

Scroll

Temple Beth Shalom – Needham, Massachusetts

October 2022

Tishri/Heshvan 5783



TBS Learning Programs as a “Haven” During the Pandemic

Page 14



TBS OUTDOORS EDUCATOR

**Collectively
We Can Make a Difference!**

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On the Cover

TBS Outdoors © 2021 Alan Novick

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To join the *Scroll* Editorial Board,
please email: scroll@tbsneedham.org

To contribute content,
go to: tbsneedham.org/submit

From the Editorial Board

We hope you have been enjoying the holidays and the onset of autumn. Here at the Editorial Board, we have been drawing up ideas to create connections among our members through stories that, we hope, entertain and enlighten. As you will see below, there are perks to being on the Editorial Board. One is the occasional opportunity to taste the wonderful culinary creations of our congregants. If you would like to contribute as a chef or taster, please read on! First, the fine print: if you get to taste, you’ve got to write... or edit... or help with layout or advertising! We have a lot of fun and welcome new members to join us. If you are interested, please contact us at scroll@tbsneedham.org.

Do You Make Delicious Charoset?

Charoset recipes vary throughout the world. The Scroll would like to feature the variety of recipes that are family treasures and traditions from our congregation! If you would like to include your charoset in our panel of delicacies, please let us know. The Scroll Editorial Board will be having a charoset tasting and photo shoot in early November. To have your recipe included and to deliver a small sample of your lovingly created Passover delight, please email scroll@tbsneedham.org. Deadline for signing up is October 15.

Does a Special Mezuzah Adorn Your Door Post?

The Scroll will be featuring photos and the stories behind the mezuzahs that are meaningful to our congregants. Please send us a photo of a favorite mezuzah from your home, and tell us the story behind it. Did someone special give it to you? Did you get it during travels? Did it come with the house buried beneath layers of paint? We want to know! Email your photos and stories to scroll@tbsneedham.org. Word limit: 150. Deadline: November 15.

By Joni Burstein on behalf of the Editorial Board



The Editorial Board enjoy an outdoor moment of fun over Chinese food.

Services in October

Services will be in person and via live stream for the month of October.
Please check the TBS website and emails for livestream links.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 1 (6 Tishri 5783)

Torah: *VaYelech* Deut. 31:1 - 30
8:30 AM Shabbat Morning Service (Beit Midrash)
9:00 AM Torah Study (Beit Midrash)
9:15 AM Finding Our Jewish Values in the Torah (Conference Room - Front & online)

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 4 (10 Tishri 5783)

6:45 PM Kol Nidre Community Service (Early) (Sanctuary)
8:45 PM Kol Nidre Community Service (Late) (Sanctuary)

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 5 (10 Tishri 5783)

8:30 AM Yom Kippur Community Service (Early) (Sanctuary)
9:00 AM Yom Kippur Families with Young Children Service (Rashi School)
11:15 AM Yom Kippur Community Service (Late) (Sanctuary)
11:15 AM Yom Kippur Family Service (Rashi School)
2:00 PM High Holy Day Learning with Rabbi Bob Orkand (Online)
3:00 PM Yom Kippur Spiritual Journey Program (Sanctuary)
4:00 PM Yom Kippur Afternoon Service with Torah Reading from the Holocaust Scroll (Sanctuary)
5:00 PM Yizkor Memorial Service (Sanctuary)
5:45 PM Ne'ilah Concluding Service + Havdalah (Sanctuary)

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 7 (13 Tishri 5783)

7:15 PM Simchat Shabbat Evening Service (Sanctuary)

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 8 (13 Tishri 5783)

Torah: *Ha'azinu* Deut. 32:1 - 52
8:30 AM Shabbat Morning Service (Beit Midrash)
9:00 AM Lay-led Torah Study (Beit Midrash)
9:15 AM Finding Our Jewish Values in the Torah (Conference Room - Front) (& online)
B. Mitzvah: Sylvie Ripin and Isabella Glaser

MONDAY, OCTOBER 10 (15 Tishri 5783)

7:00 AM Sukkot Morning Festival Service
B. Mitzvah: Lindsey Goldfine

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 14 (20 Tishri 5783)

7:15 PM Erev Shabbat Service (Sanctuary)

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 15 (20 Tishri 5783)

Chol HaMo-ed Sukkot, Ex. 33:12 - 34:26
8:30 AM Shabbat Morning Service (Beit Midrash)
9:00 AM Torah Study (Beit Midrash)
9:15 AM Finding Our Jewish Values in the Torah (Conference Room -Front) (& online)
B. Mitzvah: Molly Hammer and Abby Hammer

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 16 (21 Tishri 5783)

5:30 PM Simchat Torah Service and Consecration Blessing

MONDAY, OCTOBER 17 (22 Tishri 5783)

7:00 AM Simchat Torah Morning Service, Yizkor (Beit Midrash)

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 21 (27 Tishri 5783)

6:15 PM Erev Shabbat Service (Sanctuary)

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 22 (27 Tishri 5783)

Torah: *Bereisheet* Gen. 1:1 - 6:8
8:30 AM Shabbat Morning Service (Beit Midrash)
9:00 AM Torah Study (Beit Midrash)
9:15 AM Finding Our Jewish Values in the Torah (Conference Room - Front & online)
B. Mitzvah: Gabriel Waller
B. Mitzvah: William Reservitz

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 28 (4 Heshvan 5783)

6:15 PM Erev Shabbat Service (Sanctuary)

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 29 (4 Heshvan 5783)

Torah: *Noach* Gen. 6:9 - 11:32
8:30 AM Shabbat Morning Service (Beit Midrash)
9:00 AM Torah Study (Beit Midrash)
9:15 AM Finding Our Jewish Values in the Torah (Conference Room -Front & online)
B. Mitzvah: Avery Trachtenberg and Jake Trachtenberg

Please join the TBS Community for *Minyan*

- Monday and Thursday mornings at 7:00 AM in-person, in the Sanctuary.
- Tuesday through Thursday evenings at 6:45 PM online only. Zoom links are published in the "TBS This Week" email.

