Rabbi’s Reflections—On Friendship and Chosen Family

By: Rabbi David Finkelstein

When Edith Hollender passed away, on Sunday morning February 2nd, at the age of 93, there were two people in the room with her. On one side of her bed was her friend Phyllis DeMaine, and on the other was lifelong member of Temple Beth Israel, Jim Baron. Jim and Phyllis were holding Edith’s hands when she died. I had never met Phyllis during Mrs. Hollender’s lifetime, but I’ve known Jim since I started my rabbinate here. Jim connected us all to Edith - the whole community of Temple Beth Israel, past, present, and future - in her final moments. For that, I will be forever grateful to you, Jim.

What was Jim Baron to Edith Hollender - friend or family? Like many survivors of the Shoah, Mrs. Hollender lost her whole family - mother, father, sister, grandparents, and more. Somebody told me - maybe it was Hankus Netsky, or maybe Merrill Griff - that

(Continued on page 5)

Mark’s Remarks– Remembering Edith Hollender

By: Mark Frydenberg

Edith Grossman Hollender died on February 2nd. She was married to Morris Hollender, our Torah reader for more than 30 years at Temple Beth Israel, for 64 years, until his death in 2014. She celebrated her 93rd birthday on January 9th. Edith was born in Luchinev, a village in eastern Slovakia on the Hungarian border. She grew up in a small house heated by a wood stove, part of which was her father’s store. Edith was 18 and her younger sister named Judith was 12 when they came to Auschwitz. After the war, she was taken to a sanatorium operated by nuns to recover from her illnesses. She met Morris in the sanatorium in the Tatra Mountains, where he was recovering from tuberculosis. They married in 1950, after regaining their health. For their 50th wedding anniversary in 2000, the Hollenders traveled to Auschwitz and brought back dirt that they placed in Temple Beth Israel’s cemetery in remembrance of their parents and relatives who died in the Holocaust.

(Continued on page 3)
Notes from the Chesed/ Caring Committee Community Conversation

By: Devin Shmueli

On Sunday, February 16th, over a dozen people showed up to discuss the way we care for our community and how we hope to do so in the future! Knowing that questions would not be answered and processes were not discussed by the membership at large, conversation was limited to hopes for the future so that the Chesed committee can focus on the interests of the congregation. Many ideas were generated and, in order of priority as determined by participants in the community conversation, those ideas include: (1) Updating systems of communicating community care needs, (2) Addressing the needs of members who are not regularly with us, (3) Visiting and calling members who are experiencing a difficult time, (4) Approaching the needs of families with infants, children, and youth, (5) Creating a Chesed Listeners team, (6) Creating a prayer group and resources for prayers, and (7) Systems for caregiver support.

These ideas and the questions that arose with them will be discussed in the Chesed committee so that processes can be created to enact these ideas or address the various needs. We should celebrate the fact that three new Chesed Committee members have joined in this work. Likewise, everyone committed to being on the teams that supports the Chesed Committee in these various areas based on their interests, skills, and time availability. Everyone had the opportunity to decide what works for them. As these processes are put in place and these teams move forward in their work, guided by a Chesed Committee member, we will seek out interest from the congregation at large in joining these teams. Everyone will have the opportunity to commit to community care in some way!

Membership Committee Chair, Ramila Maystrovyks will be holding 2 events at her home in Weston.

1. Dinner to welcome new members (since 9/2019) at my house on 3/26/2020 at 6:00 pm. Invited new members should RSVP to email Ramilamay@gmail.com by 3/15/2020.
2. Membership committee meeting on 3/29/2020 at 1:00 pm
Mark’s Remarks  
(Continued from page 1)

While Morris received most of the recognition around the synagogue, Edith had her own set of accomplishments. She worked at the Herbarium at Harvard University where she was prepared specimens for mounting, and she wrote a paper published at Harvard on the impact of malnutrition, based interviews she conducted with Holocaust survivors.

Though the Hollenders had no children, their strong friendships in and out of the synagogue provided them with the family they didn’t have. Edith and Morris were the model Jewish parents or grandparents for everyone at Temple Beth Israel. Morris was the spiritual center, and Edith was the proud grandmother, who rummaged through her pocket book to find a piece of candy to give whenever anyone marking a special birthday or anniversary had an Aliyah.

I often visited Edith at Evans Park, where she lived in Newton. I brought her the latest issue of a Jewish magazine from Prague which was sent monthly to my home address; she would ask about people at the shul, complain that she had few visitors, talk about how much she misses Morris, and we would look at photos on my phone. It didn’t matter if she knew the people in the photos. She liked looking at pictures.

