PLEASE JOIN US FOR THE DEDICATION OF THE SIDNEY Z. COHN MINYAN ROOM

SUNDAY JUNE 22, 2014 at 10 a.m.

It is a special time in our lives when we are given the opportunity to participate in the mitzvah of dedicating a new prayer space. On Sunday June 22, 2014 at 10 a.m., we will assemble as a community and dedicate our newly remodeled minyan room in memory of Sidney Z. Cohn. The temple is offering many opportunities for donations in memory of Sid Cohn and/or our minyonnaires, or in memory of your loved ones, to honor someone special or something special in your life. Your generosity is appreciated and all donations are welcome.

The Sidney Z. Cohn Minyan Room will be the space previously occupied by the library. The library has been relocated. We can now daven facing east and with your help we will all soon have a wonderful inspirational place for prayer and reflection. As we refurbish the space, we will incorporate the old and new, preserving the pews relocated from the Lower East Side, incorporating the stained glass window into our wonderful new ark, and adding a new ner tamid, davening table, and more. There is an artist’s rendering of the new prayer space in the downstairs lobby and we think you will agree that it will be wonderful.

Please plan to be part of this day, as a congregant and donor. We are also planning a special "Preview Dedication" with an opportunity to pray and study with Rabbi Hoffman and Cantor Binet in the new minyan room on the afternoon of June 21 for our larger donors. Please read the mailing that was sent out for more details or contact either one of us. More details on page 4. Thank you in advance for your generosity and for helping make TBE the special place that it is.

IRA MINKOFF, President, and IVY ROBERTS, Immediate Past-President, Co-Chairs
2014/5774 Shavuot Schedule of Services

**TUESDAY, JUNE 3 (Erev Shavuot) - Minchah - 7:45 PM**
Yom Tov Candles: 8:02 PM
Minchah 8:00 PM
Evening Service: 9:00 PM
Shavuot Dairy Dessert Buffet: 9:45 PM followed by Ruth Potash Memorial Shavuot Study - with Rabbi Hoffman

**WEDNESDAY, JUNE 4 (First Day of Shavuot)**
Morning service - 9:15 AM  Followed by Shavuot Lunch (for those with reservations)
Yom Tov Candles: 9:04 PM {from existing flame}
Minchah Maariv Service – 8:00 PM

**THURSDAY, JUNE 5 (Second Day of Shavuot)**
Morning Service: 9:00 AM
Sermon & Yizkor (Memorial Service) approx. 11:00 AM, New Memorial Plaques will be dedicated
Minchah Maariv Service – 8:05 PM

Yom Tov ends – 9:04 PM

**SHAVUOT LUNCHEON**
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 4, 2014
MORNING SERVICES – 9:15 AM
FOLLOWED BY SHAVUOT LUNCHEON

THE COST OF THE SHAVUOT LUNCHEON IS $20 PER ADULT.
CHILDREN 13 AND UNDER ARE $6.
RESERVATIONS MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY A CHECK
SHAVUOT LUNCHEON – RSVP BY MAY 27, 2014

NAME__________________________________________
PHONE ________________________

_____ I PLAN TO ATTEND THE SHAVUOT LUNCHEON ($20 PER ADULT; CHILDREN 13 & UNDER $6)

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**SHAVUOT EVE STUDY & DESSERT BUFFET**
TUESDAY EVENING, JUNE 3, 2014 - EVENING SERVICES – 9:00 PM

SHAVUOT DAIRY DESSERT BUFFET followed by Ruth Potash Memorial Shavuot Study with Rabbi Hoffman

SHAVUOT DESSERT BUFFET: $5 PER PERSON

Reservations must be accompanied by a check
SHAVUOT DESSERT BUFFET- RSVP BY MAY 27.

Please submit separate checks for each event.
Name________________________________________
Phone______________________________

_____ I am planning to join the Shavuot Eve Program and Dessert Buffet ($5 per person)

_____ Number of people

Enclosed find my check for $_______

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We have been counting the days until Shavuot. From the second night of Pesach on we have numbered each night. We counted the days, then the weeks too, and finally arriving at the seventh week we anticipate the 50th day, the day of Shavuot, marking G-d’s voice from the mountain, the covenant at Sinai, and a purpose to our freedom from bondage.

The rabbis didn’t call this holiday by its biblical names, though they certainly knew and referenced them: Chag HaShavuot; The Festival Of Weeks, Chag Habikkurim; the Holiday Of The First Fruits. But instead they called it simply, Atzeret: which means “held over,” like the word for “Stop!” Atzor, in modern Israel. Like the final day of the holiday of Sukkot, the 8th day of holding over, we know as Shmini Chag Ha’Atzeret. That one which comes at the time of the fall harvest and its many Sukkot thanksgiving offerings, says, this one is for you, the people of Israel. All during Sukkot there was a sacrifice for each of the 70 nations of the world our ancestors imagined. But on the last day, a day added on, the attention turned to the people of Israel and its relationship with G-d. It has the atmosphere of a cast party, and though we have a Yizkor with the bittersweet remembrance entailed – that was added in the Middle Ages. The original festival was one of great joy, reflected in the also medieval, Simchat Torah.

If we get the intent of Shavuot, originally it was the hold over festival for Pesach, for the freedom from long enslavement and now for a new and better life, which lay ahead. But first we had to get to Sinai, where G-d had promised to meet our ancestors, where they would worship, as they had said they would, and there fully become G-d’s people. The rabbis who invented the name Atzeret, understood the connection between Pesach and Shavuot, not as the agricultural, harvest to harvest, count, but as the historical, freedom to freedom with a purpose. That is what they celebrated when they made this day come out at the time of the giving of the Torah as they calculated it from the biblical verses. The celebration of the Torah, a very rabbinic idea, was Atzeret-Shavuot, long before Simchat Torah was invented.

