



Temple B'nai Abraham

Beverly, Massachusetts

Bulletin Digest

September 2010 / Tishrei 5771

Save the Date for the TBA Sisterhood Donor Luncheon

***to honor Rabbi Steven and Lynn Rubenstein
and their years of service to our community***

Sunday, October 31, 11 A.M.

Watch for your invitation in the mail.

President's Message

Tempus Fugit. Time certainly does fly. The summer is almost over and the High Holidays are upon us.

The Rabbi, Ritual Committee and Board and volunteers have been busy with our annual New Year preparations.

Religious School is about to start as will our various programs including the highly popular Community Learning Days. Soon the building will once again be a very busy place.

I hope that each and every one of you enjoyed a rewarding summertime. I also hope that each of our members appreciates and values the efforts that so many make to enrich all of our collective lives at TBA. Being a member should be viewed as a distinct privilege as we are able to join together with our friends and family to build a warm, welcoming, spiritually uplifting and mutually supportive Jewish community.

The Temple is worth supporting. So why don't we take a few moments to resolve to become even more active as Temple members; attend Shabbat or minyan services;

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A View From The Bima

Crossing Bridges

The holidays are early this year. Elul, the final month of the Jewish calendar, began on the evening of August 11. With it we entered into our yearly practice of introspection toward *teshuvah*, a life of forgiveness and the promise to make ourselves better partners in our relationships with God and with others.

During the early part of the summer I had the opportunity to visit with my parents on the Cape. No matter your travel route, there is no avoiding the Bourne or the Sagamore bridges that connect Cape Cod to the rest of Massachusetts. To the dismay of my wife, I like to gaze at the canal and admire the sailboats in the water as we cross the bridge. It reminds me of the awe and wonder of the world from God's perspective on high, which is something that we rarely have the opportunity to see, considering we spend most of our time on the ground, underneath a canopy of trees, looking upward.

One of the songs that comes to my mind from my perch

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TBA's 'Welcome Back' Breakfast

Sunday, September 12, 10 A.M.

All are invited to welcome the New Year at TBA's Welcome Back Breakfast.

Reconnect with old friends and meet new ones.

Learn about events and opportunities to get involved at TBA during the year ahead.

Rabbi's View, From Previous Page

on the bridge is the words that Rabbi Nachman of Bratzlav wrote several centuries ago, words of inspiration for those who are troubled by their lives and need something to help them cross an uncertain threshold. He wrote:

*Kol ha-olam kulo, geshet tzar meod,
v-haikar lo lefached klal.*

*The whole world is a very narrow bridge,
And the essence is to not at all be afraid.*

As I write these words, how profound they become when we apply them to the bridges that we create in the course of our own lives, and the lack of work we have done on a daily basis to maintain and ensure their durability.

When you think about the technology and the wisdom that goes into building a physical bridge, it is an amazing thing. Even when ancient peoples strung rope bridges across cliff faces, they had to take into account the strength of the materials and the weight that was to be transported. Writing for the Salantar Foundation (June 7, 2010), June Silny begins her own observations with similar sentiments:

"Bridges are part of our everyday life. Engineers, through the science of precise calculations and the study of environmental conditions design a structure to allow crossing over an obstacle. They design and create bridges. We usually walk or drive over them without even noticing their intricate structure. As bridges provide safety and stability to withstand any weather condition, they also provide support for every person and all vehicles that use it."

A bridge that is familiar to most of us is the Leonard P. Zakim Bunker Hill Bridge along I-93 that spans a piece of Boston Harbor. The water is hardly visible below, but the towers that shoot upward are certainly an engineering feat to be admired. I have a profound respect for engineers whose knowledge of the forces of nature as they apply to various building materials enable us to go from here to there and from there to here in relative ease, without fear of falling. I have recently learned that the word engineer is connected to the Latin word for ingenuity. Ingenuity is what defines a person's innate character, their talent, or their nature. In the case of our beloved Leonard Zakim, z'l (may his memory be for a blessing), building bridges in the world of heated human relations was no easy task, either.

