

# Hakol

*the voice of temple beth david*



TEMPLE BETH DAVID

Vol. XII No. 4

Kislev/Tevet 5778

December 2017

## Temple Beth David Phone Directory

(631) 499-0915

Please note the change of the  
three digit extensions

	<u>Extension</u>
Shari Chaikin	313
Caterer	315
Clergy Office	312
Custodial Staff	328
Temple Office	310
Temple President	357
Religious School	317

Can't get to *Shabbat* Service?  
Call to hear Friday Service live via telephone

499-1034 or 499-1043



## *Rabbi's Message by Rabbi Beth H. Klafter*

Dear Friends,

On the morning of Rosh HaShana, I delivered words composed and shared by hundreds of my colleagues, largely in response to the events in Charlottesville, VA during the summer. As I said then, those events and others since then, are a wake-up call. I spoke:

*Anti-Semitism and any form of racism are not acceptable. Not in our towns, not in our country. The shout of the white supremacists and Nazi sympathizers is clear: "We will not let the Jews replace us," they chanted. Their fiery torches illuminated another truth, one we learn and forget only to learn again this day: if one minority group's rights are threatened, we are all threatened. As Martin Luther King, Jr. taught us, "We are all tied together in a single garment of destiny."*

One of the local responses to those events was the founding of LIICAH, Long Island Inclusive Communities Against Hate, by Dr. Eve Krief. I attended its first formal meeting in the days between Rosh HaShana and Yom Kippur, held at Huntington Jewish Center. Dr. Krief introduced herself, explaining that she does not have experience in politics or community organizing; she was profoundly moved by the events of the summer and the events in our nation. She sees the need to work together, across the lines of faith, of politics, of ethnicities and differences, to address local issues of hate. As Dr. Krief writes, "LIICAH is not a political group by its very nature. Regardless of our differing opinions on a wide variety of political issues, we must all stand together in unity against hate."

### LIICAH's Mission Statement

\*We seek to bring together community members, faith leaders, educators and civic leaders to stand together in a unified voice against hate.

\*We want to empower ourselves and the community by providing resources that we can all use when confronted by hate.

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# SAVE THE DATE! COMEDY NIGHT

presented by the TBD Ways and Means Committee

January 27<sup>th</sup> 2018 at 7:00PM

starring

**Steven Scott**

America's Got Talent Contestant

and

**Sherry Davey**

Single Mom, Actress, Comedienne



Don't miss TBD's annual laugh-fest! You supply your own desserts, snacks and "grownup" beverages. We supply non-stop fun, raffles, a 50/50 drawing and an evening of great comedy!

Just \$40 per person - guests welcome!  
Watch for the Acceptiva link on the TBD website.

TBD Comedy Night  
It's a Religious Experience.



TEMPLE BETH DAVID





## *Cantorial Notes by Rabbi/Cantor Audrey Halpern*

**D**ear Friends,

Ritual has always felt comfortable to me. It was that transcendent way of enacting and marking the sacred, the communal and the pivotal moments of life. Whether it is music, dance, symbolic foods, candles or wine, ritual never felt inauthentic or contrived to me. Rather, it held the potential to evoke and awaken my deepest religious and spiritual stirrings that defied words. I recently read an article by my favorite professor from Hebrew Union College, Dr. Lawrence A. Hoffman, "How Ritual Got a Bad Rap."

Dr. Hoffman explains that Jews have traditionally been more focused on study and didn't pay enough attention to how worship could be compelling. He posits that we don't always do it well and it "lasts far too long." There are traceable academic influences for our distaste for ritual among modern Jews and Dr. Hoffman points to three notable men of Jewish descent, Karl Marx, Sigmund Freud and Emile Durkheim. Whether it was an appeasing of the masses, as Marx suggests, or a neurosis as Freud suggests, the end result was that ritual was not always encouraged by the more intellectually gifted of our people.

It was, however, Ludwig Wittgenstein, an influential twentieth century philosopher, who discussed the limitations of language. Although he was dismissive of religion, he nonetheless concluded that the real problems of life "cannot be put into words."

Dr. Hoffman explains that ritual is a kind of "showing." He describes the evocative nature of listening to *Hatikvah*. His assertion is that beyond explaining it is a visceral experience that defies and goes far beyond what words can do. Ritual, he posits, when done well, can lend itself to that kind of knowing of truth and exhibition of realities that are beyond science and language.

The way we participate, Hoffman explains, is not merely by singing along or clapping or reading responsively. Rather it is by giving ourselves over to the drama of ritual and liturgy. It requires us to suspend our disbelief, the same way we would if we were at the theatre or the opera. Only then can certain truths reveal themselves to us in a way that the heart knows and feels is authentic and real.

Hoffman asserts that just as in theatre... "so too in worship, we must go along with the plot, so to speak, expecting that at the end, we will have experienced an aspect of human depth available nowhere else."

As we continue to explore worship and community and the rituals that bind us to generations past and future, may we always be willing to give our hearts the chance to remain open to the transcendence that ritual can offer.