Edith was a great cook. She made chicken fricassee with boiled potatoes for Yom Tov and homemade blintzes on Shavuos. Every year at Purim she would make rum balls dipped in confectioner’s sugar, prune and poppy hamentashen, and lemon poppy cookies, and present them in decorative shalach manot boxes. Edith loved to make Russian potato salad – with peas, carrots, and boiled potatoes meticulously cut into equally sized cubes. And lots of mayo.

Edith once showed many of us how to make her favorite chicken paprikash for an Eastern-European themed Shabbat dinner at the Temple. She would carefully remove the skin from each chicken thigh, dip it in flour, and place it into the frying pan to sear before adding the other ingredients. It took us an hour to make four pieces of chicken. We were having about 50 people for dinner that night. Morris was getting tired, so they went home, and we changed the way we prepared her recipe.

Throughout her life and even through her last days, Edith tried to keep her world as simple as the small village where she spent her childhood. While she sometimes complained, she also learned to thrive by filling her world with music and magazines, colleagues and friends, her synagogue community, and her Evans Park community. She really enjoyed the activities there while she was able to attend them. Zichronah livrachah, may Edith Hollender be a blessing to all of us who knew her. And may her qualities of love, determination, simplicity and gratitude inspire us as we honor her life and her memory.
Shabbat Evening Services and Dinners

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<tr>
<th>Mar. 6</th>
<th>6:30 pm Services (no dinner)</th>
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<tr>
<td>Mar. 20</td>
<td>March 20: Services at 6:30 pm and Dinner following at Brandeis with Eli, Jacob, and the Masorti Minyan. You must sign up online to reserve your place. <a href="http://bit.ly/shabbat-dinner-brandeis">Click here to sign up</a> (Link to <a href="http://bit.ly/shabbat-dinner-brandeis">http://bit.ly/shabbat-dinner-brandeis</a>)</td>
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<td>Cost is $15.25 per person. If you don’t have internet access, send your payment to the TBI office by March 15 and we will sign you up.</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 8</td>
<td>No Shabbat Dinner in April. Join us for the First Night of Passover at our Community Seder!</td>
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Notice of Temple Beth Israel Annual Meeting and Elections

The Temple Beth Israel Annual Meeting will be held on **Sunday, June 7, 2020, at 10 am**. Breakfast will be served before the meeting, at 9:30 am. **Offices eligible for re-election at this meeting are Board Secretary and Membership Secretary, each for a two-year term.** A nominating committee recommends individuals for these offices. Linda Ungerleider is the contact person for the Nominating Committee. According to the Temple Bylaws, these milestones apply:

- If interested in being nominated for one of these offices, please contact Linda Ungerleider by March 9
- A slate of nominees from the nominating committee will be sent to the membership by April 23.
- Members not on the slate by the nominating committee have until May 8 to place themselves on the ballot
- The annual membership and election meeting will take place on Sunday, June 7, 2020.

To express your interest in being considered for nomination to the board in an elected position, or to recommend individual(s) with whom the nominating committee might speak about serving on the board, please speak with Linda Ungerleider, the contact person for the nominating committee, ulinda@gmail.com, 617-962-6347.

Thank You. — Mark Frydenberg, President

**TBI Bookshelf by Marilyn Racette**

This month Temple Beth Israel member Diana Korzenik will speak about her recently published book, *Lithuania to Brooklyn: The Rabbi Daniel and Minnie Shapiro Family*. Diana has written a very personal history of her family’s Jewish life in 19th century Lithuania. How did they decide to leave, what were the hazards of actually departing, and then settling in Brooklyn with millions of other refugees from inside the Pale? In Brooklyn, Diana’s maternal grandparents, Rabbi and Rebpetzin Shapiro, along with other immigrants, did their best to thrive, and to recreate the Jewish world they cherished. How did they meet the challenges? You can find a copy of Diana’s family history in the Biography section of our temple library.
Rabbi’s Reflections
By: Rabbi David Finkelstein

(Continued from page 1)

for many survivors, after the war, their cousins became their brothers and sisters. Extended family became nuclear family. But for the Hollenders, that didn’t happen. Instead, the community of Temple Beth Israel became their family. In that very real sense, Edith had family with her at the end.