The bridges of the past are in such disrepair that there is a great fear that they will crumble, taking lives with them. In some cases, bridges have been closed for repair. Many, however, are closed permanently, because we are bankrupt. Not just monetarily bankrupt. We are also bankrupt in relation to our building spirit, because we, too, have been worn down in our efforts to build bridges of understanding between warring nations and people with religious differences. It is a war we battle, but with little success. It is also an internal battle, being able to bridge the fears that have

been caused by global warming and industrial accidents that are destroying the world in which we live. Progress is inevitably slow.

The world indeed has become a narrow bridge for many of us who wish to see it (and us) change for the better. One thing we have to help us cross from one side to the other in relative safety is our spiritual heritage. Judaism provides us with many practices and endeavors that give us the courage, the strength, and the determination to face each day with confidence. No matter how stormy things may seem to be below us, we must trust the bridges that we build in life will do their job, especially when we maintain them on a religious basis.

Crossing thresholds both in time and in space can be a scary proposition when we do not trust the ground that we stand on as being firm. We need to secure not only ourselves, but also the bridges that we build so that we may never become separated from our sources of security. God is one of those sources that has become distant to many of us in our search for spirituality in other places.

Coming back to God can be difficult when we do not trust our Hebrew, when the prayers do not speak to us, when the English does not reflect our mood, when words are unable to express how we truly feel. Let this be the time when we overcome our fears of crossing the narrow bridges in life. Let us learn to trust what is truly in our hearts, and build upon the connections to God, to our inner selves, and to others as a way of strengthening who we are and what we wish to become in the year ahead.

Rabbi Steven Rubenstein

President's Message, From Previous Page

become more engaged in the myriad of activities; more committed to lending a hand or even writing a check.

As this is my first High Holiday message as your president, I also would like to take this opportunity to briefly outline some of my plans for the upcoming year.

I plan to strengthen the connection between the officers and Board with the congregation; I want our governance to be more open and transparent.

Our Board meeting agendas now post on our web page well in advance of our monthly meetings (the second Tuesday of the month at 7 p.m.) and all congregants are welcome to attend.

But more importantly, I and we need to hear more from you. Whenever you have a concern, an idea, a question, a suggestion, let us hear you.

I also have begun the pleasant task of calling each of you to introduce myself, to seek your wisdom and advice or to simply let you know that this is your synagogue and we want to be as responsive to your needs as best we can.

Donna joins me in wishing each and every one of you a good and sweet Shanah Tovah.

Alan Pierce, TBA president

High Holiday Ticket Pick-up
Tuesday, September 7 • 7 to 9 P.M.



SELICHOT

Saturday evening, September 4

Service time and location to be announced

EREV ROSH HASHANAH

Wednesday, September 8

6:49 P.M., Light Candles

6:45 P.M., *Ma'ariv*—Evening Service

FIRST DAY OF ROSH HASHANAH

Thursday, September 9

8:45 A.M., *Shacharit*—Morning Service

10 A.M.—noon, Junior Congregation

(Students will be escorted to the sanctuary after their service. Please wait for them in your seats.)

10 A.M.—1 P.M., Preschool Care

5:30 P.M.—Tashlich, at Dane Street Beach

6 P.M., *Ma'ariv*—Evening Service, at the beach

6:46 P.M., Light Candles

SECOND DAY OF ROSH HASHANAH

Friday, September 10

8:45 A.M., *Shacharit*—Morning Service

10 A.M.—noon, Junior Congregation

(Students will be escorted to the sanctuary after their service. Please wait for them in your seats.)

10 A.M.—1 P.M., Preschool Care

SHABBAT SHUVAH

Friday, September 10

6:46 P.M., Light Candles

7 P.M., *Kabbalat Shabbat*—Evening Service

Saturday, September 11

9 A.M., *Shacharit*—Morning Service

EREV YOM KIPPUR

Friday, September 17

6:33 P.M., Light Candles

6:30 P.M., *Mincha* and *Kol Nidrei*

The service will begin promptly. No one will be seated during the chanting of *Kol Nidrei*.

YOM KIPPUR

Saturday, September 18

8:30 A.M., *Shacharit*—Morning Service

Yizkor prayers will be recited during the Torah service.

10 A.M.—noon, Junior Congregation

(Students will be escorted to the sanctuary after their service. Please wait for them in your seats.)

