**WHAT’S HAPPENING**

**YOUTH SERVICES**
Shabbat is a wonderful time for families to unwind together. Join us for our youth services every month for age-appropriate services and great opportunities to connect with other parents. We have Shabbat Mishpacha for families with pre-school age children and T’fillat Y’ladim for children (accompanied by an adult) in Kindergarten through 2nd grades. Both services start at 10:15 a.m. For children in 3rd through 6th grades we have Junior Congregation, also starting at 10:15 a.m. All services are wonderful for imparting our connection to Jewish practice and reinforcing what your children are learning in pre-school and religious school/day school programs. Join us – it is a wonderful community of regulars and we want to include you.

**MISPACHA & T’FILLAT Y’LADIM DATES:**
October 6, November 3, December 1
January 5, February 2, March 2, April 6, May 4

**JUNIOR CONGREGATION DATES:**
October 20, November 10, December 8
January 19, February 16, March 16, April 20

**ADULT EDUCATION**
**JEWISH ROYALTY WITH NITZHIA SHAKED**
Join us for eight weeks of learning with Nitzhia Shaked starting on Sunday, October 14. Classes start at 10 a.m. in the Chapel. Nitzhia’s topic will be **Jewish Royalty**, exploring two kings, David and Solomon, examining their shortcomings and successes and their impact on Israel. $15 per class on $100 for the series – save $20!

To sign up and for more information contact Susan at: Susan@tbaoakland.org

**TICHON BET AVRAM**
For post-b’nai mitzvah students (8th, 9th and 10th grades) we have Tichon Bet Avraham. Classes start on Wednesday October 3. Time to register is NOW. Sign up here: https://tbaoakland.org/education/tichon-bet-avraham/ or contact Susan Simon for more information (susan@tbaoakland.org).

**MORNING MINYAN - Mondays & Thursdays**
Minyan service, starts at 8:00 a.m., lasts about an hour, and is really a great way to start the day. As an added bonus, breakfast is served immediately afterwards.

**SERVICES SCHEDULE**
**Monday & Thursday Morning Minyan**
In the Chapel, 8:00 a.m.

**Friday Evening (Kabbalat Shabbat)**
In the Chapel, 6:15 p.m.

**Candle Lighting Times (Friday)**
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**Shabbat Morning**
In the Sanctuary, 9:30 a.m.

**Torah Portions (Saturday)**
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Welcoming TBA’s New Rabbinic Intern: Natasha Mann

(left to right) Rick Heeger, Men’s Club President; Alice Hale, TBA President; Rabbi Natasha; Kathy Saunders & Dina Hankin, WTBA Co-presidents; Alan Silver, representative of the Board of Trustees.

October 7, 10am-noon
In the Chapel.
Adult Education
with Rabbi Natasha
Idolatry in the Modern World:
Jewish Understandings of Non-Jewish Religions

Rabbi Natasha with Mel and Margaret Kaplan.

Many hands make light work: the 5779 TBA Sukkah Building Crew
Back row: Dan Oppenheimer, Rick Heeger, Anne Levine, Murray Toas, Jon Jacobs, Jerry Levine, Carolyn Shaw, Ulli Rotzscher, Aaron Goldberg, Paul Raskin, Front row: Frances Herb, Charles Feltman, Flo Raskin, Jessica Sterling.
Not pictured: Kathy Saunders, Judith Klinger. Photo by: Ward Hagar
Belonging is everything

One of the values I mentioned these past High Holidays was “Kol Yisrael aravim zeh bazez, that all Israel is responsible for one another.” That continues to extend all the way down to our individual community. I have always felt great about our Temple Beth Abraham community, but at no time have I felt that sense of belonging greater than I felt it during my father’s passing.

Thank you, members of Temple Beth Abraham, for taking time out of your busy workdays to attend my father’s funeral in Colma. I felt inspired by you.

Thank you, members of Temple Beth Abraham, for going all the way to San Mateo to the shiva. I felt comforted by you.

Thank you, members of Temple Beth Abraham, for the cards and calls and e-mails. I felt embraced by you.

Thank you, members of Temple Beth Abraham, for the kind words and stories you shared about my father. I felt cherished by you.

Thank you, members of Temple Beth Abraham for the meals and gifts and snacks. I felt satiated because of you.

Thank you, members and staff of Temple Beth Abraham, for picking up the slack for the things I was unable to do while in shiva. I felt confident in you.

Thank you, members of Temple Beth Abraham, for your kind statements and understanding during these High Holidays as I occasionally teared up or even tuned out for a few moments. I felt taken care of by you.

As I begin to recover from the sadness and integrate the lessons my father taught me while he walked this earth, I have never been prouder to belong to and be the rabbi of Temple Beth Abraham.

L’shalom,
Rabbi Mark Bloom

Let’s go PINK this Girls Night Out! Thursday, October 11, 7-9pm in the Baum Center

Join the Women of TBA for an evening of inspiration, education, and friendship as we learn about and discuss breast cancer. Joining us from the Women’s Cancer Resource Center will be guest speaker Dolores Moorehead. Dolores has 26 years of progressive experience in cancer services and has been the recipient of esteemed awards for her work including the Spirit of Activism Award by Breast Cancer Action (BCA), and the prestigious Lane Adams Quality of Life Award from the American Cancer Society. Members and non-members are welcomed to this FREE event. In the spirit of awareness we encourage everyone to wear something pink.

Please RSVP at: https://goo.gl/forms/6QQu0ICsBVPpQb7z1
Questions: Dinah McKesey at dinah.mckesey@gmail.com

Intro to Judaism Class Starting Soon

Rabbi’s Bloom Intro to Judaism class starts on Wed., October 10 at 7:30 pm in the Baum Center.

This class will run through mid-December and is intended for people new to Judaism or those who just want to learn a little more or refresh their recollection. Judaism is all about learning and asking questions. Come and learn with your community.

For details of the class and to sign up contact Rabbi Bloom at RabbiBloom@tba oakland.org
Belonging: what does it really mean?
By Alice Hale

What does it mean to really feel like you belong somewhere? Is it a feeling of always feeling comfortable, never feeling out of place? Is that even possible? I think sometimes we can convince ourselves that if we really belong somewhere everything will always be ideal, and we will always feel a sense of perfect belonging.

But nothing is ever perfect, is it? Sometimes even institutions or organizations that we love, can disappoint us. Then, what do we do? Go find a new place to belong? Or try to work through the tough times?

When my family first joined Temple Beth Abraham, I was not Jewish, and my husband had been raised Reform, and we worried that our interfaith family might not really belong here. And sometimes, it felt a little odd and uncomfortable. Rick had to get used to some differences in the services, and me – well, I had to get used to a whole lot of things!

But we decided that to really give TBA a fair try, we would try to be as involved as we could. We volunteered, we reached out to other families to form a chavurah, we attended events, and pretty soon, we felt that this was our place, that we belonged. We felt that it represented our values, we had good friends here, and it was our spiritual home.

Things weren’t always perfect, of course. But we decided, this was our place, our synagogue, and that the essential things that kept us here – a community we cared about, and the values we shared – remained, and so we worked through any problems.

Sometimes, a person and a place or group is not a good fit, and a parting of the ways makes sense. But other times, I think you need to hang on during those feelings of discomfort, and see if you can get back to that place of belonging again.

TBA Book Club
Wednesday, October 17, 7:00 PM

We will be discussing the book “Icon of Evil: Hitler’s Mufti and the Rise of Radical Islam” by David G. Dalin and John F. Rothmann.

If you want to join us, please send your RSVP to Judy Glick, at judyglick@gmail.com to learn the location. FREE. Everyone is welcome.

Join Ruach Hadassah for our first Fall event
LEGAL RIGHTS OF GAYS IN ISRAEL
MONDAY, OCTOBER 15
7:30-9:00 PM
BAUM CENTER AT TBA

Fred Hertz will speak about the legal rights of same sex couples/families in Israel. Hertz is an attorney and mediator with offices in Oakland and San Francisco. He is the author of Legal Affairs: Essential Advice for Same-Sex Couples and co-author of two Nolo Press books, Legal Guide for Lesbian and Gay Couples and Living Together: A Guide for Unmarried Couples. Free. RSVP to Judy at judyglick@gmail.com
EDITOR'S COLUMN

Wearing my silver hamsa again
By Jennifer Rooney

We are welcoming a new editor to the Omer staff. Jennifer Rooney lives in Berkeley with her husband and young daughter Josie. She teaches English at Benicia High School. This is her second year as a member of TBA.