Another way of choosing family, different from the Hollender’s informal Waltham family, is legal adoption of a child. Our community has been deeply blessed and will be deeply blessed by those who choose to adopt a child, sometimes more than one. The Biblical model for adoption is beautiful: it is the adoption of the baby Moses by the daughter of Pharaoh. A midrash says that God blessed the daughter of Pharaoh for her compassion toward Moses. Because she took the defenseless infant into her care and into her family, God took the daughter of Pharaoh, as it were, into God’s own family. And her name became Bityah or Batyah, the daughter of God.

Marriage and domestic partnership are also ways of choosing family, beyond the boundaries of the family into which we are born. The ancient rabbis of the Mishnah refer to marriage as kiddushin, which means “holiness,” like kiddish, kiddush, and kadosh. When we marry, we declare that our spouse is holy to us, consecrated, and set apart from all others with a special and incomparable status. We agree in marriage, in the words of the ketubah, to provide for the needs of our spouse and to help them pursue what is best for them. We make, together with our spouse, a new family.

Finally, there is family that used to bear the label of friendship, but which at some point transcended that label, and became just family. The blessing of friendship is of incalculable power. Those who are married still need friends. Those who have children need friends more than ever. Although we tend to associate the holiday of Purim with other things—costumes, noise-makers, hamantaschen—Purim is also the Jewish holiday of friendship. In addition to reading the Megillah and enjoying a festive meal, the central mitzvahs of Purim are the giving of gifts to friends and to those in need, the mitzvahs of mishloach manot or shalach manos and matanot laevyonim. We can learn from these mitzvot that what makes someone a friend or family member is that we are in a nurturing cycle of giving and receiving with them.

So in this joyous month of Adar, on this holiday of Purim, spread wide your net of friendship and family. Give gifts to those you love and to those in need, and give thanks for the blessings of love and care and connection that we call friendship, family, and community.

Happy Purim,

Rabbi David
rabbidavid@tbiwaltham.org

March Sermon Topics
By: Rabbi David Finkelstein

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<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>PARASHAH</th>
<th>SPEAKER</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mar 7</td>
<td>Tetzaveh (Zakhor)</td>
<td>Rabbi David</td>
<td>Purim: The Problem of Memory</td>
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<td>Mar 14</td>
<td>Ki Tissa (Parah)</td>
<td>Rabbi David</td>
<td>Pesach: Water and Purification</td>
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<td>Mar 28</td>
<td>Vayikra</td>
<td>Rabbi David</td>
<td>The Torah of Animals</td>
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Temple Beth Israel
Community Passover Seder
on the First Night of Passover, Wednesday April 8, 6:30 pm

Who's Coming?

Name(s) _____________________________________________

Phone ____________________________ Contact Email for this Reservation _____________________________

Fees
____ Adults at $36 per person _______
____ Children (ages 10-18) at $20 _______
____ Children under 10 (free) _______

Total Amount Enclosed ______

Dietary Concerns
____ Vegetarian Meals
____ Gluten Free Meals
____ Other (please specify)

How can you help before the Seder?
____ Go shopping
____ Kasher the kitchen
____ Cook or prepare food

How can you help on the day of the Seder?
____ Portion or serve food
____ Set tables
____ Clean up, wash dishes, reset the hall

How can you participate during the Seder?
____ Lead a favorite song, prayer, or melody? (describe______________________________ )
____ Read in English
____ Hide or Find the Afikoman
____ Sing!

What can you bring to make your table festive?
____ Candles and candlesticks
____ Empty Seder Plate ______ Cup of Elijah
____ Miriam's cup ______ Matzah cover
____ Flowers

To reserve your space, we must receive this form and your payment before Wednesday, April 1, 2020. Please send to Temple Beth Israel, 25 Harvard Street, Waltham, MA 02453. You also may reserve your space online at www.tbiwaltham.org (please contact us with additional information on this form or any special requests). Reservations made after Wednesday, April 1, 2020, must be confirmed with the Temple office, and will be honored based on availability. We regret that we cannot accept reservations or payments at the door.

For more information, please contact Temple Beth Israel at 781-894-5146 (office) or www.tbiwaltham.org (web). Temple Beth Israel is located at 25 Harvard Street, Waltham, just opposite Hannaford Supermarket. Parking is available.
Ta’anit Bekhorot: Fast of the First Born
Siyyum Following Morning Minyan
Breakfast with Mayor Jeanette McCarthy
Wednesday, April 8th 7:00 am

On the night the first born of the Egyptians were slain, the first born of the Israelites were saved. To remember the loss of the life and in gratitude for salvation, firstborn children fast on the day preceding Pesach. The fast begins at dawn on Tuesday April 7th and the common practice is to break the fast in the morning at a seudat mitzvah (a celebratory meal) following a siyyum, the celebration of the completion of study of a unit of Torah, Mishnah, or Talmud. The siyyum creates a joyful atmosphere that pushes aside the requirement to continue the fast.

