JULY
Kabbalat Shabbat Services, Shabbat Services, D’vrei Torah by: Barbara Paris, Susan Schneiderman, Meryl Silverstein, Suzanne Stone, Shabbat services led by Hazan Emeritus Sidney Rabinowitz, Tisha B’Av Service, ShaBaBimBam, Backyard Shabbat for Young Families, High Holiday Choir Rehearsal, Morning Minyan, Reyut delivers Shabbat bags to patients in Stamford Hospital, Keruv Committee Meeting, Annual Men’s Club Pool Party, Board of Trustees Meeting, Executive Committee Meeting

AUGUST
Kabbalat Shabbat Services, Shabbat Services, D’vrei Torah by: Hank Silverstein, Shabbat-in-the-Round, ShaBaBimBam, BBQ and Barechu, Morning Minyan, Men’s Club Meeting, Dealing with Grief - A Training Session, TBE Ambassadors Meeting, New Members Dinner at the Hammermans, High Holiday Choir Rehearsal, Keruv Committee Meeting, Build High Holiday Bimah, Sisterhood Board Meeting, Board of Trustees Meeting, Executive Committee Meeting

SEPTEMBER
Kabbalat Shabbat Services, Shabbat Services, ShaBaBimBam, Drum Circle, Morning Minyan, Selichot Service, Build the Sukkah, Annual Beth El Cemetery Memorial Service, Rosh Hashanah Services, Tashlich, Kol Nidrei Services, Yom Kippur Services, Break-the-Fast sponsored by Sisterhood, Annual High Holiday Food Drive, Religious School resumes, Religious School Decorates the Sukkah, lulav and Etrog Pick-Up, Sukkot Services, Steak and Scotch in the Sukkah, Sukkah Hop at the Hammermans, Pizza in the Hut, Removal of High Holiday Bimah, Board of Education Meeting, Sisterhood Board Meeting, Sisterhood High Holiday Food Sale, Hyacinthe & Harold E. Hoffman Memorial Lecture featuring Bret Stephens, Mark Albertson - Sisterhood guest speaker, TBE Discussion Group, Parlor Meeting at the home of the Kempners, Adult Hebrew Reading Class, Noah’s Ark Petting Zoo, Board of Trustees Meeting, Executive Committee Meeting, High Holiday Choir Rehearsal

OCTOBER
Kabbalat Shabbat Services, Shabbat Services, Shemini Atzeret and Simchat Torah Services, B’nai Mitzvah: Wil Herckis, Kyle Nadel, ShaBaBimBam, Drum Circle, Morning Minyan, National Refugee Shabbat, Shabbat-in-the-Round, Issam Saad, guest speaker, Comedy Night, Sisterhood Clothing Drive, Sisterhood Paid-Up Membership Brunch, Yaron Weitzman Teen Speaker, Reyut delivers Shabbat bags to patients in Stamford Hospital, Adult Hebrew Reading Class, TBE Discussion Group, Mitzvah Garden Committee Meeting, Adult B’nai Mitzvah Class Orientation, Campaign Leadership Meeting, TBE Ambassadors Meeting, Board of Trustees Meeting, Executive Committee Meeting, Finance Committee Meeting

Continued on page...10
Beth El Cares  
Ken Temple ................................................................. 203-968-9550

Beth El Families  
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Josh Levine ................................................... 203-276-1395
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Melanie Massell ........................................ 203-324-7190

Ritual Committee  
Eileen H. Rosner ........................................ 203-461-0506

OUR STAFF IS MOST EAGER TO ASSIST YOU
Monday - Thursday, 9am - 5:00 pm | Friday, 9am - 2:00pm
Phone: 203-322-6901 Fax: 203-322-0532

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Katherine Kaplan, Cantorial Soloist ext. 300
Beth Styles, Music Director ext. 300
Cantor Moshe Bear, B’nai Mitzvah Coordinator ext. 300

WHERE TO FIND IT
Joshua Hammerman, Rabbi ................................................................. Page 3
Hazan Sidney Rabinowitz ................................................................. Page 3
July-August Service Schedule ............................................................. Page 4
Young Families ........................................................................ Page 5
Beth El Cares ............................................................................... Page 6
Sisterhood .................................................................................... Page 8
ON ONE FOOT

Our Unorthodox Congregation

Quick game of word association: If someone were to ask you the first thing that comes into your mind when you hear “TBE,” I’d like to think that people would respond, “community,” “warmth,” “family” and maybe even “mensch.” But another word that could fit in nicely would be “unorthodox.”

For one thing, we aren’t Orthodox, in the Jewish denominational sense. We are traditional in many respects, but outside-the-box-innovative in others. We’re also not orthodox, which with a lower-case “o” connotes conformist or conventional. While respecting various orthodoxies, we seek the road less traveled. While we pay homage to our past, our eyes are fully trained on the future. It’s our desire to lead rather than follow, to experiment rather than settling for complacency and to be at the cutting edge rather than the muddled middle. That is our hallmark. We take nothing for granted and refuse to rest on our laurels.

So this coming year, we’ll be doing lots of unorthodox things, lots of experimenting, partly out of necessity but mostly out of our fervent desire to be on that cutting edge.