“A Jewish teacher in Benicia!” Disbelief. Rachel, a former student of mine, admitted this after she had graduated and began corresponding with me from college. I met her in my fourth period English class, and, I, too, had been wondering if she were Jewish. There are not too many of us in Benicia. My curiosity was confirmed when another student suggested that I call on Rachel because somehow it came up that she had just returned from studying in Israel.

A silver filigree hamsa that hangs on a dainty chain from my neck is perhaps the only suggestion that I might be Jewish (certainly not my Irish name!), and I think, though I never asked, it might have tipped off Rachel. Eventually, she quietly and very seriously asked me if I was Jewish, and then something wonderful happened. We began to have Jewish conversations in fourth period in a high school in a town that does not have many Jewish families.

Rachel, who was really a shy girl, lighted up when telling us about her adventures as an exchange student in Israel. She explained how the whole country celebrated Hanukkah the way Americans, even if they are not religious, celebrate Christmas or Easter. She talked about the food (and gave me a tasty bottle of basil and lemon olive oil that I use only on Shabbat). I am sure she reserved the best stories for her peers, but what I took away was a delightful sense of freedom and inclusion that she had never felt before, and her Benicia classmates were interested at their world traveling, Jewish classmate. And Rachel and I developed one of those teacher-student relationships that makes teaching a special and sacred profession.

THE OMER
We cheerfully accept member submissions. Deadline for articles and letters is the seventh of the month preceding publication.

TEMPEL BETH ABRAHAM is proud to support the Conservative Movement by affiliating with The United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism.

Advertising Policy: Anyone may sponsor an issue of The Omer and receive a dedication for their business or loved one. Contact us for details. We do not accept outside or paid advertising.

The Omer is published on paper that is 30% post-consumer fibers.

Periodicals Postage Paid at Oakland, CA.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to The Omer, c/o Temple Beth Abraham, 336 Euclid Avenue, Oakland, CA 94610-3232.


The Omer (USPS 020299) is published by Temple Beth Abraham, a non-profit, located at 336 Euclid Avenue, Oakland, CA 94610; telephone (510) 832-0936. It is published monthly except for the months of July and August for a total of 10 issues per annum. It is sent as a requester publication and there is no paid distribution.
Thank you for making us feel that we belong
By Jay Rooney

Our daughter, Josie, just turned 18 months and just weighed in at 18 pounds. This fact, which may seem unremarkable and mundane, is hugely significant for our family.

Barely 24 hours after Josie was born, she was diagnosed with an ultra-rare heart condition (the same condition Jimmy Kimmel’s son, born around the same time, also had) and was whisked away to the NICU. Five months and two open-heart surgeries later, Josie was “fully repaired,” and could finally start living and growing as a healthy child.

Josie’s hospitalization was an incredibly challenging time for our family, as any parent can imagine. But we pulled through, in large part because of the Jewish communities in the East Bay and in Palo Alto.

Both the Chesed committee and our friends at TBA brought us meals and kept us company from beginning to end. Rabbi Bloom himself blessed Josie before surgery, and put us in contact with Congregation Kol Emeth in Palo Alto, whose congregants also brought us meals and books and visited us repeatedly – despite having never even met us before.

And now that Josie is healthy and growing slowly but steadily, TBA has welcomed her to the community with the same open arms that the congregation first brought us into the fold. We feel lucky and blessed to be part of a community so ready to help pull us up when we fall down, and so eager to share in our happiness and relief from Josie’s recovery and health.

Jay Rooney joined TBA after he and his wife took Rabbi Bloom’s Introduction to Judaism class, where they immediately felt at home. He has worked for The Jewish Federation of the East Bay, teaches at Golden Gate University, and runs his own copywriting agency, Rooney Ink.

Ellis Island a reminder that immigrants can break down walls
By Laura Fowler

On a recent vacation to New York, I took a trip out to Ellis Island with my mom and sister to see our ancestors’ names engraved on the American Immigrant Wall of Honor, honoring immigrants of all stripes who have contributed to the fabric of this country. My grandfather’s sister had arranged for their names to be there, on two of the first panels to go up on the wall.

We looked up where they were, and made our way over to the section of the wall where we would find them. There, among so many hundreds of other names, was my great-grandfather, Boris Polonovsky. A few panels down was my great-grandmother, Glicka Gutglick. It was powerful to see them – and even more powerful to think that while we know the stories of my great-grandparents, every single one of those hundreds of other names surrounding them, and of the many thousands on the other panels, has a story to tell, too.

I would like to focus on the story of my great-grandmother, Glicka. A refugee from anti-Semitic violence in present-day Poland, Glicka arrived in the United States with her family and settled into a home on Broome Street on the Lower East Side. She worked in the garment industry, and there she met my great-grandfather, Boris, known to the family as “Beryl.” Beryl had come from a wealthy family in Pružany, Belarus, and Glicka was drawn to him for his intellectual fervor that matched hers. She spoke eight languages and was a voracious reader in each of them--preferring passionate political literature to fiction. They married and had a daughter, Mildred, then moved to Los Angeles where my grandfather, Julian, was born.

A housewife after her marriage, Glicka continued to read political literature and soon was comfortable enough in her A picture of the family outside their home in LA, around 1940. Lara’s grandfather Julian is on the left, Glicka next to him, Beryl in back and Mildred on the right. Continued on page 10.
WOMEN OF TBA

Women of TBA: a place of belonging in our circle of women

“The best thing to hold onto in life is each other.”

Audrey Hepburn

One of beauties of Women of TBA is that we are a sisterhood that spans multiple generations, hail from different countries, and our members have varied talents, hobbies, education, and viewpoints. Some of us are married and some not. Many have babies and many are empty nesters. Some retired and others in the midst of powerful careers. We have different Jewish backgrounds and levels of observance. Our diversity, warmth and openness helps create a sense belonging and home for all.

Whether you simply participate in a relaxed Girls Night Out or become more active in helping with an event, your membership in WTBA is a wonderful way to belong to a fabulous group. We gather to learn, get creative and socialize, yet also contribute to our greater TBA community, from providing art supplies to toddlers in the Gan, to running Bingo games for seniors at The Reutlinger. Our 2018-19 board is a perfect reflection of our diversity and each of us found a sense of belonging when we joined WTBA.

Alicia VonKugelgen, WTBA Board Member:
TBA has been our spiritual home for the past 18 years, we immediately felt a sense of belonging when we first walked through its doors. I have always felt connected through our larger community, but since joining WTBA I have a stronger sense of knowing I am in the place I’m meant to be. This amazing group of women truly helps to make TBA a home for all.

Angela Engel, WTBA Board Member:
As I reflect on the New Year, I am reminded how important it is to reach out and connect with other women within our Jewish community. The women I have found at TBA are genuinely amazing, as these are the women who watch my kids grow, we laugh together, lean on each other when times are tough, dance at Simchas together; we have formed true bonds of friendship. What I find lovely and uplifting about WTBA as an organization, is not only the dedication we have in raising funds for our schools to further Jewish education, but the commitment for us as women to take time for self-care. Whether participating in a GNO (Girls Night Out) or the WTBA Shabbat, I am filled with an appreciation for the Women of TBA, who are all so dedicated to creating and building an inclusive Jewish community together.

Bella Gordon, Membership Chair:
Of course what comes to mind is how I felt when we moved here 14 years ago. At the time, I did not feel I belonged anywhere. As time went by, I really found my sense of belonging in the TBA community. First, it was through the kids starting Bet Sefer and the Gan and how they found their friends there. However, it took me longer to really connect. I tiptoed around feeling uncertain of where I belonged. This was amplified then by the fact that I was not yet Jewish, struggling with the notion whether I was welcome or not. I decided to get involved in the congregation by participating in TBA and WTBA events, where I felt included. Consequently it was very natural for me to take the steps of becoming Jewish. I am not sure I would have taken these steps had I not felt the strong sense of belonging to this whole big Jewish family.

