Volume 49. Issue 9 June 2024





Temple Talk

Brought To You By Rabbi Ben: Making Torah at TBI

By: Rabbi Benjamin Chaidell

On the evening of June 11, we will celebrate God giving us the Torah at Mount Sinai during the holiday of Shavuot.

Receiving the Torah is no passive act. Perhaps that is why the 16th century mystics established a tradition to stay up all night the eve of Shavuot to eagerly receive the Torah by studying its words. This became known as a tikkun, or correction, for the Jewish people sleeping the night God delivered to us the Torah.

Then, as now, we learned that we cannot sleep on the job of receiving Torah. It is an active act to absorb the teachings of God and our people into our lives. Each of us is given the responsibility and the privilege, as Dr. Arnold Eisen writes, to "take hold of Torah," symbolized by holding the roller of the Torah scroll when we recite the Torah blessings. The Torah belongs to all of us, and we must work to make it our own.

One of the things I love most about TBI is how active and participatory our community is in so many ways, including and especially in our study of Torah. I love that almost every time we read Torah, someone asks a question that challenges my understanding of the text. This active wrestling follows Jewish tradition to *derash* (seek out) new meanings in the Torah that speak to the ever-relevant power of Torah for our lives.

(Continued on page 5)

Presidents Message

By: Linda Ungerleider

The meaning of the word *ruach*, to me, has always meant feeling together with others. In fact, the word has several meanings, "wind," "breath," or "spirit". I would like to focus on spirit. Our TBI community has shown the spirit to welcome others, engage in learning, try new programs and grow together. Todah rabah to each and every one of you for your contribution(s).

To continue this "ruach", I am asking everyone to please attend our hybrid Annual Meeting on Sunday, June 23 to recognize our accomplishments and to show you how your continued spirit can propel us into the future. Listen to some new ideas brought forth by you, our members. Be a part of our growth. I am looking forward to paving the way for another amazing year!

Brought to you	1, 5
by Rabbi Ben	1, 5
Presidents Message	1
Learning Opportunities	2,3,4
Learning Opportunities	5
Annual Meeting	2
Zoom Links	8
Donations/Thank You's	9
Yahrzeits	10





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Shavuot 5784

Tikkun: Tuesday June 11, 7-9:30 PM, in-person at TBI and on Zoom here: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85866896770?

pwd=MkYwVVNpZitGalJtWDl3Q256eGJ1QT09

Celebrate the Torah at TBI at our Tikkun Leil Shavuot! Enjoy learning sessions by TBI Members

to gain new perspectives on our people's sacred story, as well as a dairy dessert kiddush with cheesecake and a short ma'ariv service.

SHAVUO1

Schedule:

7-7:15 PM: Refreshments

7:15-7:45:Tzvi Abusch:The Sights and Sounds of Revelation

7:45-8:15: Diana Korzenik: 1748: One Northern European Jew Entering British New York 8:30-9: Zach Roe: From the Mountains to Mount Sinai: Exploring the Shared Journeys of Appalachian and Jewish Diasporas

9 PM: Ma'ariv followed by more cheesecake!

Join us Wednesday June 12 and Thursday June 13 at 9:30 AM for Yomtov Holiday Morning Services in-person and over Zoom (https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85866896770?pwd=MkYwVVNpZitGalJtWDI3Q256eGJ1QT09).

Yizkor will be recited Thursday morning at approximately 10:30 AM.

Temple Annual Meeting

Sunday June 23rd Beginning at 10:15am

Join us on Sunday June 9th beginning at 9:00am for minyan followed by a light breakfast. The Annual Meeting will begin promptly at 10:15am in the sanctuary.

The annual meeting will be on Zoom at our regular service link: <u>Click Here to join in.</u>

Yiddush Literature with Martha Tolpin

Yiddish stories, "the classics," with Martha Tolpin will continue on **Saturday, June 15** after Kiddush (approximately 1 PM) with "My Brother Eliyahu's Drink" (i.e. "kvass") from Motl the Cantor's Son by Sholem Aleichem. Click here to read the story, or pick up a copy on the table in the lobby. The program will be accessible by Zoom on the same link as services: Click Here





Shabbat in the Park!

Kaballat Shabbat at Prospect Hill Park (Base Area Pavilion) Friday June 7, 6 PM

Join us for an informal Kaballat Shabbat service in the park!

**Bring your own lawn chair, water, and a Shabbat picnic dinner to enjoy together.

Wear comfortable outdoor clothing.

