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111 VALLEY ROAD, CLARK NJ 07066
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January Reporter (Mailed 11/27)

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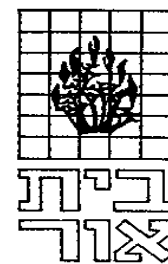
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TEMPLE BETH O'R/BETH TORAH BETH REPORTER

TEVET / SHEVAT 5773 JANUARY 2013

THE EDITH & MARK LIEF MEMORIAL LECTURE & BREAKFAST

SUNDAY, JANUARY 27, 2013
AT 9:45 AM

Dr. Agi Legutko,

Visiting Assistant Professor of Yiddish
Language, Literature and Culture at the
Meyerhoff Center for Jewish Studies at the
University of Maryland, College Park,
will lecture on



“Jewish Culture in Today’s Poland: An Appropriation or a New Beginning?”

The Holocaust put an end to a flourishing Jewish community in Poland, which until the Second World War, had been the largest Jewish center in Europe, cherishing a vibrant thousand-year-old history. Professor Legutko will discuss what is happening with Jewish life in Poland today, highlighting the intriguing phenomenon of the contemporary rise of interest in Jewish culture among Polish non-Jews. Is it an example of distressing cultural appropriation, or a beginning of a new era? And more importantly, is it good for the Jews?

Professor Legutko was born & raised in Krakow, Poland. As an adult, she discovered her own Jewishness & considers her Yiddish scholarship as a return to her roots.

The program is free and open to the entire community.

Reservations are required for the breakfast.

Please call the office (732) 381-8403x11 with your reservations.

FROM THE CANTOR



With the year 2012 fast drawing to a close, I am thinking about the events of the past few months --first, Hurricane Sandy, and then, the unimaginable tragedy of Sandy Hook. And now there is talk every day of what has been dubbed the “fiscal cliff”. This has been a

wearying few months with an overly generous measure of sadness.

But I remind myself never to give in to sadness or gloomy rumination. Every year, indeed every day brings some bad news. But every day brings something uplifting as well. Nothing uplifts like the generosity and goodness of others, and we’ve seen much of both in these difficult times. Goodness pays off, for as the writer Thoreau pointed out: “Goodness is the only investment that never fails.”

I found something uplifting yesterday while reading the opinion pages of The New York Times. Jonathan Sacks, the Chief Rabbi of the UK wrote that since the 18th century leading Western thinkers have forecast the imminent demise of religion. And despite the fact that the holiday season reminds us that the shopping mall, for many, may well have replaced the cathedral, three out of four in Britain and four out of five in America still profess allegiance to religious faith.

Sacks offers evolutionary explanations for this phenomenon based on our neurological makeup, but I would like to dwell instead on some of the easy to understand benefits to society that come from religious community. Citing the research of the prominent political scientist Robert D. Putnam, Sacks points out

that “frequent church- or synagogue-goers are more likely to give money to charity, do volunteer work, help the homeless, donate blood, help a neighbor with housework, spend time with someone who was feeling depressed, offer a seat to a stranger or help someone find a job. Religiosity as measured by church or synagogue attendance is... a better predictor of altruism than education, age, income, gender or race.”

And that is just what we need right now. It is altruism and caring for one another that get us through the tough stretches. Let’s leave 2012 behind and enter the secular New Year with an appreciation of the profound impact religious community can have upon the world. Having just dedicated our new bima window wall, let us rededicate ourselves to every aspect of our communal religious life. In so doing, we can help to fix and make our world more whole.

Bivracha,
Cantor Steven Stern

Our morning minyan is an integral part of our religious community. You can lend your support by attending one morning each week, or even just one morning each month. A wonderful idea is to attend on the day of the month that corresponds to your birthday. Breakfast is served, so there’s nourishment for both the body and soul.
Thank you for your support.

Shabbat Shirah, (The Sabbath of Song)
Celebration

Saturday, January 26, 9:30 am

Following Services - a TISH (Extended Kiddush)

Please let us know that you will be attending by calling the office (732)381-8403.

No charge for the Kiddush.



Tu B'Shevat
Seder

Friday, January 25

8:00 pm - Sisterhood Service

Followed by Tu B'Shevat Seder

Enjoy the fruits of the Land of Israel!

TBOBT / bT
If You Understand this Jumble - We Want You in the Mix!