Dina Hankin, Co-President of WTBA:
Since 2001 my family have been members of TBA and have had a sense of belonging in different areas of the shul. From the Gan, to Bet Sefer, to creating La’atid and serving as its advisors, to BBYO, and now WTBA. I have always felt a “sisterhood” and closeness with the women of the shul, but until my active participation in WTBA, beginning a couple of years ago, I had not felt as if I “belonged” cross generationally as I do now. It is this sense of belonging that will carry me through the “empty nestling” that is on the horizon.

Dinah McKesey, WTBA Board Member:
WTBA had a significant impact on my sense of belonging since moving to Oakland and joining TBA. I became familiar with WTBA by attending one of their events. I attended nervously alone, but quickly felt welcomed, warmth, friendship and learning. The women of TBA are a beautiful representation of what it means to be kind, welcoming and providing a sense of belonging and community.

Jill Levine, WTBA Treasurer:
Belonging to something as wonderful as TBA feels like a privilege. I started by joining WTBA first, which is a bit different than how most people join the temple. But after a year of getting to know the warm and caring women of TBA I was asked to take on a WTBA board role and joined. Now as a member of TBA I get to enjoy belonging to the greater community. I feel lucky to be part of something so special.

Judy Glick, WTBA Board Member:
Joining WTBA was a way to meet other members of our synagogue. When I go to WTBA events, I feel welcomed by many women. I have a sense of community and belonging.

Kathy Saunders, WTBA Co-President:
My husband and I joined TBA when our kids were in third grade and high school. Making friends can be a
WOMEN OF TBA EVENTS AND OPPORTUNITIES:

BINGO VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!
WTBA leads and sponsors monthly games at the Reutlinger Center. To be part of this mitzvah, please contact Stacy Margolin stasch.margolin@gmail.com

UPCOMING GIRLS NIGHT OUT
7-9 PM, Thursdays October 11 and November 1
Watch your email and our Facebook page for details. Facebook: Women of TBA

ANNUAL WTBA MEMBERSHIP APPRECIATION EVENT
Join us for a lovely afternoon of fabulous women, food and fun. Sunday afternoon, November 4. FREE to WTBA Members. Watch your email for details.

BABYSITTER REGISTRY
To get a copy of this essential list or sign-up your teen contact Jacqueline Palchik at jacqueline.palchik@gmail.com

THANK YOU!
Thanks to community volunteers who helped us during this High Holiday season: Abby Klein, Adi Schacker, Alicia Cernitz-Schwartz, Becca Posamentier, Carolyn Shaw, Chiara Cronin, Jeanne and Sarah Korn, Jessica Sterling, and Lara Fowler.
You make WTBA vibrant!

IT’S TORAH (FUND) TIME!
The Torah Fund campaign provides financial support to our future Conservative Rabbis, cantors, educators and leadership.

Who are they? They are committed Conservative Jews pursuing their passion like our very own Jessica Dell’era currently studying at the Jewish Theological Seminary in New York and our new and first Rabbinic Intern, Natasha Mann, who comes to our community from the Ziegler School of Rabbinc Studies in Los Angeles.

In addition, Torah Fund provides scholarships, stipends, and general assistance to students around the world studying at the following institutions:

- Schechter Institute of Jewish Studies (Jerusalem)
- Seminario Rabinico Latinoamericano (Buenos Aires)
- Zacharias Frankel College (Germany)

Torah Fund donations can be made in a variety of ways and at whatever level you choose:
- $18 Chai (or multiples of Chai - 36, 54, 72) | $180 Benefactors receive the Atid recognition pin

Interested in making your donation or learning more?
Contact Torah Fund chair Anne Levine at annelevine52@gmail.com

Make 5779 the year you help ensure Conservative/Masorti Jewish Education in the U.S. and around the world.
new country to begin social activism. Having experienced discrimination firsthand in Poland, she fought to dismantle all its forms in the United States. Glicka advocated for civil rights and women’s rights, backing her views with the literature she had read in all her eight languages. A tumor on her spine in later life rendered her paraplegic, but disability didn’t stop her fight for equality. Her neighborhood in south central Los Angeles was considered a dangerous one in 1965 when the Watts riots broke out in August. Most of her neighbors left to stay elsewhere, but Glicka remained. “The protesters are right,” she told my grandfather on a check-in call during the riots. “I’m in solidarity with them and I’m staying here.”

Glicka died in 1977, but we would do well to recall her memory and remember the spirit of protest that was embraced by my great-grandmother, an immigrant herself, and stand in solidarity with all those oppressed even as everyone else leaves. In this day and age, when there is so much talk of a wall to divide us, knowing Glicka’s story and seeing her name among so many others on the wall at Ellis Island reminds us to look not to the walls intended to divide us, but instead to this wall commemorating what we can accomplish when we work to break them down.

Belonging at TBA through the years
By Elinor DeKoven

We were just talking about how we look forward to coming to shul every Shabbos and how belonging to our wonderful, warm community brings such joy to our lives. It’s strange to think of ourselves as the elders of TBA. I remember so well when we first joined in 1960 and my children were so young and there was no pre-school. TBA wasn’t as welcoming to young families then and it was our objective to feel a part of the synagogue. How we looked up to the established, older members! The newer members were assigned seats in the balcony. It is so much nicer now without assigned seating. We definitely feel that we belong and so enjoy watching the young families with their little ones who makeup the future of TBA. Rabbi Blooms’ custom of ending the service by welcoming people who are visiting us for the first time is so warm and immediately gives them a sense of belonging.

Elinor DeKoven originally joined TBA in 1960 when Rabbi Schulweis was the Rabbi and her husband loved going to coffee and conversation. Then she and her family were members of Beth Shalom for many years in San Leandro, where they lived. She started coming to TBA again in 1993 and has happily been a member of TBA since the late ‘90s.

Editor column, cont. from page 6

That same year in sixth period, an affable, slightly vapid student exclaimed an all too common anti-Semitic slur. My eyes fixed on him and the entire class broke out in laughter. “You idiot, she’s Jewish,” another boy said. And the would-be anti-Semite just said, “Huh?” I think he was genuinely confused. It was not a conversation I had with the whole class, but I took it as a teachable moment and explained to the student the weight of what he had said. He was clearly embarrassed and apologetic. I did not believe his slur came from a deep-seated hatred of Jewish people, but rather said in ignorance and from growing up in a place where there really are not many Jews. Nevertheless, it is the kind of breezy, pervasive anti-semitism I first encountered as a teenager watching Reservoir Dogs, in which a character makes the same slur.

These days Rachel is a sophomore in college, and I have just returned to teaching after being off for a year and a half. As I prepare to take time off for the High Holidays, I talk to my students about “Jewish New Year” and Yom Kippur and what it means and why I will be gone. They are mostly curious and ask me questions about Judaism. My Muslim students feel for me about the fasting, and we intersect and find common ground talking about our dietary restrictions. A student came up to me last week and wanted to tell me that she was a Christian, and that her church follows and discusses the Jewish holidays. My principal sent out a staff email letting teachers know the dates of the upcoming Jewish holidays and to honor and excuse Jewish students. For some reason, that ordinary email gave me pause, in a good way. We Jews might be minorities in Benicia, but at least we are recognized. I felt proud of my school.

So far this year no Jewish students have come forward, but when they do I will be there waiting. Until then, I have begun wearing my silver hamsa again.
Let’s make Shabbes

In which we consider the essential ritual elements that inaugurate Shabbat

By Rabbi Art Gould

Many of us learned about the essential rituals of Shabbos at our bubbe’s table. We gave our full attention to subjects like chicken soup, gefilte fish, a good pot roast (in pre-vegetarian times, of course), something fried in Crisco (if you’re too young to know what Crisco is, you’re probably healthier because of it), and assorted delicacies. A sleep inducing cholent for lunch, and then some pungent foods like herring to wake up the senses for Saturday night. The traditional three meals of Shabbat.

Don’t for a moment think that food rituals are not an important element of religious observance. They are.

Before delving a bit into the specifically religious ritual elements, let’s remind ourselves, that – according to tradition – we have the opportunity to say 100 brachas a day. Without delving into the specifics of achieving that, let’s just focus on the idea of maximizing the number of brachot we say. Considering that many brachot are simply a way of stopping, noticing, and saying “thank you”, what we are doing is calling our own attention to – and maximizing — our sense of gratitude. (More on this in a couple of paragraphs).

