



VOLUME 29 ISSUE 4

FEBRUARY 2014

ADAR I 5774

Temple Talk

A House for All

By: Rabbi Tracy Nathan

At our open board meeting last week, Brad Baker presented a proposal to begin exploring ramp access to the building and to the bima. After that meeting, I saw the end of the Torah portion of that week (Yitro) with new eyes. There is a sacred command not to ascend by stairs to the altar (Exodus 20:22). Our traditional commentators provide religious and spiritual interpretations of this law but through my contemporary eyes, I see this as a demand for us to make sure that our Jewish places for nurturing the spirit, for learning, and for community should be accessible to all, and steps do not always provide that accessibility.

February is Jewish Disability Awareness Month, and this is a time to raise awareness within our communities of the need to make our communal institutions accessible to everyone. TBI is such a welcoming, open, inclusive community, so making sure there are not unintentional barriers to the inclusion of a person with a physical, hearing, vision, mental, communication, behavioral disability is a priority. How can we make sure anyone who desires an aliyah can have one? How can we help those with a hearing impairment access the service or learning? When someone comes to our synagogue, what barriers do they encounter to being a full participant in our community? How can we make sure the Divine words that came to us through the prophet Isaiah become a reality: "My house shall be called a house of prayer for all peoples." (Isaiah 56:7)

As we begin our series of Torah portions that tell of the Mishkan, the holy structure that is built by the Children of Israel in hopes that the Presence of the Divine will dwell amongst us, let us figure out how we can be as inclusive in building our holy communities with and for everyone. If you would like to join a task force for making TBI fully accessible, contact Rabbi Nathan or Brad Baker (brad@white-oak-consulting.com). We seek those who can help identify the areas we need to consider, those with grant-writing skills or an interest in finding grants, and anyone who has a particular interest in expanding the inclusive spirit of TBI.

The next bulletin will be for March. If you have an article that you would like to submit please get it in to the Temple office before February 15th.

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Rabbi: Tracy Nathan
Cantor: Ellen Band
President: Merrill Griff
Vice Pres.: Lester Macklin
Secretary: Genevieve Fosa
Treasurer: Arthur Marion
Membership Secretary:
 Ellen Macklin
Editor: Andrea Baron

Address

25 Harvard Street

P. O. Box 540182

Waltham, MA 02454

Email: office@tbiwaltham.org

web site: www.tbiwaltham.org

(781) 894-5146

Office Hours

Monday - Friday

9:30am - 12:30pm

Creating our Sacred Space

By: Brad Baker

Let's bump into each other in the garden

We're building Bump Gardens at Temple Beth Israel. Why? Because TBI's 2014 Bump Gardens will add beauty to, and aid engagement in, the shul.

Starting small

The Dayenu Garden will transform the entire back of the building. We will grow tiny (Dayenu!) plants of vegetables, herbs, and flowers from seed to keep the cost minimal (Dayenu!). When we give away these plants, we not only perform a mitzvah but also can gain the attention of the greater Jewish community. This also will be the setting for experiential education, with planting, watering and harvesting added as regular features on the TBI calendar. And the abundance of flowers visible in all beds and along fence lines on the shul property surely will make everyone smile.

The L'dor V'dor Garden will occupy the side of the building facing Hannafords, where we enjoy the greatest exposure to the broader community. It will provide perennial flowers, herbs, and vegetables to be shared for years to come. When the masses of daffodils and chives bloom, they will turn heads from the neighboring parking lot. Horseradish for Passover and Havdallah herbs of lavender and rosemary will draw the Jewish community, as we will invite them to come gather at our shul, where we can celebrate together.

Look for sign-up sheets and garden seminar times to begin in mid-February—then let's bump into each other in the garden.

Becoming accessible to our entire community

True accessibility to Temple Beth Israel means going further than our wonderful worship services and programming that appeals to a wide range of people. It also means 24/7 available ramp systems requiring no key and no electricity. While they were a much-needed improvement in their time, studies and surveys tell us that electronic lifts can add to a person's feeling of helplessness and stigma. They also become a liability in an emergency event requiring speedy egress from the building. Temple Beth Israel has the ability to address its accessibility issue on the outside of the building.