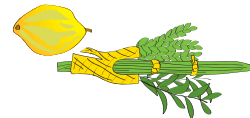
10 A.M.—1 P.M., Preschool Care

5:45 P.M., *Mincha*—Afternoon Service

6:45 P.M., *Ne'ilah*—Concluding Service

7:21 P.M., Sounding of the Shofar

Break the Fast in the library after services



EREV SUKKOT

Wednesday evening, September 22

6:24 P.M., Light Candles

SUKKOT

Thursday, September 23

Friday, September 24

9 A.M., *Shacharit*—Morning Service

SHEMINI ATZERET

Wednesday evening, September 29

6:12 P.M., Light Candles

Thursday, September 30

9 A.M., *Shacharit*—Morning Service

SIMCHAT TORAH

Thursday, September 30

6:12 P.M., Light Candles

6:30 P.M., Ice Cream Social and Holiday Service

Friday, October 1

9 A.M., *Shacharit*—Morning Service

TBA Teachers Attend NewCAJE Convention

Sunday, August 1, six TBA teachers and I embarked on a journey. We took time off from work and set aside a few days to immerse ourselves in the study of Jewish education. This was the first experience of its kind for all of the TBA teachers, and I assured them the time spent at the NewCAJE convention would be magical and would elevate their level of teaching and their passion for Jewish education beyond anything they could imagine.

After building up the experience to my teachers, I became concerned that perhaps I had oversold CAJE; maybe I was just relating my own experience from previous conventions, and my teachers would be disappointed. I told myself that if at least some of the teachers enjoyed the conference, it would have been worth it. Our synagogue, by offering this conference to our teachers, was demonstrating its willingness to invest in our teachers' professional growth and acknowledge their value to our community. This was something I was very proud of and later I found out just how unique and supportive our community really is.

The conference was held in Waltham at Gann Academy, close enough for our teachers to commute. Our plan was to meet for meals to discuss the classes and plan our next class. These meetings were incredible. One teacher after another would show up for lunch excited to share what was learned. Many were so impressed with a particular instructor that they sought out all of that instructor's classes. Not every class was noteworthy, but the exceptional certainly outweighed the disappointing and we were all confident that the next class would make up for any so-so one. And it did.

As executive director and education director at TBA, I learned more than anything else about the passion our teachers have for their craft and the incredible support our community has for our Religious School. The educators from TBA were the only teachers sent to the convention from all of the other religious schools on the North Shore. Of the 11 North Shore educators who attended the conference, seven are staff members at TBA, three are directors at other Jewish institutions, and one is a music instructor, our Marcy Yellin. We were seven out of 350 educators from all over the U.S., Canada and England.

Our attendance at the convention was made possible by several family funds established at TBA: The Alan Kaplan Memorial Fund, The Sam and Eve Weinberg Fund, The Isenberg-Sterman Fund, The Edelstein Fund and The Rabbi's Discretionary Fund. My teachers and I cannot thank these families enough for agreeing to support this educational experience. We all look forward to sharing with our community all we learned.

Deborah Vozella

*The congregation is cordially invited
to share in the simcha
of these b'not mitzvah*



*Rachel Grant,
daughter of Susan and Michael Grant,
will be called to the Torah
as a Bat Mitzvah
Saturday, September 11,
at 9 A.M.*



*Emma Gamble,
daughter of Tracy and Jack Gamble,
and
Olivia Huth,
daughter of Lisa Horowitz and David Huth,
will be called to the Torah
as B'not Mitzvah
Saturday, September 25,
at 5 P.M.*



*Lauren Myerson,
daughter of Suzanne and Fred Myerson,
will be called to the Torah
as a Bat Mitzvah
Saturday, October 2
at 5:15 P.M.*

Kiddush to follow services

Sisterhood

Starting Off the Year

We are looking forward to seeing you at TBA's Welcome Back Breakfast on Sunday, September 12, where we will let you know what Sisterhood has planned for the coming year. We are also interested in hearing any new ideas you may have for future Sisterhood activities.

L'Shanah Tovah,

Donna Pierce and Judy Matfess, Sisterhood Co-Presidents

Sisterhood Book Club, Monday, October 4, 7:30 P.M.

We kick off the Sisterhood Book Club season by revisiting *The Red Tent* by Anita Diamant. All are welcome to join us for socializing and an informal discussion of the book. Join us even if you haven't completed your reading. We'll meet at the home of Eileen Edelstein in Beverly. Call 978-927-0309 to RSVP and for directions.