Ready for Shabbos: let’s light candles!

We start Shabbos by lighting two candles. By the way, it is the obligation of each individual adult Jew to welcome Shabbos in this way. Why two candles?

Explanation #1: In observance of the two ways we are commanded concerning Shabbos in the Aseret HaDibrot. Observe – and – Remember.

Explanation #2: We are granted an additional soul on Shabbos, so we light two candles, one for each soul.

Explanation #3: (Hope you like gematria). The numerical value of נר (candle) is 250. Two candles make a value of 500. Traditional Jewish anatomy says that a man has 248 limbs; a woman has 252. Husband and wife together make 500. Hence we light two candles.

In some households it is customary to light more than two candles. For example, adding one for each child. There’s no limit other than what the Shabbos fire marshall says is safe. You could light a Shabbos candle for each person at your table.

Hungry for Food? Here’s a custom we learned

Former members of TBA introduced us to a wonderful custom for starting the Erev Shabbes meal. They would pass around different platters (appetizer size baruch hashem) of nuts and fruits. For each kind of food, you would say a different bracha. Gratitude! More gratitude! How many different ways can a person say “thank you”?

Thirsty? In the old days they mixed their own wine

In Talmudic times, they literally mixed the wine (from concentrate) at the table. We just hope we can find the corkscrew. (Pro tip: It’s in the junk drawer.) So we can open a kosher wine made from grapes. It gets “borei pri hagafen”. Wine from other fruit, blackberry wine for example, gets a different brachah.

Why do we make kiddush and drink wine for Shabbes? Choose all the explanation(s) you like.

• Wine brings joy. When humans are joyful, HaShem feels joy.
• We call it the Shabbos bride. Kiddush is part of the wedding ceremony. And seriously, we’ve all had weeks where we would love to marry the Shabbos bride and live with the Shabbos bride forever.
• And for Erev Shabbes, the kosher wine had to be from grapes, and not from any other kind of fruit, even if kosher. (Did you know that sacramental wine was legal alcohol during Prohibition?)

Bread is the food of everyone: Let’s make motzi

The widespread custom of two challot is explained as derived from the double portion of manna that was provided during the years of wandering in the desert. How about the number twelve? This number is in commemoration of the twelve “showbreads” that were placed on a golden table in the Temple. (Vayikra 24:5) There were six showbreads on each side. If you see a six-strand challah, good chance this is in reference to the showbreads. Two six-braid challahs is twelve strands.

Must challah be braided? If it doesn’t “look like a challah” is it a challah? A challah is simply a loaf – of bread that is. As long as it is made from some combination of wheat, barley, spelt, rice, or rye, it is challah. And it gets the “Hamotzi” brachah. Braiding is thought to have started with our ancestors in Eastern Europe, somewhere around the 14th or 15th century. This may have been a way of marking bread as pareve, so that it could be used with either meat or dairy. Any shape or form of “Hamotzi” bread is a challah, and can be used to inaugurate Shabbat. Halachically, it does not have to be from Semifreddis or Grand Bakery, although it sure tastes good when it is.

Don’t forget Birkat HaMazon

The commandment of saying Thank You for our food is the only time in the Torah where we are actually commanded to say a brachah. “You shall eat, be satisfied and bless the Lord Your God for the good land which he gave you.” (Devarim 8:10).
COOKING CORNER

Food and belonging
By Faith Kramer

This Omer issue is about belonging. Thinking about what it means to belong, I think of those who are displaced and need to adapt and assimilate because of violence, religious or political intolerance, economic necessity or by making aliyah. Whether by choice or circumstance these people need to find a way to belong while still keep a sense of themselves, retaining their cultures, traditions and food ways.

As many and as varied the contributions these immigrants make to our society in the US, in Israel and elsewhere, it is the variety of foods and, almost literally, the spice they add to their new homelands I especially appreciate. My own cooking has benefited greatly from sharing meals with immigrants in their homes and eating in restaurants and shopping in markets catering to their culinary needs.

One holiday I especially like the idea of and wish other nations would emulate is Yom HaAliyah, the relatively new Israeli holiday honoring those who have made aliyah and chosen to become Israelis. Yom HaAliyah is actually celebrated twice. It’s official celebration is just before Passover on the 10th of Nisan. Since schools are closed then, students observe the holiday on the 7th of Cheshvan, which begins at sundown on October 15th this year.

I wish all countries would have a day to honor its immigrants. I know I appreciate the richness and diversity immigrants had brought to America. And of course being food obsessed I especially enjoy all the dishes and flavors they contribute to our palates.

Below are some dishes that reflect the influence of Jewish immigration to Israel and America over the years – a Vegetable Stew with Walnut Sauce reminiscent of Georgian and Mizrahi flavors, a meatless Mushroom Paprika Soup reflecting Hungarian and East European tastes, and Spanish Meatballs in Brava Sauce and Pomegranate Molasses Mini Meatloaves, both using Sephardic and North African ingredients.

VEGETABLE STEW WITH WALNUT SAUCE

Serves 4-6

Walnut Sauce (see below)

2 Tbs. oil
2 cups chopped onions
1 Tbs. minced garlic
1/4 tsp. salt
1/4 tsp. ground black pepper
1/4 tsp. cinnamon
1/4 tsp. ground red pepper
1/4 tsp. ground coriander
1/4 cup thinly sliced carrots
1 cup chopped red bell pepper
3 cups cauliflower florets (each about 1”)
2 cups chopped mushrooms (1/2” pieces)
1 cup water
1/2 cup chopped fresh cilantro
1/2 cup chopped fresh mint
1/2 cup chopped fresh parsley
3/4 cup pomegranate seeds, divided (optional)

Make walnut sauce (below). Heat oil in large skillet over medium high heat. Sauté onions until softened. Add garlic. Sauté until golden. Stir in salt, black pepper, cinnamon, red pepper and coriander. Add carrots, red bell pepper and cauliflower. Sauté, stirring occasionally, until vegetables begin to soften. Add mushrooms. Sauté for 2 minutes. Add water, cover and steam until vegetables are almost cooked, stirring occasionally. Add more water if needed.

Stir in cilantro, mint and parsley. Cook uncovered until vegetables are tender. Mix in 1/2 cup pomegranate seeds. Serve immediately (over rice or pasta if desired) topped with room temperature walnut sauce and garnished with remaining seeds.

Walnut Sauce: Using food processor, process 1 cup walnut pieces, 1/2 cup chopped green onions, 1 Tbs. garlic and 1/2 tsp. salt into a slightly chunky paste. Stir in 2 Tbs. pomegranate molasses, 1/4 tsp. EACH ground coriander, ground fenugreek, ground turmeric, and ground red pepper. Add 1/4 cup finely chopped fresh cilantro and 1/4 cup water. Stir. Mixture should be pourable but thick. Add water if needed. (Mixture will continue to thicken.)
MUSHROOM PAPRIKA SOUP

Serves 6-8

2 Tbs. oil
3 cups chopped onion
1 Tbs. finely chopped garlic
1 tsp. paprika
1/2 tsp salt
1/2 tsp. ground black pepper
1/4 tsp. ground cumin
1 cup thinly sliced carrots
1/2 cup chopped celery
1/2 cups chopped red bell pepper
4 cups chopped cauliflower florets (1/2” pieces)
1/4 oz. can diced tomatoes with juice
4 cups vegetable stock
4 cups water
4 cups chopped mushrooms (1/2” pieces)
1 Tbs. tomato paste

Heat oil in soup pot. Sauté onions until softened. Add garlic. Sauté until golden. Stir in paprika, salt, black pepper and cumin. Add carrots, celery, red bell pepper and cauliflower. Sauté, stirring, until coated in spice mix and starting to brown. Add tomatoes with juice, stock and water. Cover and simmer until vegetables begin to soften. Add mushrooms. Cook until vegetables are about 3/4 done. Stir in tomato paste. Simmer uncovered, stirring often, until vegetables are tender. Serve hot topped with sour cream and chopped dill or parsley if desired.