For the first time in many years, we will only have one full-time clergy on our staff. Not that I will be at all lonely, because we have recruited no fewer than seven musical, pastoral and educational professionals who will be assisting us on a part-time basis. I’ve already begun working closely with them and am delighted at the team we have assembled. Katie Kaplan and Beth Styles will join me in leading Friday night and High Holidays services (joined also by a fabulous array of musical guests). Cantor Deborah Jacobson will lead two “Shabbat Unplugged.” Rabbi Vicki Axe and Cantor Debbie Katchko-Gray will join us for many Shabbat morning and festival services. Cantor Moshe Bear, already a beloved tutor, will coordinate our entire B’nai Mitzvah program, including our adult B’nai Mitzvah, and Rabbi Gerry Ginsburg will assist on pastoral, educational and ritual matters. Add to that Jami Fener’s expanded role in engagement, our superb educator Lisa Gittleman-Udi and the steady hand of Steve Lander, as well as our office and maintenance staff and volunteers, and we will be humming on all cylinders.

Join us for services throughout the summer. Katie or Beth will work with me every Friday night — occasionally outside, if the weather warrants; and when I’m away, Rabbi Gerry and others will be pitching in on Shabbat mornings. On July 13, Cantor Debbie Katchko-Gray will co-officiate a TBE first with me — a triple aufruf! Stay tuned for more on that.

Here are some of the can’t-miss highlights for the upcoming programming year:

Save the date for...

SEPTEMBER 19: “Unorthodox: A Live Show” - This year’s Hyacinthe and Harold E. Hoffman Memorial Lecture will bring to Stamford a live showing of the world’s leading Jewish podcast. Unorthodox is a smart, fresh, fun weekly take on Continued on page 9...

THE HAZZAN’S VOICE

Many years ago between Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur, I developed something in my throat that effected my ability to sing properly. Now, how to handle Yom Kippur? Fortunately, we at Beth El had a wonderful choir of fine musicians and wonderful voices. For Yom Kippur I designated a selection of choir singers to handle my solo parts. It worked very well. The prayers left for me were sung in improvised ways using the proper motifs.

The names of my fill-in soloists are still written in my music books as a reminder that we are all replaceable.

In three months I was back to normal due to a wonderful doctor who was able to cure me without surgery, as suggested by other doctors.

Not so long ago a dear friend and colleague found himself in a similar situation. Cantor Arnold Saltzman of Congregation Adath Israel, in Washington, D.C. (from 1981-2005), found himself voiceless, diagnosed with dysphonia, which causes difficulty speaking and made singing impossible.

Arnold was not one to give up. He studied for three years and was ordained a rabbi in 2008. Since then, he has served three congregations in Maryland.

In the many years that I have known Cantor Saltzman, his deep love, besides the cantorate, has been to compose major pieces of music. Throughout the years, he has successfully composed and performed classical music compositions such as operas, ballets and symphonies, including “An Israel Symphony,” “Rescue in Denmark Symphony,” and “An American Symphony,” which I heard performed.

Saltzman’s latest major composition is “A Choral Symphony: Halevi.” Judah Halevi (1071-1140) was the foremost poet of that time, often called the Golden Age. His religious poetry came late in life.

Arnold Saltzman came upon the poems, translated by the scholar Raymond Scheindlin and felt that they could work as a symphony. Like Halevi’s journey, Saltzman’s too was lengthy and rocky. Work on “Halevi,” his fourth symphony, took two decades and it has been met with rave reviews.

Like Halevi, who penned some of his most compelling and ardent work later in life, Saltzman at age 70 found deep satisfaction in the completion of his largest composition to date. He heard it performed this past summer at the Alba Music Festival in Italy. He hopes it will attract notice and production in the United States and Israel—a Hebrew libretto is ready for an Israeli orchestra.

This past February, “A Choral Symphony: Halevi” was performed by the American University Symphony Orchestra Chorus and Chamber Singers and Strathmore Children’s Chorus.

Both Arnold Saltzman and I are firm believers in the Hebrew expression, “Im tirtzu, ain zo agada.” If you so desire it, it is not fiction.

Hazzan Sidney Rabinowitz
SHABBAT AND FESTIVAL SERVICES

JULY

Friday, July 5 - Kabbalat Shabbat 7:30 p.m.
Led by Rabbi Joshua Hammerman and Beth Styles

Shabbat, July 6 - Services 9:30 a.m.
Led by Rabbi Joshua Hammerman

Friday, July 12 - Kabbalat Shabbat 7:30 p.m.
Led by Rabbi Joshua Hammerman and Beth Styles

Shabbat, July 13 - Services 9:30 a.m.
Led by Rabbi Hammerman and Cantor Deborah Katchko-Gray

Friday, July 19 - Kabbalat Shabbat 7:30 p.m.
Led by Rabbi Gerry Ginsburg and Katie Kaplan

Shabbat, July 20 - Services 9:30 a.m.
Led by Rabbi Gerry Ginsburg
D’var Torah by Meryl Silverstein

Friday, July 26 - Kabbalat Shabbat 7:30 p.m.
Led by Rabbi Gerry Ginsburg and Katie Kaplan

Shabbat, July 27 - Services 9:30 a.m.
Led by and D’var Torah by Rabbi Gerry Ginsburg

AUGUST

Friday, August 2 - Kabbalat Shabbat 7:30 p.m.
Led by Rabbi Gerry Ginsburg and Katie Kaplan