The siyyum will take place immediately following morning minyan, Wednesday, April 8th at 7am.


POWER OF ATTORNEY FOR MECHIRAT HAMETZ

Note: If possible, all hametz should be eaten or removed before the holiday begins. Should this be financially difficult, the hametz may be stored in such a way that we are sure not to use it during the holiday and its actual ownership is transferred to a non-Jew until the holiday ends. Please complete this form, which must be received in the mail no later than Tuesday, April 7th, to make sure it gets to the Rabbi in time. You may deliver it to the Rabbi in person by 7:00 am, Wednesday, April 8th.

I, the undersigned, fully empower and permit Rabbi David Finkelstein to act in my behalf to sell all hametz possessed by me — knowingly or unknowingly — as defined by Torah and rabbinic law, and to lease all places wherein hametz owned may be found. Rabbi David Finkelstein has the full power and authority to assign or appoint a substitute to act in my behalf with all the same powers and authority that I have invested in the rabbi. This transaction will be in effect for the duration of Pesach, which this year begins with sundown of Wednesday April 8th and runs through nightfall of Thursday, April 16, 2020.

And to this I hereby affix my signature on this ______ day of __________________, in the year 2020.

Signed Name ____________________________________________

Printed Name ____________________________________________

Address ________________________________________________

________________________________________________________
Purim is Coming!

Monday, March 9th
beginning at 5:30pm

Kids' programming 5:30pm
Costume Parade: 6:30 pm
Ma'ariv 6:30 pm. Megillah reading 7pm

Don’t miss this year’s slide show that accompanies the reading, and nosh some hamentashen!
If you would like to chant a chapter of the megillah, please contact Rabbi David Finkelstein

Calling All Teens: PRE-PURIM TEEN MEETUP w/AKI

TBI members and friends ages 12-18 are invited to a Teen Meetup with Aki Yonekawa, TBI’s youth educator, on Sunday March 1st, 11:00am-1:00pm. Aki will lead learning, activities, and preparing of a presentation for our Purim Megillah reading. Teens are encouraged to attend the Megillah Reading, too (bring the whole family!). The Megillah Reading will happen this year on Monday evening March 9th, starting at 6:30 pm (kids activities begin at 5:30).

New: Event Participation Fund

TBI wants to ensure that all members of our community can attend Shabbat and Holiday meals and other TBI events. The newly created Event Participation Fund will make this possible.

Our Friday Night Dinner and Service has a standard fee of:

$18 / individual
$40 / family

On our website when you sign up, you can choose to pay the standard single, two-person or family fee for Shabbat dinner or a lower amount. If you choose a lower amount, simply note “Event Participation Fund” in the explanation. The fee you choose remains private.

If you register by mail or in person, simply note that it is an “other amount” for the event, on your check. If you are able to pay above the standard fee, we welcome you to do so and we will apply the excess to the Fund. This effort is well-funded, but if at any time it lacks funds we will allow only standard fees at that time.
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*Spring forward Don't forget to set clocks ahead one hour at 2a.m. Sunday.*

**Daylight Saving Time starts**

**Ta'anit Esther**

Spring forward

Don't forget to set clocks ahead one hour at 2a.m. Sunday.

