

June 2016

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Temple Beth Shalom - Needham, Massachusetts

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What Makes the TBS Children's Center So Special?

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TBS Rising: A Year in Review

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To join the Scroll Editorial Board, or to contribute content, please email: scroll@tbsneedham.org

From the Editorial Board

Taking Account

Those on stage hear the strength of the applause. Educators see test results. Athletes get trophies. Movie stars get reviews. What about the Editorial Board of the Scroll? We need a survey to get feedback from you, our readers, to assess how we're doing. What do you want more of? What do you want less of? How well are we meeting your needs? Do you read every section? Would you if we did something differently?

These are all the things we wonder and so we have put together a survey to try to find out. We are your Scroll and we want it to feel like that for you. So please look for and complete the Scroll survey when it comes to you by email in the next month, or type in this link:

https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/JXKCXLR

Your responses will help us shape future issues of the Scroll. If you don't have email, you may send a note with your feedback to the Temple office.

Meanwhile, to help us plan for our High Holy Day issue in October, please tell us your Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur traditions. Just as we heard from people about how they celebrate Passover we would like to do the same about how you celebrate the High Holy Days. We welcome photos, stories, and anything that will shed interesting light on our community's holiday traditions. Please email to scroll@tbsneedham.org no later than August 15th. But why wait? Write to us now while you're thinking of it.

This is our last issue until September. But we'll be working over the summer to get the September issue ready. If you're already sad not to be receiving July and August issues, it means you should... join the Editorial Board! We always welcome help with the Scroll. If you're interested, please email scroll@tbsneedham.org. See you soon!

- Joni Burstein and the Scroll Editorial Board

Have a great summer. See you in September!

From the Clergy

The Power of Engagement By Rabbi Todd Markley

As the year's programs draw to a close, it is a natural choice for the Editorial Committee of the *Scroll* to select the theme of "a year in review" for this June edition, our last before summer arrives. While there is much to celebrate about these past months – most notably our successful relocation while our beautiful new temple home is being constructed – I want to highlight here a different reflection on time gone by.

In April, before my Sabbatical began, I took our graduating TBS 12th graders out to dinner. It was a delight to simply watch them enjoy one another and the friendships which have clearly taken on new meaning and import during their shared teen years here.

Yet, the highlight of the evening came when I asked each of them to reflect on their years at TBS - for some who attended our Children's Center they have been with us for as many as 15 years - and to share one thing which they've taken from their time at TBS and hope to bring with them into the next phases of their lives. Their words were exquisite. One reflected on his Jewish learning and on looking for a school with Judaic learning possibilities where he could continue to grow. Another recounted her experiences on our teen travel programs and how much she had developed a passion for doing good in our world because of these once-in-a-lifetime excursions. And yet another shared that she has grown to love working with children because of her time serving as a madrichah (teaching assistant) in our Mayim classrooms. Most all of them spoke openly about how much their peer group at TBS means to them and how they hope to maintain these friendships into the years ahead.

This is a microcosm of TBS at our best. When people step into relationships with one another in a sacred community – people of any age – we walk away transformed for the better ... having a better understanding of self, a deeper commitment to community, a new resolve for repairing our world. Most of all, we gain relationships of true meaning that will serve us well and enrich our lives for many years to come. May our TBS community go from strength to strength into a summer of rest and warmth, and into a new year in our new home.



JUNE 2016

FRIDAY, JUNE 3 (27 *IYAR* 5776) 7:00 PM —*Shabbat* Evening Service (TBS at Temple Beth David)

SATURDAY, JUNE 4 (27 IYAR 5776) Torah: B'midbar; Numbers. 1:1—4:20
8:30 AM — Shabbat Morning Minyan (Location TBD) 9:00 AM — Torah Study (Location TBD)
9:00 AM — Finding Our Jewish Values in Torah with Rabbi Orkand (Location TBD)
10:30 AM — Shabbat Morning Service (TBS at Temple Beth David) B'nei Mitzvah: Joshua and Hannah Keselman
1:30 PM — Shabbat Afternoon Service (Needham Sheraton) Bat Mitzvah: Hannah Reservitz