Shabbat, August 3 - Services 9:30 a.m.
Led by Rabbi Gerry Ginsburg
D’var Torah by Hank Silverstein

Friday, August 9 - Kabbalat Shabbat 7:30 p.m.
Led by Rabbi Gerry Ginsburg and Beth Styles

Shabbat, August 10 - Services 9:30 a.m.
Led by and D’var Torah by Rabbi Gerry Ginsburg
Tisha B’Av Services (time TBA)
Congregation Beth El, Norwalk

Friday, August 16 - Kabbalat Shabbat 7:30 p.m.
Led by Beth Styles

Shabbat, August 17 - Services 9:30 a.m.
Led by Rabbi Gerry Ginsburg
D’var Torah by Suzanne Stone

Friday, August 23 - Kabbalat Shabbat 7:30 p.m.
Led by Rabbi Joshua Hammerman and Katie Kaplan

Shabbat, August 24 - Services 9:30 a.m.
Led by Rabbi Joshua Hammerman

Friday, August 30 - Kabbalat Shabbat 7:30 p.m.
Led by Rabbi Joshua Hammerman and Katie Kaplan

Shabbat, August 31 - Services 9:30 a.m.
Led by Rabbi Joshua Hammerman and Rabbi Gerry Ginsburg

PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

Rabbi Hammerman, the TBE staff, and your Board of Trustees have been working diligently to fulfill all of our clergy-related responsibilities for 2019/20. In developing the plan, we have been guided by five guiding principles:

- Maintaining our commitment to outstanding music
- Focusing on prayer and spirituality
- Engaging highly talented “familiar faces”
- Integrating family-oriented and congregation-wide programs
- Continuing to experiment with new programs and different formats

Here are highlights of the plan for 2019/20:

High Holidays
Our own Katie Kaplan will serve as Cantorial Soloist for the High Holidays (a role she has filled elsewhere in prior years), and our own Beth Styles will continue as Music Director. Rabbi Gerry Ginsburg will deliver the D’var Torah on Erev Rosh Hashanah and will lead an educational session during the afternoon break on Yom Kippur. And, of course, all of our High Holiday services will be under the leadership of Rabbi Hammerman.

Friday Evening – Kabbalat Shabbat
We are so excited about our Friday evening lineup for this year! On most Friday nights, either Katie Kaplan or Beth Styles will join Rabbi Hammerman on the bima, with returning guest musicians like Chris Coogan and Koby Haron, along with musicians who are new to TBE. In addition, be sure to circle the following Friday evenings on your calendar:

- September 6: BBQ and Barachu
- November 1: Neshama Carlebach will be our guest at services
- November 22 and January 24: Cantor Deborah Jacobson will return to TBE for Shabbat Unplugged
- December 13: Katie Kaplan and Rabbi Hammerman will lead Hanukkah Shabbat
- June 19: Our annual Pride Shabbat

We are also planning four “family Shabbats” during the year on November 8, January 10, February 28, and May 1. Services will begin at 6 pm (instead of the usual 7:30 pm), with Religious School students leading portions of the service. We will then follow services with a congregational Shabbat dinner beginning at 7 pm. Stay tuned for additional details!

Saturday Morning Shabbat Services
Variety is the theme of this year’s Saturday morning Shabbat services. Here are some examples:

- Rabbi Vicki Axe, a long-time friend of TBE who recently retired as spiritual leader of Congregation Shir Ami in Greenwich, will join Rabbi Hammerman on the bima for all services with a Bar or Bat Mitzvah.
- We have planned eleven Shabbats-in-the-Round from late October through June, where Rabbi Hammerman

Continued on page 9...
SEEKING SHABBAT GREETERS

Do you like getting a warm “Shabbat Shalom” as you enter shul on Saturday morning?

Our greeting program has been extremely well received. To keep this program going, we need volunteer greeters like you.

Interested? Contact Devra Jaffe-Berkowitz at devrajaffe@gmail.com

Thanks for helping make Temple Beth El a warm and welcoming place to be.

FOR RENT

Welcome home to this three-bedroom, two full-bath Tudor charmer with central A/C. Rare opportunity to live on TBE grounds with its beautiful landscape and Westover conveniences.

The main level includes a spacious living room with stone wood burning fireplace and dining room with original lead glass windows. The kitchen is eat-in with new cabinets, granite counters, and includes a food pantry. Den/library complete the first floor or use as a main level bedroom with a full hall bath nearby.

The second floor features a master bedroom with modern in-suite bathroom, two additional bedrooms with hall bathroom, and an additional bedroom with bathroom perfect for an au-pair.

Two car garage with ample additional parking. The backyard is fenced and there is a lovely screened in porch for entertaining.

To see this home, and for information, please contact Steven Lander at 203-322-6901, ext. 304 or execdir@tbe.org.

BabyBimBam

A program for families with babies under 18 months. It's play time with a Jewish twist!

Questions? Contact Jami Fener 203-322-6901 or youngfamilies@tbe.org

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JAMI FENER - YOUNG FAMILIES COORDINATOR

Upcoming events for young families!

JOIN BABYBIMBAM
SHMOOZE & STROLL

Local Walks
Thursdays @ 11 AM in June and July
Starting June 13

pop-up picnic @ the Carousel

Sunday, July 21, 2:00pm
Mill River Park, Carousel lawn

Join families of all ages from Temple Beth El!
Healthy snacks will be served
Free and open to the community!

