**GENERAL INFORMATION:**
All phone numbers use (510) prefix unless noted.

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<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>
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<tr>
<td>Office Phone</td>
<td>832-0936</td>
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<tr>
<td>Office Fax</td>
<td>832-4930</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E-Mail</td>
<td><a href="mailto:info@tboaokland.org">info@tboaokland.org</a></td>
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**STAFF**

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<tr>
<th>Role</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rabbi (x 213)</td>
<td>Mark Bloom</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cantor</td>
<td>Richard Kaplan, <a href="mailto:kaplanmusic@hotmail.com">kaplanmusic@hotmail.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Gabbai</td>
<td>Marshall Langfeld</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Executive Director (x 214)</td>
<td>Rayna Arnold</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office Manager (x 210)</td>
<td>Virginia Tiger</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bet Sefer Director</td>
<td>Susan Simon 663-1683</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gan Avraham Directors</td>
<td>Jill Rosenthal &amp; Marta Molina 763-7528</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bookkeeper (x 215)</td>
<td>Suzie Sherman</td>
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<tr>
<td>Facilities Manager (x 211)</td>
<td>Joe Lewis</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kindergym/ Toddler Program</td>
<td>Dawn Margolin 547-7726</td>
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**OFFICERS OF THE BOARD**

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<th>Role</th>
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<tr>
<td>President</td>
<td>Alice Hale 333-0416</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vice President</td>
<td>Etta Heber 530-8320</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vice President</td>
<td>Ann Rapson 612-2304</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vice President</td>
<td>Jessica Sterling 415-640-5003</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vice President</td>
<td>Aaron Goldberg 917-226-1599</td>
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<tr>
<td>Secretary</td>
<td>David Goodwin 655-0529</td>
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<tr>
<td>Treasurer</td>
<td>Peter Miller 652-7814</td>
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**COMMITTEES & ORGANIZATIONS:** If you would like to contact the committee chairs, please contact the synagogue office for phone numbers and email addresses.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Committee</th>
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<tr>
<td>Adult Education</td>
<td>Aaron Paul</td>
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<td>Chased</td>
<td>Heidi Bersin &amp; Heike Friedman</td>
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<td>Development</td>
<td>Leon Bloomfield &amp; Flo Raskin</td>
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<td>Endowment Fund</td>
<td>Charles Bernstein</td>
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<td>Finance</td>
<td>Peter Miller</td>
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<td>Gan Avraham School Committee</td>
<td>Becky Brown</td>
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<td>House</td>
<td>Stephen Shub</td>
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<td>Israel Affairs</td>
<td>Ann Rapson</td>
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<td>Membership</td>
<td>Etta Heber</td>
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<td>Men’s Club</td>
<td>Rick Heeger</td>
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<td>Omer</td>
<td>Lisa Fernandez &amp; Rachel Dornhelm</td>
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<td>Personnel</td>
<td>Etta Heber</td>
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<td>Public Relations</td>
<td>Lisa Fernandez</td>
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<td>Ritual</td>
<td>Marshall Langfeld</td>
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<td>Schools</td>
<td>Aaron Goldberg</td>
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<td>Social Action</td>
<td>Jessica Sterling</td>
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<tr>
<td>WLCJ/Torah Fund</td>
<td>Anne Levine</td>
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<tr>
<td>Women of TBA</td>
<td>Kathy Saunders &amp; Dina Hankin</td>
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<tr>
<td>Youth/BBYO/La’atid</td>
<td>Amanda Cohen</td>
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**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)**
- February 1 5:15 pm
- February 8 5:23 pm
- February 15 5:31 pm
- February 22 5:38 pm

**Shabbat Morning**
In the Sanctuary, 9:30 a.m.

**Torah Portions (Saturday)**
- February 2  Mishpatim
- February 9  Terumah
- February 16  Tetzaveh
- February 23  Ki Tissa

**MISHPACHA & T’FILLAT Y’LADIM DATES:**
2019: February 2, March 2, April 6, May 4

**JUNIOR CONGREGATION DATES:**
2019: February 16, March 16, April 20

More details on page 15.

**WEEKLY TEXT STUDY with Rabbi Bloom**

Pirke Avot  | Every Wednesday, 9am-10am
L’Acajou Bakery and Cafe
5020 Woodminster Lane, Oakland
Beginners welcome.

**MORNING MINYAN**

Mondays & Thursdays in the Chapel
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.

Use Amazon and TBA will receive a percentage
Go to this link and enjoy your shopping!:
http://smile.amazon.com/ch/94-1375793
WHAT'S HAPPENING

Wasserman Speaker Fund presents
REVEREND HAROLD MAYBERRY
Saturday, Feb 23, 2019
In the Sanctuary, during Shabbat Services

Starting Sunday, January 27,
Rabbi Andi Berlin offers a three part
Adult Education series.
Come to all or just one or two.
Meet in the Chapel at 10 a.m.
Coffee and snacks provided.
Rabbi Berlin’s topic is
Human Body and Jewish Ethics.
It will definitely be a great learning experience. Come join us!

TBA Book Club
The TBA book club will hold its next meeting on
Thursday, February 28, at 7:00 pm and will meet at
the house of a TBA member. We will be discussing
the book “The Undoing Project: A Friendship That
Changed Our Minds,” by Michael Lewis. There are
ample copies available in the Oakland and Berkeley
libraries.

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

Here’s a description of the book: Forty years ago, Israeli psychologists Daniel Kahneman and Amos Tversky wrote a series of breathtakingly original papers that invented the field of behavioral economics. One of the greatest partnerships in the history of science, Kahneman and Tversky’s extraordinary friendship incited a revolution in Big Data studies, advanced evidence-based medicine, led to a new approach to government regulation, and made much of Michael Lewis’s own work possible. In The Undoing Project, Lewis shows how their Nobel Prize–winning theory of the mind altered our perception of reality.

Oakland Ruach Hadassah
Annual Fundraiser

MAH JONGG & MIMOSAS
Brunch, Drinks, Mah jongg, Fun!
Sunday, February 24, 2019
11:00 AM - 3:00 PM
Baum Center @ TBA
341 MacArthur Blvd., Oakland
$36, $54, $72, $90, or more
(It goes to a good cause)
Beginners welcome!
RSVP: judyglick@gmail.com

MAH JONGG
Join us to play, usually on the second Shabbat of each month as we gather in the Chapel after Kiddush.
For beginners and experienced players.
February 2*, March 9, April 13
*Special early date, 1st Shabbat of February

Sponsored by:
Women of TBA & Oakland Ruach Hadassah

ROSH CHODESH: FEBRUARY 4

Monthly meetings on the Monday closest to Rosh Chodesh and are facilitated by group members.
Questions? Amy Tessler at abtessler@comcast.net or (510) 482-1218 for the upcoming meeting locations.
FREE. All East Bay women are invited to join.

FOR MORE UPCOMING EVENTS WITH WOMEN OF TBA SEE PAGE 8.

