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www.tbsohio.org/israel2016.html

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The Window



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The Window

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Heshvan / Kislev 5776

Respect and Honor: Veterans Shabbat is Nov. 13



Rabbi A's Reflections

Rabbi Howard L. Apothaker, Ph. D., Senior Rabbi



Confirmation Bias

Let me share with you a secret. I am getting soft. While writing this presentation for the High Holy days, I had to check with my own rabbi to fact-check more than thirty times. Rabbi Google, as always, came through.

And I as I was going this, I asked myself: What if there was no Google, and Bing, I realized I'd have to Google it. [By the way, want to impress anyone thirteen and older? Tell them that you managed to graduate high school, college, and beyond without Google OR Wikipedia!]

When we want to know something – anything from the average rainfall in the Amazon to directions to a friend's house to what's going on in Israel – we Google it, and find out everything about anything. The Internet has become our news source, our teacher; I suspect that some have listed a URL as their personal physician. Expert advice, along with just raw facts that were once challenging to come by, are now easily searchable and accessible within moments.

The hitch is: When we search for something on the Internet, we are not, in fact, looking at everything. The Internet that I see is not the same one as you see and not the same one as the person next to you. If we each were to go home and Google, for example, "Rosh Hashanah," some of us would see more results on holiday how-tos, others would see news stories, including ones on Israel, and still others would see more recipes and crafts.

Google's algorithm, based on our previous activity online, decides what information to show us based on what it thinks we want to read. Search results are not the same for everyone and we don't know what these search algorithms are editing out.

When we're offline, we choose the lenses with which we view the world; we choose our own filters. We know that even choosing a news channel means picking a perspective; we know what to expect when we watch Bill O'Reilly or Rachel Maddow. We know what to expect when we turn to Dennis Miller or Bill Maher.

The problem: When we choose what to watch, we also filter out anything that does not fit what we already have settled on as true. Such a practice is risky.

First the filter bubble encapsulates us with ideas with which we're already familiar and already agree. We thus can become overconfident in our beliefs.

Second, it removes from our setting, prompts that might set us to rethinking and modifying. Worse, rehearsing information that confirms what we already believe about the world causes our brains, wired to respond favorably to affirmation, to give us a shot of dopamine – and who doesn't crave that?

Cognitive psychologists call this: Confirmation bias ... the penchant human have to search for, interpret, favor, and recall information in a way that confirms our beliefs while giving disproportionately less attention to marginalizing information that contradicts it.

The sorting-and-blocking effect is stronger for emotionally charged issues and for deeply entrenched beliefs.

A research team at Stanford conducted an experiment involving participants who felt strongly about capital punishment, with half in favor and half against it. Each was given an article that demonstrated the very strong evidence to contradict their positions. After reading strong countervailing information, opinions did not change. The researchers concluded that people set higher standards for data that opposes their predisposed views.

(Continued on page 6)

Temple Beth Shalom

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Compiled and Edited by
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About Us

Temple Beth Shalom is a warm and inclusive congregation whose members are inspired to explore and express Judaism within the broad and dynamic framework of Reform beliefs and practices. We seek to provide Jewish spiritual, educational and social opportunities which encourage personal development and social responsibility as well as promote greater knowledge of our Jewish history and culture.

November Yahrzeits

Observed Nov. 6:

Paul Blumenthal
Doris Bonfield
Raymond Cohen
Walter Deutsch
Burton Fogelman
Rubin Halperin
Elizabeth Harm
Milton Herskowitz
Sanford Heyman
Sara Kanter
Isadore Lefkowitz
Mary Janice Partridge
Milton Pinsky
Carl Strauhs
Mark Weisbaum
Shirley Weisenberg
Louis Wine
Pauline Wurmbrand

Observed Nov. 13:

Ronald Benjamin
Sarah Brodner
Herbert Byer
Ella Ciranni
Sanna Deutchman
Edith Troy Feibel
Faith Goldstein
Norman Gutfeld
Maria Lee Johnson
Philip Josolowitz
Rebecca Josolowitz
Mary Frances Klein
Jay Leibovitz
Larry Levine
Eva Moss