Questions? Contact Jami Fener
youngfamilies@tbe.org or 917-680-9413

FOR RENT

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Beth El Cares focuses on chesed and tzedakah by helping the poor and unfortunate through mitzvot, both in our synagogue and the greater Stamford community. We welcome volunteers! This is the work we are currently engaged in. If you are interested in volunteering in any of these endeavors, please contact the person listed.

Reyut (Friendship): Committed to serving the needs of those in our TBE community, including friendly visits, assistance with errands and transportation, Shabbat bag delivery to hospitalized patients. Contact Melanie Massell at reyut@tbe.org or 203-324-7190.

Project Ezra: Providing pre-shiva meals to the bereaved in the congregation. Contact Joy Katz at joyakatz@yahoo.com or 203-329-3359.

Serving the homeless: Helping prepare and serve food — you can do either or both — to the homeless at New Covenant Center in Stamford on the fifth Thursday of each month. Times are 2:30-4:15 pm and 4:15-5:30 pm. Contact Amy Temple at kbtemple@optonline.net or 203-496-1309.

High Holiday and Passover food drives: Contact Ken Temple at kbtemple@optonline.net or 203-962-1491.

Christmas dinners at local homeless shelters: Contact Amy Temple at kbtemple@optonline.net or 203-496-1309. If you have your own idea for a Beth El Cares project, please contact Ken Temple at kbtemple@optonline.net or call 203-962-1491.

Share your family’s simcha (engagement, marriage, birth, Bar or Bat Mitzvah of a child or grandchild) and other joyous event. Just contact the TBE office at office@tbe.org or 203-322-6901, ext. 301.

HONORABLE MENSCHEN
TODAH RABAH TO OUR TORAH READERS!

ARI BEN-ZVI ♠ LOWELL EITELBERG ♠ YAEL EVERETT
ANDREW GRANOWITZ ♠ JENNIFER GRANOWITZ
PHIL GRANOWITZ ♠ LISA GROVE-RAIDER
KAREN HAINBACH ♠ ELEXIS HANDEL
RABBI JOSHUA HAMMERMAN ♠ JOY KATZ
SARI JAFFE ♠ ADAM KINDERMAN ♠ CAROL KRIM
ZACHARY LEW ♠ BERT MADWED ♠ NAOMI MARKS
JODI MAXNER ♠ SUSAN SCHNEIDERMAN
ELIZA SCHEFFLER ♠ JENNIFER SCHNEIDER
MERYL SILVERSTEIN ♠ LIAV VADEL ♠ MIA WEINSTEIN

THANK YOU FOR SPONSORING THE SHABBAT ANNOUNCEMENTS

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LISA and TODD EVERETT
LORALEE and PHILIP GRANOWITZ
MARNI and MICHAEL HANDEL
MARY and DAVID HARRISON
LESLIE GLENN and NEIL KATZ
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JAMIE OZURE and JOSH LEW
LUCILLE ORILLANEDA and DAVE SCHNEIDER
SHIRA and OFER VADEL

THANK YOU FOR SPONSORING KIDDUSH

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LESLIE GLENN and NEIL KATZ
NAOMI and MARC KINDERMAN
JAMIE OZURE and JOSH LEW
LUCILLE ORILLANEDA and DAVE SCHNEIDER
SHIRA and OFER VADEL
MEN’S CLUB
Special thanks to the following people who helped set up the Yellow Candle bags for distribution on Sunday, April 14.
Beth Finchler • Stan Friedman • John Graubard
Joe Heyison • Alan Jaffe • Sari Jaffe • Matt Miller
Stuart Nekritz

ANNUAL BENNETT CANCER WALK-RUN
The sunshine remained with us throughout this 24th annual walk in support of The Bennett Cancer Center. I wish to thank our 22 registrants as well as the many friends and congregants who made their generous donations in support of Team Temple Beth El.
I am proud to have served as your captain once again.

Melanie Massell

TBE REYUT MEMBERS ATTEND STAMFORD HOSPITAL VOLUNTEER LUNCHEON
Front (L-R) Caroline Temlock Teichman, Melanie Massell
Rear (L-R) Donna Wolff, Jodi Maxner

ACTIVE SHOOTER WALK-THRU
July 16 at 7:30 p.m. and August 14 at 7:30 p.m.
As a follow-up to our active shooter training with Sgt. Philips of the Stamford Police Department, we are planning a walk-thru with congregants who are interested. In the event of an active shooter, there really are so many scenarios that can happen while people are almost anywhere in the building. A walk-thru will identify access to all of the different exit points in the building, show the location of the first aid kits and Stop the Bleed kits, and where the defibrillator is. Also, we will demonstrate how to use the lock down tool in the meeting rooms and classrooms. We are planning two different sessions to try to accommodate as many congregants as possible.
To sign up for the walk-thru, please e-mail Steven Lander at execdir@tbe.org or call the office at 203-322-6901, ext. 304.