FRIDAY, JUNE 10 (5 SIVAN 5776)
6:15 PM — Kehillah Kids Shabbat Service (Rashi School)
6:15 PM — Tot Shabbat (Rashi School)
7:15 PM — Shabbat Evening Service (Rashi School)

SATURDAY, JUNE 11 (5 SIVAN 5776) Torah: Naso, Numbers. 4:21 — 7:89
8:30 AM — Shabbat Morning Minyan (Rashi School) 9:00 AM — Torah Study (Rashi School)
9:00 AM — Finding Our Jewish Values in Torah with Rabbi Orkand (Rashi School)
10:30 AM — Shabbat Morning Service (Rashi School) B'nei Mitzvah: Bennett and Ella Gauthier
7:30 PM — Erev Shavuot/Confirmation Service (TBS)

SUNDAY, JUNE 12 (6 SIVAN 5776) 7:00 AM — Shavuot Morning Service — Yizkor Read (Rashi School)

> **FRIDAY, JUNE 17 (12** *SIVAN* **5776)** 6:15 PM — *Shabbat* Evening Service (Rashi School)

SATURDAY, JUNE 18 (12 SIVAN 5776) Torah: Beha'alotcha, Numbers. 8:1 — 12:16
8:30 AM — Shabbat Morning Minyan (Rashi School) 9:00 AM — Torah Study (Rashi School)
9:00 AM — Finding Our Jewish Values in Torah with Rabbi Orkand (Rashi School)
10:30 AM — Shabbat Morning Service (Rashi School)
B'nei Mitzvah: Lila Coffman and Daniel Jacobson

FRIDAY, JUNE 24 (19 *SIVAN* **5776)** 6:00 PM — *Shabbat* Evening Service (Rashi School)

SATURDAY, JUNE 25 (19 SIVAN 5776) Torah: Sh'lach, Numbers. 13:1 — 15:41 8:30 AM — Shabbat Morning Minyan (Rashi School) 9:00 AM — Torah Study (Rashi School) 10:30 AM — Shabbat Morning Service (Rashi School)

Bat Mitzvah: Julia Hollfelder

From Our Leadership Introducing Myself By Bernice Sue Behar, President



I'm thrilled and honored to be the new President of Temple Beth Shalom. By way of introduction, a few words about my journey to this moment....

I grew up in a small western town with a very small Jewish population. My mother ensured that we had a Jewish home: we welcomed Shabbat every Friday night with candles, wine, challah, and blessings, celebrated Jewish holidays and ate traditional Jewish foods that mystified my friends (gribbenas anyone?); yet, I grew up longing to feel more connected to the Jewish community.

When Sam and I settled in Needham with our two small

children, we were determined to give them the opportunity to be a part of a Jewish community in a way that neither of us ever had been a part of. We joined Temple Beth Shalom in 1997, took our kids to Temple Tots, and made this our Jewish home.

My true connection to the Temple started when I decided it was time for my own

Jewish education to begin. I enrolled in the introductory Hebrew class and I learned a tiny bit of Hebrew, but more importantly, I made my first TBS friends. I went on to the Adult B'nei Mitzvah class and made more lasting friendships. It was everything I was looking for - Jewish learning and community tightly intertwined. Before long I was asked to serve as the Financial Secretary on the Board of Trustees, and my leadership path was underway.

I also made a professional change, leaving a career in the financial industry in 2010 because I wanted to work in a place that put Jewish values at the core of its mission. Since then, my work at Jewish Family & Children's Service has been fulfilling both professionally and spiritually, for which I am incredibly grateful. Two years ago I was asked to become the Executive Vice President on our Temple's Board of Trustees. I had been on the Board in various leadership positions for seven years, so it was not surprising that I might ascend to this next position. I wondered whether I was ready. Did I know enough about how to lead the community? Would I be able to juggle this new set of responsibilities along with the rest of my professional and personal life? After some deliberation and discussion with Sam, I embraced the idea and began a path of growing into the role of President of our very active and vibrant Temple community.