We will provide prayerbooks, challah and grape juice and a limited number of chairs; please bring your own chair (or picnic blanket) to ensure you have a place to sit.

Directions to Base Area Pavilion:

Park at Prospect Hill Park main entrance parking lot (314 Totten Pond Road).

For closest parking, make right in main parking lot and loop around to the left to the parking lot in front of the splash pool. Walk past splash pool and playground and park buildings to the pavilion.

Click Here to join Online with Zoom

Rabbi Ben's Upcoming Programs

Classes unless otherwise noted, will be held in-person with a Zoom option available to those unable to attend in person. To attend, please contact Rabbi Ben at rabbiben@tbiwaltham.org or 781-894-5146. Zoom links will be made available the week before each event.

- **1.** Minyan, Light Breakfast and Annual Meeting Sunday June 23rd at 9 AM, in-person and on Zoom. Click Here. **Join us for minyan at 9 AM and a light breakfast at 9:45, in-person and on the same Zoom link above.
- ***After breakfast, we will begin the Annual Meeting, no Hot Topic Discussion this month.
- 2. Jewish Prayer 2.0: How, What, and Why We Pray will return in July
- 3. New Lens on the Weekly Parsha June 20 at 12:00pm on Zoom only Click Here.



Free Safety Training Offered by CJP Sunday - June 9th

Cp Combined Invited Philambropies

Your attendance at this upcoming training will make TBI safer.

AED/CPR/First Aid on June 9 at 3:00 with supper provided. You will get a program card good for 2 years.

Please contact the Temple Office to register for this training.



Sunday June 16, 10 AM-4 PM at Waltham Common

Represent TBI at Waltham Pride alongside leaders from local faith communities. This community celebration on the Common celebrates inclusion of LGBTQ folks in our City. For the first time, we will be joining local faith communities to demonstrate our commitment to inclusion in the

neighborhood. We are looking for volunteers to staff our table in 2 hour shifts; this is a great opportunity to reach out to potential members, get to know members of other faith communities, and demonstrate our community's values of inclusion. Contact Rabbi Ben at rabbiben@tbiwaltham.org if you are interested in helping.



Rabbi Ben's Office Hours

Wednesdays from 9:30am –10:00am will be Zoom Only. <u>Click</u> Here to enter the zoom room.

From 10:00am - 12:00pm you can make an appointment or just

drop in, understanding they may need to wait if someone is already with me.

Social Justice Committee

Chair: Joshua Mandell

- The Community Day Center (collection bin in the lobby) is looking for, t-shirts, new socks, mens underwear, size medium and large, women's and men's spring and summer clothes.
- There is a bin in our lobby for used books that are donated to More than Words.
- We are collecting canned salmon for the Family Table. Please place your donations in the wood bin in the Temple Lobby.
- Watch for further information about an upcoming talk from a Boston University professor as part of our participation in the Kulanu Initiative.



Rosh Hodesh Group - Sunday July 7th @ 5-6pm TBI Lobby

Rosh Hodesh has traditionally been a time when women would not work; instead, they would get together to celebrate with food, wine, etc. TBI has started its own Rosh Hodesh group for those identifying as female.

The meeting will be held on Sunday, July 7th @ 5:00 pm in the TBI alcove for Rosh Chodesh Tammuz bring your favorite Israeli snack, beverage, story, etc. to share. please email me at dickinsondr@hotmail.com.

RSVPs are appreciated.

Next Program will be August 4th - Rosh Chodesh Av

Contact Denise Dickinson at <u>dickinsondr@hotmail.com</u> for questions, etc.

Mental Health Panel June 9th from 10:30am-Noon

Temple Beth Israel will be holding a mental health panel in person and on zoom on **Sunday**, **June**9th from 10:30am-12noon

Rabbi Ben Chaidell will be moderating a panel of three TBI Waltham members: Catherine Cantrell, Melissa Talal and Howard Trachtman.

We will talk about our Judaism and mental health, a little bit of our recovery stories, and resources including National Alliance on Mental Illness, Recovery Learning Communities, peer support lines, 12 step programs and more!

There will be light refreshments at 10:30am; panel from 11am to 12noon. **We are asking people to register for the event.**

Please email Howard Trachtman with any questions at hdt@namiboston.org or call him at (781) 642-0368.