It’s not too late to become a member of WTBA.
Contact Bella Gordon, Membership Chair:
2bellagabriella@gmail.com or (510) 499-6325.
Truly Intergenerational

One of the things I love most about Temple Beth Abraham is that we are truly intergenerational. Rarely will you find a congregation that has so many friendships that stretch across generations, all schmoozing during the Shabbat lunch or even during the service.

On a typical Saturday morning, we usually have at least one person in every decade, from single digits up until people in their 90s. Two year old Eyal Palchick will be running around the sanctuary, and 14-year-old Tamar Breines, who, if not leading a prayer, might be playing with him. Zach and Alex, two young men in their 20s who have located to Northern California for their tech jobs, are happy to be welcomed as family in a new city where they don’t have any. Thirty-somethings Jason and Leah Edelstein might be there with their toddler and preschooler, both girls, and they might be receiving some parenting advice from Paul and Midori Antebi, who are a decade ahead of them and have a Bat Mitzvah this year and one about to enter High School. Mark Fickes and Billy Gentry, in their early 50s, just like yours truly, with their twin teenagers sitting in the back row, are talking with fellow Past President and attorney Sandy Margolin, who is a decade ahead of them, about topics ranging from law to what it was like being President. Seventy-something Charles Feltman knows he is about to get the 2nd Aliyah, because he is one of the few “Levis” in the congregation, and he is talking to Elinor DeKoven, who is going to be the Galila. Jack Coulter has reached his mid-90’s, but he walks like a much younger man and slips in unnoticed, as usual.

This is a typical Saturday morning at TBA, but it is not typical of many congregations in the country. It makes me extremely proud to be serving a congregation with such a diversity of ages and friendships.

And the Bercoviches

In an issue focusing on the theme “intergenerational,” a mention of our founding family, the Bercoviches, is in order. Our synagogue was founded by Bertha Bercovich, who named our synagogue after her late husband Abraham. She would donate the money if we would name it after him (it’s a good thing his name wasn’t Irving or Seymour or something similar). She is the Great Aunt of Sam Bercovich, who died just a few years ago, but was a service regular for virtually all of his 90-plus-years here. Sam had three sons: Edward, Cliff, and Bruce. Edward’s son Brandon and his wife Melissa are members here, and they have a daughter, Emma, who is in our preschool. So, if you didn’t follow all that, Emma is a 6th generation member of Temple Beth Abraham. How lucky are we to have such continuity.
Dayenu
By Alice Hale

As a Jew by choice, it is interesting to think about religious traditions shared through the generations. After all, I left the religion I was raised in and joined another. I essentially rejected all of my family’s religious traditions when I became Jewish. I certainly left one set of beliefs behind and took on another.

But if you look at it another way, I didn’t really stray very far from what I grew up with. My family did attend church regularly, and we belonged to an Episcopal congregation that was welcoming to a diverse community, but traditional and formal in many ways. My father was a lay reader, and my mother was an active volunteer. I went to Sunday school and had a confirmation.

As an adult, I joined a somewhat traditional congregation that is also egalitarian. I’ve been an active volunteer and I have even read Torah a few times. I enrolled my children in Hebrew School and both of them were Bat Mitzvah and were confirmed. So while the context and belief system is different, how I have behaved as an adult in terms of religious activity is really very similar to my parents.

And of course, if you look at large concepts like values, I have retained many of them from my family – my parents believed in giving back to the community, in taking care of our environment, in helping those less fortunate and in being compassionate and non-judgmental. I have tried to do all of those in my life as well.

When I think about how I would like my daughters – and my granddaughter – to carry Jewish traditions forward in their lives, I of course would love to have them join a synagogue, attend services, celebrate all the holidays. I have certainly tried to model that for them. But I have realized a couple of things. One, is that I have absolutely no control over this. They will do what they do. But the second is that there are lots of ways to carry our traditions forward. If they can at least remember our values, and what it means to be part of a community, be kind and generous to others, and consider what it means to lead an ethical life, then, dayenu, that might be enough.

Annual Wetlands Restoration Day

Please join Temple Beth Abraham at the annual Wetlands Restoration Day with Save the Bay on Sunday, February 10, 2019, 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. at the Martin Luther King Regional Shoreline Park in Oakland.

This is one of the ways our congregation comes together to observe Tu B’Shevat and participate in Tikkum Olam. This is truly an all ages event, great fun, and a good way to help restore our planet.

Please RSVP to Jody London, jodyl@earthlink.net, 510-459-0667. The exact location will be provided the week of the event.

P.S. For those of us with high school seniors, I’m feeling nostalgic for the early days of this event, when these kids were in baby backpacks!
COMMUNITY

A response to the 5th grader who wore a kippah to school

Dear Sophie,

The article you wrote in the January issue of the Omer is inspiring and insightful. Inspiring because I believe what you and you brother, Eli, did by wearing kippot at school was courageous and will set an example to others your age. Insightful because you noticed “...that nobody shows their Judaism in public in Piedmont.” You’re right. It is sad. But it’s just not in Piedmont. This happens in most places. Jews don’t like to advertise they’re Jewish. I rarely see women outwardly wear Star of David necklaces anymore. It’s rare to see non-Orthodox men wear kippot outside the synagogue.

I am much older than you are. I’m 67 years old, and for a long time I was thinking about wearing my Jewishness on my head. I wear hats a lot, but my Tilley sun hat and my wool beanie are utilitarian. To a lesser extent, so is my Oakland A’s baseball cap. But they don’t shout “Jewish”. One reason I held back was that I am not consistently observant, and men who wear kippot in public are almost always observant. Would it be wrong for me to do this? Would I appear hypocritical? These are the questions I anguished over. Then came Pittsburgh.

Pittsburgh swept those agonizing questions aside. It was no longer a philosophical debate. I needed to show as many people as I could that there are Jews who are proud to be Jewish and proud to display their Jewishness. And just as importantly, I wanted to show the world that Jews will not fear being seen as Jewish. We are here. We belong in this world like everyone else. It is my response to Pittsburgh.

My wife, Judy, bought me a beautiful kippah and I’ve been wearing it ever since. So, what’s it like to wear a kippah in public? It isn’t what I imagined at all. The first time I wore my kippah, Judy and I were in line at the Village Theatre box office in Danville. A couple about our age were standing behind us. They initiated a conversation by asking, “Did you light your Chanukah candles tonight?” It turns out that they, too, were Jewish and decided, like us, to light candles after the show. Since then, there have been a number of similar occurrences: Jews striking up a conversation with me or identifying themselves as Jewish only because they noticed I was Jewish. Most recently on a Friday afternoon, I was at the Lafayette Reservoir when I saw a woman having trouble controlling her large puppy. As I’ve had a lot of experience training a golden retriever, I told her what worked well for me. She thanked me and said she would go right away to the pet store and buy a gentle leader collar. As I started on my way, she surprised me with a spirited “Shabbat Shalom!”

Wearing a kippah has another effect. It reminds me that I’m now visually Jewish and I must try to be on my best behavior at all times. This is because people often ascribe the actions of a single individual to an entire people. Most Americans aren’t Jewish, and many don’t know anyone who is. And so, I liken myself to an ambassador, putting my best self forward so that everyone I meet will come away with a positive image of the Jewish people.