The practices of Shavuot reflect this rabbinic reading of the festival: Atzeret: the celebration of Torah: we read the Sinai Decalogue Torah portion. We read about how a Moabite, Ruth accepts to live by the Torah. We stay up all night in study of Torah – Tikkun L’eyl Shavuot, and last year we even unwrapped and toured a scroll of the Torah. For the rabbis Atzeret, a celebration of the culmination of freedom, not in chaos, but in an ordered society dedicated to G-d’s values was the meaning of this festival for them, far beyond the wheat harvest, the omer counting and the first fruits.

For me as your rabbi at TBE for these past two years, this is also an Atzeret for me, a culmination of having spent two cycles of yom tovim with your wonderful congregation. This will be my last festival with you as I move on to retirement and you hopefully to a new rabbi and a great future. For me it has been an adventure, not quite a desert trek to G-d’s mountain, but still a spiritual journey where I learned new Torah and met people who care deeply about the future of their community and its Jewish life.

I am grateful to all of you who opened your homes and hearts to me and Elaine while we were here and hope that our last Chag together will be one of Atzeret, a culminating celebration of all that we have learned together in the past two years.

Chag Same’ach

RABBI HOWARD HOFFMAN
Temple Beth-El of Bellmore  
1373 Bellmore Road, North Bellmore, NY 11710  
516-781-2650  
www.TBEBellmore.org

The Sidney Z. Cohn Memorial Minyan Room  
Dedication: Sunday, June 22, 2014  
10:00 am

There are two ways you can participate in this once-in-our-lifetime experience. You can either sponsor a Religious Article to be used in the room* or donate to the Minyan Room Construction Fund:

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Item to Donate</th>
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<td>Shulchan Reading Table</td>
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*If you wish to donate a Religious Article, please contact Ira Minkoff immediately to indicate your choice as these are going quickly!! Please respond with all donations by May 31, 2014.

**Metal Level & Religious Article donations will be recognized on a permanent plaque in the minyan room. All other donations will be recognized in the program on Dedication Day.

Minyan Room红edication Participation Form:

Name: ______________________  Email:______________________________  Tele #:___________________________

Sponsorship Level: ________  X $________  Total: __________

Religious Item Sponsor: ________  X $________  Total: __________

Total Participation: ____________________  Total: __________

*Deadline for return of this form and your donation is May 31, 2014
MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

But how do you thank someone, who has taken you from crayons to perfume? It isn’t easy but I’ll try.” These words as written by Don Black and Mark London and performed by Lulu in the 1967 film, To Sir, With Love sum up my feelings in saying goodbye to Rabbi Howard Hoffman on June 30, 2014. It is impossible to put into words the feelings I have for this Keter Shem Tov, this Crown of a Good Name. When Ivy Roberts first asked me to chair the Interim Rabbi Search Committee two and a half years ago, I did not know what to expect. We had never needed such a figure to lead us and we had no idea what or who we would find out there. We interviewed several qualified candidates but, as the rest of the committee will tell you, we instantly knew Rabbi Hoffman was the man for the job the moment we met him. Coming off of 40 years as a full-time pulpit Rabbi, Rabbi Hoffman was “looking for an adventure”; something new. One of his friends at the Rabbinical Assembly told him about this warm and welcoming congregation in the heart of Nassau County and he reached out for Temple Beth-El.

I am not sure how many of you know this but Rabbi Hoffman is a “part time Rabbi.” That’s right; his official work schedule is Wednesday through Shabbat. But you would never know that from the way he takes care of us. He has made himself available for meetings, teaching sessions, outside TBE events at United Synagogue and UJA/Synergy; all to the betterment of Temple Beth-El, on any day of the week and at any hour. Add to this his Pastoral Care of holding our hands during our greatest time of need; when we lose a loved one. Rabbi Hoffman shines in this most difficult of tasks and makes the world feel as if he knew our departed all of his life. I have never seen anything like this from any other Rabbi, anywhere. I have a sneaky feeling that Rabbi Hoffman did not expect this adventure to take quite so much of his Pastoral time but right out of the box, and before his contract even started, he was doing his first funeral for us. This is quite a man!

I have learned so much from Rabbi H, as I will affectionately call him after he departs. I could not be an effective president without his guidance and caring. He has taught me how to handle adversity, congregational disagreements and, every week, he pushes me to improve my Hebrew while davening (OK, I haven’t done so well on this one, much to his chagrin). He has taught me how to let things slide off of me instead of becoming angry about them as he does so well. And he has taught me the meaning of leadership and how important it is to be a strong and honest leader. I hope this comes through in everything I do.

Most important, Rabbi Hoffman saved us from ourselves. Prior to his arrival, we had become a divided and angry congregation. We were still a community, but a fractured one. One by one, Rabbi H put the pieces back together and today we are, once again, the congregation we were 10 years ago; just with less people. There are not many other shuls on Long Island that can boast the number of regular Shabbos attendees we have. And there are not many shuls at all that could pull off multiple Shiva minyans, many miles away from each other, with such grace and skill. We have had this type of capability before, but we had lost our way. Rabbi H, without changing who we are, made us remember why we are a community and what actions go along with that responsibility.

I will forever be grateful to Rabbi Hoffman for coming here to TBE and then staying for a second year. It has certainly made my first year as president much easier. I spent a good part of this year trying to talk Rabbi Hoffman into staying longer. But, as he has done so many times in twenty-four months, he taught me that this would be wrong for the congregation. We need to move on and find our next permanent leader and we cannot do that while leaning on the man who made us able to look for our next Rabbi in the first place. It took me a long time to accept this, but Rabbi Hoffman always takes the time to teach.

So, “…how do you thank someone who has taken you from crayons to perfume?” You look him in the eye. You shake his hand. You give him a hug and you wish him and his wife, Elaine, the best of luck and warm mazel in their new home and in their retirements. They have certainly earned them. But remember, there is always our Scholar in Residence program and I, for one, will never allow Rabbi Hoffman to become a distant memory. Let’s keep him close.