Leslie Heyison
The sisters of Sisterhood would like to express our heartfelt thank you to outgoing president, Leslie Heyison, for the outstanding job she did as our leader, coach, and cheerleader for the past two years. She worked tirelessly to successfully bring so many wonderful and meaningful programs and fundraising activities to fruition. Her love for Temple Beth El and Sisterhood is so bountiful and it shows with the beautiful smile that she always has for us.
We will miss her as President but luckily she will still be active in Sisterhood as our Past President/Advisor.
Thank you Leslie for your commitment, dedication and hard work for Sisterhood. ♥

Special Occasion?
Sponsor The Shabbat E- nnouncements
(sent every week via e-mail)
The Shabbat Announcements
(distributed each Shabbat at the Temple)
and the Shabbat-O-Gram
(e-mailed every Thursday night)
All three publications for $72
All sponsors will be acknowledged at the beginning of each of these announcements and also listed in our bi-monthly Bulletin.
Call Mindy in the office at 322-6901 ext. 301.

Check out our special website
Dedicated to TBE’s event space
www.thebigeventspace.com

NEW CLASS IN FORMATION
Many people have been inquiring about starting a class to learn synagogue skills, prayer and basic Judaism. If you are interested, please contact Rabbi Hammerman at rabbi@tbe.org.

WOULD YOU LIKE TO BE A GABBAI?
Training available!
Please contact Rabbi Hammerman at rabbi@tbe.org.
Breaking news! I am delighted to tell you that on July 1, Karen Resnick will be taking over as TBE Sisterhood President! Karen has been an active member of the Sisterhood Board for the past five years, receiving the Rose Rosner award in 2018 for her volunteerism and leadership. Please join me in congratulating Karen in her new role.

Todah Rabah to Carol Krim, Suzanne Stone, Sue Frieden, Barbara Berman, Judy Schneiderman, Susan Plotzky, Paula Shulman, Barbara Rothstein, Linda Kopel, event organizer Dora Salm, Renee Pfefer and photographer Stephanie Zelazny for helping organize and sell TBE member donations at the Jewelry & Accessories Bazaar and for collecting the clothes donated to Dress for Success. Barbara Rosenberg was seen with her granddaughter. Jennifer Meth was there showing her beautiful, custom lockets to Jamie Fener.

Our deep gratitude for your donations of women’s office attire for Dress for Success. We collected three carloads for the Bridgeport, CT location! We also gave age-appropriate jewelry and handbags to a senior memory care center in Woodbridge, CT and will to others as well.

The Jewelry & Accessories Bazaar was a success, raising $1,400 which will be funneled back to TBE and Sisterhood programming. Another opportunity to purchase Jewelry & Accessories was held on Sunday, June 23 at the Health Fair & Blood Drive, sponsored by the Men’s Club. Results were not available at press time.

In May, Sisterhood sponsored Mediterranean Shabbat entertainment and appetizers. Sisterhood is able to support musical programming thanks to Sisterhood dues and fundraisers.

On June 8 the sanctuary was uplifted by women leading the entire Shabbat service! Todah Rabah to Carol Krim for helping me organize the service and to Judy Schneiderman for arranging the luncheon. Mazel Tov to Barbara Berman on receiving the Rose Rosner Award, established to remember Eileen Rosner’s mother. Barbara is receiving this award in recognition of her long-term commitment to both the Temple and Sisterhood. In addition to the 30+ women who led the service, Sisterhood thanks Rabbi Hammerman for his inspiration, Cantor Fishman for her guidance in planning the service, as well as the Men’s Club for their assistance and support.

Todah Rabah to Betty Baer for her ongoing commitment to Sisterhood and for organizing three of our fundraisers – the High Holiday and Passover Food Sales and spirited Mah Jongg tournament.

Just a reminder that, during construction, the TBE Sisterhood Judaica Gift Shop will continue to operate. See box above for contact information.

A teaser of upcoming events (details in future email announcements):
- Friday, September 6 - Sisterhood is once again sponsoring the Annual BBQ and Barachu.
- Sunday, October 27 – Annual Sisterhood Member Brunch - Mark your calendars. Lauren Redniss, who grew up at TBE, will be the keynote speaker. Lauren is a MacArthur grant recipient and is the author of several books melding “the graphic and visual arts with biography and cultural history.”

Finally, as the 2018-2019 year draws to a close, on behalf of Sisterhood, I would like to express our deep appreciation to Steve Lander, Ellen Gottfried, Mindy Rogoff, Linda Rezak, Alberto Eyzaguirre and Rad Vazquez for their guidance and assistance.

Have a glorious summer!

With appreciation and joy,
Leslie Heyison (Past-President and Advisor)
Jewish news and culture, produced by Tablet Magazine and hosted by Mark Oppenheimer, Stephanie Butnick, and Liel Leibovitz, co-authors of The Newish Jewish Encyclopedia: From Abraham to Zabar’s and Everything in Between, which will be published in October. Your summer assignment from me: Subscribe to the podcast on iTunes, or go to www.tabletmag.com/author/unorthodox to download prior episodes, and see why the self-proclaimed J-Crew has taken the Jewish world by storm. Oppenheimer, incidentally, is a New York Times columnist (the Magazine's former Ethicist) and Yale professor in his spare time.

**NOVEMBER 1-2: Neshama Carlebach, in Story and Song –** The award-winning singer, songwriter and educator will join us for Kabbalat Shabbat on Friday and a cabaret night on Saturday evening, when she will be our scholar and musician in residence. Neshama has sold over one million records, making her one of today’s best-selling Jewish artists in the world. She is a strong advocate for religious pluralism and human rights. She has sparked public conversations with brave forays into the place of women in Judaism and today’s world. And she will share songs from her just-released tenth album, Believe.