B'Shalom,

*Cantor Audrey Halpern*

Rabbi/ Cantor Audrey Halpern

**December  
B'nai Mitzvah**



**December 2nd**

**Grant Faber  
Alina Mirman**

**Junior Choir Rehearsals**



**Tuesday, December 5 at 5:15 p.m.**

**Wednesday, December 6 at 5:15 p.m.**

**Tuesday, December 12 at 5:45 p.m.**

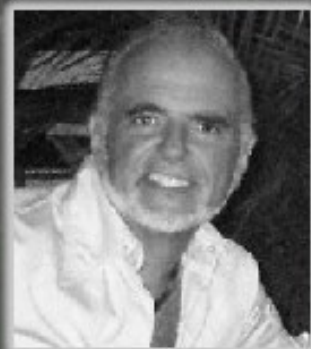
**Wednesday, December 13 at 5:45 p.m.**

**Friday, December 15 at 6:45 p.m.**

**Service at 8:00 p.m.**

# Temple Beth David

invites you to join us for  
Shabbat HaKavod "Shabbat of Honor"



## Celebrating the 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of **DR. GARY DE SESA**

Gary de Sesa's influence on Temple Beth David's worship and spiritual atmosphere can't be overstated. His Juilliard training and decades of experience are only matched by the calm, effortless presentation of music in our sanctuary, ranging from liturgical to simply enjoyable.

*(Can you name anyone else who can seamlessly transition from Adon Olam to the theme from "Star Wars?")*

His organ music, creativity and amazing appreciation of our congregation's worship traditions has filled our sanctuary in a way that is impossible to describe.

Gary de Sesa's accompaniment has been the perfect complement to the voices of our choirs, quartet, guests and Cantor Audrey Halpern for three decades.

**BRING YOUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS TO  
OUR SPECIAL SERVICE AND ONEG SHABBAT  
FRIDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2017 AT 7:30PM**



**TEMPLE BETH DAVID**

SHARING JEWISH LIFE - PROMOTING A SENSE OF COMMUNITY



The Temple Beth David Brotherhood  
invites you to join us for a very special Breakfast Presentation

# Anatomy of a Service

an open and lively exploration of the “who, what, where, when and why”  
questions you might have about our Friday evening *Shabbat* services.

**Presented by Temple Beth David's Duct of Divinity and Tour Guides of Theology**

**Rabbi Beth Klafter &  
Cantor Audrey Halpern**

**Sunday, December 3<sup>rd</sup> 9:00 – 10:30AM**

If you're like many members of the TBD Family, participating in our  
Friday evening services might include some moments where you:

- Wonder why we light the *Shabbat* candles, drink wine and eat challah.
- Can say the Hebrew words pretty well, but don't know what they mean.
- Really don't know the Hebrew, but you're able to mumble convincingly.
- Usually know when to bow or stand, but always wondered - why then?
- Never understood the difference between *Kiddush* and *Kedushah*.
- See someone doing something unique during a reading.
- Know that you should only touch the *Torah* with your *siddur* but... why?

**Bagels, Juice and Hot Beverages will be served free of charge.**

We hope you'll bring a few dollars and take part in our “Happy Dollars”  
activity. Guests donate any amount, and then share with the audience  
something special that makes them happy! (we also accept “sad dollars.”)

It's surprisingly meaningful, and completely optional.

This much-anticipated program is open to the entire Temple Beth David  
community, ages 16 and older. Bagels & “Happy Dollars” at 9:00.

Our program will run until 10:30AM, followed by a  
Brotherhood Planning Meeting open to all TBD Brotherhood Members.



TEMPLE BETH DAVID





### *My High School Semester In Israel by Jeremy Faust, age 16*

**H**ello from Kibbutz Tzuba in Israel! My name is Jeremy Faust and I've been going to Temple Beth David since I was born. For nine years I went to Jewish summer camp at Camp Eisner in Massachusetts. While I was there, there was a presentation done by the vice-principal at Heller High School in Israel, where they talked about the program and all the things a student would do. The program itself is a four-month semester where students go to school and take Jewish education classes along with regular school. Immediately when the presentation began I knew I was going. It sounded amazing. To spend four months in Israel with other people my age sounded like a lot of fun. About a year later, hundreds of pages of paperwork, and phone interviews, I was leaving JFK onwards to Tel Aviv International.

That was on August 27<sup>th</sup>. Today is November 9<sup>th</sup> and I'm almost halfway through my journey. Doing this program was probably one of the best decisions in my life. The number of amazing things I've done in the past two months has transformed me as a person and as a Jew. Our permanent home is in Hotel Tzuba at Kibbutz Tzuba. Tzuba is in the Judean hills about a 20 minute drive from Jerusalem. Here I go to school and take all my tests. Also on this Kibbutz, we eat our daily meals and spend most of days here. Of course, most days we leave the Kibbutz for a Jewish history trip. For example, yesterday we went to a prison in Jerusalem that used to jail Jewish resistance fighters who were caught using military tactics to terrorize the British rulers during the British Mandate period (1917-1947). In this prison, now a museum, we learned about the people who lived there and about the resistance groups they were a part of.

On a normal day without a Jewish history trip, I have two hours of Hebrew class and three hours of Jewish history class. Those two classes are the first part of my day, where after that I have lunch and have six general studies courses until dinner. That sounds overwhelming, but it really isn't! What helps is that my Hebrew and Jewish history classes are incredibly interesting and have taught me so much about what it means to being Jewish and a part of the Jewish culture. General studies are the classes I would be taking at home. These aren't that much fun, but the classes are small so that we can learn at faster pace. I am the only person in my math class and my larger class is physics, with 3 other people. Average days follow that pattern, yet the average days here happen only about half the time.