Coming soon!

January Regional Event: January 12th—SATO Dance in East Windsor. More details to follow soon!

Action required:

Mid-Winter Kinnus—February 15th-17th at the East Brunswick Jewish Center. Keep the dates open. The application is posted on the HaGalil website www.hagalilusy.com

Looking Ahead!

It’s not too early to be making plans to spend your summer with USY. Check out www.usy.org for info on all summer programs.

Hagalil Jr./Sr. Prom will be held in Aberdeen on March 2nd. Mark your calendar now for a fabulous evening!

IC (International Convention):

USY’s International Convention was held in Boston from December 23rd through the 27th. A pre-convention Shabbat for Hagalil took place in Rhode Island from December 20-23. Over 110 USYers plus 13 staff members attended from the Hagalil Region. TBOBT’s USY President, Ilana Dorsch, attended. Former CLUSY members Morgan Dorsch and Halli James staffed. Please ask anyone of them about this exciting gathering of over 1,000 USYers from all over the US and Canada.

Yasher Koach to:

Ilana Dorsch, CLUSY President for being honored as TBOBT’s Men’s Club Youth of the Year!
CHECK IT OUT: If you have a Jewish friend who isn’t a USY member, but wants to check us out—let ‘em come to any chapter program! We can’t wait to meet them.

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Happenings at TBO/BT

Men's Club Sunday Program & Breakfast with Dr. Betty Needleman



Alina & Jaden Antonucci lighting Hanukkah menorah at home. →



ISRAELI DANCE for beginners

Tuesday Nights

True beginners at 7:00 pm,
advanced beginners/intermediate 7:45 pm

\$10.00 per class/ \$45 prepaid for 5

Proceeds go to TBO/BT

Led by Elyse Litt 732-396-8299

January

Happy Anniversary!

*Mr. & Mrs. William Hausler
Dr. & Mrs. Arthur Freedman*

Happy Birthday!

Elyssa Alters
Scott Alters
Benjamin Axelrad
Seth Axelrad
Linda Blank
Harrison Bobbins
Richard Curtis
Sandy Glassman
David Goldstein
Joanne Goldstein
Michael Goldstein
Naomi Goldstein
Elaine Kolker
David Langer
Steven Langer
Milton Loshin

Meryl Mandelbaum
Michael Miller
Brandon Muhlgeier
Leon Oberman
Carla Rockliff
Arthur Shmukler
Naomi Silbert
Elaine Sofman
Susan Sofman
Linda Sprung
Alexandra Traub
Allan Warner
Jack Weinshanker
Amanda White

FROM THE PRESIDENT



Shalom!

This past Shabbat I was speaking with fellow congregants and realized that it was only 6 months ago that I became your President. Someone asked me how I felt about it; I responded that it has been very enjoyable. We have a cohesive group which I am honored to lead.

During the Menorah lighting on Tuesday, December 11th, I was very proud of Michal Goldstein and Michelle Pinchas. I realized how hard they have been working with our Hebrew School and Yaldeinu classes. It was inspirational hearing our children enthusiastically participate with the Cantor as they answered all of his Hanukah questions.

Then only a few days later, sadly, we received the news about the tragedy in Connecticut. Did you know that one of the

boys named Noah Pozner was a member of our sister Congregation Adath Israel in Newtown? He wanted to be an architect or an anthropologist. It just isn't right that young lives should be taken from us before they have a chance to make their mark in the world. There are no words that can be said for this injustice and tragedy.

Our Bima Dedication was a huge success. Yasher Koach to all the donors, sponsors, and of course the Committee for all their hard work. All the endless hours paid off in a great event that we have come to expect from our Shul.

As this secular year ends and we reflect on a New Year, we look forward to good things to come from Temple Beth Or/Beth Torah. Audrey and I want to wish you and your family a healthy, happy and prosperous New Year. Remember, if you have health you have wealth.

Sincerely,

Howard M. Silverman, President

Bima Window Wall Dedication - "An Extraordinary Affair!"

On the eighth day of Hanukkah 5773 our Temple Beth O'r/Beth Torah family celebrated a miracle of its own, the Dedication of our beautiful Bima Window Wall. Many of our members contributed to this achievement, none more than the two donor families whose great generosity made the wall possible. Their largesse sparked in a number of our members, past and present, a desire to contribute to the beautification of our sanctuary by sponsoring the Dedication Ceremony.