Edwin Pearlman
Herman Rogovin
Gussie Seiden
Gitlia Shteingolts
Helen Valentine
Hilda Waltman
Mike Young

Observed Nov. 20:

Abraham Abramowitz
Newman Baum
Herbert Cantor
Arthur Cohen
Marsha Froelich
Jean Herritt
Gertrude Herskovitz
Gail Hollander
Yelizaveta Kamenetskaya
Fannie Kessler
Barbara Krum
Hyman Mandelbaum
Isabelle Meyers
Jonas Rosenthal
Sheldon Rossio
Gilbert Seiden
Stephen Solomon
Alvin Solove
Jack Tamarkin
Helen Wright

Observed Nov. 27:

Enrique Cuno
Sandra DuBro
Mark Goldman
Doris Grossman
Jessie Josolowitz

Rosina Kohn
Helen Krasa
Lillian Labowitz
Roy Lazarus
Thomas Leasure
Brenner Levinson
Anne Neubauer
Gertrude Oppenheimer
Abraham Pearlman

Rachael Pollock
Sanford Rose
Solomon Sacks
Nathan Salon
Daniel Seeskin
Mollie Tannenbaum
Elene Weiler
Lillian Weinberg



The Caring Circle Needs YOU!

Did you know the Temple Beth Shalom Caring Circle helps congregational members with everything from organizing rides for those who unable to drive to doctors' and other appointments to meals for families with new babies? The Circle would love to have more volunteers! There is no obligation. Interested members can add their name to the Circle's email list and volunteer if and when they are able to. Please send an email with your contact information to the tbscaringcircle@gmail.com. Also, please use this e-mail address if you know of someone in our congregation who could use a little caring from our circle. You'll be helping us do a *Mitzvah!*



Put Your Groceries to Work for Temple!

Did you know Kroger will donate a percentage from the groceries you purchase back to TBS?

The Kroger Community Rewards program was designed to make fund-raising for TBS the easiest in town... just by shopping at Kroger and swipe your Plus Card! In fact, TBS averages \$2,000 per year from Kroger through this program. To get started, sign up with your Plus Card at www.kroger.com/communityrewards, and select TBS as the organization you wish to support. (You can find us on the list under Temple Beth Shalom on Johnstown Road, or use the organization code 81105.) Once you're enrolled, you'll earn rewards for TBS every time you shop and use your Plus Card! Remember—all participants must re-enroll each year to continue earning rewards for their chosen organization.



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Karen & Steven Altschuld, Marla & Dana Farbacher, Andrea & David Kleppel, Andrea Malinge

Executive Director's Fund

Barbara & Marty Schuster, in wishing Bonnie & Scott Abramowitz a "Happy New Year"

General Fund

Marsha & Ellery Block, in honor of Jonathan Green's and Ethan Stahl's Bar Mitzvah, and Steve Grossman's special birthday
Howard & Phyllis Byer, in memory of Herbert Byer
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Janyce Katz & Mark Glazman, in memory of Janyce's mother, Ida S. Katz
Marci Meizlish & family, in memory of Arthur Meizlish
Arlene & Benson Roth, in honor of Hannah Roth's 21st birthday
Audri Rothschild, in memory of Art Meizlish
Barbara & Marty Schuster, on the occasion of the TBS library's rededication
Heather and Marty Oppenheimer, in memory of Rabbi Apothaker's father, Benson Apothaker

Rabbi Bar-Lev's Discretionary Fund

Megan Ellis, in memory of Dr. Tobie Sanders
Rachel & Jay Hirsh, in honor of their wedding
Cathy Randall & Harvey Wasserman, in honor of Lauren & Andrew Campen
Sandi & Arnie Richmond, in gratitude to Rabbi Bar-Lev
Gail & Arthur Rose, in memory of Rabbi Bar-Lev's grandfather, Dr. Donald Caine
Arlene & Benson Roth, in honor of Hannah Roth's 21st birthday
Barbara & Marty Schuster, on the occasion of the TBS library's rededication
Rachel & Timothy Westrick, in gratitude for hanging mezuzahs at their home

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Thanksgiving on Johnstown Road: An Ecumenical Thanksgiving Service with Our Neighbors

Sunday, Nov. 22, at 5:00 p.m.