SPANISH MEATBALLS IN BRAVA SAUCE

Serves 6-8

For meatballs:
2 lbs. ground dark meat turkey (do not use all breast meat)
1 tsp. ground cumin
1 tsp. paprika
1 Tbs. minced garlic
1 Tbs. minced cilantro
1/2 tsp. salt

1/2 tsp. ground black pepper
1 Tbs. tomato paste
1/4 tsp. ground cinnamon
1/8 tsp. ground red pepper, optional
1 egg, beaten
Oil for frying

For brava sauce:
3 Tbs. olive oil, plus 2 more Tbs.
2 cups diced onion
3 Tbs. minced garlic
2 cups diced green bell pepper
1/2 tsp. salt
1/2 tsp. ground black pepper
1/4 tsp. paprika
1/4 tsp. ground red pepper, or to taste
28-oz. can crushed tomatoes
1 cup water or stock
3-4 Tbs. chopped green olives stuffed with pimento (optional), for garnish

Mix turkey well with cumin, paprika, garlic, cilantro, salt, black pepper, tomato paste, cinnamon, red pepper and egg. Roll into 1-inch balls. Add oil to just cover the bottom of a large fry pan over medium-high heat. Fry meatballs, turning occasionally, until cooked through (working in batches and adding more oil as needed).

Prepare brava sauce by heating 3 Tbs. olive oil in a pot over medium-high heat. Add onions, sauté until softened. Add minced garlic and bell pepper, sauté until pepper has softened. Stir in salt, pepper, paprika, red pepper, canned tomatoes and water or stock. Bring to simmer. Cover. Simmer 10 minutes, adjusting heat as necessary. Remove cover, stir in remaining 2 Tbs. of olive oil. Simmer uncovered, stirring often for 10-15 minutes or until vegetables have cooked through and sauce has thickened, adding water or stock if needed.

Serve meatballs in brava sauce. Garnish with chopped olives.

POMEGRANATE MOLASSES MINI MEAT LOAVES

Makes 8 mini loaves

1/4 tsp. ground oregano
1/8 tsp. ground mint
2 lbs. ground dark meat turkey (do not use all breast meat)
2 eggs, beaten
1/4 cup matzah meal

Pomegranate molasses sauce, divided (recipe below)

1/4 tsp. ground cumin
1/2 tsp. salt
1/4 tsp. ground black pepper
1/8 tsp. garlic powder
1/8 tsp. onion powder
Tiny pinch (about 1/16 tsp.) ground cinnamon

Continued on page 21
Core values at Gan Avraham

By Jill Rosenthal

Throughout the last several years, the faculty at the Gan has been working on deepening our knowledge around Jewish values and practices. We have had so many invaluable discussions around what we truly believe is our teaching philosophy. At a staff meeting last Spring, Marta and I facilitated a discussion about what the children, teachers and community deserve at our school. What ensued was a deep, intense, thoughtful and beautiful discussion. Emma Schnur, our Jewish Resource Specialist, helped us connect the Jewish values that were associated with all of these statements. What we realized was that there were four core values that were repeatedly noted: Kehillah (community), Kavod (honor/respect), Shalom Kitah (peaceful classroom) and B’tzelem Elohim (the idea that we are all created in the image of God). This past year, we worked on creating a sacred kehillah amongst our staff and community. This year, we will focus intently on the value of Kavod—in the classroom, our community.

Below, please find the statements made by the Gan faculty. These beliefs shape our core philosophy at Gan Avraham. Please know that our doors are always open and we welcome you all to step into our classrooms and see these practices come to life!

- We believe that in order for children to be academically ready, they also need to know how to be kind, tolerant, and capable of solving their own problems.
- We believe in laying a strong Jewish foundation in which the children can build their Jewish identity upon later in life.
- We believe in teachers that exude warmth and are compassionate.
- We believe in providing children with quiet spaces in order for them to learn to regulate and reset their bodies.
- We believe in setting up an environment that is suited to children with all kinds of sensory needs.
- We believe that teachers should provide thoughtful responses to children’s inquiries.
- We believe that teachers are lifelong learners, and we invest in their programs that will fuel their education, passion, and growth.
- We believe that in order for children to be shomrei adamah, guardians of the Earth, they need to first learn to love the natural world around them. We believe in providing lengthy experiences for children to engage with nature for this love to emerge.
- We believe that children should be provided with real tools, for real jobs.
- We believe that risk is necessary in helping children form boundaries that keep them safe.
- We believe that children deserve time to explore on their own.
- We believe in providing materials that inspire awe and wonder.
- We believe that natural materials provide more opportunities for learning than manufactured toys.
- We believe in building an environment where all community members feel safe expressing themselves.
- We believe that each child is b’tzelem Elohim, created in the image of God. Each child is therefore holy, unique and deserves to be heard, respected, and given limits, so that they may develop into their fullest and most successful selves.
- We believe in creating an environment that reflects the value of shalom kitah (peace in the classroom).
- We believe in providing a stress free environment.
- We believe that Gan Avraham is a kehillah kedosha, a sacred community and we work to build this kehillah everyday.
- We believe that all community members deserve kavod, respect.

“Rabbi Elazar ben Shamua says: Let the honor of your student be dear to you as your own, and the honor of your fellow like the reverence of your teacher, and the reverence of your teacher like the reverence of Heaven.”

Pirkei Avot 4:12
Questions
By Susan Simon

Over the summer I went to a workshop for teachers on asking questions as a method of teaching students. We have used similar practices here at Bet Sefer to encourage our children to think deeper about many of our topics and I was curious about how this might be different. I enjoyed the workshop very much as it stimulated my thinking about how we make the most impact on our students and their families in our 2 to 4 hours per week of school. The idea is that you ask as many questions as you can think of about a particular topic without judging the validity of those questions or worrying about any answers.

This methodology got me thinking of my own questions about Bet Sefer and participation in our TBA community. Here are some of those that have been running through my mind.

Why is it so important to do formal religious education?
Why do people send their children to Bet Sefer?
What do parents want their children to know when they graduate Bet Sefer?
Why do some people participate in our youth services on Saturday mornings while others do not?
How can we make Jewish education and Jewish participation more of a priority in the lives of our families?
How can we get families to participate more in our Jewish activities outside of the hours of Bet Sefer?
How can we get more families to incorporate Jewish practice into their home lives?
How can we get more people to volunteer to help out at Bet Sefer for things like cooking, field trip driving, and helping with programs?

Of course, this is just a drop in the vast bucket of questions. But it’s a start. So let’s see, what might some of the answers be?

I know that parents are overwhelmed with all of the obligations that they have and the social and activity pressures. I hear from families that their children have activities on Saturdays or other times that we have programming and services. I know that many parents have full time jobs that prevent them from helping out at Bet Sefer during school hours. I know that it can be a struggle to simply sit down as a family for a meal together on a regular basis. I hear from parents all of the Jewish things they want their children to learn at Bet Sefer but lament that they don’t have time to “do” more Jewish at home.

This is an issue much bigger than Bet Sefer and Temple Beth Abraham and I can’t begin to fix problems that are societal and pressure driven. But I can offer a suggestion based on personal experience. Many years ago, long before Rabbi Bloom, we had a rabbi who, during a high holy day sermon, suggested that if we only came to services for Rosh Hashana and Yom Kippur that we make a new year’s resolution to come 1 or 2 more times during the year. And that if we came more frequently, we should consider increasing our attendance just a tiny bit. That we should increase our participation just a little bit and that in this way we build and strengthen our community. Our community needs and wants our participation.

So I took that advice to heart, although truth be told, it didn’t happen right away. Slowly I started coming to Shabbat morning services, leaving the laundry, cooking, cleaning and schlepping behind for a few hours. And this was back in the days when lunch after services was bagged salad, cottage cheese and canned peaches (no offense to the people preparing lunch, we didn’t have the funds for much more in those days). And like many people before, I began to enjoy the peace, music and camaraderie more and more over time. I made new friends, I learned the service much better, I felt the music wash over me, and before I knew it I was participating in the service and in synagogue life. I had been a mom with two kids who dropped off at Gan and Bet Sefer and not much more. Fast forward 20+ years later and look at me now!