News and Events

Sukkah Hop

Sunday, September 26

We are organizing a Congregational Sukkah Hop. Travel to the sukkahs of different synagogue members to enjoy hospitality in the spirit of Sukkot.

Register to host an open sukkah at your home by contacting Julia Rubin, jdrubin@comcast.net or 978-468-3516.

Adult Ed Sukkah Workshop

**Sunday, September 19
10 A.M.**

Join Rabbi Steven and Lynn Rubenstein for a short workshop on celebrating Sukkot, followed by decorating the Temple sukkah. Refreshments will be served. To learn more, contact the office at 978-927-3211.



Simchat Torah Service and Ice Cream Social

**Thursday, September 30
6:30 P.M.**

See the first unrolling of our 60-foot-plus-long pictorial Torah (with artwork made during our Community Learning Days).

Donations

The Congregation Gratefully Acknowledges the Following Contributions

Abe Kaufman Fund

Sarazita and Gerald Freedland to the Kaufman Family, in memory of Lillian Berenzon

Alan Kaplan Fund

Anita and Abe Kaufman to Dr. Harold Kaplan, thank you for being to so helpful

General Fund

Melody and Jack Kriteiman to Anita Kaufman, in memory of your mother

Muriel and Saul Axelrod to Anita Kaufman, in memory of your mother

Elaine and Jack Israelsohn to Paulette Beaton, in memory of Elmer Fitzgerald

Kitchen Fund

Sarazita and Gerald Freedland to Paulette Beaton, in memory of Elmer Fitzgerald

Joan and George Heller to the Fitzgerald family, in memory of Elmer Fitzgerald

Landscape Fund

Ellen and Bert Eisen to Judy and Shep Remis in honor of your Lifetime of Leadership award by the Jewish Federation

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

Jerry and Susan Wolper to Nancy Cowan, thinking of you

Jerry and Susan Wolper to Ed and Marion Bailey, belated condolences on the passing of your father

Al Tartakoff to Rabbi Rubenstein, in honor of your birthday

Sam and Eve Weinberg Fund

Paul Weinberg to Eddie Glichouse, wishing you a speedy and complete recovery

Paul Weinberg to Paulette Beaton, in memory of Elmer Fitzgerald

Paul Weinberg to Leo Berman, wishing you a speedy and complete recovery

Sterman/Isenberg Fund

Diane Isenberg to Janet Schlein, a very happy birthday, belatedly

Yarzeit

Susan Hacker, in memory of her mother, Ruth Hacker

Bette Siegel, in memory of her father, Louis Lansky

Irene Kravetz, in memory of her husband, Herman Kravetz

Louis Tanzer, in memory of his mother, Ruth Tanzer

George Goldberg, in memory of his daughter, Donna Gold-Gulko

Elaine Israelsohn, in memory of Hannah Israelsohn, mother of Jack Israelsohn

Elaine Israelsohn, in memory of Edward Gelin, father of Elaine Israelsohn and Sylvia Riley

Louis Tanzer, in memory of Marion Fliegel, mother of Roslyn Tanzer

Louis Tanzer, in memory of William Fliegel, father-in-law of Louis Tanzer

Scrip

(July 1 through July 29, 2010)

Anita and Philip Freed, Paige and Michael Katzenstein, Linda and Dan Magalnick, and Karen and Michael Stearn

TBA SCRIP ORDER FORM

Scrip may be purchased at the Temple during office hours. Or, you can send this form by fax (978-922-5281) or by mail, 200 E. Lothrop St., Beverly, MA 01915. Make your check out to TBA and write "Scrip" on the memo line.

YOUR ORDER:

Shaw's (\$25's and \$50's) _____

Stop & Shop (\$25's, \$50's, \$100's) _____

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

_____ I will pick up my order at the Temple during office hours / _____ Please mail my order to me

Help Us Feed the Hungry in Our Community

Please join adult and Youth Group members of Temple B'nai Abraham on the third Monday of each month as we prepare and serve a meal to those in need at First Baptist Church, Beverly.



Our next Monday Night Supper is September 20.

Join us anytime between 4:30 and 6:30 p.m.

Donations are needed to offset the costs of food and supplies. Please direct your donation to the Rabbi's Discretionary Fund.

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