At All Saints Episcopal Church

Rabbi Howard Apothaker, Rabbi Benjy Bar-Lev and Fr. Jason Prati officiating.

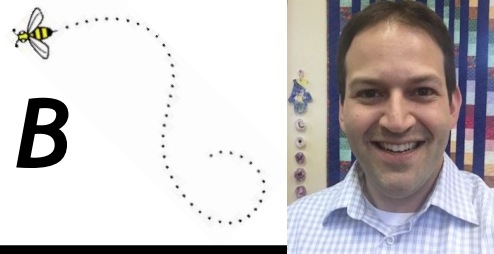
This Interfaith Thanksgiving service is a continuation of a TBS tradition begun in the early 1980s, when TBS shared facilities at Eastminster Presbyterian Church, and would have an annual Thanksgiving celebration with that church's congregation. Today, we continue the tradition with our neighbors "across the way."

The 2016 Interfaith Thanksgiving Service will be held at TBS.



The Buzz from Rabbi B

Rabbi Benjy A. Bar-Lev, Associate Rabbi



Thanksgiving: A Jewish Holy Day

When Lauren and I moved to Columbus eight years ago, we agreed that as long as possible, we would alternate Thanksgiving celebrations between our two extended families, spending one year in Michigan, and the next year in Wisconsin. As neither of us has any relatives here in Columbus, Thanksgiving is a holiday where we will always be traveling to spend time with family and celebrate the holiday together. These weekends are always filled with special times, although they're not always perfect. A few years ago my older brother insisted our family invest in an outdoor turkey deep-fryer that not only burned a nice section of my grandparents' lawn, but also delayed our Thanksgiving dinner by a couple hours. Or during a childhood Thanksgiving, the time I agreed to play football with my cousins, excitedly actually caught the ball, and then promptly began running in the wrong direction. Touch-down! (Other team). Last year Sammie, with her generally bird-like eating habits, decided that she too, like the rest of America, would over-indulge on Thanksgiving, but her food of choice: 1950's style Jello-mold. Stomach ache tears started almost immediately.

Through all the craziness of the holiday, there is one tradition that has always remained the same. Going around the Thanksgiving table, everyone shares one or more things for which he or she is thankful at that moment. Even in the midst of a raucous weekend with kids running around, a constant stream of NFL football on the TV, and an endless supply of food, this is often cited as the favorite part of Thanksgiving weekend. We take a moment and publicly say thank you. Thank you for the blessings in our lives. Thank you for the joy I've experienced this year. Thank you for the blessed memories of loved ones who sit around this table with us in spirit. Thank you, God, for enabling us to reach this moment in time.

If Thanksgiving is a holiday in which we are instructed to pause and give thanks, perhaps we should see it not just as an American holiday, but as an important Jewish Holy Day as well. In Jewish tradition, we have many

prayers of thanksgiving we say every day, including the very first words we say when we wake up in the morning. "Modeh ani l'fanecha Melech chai v'kayam, shehechezarta bi nishmati b'chemlah, rabbah emunatecha. I offer thanks to You, ever living Sovereign, that You have restored my soul to me in mercy, how great is Your trust." The first thing we say is "thank you." We wake up and say "I am glad to be alive, I am thankful to be alive." We are instructed to see each day as an opportunity for gratitude and blessings. If we are to celebrate each moment as a gift, all the more so when we are gathered with those whom we love for Thanksgiving.

Perhaps you'd like a Jewish way to mark the occasion. I'm not suggesting turning Thanksgiving dinner into another *seder* or turning your spouse into super-Jew. Perhaps before you begin your Thanksgiving meal, you'll spend a few moments asking those gathered to share what it is for which they are thankful. And if you are so inclined, you may want to include this prayer, which comes from a URJ Book entitled, *On the Doorposts of Your House*.