A Mincha service led by Cantor Steven Stern began the program. Jonathan Phillips, Executive Vice President, welcomed the people in the overflowing sanctuary and introduced Dr. Felella Millman who led the singing of the Star-Spangled Banner and Hatikvah. In his remarks, President Howard M. Silverman described the creation of the Bima Window Wall as a "new beginning" for Temple Beth O'r/Beth Torah as we enter our 55th year. He thanked the many volunteers whose work made the Dedication possible and then introduced Patricia Werschulz, President of the New Jersey Region of United Synagogue, who brought a message of congratulations. Also offering congratulations to the congregation were temple member and Clark Councilman Alvin Barr on behalf of Clark's Mayor and Township Council, and Freeholder Bruce Bergen on behalf of the Union County Board of Freeholders. Martin Richstein, Chairman of the Bima Window Wall Committee, spoke about the development of the Wall from design conception through the construction process to completion. Cantor Stern closed the ceremony with a Dvar Torah and a dedication prayer which concluded with, "May the light that enters through our windows illuminate our lives and uplift our souls. May we be sturdy and steadfast as the stone of Jerusalem. May this House of Torah and House of Light be a welcoming sanctuary to all who enter, so that Your presence shall dwell amongst us, now and always. Amen."

Past president Arnold Young blessed the bread with the HaMotzi prayer and an elegant dinner reception, beautifully catered by the Lavroff family's DeliKing of Clark, concluded the evening. We danced the hora, caught up with old and new friends and proved once again that Temple Beth O'r/Beth Torah knows how to throw a great party. The entire event was a great success filled with warmth, joy and love for our beautiful temple and our beautiful temple family. May we always go from strength to strength.



Got a Simcha?

**Birthday? Anniversary? Graduation?
New grandchild?**

Host a Kiddush at TBO/BT

You can sponsor the entire Kiddush or be a co-sponsor with a donation of \$18 or more.

Contact Julia at 732-381-8403 x11 or
tbethor@gmail.com.



SISTERHOOD PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Forty-five people turned out for Sisterhood's December 2nd brunch meeting. Soferet Linda Coppleson discussed why and how she became a soferet, and even brought some pages of a Torah she is working on, as well as quills and ink. Following Linda's presentation there was a Hanukkah boutique presented by Designs by

Diane, where people could buy some of their last minute Hanukkah gifts. I want to thank everyone who attended for making this such a successful program. Yasher Koach to the committee: Fern Cammy, Helene Davis, Diane Goldstein, Sebley Hausler, Esther Schlesinger, and myself.

On Wednesday, January 16, 2013 Sisterhood will hold our annual game night at the home of Esther Schlesinger at 6:30 PM. The cost is \$15 which will cover dinner. Please RSVP to Esther at 732-548-7132.

Watch for information about Shalach Mones. Purim is very early this year, on Sunday, February 24, with the megillah reading the night before. The meeting to build the Shalach Mones baskets will be Wednesday, February 20. We cannot guarantee delivery. Every year it gets harder to find volunteers who can do it. As well as Saturday night following the megillah reading, someone will be in the library Sunday morning from 10 – 12 so you can pick up your baskets then. If you want to send a basket to someone who will not be able to pick it up, or if you want to send Purim greetings to someone outside this area, please

Golden Books

To send a Golden Book for any occasion, call:
Joan Oberman (732-381-4322)
Evie Shulman (908-276-6894)
Betty Needleman (908-389-0911)

Cards are sent for \$3.00 and you will receive \$1.50 donor credit, or pick up a pack of 10 cards for \$20.00 with \$15.00 donor credit and send them yourself. They can be picked up from the office.

Special Fund

Donations to Special Fund can be made for any occasion for a minimum donation of \$5.00. You will receive 100% donor credit. To send a beautiful Special Fund card call: Gene Berry (732-388-3453).

consider sending one of our beautiful certificates. We started the certificate project last year and it was quite successful. Sisterhood will be happy to mail them out for you. The cost is \$5.00 per certificate.