Please join me at a Super Shabbos Shul on June 28, 2014 to say goodbye to Rabbi and Elaine and wish them well. I promise this will be a very special Shabbat and we will have fun and learn a final lesson from this powerful teacher.

See you on Shavuot!

IRA MINKOFF
President
You know the expression “Necessity is the mother of invention”? It’s Shabbos Hol Hamo’ed. I am following my normal routine. I listen to the sermon and then hang out in the kitchen with Lloyd for a few. If you ever really want to know the pulse of the shul talk to Noel and Lloyd. So we are talking about Passover almost being over and I venture back into the sanctuary. OMG the voice of Nell Landman echoes in my head, “Next article due at the end of Passover.” Oy, I forgot all about it. Back in the sanctuary I look up on the bimah and see Rabbi Hoffman. Being one of his biggest fans my ADD mind begins to think that the next issue of Talk Temple Rabbi Hoffman. Being one of his biggest fans my ADD mind begins to think that the next issue of Talk Temple will be the last one with him being our leader. Like when Fred Flintstone would get an idea; it hit me! Use your column to write a tribute to Rabbi Hoffman.

At the Kiddish I tell some of my Kiddish buddies about my idea to do a tribute to the Rabbi and it’s met with excitement. Boom another idea comes to me. I ask my fellow macaroon munchers if they would like to contribute a short story to the article. They seemed excited. So this article will be some of my stories and some from my Kiddish buddies.

I remember back to two years ago. I was in the back row of the temple and Ivy Roberts got up to speak. She discussed the concept of an interim Rabbi. He would be here for a year (possibly two), but couldn’t stay. My first reaction was very negative. We had gone through the gap after Rabbi Goldscheider’s untimely death, and then we went through a very controversial time with Rabbi Kessler, now this interim concept. I was one of the naysayers. Worst-case scenario, we get a stiff and this could be the end. Best-case scenario, we get a wonderful guy, we get attached and then he has to go and we are broken-hearted. Like Costello telling Abbot he wanted to marry an ugly girl. Abbot couldn’t understand his wish. Costello explained, “If I marry a beautiful girl and she leaves me, I will be broken-hearted; if the ugly girl leaves she leaves.” With Rabbi Hoffman, we married the beautiful girl!

My favorite Rabbi Hoffman story took place on a surreal bizarre night. Many of you know the story, some of you don’t. Last April, I came home on a warm spring Monday night. Judy was at a breast cancer support group evening and I left the front door open. Like you see on Law and Order, there was a knock on the door and two detectives identified themselves. After beating around the bush for a few minutes, they informed me that my neighbor Bryan Yablonsky had suffered a heart attack after jogging at Jones Beach and had passed away. They were unsuccessful in contacting his wife.

Realizing it was Monday; I knew she was at Bingo. They were very compassionate and we explored different options. If I called and told her there was an emergency, she could get into an accident making things worse. We agreed that the best idea was to go to the Temple. Although I live half a mile away, the ride felt unending. Like in Hitchcock’s The Birds, I knew what was beyond the door. My poor friend and neighbor went to Bingo like she did every Monday and now was about to receive the news that she was a widow. The detectives took her into the coatroom and I heard the crying from outside. Ira reacting quickly called Rabbi Hoffman who was literally there in two minutes. He was a true angel and stayed with Laura comforting her and us on this terribly difficult night.

My wife Judy is another president of the Rabbi Hoffman fan club. When I asked her for her favorite Rabbi story, she immediately recalled when she invited the Rabbi, Elaine and Merav over to the house one day. “We had such a wonderful afternoon. “I remembered that on that day we walked home from shul and being a slow walker, I walked behind with the Rabbi’s daughter Merav. I remember telling her how fortunate we were to have crossed paths with her dad and how we all loved him. She answered me that the feeling was mutual and that I wouldn’t believe how happy and thankful he was to have crossed paths with our community.”

Shep Woda sent me his Rabbi Hoffman story… “Thank you for affording me the opportunity to share an experience or anecdote about Rabbi Hoffman. I have walked up Bellmore Avenue many times with the Rabbi. On one of the early occasions, he was very up front and told a story about his youth and what happened to him. The Rabbi was telling us that he really has trouble remembering people’s names. I feel very privileged to have him remember mine. I also would like to remark about when I broke my shoulder last August. He immediately called once he found out about my situation. He offered support and concern, and told me to stay off ladders. Well I am back on the ladders again, but he did something that no other Rabbi ever did when I was hurt, and that was to offer to take me to the doctor if I needed it.

The last thing I would like to say was that Rabbi Hoffman was a sea of calm when Temple Beth El was in turmoil. In came a man to a divided congregation, and made it whole (THE MAN continued on page 7)
again. The Rabbi began to bring us back. The “insanity” was stopped and we became a community once again. We had a Rabbi that taught us, gave us some humor, was personable and did not need a script to do everything. Rabbi Hoffman could handle things as they came up and nothing was ever a crisis.

To Rabbi Hoffman, on behalf of Joyce and I, thank you for coming to North Bellmore to begin your retirement. Thank you for being a Mensch! I hope you have good fortune and good health in Florida. Thank you for your guidance and your calming effect.

Adam Raclaw told me that the Rabbi was a great raconteur. (A big word I had never heard. That’s why he’s a lawyer and I sell auto parts). He said that the Rabbi told us so many wonderful stories, but left a bunch open that he always said he would get back to. “He will have to return often to finish all the stories.”

I got this message from Caren and Stu Jaffe: This is not to say that we don’t enjoy his Shabbos Sermons, but Rabbi Hoffman really really shines when he speaks in small groups. We have come to look forward to Friday night folk stories and Saturday night suddahs where we discuss Pirkei Avot. Besides interesting choices of subject matter, there have been wonderful discussions about what was read. These small moments set aside for learning have been a delight!

Ed Senenman’s sentiments were short and sweet: When the Board did the research on Rabbi Hoffman, we were told that, “[He] performs great at funerals,” kind of an oxymoron…By the way, he is great at funerals!

