

# TEMPLE TALK

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Temple Beth Israel

Av-Elul 5775

## Rabbi's Reflections:

### Av and Elul: No Recognition of Pain, No Gain

By: Rabbi David Finkelstein

This past July, for 3 weeks between the minor fast of 17 Tammuz and the major fast of Tisha b'Av, we mourned the destruction of Jerusalem and her Holy Temple, first by the Babylonians in 586 BCE, and later by the Romans in 70 CE. We remember the calamities of our past during these three weeks, especially on Tisha b'Av, and we hope that this remembering softens our hearts and opens them up to the brokenness of the present. What brokenness? There is, of course, personal broken-ness, which comes in so many forms. We also have collective broken-ness, evidenced by the massacre at Mother Emanuel, the march of ISIS, climate change, and more.

Always around this time, we read in Parashat Balak how God opens the mouth of Bilaam's donkey and she speaks. Bilaam's donkey gives voice to the anguish of these three weeks. "What did I do to you that you hurt me?" she cries. "Am I not your very own?" (Numbers 22:28-30). Often, when we do damage, we make ourselves deaf to the voice of pain and betrayal that is the natural response to our actions. Not even registering that a miracle has taken place, Bilaam tries to block out his donkey's pain, saying, "You have toyed with me. If I had a sword in my hand, by now I would have killed you." We try to drain the transformative power out of our pain and out of the pain of others, possibly because that power makes the pain sharper. But the mourning of Tisha b'Av is not about general anguish. It is specifically about the kind of anguish for which we are personally or collectively responsible. It is not the anguish of 'Woe is me! I am suffering!' Tisha b'Av is for the anguish of 'Woe is me! I have caused my own suffering!' And through our communal mourning on Tisha b'Av, we hope to unlock the power of the pain to transform our lives, so that we may learn to live without inflicting such pain again. You might say, the motto of Tisha b'Av is 'no recognition of pain, no gain.'

Then, assuming that we have done the Tisha b'Av work of acknowledging pain, the Jewish calendar gives us great gains. A

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**Office Hours**

Monday - Friday

9:00am - 12:00pm

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



**Class A Affiliate of the  
Boston Red Sox**

## Take Me Out To The...

Living in New York for almost half his life, Lester Macklin rooted for the New York Mets after the Brooklyn Dodgers moved to LA. He switched allegiance to the Boston Red Sox after moving to Massachusetts. He NEVER liked the Yankees!

The Temple Beth Israel Program Committee is planning a trip to LaLecheur Park in Lowell in the afternoon of August 23<sup>rd</sup> to watch Lowell's Spinners (Red Sox class A affiliate) take on Staten Island (Yankees class A affiliate). This is baseball with the young players who aspire to play in the major leagues.

Maybe August 23<sup>rd</sup> sounds a long way off, but in reality, we need numbers NOW! Our hope is to amass enough fans so as to fill a bus for transportation to the game.

This will be a fun afternoon so bring the kids and your neighbors as well. This event is open to the public until the bus is filled.

**Tear Off and Mail to the Temple: 25 Harvard Street, Waltham, MA 02453**

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone Number:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Number of Tickets:** \_\_\_\_\_ \* \$25.00 = \_\_\_\_\_ (amount enclosed)

This price includes the cost of the bus ( if we have at least 30 people attend ) which will leave Temple Beth Israel at 1:45pm sharp.

## **TBI Festivals!**

Summer 2015

*Harvest Vegetables and Eat 'Em  
Schmooze, Listen to Live Music  
Learn Torah from the Garden*

**Sunday, June 28**

11am-12:30pm

Spirituality

**Sunday, August 09**

11am-12:30pm

Sustainability

Temple Beth Israel

25 Harvard St.

Waltham

**Sunday, July 19**

11am-12:30pm

Food Security

**Sunday, August 30**

11am-12:30pm

Sabbatical



*for more info, email [rabbidavid@tbiwaltham.org](mailto:rabbidavid@tbiwaltham.org)*

**MORE FEASTIVALS COMING IN THE FALL!**

# Mark's Remarks: What's For Lunch

By: MARK FRYDENBERG

You may remember some of the more interesting Shabbat lunches we've had at TBI over the past year. While most weeks you'll find bagels and cream cheese, hummus, lox, tuna, or egg salad, once in a while the Kitchen Committee (yay Marge, Genevieve, Erika, and Helen!) and I have been a bit more creative. We've served vegetarian tacos with lentils a few times, hot dogs and beans on 4<sup>th</sup> of July, and cucumber mango and quinoa salads of all kinds. Thanks to the hotplates, we sometimes have a "Shabbos warm" treat, such as challah bread pudding, potato puffs, spinach triangles, lukshen kugel, or mini quiches.

