



Monthly Bulletin

April 2018/5778

Celebrate! Learn! Be Inspired! Sunday April 29 10 AM

From the Rabbi

We are living in turbulent times and there are serious issues to address and work to be done to build a society and world based on justice, dignity, and fairness. One piece of the struggle is to strengthen our own congregation and celebrate our diversity and blessings. When we have a growing spiritual foundation and solid relationships we are better able to face all of life's challenges.

I am proud to be your rabbi, and want to celebrate our relationship on **Sunday, April 29** with a special event and guest.

When the Trans-Denominational Rabbinical School of Hebrew College started, I was one of 17 students in the very first year. At that time, we didn't even know if we would get jobs! But our learning was steeped in tradition, transcendent, and relevant to the Jewish communities of the 21st century. Since our class' ordination in 2008 the school has thrived under the care of incredible teachers and leaders, and over 100 alumni have made a profound impact on the Jewish (and greater) world.

In honor of the 10th anniversary of my ordination we are welcoming Rabbi Sharon Cohen Anisfeld as our Sons of Jacob Community Endowment Speaker. Rabbi

Anisfeld has served as the Dean of the Rabbinical School and is now the incoming President of all of Hebrew College. She is a brilliant, passionate and inspiring teacher and leader who has consistently been recognized as one of the most influential American rabbis of our generation. You may recall that she participated in my installation at TBA in 2011. I hope you can join us to learn and to celebrate.

I am also proud that Temple B'nai Abraham celebrates the diversity of our membership. Therefore, I, a few current board members and others convened a **working group to discuss the role of partners who aren't Jewish in our community, specifically around membership.** That group will be making a recommendation to the Board this month that voting membership be extended to partners – many of whom have been committed and active in this community. Please read the enclosed thoughtful message from members of that working group for more information and stay tuned for information on an ongoing process and conversations this month.

May we go from strength to strength, may we stand together, strong and connected. Blessings to you and your families as we finally enter Spring!

Rabbi Alison Adler

CELEBRATE, LEARN, BE INSPIRED SUNDAY APRIL 29 at 10 AM

Join us as we celebrate ten years since Rabbi Adler's ordination and learn with Rabbi Sharon Cohen Anisfeld, President-Elect of Hebrew College.



Prior to being elected President, Rabbi Anisfeld was Dean of the Rabbinical School from 2006-2017. She also served as an adjunct faculty member and then dean of students at the school. In 2015, A erudite teacher of Torah and inspiring leader, Rabbi Anisfeld was named one of the 50 most influential Jews in the world by The Jerusalem Post. From 2011 to 2013, she was named to Newsweek's list of Top 50 Influential Rabbis in America.

RSVP to Office@TBAbeverly.org or 978-927-3211

Free and open to all, sponsored by The Sons of Jacob Community Enrichment Fund

From the President

In previous “From the President” articles, I’ve highlighted different committees and what goes on “behind the scenes” to make TBA work. Without a doubt, the committee that gets the least attention is the Finance Committee.

The Finance Committee (Tom Cheatham, Financial Secretary; Mike Katzenstein, Treasurer; Marty Greenstein, Past Temple President, Former Treasurer; Sandy Frieberg, First Vice President; Larry Taitlebaum, Board Member; Deb Schutzman; and myself) reviews our revenues and expenses to make sure we meet the needs of the Temple with the money we have. Sounds simple, right. Not quite. Unbudgeted expenses have to be funded and revenue projections have to be updated to match our cash flows. The last three months of the fiscal year, April, May, and June are particularly difficult.

For over a month, the Finance Committee has been working on the 2018/2019 budget. Tom Cheatham has done a fantastic job working with our accounting software to create several models for our income and expenses. This committee has gone line-by-line (252 of them) to question every expense, challenge every assumption, and uncover every opportunity. It’s easy to slip on our rose-colored glasses and hope that our income will be

higher and our expenses will be lower. But, the real world doesn’t work that way.

Just like your family’s expenses, TBA’s costs continue to increase because of market conditions (internet charges, electricity, postage, repairs, cleaning and kitchen supplies, food, etc.). The Finance committee looks at each expense and the offsetting revenue to make sure we are not spending more than we bring in.

Temple leadership takes our responsibility to be fiscally accountable very seriously. Virtually every executive committee or board discussion involves finances in some way. We are committed to continue living within our means and keeping dues as affordable as possible. It’s not easy and the Finance Committee has a difficult job.

In May, the board will recommend a budget to the congregation, a copy of which will be available for review in the office before the annual congregational meeting. You will get a notice when it is available and I encourage you to take some time when you’re in the Temple to review it and give us your feedback. We have a smart and experienced membership so please let me know if you have ideas to strengthen our financial picture.