Committee Meetings in October – Stay Involved!

Committees not listed will not meet formally this month.

Committee Name	Date and Time	Email Contact for Information
Adult Learning	Wed. Oct. 12, 7:30 PM	AdultLearning@tbsneedham.org
Brotherhood Board	Tue. Oct. 11, 7:15 PM	Brotherhood@tbsneedham.org
Communications	Wed. Oct. 19, 7:15 PM	Communications@tbsneedham.org
Environmental Action	Thur. Oct. 27, 8:00 PM	EnvironAction@tbsneedham.org
Garden Club	Thur. Oct. 6, 7:15 PM	GardenClub@tbsneedham.org
Library	Wed. Oct. 12, 19, 26, 9:30 AM	Library@tbsneedham.org
Scroll Editorial Board	Mon. Oct. 3, 12:00 PM	Scroll@tbsneedham.org
Sisterhood Leadership Council	Thur. Oct. 6, 7:30 PM	Sisterhood@tbsneedham.org
Three Score/More or Less	Mon. Oct. 24, 7:00 PM	ThreeScoreMoreOrLess@tbsneedham.org
Tzedek	Tue. Oct. 11, 7:15 PM	Tzedek@tbsneedham.org

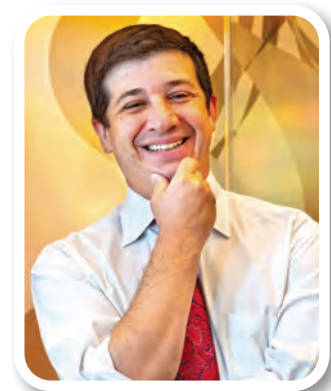
Please check with the email contact in case of a change in date and for meeting location.



From Our Clergy

Answering the Call for Jewish Learning in Pandemic Times

By Rabbi Todd Markley



Providing quality Jewish learning for our children - under most any circumstance - has been a core value at the heart of our people since ancient days. In Deuteronomy, the Torah instructs us to teach our people's laws, rituals, and traditions to our children again and again. Our Sages preserved these words in our daily liturgy as part of the *Shema* and *V'ahavta* prayers, placing children's learning atop a Jewish community's foremost priorities. According to Rabbinic legend, when the earliest generations of our people fled their home in Canaan, seeking refuge from famine in the land of Egypt, their first move was to establish schools for their children. Holidays provided opportunities for youths to ask questions and engage with the rituals of our people. Already by 75 BCE the High Priest had declared elementary education mandatory for children beginning at age 6 or 7, and over the centuries, we acquired the moniker "The People of the Book," not only because we placed Torah and our sacred texts at the center of our lives, but also because we have placed such a high premium on learning for people of all ages.

Temple Beth Shalom strives to continue this grand tradition in our own way. Throughout the year, we have myriad Jewish learning opportunities available to adults in our community. In addition, under the leadership of our Senior Directors of Learning and Engagement, Ellen Dietrick and Rachel Happel, our Jewish learning and engagement begins, in some cases within weeks or months of a child's birth, and continues all the way through their teen years. Our learning programs and educators have been celebrated, have received awards, and, as you will see in this month's issue of the *Scroll*, are featured in the new book *Havens of Hope: Ideas for Redesigning Education from the COVID-19 Pandemic*.

In particular, this new work by Dr. Shira Leibowitz focuses on our Mayim Outdoors learning program, which allows students to come together for learning outside at Camp Grossman and Hale Reservation. Inspired to be creative when facing the challenges of COVID-19 in the months leading up to the 2020-21 school year, the TBS education

team took note of the emerging data that the virus was not nearly as transmissible outside. The team expected that only a few dozen families would choose this new option that would meet for six longer Sunday sessions in the fall and again for another six sessions in the spring (avoiding the outdoors during the coldest months). Lo and behold, over 200 students chose the outdoor learning model, which has inspired us to continue the program!

Of course, the book could have focused on any number of facets of youth learning at TBS that responded creatively and thoughtfully to the pandemic: outdoor Chanukah celebrations, taking advantage of our parking lot as added programming space for preschoolers through teens, providing vaccination clinics for faculty and children alike, creating a "Drive the Exodus" experience for Passover, and on and on. I am proud of our educators for their ingenuity, flexibility, and steadfast commitment to our children's Jewish learning, under even the most challenging of circumstances... and at every other time as well.



From Our Board of Trustees

Audacious Hospitality

By Wendy Gutterson, Congregational President



One of my favorite Torah stories centers on the gracious and warm experiences enjoyed by strangers in Sarah and Abraham's tent. I love that not only were all welcome, but Abraham didn't just wait for people to arrive, he actively invited guests, and actively welcomed others, boldly demonstrating what we might now call audacious hospitality.

A commitment to welcoming is also one of the things I love about Temple Beth Shalom. Our approach means that all who enter are greeted with warmth and care. We consistently strive to create a sense of belonging, demonstrations of being glad to be together, and of letting you know you matter. I love our Welcome Desk and am so appreciative of the work of the TBS Welcome Corps.