We've come a long way from the toothpicks in the herring and gefilte fish at the stand-up Kiddush with forks and plates served at TBI 20 years ago. Shabbat lunch has become an integral part of who we are as a community, and how we celebrate Shabbat together. You know what it's like at Kiddush lunch on Shabbat. We share a meal, catch up with our friends, and welcome those who are visiting. Almost everybody knows your name. We eat, we schmooze, we sometimes sing or study. We miss you when you're away.

This is the annual request to ask you to sponsor a Shabbat lunch once or twice during coming year. For our average attendance of 35 to 40 people on Shabbat morning, the cost is about \$150 each week for a simple lunch (bagels, tuna or egg salad, hummus, chips, salad, fruit, and pastry, challah and wine or grape juice). To ensure we can continue our Shabbat lunches into the future, we would like to encourage frequent sponsorship by the "regulars" and invite those who don't come to Shabbat morning services regularly to attend, stay for lunch, and sponsor a lunch as well.

Please sponsor a Shabbat lunch once or twice next year (between September 2015 and August 2016). It is a great way to celebrate a birthday, wedding or Bar/Bat Mitzvah anniversary, or other milestone with your TBI family. You might also sponsor lunch in memory of a loved one, or just because ....

You can sponsor a Shabbat lunch by contributing \$150 to the Shabbat Lunch Kiddush fund or, if that amount is prohibitive, please consider co-sponsoring a lunch with another congregant by making a smaller contribution (\$36, \$54, \$72, or any amount you can afford). We will thank all lunch sponsors at announcements at the end of services, and list names of sponsors in the Temple newsletter. If you have a favorite food item you'd like us to serve, let us know and we'll try to provide it at your sponsored lunch.

In addition to lunch sponsors, we're also looking for helpers to go shopping once or twice a month (Costco, Market Basket, or your favorite supermarket), to occasionally prepare food in advance for our lunches or monthly Friday dinners, and to help clean up in the kitchen after we're finished eating. Please contact the Temple office if you'd be willing to help with any of these.

Please complete the lunch sponsorship form and return it with your check to the Temple Office. Thank you for your continued support.

# TEMPLE BETH ISRAEL SHABBAT LUNCH SPONSOR FORM

## September 2015 to August 2016

Yes! I/we will sponsor Shabbat lunch.

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Requested Date(s) to Sponsor: \_\_\_\_\_

Occasion: In ( honor / memory ) of \_\_\_\_\_

### Type of Sponsorship:

\_\_\_ Full (\$150) \_\_\_ Partial (\$36, \$54, \$72, or an amount you can afford: \$\_\_\_\_\_)

If co-sponsoring please list the name(s) of those with whom you would like to co-sponsor:

\_\_\_\_\_

### Tell us what you like. We will do our best!

\_\_\_ bagels      \_\_\_ rye bread      \_\_\_ tuna      \_\_\_ egg salad      \_\_\_ lox      \_\_\_ hummus  
\_\_\_ cheese tray      \_\_\_ specialty salad      \_\_\_ chips      \_\_\_ veggie salad      \_\_\_ cake/pastry      \_\_\_ fruit

\_\_\_ Other Favorites: \_\_\_\_\_

Special Needs:      \_\_\_ gluten free      \_\_\_ dairy free      \_\_\_ nut free

## Etz Hayim Campaign

Thanks to everyone who have already donated copies of the new Etz Hayim chumash. The plan is to order them and have them in time for Simchat Torah, when we begin reading the book of Genesis once again.

Now is your opportunity to be part of this once in a generation opportunity by purchasing a copy of *Etz Hayim: A Torah Commentary*, to donate to Temple Beth Israel. A printed bookplate in the front cover of each book will recognize donors, and the friends, relatives, or life milestones to commemorate with this donation.