This event will be open to the public so please share with others and other organizations. Here is the registration form for the Health Panel. This includes a registration for the Zoom link. Everyone should start here.

https://forms.gle/3f68XdZwLTs6Nwo57

Brought To You By Rabbi Ben: Making Torah at TBI

By: Rabbi Benjamin Chaidell

(Continued from page 1)

I am excited to join you to learn new meanings of Torah at our tikkun on Tuesday evening June 11 at 7 PM. We will enjoy three perspectives on the Jewish people's story by Tzvi, Diana, and Zach, who will each illustrate how Torah carries through different generations of Jewish community.

Throughout this month there will be opportunities to derash new meanings on our Torah and our story. Martha will lead our next Yiddish story discussion on June 15, and Diana our portraits program on June 29. Howard will spearhead our mental health panel on June 9, which will highlight the Torah's role in wellness. On June 16 we will share our Torah of inclusion at Waltham Pride. And lastly, on June 23 at our annual meeting, we will reflect on this year and look ahead to the next year in our community. We are part of the unfolding story of Torah in the world.

I am excited to join with you to actively receive the Torah's message for us today and to contribute TBI's unique perspective to the Torah of our people!

Chag Sameach!

Rabbi Ben



Portraits - Bruce Trager Interview transcribed by Sarah Trager

Diana interviewed Bruce Trager on May 11 as part of her community series to learn more about TBI's members. Below is a recap of Bruce's interview.

Bruce was born at Beth Israel Hospital in Boston, MA and spent most of his childhood living in a three-decker in Dorchester: On the top floor lived his maternal grandparents who arrived from Europe (Austrian territory in what is now modern-day Ukraine) in 1906. Bruce lived with his parents and older brother in the middle apartment, and his maternal aunt and uncle lived together on the first floor.

His earliest memories are of his grandfather taking him for walks around the neighborhood in his carriage. Quality time with family was a big part of his upbringing as his mother was the youngest of 6 children and his father was the youngest of 5. There were always dinners and gatherings with cousins and extended family. Passover seders were particularly memorable for him as his parents would host a big crowd and his grandfather would lead the service. He still uses his grandfather's haggadah at his own seders today.

Early Jewish education has been a formative element of shaping his Jewish practice. Starting at the age of 7, Bruce attended Hebrew school 5 days/week (Sunday-Thursday) at his family's Conservative synagogue. He also learned to leyn there as they hosted children's services where the boys would lead the kids in prayer each Shabbat. In high school, he attended Prozdor at Hebrew College. He did not return to his Jewish studies until his early 30s when he began studying Talmud with Rabbi Posner in a weekly study group. He has been involved in this group for 30+ years.

Professionally, Bruce pursued a career in criminal justice which began during his undergraduate studies at UMass Amherst. There, he studied sociology with a focus in criminology and later pursued two graduate degrees: an MA in Criminology and Police Administration at Northeastern and a JD from Suffolk University. Before his 30+ year career working as a prosecutor for the Attorney Generals Office for the Commonwealth of MA, Bruce conducted various research studies on law enforcement and criminology, spent some time in Kansas as a regional criminal justice planner, and worked with at risk youth across Massachusetts. After 32 years prosecuting criminal labor cases, Bruce retired in 2020.

In addition to pursuing a professional career, Bruce also raised a family in Waltham with his wife, Jill. Together, they have two daughters, Sarah and Shoshana. Both attended Jewish Day School. When asked what he is most proud of in his life, Bruce shared, "my children".

Before joining TBI, Bruce and his wife, Jill were members of the Tremont Street Shul. Despite living in Waltham, they attended weekly Shabbat services and holiday services there for several decades while their two daughters were growing up. Both girls had their bat mitzvahs at Tremont Street Shul. Bruce started attending TBI in 1995 because he was looking for a daily minyan to say kaddish for his dad. He has since become more active in TBI: serving on the board, leading the search committee for a new rabbi, supporting different parts of the shabbat service, etc. The TBI community is grateful for Bruce's many contributions. As one congregant shared at the interview, "Bruce is a pillar of our community and I so appreciate the man who can do anything here".



The Next Portraits: Facilitated by Diana Korzenik will feature: Ben Nudelman

Join us on Saturday, June 29th after Kiddush for our next Portraits featuring Ben Nudelman.



In the month of May we were blessed to hold two Brit Milah's. Carol, Ben and Baby Rowan on the right, and Hadassah, Denis and Baby Jerimiah on the left.









Memorial Day on Waltham Common and at Beth Israel Memorial Park with Stanley School 5th Graders helping set flags for our veterans.











We meet by computer, by phone, and in person (though we do close the building temporarily in COVID-19 surges—please check the website).