During the middle of September, we took a weeklong trip into the south. To be entirely honest, the Negev is so hot I couldn't go outside without sweating. We stayed at Kibbutz Yahel, which is one of the very few Reform Kibbutzim in Israel! It was an incredible experience (when I was inside, and with air conditioning). At this kibbutz we went to Yom Kippur services. Imagine three hours of high holiday services, in a language you can't understand. It wasn't that bad actually, the Rabbi showed mercy on our group and switched to English halfway through. During our trip we also took many day trips to Eilat, the southern-most city in Israel. Aside from the heat, I loved the city. It was full of malls and great food. The Red Sea was amazing as well! We went on a snorkeling expedition and talked about the history of Jordanian- Israeli relations. During the entirety of my trip, I could see Jordan at all times. It's an obvious border because the border is lined by the massive Jordan valley.

Coming to Israel there were many things I didn't expect. One is that Reform Judaism is not at all as prevalent as it is in the diaspora (Jews living outside of Israel). Being here, I realized I was a minority Jew. Along



with the Conservative Judaism, our form of pluralistic and liberal Judaism is practiced by a small fraction of the population. Israeli streams of Judaism would best be separated into traditional and secular. Most that are traditional here could be compared closely with the orthodox we see in the United States. Another culture shock I've experienced is that all food is kosher. It is not required by law, but most restaurants would lose most of their business if they weren't kosher! The only time I can have non-kosher food is when we are in secular cities like Tel Aviv. Although these things scared me at first, I embrace the Israel that exists today! It isn't perfect, but that means there is work to be done! In all, this country is amazing. The culture and the people make it my second home.

—Shalom  
Jeremy Faust



## Israeli Innovations

**T**his is the second in a series of articles aimed at expanding our understanding of Israel beyond the highly charged politics appearing in the mainstream media which include a negative bias about this small yet giant country at times.

Israel is about the size of New Jersey; it is smaller than Vancouver and can fit into California over 21 times. Sixty percent of its land is desert. Israel has very limited natural resources. What Israel does have though is one of the highest concentrations of academics, engineers and Ph.D.s per capita in the world. Its culture and educational system encourage creativity, ingenuity and “chutzpah”. Therefore, it may not surprise you to learn that Israel has become a world leader in innovation and technology. In the number of Start-Ups, it is second only to the United States. Google, Face Book, Apple and Microsoft all have established R&D facilities in Israel.

Below are just a few of some remarkable high tech developments Israel is contributing to the world.

**Driverless Cars:** Last spring the Israeli company Mobileye, the world leader in driverless car technology, was purchased by Intel. Mobileye uses lasers, sensors and mathematical formulas to analyze road conditions and warn of hazardous conditions. “The brains, eyes and the nerves of the smart vehicle are all created in Israel,” reported Dr. Anat Bonshtein, Director of Smart Mobility Initiative.

**Drones:** Delivery by small pilotless aircraft from the store to your door is coming soon. The “FedEx” of the drone delivery world is made by the Israeli company, Flytrex. Its software is able to set pick-up and delivery points. It also analyzes weather, topography and the location of other drones in the air. Amazon is already experimenting with the software in the United States and Great Britain. European postal services are also evaluating the use of these drones.

**Facial Recognition:** Israel's RealFace Technology, the leading developer of facial recognition software, was purchased by Apple. This software is available on all new releases of iPhones. In the future it will replace regular passwords. Variations of this technology will be coming out on iPads and other devices. Eventually, facial recognition software will be commonplace in banks, airports, and who knows where else.

**3D Food Printers:** Researchers at Hebrew University of Jerusalem have created a 3D printing technology that can produce nutritious food. It uses nano-cellulose, a natural and edible calorie-free fiber, along with protein powder, carbohydrates, fat, antioxidants and vitamins. The meal ingredients are loaded into a cartridge and cooked using infrared lights. Soon we could be producing tasty hamburgers and french fries with our own 3D food printers.

These are just a few of the amazing innovations currently coming out of Israel. If you are interested in staying current with Israel's new technologies, sign up for “Israel 21C's” or “NoCamels” e-newsletters.

—Debbie Friedman

*(Adapted from articles on the websites of the “Times of Israel,” “World Economic Forum,” “Israel 21C” and “NoCamels.”)*

## *From the President's Desk*

The Winter Quandary  
By Karin Brandsdorfer

**T**emple Beth David is a Reform Temple where we are very welcoming to mixed marriages and converts. As we don't follow the ultra-traditional interpretation of the Torah, we are faced with what to do at this time of year while the majority of the Long Island community celebrates Christmas. How should we deal with these social pressures?

I think most families, like our school age children, just want to blend in and not be singled out from the majority. It is hard to be an individual and to be proud to be different, especially at this time of year. Society has given us a way to try and blend in by giving us items like; The Mensch on the Bench, Chanukah Harry, the Chanukah bush, the front yard with blow-ups of dreidels and menorahs, and the beautiful Chanukah-themed tree ornaments. Let's not forget cookie swaps. Why are these cookie swaps done only at this time of year?

Are all the Christmas items bought because ages ago our Christian neighbors wanted to hold onto their Pagan traditions but they weren't allowed to worship false idols so they came up with a new way of thinking so it would still be acceptable to have their trees adorned with lights and ornaments? This is transvaluation; meaning to infuse old practices with new meanings. Are we Jews trying to do the same thing? Is it wrong to decorate with snowmen and other cold climate figures to brighten up this time of year? After all, these do not have a religious affiliation.

Isn't it all about bringing light to the spirit of family and friends and peace to all? Remember who you are and be proud of it!

Happy Chanukah!

### iGiving

Every purchase helps the Religious School and many specials benefit participants too!

Start iGiving in three easy steps:

1. Join iGive.com for FREE
2. Shop online at any of the 700 + stores in the iGive Network. You'll see all of your favorites, including amazon.com, Lands End, Staples, eBay and many more!
3. Temple Beth David Religious School receives a check for up to 26% of each purchase.