As someone with a regular shift at the Welcome Desk for several years, I know firsthand what a special role our Welcome Corps plays in our community. It's a privilege to greet those who may be entering the building for the first time. Welcoming gives us the chance to catch up with old friends or to converse with new people without knowing how we might impact each other in the future. I've also had the great joy of walking into the building and seeing my children sitting at the Welcome Desk - what an unexpected and pleasant surprise!

Throughout COVID, many of us were isolated at home and are just now re-emerging and re-entering the building. Over the past year, seeing community members, parents, and students walk back into the building for the first time in two years (or perhaps ever) has been an amazing sight to see. Our community, which may have been primarily virtual, is now primarily in person. We all know that TBS is so much more than a building, yet walking through our doors and being warmly greeted truly feels like coming home.

This month, as the days grow cooler but the warmth of Rosh Hashanah, Yom Kippur, Sukkot, and Simchat Torah linger, I encourage, even challenge, you to think about what it means to be welcomed and welcoming at Temple Beth Shalom.

Let's make this season the time for you to come back and join in, to learn, to grow. Perhaps you'll begin by contributing an idea or article to the *Scroll* or maybe you'll join the next Brotherhood, Sisterhood, Three Score/More or Less, Garden Club, or ConNEXTions event. Or possibly, we'll see you seated at the Welcome Desk.

Please consider this your personal invitation from me to do one new thing. I look forward to welcoming you.

L'Shalom,

Wendy

PS - Not sure how to get started? Feel free to reach out to me at president@tbsneedham.org. I truly welcome the opportunity to hear from you.



B. Mitzvah

Sylvie Ripin, Saturday, October 8

School: Pollard Middle School

Interests: Sylvie loves dance, softball, field hockey, spending time with family and friends, and attending camp!

Mitzvah Project: Sylvie raised funds for Make-a-Wish Foundation by baking sweet treats, and she also made lunches for homeless shelters.

Isabella Glaser, Saturday, October 8

School: Pollard Middle School

Interests: Isabella loves drawing and playing tennis, field hockey, softball, and basketball. She loves her family, friends, and her dog, Kylie.

Mitzvah Project: Isabella purchased and collected clothing for Catie's Closet, which allows children to choose clothing at their schools.

Lindsey Goldfine, Monday, October 10

School: Pollard Middle School

Interests: Lindsey loves to swim, play soccer, dance, travel, and be with her family and friends.

Mitzvah Project: Lindsey volunteered at Athletes Unlimited, helping special needs children learn to swim.

Abby Hammer, Saturday, October 15

School: Pollard Middle School

Interests: Abby enjoys swimming and soccer, hanging out with family and friends, and spending the summers at Camp Young Judea.

Mitzvah Project: Abby organized a clothing drive for Circle of Hope, a local non-profit dedicated to helping individuals experiencing homelessness.

Molly Hammer, Saturday, October 15

School: Pollard Middle School

Interests: Molly loves hanging out with family and friends, playing soccer and tennis, and spending her summers at Camp Young Judea.

Mitzvah Project: Molly organized a clothing drive for Circle of Hope, a local non-profit dedicated to helping individuals experiencing homelessness.

Gabriel Waller, Saturday, October 22

School: Pollard Middle School

Interests: Gabriel loves being a goalie for both his Needham travel and club teams. He also plays clarinet and bass clarinet.

Mitzvah Project: Gabriel volunteered for an adaptive skating program, helping children with special needs learn to skate.

William Reservitz, Saturday, October 22

School: Pollard Middle School

Interests: Will likes soccer, skiing, and snowboarding.

Mitzvah Project: Will worked on a farm to help grow healthy foods for the community, and worked with animals.



Avery Trachtenberg, Saturday, October 29

School: Pollard Middle School

Interests: Avery loves hip-hop, softball, skiing, field hockey, and sleepaway camp. She enjoys spending time with family, friends, and her dog.

Mitzvah Project: Avery volunteered at Catie's Closet, where she sorted clothes and organized a clothing drive for donations to schools in need.

Jake Trachtenberg, Saturday, October 29

School: Pollard Middle School

Interests: Jake loves lacrosse, basketball, skiing, overnight camp, and Philly sports. He enjoys hanging out with his family, friends, and dog.

Mitzvah Project: Jake volunteered at Newton Athletes Unlimited, where he supported children and adults with special needs playing various sports.

To participate in B. Mitzvah services, join us in person in the Sanctuary, or check your Shabbat email for Vimeo links.

Save the Date

TBS Sisterhood Fall Rummage Sale

Drop Off Donations: Sunday, November 6, 9:00 AM-12 Noon

Rummage Sale: Sunday, November 6, 2:30-5:30 PM

Monday, November 7, Bag Sale: 6:30-8:00 PM

It's that time again! Sisterhood needs your donations and assistance. Clean your closets, garages, and attics and bring your rummage to TBS! Costume/better jewelry welcome. Baby clothing is always needed. Please - no broken or damaged items. No computers or monitors and no baby car seats. We need everyone's help to make this event successful. Many volunteers are needed Sunday morning, Sunday afternoon during the sale, and Monday evening after the sale.



For more information and to volunteer, contact Bonnie Littman at (781-449-8793) or rummagesale@tbsneedham.org.

Around TBS

Help Immigrants in Need!

We are the children and grandchildren of immigrants -- now, please help America's newest immigrants!