**Torah Chanting (Trop) Workshop: From Basics to Tricks of the Trade**

10am-Noon in TBI Library

**Book Talk and Discussion with Diara Korzenik**

**Membership Committee meeting at the home of Ramila Maystrovsky**
March Yahreis

Eva Rothman Adar 1 05 1-Mar
Saul G. Ginsburg Adar 1 05 1-Mar
Vittal Crevoshay Adar 1 05 1-Mar
Ruth Gordon Adar 1 06 2-Mar
Annette Feinsand Adar 1 06 2-Mar
Philip Rosenfield Adar 1 06 2-Mar
Jacob Shay Adar 1 06 2-Mar
Maurice Katz Adar 1 06 2-Mar
Arthur Nochemsohn Adar 1 07 3-Mar
Marsha Goldstein Adar 1 07 3-Mar
Paul Keany Adar 1 08 4-Mar
Sonia Smith Adar 1 08 4-Mar
Minnie Milesky Adar 1 08 4-Mar
Esther bat Avraham Avinu Adar 2 09 5-Mar
Gnesia Crevoshay Adar 2 09 5-Mar
Louis Michelson Adar 1 10 6-Mar
Samuel Margolis Adar 1 10 6-Mar
Yetta Blackstone Adar 1 10 6-Mar
Harold Katz Adar 1 10 6-Mar
Harold Seltzer Adar 2 11 7-Mar
David Beecher Adar 1 11 7-Mar
Rose Cohen Adar 2 12 7-Mar
Frieda Resnick Adar 1 11 7-Mar
Marcia Slarsky Adar 1 12 8-Mar
Neil Baker Adar 1 12 8-Mar
Joseph Harris Adar 1 13 9-Mar
Ann Wolf Adar 1 13 9-Mar
Ira David Seltzer Adar 1 14 10-Mar
Harris Griff Adar 1 14 10-Mar
Jane Siegel Adar 1 14 10-Mar
William Milesky Adar 1 15 11-Mar
Max Ritter Adar 1 15 11-Mar
Philip Shapiro Adar 1 16 12-Mar
Edward Gilman Adar 1 17 13-Mar
Dr. Samuel Messer Adar 2 17 13-Mar
Al Bloom Adar 2 17 13-Mar
Yetta Fischer Adar 1 18 14-Mar
Fannie Beecher Adar 1 19 15-Mar
Louis Freedman Adar 1 19 15-Mar
Gertrude Levison Adar 1 19 15-Mar
Elizabeth Rosenberg Adar 2 20 16-Mar
Alex Lietsky Adar 1 20 16-Mar
Bernard Sharfman Adar 1 20 16-Mar
Robert Fox Adar 1 20 16-Mar
Sal Araten Adar 1 22 18-Mar
Dora Milesky Adar 1 22 18-Mar
Jennie Goldberg Adar 1 22 18-Mar
David Goldstein Adar 2 22 18-Mar
Martha Mikelsbank Adar 1 23 19-Mar
Rose Nussinow Adar 1 23 19-Mar
Gerald Woolf Adar 2 25 21-Mar
Rose Braverman Adar 1 25 21-Mar
Annie Alpert Adar 1 26 22-Mar
Judith Smith Adar 1 27 23-Mar
Leonard Kaufman Adar 1 27 23-Mar
Sandra Gustin Adar 1 27 23-Mar
Aaron Greenblatt Adar 1 27 23-Mar
Rose Wolk Adar 1 27 23-Mar
Bessie Levison Adar 1 28 24-Mar
Harry Wolf Adar 1 28 24-Mar
Clara Wiggetman Adar 1 28 24-Mar
Abraham Feinsand Adar 1 29 25-Mar
Aaron M Smith Adar 1 29 25-Mar
Alice Wolf Cohen Adar 1 29 25-Mar
Lena Smith Adar 1 29 25-Mar
Patricia Wexler Adar 2 29 25-Mar
Ruth Etta Gans Nisan 1 01 26-Mar
Pauline Chernoff Nisan 1 01 26-Mar
Louis Goldman Nisan 1 01 26-Mar
Claire Braitman Nisan 1 01 26-Mar
Wilbert Mayrent Nisan 1 02 27-Mar
Ethel Griff Nisan 1 02 27-Mar
Barbara Leboff Nisan 1 02 27-Mar
A. H. Sheer Nisan 1 02 27-Mar
Dr. Rosa Kubin Nisan 1 02 27-Mar
Phillip Levine Nisan 1 03 28-Mar
Julius "Yukie" Kennen Nisan 1 03 28-Mar
John Jacobs Nisan 1 04 29-Mar
Lillian Mallick Nisan 1 04 29-Mar

We wish a long life to our members who are observing a Yahreis in the coming weeks. If you would like assistance to arrange a minyan so that you may say kaddish for your loved ones, please contact the Temple office at least two days in advance.