**NOVEMBER 3: Professor Stephen Berk -** Professor Berk, from Union College, is considered a superb lecturer and teacher. He is widely known for his expertise on the Holocaust, Russia, and a variety of Jewish subjects. He leads many tours – including our TBE Cuba trip next March. He’ll be introducing us to the Jewish community of Cuba that morning. This talk is open to those going on our trip as well as those who will be remaining stateside.

**MAY 16: Adult B’nai Mitzvah -** Join approximately 20 congregants and hundreds of their friends and relatives for the biggest B’nai Mitzvah celebration in years!

**MAY 17: Our Annual Cantor’s Concert** guest performers will be the world famous Zamir Chorale, simply the greatest Jewish choir on the planet.

**July 1-15, 2020: TBE Jewish Heritage Trip to Central Europe –** By popular demand, we’ve initiated plans for another TBE trip to Central Europe, including Poland, Budapest, Prague and Berlin. Because we feel it is very important for young Jews to see these sacred places, we’ve arranged with the Holocaust Memorial Committee for substantial scholarship funding to be available for teens and college students who join with their families on this trip, honoring the legacy of Dr. Hesh Romanowitz, z’l.

These are just a few of the special events that are upcoming, and I haven’t even gone into the myriad of children’s, family and other events that we’ll be having. All of which will make TBE continue to be what we pride ourselves in being - an exciting, exhilarating and yes, unorthodox place to be.

Meanwhile, have a wonderful summer – and remember that we are open for services every single day!

Rabbi Joshua Hammerman

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**President’s Remarks Continued from page 4...**

will be joined by either Katie Kaplan, Beth Styles, or Cantor Debbie Katchko-Gray of Congregation Shir Shalom in Ridgefield (founder of the Women’s Cantor Network and another long-time friend of TBE).

- Rabbi Gerry Ginsburg will also lead prayers from time to time on Saturday mornings.
- We have scheduled our popular Shababimbam program for young families once or twice a month, starting in September.
- Shabbat School and the B’nai Mitzvah Club are scheduled throughout the year.

**Festivals and Holidays**

Cantor Katchko-Gray will join Rabbi Hammerman for all festival services that include Yizkor. And with Rabbi Hammerman, Katie Kaplan will lead engaging musical services on Simchat Torah and Purim.

**B’nai Mitzvah Program**

Cantor Moshe Bear, who has been one of our B’nai Mitzvah tutors for the last few years, will coordinate this year’s B’nai Mitzvah program including the Adult B’nai Mitzvah class. He and Judy Aronin will continue as our tutors, with a special focus on preparing students to continue reading Torah after their Bar or Bat Mitzvah. Cantor Bear will also lead the Thursday afternoon t’fillah sessions in the Religious School.

**Pastoral Services**

Rabbi Gerry Ginsburg will join Rabbi Hammerman in providing pastoral services to the congregation and community, including weekly hospital visits and shiva minyanim. Rabbi Gerry will also lead stimulating adult education classes during the year.

What an exciting year it will be at TBE!

[@WritersOnOneFoot](https://twitter.com/WritersOnOneFoot)

Carl R. Weinberg
President

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**Tisha B’Av**

**August 10 (time: TBA)**

at Congregation Beth El, 109 East Avenue, Norwalk

Each year on the 9th of Av the Jewish calendar plunges into the deepest mourning. It’s the anniversary of the destruction of the First Temple by the Babylonians and of the Second Temple by the Romans, along with several other tragedies in our ancient and recent history.

Jews the world over mark the day with fasting and the somber chanting of the Book of Lamentations, Eicha.

Join your fellow congregants and friends from The Conservative Synagogue (Westport) and Congregation Beth El (Norwalk) for this meaningful observance.

Rabbi Joshua Hammerman
**NOVEMBER**

Kabbalat Shabbat Services, Rock Shabbat, Shabbat Services, Morning Minyan, Shabbat-in-the-Round, Religious School Shabbat, B’nai Mitzvah Family Meeting, ShaBaBimBam, Drumming Circle, Bat Mitzvah: Emily Sherman, Kabbalat Shabbat Services led by Beth Styles, Marc Schulman guest speaker at Kabbalat Shabbat Services, 7th Grade Mock Brit Milah Ceremony, Sisterhood Board Meeting, Adult Hebrew Reading Class, Adult B’nai Mitzvah Class, TBE Discussion Group, Interfaith Afula Group, Reyut: Life after Death of a Loved One, Keruv Committee Meeting, Temple Rock Committee Meeting, Board of Education Meeting, Campaign Leadership Meeting, Young Families Team Programming Meeting, 7th Grade Sleepover at the Hammermans, Board of Trustees Meeting, Executive Committee Meeting

**DECEMBER**

Kabbalat Shabbat Services, Shabbat Services, Morning Minyan, Family Chanukah/Shabbat Dinner and Kabbalat Shabbat Service, Shabbat-in-the-Round, Rabbi Geoff Mitelman, guest speaker at Kabbalat Shabbat Services, ShaBaBimBam, Men’s Club Breakfast with Peter Roseman, guest speaker, Drumming Circle, Beth El Cares Serves Christmas Dinner at Local Shelters, ADL Speaks to Religious School, Men’s Club Poker Night, Teen Programming Meeting, Keruv Committee Meeting, Adult B’nai Mitzvah Class, TBE Discussion Group, Adult Hebrew Reading Class, TBE Youth Light the Menorah at Government Center, Women’s Seder Committee Meeting, Temple Rock Committee Meeting, Board of Trustees Meeting, Executive Committee Meeting