I have always felt lucky to have both Rosh Hashanah and the secular New Year. This way I get two chances to make resolutions and hopefully be able to fulfill at least some of them. I hope many of the women in the Congregation resolve to become more active in Sisterhood, whether it is attending more meetings or accepting an office or chairmanship. The nominating committee will soon be looking for new officers for next year. Please give serious thought to stepping up and becoming an officer. Everyone has strengths and ideas to share. Those of us who have been serving over the years would truly appreciate a new perspective and look forward to having you share your thoughts with us.

My fellow Co-Presidents join me in wishing everyone a happy, healthy 2013.

Louise Cangelosi

Sisterhood Game Night
Wednesday, January 16 at 6:30 PM
Esther Schlesinger is hosting.
Cost is \$15 for dinner.
RSVP to Esther at 732-548-7132.

Vouchers:

Shoprite, Pathmark and A&P vouchers are available at Sisterhood functions and in the temple office.



JUDAICA SHOP NEWS

Purim is early this year – late February – and we have some Purim books and toys for children. Watch the display case as we get closer to the holiday. As always, we have kippot, talleisim, mezuzahs and hostess gifts. If you want something you don't see, please let me know. Nancy Kelner – 908-272-9072 – nkelner@aol.com

Hebrew School celebrates Hanukkah



Cantor Stern explains how to light the Menorah

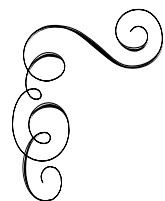


Morah Michal teaches the children how to make latkes



Ryan Richstein teaches a Hanukkah crafts session





REFUAH SLEMA TO:

Joseph Green

MAZEL TOV TO:

Lorraine & Milton Loshin on the birth of their great-granddaughter

Alyssa Bree Kaiseman

Fern & Joseph Cammy on the engagement of their son Joshua to Becky Weinstein

Dennis & Gene Berry on the engagement of their son Dennis to Amy Lambert

WE GRATEFULLY ACKNOWLEDGE THE FOLLOWING DONATIONS MADE TO TBO/BT DURING THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER:

(To make a donation in memory of a loved one or in honor of a special occasion, call the temple office at 732-381-8403x11 or email tbethor@gmail.com.)

GENERAL FUND:

Jerry Rochman & Lorraine Dolnick in memory of Sy Vogel

Ruth Dengrove, in memory of Sy Vogel

Betty Schwarz, in honor of 50th birthday of Robert Singer, son of Blanche Singer

Naomi Silbert in memory of Sy Vogel

Judy & Alan Rubin

KIDDUSH FUND:

Ruth Dengrove

RITUAL FUND:

Lorraine Loshin & Charlotte Freedman in memory of their brother.

YAHREZEIT FUND

Anonymous	Lillian Makow
Claire Warech	Clara Weinstein
Sylvia Wolkin	Michael & Suzanne Miller
Andrea Rochman	Lowell Scher
Florence Bernstein	Jane Halper
Esther Rubinstein	Allan Warner
Edward Leibowitz	Matilda Fink
Susan Barr	

Please Note:

Julia will be on vacation from Monday, December 31, 2012 through January 8, 2013.

The temple office will have limited hours and will be staffed by volunteers. Please call the temple before coming.

Thank you.

ONEGS & KIDDUSHES SPONSORED BY: Congregation, Sisterhood

Thank you - תודה רבה

Ilana Dorsch would like to thank the Men's Club of Temple Beth O'r/Beth Torah for selecting her to be this year's recipient of the Youth of the Year Award. She would also like to thank everyone for their Golden Books, well wishes, and congratulatory messages.

Evelyn & George Schisler would like to thank everyone for good wishes for speedy recovery to Evelyn.

Lorraine Loshin & Charlotte Freedman would like to extend special thanks to Fern Cammy, Jack Weinshanker and Cantor Stern for leading minyan services and to everyone who helped make the minyan when their brother passed away.

Julia, Yakov & Inessa Vinokurov & Nick Cherenkov would like to thank TBO/BT friends for their good wishes on the birth of their granddaughter/daughter Emily.

Barbara James would like to thank the TBOBT family for the many get well wishes sent her way, as well as the congratulatory messages for a job well done in hosting the USY Fall Kinnus.

Jordan Vogel, Lynn Vogel, Jan LeGrande, and Louis Vogel would like to thank friends at TBO/BT for their expressions of sympathy, donations, and Golden Books on the passing of their brother and father Seymour Vogel.

