jonathan Phillips
Ritual Vice President	Fern Cammy
Ways & Means Vice President	Evelyn Shulman
Membership Vice President	Audrey Silverman
Youth Activities Vice President	Barbara James
Education Vice President	Elaine Kolker
Communications Vice President	Lauren Barr
Treasurer	TBA
Recording Secretary	Debbie Freedman
Corresponding Secretary	Paula Hymanson
Financial Secretary	Toby Prince
House Chairperson	Howard Silverman



Our Annual Parking Lot Sale  
is scheduled for:  
Sunday, September 11, 2016

It's time to clean out your closets and  
bring your treasures to the Temple.

Please call the Temple office for details!

**The Installation of Officers  
will be held on  
Friday, June 24th, 2016  
8:00 PM**

**Join us in showing support for all those who work  
year-round on behalf of our TBOBT community!**

**Lost and Found**

**DID YOU LOSE  
SOMETHING?**

Contact the Temple Office at  
732-381-8403, ext 11 to see if it was  
turned into our **Lost and Found!**

**Morning Minyan Services**

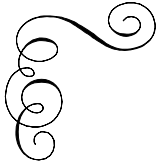
**Sundays at 9:00 AM:  
Temple Beth O'r Beth Torah**

**Mondays at 6:50 AM:  
Temple Beth O'r Beth Torah**

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

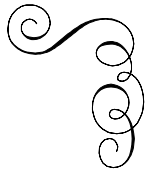
If you have any questions, please call  
Howard Silverman,  
Fern Cammy, or Cantor Stern.





**WE GRATEFULLY ACKNOWLEDGE THE FOLLOWING DONATIONS  
MADE TO TBOBT DURING THE MONTH OF JUNE**

( 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**

**Donated By**

Claire Warech  
Yuli Vaidman  
Anna Vaidman  
Herbert & Janice Hymanson  
Rayna Warner  
Rayna Warner  
Leonora Goldfarb  
Dr. Sharon Katz  
Jane Halper  
Linda Cohen  
Blanche Singer  
Louise Cangelosi  
Adeline Gesten  
Marlene Plymack  
Jonathan Phillips  
Natty Lapidus  
Linda Blank  
Arthur Gesten  
Sheryl Traum  
Thomas Kohn  
Sylvia Wolkin  
Dr. Gloria Schrager  
Martin Goldstein

**In Memory Of:**

Charles Goldstein  
Inda Vaydman  
Semyon Margulis  
Minna Hymanson  
Evelyn Small  
Simon Small  
Jacob Rector  
Nathan Katz  
Mollie Spatz  
Leonard Reiner  
Max Bigel  
Louis Gottlieb  
Esther Lehner  
Morris Plymack  
Howard Phillips  
Irving Simon  
Paul Blank  
Rose Gesten  
Tessie Porter  
Roza Kohn  
Joseph Strobing  
Alvin Schrager  
Henrietta Goldstein

**GENERAL FUND**

Sandi and Phil Bushinger: In memory of Irvin Solomon  
Glenn and Edie Bloom: In appreciation to Cantor Stern

**CANTOR'S DISCRETIONARY FUND**

Howard and Audrey Silverman: A special thank you to  
Iris and Lenny Weiner  
Dennis and Judy Turner: In appreciation  
Michael and Carla Rockliff: In appreciation  
Beth and Bob Fischbein: In memory of Irvin Solomon

**RELIGIOUS SCHOOL FUND**

Mike and Suzanne Miller: In memory of Arthur Bloom  
Mike Miller: In memory of Kermit Green

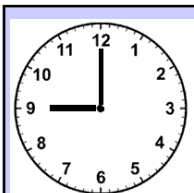
**CONDOLENCES**

Gloria Schrager: on the passing of her son, Ralph Schrager  
Judy Turner: on the passing of her father, Irvin "Buddy" Solomon  
Glenn Bloom: on the passing of his father, Arthur Bloom  
Jill Burkhard: on the passing of her father, Eugene Aznar

To the many members of TBOBT who  
sent Golden Books and other forms of  
consolation:

Thank you for your kindness and  
sympathy at a time when it was  
deeply appreciated.

Gloria Schrager



**The Temple Office Hours are:  
Monday through Friday  
9:00 AM—2:00 PM**

**TEMPLE BETH O'R/BETH TORAH  
BOARD OF OFFICERS & TRUSTEES  
MEETING SCHEDULE 2015-2016  
MONDAYS, AT 8:00 PM**

June 20

Congregation Board

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## 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.

# June 2016

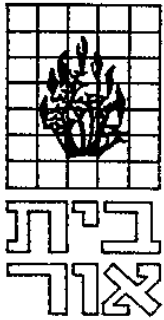
July 2016

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
1	2	3	4			
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

June 2016

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
1	2	3	4			
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
May 29	30	31	Jun 1	2	3	4
			24th of Iyyar, 5776 7:00pm Israeli Dancing	25th of Iyyar, 5776	26th of Iyyar, 5776 8:05pm Candle lighting (Clark)	27th of Iyyar, 5776 Ailina Antonucci Bat Mitzvah 9:14pm Havdalah (50 min) (Clark)
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
28th of Iyyar, 5776 Yom Yerushalayim	29th of Iyyar, 5776	1st of Sivan, 5776 Rosh Chodesh Sivan	2nd of Sivan, 5776 7:00pm Israeli Dancing	3rd of Sivan, 5776	4th of Sivan, 5776 8:10pm Candle lighting (Clark)	5th of Sivan, 5776 Erev Shavuot 9:30am Graduation Shabbat 8:00pm Tikun Leil 9:18pm Candle lighting
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Shavuot I 6th of Sivan, 5776 9:18pm Candle lighting (Clark)	Shavuot II 7th of Sivan, 5776 Yizkor 9:19pm Havdalah (50 min) (Clark)	8th of Sivan, 5776	9th of Sivan, 5776 7:00pm Israeli Dancing	10th of Sivan, 5776 6:00pm Sisterhood Donor Dinner	11th of Sivan, 5776 8:12pm Candle lighting (Clark)	12th of Sivan, 5776 9:21pm Havdalah (50 min) (Clark)
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
13th of Sivan, 5776	14th of Sivan, 5776	15th of Sivan, 5776	16th of Sivan, 5776 7:00pm Israeli Dancing	17th of Sivan, 5776	18th of Sivan, 5776 8:00pm Installation of Officers 8:14pm Candle lighting (Clark)	19th of Sivan, 5776 Rachel Burkhard Bat Mitzvah 9:22pm Havdalah (50 min) (Clark)
26	27	28	29	30	Jul 1	2
20th of Sivan, 5776	21st of Sivan, 5776	22nd of Sivan, 5776	23rd of Sivan, 5776 7:00pm Israeli Dancing	24th of Sivan, 5776		



TEMPLE BETH O'R/BETH TORAH  
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TBETHOR@GMAIL.COM  
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Steven Stern, Spiritual Leader  
Wendy Mandelbaum & Howard Silverman, 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  
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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)