Ken Hartman
President, Temple B’nai Abraham

*Look for your invitation
for this years TBA gala*

BILL HANNEY'S
NORTH SHORE
MUSIC THEATRE

PLEASE, JOIN US IN SUPPORT OF
TEMPLE B'NAI ABRAHAM OF BEVERLY HONORING
DEBORAH AND MARTIN GREENSTEIN

JUNE 12, 2018
5:30PM
\$80 PER PERSON

MAME

Discussion Meetings on Interfaith Membership and Voting at TBA to be held in April

We pride ourselves on being a community that celebrates our diversity. Therefore, we have taken interest in a resolution passed in 2017 by the Conservative Movement to let congregations grant membership to the partners of members who are not Jewish. Temple B'nai Abraham is no longer a member of the United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism (USCJ) but we are, according to our by-laws, guided by Conservative Movement practice.

A group of TBA interfaith members and current Board members recently held an initial meeting with Rabbi Adler to review and discuss this policy and how it can positively impact TBA. The Board was aware that this discussion would be taking place. TBA has a long history of welcoming interfaith couples and families as members for the past several decades. Currently, there are 30 interfaith member households at TBA, representing 15% of our membership. These interfaith people are active participants at TBA in religious services, religious life-events, programs, committees, and fundraisers. In addition, 14 out of 20, or 70%, of TBA's religious school households are interfaith. These children are the future of our synagogue.

After much discussion, this initial group reached consensus to recommend to the Board that membership and voting privileges be extended to partners of Jewish members. There was also discussion about what this change might mean for TBA in terms of leadership and committee membership. Additionally, this initial group was concerned that the development of our Interfaith Membership and Voting Policy should follow a

careful process that includes anticipating any other consequences or challenges. This recommendation is not about ritual – it is about membership. There are related issues that will deserve additional discussion, and possible by-laws changes.

The consensus of the group was to use the term “Karov Yisrael” or in the plural “Krovei Yisrael”, which means both a relative of someone of the people of Israel/Jews, and also literally, “one who draws near to a Jewish person” in place of non-Jew. This is a term that has been used in the language of other congregations making this change. It is more inclusive than “non-Jew” as it focuses more on what someone is, rather than what someone is not.

At the upcoming April Board Meeting, the results of this initial meeting will be presented. It is hoped that some basic points and draft for by-laws changes might be presented at this meeting.

During April, you will be invited to Conversation Meetings about this important topic. Please participate, ask questions, and hear concerns so we can come to an understanding of how we would like to proceed as a congregation at the May Congregation Meeting.

Respectfully,

Lauren and Tim Averill, Wendy and Jimmy Cohen, Eileen Edelstein, Erica and John Ferraro
Sandy Freiberg, Linda and Andy Goodspeed, Lisa Horowitz, Ben Hughes, Cindy Lann
Eve and Charlie Noss, Tracey and Jerry Schwartz, Deb Willwerth, Lorraine and Bernie Der

Save The Date! Shabbat Alive



Shabbat Alive with Idan Irelander and Special oneg
sponsored by Annette Kossover
in memory of her loved ones

Friday, **May 4, 6:30 PM**

Pound Fitness Class Religious School Fundraiser at TBA April 21 at 10 AM



\$10 per participant- Class limited to 15

Please bring check payable to TBA.

RSVP to: jenn.leshin@yahoo.com

Children must be accompanied by an adult.

****Please be sure to bring a yoga mat, plenty of water, sneakers, and large towel.

Purim Carnival 2018 a Great Success!

TBA was rocking for this year's Disney-themed Purim fest. Minnies and Mickeys of all ages—as well as dwarves, kings, queens, and princesses—danced and celebrated with characters from Star Wars. Everyone booted and hissed and enthusiastically twirled groggers whenever You-Know-Who(!) was named. The shpiel was great fun, leaving everyone famished—which was great. Thanks to Larry and Amy Katz for shopping and delivering all the food. Mike Stearn served up a delicious pasta dinner, finished off by terrific hamantaschen. And everyone worked off those calories with a lively, energetic After party.

Thanks to:

- **Rabbi Adler and Cantor Siegel** for the megillah reading and the songs.
- **Deb Willwerth and the Ritual Committee** for helping with organization.
- **Alison Wolper** who always does so much to pull together this Carnival every year!
- **Ilene MacDonald:** despite the fact that her kids have been out of TBA's Religious School, Ilene comes back every year to pass out prizes.
- **Hebrew School students and parents** for the hamantaschen. Those wonderful-tasting triangles disappeared quickly!
- **Beth Denish and Betsy Brietborde** for the magical music.
- **Jason Breilkopf** for your producing prowess of the shpiel. What fun!
- **DJ:** Eric Paul from COHEN Productions kept everyone dancing during the Afterparty.
- **Clean-up crew:** Ken Hartman, Tom Cheatham, Julie Messina, Mike Stearn, Deb Willwerth

Monthly Havurah Service

Saturday April 28, at 9 AM

A participatory, contemplative, interactive Shabbat service for all wishing to deepen your understanding and experience of Jewish prayer, the structure and meaning of a service, and mindfulness. We will join with the regular minyan for the Torah reading and discussion

Neighborhood Shabbat – Friday April 13

If you are interested in **hosting**, please **contact Sandy Freiberg** at sfreiberg@hotmail.com

If you are interested in **attending** please **contact Erin** in the office by **April 9** and you will be matched with a home and contacted by your host.