Baby steps, that’s all it takes. I know Saturday mornings hanging around the house can be lovely, but so can hanging out with your Bet Sefer and TBA communities. I know you have lots of other responsibilities, but driving on a field trip can be so much fun and it is so appreciated. I know that your child’s school activities are important. But Bet Sefer and Jewish life at TBA is equally as important. And I know it is hard to juggle the ridiculous number of things on your calendar but please try to make sure we are a priority. Because in the end, the more you play at TBA, the more important your children know it is to you. The more you hang out here, the more comfortable you will feel. And the more you help your community and its members, the more you will know you belong to a fabulous place that is there for you.

Thank you to this wonderful community for supporting our youth education and programming. We don’t do this for you – we do it with your help and encouragement. I hope you drew inspiration from the Rabbi’s sermons during the holidays. Wishing you a school year of growth, of participation, of friendships and learning.
**Charity is equal in importance to all the other commandments combined.**

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<tr>
<th>High Holy Day General Appeal</th>
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<td><strong>Charles Bernstein &amp; Joanne Goldstein</strong>, in memory of Nathaniel Margolin</td>
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<td><strong>Helen Fixler</strong>, in memory of Nathaniel Margolin</td>
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<td><strong>Libby Hertz</strong>, in memory of Gladys Hyman</td>
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<td><strong>Larry Miller &amp; Mary Kelly</strong>, in memory of Nathaniel Margolin</td>
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<td><strong>Barbara Oseroff</strong>, in memory of Joel Oseroff</td>
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<td><strong>Lawrence &amp; Sharyn Rossi</strong>, in memory of Zelda Klein</td>
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<td><strong>Klaus-Ulrich Rotzschner</strong>, in memory of Hans-Georg Venus</td>
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<td><strong>Nissan &amp; Carol Saidian</strong>, in memory of Gowhar Saidian</td>
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<td><strong>Nissan &amp; Carol Saidian</strong>, in memory of Carol Bonar</td>
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<td><strong>Marvin &amp; Wendy Siver</strong>, in memory of Nathaniel Margolin</td>
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<td><strong>Azary &amp; Clara Blumenkrantz</strong>, in memory of Girsha Uretsky</td>
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<td><strong>Misja Nudler</strong>, in memory of Nathaniel Margolin</td>
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| Howard, Lowell and Robert Davis, sponsored Kiddush in honor of their parents Philip L and Sylvia Davis and their Uncle, David Davis |
| **Josh Weiss and Janna Lipman Weiss**, sponsored Kiddush in celebration of the Bat Mitzvah of Simone Weiss |
| **Howard, Josh and Kris Fernandez**, sponsored Kiddush in celebration of Noah Gammon’s Bar Mitzvah |

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<th>Minyan Fund</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Daniel &amp; Anne Bookin</strong>, in memory of Milton Greenberg</td>
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<td><strong>Robert Klein &amp; Doreen Alper</strong>, in memory of my friend, Judy Stolow</td>
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<th>Yom Ha Shoah Fund</th>
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<td><strong>Mark Liss &amp; Bonnie Burt</strong>, in memory of Harry Nudler</td>
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<th>Rabbi Ralph KeKoven Camp Ramah Scholarship Fund</th>
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<td><strong>Elinor DeKoven</strong>, condolences to Sandy Margolin on the loss of your father</td>
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<td><strong>Elinor DeKoven</strong>, condolences to Stacy Margolin on the loss of your father</td>
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<td><strong>Elinor DeKoven</strong>, get well wishes to Agnes Pencovic</td>
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<td><strong>Elinor DeKoven</strong>, get well wishes to Cantor Richard Kaplan</td>
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<th>Sam Silver Playground Fund</th>
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<td><strong>Ron &amp; Adele Ostomel</strong>, in honor of Shirley Silver’s 95th birthday</td>
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<td><strong>Shirley Silver</strong>, in memory of Sam Silver</td>
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**A Legacy Gift Lasts Forever**

Include TBA in your Estate Planning so that your message to your family is loud and clear:

“The existence of Temple Beth Abraham is important to me and for the future of Jews in Oakland.”

Contact TBA’s Executive Director Rayna Arnold for further details

(510) 832-0936 or rayna@tbaoakland.org.
It is a Jewish tradition to give contributions to commemorate life cycle events and other occasions. These tax-deductible donations are greatly appreciated and are a vital financial supplement to support the variety of programs and activities that we offer.

Thanks again for your support! We could not do it without you!

**FUND CONTRIBUTION FORM**

This contribution of $ ___________ is (check one) ___ in Memory of ___ in Honor of:

(Name) _________________________________________

Acknowledge________________________________

From: _____________________________________

To: ________________________________________

Address: ___________________________________

Address: ___________________________________

Please credit the fund checked below:

- TBA General Fund (used where most needed)
- Leonard Quittman Endowment Fund
- Rabbi Mark S. Bloom Discretionary Fund
- Cantor Discretionary Fund
- Bet Sefer Discretionary Fund
- Gan Avraham Discretionary Fund
- Kiddush Fund
- Minyan Fund
- Yom HaShoah Fund
- Jeanette and Jack Jeger Kitchen Fund
- Building Fund
- Prayer Book Fund
- Campership/Scholarship Fund
- Jack and Mary Berger Fund
- Herman Hertz Israel Scholarship Fund
- Mollie Hertz Interfaith and Outreach Fund
- Danielle and Deren Rehr-Davis Teen Fund
- Harold Rubel Memorial Music Fund
- Rosebud and Ben Silver Library Fund
- Sam Silver Playground Fund
- Pola Silver Teen Holocaust Education Trip Fund
- Wasserman Adult Education/Cultural Fund
- Davis Courtyard-Next Big Thing Building Project

"How wonderful it is that no one need wait a single moment to start to improve the world."

- Anne Frank

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**Rabbi Discretionary Fund**
- Linda Casson-Nudell & Rabbi George Nudell, in memory of Arthur Casson
- Sandy & Et Gaffe, in honor of Noah Gammon’s Bar Mitzvah
- Shelley Gordon, in memory of Rachel Gordon
- Booker Holton & Elaine Gerstler, in memory of Herb Bloom
- Randall & Jan Kessler, in memory of Fannie Kessler
- Sandy & Dawn Margolin, Thank you
- Daniel Weiner & Lynn Gitomer, in memory of Nat Margolin
- Daniel Weiner & Lynn Gitomer, in memory of Rhonda Siegel

**Leonard Quittman Endowment Fund**
- Fifi Goodfellow, in memory of Isaac Naggar
- Fifi Goodfellow, in memory of Moshe Marcus
- Larry Miller & Mary Kelly, in memory of Steffi Rath

**Herman Hertz Israel Scholarship Fund**
- Gerald & Ruby Hertz, in memory of Harry Hertz

**Mollie Hertz Interfaith Outreach Fund**
- Gerald & Ruby Hertz, in memory of Mollie Hertz
My name is Lindsay Kottle, and I am an 8th grader at Piedmont Middle School. I enjoy playing lacrosse, hanging out with my dogs Russell and Rosie, and spending time with my friends.

My Torah portion is Lech Lecha and comes from the Book of Genesis. I will be focusing on the conflict between Sarah and Hagar. If you come to services, I will tell you how I think this conflict connects to our 7th grade class trip. I hope to see you October 20.

Linda Gordon, WTBA Secretary:
Since moving here from the East Coast, I have felt a powerful sense of connection and belonging among the women of WTBA and the TBA Book Club. I am so grateful for your camaraderie!

Sabrina Berdux, WTBA Board Member:
I have been a Jew my entire life, but I have not always been welcomed as one. I was raised as a Jew, went to Hebrew school, celebrated the major holidays with friends and family throughout my life, and was subjected to anti-Semitism the way every other Jew has been. The first time I was informed that I was not a Jew was in college when people learned that my lineage came from my grandfather. I learned this at the same time that I was joining, singing, and holding hands with my community at a peace rally for Israel’s Independence Day at San Francisco State University, literally backed into a corner, shouted at that we should go back to the gas chambers, and escorted by police off campus. So such began a decade of self exploration, doubt, and defiance, as any other privileged and normal college and law school student experiences. Over the years I was welcomed and excluded in various Jewish communities.