Here are David Wayne’s reflections on Rabbi Hoffman: There is such a thing as the right person at the right place at the right time. While TBE has always been resilient and able to withstand a crisis, the time immediately before Rabbi Hoffman’s arrival was surely one of our lowest points. I don’t believe that any member of the congregation and certainly no one among the leadership was feeling very good at having to end our relationship with Rabbi Kessler and dealing with the tension that permeated everywhere.

Rabbi Hoffman’s first words to us were so perfect and it put the entire situation into perspective. He told us without mincing words that we were still mourning the loss of Rabbi Goldscheider and that we never had time to heal. He assured us that his first and foremost priority would be to help us heal, mend the broken heart of the congregation and help us return to a unified body. I think we would all agree that he has accomplished this goal and that we are in a much, much better place than we were two years ago. I truly believe that no one else could have accomplished this for us.

During Hurricane Sandy, Rabbi and Elaine stayed with Phyllis and me while they had no power. (My sister-in-law and brother-in-law were also houseguests.) Phyllis and I got to know them real well, pajamas and all! What we discovered were that we now had two of the most menschlichkeit people as members of the community. Their good-heartedness and calm approach to all matters are inspirational. I would like to think that we made two friends who will never be too far.

My last reflection is how impressed I continually am at his scholarship, the vast number of books that he can easily recall and how he brought a fresh look to our Jewish literature, lore and customs by informing us of the historical situations that helped form these ideas. On many occasions, I would leave feeling intellectually stimulated and wanting to read the book he mentioned.

Phyllis and I will miss him and Elaine very much and wish them b’rachot, hatzlachot and s’machot in this next phase of their journey.

IVY ROBERTS shared her thoughts: As the President when Rabbi Hoffman first joined us, I felt a warmth enter our sanctuary on those early Shabbosim. I observed as that special feeling traveled throughout the congregation. He and the congregation immediately connected. He helped heal us as a community and made us proud to be members of Temple Beth-El. When our members suffered a loss or needed counseling, he was always there for us. Our connection to the greater Jewish community including our neighboring rabbis was restored and we as a congregation are in a better place because of him. We as a congregation are blessed to have had Rabbi Hoffman as our interim rabbi. Thank you also to Elaine Hoffman for joining our community and sharing him with us.

In summary I will quote a scene from one of my favorite movies, “As Good As It Gets” with Jack Nicholson. He plays a quirky guy (he’s great at that role) who falls in love with a waitress, Helen Hunt, in a diner that he frequents. In the movie, he tells someone how they think they are coming into the diner for ham and eggs and in reality have an opportunity to cross paths with a wonderful human being. We came to TBE and were afforded that same opportunity for the past two years.

(THE MAN continued on page 8)
THE MAN continued

I work for a big company and people come and go. Oftentimes drivers and warehouse workers (boy, do they work hard) get a better opportunity and shake your hand to say goodbye. So you have been having coffee every morning for three years and now basically you will never see them again. I always say the same thing to them. From a selfish point I will miss you, but as a friend I wish you the best in your new better opportunity. Rabbi Hoffman, we will all miss you, but Elaine and your retirements are overdue and WELL deserved. I am sure you will be either teaching in a Florida University or leading a book or study group in the near future. All the best. Don’t be a stranger. Yasher Koach.

STUART ZEITLIN

STUART ZEITLIN

Editor’s Note:

Stu and I both know that many more of you have stories about Rabbi Hoffman that you would like to share. Please send these stories, thoughts, and reflections to me at nellandman@gmail.com and I will print them in the next issue of Talk Temple.

Memorial Plaque Dedication

Second Day of Shavuot,
Thursday morning, June 5
Milton & Joyce Schupak – Carin Miller
William & Estelle Seidenberg – Nell Landman
Jules Zuch – Barbara Zuch
Anna Ertel – Lewis Ertel
Ruth & Burton Shapiro – Susan Honig
Doris & Murray Honig – Ken Honig
Melvin Samet – Lori Schwarz

The TBE Israel Affairs Committee presents

A Taste of Israel
at Temple Beth-El of Bellmore

Sunday, May 18, 2014
5:00 – 8:00pm
Israeli Food, Music, and Fun for All!

Celebrate Lag B’Omer and Yom HaAtzmaut!
Hear stories from those who traveled to Israel with Rabbi Hoffman
SPECIAL GUEST SPEAKER to talk about Masorti (Conservative) Movement in Israel

Free for TBE Members ~
$5 for non-TBE Members

This program is made possible in part by a Ma’alot Grant from United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism and Nefesh B’nefesh.
Israel halts peace talks as Hamas and Fatah strike unity deal

By Robert Tait, Jerusalem – Telegraph, UK
4:14PM BST 24 Apr 2014

Israel has formally suspended Middle East peace talks in retaliation for a unity pact between the Palestinian leadership and the Islamist Hamas movement, dealing a severe blow to US-brokered efforts to end the decades-old conflict.

The move appeared to sound the death knell to nine months of peace talks that were due to expire on April 29. It followed a five-hour meeting of Benjamin Netanyahu's security cabinet called to discuss Wednesday's pact, which Israel depicted as an effective rejection of peace negotiations because of Hamas' denial of its right to exist.

"The cabinet has unanimously decided that the Israeli government will not negotiate with a Palestinian government backed by Hamas, a terror organization that calls for the destruction of Israel," a statement issued by Mr. Netanyahu's office said.

Mr. Netanyahu said that Palestinian moves to form a unity government with Hamas were "a giant leap backwards" for the peace process. "The pact with Hamas kills peace," the Israeli leader said.

US mediators had been scrambling to find a formula to extend the negotiations, which had already been plunged into crisis over Israel's refusal to release Palestinian prisoners, as previously agreed, and the PA's application to join a host of international organizations and treaties.