It is the custom in our congregation that the Executive Vice

"My true connection to the Temple started when I decided it was time for my own Jewish education to begin." President devotedly learn and prepare in order to ultimately take on the responsibility of the Presidency. Over these past two years, I have been blessed to observe, learn from, and work closely with Ed Zaval, who has mentored me with wisdom, humor, and great kindness. Together we have spent many hours discussing TBS issues ranging

from Temple finances and Mikdash, to philosophical conversations about the structure of our member commitment levels. We've shared many laughs and I am grateful for the chance I've had to learn from him.

Two years passed in a flash, and I am excited and ready to take on this new role in our community, guiding our Board of Trustees and working with our clergy and professional staff to achieve the very high goals we have set out for the next two years. Chief among them is finding our way out of the wilderness, and back into our beautiful new building. I look forward to joining you all there!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

TBS Car Club

High Holy Days 2016

It's not too early to mark your calendar for the High Holy Days and Sukkot in October 2016.

Rosh Hashana: Begins at sunset on Sunday, October 2, 2016 (29 Elul 5777), continues on Monday, October 3 and Tuesday, October 4 (1 and 2 Tishrei 5777), and ends at sunset on Tuesday, October 4, 2016 (2 Tishrei 5777).

Kol Nidre: Recited at sunset at the onset of *Yom Kippur*, Tuesday, October 11, 2016 (9 Tishrei 5777).

Yom Kippur: Begins at sunset on Tuesday, October 11, 2016 (9 Tishrei 5777), and ends at sunset on Wednesday, October 12, 2016 (10 Tishrei 5777).

Sukkot: Begins at sunset on Sunday, October 16, 2016 (14 Tishrei 5777), and ends at sunset on Sunday, October 23, 2016 (21 Tishrei 5777).



Noah Loren is exploring the idea of starting a TBS car club that would meet on a regular basis and/or potentially attend local automotive events together.

You do not need to be the current or former owner of a 'special' car (for example, a 1936 Bugatti T57SC Atlantic) ... you only need to be interested in cars and spending time with other like-minded TBS members.

If you are interested in such a group, **email Noah at** noahzloren@gmail.com

11th Annual Brotherhood Retreat

BROTHERHOOD

Plan now to join the Brotherhood for the 11th annual TBS Brotherhood Retreat at the Yarmouth Resort, West Yarmouth, MA. Enjoy two days away schmoozing with the boys, learning with the Rabbis, and eating too much, along with an indoor pool and a beautiful walk on the nearby beach. An announcement with sign-up details will be forthcoming in September.

Saturday, October 29, 2016 to Sunday, October 30, 2016

Questions? Contact: Brotherhood@TBSNeedham.org

Welcome To Our New Board

Temple Beth Shalom has a dynamic lay leadership structure. Each year the Board of Trustees is re-configured. This body of 17 members undergoes a change each June when some people, whose terms are expiring, transition off the Board. At the same time, new members are elected by the congregation to fill those spots. The result is that there are always experienced people at the table, and they are joined by a set of thoughtful people who bring new energy and ideas to our shared work. This year is no different, and those of us who are returning are excited to welcome new partners to our Board table.

Temple Beth Shalom Board of Trustees 2016 - 2017

Officers

President Executive VP VP Administration VP Caring Community VP Early Childhood Learning VP Finance and Treasurer VP Learning VP Religious and Cultural Practices VP Social Justice (Tikkun Olam) Secretary Nominating Committee

Board of Trustees

Trustees (2015)

Trustees (2017)

Bernice Sue Behar Jeffrey Shapiro Matthew Fogelman* Wendy Gutterson* Meridith Fried Eugene Stein* Lori Shaer Patti Grossman Carol Bolton Kappel* Ilan Barzilay* Elizabeth Berkman* Lisa Channen* Jeffrey Rosin*

Martha Barrett Judy Chudnofsky Peter Mesnik Anne Weinstein

James Fleckner* Linda Hill* Marlene Schultz Jenny Small

* New this year.

EVENTS THIS MONTH

For the most current and complete event notices, please see the TBS calendar (http://tbsneedham.org/calendar) and the weekly email. Planning an event? Submit it here: http://bit.ly/tbs-scroll

TBS Fundraiser at Stacy's Juicebar

Stop by Stacy's Juicebar any time during the week of June 6 - 11 for a late lunch, afternoon snack or dinner. Tell them you are there on behalf of TBS and Stacy's will donate a portion of your sale to the Temple. Grab a healthy nosh - good for you, good for TBS!