We are looking to purchase at least 50 copies, and start using them when we begin reading the Torah reading cycle again at Simchat Torah in the fall. The cost of one copy of the Etz Hayim chumash is \$50. If you are unable to contribute \$50, please make a smaller donation (\$36 or \$18 is recommended) to include your name on a bookplate with other donors. It would be great to have all of Shabbat morning "regulars" and other generous members and friends contribute to this campaign. Thanks in advance for your generous support.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

I WOULD LIKE TO DONATE ETZ HAYIM: A TORAH COMMENTARY to Temple Beth Israel.

\_\_\_\_\_ copies at \$50 each is \$\_\_\_\_\_ OR

\$\_\_\_\_\_ donation for a shared bookplate (amount less than \$50)



For each book, please list the donor's name, in honor / memory of, and the person or occasion being commemorated.

*(Continued from page 1)*

week after Tisha b'Av is Tu b'Av, the Jewish day of love, celebrated in Israel with great music festivals. Between mournful Av and celebratory Tishrei comes the intervening month of Elul. According to Rabbi Shneur Zalman of Liadi, 'the King is in the field' during Elul. Implied by this image, during most of the year God the King is unapproachable, distant, guarded by sentries and enclosed by castle walls. But in Elul, the King comes out into the field and everyone can be close to God during this time. Embracing both Tu b'Av and the month of Elul are the Seven Weeks of Consolation. These seven Shabbatot between Tisha b'Av and Rosh Hashanah are crowned each by a haftarah of consolation from the prophecies of Isaiah. Assuming that we touched some authentic transformative pain on Tisha b'Av, the Jewish calendar caresses us through these haftarot. It speaks gently to us and encourages us to stand before God with dignity and even joy on Rosh Hashanah.

The King will be in the field from August 16<sup>th</sup> (1 Elul) until Rosh Hashanah. May we all hear the voice of Bilaam's donkey crying out to us, "What did I do to you that you hurt me? Am I not your very own?" And once we have heard that voice of pain, may we be comforted, may we feel loved, feel the closeness of God, and may we be supported by God and by our community to do the work of personal and communal transformation that we are all called upon to do. For the sake of Justice, for the sake of Beauty, for the sake of God's holy name.

**Rabbi Finkelstein**

**Contact Rabbi David at [rabbidavid@tbiwaltham.org](mailto:rabbidavid@tbiwaltham.org) or 781-786-8679**

### **Join us on August 23rd for our General Meeting and Election of Officers**

Join us at 9:00 am for minyan and then Breakfast will follow. After breakfast we will hold our election of officers.

We will also have 2 other events on this day as well. After the election of officers, we will hold a vote on the proposed Temple bylaw changes, as approved by the Board. If you were unable to read the notice from Jim Baron online, please contact the Temple office and you can pick up your copy there.

After the meetings at the Temple, we will go over to the cemetery to consecrate our new Interfaith section.

**Please contact the Temple office to RSVP before  
August 19th.**





## YENTL the Yeshiva Boy

Yes, that's the name of the story the film YENTL was based upon. Although I enjoyed seeing it several times, I was ready to see it again on Sunday, June 28 at our Temple. But the showing was cancelled when nobody came to see it. And so, we have to know if the committee should keep movies on the calendar and schedule them next fiscal year.

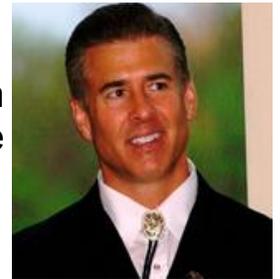
Drop us a note to express your thoughts. Are movies on your calendar? Do you have suggestions for favorite titles? If we receive sufficient positive replies, the show will go on. Otherwise, let's just say, "We tried."

Lester Macklin

## Sisterhood News

Did you know that Temple Beth Israel has a Sisterhood? The Sisterhood is open to all female members of Temple Beth Israel. Dues are \$10/year or \$150 for a lifetime membership.

**Save the Date:** The Sisterhood will be holding a breakfast on Sunday October 18th at 10am, featuring Trooper Dan as the entertainer.



Contact Nessie Baron 781-899-3866 or the Temple Office to join.

**Do you like to cook?**

Can you help with food shopping?