A Prayer for Thanksgiving Day

Creative Source of all being, from You come our blessings from day to day and from year to year. The towering mountains and the shaded forests, the abundant streams and the fruitful earth are Your gift to us. May we preserve this gift for our children, that they, too, may give thanks for the blessings that will be theirs.

For this land so richly blessed, we raise our voice in thanks. Your children have come to these shores from many lands in quest of liberty and new life. Many have been pilgrims to this western world. Here they found safe haven, soil on which to prosper, and the opportunity to outgrow old fears. For our country, for its freedom promised, attained, and yet to be enlarged, for the richness of its natural blessings, and for a growing harmony that we pray will ever increase among its citizens, we give thanks.

God of justice and right, inspire all who dwell in our land with loyalty to the ideals of its founders. Give us wisdom and strength to labor for its well-being, on the firm foundation of justice and truth. Fill us with the spirit of kindness, generosity, and peace, that this land may be a beacon-light to many peoples.

Baruch Atah Adonai Eloheinu Melech HaOlam, Shehechenu V'kiyamnu V'higiyanu, lazman hazeh. Blessed are You God, Our Eternal Guide for Life, for giving us life, for sustaining us, for enabling us to be present in this moment.



The Kosher Bookworm By Steve Seeskin, TBS Library Committee Chairperson

This month I want to convey two things: 1) a book report and 2) an event announcement.

So let's begin with a book report which will be the basis of a prediction. The book is *Let There Be Water*, by Seth M. Siegel. A bit of background – I am an amateur member of the World Future Society (www.wfs.org) (yes, there are such individuals as professional futurist and they are not people using a crystal ball). Some time ago, at a local chapter meeting, we discussed the future of water. We were quick to identify looming trends:

- World population keeps growing fueling the increased demand for fresh clean water.
- The worldwide middle class keeps growing and fueling demand with more daily showers, backyard swimming pools, green lawns, etc.
- Climate change (global warming) causes more rapid evaporation of lakes and rivers with an unfavorable change in the supply of fresh water. Also, the interval between rain falls has been increasing and when it does rain, it is more intense with associated runoff – this adding increased demand for agricultural irrigation.
- Water system pollution from toxic commercial fertilizers, pesticides, herbicides, other chemicals including carcinogens, and sewage has caused more water sources to become unusable for human consumption and unable to sustain healthy fresh water fish life. It has taken expensive and energy intensive processes to make polluted water clean.

• Considerable amounts of water are lost to leaks in the water infrastructure. This is especially a problem in large population centers with aging water distribution systems.

Siegel tells us that 60% of Israel is arid desert and the rest is semiarid. This placed great stress on a growing population and the agrarian sector of Israel's economy. Under the days of the British Mandate, Zionist leadership recognized the need to increase availability and distribution of clean fresh water (mayim as it is pronounced in Hebrew), as the British imposed limits on Jewish immigration due, in part, to an inability to provide sustainable living conditions – water being chief among them.

Since those times, Siegel traces the history, of Israeli government, scientists, engineers and entrepreneurs, to become world leaders in water technology. In addition to a culture of water conservation, Israel has invented water conserving drip irrigation using Israeli invented triple processed sewage and waste water. Israel has invented flow meters and associated software to analyze the water distribution system to detect leaks so they may be repaired long before they become bigger problems. Israel has designed, built and operated high capacity desalination plants to intake Mediterranean Sea water and make it drinkable. Israel also has led the world in developing drought resistant plant seeds for high yield fruit and vegetable crops – so much so that Israel is now a produce exporter nation. All the Israeli water processes, physical plants and equipment technology have been designed to be highly productive with characteristics of low operating cost, energy efficiency, and low environmental impacts.

Today, Israel has a secure and plentiful supply and distribution of water for home, industrial and agricultural usage. Israel also has agreements to directly supply water to parts of Jordan and the Palestinian West Bank and Gaza Strip. Additionally, Israel has commercially exported water system manufactured components, and engineering, technical and managerial services to China, India, Canada, California, the developing countries of the African Continent and others including Iran before the Shah was forced into exile by revolutionary forces.