These families are low-income clients of the Waltham Alliance for Teaching, Community Organizing and Housing (W.A.T.C.H.). Social Action is partnering with W.A.T.C.H. to make an immediate impact on these families in crisis.

Each month Social Action will have different opportunities available for members wanting to make a difference. For the latest information on what is available, check out TBS This Week.

For questions or more information please contact socialaction@tbsneedham.org.



October Highlights

Garden Club Team Event

October 12, 7:15 PM, TBS

Come together with fellow club members and enjoy "Guess Who's Coming to Dinner?" a tableescape challenge. Teams will create tablescapes inspired by celebrities, real and fictional. Become a member and join the fun!

For more information or questions contact gardenclub@tbsneedham.org.

New Member Welcome

October 14, 6:00-7:00 PM, TBS

Please join us in the Sukkah for a pre-neg before services. Spend an hour meeting other members (both new and longstanding). Join us for Shabbat services at 7:15 PM if you are able. We are looking forward to getting together in person. We hope you can make it!

For questions or more information contact Sarah Mesnik & Robyn Glazier, co-chairs, Member Relations, at member_relations@tbsneedham.org.

Volunteer at the Cradles to Crayons Giving Factory (Ages 5+ Welcome)

October 15, 1:00 PM

After a 2+ year break from in-person events, Social Action is thrilled to be able to bring members of our community together in service of Greater Boston's children. This is a fun, rewarding, family-friendly

volunteer opportunity; children as young as 5 years old are welcome with an adult. Our work will include tasks like inspecting, sorting, and packaging previously donated clothing that C2C will distribute to children in need. Sign up today to help out and have fun working with TBS friends, old and new! Go to t-b-s.me/c2cdonations to donate new or gently used children's clothing; we are accepting donations through October 14.

Register at t-b-s.me/cradlestocrayons. For more information or questions contact socialaction@tbsneedham.org.

**Cradles
to Crayons**



A Morning of Jazz with a Bagel Brunch at TBS

October 16, 10:00 AM, TBS

Join Three Score/More or Less as Simon Hall is transformed into a jazz brunch club. We will be hosting Needham's own Bluedog Jazz Ensemble (bluedogjazz.com), playing their unique brand of fusion jazz. Bluedog may have caught your attention at a variety of local venues as they've been around the Boston suburbs for over 20 years.

Come mingle and munch on a delicious bagel brunch with all the fixin's while listening to Bluedog's polished performers. Open to the entire adult TBS community. Cost is \$10/person. Let's enjoy a morning of music and friendship!

Register at t-b-s.me/jazzbrunch. Make payment by check (via electronic banking or in the mail), payable to Temple Beth Shalom, and mail to Temple Beth Shalom, 670 Highland Ave., Needham, MA 02494. Please include '3Score Jazz brunch' in the memo on the check. For questions or more information contact threescoremoreorless@tbsneedham.org.



Sisterhood Sips & Sweets

October 19, 7:30-9:15 PM, TBS (outdoors, weather permitting)

Join us for drinks and desserts to welcome a sweet new year!

Register at t-b-s.me/Sisterhood to join sisterhood, renew your membership and sign up for this event. For questions or more information contact sisterhood@tbsneedham.org.



Brotherhood Retreat

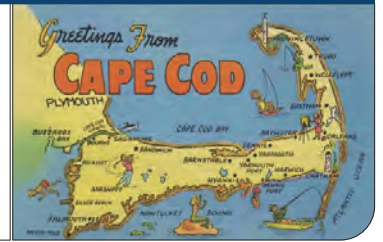
Saturday, October 22-Sunday, October 23

Join Brotherhood for a meaningful day and a half on Cape Cod.

We'll start on Saturday morning with bagels, schmoozing, and some meaningful discussion with our rabbis. On Saturday evening, we'll enjoy happy hour together followed by a delicious meal at Alberto's nearby.

We'll wrap up Sunday in time for you to be home to watch football, do the yard work, or take your kids to sports practices. Sign-up today!

Register at t-b-s.me/bhretreat. For more information or questions contact brotherhood@tbsneedham.org.



EAC Workshop: Green Investing

October 24, 7:30-8:30 PM, Simon Hall

More and more today, we want our investments to reflect our values. Do we want to choose organic food, recycle, or limit our use of fossil fuels, for example, only to invest our money with companies that pursue the exact opposite? Join us for a workshop with investment advisor David Schreiber, who will describe how Socially Responsible Investing, including Green Investing, provides rewarding options from both a financial perspective and a values perspective.

David Schreiber, a Certified Financial Planner (CFP®), joined the socially responsible investment community as a Financial Advisor in 2006 after working as an independent registered representative of American General Securities, Inc. David believes the greatest returns – financial, personal, and professional – come from doing well by doing good. Consequently he guides his clients' investments in accordance with their values and goals toward corporations with responsible environmental, social, and governance practices.



Sisterhood: Novels @ Night

October 25, 7:30-9:00 PM, Sarah Fleckner's House

Our book for October is *Good Riddance* by Elinor Lipman. If you would like to read ahead, on January 25 we will be discussing *The Yiddish Policeman's Union* by Michael Chabon, and on May 11, *The Lost Family* by Jenna Blum.

For more details and to register go to t-b-s.me/NovelsatNight.



Sukkot & Simchat Torah

Sukkah Stroll

Monday, October 10, 2:00-5:00 PM

Starting at Charles River Peninsula on Fisher Street in Needham

Come celebrate Sukkot! According to Rabbinic tradition, the temporary sukkot huts represent the booths in which the Israelites dwelt during their 40 years of wandering in the desert after escaping from slavery in Egypt. We can't get to the desert, but we will wander through Needham instead! This beautiful fall walk includes sukkah stops at three locations with snacks, music, and more! All ages and stages are welcome and walk options include very short up to two miles.