Wednesday's unity agreement - jointly announced in Gaza City by Hamas and the Palestine Liberation Organization - appeared to signal the end of seven years of conflict between the Islamist group and Fatah, the Western-backed movement headed by Mahmoud Abbas, the PA president. It promised to form a new unity government in five weeks while pledging to hold fresh elections within six months. The announcement heralded scenes of celebration in the streets of Gaza, which is run by Hamas - designated a terrorist organization by the US and the European Union (EU). But it triggered an angry response from Mr. Netanyahu, Israel's prime minister, who initially called a halt to Wednesday night's scheduled negotiating session before calling an emergency meeting of the security cabinet.

Ironically, Baroness Ashton, the EU's foreign policy chief, welcomed the Palestinian unity agreement on Thursday before news of Israel's suspension of talks emerged. "The European Union believes that the reconciliation agreement between Fatah and Hamas is an important step toward a two-state solution," Michael Mann, Baroness Ashton's spokesman, told Haaretz; "but the top priority remains the continuation of peace talks between Israel and the Palestinians."
SAVE THE DATE FOR THESE UPCOMING EVENTS

May 18  A Taste of Israel
May 28  Sisterhood Woman of Achievement Dinner honoring Sandy Minkoff
May 29  Israel Bond Dessert Reception honoring Rabbi Hoffman
June 1   Salute to Israel Parade
June 3   Shavuot Eve – Ruth Potash Memorial Study
June 4   1st Day of Shavuot
June 5   2nd Day of Shavuot, Yizkor
June 7   USY Reunion
June 22  Sidney Z. Cohn Minyan Room Dedication
June 28  Shabbes Shul

Note from the Editor
I am looking for an Advertising Manager for Talk Temple. If you are interested in hearing about what this would entail, please send me an email at: nellandman@gmail.com

ADVERTISE
DO YOU SELL A PRODUCT OR SERVICE THAT YOU WOULD LIKE OTHERS TO KNOW ABOUT? DISPLAY YOUR AD OR BUSINESS CARD IN TALK TEMPLE. YOUR BUSINESS WILL BENEFIT AND SO WILL OUR TEMPLE. CALL THE TEMPLE OFFICE FOR CURRENT RATES.
To Our TBE Family,

Thank you all so much for sharing in our special simcha – the naming of our granddaughter Shoshana Malka (Shayna Melanie) on March 15th. Thank you to Rabbi Hoffman, Cantor Binet, Otto Loewy, and all our fellow worshippers for creating such a warm and welcoming Shabbat service for all our guests. And, a very special thank you to Sandy Minkoff and the Shabbes Shul Committee for the extraordinary efforts made that enabled Shabbat to be one we will always remember. We are truly blessed.

With much love and appreciation,

Nancy Kaplan & Michael Eitingon

To The Congregation,

I wish to thank you for all of your outpouring of help and feeling to my family and me when it mattered most. Thanks you for your thoughtful kindness at a time when it was greatly appreciated.

Muriel Holden (Mira Sclair’s mother)

Dear Rabbi & Fellow Members,

Happy Purim. On behalf of my entire family, Purim will have extra meaning this year. We were all touched by the generosity and kindness show to all of us. The winter has been so awful for everyone so we thank you for putting a smile on our faces.

Again, thanks for your kindness

Shelly and Howard Itkin

Dear TBE Family,

There are not enough words to express our thanks for the outpouring of support for the loss of my Dad, Leonard Holden, this past winter. The cards, meals and visits made a difficult time bearable. My mom is still remarking at what a unique congregation I have.

Toda Raba.

Mira Sclair and Family

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WE GET MORE LETTERS

To my TBE Family,

My family and I would like to thank all of you for the outpouring of kindness and friendship during this trying time in our lives. As many of you know, we are a very close family and the loss of my father hit us very hard. It gives us incredible strength to know we have all of you to lean on.

Lisa Minkoff

To The TBE Family,

I want to thank Manny Korman, Roz Galinson, Rabbi Hoffman and the wonderful people here at Temple Beth El who have befriended me during the over 20 years that I have been a member and for selecting me to receive such a high honor at the UJA breakfast on April 6. My family and I cannot express how much this meant to us.

To Rabbi Hoffman, I say that we have been most fortunate to have you during a period after we lost two wonderful Rabbi(s), Rabbi Rosenbaum (whom I never met) and Rabbi Goldscheider (whom I had the pleasure of knowing very well.)

I personally want to thank Rabbi Hoffman for the inspiration he has given me and all of our congregants, and I am confident that everyone appreciates all that he has done for us.

We shall surely miss Rabbi Hoffman upon his retirement to Florida and wish Elaine and him Mazel Tov upon this relocation and retirement. Thank you Rabbi Hoffman for being our Rabbi and Friend.

Emil Kesselman
ARE YOU RECEIVING THE TBENews?

If you are not receiving TBENews and would like to subscribe, just e-mail tbebellmore@gmail.com with your preferred e-mail address. You will start receiving the latest news with the next issue.

KAREN SELTZER
TBENewsletter Editor

JEWISH MEMORIAL CHAPEL OF LONG ISLAND
AN AFFILIATE OF IJ MORRIS

Providing the most affordable graveside and chapel services on Long Island with dignity and compassion

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- Transportation from any State
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Our advanced planning counselors specialize in creating plans that cater to the different needs of all families, participating member of The Pre Plan™ an FDIC insured fund for pre-paid funeral arrangements.
Join us for Shabbat services and celebrate your anniversary or birthday with your TBE Family at our next SHABBES SHUL luncheon.

This will be Rabbi Hoffman’s last official Shabbat at Temple Beth El

After services, enjoy a delicious Shabbat luncheon prepared by our own Shabbes Shul Committee.

LET’S SHARE SHABBES TOGETHER!

If you miss it this time…..you’ve missed it!
YOM HASHOAH PROGRAM

Introduction to the Yom HaShoah Program held on April 27, 2014

On behalf of our President and Board of Directors, I welcome our members, their guests and other guests who are with us tonight for the 23rd year of this special night.