- March 1 - Amy Rothman, in memory of her grandmother, Eva Rothman
- March 2 - Ellen Feinsand, in memory of her mother, Annette Feinsand
- March 4 - Esther Keany, in memory of her father, Paul Keany
- March 4 - Albert, Paul, & David Smith, in memory of their mother, Sonia Smith
- March 5 - Carol Master, in memory of her mother, Esther bat Avraham Avinu
- March 7 - Martin Koocher, in memory of his mother-in-law, Rose Cohen
- March 9 - Harry Wolf, in memory of his mother, Ann Wolf
- March 10 - Merrill Griff, in memory of his father, Harris Griff
- March 10 - Barbara Camann, in memory of her sister, Jane Siegel
- March 13 - Larry Bloom, in memory of his father, Al Bloom
- March 16 - Bruce Trager, in memory of his grandfather, Robert Fox
- March 18 - Marilyn Racette, in memory of her father, Sat Araten
- March 19 - Joan Taubman, in memory of her mother, Martha Mikelsbank
- March 21 - Caroline Nudelman, in memory of her mother, Rita Woolf
- March 23 - Albert Smith, in memory of his wife, Judith Smith
- March 25 - Ellen Feinsand, in memory of her father, Abraham Feinsand
- March 26 - Miriam Chernoff, in memory of her grandmother, Pauline Chernoff
- March 26 - Alan Goldman, in memory of his father, Louis Goldman
- March 26 - Robert Braitman, in memory of his mother, Claire Braitman
- March 27 - Sherry Mayrent, in memory of her father, Wilbert Mayrent
- March 28 - Alan Levine, in memory of his father, Philip Levine
- March 28 - Thelma Kennen, in memory of her husband, Yukie Kennen
- March 29 - Irving Mallick, in memory of his mother Lillian Mallick
Study Groups with Rabbi David

Torah Study Group: The Universal Human Story
Wednesday mornings, 11:00am-12:30pm
at Temple Beth Israel      March 4, May 6, June 3

After several months focusing on the Garden of Eden story in Genesis chapters 2 and 3, this Torah Study Group now continues with the rest of the universal human story, contained in Genesis chapters 4-11. With help from The Beginning of Wisdom by Leon R. Kass, and from classical and modern midrash, we will study the stories of Cain, Seth, Noah, and the Tower of Babel. Our main question: How does the Torah’s telling of these stories help us conduct lives of righteousness, kindness, and holiness today?

Talmud Study Group: The Most Significant Talmudic Discussions
Wednesday evenings, 7:00-8:30pm
at Temple Beth Israel      March 11, April 1, May 13, June 10

Beginning in Fall 2008, Professor Jon A. Levisohn of Brandeis University collected 25 responses to the question, “What are the Talmudic sugyot (topics or discussions) that every Jew ought to know, the most famous or significant Talmudic discussions?” The sugyot were chosen “for their theological and ideological significance, their contemporary practical significance, or their centrality in discussions among commentators. Or in some cases, perhaps their idiosyncrasy.” In this long-term learning project, I hope to learn every one of the 67 sugyot in the list. Let’s take the journey together. We’ll learn slowly and deliberately, taking one discussion at a time. There’s no rush. All texts will be provided in the original language (Hebrew and/or Aramaic) and in English translation. All are welcome. No prior familiarity with Talmud required.

News from the Social Justice Committee

Let’s continue to celebrate Jewish Disability, Awareness and Inclusion Month at TBI throughout the year! We welcome all who enter our community! We learn about their sameness and their differences! We care for one another!

Rabbi David’s Dvar Torah on February 21 reminded all of us that we need to stop seeing disability as a diagnosis. We need to start seeing disability as culture, as a valuable source of insight and other gifts to our and the greater community. Bias against people with a disability can make us see only a diagnosis, the “something” wrong” with the person. Most disabilities are not evident and we only know about it when informed. But when we free ourselves from bias, we can see the disability as culture. Yes, we can see that people with disabilities bring a perspective on religious communal life that can benefit us all. We were also introduced to Rabbi Darby Jared Leigh’s ASL translation of the Shema as an example of such benefit. Rabbi Julia Watts Belser’s reading of Ezekiel’s vision of the divine chariot is another example. (Ask Rabbi David why.)

The Social Justice committee in collaboration with the Rabbi, the Board of Directors and other committees continues to address the needs of our congregants in being and feeling included in our community. As a partner of the Ruderman Synagogue Inclusion Project, TBI has held discussions of welcoming and including those with disabilities related to mental health, as well as, vision, hearing and mobility. We provide handicap access to the Temple and sanctuary, flexible seating, main level reader’s table, large print books for services, readers and magnifiers, fidget tools and increased signage in low light areas. We have also improved our amplification system and insist that a microphone be used by all who are speaking. The RSIP grant has allowed us to hire an ADA approved architect to redesign the bathroom in the family room to make it handicapped accessible. Remodeling work should be completed this summer.