Register at t-b-s.me/sukkahstroll; pick your time based on the age of participants in your party.

Etrog Extravaganza

Friday, October 14, after Shabbat services, TBS

You won't want to miss this festive Sukkot oneg featuring "etrog" cakes, cookies, and even etrog-ade. We are dedicating the entire oneg to this special Sukkot citrus fruit. Of course, since etrogs are a bit hard to come by, their cousin the lemon will be standing in. There will also be an opportunity to experience the mitzvah of shaking the etrog along with the lulav, the festival greens.

Simchat Torah Celebration

Sunday, October 16, 5:30 PM, TBS

Join us to celebrate Simchat Torah! We will have a brief service in the sanctuary, which will also include the Consecration blessing for our newest elementary learners. Immediately following the service, we unroll two of our TBS Torah scrolls, and you will have a unique opportunity to help hold and view the unrolled Torah. Our celebration will end with sweet treats and festive dancing to music provided by the Kadima Band.

Recurring Events

Pre-Shabbat Yoga

Fridays*, 9:00-10:00 AM, TBS and online (*No class 10/21)

Join Stephanie Javaheri every Friday morning for pre-Shabbat yoga. Yoga is all about the inside and not the pretty or bendy postures that we see on the outside. It's about self inquiry, observation and awareness of your body, breath and mind to help feel more grounded.

Set aside preconceived yogic notions and come experience an hour of bliss with slow mindful movement. No experience necessary. Just an open mind.

Drop in at TBS for the in person class, or join in online at t-b-s.me/yoga. No registration is necessary.



Finding Our Jewish Values in the Torah

Saturdays, 9:15-10:15 AM, TBS and Online

Each week we will focus on a single Jewish moral or ethical value found in that week's parsha (Torah portion). These will include, but not be limited to, Justice, Compassion, Environmental Ethics, and Business Ethics. A variety of rabbinic sources will enrich our exploration as we seek to apply each week's value to our lives today.

Drop in at TBS to join the discussion in person, or go to t-b-s.me/findingvalues to join in via Zoom. No registration is necessary.



Israeli Dance

Mondays, 7:00-8:00 PM, TBS

Join Emily Perlman for a wonderful Israeli dance experience. Israeli dance is a great way to engage the culture of Israel and the Jewish people through music and movement. This is an intermediate-level class for those who have some Israeli dance experience. Those who are willing to learn by watching others are also encouraged to attend. The tuition is \$5 per session, which is paid when you attend.

For more information or questions contact eperlman@tbsneedham.org.



Bag Lunch and Breakfast Food Drive-up Collection for Homeless Shelters

Friday, October 21, 9:15-9:45 AM in the TBS Front Parking Lot.

TBS Social Action needs your help with our monthly collection of bag lunches and breakfast foods for donation to homeless shelters in the Brockton area. This is a great project to do individually or as a family! Participate in this monthly mitzvah to help feed the increasingly large numbers of homeless guests at these shelters. There are many options: Make bag lunches, or donate cases of water or juice or a variety of breakfast items.

It's easy! Our collection team will be in the TBS front parking lot, on the far side from the Temple, at the corner of Highland Avenue and Webster Street, ready to safely transfer your donations from your car as you drive up.

To sign up for specific food donation items, go to: t-b-s.me/baglunch

If you can't make it on October 21, just sign up for your food donation items and then email us at socialaction@tbsneedham.org to arrange for an earlier delivery date.

For more information or questions contact socialaction@tbsneedham.org



Antisemitism and Our Kids: A Workshop Series for Parents and Grandparents

Sundays October 23, November 6, December 11, January date TBD, 5:00-6:30 PM, Beit Midrash

The TBS K-12 Learning Programs and the Antisemitism Awareness Initiative are partnering with Hebrew College to offer a series of classes this fall. We will be exploring a myriad of topics aimed at helping adults unpack and discuss antisemitism with their children and grandchildren at various ages. You can sign up for the entire series or take a class a la carte. Depending on the makeup of the group, childcare and food may be provided.

Register at t-b-s.me/ASAIParentSeries. For more information or questions contact rhappel@tbsneedham.org.



The World's Oldest Hatred: A History of Antisemitism

**Lunch and Learn with Rabbi Bob Orkand
Mondays, 12:00-1:00 PM, online**

The past few years have seen a dramatic increase in antisemitic language and acts. During our course, we will be looking at the history of "the world's oldest hatred" to better understand what has driven both individuals and governments to target Jews.

Register at t-b-s.me/falllunchandlearn.



Collectively We Can Make A Difference!

By Michael Bailit

Are you ready to energize our collective efforts for Climate Action?

The MA Jewish Climate Action Network (JCAN) and other climate activists have put together a terrific interactive website for learning about and tracking our efforts: MassEnergize.org.

How does MassEnergize make a difference? MassEnergize believes that “household-level climate action, propelled at scale, is critical for reaching our climate goals.” Each of us can go on the website to record what we’ve done so far to reduce energy use, and to research ideas for our next steps. We can see how many other households have already taken steps, and add our own accomplishments.

Join the TBS Team on MassEnergize.org and be counted! It’s easy – go to MassEnergize.org, click on Communities > Other Communities > JCAN > Congregations & Teams – and then find TBS Needham. You can then scroll through the Actions list, check off Actions you’ve already taken, and research others. We know that many members have already taken energy conservation steps – let’s get our TBS impact counted on the MassEnergize charts!