We're looking for a few volunteers who can help with food shopping or meal preparation for Shabbat lunches and dinners once or twice a month. Please call **Marge Marion** at

**[508-561-2338](tel:508-561-2338)** if interested.

## Save the Date

**On Saturday August 22, we will be holding a new member Shabbat Service. We hope to see you here!**





# August Yahrzeits



Plaque Loc.	Name	Date	
1-1	Dina Ella Backer	2-Aug	Av 17
	Karl Meiselman	2-Aug	Av 17
2-4	Fannie Zelinetsky	2-Aug	Av 17
5-3	Nathan Ullian	3-Aug	Av 18
2-4	Samuel Tatelman	3-Aug	Av 18
3-1	Sadye Canter	4-Aug	Av 19
	Mulcan bat Yosef	4-Aug	Av 19
3-3	Molly Sheer	4-Aug	Av 19
5-3	Harold Bloom	4-Aug	Av 19
1-4	Hannah Mollie Sheer	4-Aug	Av 19
	Adele Ullian	5-Aug	Av 20
	Hyman Kulin	5-Aug	Av 20
1-1	Samuel Blackstone	6-Aug	Av 21
	Nadia Shirazi	6-Aug	Av 21
2-3	Moses Nochemsohn	7-Aug	Av 22
1-3	Israel Pill	7-Aug	Av 22
5-3	Anna Esther Katz	7-Aug	Av 22
2-2	Walter Kaplan	10-Aug	Av 25
3-3	William Michaelson	11-Aug	Av 26
6-3	Harris Greene	11-Aug	Av 26
4-2	Blanche Levison	12-Aug	Av 27
	Katherine Sidell	12-Aug	Av 27
5-1	Jacob Solomon Merowitz	12-Aug	Av 27
6-1	Corinne Freeman	12-Aug	Av 27
2-3	Aaron Mendelsohn	13-Aug	Av 28
3-2	Ethel Griff	14-Aug	Av 29
	Oscar Davidson	15-Aug	Av 30
6-4	Anna Araten	16-Aug	Elul 01
4-4	Morris Potash	16-Aug	Elul 01
3-3	Sumner Mason Tirk	16-Aug	Elul 01
1-1	Louis Alpert	17-Aug	Elul 02
3-2	Ella Weiner	17-Aug	Elul 02
	Mother of Edith Weinstein	17-Aug	Elul 02
4-3	Rose Ritter	20-Aug	Elul 05
	Aaron Blauer	20-Aug	Elul 05
	Bertha Zellin	21-Aug	Elul 06
3-2	Cecelia Belle Freeman	21-Aug	Elul 06
	Alexander Freedman	22-Aug	Elul 07
2-4	Rachel Shecktman	22-Aug	Elul 07

Plaque Loc.	Name	Date	
1-2	Benjamin Greenblott	23-Aug	Elul 08
	Abraham Goldstein	23-Aug	Elul 08
6-2	Ruth Cormier	23-Aug	Elul 08
5-4	Carrie Altman	25-Aug	Elul 10
1-4	Sara Weinstein	25-Aug	Elul 10
5-4	Gayle Raye Schupak	25-Aug	Elul 10
5-4	Joseph Kennen	25-Aug	Elul 10
2-4	Samuel Wolf	26-Aug	Elul 11
3-2	Nathan Weiner	27-Aug	Elul 12
1-2	Louis Goldberg	28-Aug	Elul 13
2-3	Mary Nochemsohn	28-Aug	Elul 13
1-2	Harry Goldberg	29-Aug	Elul 14
3-1	Jennie Bernstein	29-Aug	Elul 14
5-2	Samuel Arnold	29-Aug	Elul 14
3-2	Anna Ginsburg	30-Aug	Elul 15
6-4	Hyman Cohen	30-Aug	Elul 15
4-2	Rose Jacobs	31-Aug	Elul 16
	Stanley Bloom	2-Sep	Elul 18
2-4	Rebecca Wolf	2-Sep	Elul 18
2-3	Daniel Leaken	3-Sep	Elul 19
	Morris Macklin	4-Sep	Elul 20
2-1	Bessie Aronie	4-Sep	Elul 20
2-3	Dorothy Nottenburg	4-Sep	Elul 20
1-2	David Feingold	5-Sep	Elul 21
1-3	Louis Kniznik	6-Sep	Elul 22
3-2	Sarah Mendelsohn	6-Sep	Elul 22
6-3	A. Harvey Cinamon	7-Sep	Elul 23
4-4	Louis Goldstein	8-Sep	Elul 24
3-3	Annie Siegel	8-Sep	Elul 24
5-3	Hedwig Benedick	9-Sep	Elul 25
4-4	Abraham Crevoshay	9-Sep	Elul 25

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

Please call if you will be attending a weekday morning minyan to say Kaddish so we can help you ensure that 10 people are present.