Israel has become the go to country for expertise in matters pertaining to water for human and agricultural consumption and in matters of treatment of sewage. You may think me naïve; however, as an amateur futurist I will go out on a limb here with a prediction: By 2030, Israel becomes a respected diplomatic entity to countries receiving the benefits of improved Israeli water management services and techniques – more plentiful clean water supply, less waterborne disease, remediation of toxic algae, improved treatment of sewage, better crop yields and generally a higher quality of life. Moreover, much of the Middle East is arid and rapidly approaching unsustainable water demands without increased supply intervention. If the Israelis can use their water knowhow to leverage diplomatic relations with its neighbors, we have a real possibility to witness an end to hostilities and conflict with regional peace and harmony the Jewish State has not enjoyed since its independence. It takes water to sustain life and to provide economic opportunity – the Israelis are perfectly positioned to provide leadership in meeting the worldwide water crisis many futurists have been predicting. The Israelis have made the Negev Desert bloom; they can provide humanity with the same experienced knowhow.

Please read *Let There Be Water*. You will be very proud of what the Israelis have achieved and I hope you become optimistic for Israel's future place among the nations of the world.

Now, on to my second topic: The JCC of Greater Columbus is conducting its annual Jewish Bookfair (<http://columbusjcc.org/cultural-arts/jewish-bookfair>), in its lobby at 1125 College Ave, now through Nov. 30. This is a one-stop shop to browse and purchase high quality recently published Jewish interest fiction and non-fiction for all age groups. Additionally, the JCC Bookfair has planned author events throughout the year hosted at the JCC and other locations around Greater Columbus.

I am proud to announce Temple Beth Shalom will be hosting one of these events on Wednesday, Nov. 18, at 7 p.m. Author Mike Kelly will be talking about his book *The Bus on Jaffa Road*, a work of fiction. For tickets and a schedule of events, visit columbusjcc.org/cultural-arts/jewish-bookfair-event-schedule, or call (614) 559-6238. A book and/or tickets to Bookfair events make welcome Hanukkah gifts. Please support this most worthwhile cultural program.



Troop #1682 will meet at Temple Beth Shalom on Tuesday, Nov. 10, 6:30-7:30 pm. Open to 1st graders.

B'nai Mitzvah for November

Elijah E.L. Rubinstein, son of Amanda and Jason Rubinstein of Dublin, will be called to the Torah for his First Aliyah on Saturday, Nov. 7, at the 10:00 a.m., morning Shabbat service. He is the grandson of William and Diane Rubinstein, and Bill and Jane Flaute, and is brother to Charlotte, Janine, Jasmin, and Robert Rubinstein.



Elijah Rubinstein

Elijah, whose Hebrew name is Eliyahu Sheva b. Shlomo, will read from Parshat Chayei Sara. A student of Temple Beth Shalom's Kehillat Torah Religious School, Elijah was tutored for his Bar Mitzvah by Ben Rosen.

For his mitzvah project, he performed community service for his sister's high school, volunteering to prepare and serve food at the Dublin Scioto High School concession stand during home football games. In addition, he also volunteered on his grandfather's mayoral re-election campaign in Riverside, Ohio, canvassing multiple neighborhoods to distribute brochures over the course of a day. Elijah also is interested in volunteering at a local animal shelter, as he is a life-long animal lover.

A 7th grade student at Dublin-Davis Middle School, Elijah plays multiple sports in his spare time. He is a wide receiver and middle linebacker for his middle school football team. He intends to play basketball during the winter season. When he is not playing sports, he enjoys spending time travelling and playing games with his family and friends.

Logan Goldberg, son of Angie and Steve Goldberg of Dublin, will be called to the Torah for his First Aliyah on Saturday, Nov. 7, at 4:00 p.m., during the Afternoon Shabbat Services at Temple Beth Shalom.

Logan is the grandson of Don and Judy Goldberg, Don and Becky Mares, and Ed and Nada Caldwell. He is the younger brother to sister, Sydney.

Logan, whose Hebrew name is Ariel Leb b. Sar Hirsh v-Ruth, will read from Parshat Chayei Sara. A student of Temple Beth Shalom's Kehillat Torah Religious School, he was tutored for his Bar Mitzvah by Rabbi Howard Apothaker.