### KidStuff Coupon Books

**We** are selling the valuable, family-friendly KidStuff Coupon Books this fall!

Families **quickly and easily save** more than the \$25 cost of the KidStuff book...especially if they keep books in their cars! Our school earns at least a 50% profit per book!



KidStuff Coupon Books help save hundreds of dollars on clothing, shoes, toys, books, electronics, sporting goods, activities, food and more! Most coupons are valid immediately and offer savings through the end of the year. Also, your family earns one FREE book worth \$25 for every 5 books you sell!

Buy your KidStuff Book in the Religious School or main temple office.





## Shirley Offman Religious School News

On the first Friday of November, the Religious School hosted a Shabbat dinner before services that was open to the entire congregation. We had a very nice turnout, and it was a lovely dinner, very “haimisch.” A special thank you is due to Debra Hollander and Diane Kraut for their help with the Shabbat dinner. Afterwards, several seventh graders volunteered to participate in the Shabbat service. I derived great pride and pleasure in seeing how self-assured and confident our students have become. I may not be their parent but they are my “children.”

In December, some of our fifth graders will be on the bema to participate in a Shabbat service as well. I look forward to it and hope you are able to join us. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank Karin Brandsdorfer for her help with the Religious School Book Fair and thank the parents who volunteered to work at the Book Fair. We can't do it without your help!

Last month our PACT families participated in our own Mitzvah Day. We had some families volunteer at Long Island Cares, a local food bank, while other families went to Sunken Meadow. There, they had a choice to either help with beach clean-up or prepare the flora for winter at the Sunken Meadow Park. The families found this very gratifying. One student wrote, “It was so nice to give back to our community. Even though we worked hard, we liked seeing that we made a difference by making the beach a nicer place.”

Another family said, “On this beautiful Sunday morning, we had some very dedicated sand children

combing the beach for buried treasure, all the while doing a great job cleaning up any items left over from the summer season. At the same time, we decided to give yard tools to the PACT students and as a result cleaned up the overgrown grass and even found that there were sprinkler heads hiding underneath. You never know what treasures will be unearthed!”

As winter quickly approaches, we look for warmth from loving family and friends. I am fortunate to have both. However, there are many families on Long Island that have neither, and must rely on strangers to provide them with the necessities they don't have. The Brotherhood is running a Coat Drive this month. If your children have outgrown their outerwear or adults in the family have replaced theirs, please donate, so less fortunate people can use them.

Temple Beth David is holding our annual Chanukah Celebration on Sunday, December 17 from 11:00 -1:00. Please invite your family and friends to this terrific event. We will have inflatables, games, balloon twisting by “Brandini,” a Brotherhood production, and more. Don't miss it! There is no charge and it is “Fun for all ages!”

Our sixth graders will be visiting their “Adopted Grandparents” at Gurwin later this month to celebrate Chanukah together. They are really looking forward to their first meeting with them, and plan to sing Chanukah songs and show off their many talents!

I wish you all a wonderful Chanukah and Happy New Year!

*Shirley Offman*

—Shirley Offman

### Religious School Calendar Reminders:

- Sunday, December 3, Chanukah Sale, begins and continues during Religious School hours through December 6.
- Friday, December 8—5th Grade Service 8:00 p.m.
- Sunday, December 10—6th Grade PACT Foundation 9:15 a.m.-11:00 a.m.
- Friday, December 15—Junior Choir Rehearsal 6:45 p.m.  
Shabbat Service with Junior Choir 8:00 p.m.
- Sunday, December 17—Chanukah Experience 11:00 a.m.– 1:00 p.m.
- December 24 through January 1— No Religious School classes
- January 2—Classes resume



## TEMPLE BETH DAVID SISTERHOOD

### Happy Chanukah 2017!

Temple Beth David's Sisterhood CHANUKAH BOUTIQUE is back. Come browse through the latest trends in Chanukah gift ideas!

Hebrew School classes will visit the Boutique in the Temple lobby.

- **Sunday, December 3rd**
- **Tuesday, December 5th**
- **Wednesday, December 6th**



**Prices range from \$.50 to \$10.00.** We want those children who intend on buying gifts for friends and family to have an enjoyable shopping experience, so please make sure children remember to bring their allotted money with them. Happy shopping!





## *Spotlight on Sisterhood*

As I sat down this November morning to write this article, it was cold, dark, and rainy outside. There is so much to do in the two weeks before Thanksgiving. So first, I would like to thank all those who give their many hours of time and dedication to the Sisterhood. Without each of you, we could not be as successful as we are. It is amazing to watch each event unfold like a well-oiled machine. We begin with an idea, which leads to many phone calls, texts and emails. This does not seem like work because it is always done with a group of “sisters” who jump right in to help. After some brainstorming, we are well on our way to a well-executed event. Thanks to the Cultural Arts Committee and all the other committees for their hard work. Thanks also to the Paid-Up Membership Committee for planning and preparing a vendor dinner that was fantastic! A great time was had by all, shopping, schmoozing and dining. Hats off to Toni Spring, Karin Brandsdorfer and Nina Klag! We also thank Debbie Friedman and Glenda Kresh for a great evening of Jewish Meditation presented by Judi Talit. It was rewarding to see such a good turnout for this inspiring speaker.

We have many upcoming events from December through March of 2018, so watch for emails with details. The February and March events listed below are new and are not included in the calendar. We also have many other activities scheduled in those months, so look for notifications and attend the planning meetings if possible; everyone is always welcome!