The simple act of donning a kippah can change the world. Who knew?

Sincerely, Mark Langberg
Ritual and Reasons
By Rabbi Art Gould

As the Omer was being prepared for layout long time member and office volunteer Agnes Pencovic passed away. This column is dedicated to her and of course Pinky’s memory as well. Visiting with Pinky and Agnes in the TBA office was itself a living ritual, a ritual that now can no longer be performed. As I’m writing, her funeral is tomorrow. As with all burials, we will end with the recitation of the Mourners Kaddish.

In their memory, a look at the Kaddish; its forms, and its reasons.

There are four versions of the Kaddish. All can only be said in the presence of a minyan. In ascending order of length, they are

• Hatzi (Half or Short) Kaddish
• Mourners (or full) Kaddish
• Reader’s Kaddish – adds an sentence about the acceptance of praise.
• Teacher’s Kaddish – adds a paragraph about the teachers and students of Torah.

Let’s start with the Mourners Kaddish. We quickly note that it says nothing about anyone dying or even about the subject of saying goodbye to someone we love. It’s all about G-d. And it heaps a lot of praise on G-d, so much so that we might start to wonder how we can say these words at a time of grief. More on this in a couple of paragraphs.

All the different versions of Kaddish serve as placemarks in the service. The Hatzi Kaddish precedes the formal Friday night service. On weekdays it separates the formal part of the morning service from the “optional” part that precedes it. The Reader’s Kaddish, so-called because it is generally recited by the Reader (whoever is leading the service) is also a separator or a bookmark if you will.

The Teacher’s Kaddish occurs only once during the morning service. It adds in this paragraph, promoting the value of Torah study, and asking for blessings upon all who study:

“Upon Israel, and upon our sages, and upon their disciples, and upon all the disciples of their disciples, and upon all those who occupy themselves with the Torah, here or in any other place, upon them and upon you, may there be abundant peace, grace, kindness, compassion, long life, ample sustenance and deliverance, from their Father in heaven; and say, Amen.”

So many Kaddishes, so little space to discuss. Let’s focus on two aspects of it; how saying it as a remembrance is meant to work, and what the words themselves are actually saying. We begin with the latter. In general, the words of the Kaddish are in the future tense, and are a list of HaShem’s positive attributes. Were one to wonder or even question, are these superlatives (here’s a snippet, “blessed and praised, glorified, exalted and extolled, honored, adored and lauded”) all accurate and descriptive of G-d, one would not be alone, or even the first, to question. The best explanation I have ever read, is that these parts of the Kaddish are a description of the world in which we aspire to live. So that when we look at the world, we see around us a reflection of the best of these praises.

Finally, why the Kaddish during times of grief, mourning and remembering? These are all emotional times, and not the time to create new prayers, or wrestle with intellectual definitions. We say familiar words that we know “everyone says” in similar times. By saying the Kaddish, we get what we need – comfort. If we are saying the Kaddish, there are at least nine people physically with us and an entire nation that has been practicing this same ritual throughout our generations.

The message of Kaddish – we are not alone.
LOOKING AT PAST EVENTS:

Annual Erev Xmas Dinner & Movie sponsored by WTBA and the Men's Club

There is only one word to describe the evening – supercalifragilisticexpialidocious!

130 of our friends & family signed up to see the original Mary Poppins and eat a delicious Chinese dinner.

Thanks to Coordinators: Dina and Phil Hankin, Dinah McKesey, Sabrina Berdux, and Kathy Saunders. Event Helpers: Beth Glick, Freya Turchen, Judith Klinger, Kelsi Pertulla, and Rob DeBare. Photographer: Maera Klein. We are grateful for all who contributed delicious desserts and fruit.

Tu B'Shevat Potluck & Seder

Great women & the 7 species made this a festive event. We so appreciate Jessica Sterling for leading our seder! Thanks to Jill Levine and Judy Glick for coordinating, and all who brought foods featuring the seven species.

LOOKING AHEAD

Annual Women of TBA Shabbat Service & Luncheon

Feb 2, 9:30 AM in the Sanctuary. Join us for this beautiful service led by WTBA members, with a delicious lunch sponsored and prepared by WTBA. Rabbi Natasha will be joining us! Mah Jongg will be in the chapel after lunch. Questions: Jessica Sterling, email: jessica.sterling@ymail.com.

Girls Night Out - New Year, New You!

February 7, 2019  7:15 - 9:15 PM
OFF-SITE at BK Roots Studio, Oakland

This is a fabulous opportunity to take a Pilates Class at BK Roots Studio with TBA member and fitness instructor Mindy Berla! After a 45 minute class, we will enjoy nutritious bites and yummy drinks while talking about goals for 2019! The class will be tailored to all fitness levels.

FREE for WTBA members; $15 Non-Members.

Space is limited. If interested in attending contact Angela Engel angengel@gmail.com

SAVE THE DATES:

Our next GNOs (Girls Night Out) are March 7, April 4 & June 6. Watch our email and Facebook for details. Find us on Facebook at Women of TBA

More Praise for our WTBA Community!

THANKS to Bingo volunteers, your presence is appreciated at The Reutlinger: Anita Bloch, Ellen Kaufman, and Wendy Siver. Kudos to Stacy Margolin who organizes this mitzvah.
TBA Men’s Club Membership Exclusive Party

The 49ers and Raiders are in (just joking - maybe next year)!!! You can feel like you’re in Atlanta by attending the exclusive members only TBA Men’s Club event. Since you joined the best team in the Bay Area (The TBA Men’s Club), you will be headed to the Super Bowl!!! We and the rest of the Men’s Club Board want to show our appreciation of your commitment to our team by throwing you a party. On Super Bowl Sunday, February 3, 2019, 3pm (3:30pm kick-off), you and your family (immediate only – no aunts/uncles/grandparents please) will have front row seats to view the “big game” on two big screen televisions in the Baum Education Building. This is a no-cost to you event. Just show up, enjoy the football game, the commercials, the camaraderie, and the food/drinks. We will have side games available in various rooms of the building for adults, kids, and the non-football fanatics in your family!! Clear your calendar and watch the most viewed television event of the year with friends and family. TBA is the place, don’t miss out.

IF YOU ARE NOT YET A MEMBER OF THE TBA MEN’S CLUB (OR HAVE NOT YET RENEWED YOUR MEMBERSHIP) PLEASE RESPOND TO THIS EMAIL AND WE’LL GET YOU SIGNED UP/RENEWED (email to rickheeger@gmail.com).

PLEASE RSVP TO THE EVENT BY THURSDAY JANUARY 31 to philhankin@aol.com

See you there!!

Rick Heeger, Men’s Club President and Phil Hankin, Men’s Club Treasurer

Across Generations with WTBA

By Kathy Saunders, Co-President

Years ago, before I joined TBA, members Aaron and Eva Paul told me how much they appreciated this community, in part, because all the generations enjoyed each other. At the time my mother had passed, my late father was in his 90s, and my children were young. I wanted my kids to be in a haimish environment with adults who cared. Now, as a member myself, I too cherish how each generation is integral to the life of this amazing shul.