The TBS Environmental Action Committee is again planning a series of workshops for the coming year. Mark your calendar for the first one: “Green Investing” on Monday, October 24, at 7:30 pm.

For more information or questions contact EnvironAction@tbsneedham.org.



An Afternoon at the Rose Art Museum



On Wednesday, July 13th, 25 people from Three Score/More or Less went to the Rose Art Museum at Brandeis University, followed by an ice cream party at Pizzi Farm. The contemporary art exhibit was inspiring. Everyone enjoyed their ice cream treat and a chance to socialize under the tent at Pizzi.



Knitting Mavens

By Margie Glou and Bobbie Niss

Juliana Willis is a remarkable and talented young woman who has been knitting since she was a young girl. She just graduated from Skidmore College and decided, with the encouragement of her mother, Amy, to share her gifted hands and beautiful blankets with our Knitting Mavens and TBS members.

She credits her aunt with being her teacher when she was a young girl. Juliana continued her interest in knitting at Crane Lake as a camper and then as a counselor when she was 17. There her campers reinforced her skills. This passion continued at JCC Camp Kaleidoscope.

She has made blankets and hats for friends and family. The manager of the bookstore at Skidmore was impressed with her talent and offered to sell her hats as part of their inventory.

Juliana is passionate about knitting. She decided to share her talent by donating 20 blankets to the Chesed Committee which will enhance our Caring Wraps inventory. These Wraps and Blankets will be given to TBS members who are experiencing an illness, recuperating from an accident or surgery, or rehabilitating in a skilled nursing facility or recuperative center.

Our Knitting Mavens enjoy giving these patients a “hug” with a hand-made healing wrap or comforting blanket along with a personalized note.

All knitting projects can be done at your convenience at home. We supply the yarn, needles and instructions.

We also knit baby blankets for our newest members and participate in the Hats for Israeli Soldiers program.

If you are interested in joining our Knitting Mavens, please contact Margie Glou at mglou@comcast.net or Bobbie Niss at bobbinniss@yahoo.com.



Welcome New Members

Doron and Judith Barzilay
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John and Winna Gorham and Hazel (6)
Edye and Russell Katz and Lucas (8)
Jamie and Steven Levick and Jordan (3) and Sophie (not yet 1)
Emily and Sean Levy and Charlotte (6), Della (4), and Addison (2)
Rachel and David Marmor and Evan (6) and Samuel (2)
Jeanne Rubenson
Jennifer and Mark Scalia and Mason (8), Andrew (5), and Taylor (2)
David Shubow



TBS Learning Programs as a “Haven” During the Pandemic

By Rachel Happel

What was your experience on day 0, the first week, the first month?

In March 2020, our first goal was to keep the children and members of our community safe. Like most learning programs around the state and the country, we completely closed in-person programming to help “flatten the curve” and minimize spread of the new virus. We knew so little about how the virus spread, so safety was our #1 priority.

After safety, our primary goal was maintaining connection and providing support. Shutting down in-person programming didn’t mean shutting down relationships and learning. Our whole team quickly pivoted to creating at-home learning experiences.

Over the course of one week in March 2020, we trained all of our Children’s Center and K-12 educators in Google Meet, Google Classroom, Zoom, and other online tools, and we launched over 100 online classrooms. From March-June 2020, Children’s Center classes had short daily check-ins on Zoom, and Mayim and Etzim classes continued to meet weekly for learning and online *t’filah* (song and prayer). Our educators loved getting glimpses into children’s homes via Zoom: meeting pets, seeing beloved stuffies and toys, and viewing dining room tables and backyard spaces. We were up and running online well before the public schools, so our educators quickly became the first familiar, consistent point of connection for TBS children - and the hour or more they spent online was a respite for their parents.

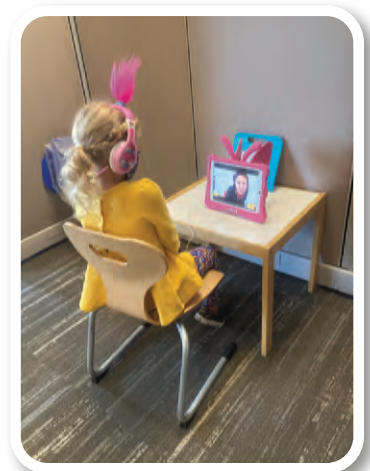


In addition to online learning, we spent a great deal of time doing one-on-one outreach to members of the community. Each Children’s Center teacher and Mayim/Mayim Tamid Jewish Learning Guide called the parents of every student to check in, offer support, and learn how they were managing in the early days of the pandemic. Etzim educators reached out to the teens directly via text and social media. For some educators, this meant 60+ calls or texts! We learned a lot from these calls and were able to provide additional support to families who needed it. We also organized special deliveries of learning materials, “TBS Loves You” lawn signs, and other surprises, which lifted spirits and spread love and support.

Tell us about your innovations to deal with the past and current pandemic situation over the last two years.

As we got ready to reopen for the 2020-2021 school year, we knew that TBS families were experiencing the pandemic in many different ways. A “one-size fits all” program would not meet everyone’s needs, so we introduced new options for learning at TBS.