**JANUARY**

Kabbalat Shabbat Services, Shabbat Services, Bar Mitzvah: Benjamin Kassel, Morning Minyan, Tu B’Shevat, Beth Boyer guest speaker at Kabbalat Shabbat Services, Religious School Family Shabbat Dinner and Service, ShaBaBimBam, Shabbat-in-the-Round, Hands-On Havdalah, Reyut delivers Shabbat bags to patients in Stamford Hospital, Interfaith Adult Education Class, Sisterhood’s Ladies’ Night Out at Curtain Call, Bone Marrow Drive, Adult B’nai Mitzvah Class, Security Training, Mensch • Marks Class with Rabbi Hammerman, Keruv Committee Meeting, Women’s Seder Committee Meeting, Immigration Task Force Meeting, Board of Education Meeting, Temple Rock Committee Meeting, TBE Discussion Group, Board of Trustees Meeting, Executive Committee Meeting

**FEBRUARY**

Kabbalat Shabbat Services, Shabbat Services, Morning Minyan, D’var Torah by Wendy Miles at Kabbalat Shabbat Services, Kevin Shippy, Executive Director of Domestic Violence Crisis Center, ShaBaBimBam, Shabbat-in-the-Round, World-Wide Wrap, Cantor’s Assembly Meeting and Luncheon, Club 78 Go Kart Racing, Adult B’nai Mitzvah Class, Temple Rock, Reyut - Life after Disruption, Mensch • Marks Class with Rabbi Hammerman, Keruv Committee Meeting, Temple Rock Committee Meeting, TBE Discussion Group, Women’s Seder Committee Meeting, Board of Trustees Meeting, Executive Committee Meeting
MARCH

Kabbalat Shabbat Services, Shabbat Services, Morning Minyan, B’nai Mitzvah: Zachary Price, Matthew Goodman, Sawyer Price, Jesse Kalt, Shabbat Across America, Men’s Club Shabbat, Kids-in-the-Round, Purim, Purim Carnival, BabyBimBam, Book Debut: Mensch • Marks, by Rabbi Joshua Hammerman, Empty Nesters Racing at the RPM Raceway, Mark Albertson, Sisterhood guest speaker, Immigration - Adult Education, Adult B’nai Mitzvah Class, Keruv Committee Meeting, Sisterhood Board Meeting, Campaign Committee Meeting, Board of Education Meeting, Women’s Seder Committee Meeting, TBE Discussion Group, Nominating Committee Meeting, Board of Trustees Meeting, Executive Committee Meeting

APRIL

Kabbalat Shabbat Services, Shabbat Services, Passover Services, Kids-in-the-Round, Morning Minyan, B’Nai Mitzvah: Samantha Bradley, Jacob Davidson, Lauren Schechter IDF guest speaker, Passover Food Drive, Sisterhood Passover Food Sale, Women’s Community Seder, IDF Soldiers Visit Religious School, Religious School Model Seder, Seventh Grade Mock Wedding, Adult B’nai Mitzvah Class, Men’s Club Yellow Candle Project, Teen Trip to NYC with Rabbi and Mara Hammerman, Club 56 goes Go Kart Racing, Sisterhood Spring Fling, Reyut delivers Shabbat bags to patients in Stamford Hospital, TBE Discussion Group, Board of Trustees Meeting, Executive Committee Meeting

MAY

Kabbalat Shabbat Services, Shabbat Services, Mediterranean Shabbat, Family Shabbat Dinner and Service, Morning Minyan, ShaBaBimBam, B’nai Mitzvah: Ari Ben-Zvi, Zachary Lew, Yael Everett, Adam Kinderman, Jennifer Schneider, 7th Grade Aliyah Celebration, Religious School End-of-Year Celebration, Lag B’Omer Fire Festival, Fall B’nai Mitzvah Parents Meeting, Keruv Meeting, Religious School Yom HaShoah Program, “Who Will Write Our History” movie viewing, Religious School Yom Ha’Atzmaut Program, Adult B’nai Mitzvah Class, Men’s Club Meeting, TBE Discussion Group, Sisterhood Board Meeting, Finance Committee Meeting, Beth El Cemetery Association Meeting, TBE Annual Meeting, Board of Trustees Meeting, Executive Committee Meeting

JUNE

Kabbalat Shabbat Services, Shabbat Under the Stars at Cove Island Park, Shabbat Services, Susan Schneiderman, D’var Torah, B’nai Mitzvah: Elexis Handel, Liav Vadel, Nathaniel Harrison, Sisterhood Shabbat, Wine and Cheese Reception for Cantor Magda Fishman, Tikkun Leil Shavuot Service, Shavuot Services, Morning Minyan, ShaBaBimBam, LGBTQ Pride Shabbat - Sontaia Briggs, guest speaker, Annual Cantor’s Concert honoring Honni and Sylvan Pomerantz, Men’s Club Blood Drive and Health Fair, Men’s Club Scholarship Awards, Sisterhood Jewelry and Accessory Sale - Round 2, Young Families Schmooze and Stroll, Adult B’nai Mitzvah Class, Sisterhood Mah Jongg Tournament, Reyut - Life after Divorce, Beth El Cemetery Association Meeting, Board of Trustees Meeting, Executive Committee Meeting
**TREE OF LIFE**

A beautiful way to commemorate a special occasion is to purchase a “leaf” on our beautiful “Tree of Life” sculpture adorning our Temple lobby. There are many more leaves available for your own personal inscriptions.