Rabbi Bloom’s ability to meld the generations is inspiring – the tots love our eldest, while teens and college students are celebrated in special services. He continually recognizes the viewpoints, institutional knowledge, and service of our senior members.

By design, the WTBA Board represents different ages and stages, as each perspective helps us to serve all TBA members. In fact, our mission statement begins: “WTBA is a vibrant, multi-generational group whose mission is to support each other and our greater TBA community.”

WTBA board members work to serve each generation in our shul. We not only love to learn and schmooze...
Social Action at TBA
By Jessica Sterling, Social Action Chair

As the new Social Action committee chair at Temple Beth Abraham, I will be focusing on social action events for the next two years. As a first step an email was sent to the congregation searching for people who want to work together to develop a social action plan. A small group of dedicated individuals responded and formed the committee. There will be ample opportunity for everyone to participate, either as an event lead or participant. I hope that you connect with an activity that you find meaningful.

These are current annual or ongoing opportunities for TBA members to help improve the lives of others:

- High Holidays non-perishable food collections (Alameda County Community Food Bank-ACCFB food collection barrels at TBA)
- Turkey Drive (Holiday food drive for ACCFB)
- Warm Coat Drive (coat collection barrels at TBA for One Warm Coat)
- Wetland Restoration with Save the Bay (organized by Jody London)
- Serving Dinner to Shelter Residents at City Team in Oakland (organized by Bryna Ross)
- Purim and Mishloach Manot (TBA makes a donation to Mazon every year from the proceeds)
- Pesach selling chumatz to Rabbi Bloom (funds go to a variety of organization)

The social action committee members are: Larry Polon, Stacy Month, Rachel Goldstone, Beth Glick, Amanda Dahan, WTBA rep: Dinah McKesey. Several of us met on Monday, January 21, to begin the conversation about Social Action at TBA.

The purpose of the Social Action committee is to plan and execute social action opportunities for members of Temple Beth Abraham. The goals of the committee are to identify needs in the Oakland community that synagogue members can work toward improving. After an active brainstorm session we agreed to focus on serving the needs of homeless.

I have been invited to attend a social action partnering meeting at Temple Sinai, which Stacy and I will attend.

Please contact me with question or comments at jessica.sterling@ymail.com if you are interested in participating at any level. There will be periodic updates by email, in The Omer, and through Rayna’s weekly updates.
SOCIAL ACTION

Good Cents, 2009

Bet Sefer Shops for ACCFB, 2015

Mishloach Manot, 2010

Alameda Food Bank, 2010 (top), 2016 (bottom)

City Team, 2012

Cooking Across Generations: Add a Pinch of Heritage to the Recipe

By Faith Kramer

Taste that? It’s a pinch of heritage. I sprinkle it into almost everything I cook. From appetizers to desserts I’ve been influenced by the cooks that have come before me.

Contemporary trends and my travels have an impact, of course, but it’s the women (and sometimes men) who have fed me, shared their recipes, knowledge and techniques, and nurtured me that have helped create my culinary identity. Sometimes these were people who were close to me, sometimes they were folks I met along the way or took classes from, other times they were writers of cookbooks I read. All had one thing in common, though, the concept of passing along not just recipes and a love for a cuisine but the connections the food had to their lives, its place in their community and the generations that came before them.

For Jewish influences across the generations, I’ll start with my maternal grandmother, Anna, who cooked her brisket in the same heavy, covered pan her Russian-born mother used. My sister still uses this pan for her pot roast. I never met my great grandmother but the pan (and memories of the brisket, always with plenty of burnt onions), connects me to her and her food ways. I have Anna’s blintz pans and when I use them I remember Grandma turning out perfect golden rounds onto clean kitchen towels and blotting her forehead glistening with sweat with her apron.

I’ve learned so much from women in the Temple Beth Abraham congregation. Among the many who have influenced me, I am especially grateful for the time Misia Nudler, Jeanette Jeager (z”l), and Pola Silver (z”l) spent with me, teaching me their recipes. After surviving the Holocaust, these recipes remained a tangible link to their past and a lost way of life.

It’s this sense of connecting to the past through food that drew me to the Vilna Vegetarian Cookbook: Garden-Fresh Recipes Rediscovered and Adapted for Today’s Kitchen by Fania Lewando (Schocken).

Lewando was a groundbreaking restauranteur who created a Jewish vegetarian cuisine that attracted celebrities and followers. She became something of a celebrity herself and wrote a cookbook in Yiddish in 1938. At the time Vilna was known as the “Jerusalem of Lithuania,” and Lewando’s food was a star attraction, one that would be extinguished by World War II. Lewando was killed in 1941. Surviving copies of the cookbook were eventually rediscovered and the task of translating it and updating the recipes was given to Eve Jochnowitz, a Jewish food scholar and Yiddish educator.

The recipes are adapted from The Vilna Vegetarian Cookbook with only changes in format and how ingredients are specified. See my notes following each recipe for suggestions.

CAULIFLOWER WIENER SCHNITZEL

Adapted from the Vilna Vegetarian Cookbook

Makes 10 schnitzel

3 cups cooked, chopped cauliflower
4 large eggs
4-5 Tbs. bread crumbs
1/2 tsp. salt
1/4 cup butter, plus more as needed

Mix cauliflower, eggs, 4 Tbs. bread crumbs and salt. Beat well. Let sit about 15 minutes. If too liquid, stir in remaining bread crumbs. Scoop 1/4 cup batter in hands at a time, shaping batter into patties. Melt butter in large frying pan. Place patties in pan and cook until top is beginning to set and the bottom is browned. Flip and brown on the other, cooking until schnitzel is somewhat firm but not dried out. Work in batches, adding more butter as needed. Lewando suggested serving topped with a fried egg alongside fried new potatoes and a gratin of carrots.

Variation Note: Before frying schnitzel, toss 1/4 cup bread crumbs with 1/8 tsp. each paprika, salt and ground black pepper. Dip schnitzel in crumbs, turning to coat both sides (you may need to pat back into shape). Fry as directed. Try with Old World Food Truck Hungarian Pepper Relish recipe below.
CAULIFLOWER AND CARROT KUGEL
Adapted from the Vilna Vegetarian Cookbook
Serves 12
- 4 lbs. carrots
- 1 1/4 cup butter, divided
- 1 1/2 lb. cauliflower, cooked and pureed
- 1/2 cup bread crumbs
- 3/4 cup raisins
- 1 tart, crisp apple, cut into 1/4" pieces
- 2 Tbs. sliced almonds
- 1/4 tsp. almond extract
- 2 Tbs. chopped candied orange peel
- 6 Tbs. sugar, divided
- 6 Tbs. flour, divided
- 2 eggs
- 3/4 tsp. salt, divided
- 1 cup milk

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Boil or steam the carrots until cooked but not mushy. While they cook make filling. Melt 3/4 cup butter. Mix pureed cauliflower with bread crumbs, raisins, apple, almonds, extract, orange peel, 3 Tbs. sugar and 5 Tbs. flour, eggs, 1/2 tsp. salt and melted butter. Stir until well combined. Drain and cool carrots. Slice into 1/4" rounds and lay out half on bottom of an 11" x 17" pan. Spread filling evenly over carrots. Top with a layer of remaining carrots. Dot with 1/2 cup butter, sprinkle with 3 Tbs. sugar and 1/4 tsp. salt. Mix milk with 1 Tbs. flour and pour over top. Cover tightly with foil and bake for 1 hour.