Upon preparing for this evening, I happened by coincidence to come across a book written by EVA HOFFMAN, no relation to our Hoffmans, entitled, FOR YOUR KNOWLEDGE.

Ms. Hoffman deals solely with the Holocaust, but from a different perspective. One in which many of us sitting here, including myself, are involved with. She writes about what she calls the Silent Generation. These are the people who were fortunate to escape from the Nazis and leave their homeland for safer places. Her point is that many of the aforesaid despite their departure were very much affected by the Holocaust, enough so that it probably changed their lives.

I for one, remember quite vividly the sobbing and crying of my mother, when she lit her Yahrzeit lamps, for siblings and parents. I also remember my father, who in Austria was a most influential lawyer who was jailed by the Nazis with the Noble Prize Winner, Otto Loewi. The Nazis prided themselves on being very precise and jailed people not by relation etc., but alphabetically.

Anyway, back to my father. We were able to get sponsors to bring us to the United States, and my father unable to speak fluent English was forced to take a job at Gramercy Clothes as a presser because he realized that his career as a lawyer was over. In a short time his lack of strength, the heat and the commuting affected his already weak heart. He left Gramercy, but was still able to use his experience and open a Promotional Firm, but the damage to his heart was too strong and he died, hopefully at peace with himself.

I tell you all this because even here in this great nation we were unable to escape our past. Perhaps that is the way it should be. Hitler and the Nazis are the villains and they are an example of what can and has happened and we must keep in mind that it should never happen again.

OTTO LOEWY
SOCIAL ACTION

Prom Boutique: Even though we had very short notice to make donations to the Prom Boutique, some 15 prom dresses and bridesmaid dresses were collected and donated so that girls unable to afford such purchases had an opportunity to go to their proms in style. Thanks to all who donated, and to Sara Lustbader who helped with the donations. We hope to collect dresses and accessories again next year. Please contact any of the young women in your families and their friends so that we can make a considerable donation.

Passover Seders at TBE: A special thanks to Rabbi Hoffman for making these seders enjoyable and informative. Over the two nights we had 98 participants, and welcomed the Dorushkin grandchildren from New Zealand, the Levine granddaughters from California, as well as families from Merrick, and other individuals from Brooklyn and Huntington. As always, the food from Alfie at Nassau Kosher was delicious and plentiful. Additional sincere thanks to Noel and Lloyd who work hard in the kitchen to make this possible.

Food Donations for FEGS: Thanks to all for your continued support of our food drive. Hunger is not only at holidays. If there is anyone who would like to be responsible for transporting the donations to FEGS in Syosset it would be appreciated, just let me know.

If you know of any additional socially responsible activities we can act on, please let me know.

MARTHA KREISEL
Chair, TBE Social Action

Sisterhood invites the entire congregation to a special presentation given by Sisterhood Past President

Martha Kreisel
Tuesday, May 13th at 8 p.m.

Hans Gabali, Long Island Muralist: His Place in the Mural Community

German-born Hans Gabali was a Northport resident who painted murals on the sides of buildings and in homes. His work transformed blank spaces into oceans, fishing shanties, deserts, swimming pools and Alpine villages. His murals can be viewed all over Long Island. Many of you have driven past or perhaps stopped to view his work on Bellmore Avenue or in Freeport, Wantagh or Seaford.

Retired librarian and associate professor Martha Kreisel established an electronic archive to preserve the images of his murals, which can be affected by weather and changes in ownership. She will share her slide show of the murals and talk about how Gabali’s work fits in to the mural community as a whole.

Free admission Light refreshments served

For information contact: Carren Jaffe 783-8366 or Phyllis Wayne 785-5908

YOUTH

The Youth Committee is hosting a USY REUNION Saturday June 7, 2014 at 9:30 pm. If you register and pay by May 7 the cost has been reduced to $20. Paid reservations May 8-19 is $25 and at the door it will cost $36.

We hope you will come join us for a night of seeing old friends and meeting new. You can pay by check, by calling the temple office or through PayPal at USY Reunion Face book page.

Please let anyone who was in USY know about this exciting event. Thanks for your support.

AMY WOLIN
Youth Vice President
We hope you’ll join us on Tuesday, May 13th when Martha Kreisel will be speaking about the Long Island Muralist Hans Gabali. Although Mr. Gabali is no longer living, his work can still be viewed all over Long Island as murals on the outside of local buildings. Martha has written and lectured about his work and has preserved many of his murals by photographing them and documenting their locations. Many of you pass his work daily when you rush to catch the LIRR in the morning. One of his murals adorns the Bellmore Avenue side of the Banner Transmission building in Bellmore.

The entire congregation is invited to attend this lecture free of charge at 8 pm on May 13th. Refreshments will be served.

Sisterhood is pleased to honor Sandy Minkoff as our 2014 Woman of Achievement for her many years of service to Temple Beth-El and our Sisterhood. Many members of Temple Beth-El and Sandy’s family will be on hand when she is presented with her award at the Women’s League for Conservative Judaism BQLI Region Gala on Wednesday, May 28th to be held at Shelter Rock Jewish Center. I hope you’ll all take the time to read Sandy’s bio in the latest issue of Spotlight.

Thanks to the financial support of our members, Sisterhood will be making a donation to TBE on the dedication of the new minyan room in addition to our annual pledge. We will also be donating to the temple library copies of the following books: The Night That Unites by Rabbi Aaron Goldscheider and How To Be A Friend To A Friend Who is Ill by Lettie Pogrebin. Please take the time to borrow them, read them or just browse through sections that interest you. You may find that it is worth buying copies for yourself to have in your personal library so you can refer back to them from time to time or to give as gifts.

The Nominating Committee has started to work on the Sisterhood Slate for 2014-2015. If you are interested in becoming part of the Sisterhood board or a committee please contact Shari Nadelman at 679-5708 or email sharizee@gmail.com. Mark your calendar for Sisterhood’s Turnover Dinner on Tuesday June 10th. You’ll receive a flyer with more information.