I joined TBA and converted because I knew, in my soul, that I was Jewish and at the very least, I wanted my daughter to have a Jewish education and identity without doubt or frustration. What I have found at TBA is so much more. I found true belonging. TBA is something special. At first it was just a Jewish preschool where the start of values could form. But I quickly saw that my daughter was beginning to form life-long friendships. She is only in first grade, but seeing her Gan friends are what she looks forward to every week in Hebrew School. She looks forward to her Jewish summer camp where most of the parents from her Gan class conspired to send the kids to the same camp for the same session so they could stay together. She looks forward to singing and participating in holiday services. We light candles for Shabbat together, we celebrate Hanukkah together, and we show up when life is hard, too.

Treya Weintraub, WTBA Board Member:
Belonging to WTBA means seeing familiar faces who become friends. I feel a sense of community when attending events that are informative, interactive, and joyful. My favorites include Learning in the Sukkah, Vashti’s Banquet, and Erev Xmas where we enjoy a meal and a movie!

If you have not already done so, we hope you will join our community of women and find your own sense of belonging in WTBA. To join, check your inbox for an email from Bella Gordon our Membership Chair or contact Bella at: 2bellagabriella@gmail.com or 510-499-6325.

Online signup: https://goo.gl/forms/dlSYK9rpn4foM82w1
**October Birthdays**

**OCTOBER 1 - 5**
- Jacob Lorber
- Edward Marcus
- Len Nathan
- Dan Oppenheimer
- Lauren Quittman
- Sheldon Schreiber
- Lena Sloan Freid
- Lena Sloan Freid
- Isaac Frierman
- Sandra Rappaport
- Yael Gordon
- Marshall Langfeld
- Josh Rego
- Andrew Rose
- Arianna Leya Zatkin

**OCTOBER 6 - 12**
- Charles Feltman
- Ruby Klein
- Barbara Oseroff
- Michael Oseroff
- Benjamin Skiles
- Ruby Sophia Foxall
- Eric Frank
- Eli Kleinmann
- Dikla Dolev
- Alex Eisen
- Janet Lai
- Charles Levine
- Leah Liron
- Edie Mills
- Micah Ross
- Rachel Bernstein
- Rachael Rothman
- Noah Adams
- Miri Yael Edelstein
- Rinat Fried
- Janna Lipman Weiss
- Kate Flick Garcia
- Nicole Lopez
- Maya McLean
- Mikhail Partus
- Jan Kessler
- Andrea Sarber
- Jenna Tessler
- Jennifer Berg
- Aaron Goldberg
- Dan Halperin
- Sophie Hodess
- David Morris
- Misia Nudler
- Mary Odenheimer
- Max Roman
- Michael Rose
- Sheli Schacker
- Lucio Siegel
- Alicia Cernitz
- Danielle Glick-Scroggins

**OCTOBER 13 - 19**
- Dan Engel
- Ian Kelley
- Eden Bruner
- Andy Campbell
- Ava Perl
- Arielle Blinick
- Beth Glick
- Adi Dolev
- Anita Hannah Engel
- Avi Seth Geyer-Klein
- Eliana Polon
- Isaiah Rothe
- Gary Smith
- Judy Berkowitz
- Nicole Joseph-Gottein

**OCTOBER 20 - 26**
- Robert Fulop
- Gabriella Gordon
- Stuart Liroff
- Yael Singer
- Will Sparks
- Treya Weintraub
- Jeffrey Michels
- Talia Rotman
- Simon Zapruder
- Thea Hornor
- Bayla Polston
- Benjamin Ring
- Ricardo Collaco
- Matthew Dolev
- Fredric Hoffman
- Lon Moore
- Juanita Villa
- Sophie Hankin
- Talia Bruner
- Eli Maiman
- Devorah Margolin
- David Weiner
- Jordan Carey
- David Coltoff
- Michael Kubalik
- Cara Plumbhoff
- Anna Schacker

**OCTOBER 27 - 31**
- Richard Odenheimer
- Arielle Albert
- Lynn Gitomer
- Julia Hamilton
- Keith Dines
- Nathan Kruger
- Elissa Strauss
- Freya Turchen
- Julia Bersin
- Eden Goldstone
- Samuel Ragones
- Amy Tessler
- Debra Weinstein

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**Mazel Tov to:**

Mazel Tov to parents Shiri and Galen Lichtenstein, on the birth of a son Daniel

Mazel Tov to parents Charles and Amanda Dahan, on the birth of a daughter Margot

---

**Welcome New Members**

Jesse Steinberg & Sandy Little. Daughter Sorrel

Nathaniel Popper & Elissa Strauss. Sons August & Levi

Alex & Marina Eisen. Children Adam Drannikov, Saranessa & Ariel Eise

Ed & Darleen Bercovich

Greg Sherman & Elyse Gilbert. Children Oliver & Lucie

David & Rachel (Raki) Chiatt
May God comfort you among all the mourners of Zion and Jerusalem

Recent Deaths in Our Community

**Sue Stevens**, Mother of Michael Stevens

**Herb Bloom**, Husband of Harriet, Father of Rabbi Mark (Karen) Bloom

**Martin Hertz**, Husband of Evelyn Hertz

**Rosalie Beren**, Wife of Arthur Beren

**Edith Schallenberger Gentry**, Mother of Billy Gentry (Mark Fickes)

MEMORIAL PLAQUE

Anyone wishing to purchase a memorial plaque, please contact Pinky at the synagogue office at (510) 832-0936, extension 229. If you do not know the location of a Memorial Plaque for your loved one, simply find the Memorial Plaque binder located on the back table in the Sanctuary. This book lists all Plaques in alphabetical order by the last name of the deceased and will be updated as new Plaques are hung. Please do not remove the binder from the Sanctuary.
**GENERAL INFORMATION:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mailing Address</th>
<th>336 Euclid Ave. Oakland, CA 94610</th>
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<tr>
<td>Hours</td>
<td>M-Th: 9 a.m.-4 p.m., Fr: 9 a.m.-3 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office Phone</td>
<td>832-0936</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office Fax</td>
<td>832-4930</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E-Mail</td>
<td><a href="mailto:info@tbaoakland.org">info@tbaoakland.org</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**STAFF**

- **Rabbi (x 213)**: Mark Bloom
- **Cantor**: Richard Kaplan, kaplanmusic@hotmail.com
- **Gabbai**: Marshall Langfeld
- **Executive Director (x 214)**: Rayna Arnold
- **Office Manager (x 210)**: Virginia Tiger
- **Bet Sefer Director**: Susan Simon 663-1683
- **Gan Avraham Directors**: Jill Rosenthal & Marta Molina 763-7528
- **Bookkeeper (x 215)**: Suzie Sherman
- **Facilities Manager (x 211)**: Joe Lewis
- **Kindergym/ Toddler Program**: Dawn Margolin 547-7726

**OFFICERS OF THE BOARD**

- **President**: Alice Hale 333-0416
- **Vice President**: Etta Heber 530-8320
- **Vice President**: Ann Rapson 612-2304
- **Vice President**: Jessica Sterling 420-1549
- **Vice President**: Aaron Goldberg 917-226-1399
- **Secretary**: David Goodwin 665-0529
- **Treasurer**: Peter Miller 662-7814

**COMMITTEES & ORGANIZATIONS:** If you would like to contact the committee chairs, please contact the synagogue office for phone numbers and email addresses.

- **Adult Education**: Aaron Paul
- **Chesed**: Heidi Bersin & Heike Friedman
- **Development**: Leon Bloomfield & Flo Raskin
- **Endowment Fund**: Charles Bernstein
- **Finance**: Peter Miller
- **Gan Avraham Parents**: Toni Mason & Carolyn Bernstein
- **Gan Avraham School Committee**: Aaron Goldberg
- **House**: Stephen Shub
- **Israel Affairs**: open
- **Membership**: Ulli Rotzscher
- **Men’s Club**: Rick Heeger
- **Omer**: Lisa Fernandez & Rachel Dornhelm
- **Personnel**: Laura Wildmann
- **Public Relations**: Lisa Fernandez
- **Ritual**: Marshall Langfeld
- **Schools**: Etta Heber
- **Social Action**: open
- **WLCJ Torah Fund**: Anne Levine
- **Women of TBA**: Kathy Saunders & Dina Hankin
- **Youth/BBYO/La’atid**: Amanda Cohen

### Cooking, cont. from page 13

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Stack two baking trays on top of each other (double pan). Have ready 8 foil cupcake liner cups.