Monday, June 6, to Saturday, June 11, 2016, 3:00 - 7:00 PM, at Stacy's Juicebar, 1257 Highland Ave, Needham. Questions? Contact: Robyn Glazier, TBS Operations Manager (rglazier@tbsneedham.org, 781-444-0077)

TBS Garden Club Annual Meeting

The TBS Garden Club will be having its annual meeting, and all current members are welcome to attend. Dinner will be served, installation of the new Board members will take place, and other relevant matters will be addressed. Watch for an email invitation to RSVP and sign up.

Monday, June 13, 2016, 6:15 PM, at the Wellesley College Club, 727 Washington Street (Route 16), Wellesley (just inside the campus grounds entrance on the right coming from Wellesley Center). Questions? Contact: Fawn Hurwitz (gardenclub@tbsneedham.org, fhurwitz@aol.com)

Brotherhood President's Annual BBQ

Join the TBS Brotherhood for the annual President's barbecue! This casual and social evening is compliments of the Brotherhood. See old friends, make new friends, and nosh on freshly grilled burgers and dogs with all the fixings, plus slaw, chips, and other goodies too numerous to mention. This event draws a large crowd every year, so plan to get out of the house and come early. Look for an evite and RSVP - it should be in your inbox!

Thursday, June 9, 2016, starting at 6:00 PM at the home of Alan Fanger, 47 William Street, Needham. Questions? Contact: Brotherhood@TBSNeedham.org

Families with Young Children - Tot Shabbat

Join us to celebrate Shabbat with songs, prayers, and the much loved mini challah! This event is free, but registration is needed prior to June 7th.

Friday, June 10 at 6:15 PM at The Rashi School Questions? Contact: Ellen Dietrick, Director of Early Childhood Learning (edietrick@tbsneedham.org) or tbsfamily.org

Shabbat Morning Yoga

Last session of the year! Come and do something that is good for your body and good for your mind. This class is for beginners or veterans of yoga. Come with an open mind and experience what yoga can do for you. Please bring a yoga mat if you have one and a can of tuna or salmon for a donation to Family Table.

June 4, 2016, at Avita of Needham (Northbridge), 880 Greendale Avenue, Needham, in the Community Room.

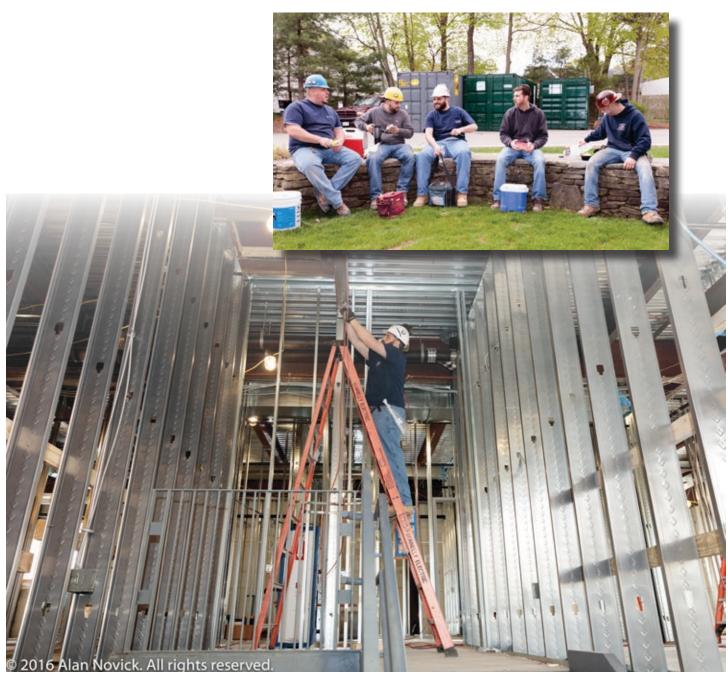


SAVE THE DATE

Three Score and More: Architectural Cruise of Boston Harbor Followed by Pizza Party

Plan to join Three Score and More for a 90-minute architectural boat tour along Boston Harbor, the Charles River Locks, and the Charles River basin. Bus transportation will be provided from the Temple Beth Shalom parking lot, and a pizza party at the Glous' home will follow on our return. Flyer with cost and other information has been distributed.