Variation Note: This recipe makes a lot. A half recipe (made in an 8" x 12" pan) worked beautifully. I also greased the baking pan.

HUNGARIAN PEPPER RELISH
Adapted from Kenneth Hockert
Serves 6-8 as a topping

This recipe is not from the Vilna cookbook, but it is a delicious addition to the schnitzel recipe and fits in with the generational theme. I met Kenneth Hockert about seven years ago when he was operating his Old World Food Truck in the Bay Area. Hockert was committed to preserving Eastern European food ways (including Jewish recipes) and adjusting them for modern tastes and ingredients. Many of his recipes were adapted from ones his grandmother made him. Hockert moved from the Bay Area some time ago, but I still make his Hungarian Pepper Relish.

- 1/2 lb. red bell pepper
- 1/2 lb. Hungarian Gypsy pepper, or green or yellow bell pepper
- 1 small hot pepper such as jalapeño or cherry pepper, or to taste
- 2 tsp. minced fresh garlic
- 2 cups diced yellow onion (1/4" pieces)
- 2 Tbs. olive oil
- 1/4 cup sugar
- 1/4 cup cider vinegar
- 1 Tbs. paprika (see notes)
- 1/4 tsp. salt, plus more to taste
- 1/4 tsp. ground black pepper, plus more to taste

Dice bell, Hungarian and hot peppers in 1/4 inch pieces. Heat oil in large sauté pan. Add peppers, garlic and onion. Sauté for 10-15 minutes until soft and lightly browned. Add sugar and vinegar; simmer for another 10-15 minutes until liquids are mostly reduced. Stir in paprika, salt and black pepper. Taste. It should be tangy, sweet with a nice spice to it. Adjust salt and black pepper if needed. If desired, add more vinegar, sugar, and/or paprika.

Cool. If desired, lightly pulse relish in food processor, but be sure to leave it a bit chunky. Serve atop cauliflower (or chicken) schnitzel.

Notes: Hockert recommended using Hungarian paprika. For a spicier relish, look for a Hungarian or other paprika marked “hot”. For an unexpected smoky taste, use a Spanish smoked paprika.

Faith Kramer writes a food column for the j, The Jewish News of Northern California, and blogs her food at www.clickblogappetit.com. Contact her at fjkramer@msn.com. She is working on her first cookbook, Cooking Local, Eating Global.

Purim Gift Basket Fundraiser
Food basket donation forms due no later than March 1

Mishloach Manot, traditionally given out on the day of Purim, is a special way to enhance the holiday. The Bet Sefer and Gan Avraham Parents are once again offering you a wonderful way to send Mishloach Manot. For Purim this year we are preparing a kosher basket filled with tasty sweets and snacks for the entire congregation.

The basket will be delivered to each family on Sunday, March 17. Moreover, you will also be able to include a customized letter in these baskets to let your fellow congregants know you are responsible for sending them Mishloach Manot. Please check the mailing that was sent to your house for more details (or follow up emails).

Any questions about the program or if you want to volunteer please contact Steven Grossman at yoale@aol.com.
During our winter break, we received an email from our most fabulous Kitah Alef teacher, Karen Llamas. Karen has been part of our faculty for over 11 years, has worked with every age group and is passionate about Jewish Early Childhood Education. We are pretty certain that during her time on staff, she has taken at least one continuing education course per year. She has mentored students in the ECE program at Chabot and is always eager to pass along her knowledge and expertise to all of us! The email she sent was regarding this month’s Omer theme. She wrote:

“I read the email from Rachel about submissions to the Omer. I know you guys usually write something and when I saw the topic, I got excited!

Not sure what you will write about but I have a suggestion. We know that the Gan is great place for building community; in fact some of our current parents attended the Gan as children! Having parents involved in the classroom is a pretty obvious way that the Gan creates a bridge from one generation to another but how about another way?

Remember how Maya Levinsohn’s grandparents came to visit and it was awesome? (see photos) Well, I have been toying with the idea of starting a program at the Gan that would get grandparents involved. In my recent ECE studies, I was reminded of how important it is to include EVERYONE who is involved in a child’s life, not just parents. I was thinking of calling it “L’Dor V’Dor: From Generation to Generation.” The idea would be to invite Grandparents (it could also be older people from the TBA community) to come into the classroom on Shabbat. They could come and help make challah or just be with children in the classroom. I haven’t worked out all the details yet but I do know that something magical happened when those grandparents were in our classroom. The interactions between the grandparents and the children were amazing! Let me know what you think!”

Well, our first thought was: We are so incredibly fortunate to work with people, like Karen, who have such a deep sense of commitment to our school AND the larger community-wow! And then we thought: “YES, we must support Karen in getting this going!” So, please stay tuned, as we are certain that this program will come to fruition soon and will be a wonderful opportunity for all generations in our Gan and TBA community. Thank you, Karen! We look forward to many of you getting to know her, the rest of our incredible faculty and these amazing children at Gan Avraham!
Asking Questions in Kitah Dalet

By Susan Simon

Bet Sefer teachers use a variety of teaching methods in order to engage our students in important concepts and texts. One of those that is being used in Kitah Dalet this year is called The Question Formulation Technique or Qfocus. Rather than the teacher presenting ideas or concepts to the students and asking for their thoughts on them, the teacher provides a prompt for the students to generate their own questions. Students are encouraged to ask as many questions as they can without evaluating whether they are good or not. Questions are written down exactly as they were asked.

The next step is to try to turn close-ended questions into open-ended questions – for instance, “Is vanilla your favorite flavor of ice cream” can be changed into “What is your favorite flavor of ice cream?” Students then select their favorite questions in order to learn more about them.

In our 4th grade class recently, the students were presented with a prompt which read, “And you shall love Adonai your God.” The class was divided into groups to generate and write down as many questions as they could. Here are some of the questions they asked:

- Why should we love Adonai?
- Why does the prompt start with “And?”
- What is love?
- When was this sentence stated in history and why?
- Why do they have to remind us that Adonai is our God?
- Why does Adonai want our love?
- Why do we have to be reminded to love Adonai?
- Why do we say Adonai your God instead of one or the other?

Each one of these questions could be the theme for its own drash. They are profound and deep and thought provoking. In the end, these questions don’t have easy answers or the kinds of answers that everyone would agree upon. But there is tremendous value in asking the questions, in thinking about the prompt, not just as a given truth, but as something to consider, ponder, and argue about. There is also great value in have students consider a question which isn’t asking them for the right answer, which allows them to throw what they are interested in into the mix. We Jews love to question and argue and getting our children into the habit early is our goal.