## Thank You

**Thanks to those who read Torah, Haftarah, or gave a D'var Torah in July:**

Yosi Weintraub	Cantor Ellen Band
Alan Levine	Caroline Nudelman
Rabbi David Finkelstein	Rabbi Sara Meirowitz
Genevieve Fosa	Mark Frydenberg
Bruce Trager	Merrill Griff
Yaron Shragai	Noah Ben Aaron
Susan Holbert	

Please contact [mark@tbiwaltham.org](mailto:mark@tbiwaltham.org) to volunteer to read from the Torah or chant a Haftarah, or [susan@theindexpros.com](mailto:susan@theindexpros.com) if you would like to give a d'var torah in the coming months.

## Etz Hayim Donations

Robert Macauley  
Irving and Sheila Lesnick  
Jonathan Schiff  
Brad and Dina Baker

## Donations

Louis Goldman, in memory of Louise Goldman.  
Esther Keaney, in memory of Helen Keaney.  
Robert Macauley, in honor of The Kitchen Crew.

## Welcome New Members

Laurel Ann Brody

## Saturday Kiddush Sponsors

August 1— Sisterhood  
August 22— Brad and Dina Baker, in memory of Bernard Wolfman

**To sponsor a Kiddush lunch,  
please contact the temple office.**

## OPEN HOUSE

### New and Prospective Member Shabbat

The New Member Shabbat will be on Saturday, August 22 at 9 A.M. These services are a multi generational event, as parents and grandparents participate before the children attending an auxiliary service join us for Adon Olam in the Sanctuary and lunch in the Social Hall.

You will notice a mix of newer and longtime members, guests, and friends, coming together with spiritual singing, a teaching or story by Rabbi Finkelstein, a home cooked kiddush/lunch, and good conversation.

Please invite friends who are looking for a synagogue or might have an interest in Temple Beth Israel. We welcome our members, their families, and prospective members as our guests.

Ellen Macklin  
Membership Secretary



## Shabbat Service and Dinner Friday, August 21st, 6:30pm TBI BBQ



Please let us know if you have any special dietary needs when you sign up.

Service begins at 6:30pm

Dinner begins after services around 7:30pm

\$18 per adult, \$42 per family if paid by the Wed. before the dinner  
\$21 per adult, \$51 per family for late reservations

## Thursday Classes with Rabbi Finkelstein

There will be no classes during the Summer months.

### Election of Officers

The Nominating Committee has chosen the following as their slate of officers:

President:	Mark Frydenberg
Vice President:	Lester Macklin
Treasurer:	George Isaac
Secretary:	Genevieve Fosa
Membership Secretary:	Ellen Macklin

We also had one member step forward wishing to be listed on the ballot. Howard Trachtman will be running for Membership Secretary. At the general meeting on August 23rd, we will have a closed ballot vote. Please make every effort, if you are a Temple member, to attend this very important meeting.

### Beth Israel Cemetery

The cost for a single grave is \$2,200 for Temple members.

Non-members are charged an additional \$400 to become members of the Temple. The total for non-members is \$2,600 per grave.

Two graves together are considered a lot. For members a lot costs \$4,400 and for non-members it costs \$5,200

Please contact **Jay Trilling** of Menorah Cemetery Management Corporation, at (857)636-9440 for further information.

Jim Baron  
Cemetery Chairman

# August 2015

Sun      Mon      Tue      Wed      Thu      Fri      Sat

						1 Vaetchanan
2	3	4	5	6	7 7:38pm	8 Eikev
9	10	11	12	13	14 7:28pm	15 Re'eh
16	17	18	19	20	21 7:18pm Friday Night Service and Dinner 6:30pm	22 Shoftim New Member Shabbat
23 Temple General Meeting 9:00am Baseball Game 1:30pm	24	25	26	27	28 7:07pm	29 Ki Teitzei
30	31					

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

*stamp*

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Phone: 781-894-5146

E-mail: [office@tbiwaltham.org](mailto:office@tbiwaltham.org)  
Website: [www.tbiwaltham.org](http://www.tbiwaltham.org)

August 2015

**Donate on the web  
at  
[www.tbiwaltham.org](http://www.tbiwaltham.org)**

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## Temple Beth Israel Donation Form

For your convenience, please use this form to make your donations and send to:  
**Temple Beth Israel, 25 Harvard Street, 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 \_\_\_\_\_