Sunday, July 10, 2016 - Meet in the TBS parking lot no later than 12:45 PM for bus that leaves at 1:00 PM sharp. Questions? Contact: Brenda Nagel (brendanagel2@gmail.com, 508-652-9929)



2015-2016 In Review

TEMPLE BETH SHALOM

The Year that Almost Wasn't By Marty Goldberg, President

Intrigued by the title? Our Diaspora year, nearly completed, almost never was – at least for Brotherhood. Our two main events of the year, the 10th Annual Brotherhood Retreat in October and the annual TBS Blood Drive in December, were in danger of being canceled due logistical issues. However, in the true spirit of Brotherhood we were able to persevere! After the room we booked for our Brotherhood Retreat was inadvertently given to another customer, our hosts were able to find other accommodations for us and our Retreat was a great success. Then we learned that the room we had reserved for the TBS Blood Drive had been mistakenly assigned to a different group! Alan Novick, chair of the Blood Drive, pulled off a coup and we were able to use the Senior Center in Needham Heights, resulting in another very successful Blood Drive.

The rest of the year has been great, filled with High Holiday ushering, the annual Leroy Davis Sports breakfast, quarterly social events at Mandarin Cuisine and Yard House, not to mention our Brotherhood-Sisterhood progressive dinner and Artist in Residence program. We also celebrated our Marc Comras Award winner, the distinguished Paul Alpert. Bookended by our President's BBQ in June, our Brotherhood programs have resulted in a very successful and rewarding year. We look forward to welcoming all Brothers next year at our new Temple home, and we can't wait!

Sisterhood - A Year in Review

By Gail Lustig, President

Looking back on the past year, many great events brought the members of Sisterhood together. During this year of wandering, we found warmth and welcome in many parts of Needham. Starting off the fall



with our membership dinner and rummage sale, we said goodbye to the "old TBS" while celebrating these annual events. We held other annual events, such as our well-attended Hanukah Party and Women's Seder, which kept our community together. We also held a new(ish) member event which was all about chocolate! Many women learned to play Mah Jongg, and, of course, our annual spirituality retreat on Cape Cod was a great success.



With our final event, Donor Dinner, in May, we are looking forward to coming home in the fall. Our sense of community is even stronger as so many members opened their homes for our events throughout the year. At the end of our Passover Seders, we all said "Next year in Jerusalem!" At the end of our amazing year, we say "Next year we will be home once again!"



TBS Garden Club By Fawn Hurwitz, President

The Garden Club's year in the "wilderness" has been a huge success. In addition to increasing our membership to 111 people, we have increased our overall participation.

Many new members helped with Needham's Art in Bloom, which drew in close to 2,800 visitors at the Needham Library. We also had outstanding programs that covered many diverse topics, from Ikebana (Japanese Floral Design) to Herbs to Dining with Flowers.



Not every committee gets to enjoy a field trip, but ours to Canyon Ranch in the Berkshires was a hit. Not only did we get a private tour of the grounds, a special cooking demo, and much more, but we got to pamper ourselves and relax.



There is something for everyone in this club! You don't need to be a master gardener or a floral designer to join. You can simply come and learn from the very talented and experienced members and presenters.

We have just begun planning exciting workshops and programs for next year. Adding our touch to our new Temple home will be an amazing treat!



Three Score and More By Roberta Gerson and Ina Melen, Co-Chairs

If you can do the math, you'll have fun with us. With over

400 of us, you're sure to find folks who share your interests. Yes, we provide programs and initiatives to create friendships among members age sixty and older.