So what do you think? Why should we love Adonai? Why does Adonai want our love? And why do we have to be reminded to love Adonai? Do you have an understanding of how to answer these questions? If so, shoot me an email and I will share them with the class.

(susan@tbaakland.org)

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.
Charity is equal in importance to all the other commandments combined.

Murray Davis Courtyard/
Next Big Thing Building
Project
Jessica Dell’Era
Noah & Carrie Garber
Matt & Naomi Grossman
Judith Klinger
Gary & Faith Kramer
Jacqueline Palchik
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Freya Turchen, in memory of Max Turchen

Kiddush Fund
Fifi Goodfellow, in memory of Becky Singer
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Etia & Anna Weininge, Kiddush sponsored in honor of their new baby girl, Maya
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Ramah Scholarship Fund
Elinor DeKoven
Elinor DeKoven, in memory of Eleanor Weintraub
Elinor DeKoven, in honor of Misia Nudler’s birthday
Elinor DeKoven, best wishes to Cantor Richard for good health

Kiddush Fund
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Renee & Michael Marx, Kiddush sponsored in memory of Renee’s mother, Charlotte Resnick

High Holy Day Appeal–
General Fund
Barry Barnes & Samantha Spielman
Michael & Kathy Burge
Sarah Cohen
Rabbi Arthur Gould & Carol Robinson
Phillip & Andrea LaMar
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David Steinberg
Freya Turchen
Andy & Marcia Wasserman
Howard Davis
Warren & Outi Gould
Dan Oppenheimer & Sarah Tunik

Shirley Silver
Jerome & Beverly Turchin, in memory of Leslie Turchin

Sarah Cohen
Rabbi Arthur Gould & Carol Robinson
Phillip & Andrea LaMar
Steven Rosenthal & Ailsa Steckel
David Steinberg
Freya Turchen
Andy & Marcia Wasserman
Howard Davis
Warren & Outi Gould
Dan Oppenheimer & Sarah Tunik

Temple Beth Abraham
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Rayna & Saul Arnold, in memory of Edith Schallenberger Gentry
Edward & Darleen Bercovich, in memory of Ellen Bercovich
Azary & Clara Blumenkrantz
Abigail Bornstein
Alicia Cernitz-Schwartz, in honor of Camelia and Sy Schwartz
Ann Cohn, in memory of Rose Rosenberg
Ann Cohn, in memory of Stacy Cohn
David & Stella Goodwin
Marina Gottschalk, in honor of Fritz and Irma Gottschalk
Steven & Penny Harris, in memory of Evelyn Harris
Harlan & Pearl Kann, in memory of Sophie and Meyer Kranz
John & Tim Latta, in memory of Herb Bloom
Richard Leavitt & Mary Kelly, in memory of Morris Leavitt
David & Stephanie Mendelsohn, in memory of Victor Mendelsohn
Mark & Maribel Mogill, in memory of Raymond Mogill and Minette Mogill
Gregory & Ruth Morris
Frank Offen
Ilya & Regina Okh
Stephen Polin & Judy Elkin
Daryl & Bryna Ross
Sheldon & Barbara Rothblatt, in memory of Benjamin Goor
Sheldon & Barbara Rothblatt, in memory of Rabbi Joel Goor
Klaus-Ullrich Rotzschier, in memory of Tom Rotzschier
Allen & Ellen Rubin, in memory of Samuel Rubin
Colin & Cecile Schlesinger, in memory of Myrna Freed

Yom Ha Shoah Fund
Hennie Hecht-Zilverberg, in memory of Martha Zilverberg

High Holy Day Appeal–
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Michael & Kathy Burge

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Galen & Shiri Lichtenstein, Kiddush sponsored in honor of their new baby, Daniel
Etia & Anna Weininge, Kiddush sponsored in honor of their new baby girl, Maya
Renee & Michael Marx, Kiddush sponsored in memory of Renee’s mother, Charlotte Resnick

Rabbi Discretionary Fund
Rami & Daphne Albert, in memory of Moshe Shweky
Ellen Beilock & Sheldon Schaffer, in memory of Herbert Bloom
W. Bruce Bercovich
DONATIONS

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________________________________

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- Pola Silver Teen Holocaust Education Trip Fund
- Sam Silver Playground Fund
- Leo and Helen Wasserman Education/Cultural Fund

Muriel Dance, in memory of Michael Roman
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Daniel & Julia Elitzer, in honor of the bris of Benjamin Monroe Elitzer
Gerald & Barbara Goldberg, in honor of the bris of Benjamin Monroe Elitzer
Tedd & Susan Goldstein, in memory of Ellen and Herb Goldstein
Hennie Hecht-Zilverberg, in memory of Herbert Bloom
Randall & Jan Kessler, in memory of Leslie Kessler
David & Stephanie Mendelsohn, in gratitude to Rabbi Bloom for his support when David’s father passed away
David Meshel, in memory of Herbert Bloom
Jeffrey & Mona Morris
Barry & Hana Rotman, in memory of Paula Rotman
Freya Turchen, in memory of Geraldine Turchen
Andy & Marcia Wasserman, in memory of Ely Levis
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Jeri & Marvin Schechtman, in memory of Stanley Schechtman

Leo and Helen Wasserman Education/Cultural Fund
Marc & Janet Wasserman, in memory of Leo Wasserman

Pola Silver Teen Holocaust Education Trip Fund
David & Stephanie Mendelsohn, in memory of Victor Mendelsohn

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

Anne Frank
Lanna Antebi, January 19, 2019

My name is Lanna Antebi and I am a 7th Grader at the Contra Costa Jewish Day School. I enjoy reading books, hanging out with friends, participating in theater, and snuggling with my dog, Shlomo.

My Torah portion is Be’shalach from the Book of Exodus, and Haftorah portion is from the Book of Judges, Chapter 4. In my drash, I will discuss courageous female role models in the Bible.

*The Omer apologizes for the omission of Lanna’s bat mitzvah announcement last month.*

Arjun Bornstein, February 9, 2019

I am Arjun Bornstein and am a 7th grader at Piedmont Middle School. I am the second of five boys in my family and the second bar mitzvah. In my free time I love to play competitive basketball and my favorite subject in school is English. My Torah portion is called T’rumah and it covers the rules regarding the construction of the Tabernacle. I’m thrilled to be a Bar Mitzvah and look forward to the celebration with my family and friends.

Mazel Tov to:

Mazel Tov to Dan & Megan Shaked on the birth of their son Abraham Jonah

A Note to New Members:

We would like to introduce you to the TBA community in an upcoming newsletter. Please send a short introduction of you and your family, with a digital photo, to omer@tba-oakland.org. Thanks!

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@tba-oakland.org.