In the Children’s Center, most children returned to TBS for in-person classes in summer 2020. The focus was on creating a safe learning environment, including lots of time outside in new outdoor classrooms created in the parking lot, along Highland Avenue, and on the playground. We also opened a full-day kindergarten program in response to requests from parents who were hesitant about sending their children to the Needham Public Schools’ hybrid learning model that year, and we enrolled two full classes! For younger children, we offered an alternative option, “TBS Around Town,” which included weekly outdoor meet-ups for children and parents with a TBS educator at various local parks.



Liz Berkman and Dawn Ellis, our parenting specialists, worked with the families of our youngest learners to determine what would best meet their needs. With the goals of supporting new parents, our Bumps, Babies, and Beyond (parenting and toddler) classes were offered both outdoors and online. This fall, the classes continue to be taught outdoors, as we continue to serve the families of newborns who can't be vaccinated and other young children who are still in the process.

In grades K-7, we offered three different learning options: (1) Online, (2) Outdoors, and (3) Subscription Box, plus a fourth option for grades K-5: (4) Mayim Tamid. Our online learning programs took place via Zoom and included weekly learning and community building with a TBS educator, followed by weekly online *t'filah* (song and prayer) with a songleader and rabbi. Our outdoor learning program took place on Sundays at JCC Grossman Camp in the fall and spring, and included Jewish learning, community building, nature activities, active play, and *t'filah* in an outdoor amphitheater. Our subscription box program included monthly boxes of curriculum materials, carefully created by TBS educators, so that families could learn together at home. Our Mayim Tamid program, which has always offered after school care five days per week, expanded to include school-day hours as a response to the NPS hybrid model. Children came to TBS during their "remote learning weeks" and did their public school zoom learning from our TBS classrooms, in a safe environment filled with enrichment activities and surrounded by Jewish peers. When the school day ended, they continued their day with Jewish learning and outdoor play at TBS.



Our teens (8th-12th grade) were looking for in-person connection, and we wanted to create a safe environment for them to be together. We moved our fall and spring Etzim program to the TBS parking lot. We purchased standing lamps, heat lamps, and fire pits to create comfortable outdoor learning spaces. On Tuesday and Thursday evenings, the teens (and their educators, including the clergy!) bundled up in sweatshirts, coats, hats, mittens, blankets, and more, so that they could continue to be together. During the winter months, we moved their learning online, with Zoom classes and online community-building games.



For the 2021-2022 school year, we continued to adapt our offerings based on the evolution of the pandemic. When schools reopened and things began to go back to "normal," we brought our K-7 programs back to TBS for in-person learning, but we also continued to offer alternative options, including our outdoor program (which may be a "pandemic keeper!") and a small online option for middle schoolers. Our teens continued to eat dinner outdoors in the parking lot, but they moved their learning sessions back into the building. We sunset "TBS Around Town," but we continued to offer parenting and toddler classes online and outdoors.

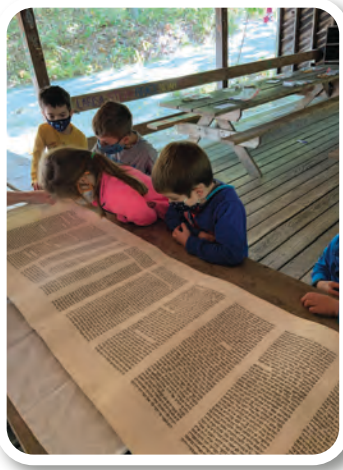
What was the secret to your success in surviving and thriving through the pandemic? How did you keep teachers/staff motivated and safe?

One secret to our success has been our ability to listen and be responsive to the community. As described earlier, one of the first things we did in the spring of 2020 was individual outreach to every member of the community. We asked questions about their experiences, heard their frustrations with pandemic life, and learned about their needs and desires for moving forward. We learned that pandemic life was not easy for parents, especially those with young children, but that their experiences and needs varied widely from family to family. We responded to the varied needs by creating multiple offerings. Some families were continuing to be as cautious as possible, and they had children who learned well online, so we offered



TBS Learning Programs as a “Haven” During the Pandemic continued...

an online learning option. Other families wanted to minimize screen time, but they weren't ready yet for in-person learning, so we offered at-home learning activities through subscription boxes. Some families desperately wanted their children to



socialize and learn in person with their peers, so we offered an outdoor learning option that allowed children to be together safely. Other parents were desperate for child care and needed “wrap-around” care when the public schools adopted a hybrid model, so we expanded our Mayim Tamid offerings to include additional care.

Regarding educators, they had varied needs as well, and a one-size-fits-all model wouldn't work for them either! With so many different program models, the educators had options for which programs to teach - some taught online, some taught in-person, some developed subscription boxes, and some took time off.

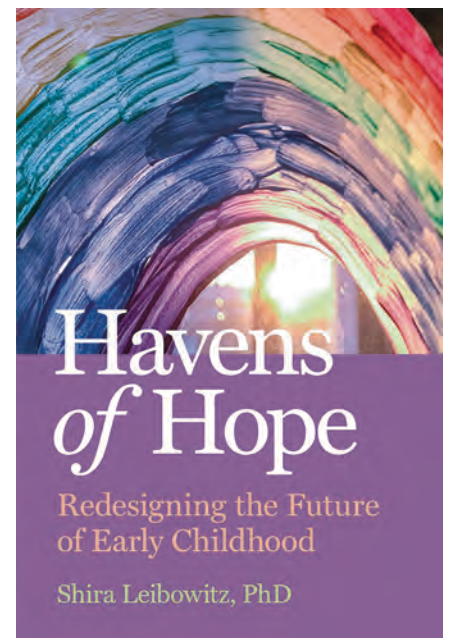
Another secret to our success has been a mixture of positivity and creativity. Rather than focusing on the restrictions and what we *couldn't* do, we chose to focus on what we *could* do. We reminded ourselves and our educators of our main goals (relationship-building and Jewish learning) and asked how we could continue to meet those goals in new ways and new settings. What were the unique opportunities of an outdoor setting or an online platform?