This past year saw outings to "The Rat Pack Musical" at the Reagle Theatre in Waltham followed by a pizza party in November, a trip to the movies and dinner in January, a wonderful Shabbat Kallah on

"Judaism and Islam" with Rabbi Emeritus Rifat Sonsino in late April, and our annual spring trip to the Boston Pops in May. There's more to come – like an architectural cruise of Boston Harbor followed by a pizza party in July. And, we are planning a "50s Sock Hop" in November and a showing of "Raise the Roof" on a Sunday afternoon in March.

Besides planning events and programs, we improved our Board's effectiveness and governance. Ina Glasberg developed much needed guidelines for our organization that are commensurate



with our mission statement and goals. We will have more officers with defined responsibilities to ensure that we continue to offer our members engaging and fun activities.

Please come to our events!! No dues, no fundraising; just pay for the event you attend.

If you are interested in helping us plan future events, please contact the new incoming 2016-2017 Co-Chairs Margie Glou (mglou@comcast.net or 781-444-0943) and Arline Aransky (arlineba@aol.com or 781-373-3479).



Continued on Page 12

Families with Young Children: A Year in Review

By Ellen Dietrick, Director of Early Childhood Learning

We held over 500 classes and events and involved over 500 people this year!

We prayed, sang, and danced together. We believe in nurturing the spiritual selves of even the youngest children. From our packed sanctuary during our services for families with young children at Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur to our Friday night Tot Shabbat services to our family seder, there have been so many opportunities to join together in worship and prayer.

We celebrated! The outdoor Sukkot Block Party, attended by over 300, was also a chance to celebrate the groundbreaking of our new building. Just before Chanukah we created ceramic menorahs to use at home and on Tu B'Shevat we celebrated all the earth provides with planting and tree crafts. There is always something to celebrate at TBS!

We helped others and the world. In

February, over 40 of us gathered for a morning of community service projects: creating birthday cards and bags for the Needham Food Bank, making blankets for an animal shelter, and making lasagnas for families in the TBS community who are experiencing illness. Children also designed their own tzedakah boxes to continue helping others at home. In April over 75 of us created Shabbat baskets to deliver to members of the TBS community as part of the Temple-wide Tikkun Olam Day. We cooked! Challah braiding, latke tasting, hamentaschen baking, charoset making... cooking and eating are powerful learning opportunities for our youngest community members and we filled the year with many Jewish food experiences.

We supported each other and learned together. Dawn Ellis and Liz Berkman, our Child Development and Parenting Specialists, taught classes for every age and interest level. From creating support networks of women giving birth for the first time to art classes filled with creative young

> minds, our Bumps, Babies and Beyond program served hundreds of families this year.

Our weekly e-newsletters reach over 900 parents with young children. To join the list go to http://eepurl.com/ Z42Gj.

EDUCATION

A Wonderful Year in Mayim (Grades K-5) By Rachel Happel, Director of K-12 Learning

The children in kindergarten and 1st grade spent the year learning about Jewish time and space. Their main focus was on holidays, Shabbat, and the land of Israel. They created a beautiful calendar that includes photos, holiday stories, recipes, and more!

The children in 2nd and 3rd grade spent the year learning the family stories in Genesis, the first book of the Torah, and how the Torah calls on us to care for others. The children spent several weeks on each story, examining it from different angles, and learning to retell it themselves. They also had an opportunity to work with Josh Winer, an incredible local artist-educator, who "I am proud of what I contributed to the new Mayim siddur, because it will be used for years in the future." *-Andrew B, 5th grader*

"I liked how we got to create the siddur with a group. I am proud of the beautiful paintings that we made. I learned that if you work hard on something, it will look beautiful." -Julia S, 4th grader

gathered the children's images and ideas about the story and helped us create a huge mural for the stairwell of our new building. The mural will bring these stories and the core value of Torah to life within our walls.

"It is so nice to see and hear the children thinking, discussing and concluding on what THEY think and how they feel regarding the stories that are told. What a

wonderful challenge and engagement you have created for them. I think the new TBS slogan should be: "This isn't your father's Hebrew school."" -Parent of a 2nd and 3rd grader

The children in 4th and 5th grade spent the year learning about prayer and created a new siddur (prayer book). The new siddur is called *Tfiloteinu: Our Prayers* and will be used by our Mayim children during their weekly *tfilah* (prayer gatherings) for the next few years. We are so proud of their hard work, their learning, and the beautiful results!