You are never too young to plan for the future!
February Birthdays

**FEBRUARY 1 - 8**
Miriam Ilfeld
Ann Rapson
Hannah Reback
Nancy Rose
Arnold Blustein
Elise Hannah Schleuning
Lisa Tabak
Carolyn Bernstein
Arjun Bornstein
Ariela Fedorov
Amy Friedman
Ella Rose Gordon
Lena Gutkin
Leah Hagar
Jing Weng Hsieh
Jacob Raskin
Esther Aamidor
Akash Bornstein
Maya Marcus
Naftali Bojdak-Yates
Liora Friesen
Dan Maidenberg
Sarah Marcus
Rami Weinberg
Reuben Goldberg
Amber Hyman
Julia Johnson
Dawn Margolin
Susan Sasson
Stuart Zangwill
Joie Botkin
Hattie Gutkin
Elizabeth James
Barbara Rose
Cecile Schlesinger
Jennifer Weinstein
Sarah Daniels
Matten Isaac Pincas
Sarah Bookin
Sherry Marcus
David Sasson
Lyra Vergano Egan
Neve Vergano
Tina Eisenman
Becky Frank
Joanne Goldstein
Ruth Tunik Oppenheimer
Lauren Smith
Liam Sondreal
Joni Tanis
Itai Bojdak-Yates
Julie Katz
Jessica Sterling
Buzz Berelowitz
Larry Miller
Victoria Roman
Aliya Love Cohen
Paul Diliberto
Mira Gellman
Allan Gordon
Mark Liss
Jake Moore
Darleen Bercovich
Alexander Finkelstein
Benjamin Hyman
James Kleinmann
Paloma Margarita Siegel
Yonathan Wolf

**FEBRUARY 9 - 15**
Abby Klein
Dahlia Bernstein
Andres Turner
Daniel Harvitt
Rachel Hertz
Jacob Klein
Callie Malovany Fulop
Victoria Reichenberg
Amy Schoenblum
Leah Bayen
Jacob Liron
Avi Weinberg
Joseph Charlesworth
Ward Spangler
Judith Klinger
Debbie Spangler
Steven Wolmark

**FEBRUARY 16 - 22**
Isaac Berla
Avi Eliahu
Deren Rehr-Davis
David Rosenthal
Josh Sadikman
Charles Dahan
Eric Jones
Maya Sherne
Roslyn Aronson
Deborah Levine
Lisa Spielman Polston

**FEBRUARY 23 - 28**
Daniel Berelowitz
Aaron Bornstein
Amit Bornstein
Ari Goldberg
Orli Steyer
Jagger Winikoff
Ella Yanai
Lila Blumberg
Oliver Blumberg
Joshua DeBare
Kivah Fedorov
Theodore James
Sagie Kleinlerer
Marjorie Blustein
Philip Hankin
David Mason
Julian Goldstein
Florena Shapiro
Marc Bruner
Paula Hamilton
Merav Kagan
Jonathan Ring
Isabella Scharff

Is your birthday information wrong or missing from this list? Please contact the TBA office to make corrections.
May God comfort you among all the mourners of Zion and Jerusalem

27 SHEVAT - 3 ADAR 1
February 1 - 8
Al Rothman
Allan Stone
Julian Wolf
Samuel Bandel
Elizabeth Bernstein
Frieda Blatter
Hyman Brodke
Joseph Gould
Samuel Aaron Grinberg
Rose Hillman
Bernard Pollack
Milton Weiner
Leonard Wolf
Irving Goronkin
Shirley Gould
Rose Kotz
Sam Wolf
Joseph Zuckerber
Dorothy Glasser
Shirley Goldberg
Joseph G. Kay
Joseph Kvint
Melissa Anne Powers
Irma Robinson
Lillian Adler
Helen Aldeff
Eric Baum
Avraham Elbert
Kalman Gluck
Pearl S. Goodman
Goldine Jacobs
Julius Kohn
Joel LaLone
Simon Lerch
Ruth Roth
Raymond Chun
Marion Morris
Benjamin Ottovich

4 - 10 ADAR 1
February 9 - 15
Fran Prager
Robert Burnstein
Philip Samuel Frucht
Celia Goldstein
Sylvia Hertz
Sigmund Kaplan
Harry Goldenhar
Regina Weiss
Nancy von Kugelgen

18 - 23 ADAR 1
February 23 - 28
Ben Barnett
Goldie Brody
Max Lutz
Robert Selvidge
Regina Singer
Neil Boorstyn
Harry Jaffe
Sam Pachefsky
Esther Segal
Richard Bersin
Sophie Breslov
Max Clar

Recent Deaths in Our Community

Seymour Kessler
Inge Rosenthal, Mother of Steven Rosenthal (Ailsa Steckel)

Agnes Pencovic
Theo Joseph, father of Nadine Joseph (Neil Goteiner)

MEMORIAL PLAQUE

Anyone wishing to purchase a memorial plaque, please contact the synagogue office at (510) 832-0936. 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.
WTBA, cont. from page 9

with our women friends, but our work supports the entire community by raising funds and hosting activities for Gan and Bet Sefer, Glee-B-A Shabbat, Erev Xmas Sing-a-Long, monthly Bingo games at The Reutlinger Senior Home, and many others.

Your membership dues go a long way! Since September, we have hosted over 250 people from newborns to nonagenarians at our special events and monthly Girls Night Out. A shout-out to all our WTBA members and the Men’s Club for helping make these occasions fun and successful!

Our membership drive has ended for the 2018-19 season; THANKS to all who have joined. If you missed the drive and still want to join, we welcome you.

Please contact our Membership Chair, Bella Gordon at 2bellagabriella@gmail.com

We hope the TBA community will join us at the Annual Women of TBA Shabbat on February 2nd. We will be honoring our past Presidents who continue to inspire and guide us.

Todah rabah,
Kathy Saunders
Co-President of WTBA with Dina Hankin

Scholarships for traveling to Israel - Deadline February 28

Do you have a teenager or young adult who is planning on traveling to Israel this coming spring or summer?

Students who are planning on visiting Israel this year may apply for a grant from the Hertz Fund. This is a fund that was established by the Hertz family in order to encourage our young people to travel to Israel and strengthen their intellectual and emotional connection to a place that is so important to the Jewish people. The monetary grant is made without consideration of financial need and the money can be used for anything connected with a trip to Israel by a young person who has graduated from our Bet Sefer Religious School after having attended at least four years here and/or has celebrated a Bar or Bat Mitzvah ceremony here. Students may only be recipients of a grant one time and are eligible through age 22.

The amount of each grant will depend upon how much interest the fund has generated in the past year and how many students apply for the grant. Students may apply now for any trip to be commenced any time in 2019. In return students are REQUIRED to write an article for The Omer within one month of returning home from Israel.

If your child is planning on going to Israel this year and would like to apply for a share of the Hertz Fund, please have her/him fill in a form and return it to the synagogue, addressed to my attention, postmarked no later than February 28th. We will be making awards shortly after that time.

Please feel free to contact me for the form and with any questions.

Am Yisrael Chai!