In continuing to address needs of all members, the Social Justice committee introduced the Event Participation Fund to allow all to participate in Temple events regardless of one’s ability to pay. We will sponsor a community conversation “Faces of our Families” on Sunday, May 3 from 10:00 to 12:00. Details to follow.

Lastly, we generously continue to donate to our partner organizations: Community Day Center (CDC), Africano and More Than Words. CDC is in need of new men’s underwear, socks for men and women, sweatshirts and spring jackets. They are always in need of shirts, jerseys, pants and shoes/sneakers for men and women. Thanks for filling the donation bins in the lobby.

—Linda Ungerleider and Dina Baker, Co-Chairs, Social Justice Committee
Thank you to the Office Painting Crew

A special shout out to the following for spending time during the month of February choosing colors, spackling, sanding, moving furniture, cleaning and painting the Temple office. That was a lot of work, and very much appreciated.

Jonathan Schiff
Devin Shmueli
Zach Roe
Annalise Barrett
Mila Maystrovsky
Ben Maystrovsky
Alan Levine
Julie Gagnon
Sara Noyovitz
Erica Mankin
Mark Frydenberg
Scott Tepper
Susan G Baron
Marilyn Racette
Catherine Cantrell

The Gift of Gabbai: By Phyllis Werlin

Recently, Rabbi David held a class at TBI to teach some enthusiastic congregants how to act as a Gabbai during our Torah service. The Rabbi’s class included Yaron Shragai, Erica Mackin, Devin Shmueli, Zach Roe, Eli Perr, Catherine Cantrell and current Gabbai’m Phyllis Werlin and Alan Levine. Traditionally, the Gabbai stands next to the Torah reader, following along in the Tikkun - a version of the text with vowels and trope markings (which are not present in the scroll), in order to correct the reader if an error is made in the reading.

In many synagogues, including TBI, there are two Gabbai’m, who flank the reader on each side, and who each have specific duties. While one assists the reader, the other Gabbai assists those who come up to say the blessings, making sure that the blessings are said correctly and that proper ritual is followed.

Some of the topics discussed in the class included: the proper reverence that should be shown during the Torah Service, such as standing when the ark is open; how to call up a person to do the blessings and how to assist them if they are unfamiliar with the rituals (such as touching their tallis or wimple to the scroll where the reading begins or ends) and asking

(Continued on page 13)
Book Talk & Discussion with Dr. Diana Korzenik
Sunday, March 22, 10 AM

The author, Dr. Diana Korzenik, a Brooklyn native and long-term TBI Waltham member, will describe the life history and research that tells the story—through one family’s history—of a vast pattern of Jewish Lithuanian migration to the United States around the turn to the 20th century. The author departs from generations of silence about the Old World, telling how her family’s documents and objects revealed this heroic generation’s cherished culture and their struggles to recreate it while surviving in an alien New World.

COST: $5.00 per person*

Call TBI @ 781-894-5146 or online at www.tbiwaltham.org
*Includes refreshments and snacks. Signed books available for $16 each.

Synagogue Skills Workshops w/Rabbi David
Torah Chanting (Trop) Workshop: From Basics to Tricks of the Trade
Sunday March 15, 10am-Noon in TBI Library

In this workshop, we will study a selection of trop marks and practice chanting them. We will learn about trop mark categories, the 3 functions of trop marks, pausal forms, the tvir rule, and how to improve your Biblical Hebrew. We will also diagram a few pesukim (verses), and discuss different strategies for learning to chant from a Torah scroll. Basic Hebrew reading recommended. No experience in Torah chanting necessary.
**Children’s Services**

Led by Aki Yonekawa, our monthly children's service includes singing, storytelling and movement and provides an opportunity to meet other families in the greater Waltham area. Children join the main service for Adon Olam, and the congregation then enjoys kiddush, challah and a light lunch. The program is geared for children ages 2-7 but all ages are welcome.

TBI services and events are open to the community and membership is not required to participate.

Temple Beth Israel provides babysitting every Shabbat from 10-12. We have a large, carpeted playroom downstairs with a variety of books, toys and games and sufficient space for both quiet and active play. Children are also joyfully welcome in the main service and often move between the playroom and services. For more information about children’s programming, please contact TBI office at (781) 894-5146.