"One thing I liked about making the siddur is that we got to express our creativity. We got to make and design paintings the way we wanted to. I doubt that every Hebrew school provides that experience!" -Liza G, 5th grader









SPOTLIGHT

What Makes the TBS Children's Center So Special?

Becky and Brian Rolnick-Fox, Parents of Jonah and Gideon



TBS is special in so many ways, but one of them is how the educators and staff nourish the Jewish souls of our two boys - Jonah (Etzim 3-4 Year Old Class) and Gideon (Levana 2-3 Year Old Class). The boys constantly bring home rituals to add to our own traditions. Gideon - who loved eating Jonah's *challah* last year before entering preschool himself - now bursts with joy and pride when we place the *challah* he makes at TBS on the table every Friday night. And, on a Shabbat not long ago, Jonah stopped us after we lit the candles: "Before we say the blessings, I want to share the light." He proceeded to cup his hands and give light to each person at the table before taking some for himself - a ritual he learned at school. Thank you, TBS, for caring for our children so deeply, and for giving us lasting memories and beautiful rituals that have become a part of our own family traditions. Florence Battis, Grandmother of Rocky and Gersh



I spent a lot of time in Quaker meeting this morning thinking about Gersh and Rocky and their experiences at nursery school, prompted by ministry a week ago about the importance of joy in worship. What I thought was how carefully TBS is teaching Gersh and Rocky and their friends to find happiness in their Jewish traditions, whether it's sitting all in a row and marvelling at the Torah scroll unrolled across all those little laps (and we are careful not to touch the writing!) or acting out the story of Esther or Passover, where I can see that, in both cases, they are being taught to recognize the suffering but celebrate the deliverance. What a gift.

Jaime and Ari Wexler, Parents of Jesse, Joely, and Jack



I love how Jesse sings himself to bed at night with a roaring version of "let my people go" or I'll catch him in the rear view mirror doing the hand motions to *Shir Hallelu*, mouthing the

SPOTLIGHT (CONTINUED)

words. A simple thank you note we received from the Temple office turned into a re-enactment of a regal speech, addressing friends in class by first and last names followed by "thank you." Jesse's siblings refer to him as "the family Rabbi," always willing to retell a religious tradition, always armed with a handmade *challah*, and totally willing to sing a solo of any holiday song. His bucket is over-flowing. I could go on forever - he just oozes the love for his friends, teachers and Judaism!

Jenn Scheck Kahn and Brian Kahn, Parents of Naomi and Eli



TBS is truly a second home for us and our children, particularly for Naomi, who joined the Children's Center last year in *Etzim*, is now a proud member of *Ruach*, and just asked if we could have her next birthday party at TBS. At drop-off last year, the child you could hear crying from our car was Eli, desperate to gain admittance to TBSCC, and this year, he delights in carrying HIS backpack to HIS class, crying far less often. We are grateful that our children's first experience of Judaism is rooted in the rich confidence building and joyful "wonder" years at TBS.

Carol Walsh, Teacher of Etzim 3-4 Year Old Class



I have really enjoyed and appreciated the Jewish tradition of Shabbat. At the beginning of the school year I attended my first-ever Friday morning Shabbat service in the sanctuary. I was so moved by my feelings of community and joy. The beautiful songs brought tears to my eyes. Oftentimes, after Shabbat I go home humming and singing the

songs all weekend. I know that I am not alone with this as I hear the children humming or singing the songs that were just sung earlier in the day. It's a calming and peaceful start to a weekend filled with family and love. Temple Beth Shalom is truly a unique learning experience for both children and adults.

Jeff and Debbie Buchbinder, Parents of Hillary and Emily



We are very thankful to be part of such a warm and welcoming community in Needham and most especially at TBS.

Emily and Mike Margolis, Parents of Jack and Teddy



When it came time for Jack to start preschool, TBS was a natural choice as Emily had gone there herself as a child as had her older brother. We look forward to sending Teddy to TBS in a few short years as well.