Last but certainly not least, Sisterhood thanks Rabbi Hoffman for his inspiration and guidance over the last two years. Our members have thoroughly enjoyed studying with you at Women’s Institute classes, the Tu B’Shevat Seder, Talmud classes and other Sisterhood and Temple events and learning from you every Shabbat and Holiday.

The Sisterhood Board joins me in wishing Rabbi Hoffman and Elaine a very happy and healthy retirement. We have been so fortunate to have had you with us for these last two years and hope that you will often return for visits.

CAROLE FRIEDMAN
Sisterhood President

Sisterhood of Temple Beth-El
Torah Fund
Support the Jewish Theological Seminary by purchasing cards, making donations or becoming a benefactor.
For information contact Freya Novack 781-1757

Sisterhood Tree of Life
Celebrate important events in your life. Place a leaf on our Tree of Life
Questions? Contact Ellen Glatt at (516) 785-8015 or meglatt@optonline.net
Leaves may be purchased now for future use.

Attention Parents and Grandparents:
Please call the office with all Graduation information about your children or grandchildren so we can offer Congratulations in the next issue of Talk Temple.
UPDATE ON THE UKRAINE

As you may recall, in December 2008, Temple Beth-El sent a small delegation (Roz Galinson, Martha, Marcelo and Sara Kreisel, Ron Minor OBM, and Fern and Meta Summer) to deliver a Torah to a Masorti group in Chernowitz. Following is one of the updates we receive about the use of the Torah and how pleased and grateful the community is to have use of a Torah for services, reading and study.

Dear Fern,

We just wanted to update you on Passover activities in Chernowitz.

From April 11-16, I visited the Masorti community in Chernowitz. For Shabbat HaGadol, a festive Kabbalat Shabbat program, attended by over 50 people - grandparents, parents and children, was held at the Chernowitz Aviv Masorti Community Center. It included services, a meal, Shabbat songs, a class on the weekly Torah reading by Igor Berental, the head of the Masorti community, and a sermon on the connection between the Torah, mezuzah and Passover (earlier I had brought a new mezuzah from Israel, which was attached to the door during a ceremony). As a prelude to receiving the Sefer Torah the next day, members of the Masorti community, who had been children when Temple Beth El of Bellmore donated the Sefer Torah in December 2008, told about the exciting ceremony which was held then. They emphasized how important it was that a delegation came from far away to personally deliver the Torah.

On Shabbat afternoon, a festive program was held in honor of the transfer of the Bellmore Torah scroll to the Masorti community. Gila Katz explained basic concepts connected to the Torah, such as an aliya to the Torah, the weekly reading, etc. Now the Masorti community has a Torah, which they can use on Shabbat. I am now investigating the possibility of holding a class during the Ramah summer camp to teach members of the community how to read the Torah.

On Sunday, April 13, the entire community was invited to see the Torah and hear an in-depth explanation of how it is written, and 50 people, including 20 children, participated. Then a bedikat hametz was held at the Center. Then all the children were given a package of matzoh to take home. On April 14, the eve of the first Seder, I conducted a festive community seder attended by some 70 members of the Masorti community.

Due to the large size, the seder was held at a rented hall. The second seder on April 15 was geared to the community leaders (about 30 people) and held at the Aviv Center. I connected the celebration of Passover with the aliya movement from the USSR in the 1970s, which resulted in a modern-day Exodus.

The Masorti community in Chernowitz has grown in the past year and it now numbers over 60 people with many children.

At this point, there is no fighting in Chernowitz itself but only heated discussions in the street and the media concerning the situation. There was some anti-Semitic graffiti in the streets, which was condemned by the local officials. Nevertheless, we have reinforced security at the entrance to the Aviv Masorti Center and hired guards for the Passover Seder.

Once again, I want to thank you for all your efforts, which resulted in the Sefer Torah now being used by the Masorti community. I wish you and the entire Beth El community success and will continue to keep you updated on the situation in Chernowitz.

All the best,

Gila

CHESED

Members of the Chesed Committee are available should assistance be required. We can provide a variety of services if congregants inform us of their needs. Please let us know if there is anything we can do to help. Please remember we can only do so if we know that help is needed.

Please contact the Temple office at 516-781-2650 or Suzanne Susswein at 516-785-5680
Dvar Torah Metzor for Sisterhood Shabbat 2014

The parsha Metzora outlines the laws and practices regarding tzara'at, the mysterious biblical affliction that could defile people, animals, and homes in the biblical world. Are all the painstaking details of the leprosy-like disease, and the duties of the priest towards those afflicted, an allegory? An allegory that is played out time and time again as civilization is inflicted with disease, hatred, and bigotry and conversely when human beings reach deep inside themselves and do the right thing towards their fellow humans.

In the news there was mention of the death of the head of the Westboro Baptist Church, considered by some to be the vilest hate group in the country; in a sense, a leper on the fringes of the community. He was a man filled with hatred and intolerance, and sustained an “unapologetic assault” on gays and lesbians, victims of AIDS, and even soldiers killed in Iraq and Afghanistan. His message, taken on placards and signs to their funerals and in the streets, was that they were the lepers of society and that final judgment would come to them.

However, others have said that by being so public and so heinous, he forced people to confront their own views and roused a protective instinct in parents and friends of gays and lesbians, and servicemen and servicewomen. On numerous occasions the families and friends at funerals for his victims were surrounded and protected not by the High priest, but by average people who formed barriers of protection thereby forcing his group to be separated and cast aside. It was said that what began as hate speech, become a recruiting tool for a pro-equality, pro-social acceptance movement.

From a dvar torah by Rachel Farbizar for the American Jewish World Service, “Just as the priest restored the metzorra’s dignity through his anointing touch, we have a duty to restore dignity and community to those who are wounded by our words and actions. At the core of the metzorra’s purification ritual is the silent injunction that we are to encounter each other not only as healer and patient, priest and metzorra, but as human beings.”