We begin December with our Sisterhood Chanukah Sale for the Religious School children on December 3rd, 5th, and 6th during class hours. On December 6 at 7:30 p.m., we also have our monthly meeting. Finally, December would not be complete without our annual movie and cookie swap which will be held on Tuesday, December 19 at 7:00 p.m.

On Tuesday, February 13 at 7:00 p.m., we will be hosting our first ever Sisterhood Challah Bake. This program is geared for all ages, but you must RSVP to attend. The cost will be \$10 to bake one loaf and \$18 for two loaves.

Then, in March we have planned a very special trip. Sisterhood will be exploring Harlem’s Jewish past as we travel by bus for a fun-filled, jam-packed day, visiting the Apollo Theater and dining at the famous Sylvia’s Restaurant. We will be making other stops along the way to see places that once housed synagogues, and then stroll through Astor Row. This trip will initially be open only to Sisterhood members with an RSVP payment due by January 15, 2018. Thereafter, we will open remaining seats to any congregant until February 10th. The cost of this trip is \$96; the bus will leave promptly at 8:30 a.m.

Holly and I would like to wish everyone a Happy Chanukah, and a Happy and Healthy New Year. We hope you enjoy your families and friends throughout the holiday season.

Warmly,  
Barbara Klein and Holly Dornfeld,  
Co-Presidents Sisterhood



### AA Meetings - “New Soil”

Sundays 11:30 a.m. Open meetings  
Thursdays 7:00 p.m. Closed meeting

All meeting are held at: Temple Beth David

## The Great TBD Challah Bake

*Make your bubbe proud.*

*Please join the ladies of Sisterhood as we*



*Learn the art of challah baking*

*Rabbi Klafter will be teaching and enlightening us.*

*Cantor Halpern will be the "assistant baker."*

*Rabbi's mother, Corinne, was an expert baker, cook and teacher.*

*Challah was her specialty.*

*Rabbi Klafter is excited to share her family legacy with the TBD family.*

*At the end of the program we will take our dough home to bake.*

*This program is for young and old alike, so the whole*

*Mishpocha is welcome to join us!*

*SAVE THE DATE*

*Tuesday, February 13, 2018 at 7:00 p.m.*

*Watch for details next month!*



## Spotlight on Brotherhood

### “It’s Our Time”

So, have you found your holiday spirit yet? Sometimes it might feel like this expression applies mostly to those who hang the most lights on their homes (inside and/or out) or personally address and mail holiday cards, or worse – those who wear the ugliest ugly sweater.

In the last example, I have a question – when did this become a thing? When did stores actually begin advertising “Ugly Sweaters?” Think I’m kidding? Go to the Kohl’s website (I know, it’s not exactly the pinnacle of fashion) and enter “Ugly Sweater” in the search bar. You will get 87 – count ‘em 87 - results. If you sort the results by price, they range from the \$8.99 (originally \$14.00) “Merry Christmas Ya Filthy Animal” tee shirt (I know, it’s not a sweater) to the stunning \$80 “Jolly to the Bone” Biker Sweater, which Kohl’s has not found a need to mark down yet.



But nestled among the 87 search results is the one ugly sweater that puts it all in perspective for me. Right there in the middle of the price range (\$34.99, originally \$50.00) is the blue “It’s Our Time” Chanukkah sweater! Even though Kohl’s calls it the “It’s Our Time” sweater, it doesn’t actually say, “It’s our time.”

In my humble opinion, it doesn’t need to, right? I mean, you have a reindeer (with an LED light-up nose, wearing a blue-striped scarf, no less) wearing sunglasses (Brian Eskin, are you reading this?) and bold, metallic shiny antlers that morph into... you guessed it – a Menorah!!!! Personally I think the four sequined Stars of David are a bit of overkill, but hey – it’s the Holidays! And it’s Kohl’s. And, “it’s our time!”

Groan all you want. Laugh all you want. But this ugly sweater made me smile and reminded me that as surreal and disheartening as this year of 2017 has been (insert your own grievances here) we’re coming down the home stretch to the beginning of a new year. I hope each of you is able to look back at 2017 and reflect on something that made you smile and laugh.

Chanukah (spell it as you prefer) is “Our Time” and I hope that as we approach our own festival of lights, you take a lesson from the light-up LED red nose on this ugly sweater and make this holiday season special for your family, loved ones and those less fortunate. Maybe next year, Kohl’s will make the candles light up instead of the red nose? If you feel strongly about this idea, write to Kohl’s VP of Merchandising.

A great example of this is our annual visit to the Gurwin Nursing Home on Christmas Day, when we spend time with the residents, allowing many Gurwin staff members who celebrate the day to enjoy it with their loved ones. Watch for details during December. We will also be continuing a wonderful Coat Drive through mid-December. Look for the donation bin near the Religious School office.

And right around the corner is our much-anticipated, rescheduled event, “Anatomy of a Service.” On Sunday, December 3<sup>rd</sup> at 9:00 a.m. every temple member is welcome to join us as Rabbi Klafter and Cantor Halpern take us through the nuances and “whys and hows” of our Friday evening service. We hope you’ll be there with your curiosity, your ugliest sweater and personal “holiday spirit.” If that’s not enough, we will be having a touch football game afterwards, weather permitting. Shalom!

—Craig Cooper  
Brotherhood President



## *News from Isaiah 58*

As we snuggle down for a cozy winter and the holiday season, take time to de-stress and savor the joyful moments. Use your sense of smell to breathe in the scent of a crackling fire, roasting vegetables in the oven, or latkes frying in the pan. Deep breathing is one of the most effective ways to slow down and enjoy the present experience. Laughter is the other surefire way to manage stress and keep from feeling overwhelmed. Being with friends and loved ones, sharing a joke or playing a game, is guaranteed to keep your spirits up long after the cold winter is over.