Marlene Greenstein, Site Director



My "temporary" office is right by the children's bathroom. Children pass my office all the time and we have impromptu chats as they come and go. Recently a child asked me if I was going to work at Temple Beth Shalom Children's Center "forever." I told him that "forever" is a really long time but I hope I will be around for a while because I love the school. I then asked why he wanted to know,

to which he replied, "If you're not here, who will watch us go to the bathroom every day!" In the eyes of this child, I provided a sense of dependability, support, and friendship. As I reflected on this

SPOTLIGHT (CONTINUED)

sweet exchange, I realized these qualities mirrored some of the goals I set for myself for my first year at TBSCC.

Before coming to TBSCC, I worked at another preschool for twenty-nine years. During my time there building a community with my families was always a priority; however, it was shortlived. Families would be part of our community for only three or four years, and then they were on their way. Now that I have been at TBSCC, I have a whole new perspective about the meaning of community. Having a preschool that is part of a congregation allows the children and their families to build "life-long" relationships. People may come to TBSCC for the programs – or our new building – but it will be the "relationships" they build that will make them want to stay.

I am so honored to be part of this rich early childhood program. Ellen's leadership and the wonderful TBSCC teachers have created an incredible child-centered program within a caring Jewish community. I'm looking forward to many more years building relationships with the children, TBS community, and faculty.

Tamara Kremer Mecabell & Francisco Quitana, Parents of Tomas and Lucia



We miss our family and that is why it was important for us to join a welcoming community like the one in TBS. We are very glad that we joined last year and we try to participate in the events as much as we can.

Lauri Cohen, Teacher of Adamah 3-4 Year Old Class



One of the many things I appreciate about working at Temple Beth Shalom is when personal challenges have come my way in life. TBS has given me and my family endless support, advice, and guidance that has helped me both personally and

professionally! I am eternally grateful!

TBS is such a positive warm, happy place to work. I feel fortunate to be part of such a wonderful community!

David and Dara Grossman, Parents of Ian and Jared



Temple Beth Shalom Children's Center is a nurturing and enriching environment. The tight-knit community is warm and welcoming and the dedicated teachers are top-notch. The curriculum has introduced my children to the joys of Jewish life and has set the foundation for them to be curious learners who take care of themselves, each other and the world around them. We feel blessed to be a part of such a vibrant community.

Maria Gonzalez Griffith, Teacher of Ruach 4-5 Year Old Class



For me a special moment was watching how excited the children were when they remember to bring in coins from home to donate to *tzedakah*. I love how we make *tzedakah* part of our daily thought process during the school day and not just on Fridays in preparation for Shabbat. As Rabbi Todd taught me, we are called to give every day to those

in need. This sense of giving back is what I love and what makes TBS special. Together with the children, we are looking into organizations that might benefit from all we have collected this year. In the fall the children cooked dinner for a TBS member who broke her leg and another who was ill. The children and their parents were so excited to participate. Just before Purim the children designed *mishloach manot*, Purim gift baskets, to deliver to the residents at Newbridge. This is what I love about TBS! It's just a loving, giving community! I love the Jewish values of taking care of others and ourselves. We are called to action and it is done in such a child centered way. Our children are blessed indeed.



One Day on a Shabbat Hike...

Photos by Alan Novick, May 14, 2016, Wilson Mountain Preserve











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IN APPRECIATION OF Rabbi Perlman for all his support &

kindness Rabbi Perlman's kindness & support

- during our period of mourning lerrv Bruder
- Rabbi Jay for his compassion, support, & for officiating at my father, Louis Goldberg's, funeral
- Rabbi Jay at Scarlett Zweig's baby Naming
- Rabbi Jay for helping to make Jonah's Bar Mitzvah a wonderful & memorable day & journey Rabbi Perlman helping Emma prepare
- for her Bat Mitzvah

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Liana's participation in Cinderella

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- Rabbi Markley at the celebration of Kate & Brian's wedding
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IN HONOR OF Rabbi Sonsino's 50 years in the Rabbinate

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Cantor Jonas for helping to make Jonah's Bar Mitzvah a wonderful & memorable day & journey

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Barry and Wendy Wilensky, Rachel and Adam on the passing of their father and grandfather, Sam Wilensky

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