Crumble oregano and mint until very fine. Mix with turkey, eggs, matzah meal, 1/2 cup pomegranate molasses sauce, cumin, salt, pepper, garlic powder, onion powder and cinnamon. Scoop out about 1/2 cup of the meat mixture, roll into a large meatball and place in a foil baking cup on prepared pan. Repeat with remaining mixture. Space foil cups out on top of doubled baking trays.

Pour out 1/4 cup pomegranate sauce. Brush on top of loaves. Bake 20-25 minutes until firm. Let cool 5-10 minutes. Serve in liners with the remaining sauce.

Pomegranate molasses sauce: In pan over low heat, mix 1 cup pomegranate molasses with 1/4 cup tomato paste, 2 tsp. sugar and 1/4 salt. Simmer 20 minutes, stirring often. Cool. (Mixture will thicken as it cools.)

Faith Kramer writes a food column for the j weekly and blogs her food at www.clickblogappetit.com Contact her at fjkramer@msn.com

About the cover artist: Genna Legallet's city scene gives a sense of all of the different lives co-existing and belonging in any given community. Genna Legallet created this piece as a student at the Creative Growth Art Center in Oakland. Creative Growth is a non-profit that serves artists with developmental, mental and physical disabilities.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>OCTOBER 2018</th>
<th>MONDAY</th>
<th>TUESDAY</th>
<th>WEDNESDAY</th>
<th>THURSDAY</th>
<th>FRIDAY</th>
<th>SATURDAY</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>SUNDAY</strong></td>
<td><strong>22 Tishrei</strong></td>
<td><strong>22 Heshvan 5779</strong></td>
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<td>1 (22 Tishrei)</td>
<td>2 (23 Tishrei)</td>
<td>3 (24 Tishrei)</td>
<td>4 (25 Tishrei)</td>
<td>5 (26 Tishrei)</td>
<td>6 (27 Tishrei)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gan &amp; Office closed</td>
<td>Gan &amp; Office closed</td>
<td>9:00am Weekly Text Study at L'Acajou Café</td>
<td>8:00am Morning Minyan followed by Breakfast – Chapel</td>
<td>9:15pm Gan Coffee Talk – Chapel</td>
<td>Parshat Bereisit</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:00am Shmini Atzeret Service with Yizkor followed by Kiddush Lunch - Chapel</td>
<td>9:00am Simchat Torah Service followed by Kiddush Lunch - Chapel</td>
<td>1:15pm WTBTA-sponsored Bingo at Reutlinger Home</td>
<td>4:00pm BBYO Registration for Conference</td>
<td>9:30am Bar Mitzvah of Benjamin Skiles – Sanctuary</td>
<td>9:30am Shabbat Shacharit</td>
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<tr>
<td>6:15pm Simchat Torah Service with Dancing &amp; Chocolate - Sanctuary</td>
<td>7:30pm 8th Grade Tichon</td>
<td>6:00pm 9th Grade Tichon &amp; 10th Grade Confirmation</td>
<td>4:00pm Bet Sefer</td>
<td>10:15am Shabbat Moshpacha</td>
<td>10:15am T'fillat Y'Ladim</td>
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<tr>
<td>7:32 Candle Lighting</td>
<td>7:30pm BBYO- AZA &amp; BBG</td>
<td>7:00pm Men's Club Poker Night - Baum Youth Center</td>
<td>7:00pm</td>
<td>626pm Candle lighting</td>
<td>7:25pm Havdalah (42 min)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>7 (28 Tishrei)</strong></td>
<td><strong>8 (29 Tishrei)</strong></td>
<td><strong>9 (30 Tishrei)</strong></td>
<td><strong>10 (1 Heshvan)</strong></td>
<td><strong>11 (2 Heshvan)</strong></td>
<td><strong>12 (3 Heshvan)</strong></td>
<td><strong>13 (4 Heshvan)</strong></td>
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<td>8:00am Minyan followed by Breakfast</td>
<td>8:00am Minyan followed by Breakfast</td>
<td>8:00am Minyan followed by Breakfast</td>
<td>8:00am Minyan followed by Breakfast</td>
<td>9:30 &amp; 10:45am Shabbat Kindergym</td>
<td>Parshat Noah</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:30am Rosh Chodesh Group</td>
<td>10:00 &amp; 11:15am Kindergym</td>
<td>10:00 &amp; 11:15am Kindergym</td>
<td>10:00 &amp; 11:15am Kindergym</td>
<td>6:15pm Kabbalat Shabbat - Chapel</td>
<td>9:30am Shabbat Services</td>
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<td><strong>14 (5 Heshvan)</strong></td>
<td><strong>15 (6 Heshvan)</strong></td>
<td><strong>16 (7 Heshvan)</strong></td>
<td><strong>17 (8 Heshvan)</strong></td>
<td><strong>18 (9 Heshvan)</strong></td>
<td><strong>19 (10 Heshvan)</strong></td>
<td><strong>20 (11 Heshvan)</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>10:00am Adult Ed with Nitza Shaked – Chapel</td>
<td>8:00am Minyan followed by Breakfast</td>
<td>Yom HaAliyah School Observance</td>
<td>9:00am Weekly Text Study at L'Acajou Café</td>
<td>8:00am Minyan followed by breakfast</td>
<td>Parshat Lech-Leca</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:00 &amp; 3:30pm Sunday Kindergym</td>
<td>10:00 &amp; 11:15am Kindergym</td>
<td>5:30pm 8th Grade Tichon</td>
<td>10:00 &amp; 11:15am Kindergym</td>
<td>6:15pm Kabbalat Shabbat - Chapel</td>
<td>9:30am Bar Mitzvah of Lindsay Kottle – Sanctuary</td>
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<td>10:15am Junior Congregation</td>
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<td>7:30pm Rabbi's Intro to Judaism</td>
<td>7:30pm TBA Book Club</td>
<td>7:30pm Intro to Judaism</td>
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<td>607pm Candle lighting</td>
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<td><strong>25 (16 Heshvan)</strong></td>
<td><strong>26 (17 Heshvan)</strong></td>
<td><strong>27 (18 Heshvan)</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>10:00am Adult Ed with Nitza Shaked – Chapel Courtyard Music and Picnic</td>
<td>8:00am Minyan followed by Breakfast</td>
<td>4:00pm Bet Sefer</td>
<td>9:00am Weekly Text Study at L'Acajou Café</td>
<td>8:00am Minyan followed by Breakfast</td>
<td>Parshat Vayera</td>
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<td>4:00pm Bet Sefer</td>
<td>7:30pm Board Mtg - Chapel</td>
<td>10:00 &amp; 11:15am Kindergym</td>
<td>10:00 &amp; 11:15am Kindergym</td>
<td>9:30am Shabbat Services</td>
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Connect with the TBA community from A to Z
Compiled by Jessica Sterling

- **Adult Education**: sign up for a class
- **Bet Sefer**: Religious School, grades K-7
- **Chavurot**: form or join a group of families or individuals
- **Day Schools**: CCJDS, OHDS and JCHS
- **Establish friendships**
- **Family**
- **Gan Avraham**: Preschool
- **Help in the Kitchen or in the Office**
- **Intro to Judaism Class** with Rabbi Bloom: Starting Oct. 10
- **Join a committee**
- **Kiddush on Shabbat**: enjoy lunch and shmooze
- **Learn**: in an Adult Ed class, on-line, from others
- **Men’s Club**: join!
- **Deliver New Member baskets**
- **Organize or volunteer at an event**: Gala, Schools Auction, Mishloach Manot, etc.
- **Pray together at services**: Monday & Thursday Minyan, Friday night, Saturday morning
- **LGBTQ+ inclusive**
- **Relationships**
- **Study Torah text**: Wednesdays with the Rabbi at L'Acajou
- **TBA Board and Executive Board**
- **Ushpizim**: welcome guests and strangers into your sukkah
- **Visit a sick member or bring a meal to a new family**
- **Women of TBA**: join!
- **Erev Xmas Dinner and Movie**: enjoy this annual community event
- **Youth Group**: BBYO
- **A Zillion more ways, just start with one...**

Contact Jessica (jessica.sterling@ymail.com) with questions on how to follow up on any of the above opportunities.
Women of TBA: Girls Night Out in the Sukkah