Last week, we confirmed that we have the length needed, meeting engineering code by mere inches, to conform to the required slope for a ramp that would parallel the front porch and then turn into the existing lift space. It requires an engineering or architect's drawing (can any TBI members provide this capability?) and probably must be built of masonry. Thus it is not inexpensive, but it is doable! And it will be architecturally pleasing and definitely more welcoming; a model of how an older building can become more accepting of wheelchairs, strollers, walkers, canes, and deliveries.

It's a matter of some work, planning and fund raising to ensure our entire community feels as welcome as possible. Are we up to the task?

Upcoming Events

February

Saturday Night February 22 - 7:30pm - "Crossing Delancy"

Romantic drama about a single New York City woman and her quest to find the right man--but can an upscale intellectual employee find love with a pickle man?



March

Sunday Afternoon March 2 - 3:00pm - Zamir Concert

Our Temple Beth Israel Program Committee has purchased 20 tickets for "Like Wildflowers, Suddenly" This is one of the highlights at the fifth Boston Jewish Music Festival. Zamir Chorale of Boston with Cantor Aryeh Finklestein at Congregation Mishkan Tefillah, Chestnut Hill

Like Wildflowers, Suddenly is an oratorio inspired by the work of Israeli poet Yehudah Amichai, with music by Cantor Charles Osborne and lyrics by Cantor Aryeh Finklestein. Joining Boston Zamir Chorale are mezzo-soprano Lynn Torgove and Cantor Osborne as narrator and baritone soloist, accompanied by the chamber orchestra. Followed by Jewish musical and cantorial favorites.

Tickets are \$20.00 and available on a first-come-first-served basis.

Send your check to:

Temple Beth Israel, PO Box 540182, Waltham, MA 02454. On your check's memo line, write, Wildflowers.

Questions? Call Lester at 781-275-2327.

Saturday Evening March 15 - 7:30pm - Purim

Come hear the whole megillah with slide show commentary and nosh some hamentashin..!



Sunday Morning Breakfast March 30 - 10:00am



Genevieve Fosa speaks about "The Importance of Your Story" - Details available in the March Bulletin.

Mark's Remarks: Remembering Hannah Handel

By: Mark Frydenberg

When Hannah Handel passed away in December, the Temple Beth Israel community said farewell to one of its most senior and lifelong members. She was born on February 25, 1917 and died on Thursday, December 12, 2013.

Around the Temple, we referred to Mrs. Handel as "Ellie's mother," yet she was also Karin's mother. Ellie Handel and her sister Karin Kriegsman took turns caring for their mother day in and day out so that she could spend her final years at home. In her later years, Mrs. Handel would make an occasional visit to the Temple on special occasions. She was always proud to be back.

I had only visited Mrs. Handel's home once before she passed away, and returning after the funeral was reminded of her interest in Judaica. Her home was filled with mezzuzot, menorahs, Jewish books, and artwork that showed her love of Judaism, Jewish culture, and history.

Mrs. Handel took pride that she had a 100% kosher kitchen, and many people remarked of her interest in cooking and baking. I remember that she would bring in her homemade brownies, sometimes with walnuts, sometimes without, or jelly rolls to share after morning minyan. She would lovingly arrange her pastries neat rows, placing them gently in wax paper-lined cardboard shirt boxes. For many years, Mrs. Handel would prepare homemade chocolates to serve at the annual candle lighting at City Hall. I'm not sure if she had more pleasure preparing these goodies, or watching people eat what she made.

We remember Mrs. Handel for her baking, for her generosity and willingness to share, for her love of Judaism and Temple Beth Israel, and for her dedication to her family and her community.

Friday Night Dinner & Shabbat Service

Friday night, February 21

Service begins at 6:00pm

Dinner begins after services around 7:00pm

Italian Dinner Menu

Veggie Lasagna, Baked Eggplant

Green Salad, Garlic Bread

Sorbetto or Tiramisu

Italian Pastry or Biscotti

Fresh Fruit



NOTE NEW FEES AND DEADLINES:

\$12 per adult, \$30 per family if paid by the Wed. before the dinner

\$15 per adult, \$40 per family for late reservations

THANK YOU

Thanks to these people who gave a D'var Torah in December and January:

Mark Frydenberg	Michelle Lauder
Brad Baker	Bruce Trager

And thanks to these Torah and Haftarah readers:

Celia Schneider	Susan Kane
Genevieve Fosa	Cantor Ellen Band
Joseph Weintraub	Susan Furman
Caroline Nudelman	Rabbi Tracy Nathan
Yaron Shragai	Mark Frydenberg
Natasha Shabbat	Noah Beit-Aharon
Phyllis Werlin	Merrill Griff
Mike Rosenberg	

If you would like to read Torah or Haftarah please contact Mark Frydenberg at mark@tbiwaltham.org.