Stress management is vital to our well being! We lead busy lives involving important responsibilities for our work, our families and our community. Take a step to ease someone else's stress by remembering to reach out to those in our midst who may be alone, ailing, cold or in need. Reach into your pocket if you can and send a small donation to Isaiah 58. We buy food, we buy yarn to knit hats and scarves, sometimes we buy socks or whatever we think is needed for our community outreach to be successful. Donate canned goods and shelf stable items and place them in our lobby bin and feel the joy that comes from giving and helping others. When you help others, you reap the benefit in your psyche and your soul. Come to our meetings and share your ideas for positive social action. Everyone is welcome! We meet December 11 at 7:30 p.m. and we begin the new year with a meeting on Thursday, January 25 at 7:30 p.m.

The Isaiah 58 Committee wishes you all a healthy, happy and prosperous 2018!

Jane Gaines



(Continued from page 1)

\*We want to encourage greater understanding within our diverse communities, regardless of faith, race, religion, ethnicity, gender or sexual orientation.

\*We hope to achieve this through advocating for educational projects and story sharing within our schools, and places of worship

I invite you to join me at the next LIICAH meeting: Thursday, December 14<sup>th</sup> @ 7:00 pm at St. John's Episcopal Church, 12 Prospect Street in Huntington. LIICAH also has a Facebook Group which you can join.

*Rabbi Beth H. Klafter*

—Rabbi Beth H Klafter

# Temple Beth David Blood Drive



**Sunday, December 17, 2017  
9:00 am - 1:30 pm  
100 Hauppauge Road, Commack  
Busmobile**

**Your donation will help to *save up to THREE lives.*  
Our community hospitals need your help.  
Please share this lifesaving gift!**

**Thank You for Caring!**

## ♥♥ **Eligibility Criteria** ♥♥

Bring **Donor Card or ID**. Minimum Weight: 110lbs. No New Tattoos for past 12 months. Ages 16 – 75 (16 year olds must have parental permission)

**For questions concerning medical eligibility:**

[www.nybc.org](http://www.nybc.org) | 1-800-933-2566

**For more information or to schedule an appointment, please contact:  
Diane Kraut (631)457-9251**

**Long Island Blood Services**

## Smiles of Shabbat Shalom

Hello, How are you?  
 Well, and how are you?  
 How was dinner?  
 Most delicious  
 Mazel Tov!  
 Three B'Nai Mitzvah  
 each aglow  
 in anticipation  
 Several seventh graders  
 practice readings  
 The evening's music  
 is no doubt hummed  
 A retiring staff member  
 will be honored  
 thanked for service  
 years of caring  
 Words of warmth and family  
 welcome  
*Shabbat HaMishpacha*

Shabbat Vayera  
 15 Cheshvan 5778  
 (November 3, 2017)  
 How good and pleasant  
 to sit together  
 Bless all who enter--bring  
 offerings of heart  
 May our worship lead us  
 to kindness and peace  
 Let us light these lights  
 See the way to prayer  
 Give thanks, O God,  
 for the world You created  
 And the moment  
 I reach out for You  
 I find You reaching  
 in for me  
 May this synagogue ever offer  
 the doorway to  
 more meaningful life.

--Sandy Wicker



*JBD Chai Club*

On Sunday, October 22, twenty-six Chai Club members met for a lovely dinner to bid farewell to our snowbird members. Then, on Sunday, November 19, several members attended a performance of the show, *Company*, at the Five Towns College in Dix Hills. For those of us staying up north this winter, other activities are being planned. Stay tuned for information on future events.

—Sheila Eisinger



Did you know that the TBD Religious School collects "Box Tops for Education?" Over the years we have earned hundreds of dollars to support our programs with donations of Box Tops. Please bring your Box Tops to the School Office or simply drop them in the folder outside our Religious School office door.