Susan Simon
susans@tbaoakland.org
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SUNDAY</th>
<th>MONDAY</th>
<th>TUESDAY</th>
<th>WEDNESDAY</th>
<th>THURSDAY</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3 (28 Shevat)</td>
<td>4 (29 Shevat)</td>
<td>5 (30 Shevat)</td>
<td>6 (1 Adar I)</td>
<td>7 (2 Adar I)</td>
<td>8 (3 Adar I)</td>
<td>9 (4 Adar I)</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:00am Adult Ed w/ Rabbi Andi Berlin</td>
<td>8:00am Minyan followed by breakfast</td>
<td>9:30 &amp; 10:45am Shabbat Kindergarten</td>
<td>9:00am Weekly Text Study at L’Acajou Café</td>
<td>8:00am Minyan followed by breakfast</td>
<td>9:30am WTBA Shabbat 10:15am Shabbat Mishpacha</td>
<td>9:30am Bar Mitzvah of Arjun Bornstein</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3:30pm Superbowl with the Men’s Club</td>
<td>4:00pm Bet Sefer</td>
<td>1:15pm Kabbalat Shabbat with Bet Sefer Kitah Bet Share A Shabbat</td>
<td>NO Kindergarten</td>
<td>NO Kindergarten</td>
<td>6:15pm Kabbalat Shabbat</td>
<td>5:00pm Havdalah in Pajamas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 (5 Adar I)</td>
<td>11 (6 Adar I)</td>
<td>12 (7 Adar I)</td>
<td>13 (8 Adar I)</td>
<td>14 (9 Adar I)</td>
<td>15 (10 Adar I)</td>
<td>16 (11 Adar I)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:00am Adult Ed w/ Rabbi Andi Berlin</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>Gan Closed for Conference</td>
<td>9:30am Bar Mitzvah of Avria Ben-Zeev</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:00am</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>7:00pm Beginning Hebrew Decoding with Susan</td>
<td>7:00pm Beginning Hebrew Decoding with Susan</td>
<td>6:15pm Kabbalat Shabbat</td>
<td>10:15am Junior Congregation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wetlands Restoration Day</td>
<td>7:00pm BBYO- AZA &amp;BBG</td>
<td>7:00pm BBYO- AZA &amp;BBG</td>
<td>7:00pm BBYO- AZA &amp;BBG</td>
<td>7:00pm BBYO- AZA &amp;BBG</td>
<td>5:31p Candle lighting</td>
<td>6:32p Havdalah (42 min)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17 (12 Adar I)</td>
<td>18 (13 Adar I))</td>
<td>19 (14 Adar I)</td>
<td>20 (15 Adar I)</td>
<td>21 (16 Adar I)</td>
<td>22 (17 Adar I)</td>
<td>23 (18 Adar I)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office &amp; Gan closed for Presidents’ Day</td>
<td>NO Bet Sefer</td>
<td>9:00am Weekly Text Study at L’Acajou Café</td>
<td>8:00am Minyan followed by breakfast</td>
<td>9:30 &amp; 10:45am Shabbat Kindergarten</td>
<td>9:30 &amp; 10:45am Shabbat Kindergarten</td>
<td>9:30am Shabbat Services with Wasserman speaker Reverend Harold Mayberry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:00am Minyan Bar Mitzvah of Max Schleuning followed by breakfast</td>
<td></td>
<td>10:00 &amp; 11:15am Kindergarten</td>
<td>10:00 &amp; 11:15am Kindergarten</td>
<td>10:00 &amp; 11:15am Kindergarten</td>
<td>10:00 &amp; 11:15am Kindergarten</td>
<td>6:39p Havdalah (42 min)</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>7:00pm Beginning Hebrew Decoding with Susan</td>
<td>NO Bet Sefer</td>
<td>NO Bet Sefer</td>
<td>NO Bet Sefer</td>
<td>6:39p Havdalah (42 min)</td>
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<td>7:00pm BBYO- AZA &amp;BBG</td>
<td>7:00pm BBYO- AZA &amp;BBG</td>
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<td>4:00pm Bet Sefer</td>
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<td>24 (19 Adar I)</td>
<td>25 (20 Adar I)</td>
<td>26 (21 Adar I)</td>
<td>27 (22 Adar I))</td>
<td>28 (23 Adar I)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>La’atid visits Urban Adamah</td>
<td>8:00am Minyan followed by breakfast</td>
<td>9:00am Weekly Text Study at L’Acajou Café</td>
<td>8:00am Minyan followed by breakfast</td>
<td>9:00am Weekly Text Study at L’Acajou Café</td>
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<td></td>
<td>4:00pm Bet Sefer</td>
<td>10:00 &amp; 11:15am Kindergarten</td>
<td>followed by breakfast</td>
<td>10:00 &amp; 11:15am Kindergarten</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>7:30pm TBA Board Meeting</td>
<td>Kindergarten</td>
<td>Kindergarten</td>
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Federation and Foundation are offering financial aid and grant opportunities with upcoming deadlines:

Financial Aid for Jewish Summer Camps - Thursday, February 14
Sprout Grants - Tuesday, February 26
Israel Trip Financial Assistance - Friday, March 1
The Derek Elias Israel Memorial Scholarship - Friday, March 1

Financial Aid for Jewish Summer Camps

These funds provide needs-based financial assistance for Jewish children from the East Bay (Alameda, Contra Costa, Solano and Napa Counties) to attend any Jewish overnight summer camp in the United States or Canada. Please read the “How to Apply” section carefully to see if your child’s camp is eligible. All overnight camp financial awards are intended to provide “last resort” community resources above and beyond what is contributed by families and individual camps.
Deadline: Thursday, February 14, 2019

Sprout Grants

These grants help subsidize a PJ Library family's first-time participation in a formal Jewish educational experience. Grants of up to $1,000 per family will be awarded to help cover the cost of a family's first learning program for any of their children (grants will not exceed 75% of the total cost to the family).

If you receive PJ Library books and this is your family's first child to enroll in their first formal Jewish educational program, we invite you to apply for a Sprout Grant.

Upcoming Deadline: Tuesday, February 26, 2019

Israel Trip Financial Assistance for High School, College, and Young Adults

This financial aid is meant to support high school and college programs including year courses, high school Jewish youth group programs, university programs, Yeshivot, East Bay Jewish day school Israel trips, and others.

If you are under the age of 40, reside in Alameda, Contra Costa, Napa, or Solano Counties and are traveling to Israel on a formal trip, apply for Israel Trip Financial Assistance.
Deadline: Friday, March 1, 2019 – for Summer programs

The Derek Elias Israel Memorial Scholarship

This scholarship is for East Bay young adults age 21 and over who are planning to study at eligible Orthodox Jewish institutions in Israel.

If you are over 21 years old and planning to study at an Orthodox institution in Israel, apply for the Derek Elias Israel Memorial Scholarship.
Deadline: Friday, March 1, 2019 – for Summer programs

Questions? Contact Heidi Stagg at heidi@jfed.org or 510.809.4911.

Jewish Federation and The Jewish Community Foundation of the East Bay
Mayor’s Prayer Breakfast

Rabbi Bloom and Jessica Sterling attended the Mayor of Oakland’s Annual Prayer Breakfast on Wednesday, January 12th, at the Islamic Cultural Center. They heard the Mayor’s plan for the city’s homeless and the decrease in gun deaths due to Operation Ceasefire, which was a clergy led initiative. Interfaith leadership is instrumental in helping Oakland’s civic leaders achieve community efforts.

photo from Mayor Schaaf’s Facebook post.