The following categories are still available:

- **Triple Chai** $5,400
- **Guardians of the Temple** $1,000
- **Silver Leaves - Gold Border** $750
- **Silver Leaves** $250

**CONTRIBUTING SHARES OF STOCK TO TEMPLE BETH EL**

One way to boost your charitable contributions to Temple Beth El is to give shares of appreciated stock instead of cash. You do not pay any tax on your capital gain, and your charitable deduction is the shares' entire fair market value.

Several Beth El members contribute shares of stock to satisfy their dues pledge, their annual fund pledge, and other contributions to the Temple.

After consulting your tax advisor, please contact the TBE office at 203-322-6901.

**DEDICATE A PRAYER BOOK**

Having a simcha or observing a yahrtzeit? Why not dedicate a prayer book to honor the occasion?

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This dedication costs $72.

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- **$50**: One prayer book for your personal use or donate one to the Temple.
- **$250**: Six prayer books will be donated to the Temple.
- **$500**: Twelve prayer books will be donated to the Temple.
- **$1,000**: Twenty-one prayer books will be donated to the Temple. Four books will be given to your family.
- **$2,500**: Sixty prayer books will be donated to the Temple. Four prayer books will be given to your family.
- **$5,000**: One hundred twenty-five prayer books will be donated to the Temple. Six prayer books will be given to your family.

For amounts over $5,000, please contact Steven Lander at 203-322-6901, ext. 304 or by e-mail execdir@tbe.org for details.

**ATTENTION PARENTS OF COLLEGE STUDENTS**

Rabbi Hammerman would like to stay in touch with your child while he/she is away at college. Please send his/her e-mail address to Ellen in the Temple office at adminassist@tbe.org. Thank you!

**Get involved, please…**

Help Wanted! In order to maintain our vibrant and dynamic community, the Fund-Raising Committee needs more members to support TBE and volunteer their skills and talents. Many of these opportunities ask for very small-time commitments. Please consider getting involved with the:

- Annual Appeal | Temple Rock | Cantor’s Concert

If you are interested in volunteering, please contact us and we will give you more information. Thank you!

Steve Sosnick (mssosnick@att.net)

Fund-Raising Chair
WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS

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BARBARA ARONICA-BUCK ON RECEIVING THE FRED WEISMAN TIKKUN OLAM AWARD FROM TBE
Susan & Art Greenwald, Fran & Rabbi Gerry Ginsburg, Madge & Michael Kellick, Marsh Colten & Robert Cohen

THE PUBLICATION OF MENSCH • MARKS
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STEPHNE BEHREND ON BECOMING PRESIDENT OF THE WESTCHESTER/FAIRFIELD REGION OF AJC
Susan & Art Greenwald

HONNI & SYLVAN POMERantz ON BEING HONORED BY TBE
Marsha Matthews

CARL SHAPIRO ON HIS RETIREMENT
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RABBI JOSHUA HAMMERMAN AND CANTOR MAGDA FISHMAN FOR PREPARING JAKE TO BECOME A BAR MITZVAH
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JACOB HERZ ON RECEIVING THE TEEN VOLUNTEER AWARD FROM TBE
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Rabbi Gerry Ginsburg on receiving s’micha by the Romanowitz Family

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WE MOURN THE PASSING OF...

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DAVID GOFSSTEIN, son of Phyllis Gofsstein
JEROME ROSE, z’l

MEMORIAL PLAQUES

Inscribe the names of your loved ones on a plaque for our Chapel wall along with a light to commemorate their yahrtzeit and yizkor observances throughout the year.

SHIVA NOTICES AVAILABLE ON-LINE

Congregants who are looking for shiva information can now quickly look online instead of searching their inbox for the announcement or calling the synagogue office. Just go to TBE’s website (www.tbe.org) and click “Shiva Notices” under the WHAT’S NEW menu.
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When making a donation an acknowledgement will be mailed to the designee for donations of $10 or more. Donations of less than $10 will be acknowledged only in the Bulletin. All donations will be published in the Bulletin unless you state that you wish to be anonymous.

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Contact Steven Lander for all of the new, reasonably priced Kiddush options at 322-6901, ext. 304 or execdir@tbe.org.

RECOMMENDED LISTINGS

HAVE YOU VISITED OUR WEBSITE?
www.tbe.org
Find out about the latest news and upcoming activities … access our online membership directory … register for events and make donations … connect to TBE’s Twitter and Facebook pages … and much more.

THE DEADLINE FOR THE SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER 2019 ISSUE OF THE TEMPLE BETH EL BULLETIN IS: AUGUST 1, 2019

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In honor of…
Honnii & Sylvan Pomerantz for being honored by TBE at the Annual Cantor’s Concert by Marsha Matthews

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Proudly serving the Jewish community in Stamford since 1928.

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Dignity
LIFE WELL CELEBRATED®
SAVE THE DATE!

ANNUAL BBQ and BARACHU

Friday, September 6 at 5:30pm