## Gracious Gifts from Thoughtful People

### Rabbi Klafter's Discretionary Fund

**Louis & Quinn Dell**

*In appreciation*

**Phillip Weiner**

*In memory of Diana Loevy*

**Jay & Bea Loevy**

*In memory of Diana Loevy*

**Fatima Kushner**

*In appreciation*

**Linda Langer**

*In memory of Todd Schwartz*

### Rabbi/Cantor Halpern's Discretionary Fund

**The Lehman Family**

*In honor of Cantor Halpern*

**Linda Langer**

*In memory of Todd Schwartz*

### Economic Crisis Relief Fund

**New Soil**

*In appreciation*

**Donna, Ken & Jonathan**

**Marenus**

*In honor of Dr. Gary de Sesa's 30th year at TBD*

**Fred "Chico" Lager**

*In honor of Bob & Janet Abrams with thanks to Cantor Audrey Halpern*

**David & Andrea Reich**

*In memory of Eva Reich*

### General Fund

**Arthur Silverstein**

*In memory of Samuel Silverstein*

**Alan Klineberg**

*In memory of Jack Klineberg*

**Marvin R. Crepea**

*In memory of Rhoda Crepea*

**Susan Brudno**

*In memory of Herman Gutterson*

**Marilyn & Elliott Tananbaum**

*In memory of Meyer Cole*

**Martin Horowitz**

*In memory of Lena Horowitz*

**Susan & Arnold Ringle**

*In honor of Howard Lent's 80th birthday*

**Richard & Carole Witkover**

*In honor of Howard Lent's 80th birthday*

**Kenneth I. Pasetsky**

*In memory of Abraham Pasetsky*

*Randi & Joel Schleifer*

*In memory of Hermine Schleifer*

*In memory of Louis Schleifer*

**Phyllis & Harvey Finkelstein**

*In memory of William Stecher*

*In memory of Karen Becker*

**Miriam Laifer**

*In memory of Edith Grave*

**Roseann & Hans Pommerehne**

*In honor of Howard Lent's 80th birthday*

**Helene Sommer**

*In memory of Joseph Wilichinsky*

**Eric Robinson**

*In memory of Anna & Louis Goidell*

**Randi & Joel Schleifer**

*In memory of Fran Wasserspring*

**David & Carolyn Morganstern**

*In memory of Kennard Morganstern*

**Werner Reich**

*In honor of Howard Lent's 80th birthday*

**Barbara & Len Schnitzer**

*In honor of Howard Lent's 80th Birthday*

**Lois Feldman**

*In memory of Loraine Fishman*

**Glen Tilkin**

*In memory of Abe Tilkin*

**Linda & Joel Evans**

*In memory of Betty Evans*

**David Metal**

*In memory of Tillie Reiff*

**Arlene & Raymond Senzer**

*In memory of Arthur Levin*

**Randi & Joel Schleifer**

*In memory of Saul Licht*

**Shirley & Joel Rose**

*In memory of Silvia & Sam Sandler*

**Robert Linnemann**

*In memory of Marvin Linnemann*

**Linda Bryan**

*In memory of Shirley Zelevansky*

**Leonard & Barbara Schnitzer**

*In memory of Jesse Schnitzer*

**Maxine & Ronnie Alschuler**

*In memory of Daniel Alschuler*

### Barbara & Susan Stearns Garden Fund

**Iris & Mort Glick**

*In honor of Camille Alviti's retirement*

*In memory of Max Glick*

*In honor of Bari & Hannah Klein*

*becoming B'not Mitzvah*

### Isaiah 58 Fund

**Tobey Rosof & Sydney Meistrich**

**Sandy Wolfson**

*In honor of Howie Lent's 80th birthday*

**Maxine & David Fischer**

**Sandy & Hal Wicker**

*In honor of Howie Lent's 80th birthday*

**Carole Yudin**

*In memory of Maurice Morley*

**Edward & Cara Millman**

*In memory of Ellen Solomon*

### Musical Prelude Fund

**Moriel Weiselberg**

*In memory of Beatrice Lewis*

### Religious School Fund

**Donna, Ken & Jonathan**

**Marenus**

*In honor of Camille Alviti's retirement*

To make a donation to Temple Beth David for a special occasion or a loved one, please contact Robin in the temple office at 499-0915 ext. 310.





# Yahrzeits December 2017



12/1	Abraham Topple Angelina Rosario Max Gleeman	12/13	Ben Goldstein Ida Glanzberg Rose Ritigstein	12/22	I. Sol Schwartzapfel Harry Adelman
12/2	Max Seltzer Norma Abrams	12/14	David Millman Raphael Diamond Bernard Rothstein	12/23	Minnie Moroff Gloria Bixhorn Ira Rosof Saul Meistrich Dora Forbstein
12/3	Stanley Appollo Stuart Streit Berdie Kasman Larry Rook	12/15	Betty Manley Albert Klinger Frieda Wolk Murray Schwartz	12/24	Muriel Elfring
12/4	Bertha Paul Barbara Fields Adrienne Stern	12/16	Ruth Harris Lewis Troupp Sue Weizel Ira Cohen Saul Shapiro Max Dicker Julius Hahn	12/25	Bruce Dean Weizel Jeffrey Stuart Ettinger Simon Schwartzman
12/5	Faye Marenus Fay Ehrenreich Morris Greene Abraham Tobias	12/17	Doris Fink Fanny Strumpf Joseph Welson Samuel Ury Charles Levy Kathleen Hollander	12/26	Bess Faust Sam Horowitz Harry B. Siegel Harry Nathan Cohen
12/6	David Reinstein Mary Haberman Nathan Bender Paul Eichler	12/18	David Katz	12/27	Sylvia Kaufman Irene Feldman Morris Gross Sandra Baron Morris Ettinger Charlotte Niederman Abraham Solomon Hilda Rosen
12/7	Hy Mandel Rebecca Leonard	12/19	Arthur Ziff Julius Freedman Robert Herman Hattie Decker Sue Pattie	12/28	Sam Spielman Eliot Besen Judith E. Feldman Ray Rosen Rose Kaufman Milton Jaffe
12/8	Selma Bender Zoltan Weisz Jack Laifer	12/20	Sonia Reiff Victoria Hollander Marion Cohen	12/29	Benjamin Juman Ruth Hoffenberg Leon Schneider Fay Schlesinger
12/9	Henry Cutler Philip Janicola	12/21	Moe Steinberg David Merritt Roslyn Barcon Blossom Drobbin Geraldine Janicola Morris Latman	12/30	Sarah Arav Sol Drucker Jerome Freedman Belle Cohen Rose Weinberger
12/10	Pearl Tobias Werner Grave Dorothy Rothberg Carolyn Coen Aizenman Louise Scheuer	12/22	Lucille Grabois Sarah Durkin Beatrice Horowitz Lewis Kravette Paul Rosenberg Benjamin Hallman Beatrice Horowitz	12/31	Louis Wolfson Mollie Drucker Ethel Bieber Freida Levy Rose Tobin Bertram Olshever
12/11	Cele Goldfarb Morton Ross Joseph Schneider Leonard Troupp				
12/12	Blanche Perlmutter Robert Weiss				
12/13	Harvey Kravis Ida Glanzberg Sophie Finkelstein Florence Solomon				