What could we do now that we couldn't do before? How could we use new tools to deepen and expand learning and connection? Every phase of the pandemic brought new challenges, so we had to pivot...and pivot...and pivot again. Keeping our focus on our goals and core values, rather than on a specific method, allowed us to find many different ways to engage our community positively and healthily.

Tell us more about the recognitions TBS has received for this work.

The biggest and most consistent source of recognition has come from members of the TBS community! We have been flooded by appreciation and support from families, which has buoyed our efforts and kept our spirits up.

Recently, TBS was also recognized as a “Haven of Hope” through our inclusion in a new book, *Havens of Hope: Ideas for Redesigning Education from the COVID-19 Pandemic*, which was released in August. TBS was the only faith-based learning program included in the book, which focused mostly on school, preschool, and after school care programs. It was a real honor to have our work recognized publicly in this way!



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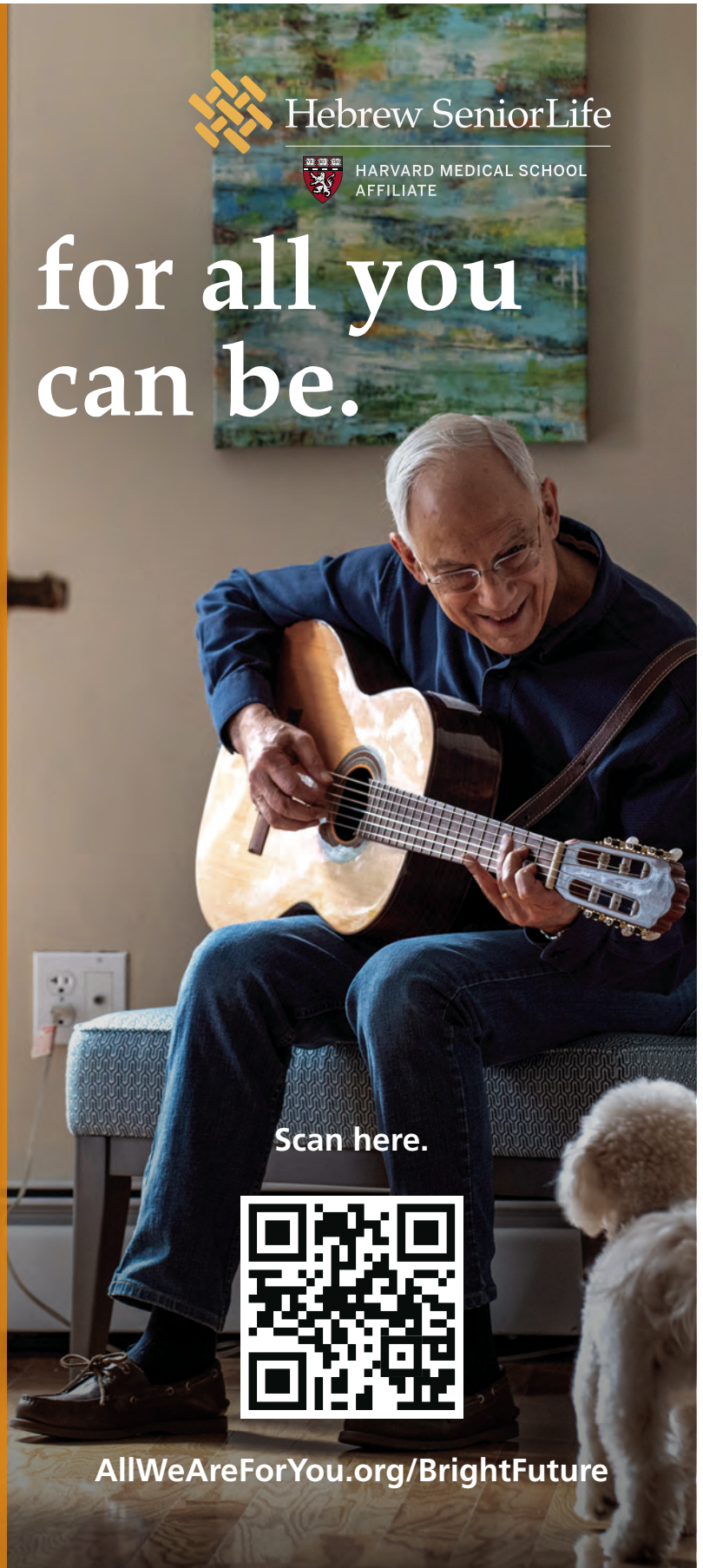


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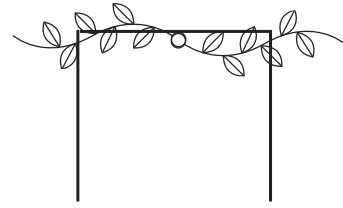


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***The TBS Environmental Action
Committee is pleased to announce***

**All workshops held 7:30–9:00 PM
Location: TBD**

2022-2023 Workshops



Dates and Topics:

- Monday, October 24 - Green Investing**
- Monday, November 7 - Green Transportation**
- Monday, December 12 - Green Electricity**
- Monday, February 6 - Healthy Yards**
- Wednesday, March 8 - Generate Less Waste**