FROM THE MEN'S CLUB PRESIDENT

As I write this month's article, the realization that half a year has passed comes to mind. Yet, there is still much to do.

First off, watch your mail for the paid-up membership program that will be here shortly.

Sunday, February 3 is the World Wide Wrap. Come and join us for this great program even if you do not wear tefillin.

And of course, when we have a Sunday (or any) program, there will always be something to eat.

Our project to redo the parking lot lines is on hold until the weather turns warmer and we will announce the dates when we will be doing this. If you would like to join with us and help, please call either of our co-executive VP's, William (Bill) Hausler or Theo Moreines.

I am still calling on all eligible men. If you have not sent in your dues for July 1, 2012 to June 30, 2013 fiscal year, please do so soon. Your dues form the foundation for our award-winning programming.

Lastly, we begin the secular New Year. Be it a Happy and Healthy one to all.

B'vracha,

Respectfully submitted by,
Michael F. Goldstein, President, Men's Club

Combined Morning Minyan

In January morning Minyan is held in Cranford.

Monday & Thursday – 6:50 am, Tuesday, Wed., & Friday – 7:00 am,
Sundays & Holidays - 9:00 am in Clark.

Evening Services are held every day at 7:30 pm in Cranford.

What's Up for Shabbat in January? Simcha Shabbat

We will celebrate all birthdays and anniversaries in the month of January on Saturday, January 12. Come for a blessing and share your simcha with your TBO/BT family!

Dress Down Shabbat

Come casual for our Shabbat services on Friday and Saturday, January 18 & 19.

GOLDEN BOOKS

MAZEL TOV

To: Ilana Dorsch on being honored as Youth of the Year by Men's Club

From: Audrey & Howard Silverman, Helene & Michael Miller

To: Norma & Jack Weinshanker in honor of the marriage of both their son & grandson & on being honored by TBO/BT

From: Gitta Harel

Arthur & Debbie Freedman on the Bar Mitzvah of their grandson Noah Hanover

From: Elaine & Bob Kolker, Paul & Paula Hymanson, Gitta Harel

To: Julia & Yakov Vinokurov on the birth of their granddaughter Emily

From: Fern & Joe Cammy, Audrey & Howard Silverman, Helene & Michael Miller, Debbie & Arthur Freedman, Paul & Paula Hymanson, Norma & Jack Weinshanker, Gitta Harel

To: Fern & Joe Cammy in honor of Joshua & Shawn's birthdays

From: Norma & Jack Weinshanker

COMPLETE RECOVERY:

To: Evelyn Schisler

From: Audrey & Howard Silverman, Elaine & Bob Kolker, Allan & Rayna Warner, Myrna & Arnold Young

To: Barbara James

From: Helene & Michael Miller, Elaine & Bob Kolker, Allan & Rayna Warner

CONDOLENCES

To: Jordan Vogel and the Vogel family on the passing of Seymour Vogel

From: Fern & Joe Cammy, Audrey & Howard Silverman, Myrna & Arnold Young

To: Sue Horwitz & family on the passing of her mother Evelyn Braunstein

From: Gloria Sern, Lorraine Itzkowitz, Marilyn Weinstein

To: the Weiner family on the passing of Arthur Weiner

From: Fern & Joe Cammy, Audrey & Howard Silverman

YASHER KOACH

To: Barbara James for a most successful USY Fall Kinnus

From: Myrna & Arnold Young



**TBO/BT still has
cemetery plots at Beth
Israel Cemetery in
Woodbridge available.**

**Please call the temple office if you are
interested.**

**Sisterhood Sunday Program & Breakfast with
Soferet Linda Coppelson**

Happenings at TBO/BT

Community Hanukkah Menorah Lighting



The 4th candle of Hanukkah 5773 was lit by our Hebrew School children at our Annual Community Menorah Lighting service on a star filled Tuesday evening, December 11, 2012. Next there was an exciting Hanukkah quiz which proved our students to be Hanukkah whiz kids. Many thanks to Morah Michal and Morah Michelle. Led by Cantor Stern, the time honored Hanukkah songs were sung with gusto by everyone. Afterwards we all enjoyed a delicious, traditional Hanukkah foods - potato pancakes with apple sauce, and jelly donuts.



**TBO/BT brings the joy of Hanukkah to the patients and staff at Robert Wood Johnson
University Hospital at Rahway**