# What's Happening at TBD — December 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 7:30 pm Shabbat Service Honoring Gary DeSesa with Birthday Blessings. Adult Choir sings	2 9:15 am Torah Study & Service 10:00 am B'nai Mitzvah Service
3 9:00-11:00 am Sisterhood Chanukah Sale 9:00 am Anatomy of a Service 9:00 am Brother- hood Breakfast & Football 11:30am AA meeting 1:00-3:00 pm Israeli Dancing 6:30 pm NFTY	4 6:30 pm Hebrew HS @BE 8:30 pm Executive Committee	5 4:30-6:30 pm Sisterhood Chanukah Sale 5:15 pm Junior Choir 7:00-8:00 pm Rabbi Klafter Adult Ed	6 4:30-6:30 pm Sisterhood Chanukah Sale 5:15 pm Junior Choir 7:30 pm Sisterhood Board Meeting	7 7:00 pm AA Meeting	8 8:00 pm Shabbat Service with 5th Grade	9 9:15 am Torah Study & Service NFTY 6/7/8 Youth Groups
10 9:15-11:00am 6 Grade PACT 11:30 am AA Meeting 7:00 pm Congrega- tional Meeting	11 6:30 pm Hebrew HS @BE 7:30 pm Isaiah 58	12 Regular RS 5:45 pm Junior Choir 7:00 pm Peanut Butter & Jelly Gang	13 5:45 pm Junior Choir	14 7:00 pm AA Meeting 7:30 pm Budget and Finance Committee	15 6:45 pm Jr. Choir Rehearsal 8:00 pm Shabbat Service with Junior Choir	16 9:15 am Torah Study & Service
17 9:00-1:00 pm Blood Drive 9:00 am Brother- hood Chanukah rehearsal 11:00-1:00 pm Chanukah Experi- ence 11:00-1:00 pm All Youth Groups 11:30 am AA Meeting	18 6:30 pm Hebrew HS @BE 8:30 pm TBD Board Meet- ing	19 7:00 pm Sisterhood Cookie Swap/ Movie	20 6:30 pm 3/4/5 Youth Groups	21 7:00 pm AA Meeting	22 8:00 pm Shabbat Service with Anniversary Bless- ings	23 9:15 am Torah Study & Service
24 No RS 11:30am AA Meeting	25 Temple Offices Closed No RS	26 Temple Offices Closed No RS	27 Temple Offices Closed No RS	28 Temple Offices Closed No RS	29 Temple Offices Closed 8:00 pm Shabbat Service	30 9:15 am Torah Study & Service
31 No RS 11:30am AA Meeting	1 Temple Offices Closed No RS 11:30 am Brother- hood Polar Bear Plunge	2 RS resumes	3	4 7:00 pm AA Meeting	5 7:30 pm Shabbat Service with Birthday Blessings	6 9:15 am Torah Study & Service



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### *Worship Schedule*

Friday, December 1st  
*Shabbat Vayishlach*  
7:30 pm Shabbat Service  
with Birthday Blessings

Saturday, December 2nd  
9:15 am Torah Study and Service  
10:00 am Celebrate with us as  
Grant Faber and Alina Mirman become B'nai Mitzvah

Friday, December 8th  
*Shabbat Vayeshev*  
8:00 pm Shabbat Service

Saturday, December 9th  
9:15 am Torah Study and Service

Friday, December 15th  
*Shabbat Miketz*  
8:00 pm Shabbat Service

Saturday, December 16th  
9:15 am Torah Study and Service

Friday, December 22nd  
*Shabbat Vayigash*  
8:00 pm Shabbat Service  
with Anniversary Blessings

Saturday, December 23rd  
9:15 am Torah Study and Service

Friday, December 29th  
*Shabbat Vayechi*  
8:00 Shabbat Service

Saturday, December 30th  
9:15 am Torah Study and Service

**HaKol**  
**TEMPLE BETH DAVID**  
**100 Hauppauge Road, Commack, NY**  
**11725**  
**(631) 499-0915**  
**[www.tbdcommack.org](http://www.tbdcommack.org)**

### *Staff*

Senior Rabbi..... Beth H. Klafter, D.D.  
Rabbi/Cantor..... Audrey Halpern, D.D.  
Rabbi Emeritus ..... Leonard B. Troupp, D.D.<sup>z"l</sup>  
Cantor Emeritus ..... Cantor Taormina<sup>z"l</sup>  
Asst. Director, Religious School ..... Shirley Offman  
Clergy Administrative Assistant ..... Angela Barry  
Temple Administrator ..... Robin Kain  
Organist ..... Dr. Gary de Sesa

### *Officers*

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Executive Vice President ..... Beverly Wolcott  
First Vice President..... Craig Cooper  
Second Vice President..... Carol Weintraub  
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Financial Secretary..... Sarah Reiff  
Recording Secretary ..... Elissa Cazassus  
Brotherhood President ..... Craig Cooper  
Sisterhood Co-Presidents..... Holly Dornfeld  
Barbara Klein

### *HaKol Staff*

Editor ..... Joan Herman  
Associate Editor ..... Bonnie Sibener

Extra copies of HaKol are available in the lobby across from the office temple office, but there are several ways to easily view & download current or back issues of HaKol. visit [www.tbdcommack.org](http://www.tbdcommack.org), scroll