Logan Goldberg

A 7th grade student at Grizzell Middle School, Logan plays football on the school's team, on both offense and defense. During the winter season, he plans on being on the school's wrestling team.

Sydney Belford, daughter of Theresa and Steven Belford of New Albany, will be called to the Torah for her First Aliyah on Saturday, Nov. 14, at 10:00 a.m. for the Shabbat Morning service at Temple Beth Shalom. She is the sister of Shaina, Lily and Elianna, and the granddaughter of Barbara Belford.



Sydney Belford

Sydney, whose Hebrew name is Naomi Ruth Bat Binyamin Wolf v-Esther Ruth, will be reading from Parshat Toldot.

She was tutored for her Bat Mitzvah by Gail Rose. "I enjoyed learning about my Torah portion and am excited to read from the Torah for the first time," she said. "Mrs. Rose makes learning fun!"

For her mitzvah project, Sydney worked on beautifying the Temple's landscaping with plants and planters.

A 7th grade student at The Wellington School, Sydney enjoys playing basketball, soccer and softball.

Taylor Ranae Weiss, daughter of Elyse and Frank Weiss of Powell, will be called to the Torah for her First Aliyah on Saturday, Nov. 21, at 10:00 a.m. morning Shabbat service. Taylor, whose Hebrew name is Rina Shoshanah Bat Venah v-Frank, will read from Parshat Vayetze. She is big sister to brother, PJ, and is the granddaughter of Nancy and Frank Weiss, and Rhonda Washer and the late Peter Leen Washer, and great-granddaughter of Walter Wiczer.



Taylor Weiss

Taylor is a student at Temple Beth Shalom's Kehillat Torah Religious School, and was tutored for her Bat Mitzvah by Ben Rosen. For her mitzvah project, she is collecting travel size toiletries for the OSU Star House, which provides shelter and basic needs for homeless teens and young adults. Already, she has collected enough to fill four large bins and is looking for more.

A 7th grade student at Hyatts Middle School in Powell, Taylor is on the competitive teen dance team, Dance 614. She competes in tap, jazz, contemporary, lyrical, hip hop, ballet (and also is taking pointe)! She enjoys running and staying active.



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Mark Your Calendar for the Next Tot Shabbat...

Tot Shabbat Thanksgiving Celebration!



Join Jewish Music Superstar Marc Rossio, Rabbi B, and Mindy Agin for a fun-filled Tot Shabbat experience, where we celebrate all the things in our lives for which we are thankful! You won't want to miss this event!

Where: Temple Beth Shalom

When: Sat, November 14

Time: 10:00 am



Rabbi's Reflections, continued from page 2

That dismissal of new thinking leads to a persistence of discredited beliefs. Let me give two examples: one of which, because of your predisposition, some of you will hate, and the other, which others of you will hate because of your predisposition. One is a politically liberal sacred cow, the other, conservative.

(1) We all want to believe in the usefulness of early education programs. In the late 1990s, researchers found that Head Start, as then run, had little meaningful educational impact compared to the control group. In 2011, columnist Joe Klein, citing an internal report that the program was costly and made a negligible impact over time on children's educational well-being, concluded, that overall: "Head Start simply does not work."

Now I know there are people who will instinctively search for counter evidence. And there is some, even if it is weak. Still Head Start continues to refine its methods, but the program results have not lived up to the promised results, and certainly not up to the investment.

(2) The second sacred cow is this (and please read because the point on "confirmation bias" comes below): Though it is probably true that - on the whole - President Reagan lowered the overall tax burden on all Americans, in 1982, he doubled the federal gas tax and signed a tax bill which, per Reagan advisor Bruce Bartlett, constituted the largest peacetime tax increase in American history. Long before the ACA, in 1985, Mr. Reagan created a tax for a health care bill you and I know as COBRA. And in 1986, his Tax Reform Act increased both corporate and capital gains taxes, the steepest in corporate income tax in American history.