To join by phone--no computer needed: Dial (301)-715-8592. You will hear a prompt to enter a meeting ID. Enter the meeting ID, followed by #. In the listing of events below, we show the meeting ID for each event.

To join by computer or mobile device, visit <u>zoom.us</u> in a web browser, click *Join a Meeting*, and enter the meeting ID and password for the event (or click the direct link to the event posted on our website or in our weekly email update). **The current list of events appears below**.

For the latest schedule of online events, visit http://www.tbiwaltham.org/.

Dates	June	Mooting ID
Dales	Shabbat Services Online	Meeting ID
June 7	Services in the Park 6:00pm at Prospect Hill Park	
		Click Here to Join
June 14, 21, 28	Shabbat Service - 5:30 pm - 6:00 pm Online only	
June 8, 15, 22, 29	Shabbat Morning In-house and Online 9:30 am	Click Here to Join
Thursday Morning Minyan		
June 6, 20, 28	Morning Minyan 8:00 am Online only	Click Here to Join
	Sunday Morning Minyan	
June 23	Morning Minyan & Light Breakfast 9:00am Rabbi Ben Teaching 10:00am	Click Here to Join
All Online Services	All Online Services	858 6689 6770 pw: TBIservice

Rabbi Ben's Monthly Classes

Not until July	Jewish Prayer 2.0: How, What, and Why We Pray	Contact Rabbi Ben if Interested. Zoom Link available the week before the program
June 20	New Lenses on the Weekly Parsha - Online Only Third Thursday of the month at 12pm	Contact Rabbi Ben if Interested. Zoom Link available the week before the program
June 23	Minyan and Breakfast only 9:00am in house and online	This program can be viewed on the Service Zoom link above.

T

Donations

Saturday Kiddush Donations

- June 8 Tzvi Abusch and Martha Tolpin
- July 6 Sylvia Hobbs

Sharing a light lunch after services each week strengthens and creates community. \$200 sponsors one Shabbat lunch for up to 40 people. Contact the office to reserve your week today!

General Fund Donations

 Diana Korzenik, in honor of Rabbi Ben for a wonderful seder.

Please consider making a donation in memory of a loved one listed on our yahrzeit page, or in honor of a special someone's life cycle event. You can use the form on page 11 and send in a check or donate online at our website using a credit card.

Thank You to everyone that volunteers to help make services, kiddushes and other special events, on Shabbat and Holidays run smoothly. We could not do this without each of you.

Thank You

Thanks to those who read Torah, Haftarah, led a portion of the service, were a gabbai, or gave a D'var Torah recently.

Please <u>CLICK HERE</u> to volunteer to be gabbai, to read from the Torah or chant a Haftarah, or sponsor a kiddush or contact Mark Frydenberg or Rabbi Ben if you would like to give a D'var Torah in the coming months.

GIVE FREELY

Introducing a new & exciting way for you, your friends & family to support Temple Beth Israel.

Generate a \$10 donation to Temple Beth Israel for free, in under 60 seconds. Here's how: Give Freely is an online shopping assistant that finds you savings at over 10,000 stores and also generates donations to Temple Beth Israel when you shop, at no cost to you. It's super easy to install on your desktop browser, and when you do Give Freely will make a \$10 donation to Temple Beth Israel in your name. Visit [CLICK HERE] to install.

Programs coming in future months

- Kabbalat Shabbat Under the Stars Friday August 2, at the home of Dina and Brad Baker
- Whale Watch
- Havdallah and a Movie
- Tai Chi

We wish a long life to our members who are observing a Yahrzeit in the coming weeks.

If your loved one is remembered here, we remind you that it is customary to acknowledge the yahrzeit with tzedakah. TBI appreciates any gift you wish to make in memory of your loved ones.

June Yahrzeits

- June 1 Sue Schy, in memory of her aunt, Sadie Glanz
- June 4 Zach Roe, in memory of Henry Mefford Roe
- June 8 Miriam Chernoff, in memory of Jack Bloom
- June 10 Willy Schild, in memory of Ruth Schild
- June 11 Ed Kaufman, in memory of Joseph Kaufman
- June 13 Bruce Trager, in memory of Jack Trager
- June 14 Stanley Goldstein, in memory of Carl Goldstein
- June 14 Jill Stanton, in memory of Myron Stanton
- June 16 Marilyn Racette, in memory of her grandmother, Grete Araten
- June 19 Sylvia Hobbs, in memory of her mother, Beatrice Hobbs
- June 21 Miriam Chernoff, in memory of Ida Ullman
- June 21 Steven Zieff, in memory of Irene Zieff
- June 22 Barbara Camann, in memory of Steven Siegel
- June 23 Alan Levine, in memory of his mother Lillian Levine
- June 24 Howard Trachtman, in memory of his birth mother, Sheila Loretta Reback
- June 24 Mark Frydenberg, in memory of his father, Bernie Frydenberg
- June 29 Martin Taubman, in memory of George Mikelbank