If you would like to give a d'var torah on a week when Rabbi Nathan is not at TBI, please contact Susan Holbert at susan@theindexpros.com and we'll add you to our growing list of contributors.

Harry and Ann Baker,
in loving memory of their son
Neil David Baker.

Saturday Kiddush Sponsors

Jan 25 - Ed and Renee Brown and Ed Kaufman

To reach Rabbi Nathan for ordinary matters, call and/or leave a message at her synagogue phone: [781-894-5146](tel:781-894-5146) or email her at: rabbinathan@tbiwaltham.org.

In the event of illness or death or similar emergencies call: [\(781\) 530-4114](tel:781-530-4114).

Donations

General Fund

Esther and Leonard Meiselman, in memory of Hyman Goldberg.

Lillian Etkind and Family, in memory of Irving Etkind.

Marilyn Novich, in memory of her mother.

Fradin Silberstein Foundation, in memory of Carl Goldstein.

Vadim Bubes and Yelizaveta Goltser, in memory of Maria and Nicholas Goltser and Judith Kilman and Jacob Bubes.

Julius and Thelma Kennen, in memory of Abe Kennen.

Fred and Annette Manasse, in honor of Julius Kennen's 90th Birthday.

Hella Hakerem

Rosalie and Stephen Fox

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

Rob and Catherine Solomon

Donations in memory of Anita Israel from:

Harry and Ann Baker

Ellen Band

Diana Korzenik

Rhoda and Martin Koocher

Bruce, Naomi, Nathan, and Abby Cohen

Linda Kopans and Arnold Pinsley

Donations in memory of Hannah Handel from:

Lillian Etkind

Ellen Kaufman

Ruth Kaufman

Alan Kaufman

Ruth Malkin

David Kaufman

Diana Korzenik

Esther Keaney

Elaine Cooney

Mark Frydenberg

February 2014

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						<i>1 Terumah</i> <i>D'var Torah</i> <i>Rabbi Tracy</i> <i>Rosh Chodesh</i>
2	3	4	5	6	7  4:48	<i>8 Tetzaveh</i> <i>D'var Torah</i> <i>Rabbi Tracy</i> <i>Nathan</i>
9	10	11	12	13	14  4:57	<i>15 Ki Tisa</i>
16	17 Presidents' Day Minyan 7:00am	18	19	20	21  5:06 Friday Night Service and Dinner - 6:00pm	22 Vayakhel <i>D'var Torah</i> <i>Rabbi Tracy</i> <i>Nathan</i> Movie Night 7:30pm
23	24	25	26	27	28  5:14	1 Pekude Shabbat Shekalim <i>D'var Torah</i> <i>Rabbi Tracy</i> <i>Nathan</i>

If not specified, Minyan - Monday, Thursday and Friday is at 7:00am and on Saturday at 9:00am