Contact Erin in the office at 978-927-3211, x 101 or email Erin at office@tbabeverly.org
Please note: there are not regular services at TBA that evening.

TBA Social Group Presents . . .

Create and Escape! Sip, Mingle, & Create

Unleash your creative spirit!

Wednesday, April 25 7-9 PM

71 Main St. Peabody MA

For more information: www.createandescapediy.com
978-826-4741

Select your choice of wood and sea glass designs. Your one of a kind creation awaits you, with 15% of all sales going back to Temple B'nai Abraham.

The TBA Book Club will meet next on Tuesday, May 1

at the home of Jane Cohen. All are welcome to join the discussion at Book Club. Please contact Jane to RSVP and for directions at: janecohen1@gmail.com



We will discuss *The Storied Life of A. J. Fikry* by Gabrielle Zevin. Enjoy reading!
Judy Matfess

cjp

JEWISH TEEN INITIATIVE

J-SERVE

**NORTH SHORE
MITZVAH DAY**

North Shore Mitzvah Day

Sunday, April 22, 2018

11:30 - 4:00

Lifebridge

56 Margin Street, Salem MA

Questions? Contact Sarah Wood of JTI at sarah@jitiboston.org or 781-244-5544 or Beth Tauro of CJP at beth@cjp.org or 617-457-8761

The Congregation Gratefully Acknowledges the Following Donations

GENERAL FUND

Joan and George Heller to Lois Ogan in memory of Jerry Ogan
Lisa Horowitz & David Huth to Sue and Allison Wolper in memory of your husband and father, Jerry Wolper
Lisa Horowitz & David Huth to David Carnevale, in memory of your father, John
Mardee Goldberg to Richard Goldberg, Happy special 70th birthday from your ex-wife!!!
Susan & Michael Grant to Suzanne Myerson and Family, so sorry for the loss of your father, Bernard
Robert Freedman to Gerry Aaron, refuah shlema, may you go from strength to strength
Rabbi Bernie and Anita Howowitz in appreciation on winning the Purim raffle and Purim dinner
Dina & Eli Davidyan to Leslie Colten in memory of your father
Dina & Eli Davidyan to Susan and Allison Wolper, in memory of Jerry Wolper
Dina & Eli Davidyan to David Carnevale in memory of your father
Dina & Eli Davidyan to Heidi Krugman, in memory of your father
Dina & Eli Davidyan to Lisa Kosan, in memory of your mother

KITCHEN FUND

Mardee Goldberg to David, Sue, & Roman Carnevale, sorry for your loss-in memory of John Carnevale

RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

Deborah Willwerth
Philip Gordon
Jayne & Joel Gordon in honor of Phil Gordon and Hila Cohen's marriage
Louis Tanzer to Susan Wolper and Family, condolences on your loss

SPECIAL FUND

Judith Murray to Susan, Allison, and William Wolper in memory of Jerry Wolper; it was a privilege to know him
Jessica Schenkel, S. J., & Erica to Susan Wolper and Family, in loving memory of Jerry Wolper
Carol Kress to Susan Wolper in memory of Gerald Wolper

STEPHEN HELMAN MONDAY NIGHT SUPPER FUND

Donna & Alan Pierce to David Carnevale in memory of your father
Paula & Alan Ivey to David Wolansky in memory of Arlene Wolansky
Paula & Alan Ivey to David Carnevale and Family in memory of your father
Donna & Alan Pierce to Leslie Colten in memory of your father
Sarazita Freedland to David Carnevale in memory of John Carnevale
Linda & Dan Magalnick in memory of your father, John Carnevale
Stephen Arrington to Deb Willwerth in honor of her Bat Mitzvah in Israel
Kim Dietel & Jeff Greenberg to Leslie Colten in memory of Herbert Cummins

YAHREIT FUND

Robert Freedman in memory of his aunt, Goldie Sigman
Ralph Edelstein in memory of his cousin, Natholie Rothblatt
Melody Kriteiman in memory of her father, Jeremiah Danberg
Ruth & Harvey Maibor in memory of Harvey's brother, Jason Maibor
Nancy Tartakoff in memory of her father, Alexander Tartakoff
Philip Goldberg in memory of his grandfather, Frank Smith
Marshall Serman in memory of his father, Augustus Serman
Evan Gross in memory of his mother, Roberta Stern
Owen Grush in memory of his grandfather, Oscar Grushky
Lois Strome in memory of her mother-in-law, Rachel Strome
Gerald Oster, in memory of his mother, Edith Ostrer
Roberta Jones in memory of her mother, Goldie Sigman
Harold Kaplan in memory of his mother, Betty Kaplan
Paul Newman in memory of his father, Samuel Newman

Please excuse any omissions or errors

Thank you for your donations