We need to ask, who in our community has been marginalized? Well there are the 3.4% of Bellmore residents1 who live below the poverty line and cannot use their SNAP benefits to purchase toilet paper or cleaning supplies or pet food; and the 3000 homeless people in Nassau and Suffolk counties;2 and the members of the armed services who have come home to no jobs, broken families, and often are tragically mentally and physically compromised; or the children and young adults in our schools who are victims of bullying; or the 14% of youth who engage in self-injury;3 or those who face challenges for being lesbian, gay or bisexual. The question is: What is our responsibility as individuals and as a Jewish community? And the answers are crucial.

M'Yad L'Yad - Long Island's Helping Hands

M’YAD L’YAD - Long Island's Helping Hands was founded in 1998 to serve the disabled, the elderly, and others most in need. Volunteer Sponsors are paired with Recipients to provide assistance beyond the basic necessities, to enhance the lives of those in need. In keeping with one of the highest ideals of charitable giving within Judaism, our Sponsors' and Recipients' identities remain anonymous, thus maintaining the privacy and dignity of those participating.

Temple Beth-El is participating in this wonderful program and below you will find information about the family we will be helping.

OUR NEW M'YAD L'YAD FAMILY

Our new family is a 52-year-old Mom and her 11-year-old twin boys. Mom wears a size 22 or 2x pants, 2x in tops and 10 wide shoes. The twins are either a 32 or 34 pants (L or XL), a 10 or 12 shirt (M or XL) or size 10 or 12 shoes. Mom enjoys reading mystery books and cooking. The boys enjoy playing with Legos, drawing, cars and outdoor sports. Their special requests are dishes, utensils, pots and pans and bath towels.

There will be a box in the coatroom marked M’yad L’yad for your donations. Of course monetary donations are always appreciated and will be used to purchase gift cards for the family. Thank you very much for your generosity toward our “new family”.

Any questions feel free to call Ellen Wikow at 516-783-7856.
**NOAH - THE MOVIE**

I hardly ever write reviews of movies, as I do not feel that I have the background or experience to make those judgments. That doesn’t mean that I don’t love to see them. **NOAH**, because of its biblical theme immediately had a special interest to me. Before going, I read several critiques, which piqued my interest even more.

The film produced by Paramount is without a doubt a Hollywood production. By this I mean that any relationship of the movie with Genesis is purely coincidental, which is strange because many of the writers, from their names, seem to be Jewish.

What is outstanding is the imagination of these writers and directors of the **NOAH** story in attempting to show in film, in whatever way possible how to build the ark, fill it with thousands of animals, flood the earth, fight wars against humans and animals, and pray to the creator (their word for G-D) for his deliverance.

If you are looking for special effects, good acting, Russell Crowe as Noah, no laughs or tears, go see **NOAH**.

I wouldn’t bother reading *Bereshit* before I went.

OTTO LOEWY
USY Reunion!!

WHEN: Saturday June 7, 9:30-12
WHERE: Temple Beth El Bellmore
1373 Bellmore Road,
North Bellmore, NY, 11710
DJ AND DANCING, DESSERT, PHOTOBOOTH!!
Get together and reminisce about the good old times!

WHEN: Saturday June 7, 9:30-12
WHERE: Temple Beth El Bellmore
1373 Bellmore Road,
North Bellmore, NY, 11710
DJ AND DANCING, DESSERT, PHOTOBOOTH!!
Get together and reminisce about the good old times!

Early Bird Reservation by May 7: $20
Regular Reservation May 8 – May 19: $25
At the door: $36

Credit cards will be accepted by calling 516-781-2650
Checks can be sent to Temple Beth El
1373 Bellmore Road, North Bellmore, NY 11710.
Payment can also be through PayPal by visiting the USY Reunion Facebook page.

GIVE THE GIFT THAT LASTS A LIFETIME
Trees for Israel, Trees for life

Play cards? Scrabble? Play Mah Jongg?

Casual play in our social hall,
Thursdays
1:00 pm – 4:00 pm
If you have a mah jongg set or playing cards or other games, bring them along, if not, we have some sets for you to use.
Bring some friends, or come alone and we will help find others to play with you.
Coffee and cake is served.
Donation to Temple Beth-El of $3.00 per person is required.
CONDOLENCES

The Temple mourns the loss of our member, GLADYS SAMUELS. We extend our sincerest condolences to her husband Irving and her children, Adrienne & Bruce.

The Temple mourns the loss of long time member, ISADORE FRIEDMAN. We extend our condolences to his family.

To Lisa Minkoff on the loss of her father, Sam Hirsh.

To Larry Friedman on the loss of his mother, Julia Friedman.

To Walter Hearns on the loss of his sister, Miriam Evelyn Kershner.

MAZEL TOV

To Matthew Waldmann for becoming this years’ Salutatorian at Mepham H.S.

To Jonathan Genn graduating from the University of Delaware with a BS in Civil Engineering.

To Michael Dolinger for getting his Residency at North Shore/LIJ in pediatrics.
## SCHEDULE OF SABBATH SERVICES

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<th>Kabbalat Shabbat</th>
<th>Shabbat Morning</th>
<th>Torah Portion</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Minchah-Study-Ma’ariv</th>
<th>Shabbat Ends</th>
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<tr>
<td>May 16-17</td>
<td>7:47 PM</td>
<td>7:00 PM</td>
<td>9:15 AM</td>
<td>Bechukotai</td>
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<td>7:00 PM</td>
<td>9:15 AM</td>
<td>Bamidbar</td>
<td>Auf Ruf of Adam Breitman</td>
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<td>June 6-7</td>
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<td>Sh’lach</td>
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<td>June 20-21</td>
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<td>Korach</td>
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<td>Rosh Chodesh Tammuz</td>
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<td>Balak</td>
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<td>9:10 PM</td>
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### Daily Minyon
- Weekday mornings: 7:30 am
- Weekday Evenings: 7:30 pm
- Sunday & Legal Holidays: 9:00 am