February Yahrzeits

Plaque Loc.	Name	Yahrzeit Date
6-3	Abigail Decker	1-Feb Adar I 01
4-3	Fannie Blackstone	2-Feb Adar I 01
1-3	Jacob Krinsky	3-Feb Adar I 03
4-2	Benson Griff	4-Feb Adar I 04
2-1	Harry Canter	4-Feb Adar I 04
1-1	Vittal Crevoshay	5-Feb Adar I 05
3-2	Saul G. Ginsburg	5-Feb Adar I 05
6-3	Ruth Gordon	6-Feb Adar I 06
5-4	Philip Rosenfield	6-Feb Adar I 06
5-3	Maurice Katz	6-Feb Adar I 06
6-4	Jacob Shay	6-Feb Adar I 06
2-3	Arthur Nochemsohn	7-Feb Adar I 07
4-4	Marsha Goldstein	7-Feb Adar I 07
6-4	Minnie Milesky	8-Feb Adar I 08
	Paul Keaney	8-Feb Adar I 08
4-1	Harold Katz	10-Feb Adar I 10
1-1	Yetta Blackstone	10-Feb Adar I 10
3-1	Samuel Margolis	10-Feb Adar I 10
2-3	Louis Michelson	10-Feb Adar I 10
2-4	Frieda Resnick	11-Feb Adar I 11
2-1	David Beecher	11-Feb Adar I 11
	Rose Cohen	11-Feb Adar I 11
	Marcia Slarskey	12-Feb Adar I 12
	Neil Baker	12-Feb Adar I 12
6-3	Ann Wolf	13-Feb Adar I 13
3-3	Joseph Harris	13-Feb Adar I 13
	Ira David Seltzer	14-Feb Adar I 14
	Harris Griff	14-Feb Adar I 14
2-4	Max Ritter	15-Feb Adar I 15
6-3	William Milesky	15-Feb Adar I 15
4-1	Philip Shapiro	16-Feb Adar I 16
5-4	Edward Gilman	17-Feb Adar I 17
3-2	Yetta Fischer	18-Feb Adar I 18
	Gertrude Cohen	18-Feb Adar I 18
4-2	Gertrude Levison	19-Feb Adar I 19
3-1	Fannie Beecher	19-Feb Adar I 19
	Louis Freedman	19-Feb Adar I 19
1-3	Alex Lietsky	20-Feb Adar I 20
6-3	Bernard Sharfman	20-Feb Adar I 20

Plaque Loc.	Name	Yahrzeit Date
3-2	Dora Milesky	22-Feb Adar I 22
6-4	Sal Araten	22-Feb Adar I 22
3-2	Jennie Goldberg	22-Feb Adar I 22
	Martha Mikelbank	23-Feb Adar I 23
3-1	Rose Nussinow	23-Feb Adar I 23
2-1	Rose Braverman	25-Feb Adar I 25
1-1	Annie Alpert	26-Feb Adar I 26
	Sandra Gustin	27-Feb Adar I 27
1-2	Aaron Greenblott	27-Feb Adar I 27
3-4	Rose Wolk	27-Feb Adar I 27
1-3	Bessie Levison	28-Feb Adar I 28
6-1	Clara Wiggetman	28-Feb Adar I 28
2-4	Harry Wolf	28-Feb Adar I 28
	Abraham B. Feinsand	1-Mar Adar I 29
2-4	Aaron Mordecai Smith	1-Mar Adar I 29
2-4	Alice Wolf Cohen	1-Mar Adar I 29
2-4	Lena Smith	1-Mar Adar I 29

If you would like to make a donation in memory of a loved one listed above please send it along with a brief note of who you would like remembered to the Temple Office.

We Need Minyanaires

Services are held at 7:00am on Monday, Thursday and Friday and at 9:00am on Saturday.

Kaddish

We are not able to guarantee a minyan at each morning service, so if you need a minyan on a particular day to recite Kaddish, please let the Temple know at least 2 days prior.

Temple Beth Israel

25 Harvard Street
P.O. Box 540182
Waltham, MA 02454-0182

Phone: 781-894-5146

E-mail: office@tbiwaltham.org
Website: www.tbiwaltham.org

February 2014

It is never too late to donate.
Use the form below and mail
it to the Temple.
Thank you in advance.

Donate on the web
at
www.tbiwaltham.org

stamp

Temple Beth Israel Donation Form

For your convenience, please use this form to make your donations and send to:
Temple Beth Israel, P O Box 540182, Waltham, MA 02454-0182

I have chosen the fund indicated at the right:

(Please use a separate form for each fund. **Minimum donation: \$10**)

Attached is my check in the amount of: \$ _____

The donation is being made

In Honor Of _____

In Memory Of _____

Other _____

This donation is made by:

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip _____

Please send acknowledgement to:

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip _____

- General Fund
- High Holiday Donation
- Rabbi's Discretionary Fund
- Carl Goldstein Siddur—Memorial Fund
- Morris Hollender Torah Reading Fund
- Children's Services and Programming
- Other, please specify: _____