July Yahrzeits

- July 8 Merrill Griff, in memory of Barbara Griff Kappitt
- July 9 Michael Tyutyunik, in memory of his mother, Liliya Tyutyunik
- July 12 Julian Webb, in memory of Manya Webb
- July 12 Ellen Zane, in memory of her father Sam Weinstein
- July 14 Eleanor Baker, in memory of her father, Harry Baker
- July 15 Arthur Marion, in memory of his father, Harry Marion
- July 16 Ben Nudelman, in memory of Alex Greenbaum
- July 17 Carol Halberstadt, in memory of Maneham Snyder
- July 20 Erika Cohen, in memory of her husband Ben Cohen
- July 20 Dianne Levine, in memory of her husband, Mark Levine
- July 22 Ben Nudelman, in memory of Mark Nudelman
- July 25 Alan Levine, in memory of Bessie Levine Hauser
- July 26 Arthur and Margie Marion, in memory of their son, Marc David Marion
- July 28 Barbara Camann, in memory of Charlotte Cohen
- July 30 Frank Orovitz, in memory of Irma Orovitz
- July 30 Merrill Griff, in memory of Mason Griff





Temple Beth Israel Memorial Park

Temple Beth Israel has maintained a cemetery for its members since 1951. Beth Israel Memorial Park is located on South Street, between the Stanley Elementary School and Children's Hospital. Graves are available in Section A (the right side as you enter the cemetery), Section B (the left side as you enter the cemetery) and in Kulanu (the left side, after Section B). The cost to purchase an individual

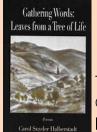
grave in Sections A or B for Temple members is \$2,200 (\$4,400 for two). The cost for non-members is \$3,600 per grave, which includes one year of membership.

You must be a Temple member for two or more consecutive years to take advantage of Member pricing; Non-member pricing applies to all others.

Kulanu is dedicated to serving the needs of Jewish Temple members who are married to a non-Jewish Graves in the Kulanu interfaith section are sold in lots of two, at a total cost of \$4,400 for The cost for non-members is \$7,200 for a lot of two, which includes one year of family members. membership.

If you are interested in purchasing one or more graves, please contact Jay Trilling of Menorah Cemetery Management Corporation at (857) 636-9440.

—Jim Baron and Alan Levine **Cemetery Committee Chairs**



TBI Bookshelf

By Marilyn Racette

This month I want to offer thanks to TBI member Carol Snyder Halberstadt for contributing a volume of her poetry to the TBI library, Gathering Words: Leaves from a Tree of Life. Carol is a truly gifted poet. Her work, rooted in natural images, steeped in our Judaic heritage, family, and our human condition, is rich with resilience, hope, and endurance. Carol has also created cover art and

woodcut illustrations for this volume. I hope you will make some time to read at least a few of her poems when you come to temple and see her book displayed. I think it will be time well spent.

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 additio information on another sheet.				
	f \$ Please allocate it to the following funds.			
, ,	n Fund Rabbi's Discretionary FundHigh Holiday Fund ter FundSaturday Kiddush Fund -(Minimum \$200)			
This donation is being made in honor of in memory of				
This donation is made by:	Please send acknowledgment to:			
Name:	Name:			
Address:	Address:			
tate/Zip City/State/Zip				



Help us save on postage!

Pick up your copy of Temple Talk at the synagogue or read it online at www.tbiwaltham.org.

Mark Your Calendar! June Highlights

Friday Night Shabbat Service	Kabbalat Shabbat Service Shabbat in the Park see page 3 Welcoming Shabbat Service online only- 5:30—6:00 all other Fridays	
Shabbat Morning	Shabbat Morning Services - at 9:30am In House and Online	
Shavuot Services	See Page 2 for Details	
TBI Portraits	See page 6 for details	
Check out our Programs	See page 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 for details	
CJP SAFETY TRAINING	See Page 3	
Annual Meeting	See Page 2 for Details	