**Future Dates:** Mar. 7, Apr. 4 and May 2

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**Community Havdalah**

**Saturday evening, March 14th at 7pm**

Join us for a small meal, games, fun conversations, and a songful havdallah ceremony. Seudah Shlishit, the 3rd meal of Shabbat, is at 7:00pm. Our havdallah ceremony starts at 7:40pm when Shabbat ends. We'll sing Shabbat away and enter a new week. All are welcome!

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**Temple Beth Israel Memorial Park**

**Purchasing Graves**

The cost for an individual grave in Temple Beth Israel Memorial Park for members is $2,200. The cost for non-members is $2,800, which includes one year of membership ($600).

Graves in the Kulanu interfaith section are sold in lots of two, at a total cost of $4,400 for members. The cost for non-members is $7,600 for a lot of two, which includes one year of family membership ($1,200).

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

—Jim Baron, Cemetery Committee Chair

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**Flags for Memorial Day**

On Monday, May 11th at 9:00am, Temple Beth Israel, the Stanley School 5th graders and the Waltham Veterans will be placing flags on the graves of veterans at Beth Israel Memorial Park. All are welcome to attend this ceremony.
Thank You

Donations

All March donations will be listed in the April newsletter due to the office renovation. Sorry for the inconvenience.

Shabbat Lunch Sponsors

March 14 - Diana Korzenik
March 21 - Caroline and Ben Nudelman

Sharing a light lunch after services each week strengthens and creates community. $150 sponsors one Shabbat lunch for 35 to 40 people, Contact the office to reserve your week today!

Yellow Candles

We will be distributing Yellow candles for Yom HaShoah to all members again this year. Yours should arrive by mail at the beginning of April. Your contribution supports our Yom HaShoah educational program.

Thank You
Thanks to those who read Torah, Haftarah, led a portion of the service, or gave a D’Var Torah recently:
• Rabbi David Finkelstein
• Rabbi Sara Meirowitz
• Cantor Ellen Band
• Elie Perr
• Jacob Smith
• Phyllis Werlin
• Caroline Nudelman
• Yosi Weintraub
• Mark Frydenberg
• Catherine Cantrell
• Zachary Roe
• Alan Levine
• Susan Baron
• Susan Holbert

Email readtorah@tbiwaltham.org to volunteer to read from the Torah or chant a Haftarah, or susan@theindexpros.com if you would like to give a D’var Torah in the coming months.

Security Update

Temple Beth Israel has installed a new security system. During office hours, please ring the outside doorbell or call the office from your mobile phone to be buzzed in.

During services and special events, we will unlock the front doors and a Temple member will greet anyone coming in. If you are willing to be one of our greeters at Friday night or Saturday morning services or other events, please contact Marilyn Racette at marilynnracte@gmail.com. This is a new experience for all of us; thank you for your help in adjusting to it.

Membership Booklet Update

We will be printing a new edition of our membership directory this spring. If you would like to place an ad in the membership book, please contact Mila Mays trovsky (membership@tbiwaltham.org)

Prices are $100/full page, $50/half page/ $25 quarter-page/business card.

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 02453. You may also donate online at http://tbiwaltham.org/donate . The minimum donation amount is $10. Please add additional information on another sheet.

Attached is my donation check in the amount of $ ______. Please allocate it to the following funds:

___ General Fund ___ Event Participation Fund ___ Rabbi’s Discretionary Fund
___ Goldstein Prayerbook Fund ___ Morris Hollender Torah Fund ___ Children’s Services ___ Education Fund

This donation is being made ___ in honor of ___ in memory of ________________________________

This donation is made by: ________________________________ Please send acknowledgment to:
Name: ________________________________ Address: ________________________________
Address: ________________________________
# March Highlights

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Shabbat Services, 6:30 pm, No Dinner</td>
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<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Erev Purim, Kids Program 5:30; Maariv and Megillah Reading 6:30</td>
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<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Community Havdalah 5:30PM</td>
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<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>Shabbat Services and Dinner at Brandeis University with Eli, Jacob, and the Masorti Minyan, 6:30 pm—Sign up at <a href="http://bit.ly/shabbat-dinner-brandeis">http://bit.ly/shabbat-dinner-brandeis</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>Lithuania to Brooklyn Book Talk with Diana Korzenik, 10 am</td>
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## Morning Service Times

- Monday and Thursday, 7 am
- Shabbat Morning, 9 am

Please contact the Temple Office in advance if you would like help arranging a minyan because you are saying Kaddish.

## Connect with Us

- office@tbiwaltham.org
- www.tbiwaltham.org
- facebook.com/tbiwaltham
- @tbiwaltham