Now here's what happened to show you're an example of confirmation bias. Just after I had read Mr. Bartlett's article, someone at a gathering made the claim, "Well, Ronald Reagan never raised taxes." When I offered to show him the article, he refused to look at it!

Confirmation bias leads the building of a bubble where discredited beliefs may persist. We ignore contrary facts, or dismiss them completely, so that we can continue to believe we are right.

And so, we invite into our bubbles experts that agree with what we already believe ...to send dopamine to our tender, affirmation-starved egos ... which is dopey.

And dangerous: Instead of making our worldview larger, we refuse admittance to preconception-shattering experiences/ideas that might alter how we think about the world and about ourselves. Consuming evidence that clouds our assumptions and tests us to think in new ways is frustrating and difficult. So we take cover in affirming feedback loops. And when we combine this personalization of information with our natural preference to gravitate toward things with which we already agree, we stop learning.

Communally, the echo chamber amplifies extremism and leads to a more polarized society, a circumstance in which different or competing views are censored, disallowed, marginalized, or left to disconfirming innuendo. The tone of debate is decidedly uncivil and disrespectful, and has gotten to a point that politicians of differing parties cannot even be polite to each other,

let alone listen to opposing viewpoints, and forget compromise!

How do we pop the bubble? The Talmud points the way. For one thing, the Talmud doesn't just tell us the answers to our questions; it preserves minority opinions and presents losing arguments.

The Talmud, among other things, records discussions among rabbis who debated Jewish Law, including 300+ debates between Hillel and Shammai and their schools of thought. But this talmudic story tells us something special the way in which they debated.

For three years the Shammaites and the Hillelites argued with each asserting, "The law agrees with our views." God suddenly intervenes, "They are both the words of the living God, but the law agrees with the School of Hillel."

And why, it is asked, does it agree with Hillel nearly every time? And we learn that it is because the rabbis of the School of Hillel were kind and modest, taking into consideration not only their views, but those of Shammai - and not only that, but mentioning the rulings of Shammai before their own.

According to studies: People with high confidence levels more readily seek out information contradicting to their personal view. Individuals with low confidence levels eschew contradictory information and prefer information that supports their personal position. Are you confident and willing to moderate or standing on shaky ground?

The Talmud makes it clear that Hillel was confident: He prevails because he made an effort to understand the other side; accepting dissenting opinions and welcoming challenges to his own. By saying that both opinions are the words of the living God, the Talmud teaches us that we need to consider well other viewpoints.

Leo Tolstoy wrote, "I know that even [people] who are very clever, and capable of understanding the most difficult scientific, mathematical, or philosophic problems - can very seldom discern even the simplest and most obvious truth if it be such as obliges them to admit the falseness of conclusions they have formed ... conclusions of which they are proud, which they have taught to others, and on which they have built their lives."

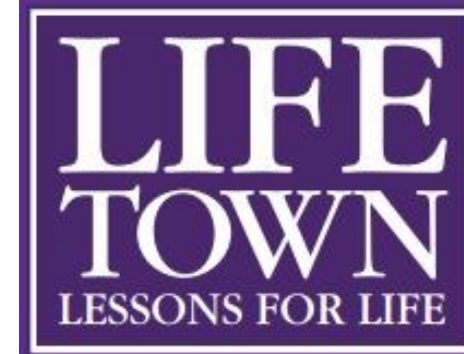
Heeding this assertion, we might pledge to pop our bubbles, to evaluate our filters, to unseat untruths we tell ourselves, to open up to ideas that may shift our own; to challenge our own beliefs and opinions; to revel and to rely on the gift of uncertainty.

How:

- Read a magazine or on-line journal that challenges your instinct.
- First: Read an op-ed that challenges your instinct.

Read the blog material in your own favorite publications that oppose the viewpoint that you hold. I read *The Economist* to adjust my own instincts. To fill out my information on Israel and the world, I consume right-of-center publications and their think tanks.

(Continued next page)



WBS to Partner with LifeTown for November's Social Action Project

The Women of Beth Shalom (WBS) are very excited to announce a partnership with LifeTown, where children with disabilities learn life skills. This amazing facility, operating out of the Schottenstein Chabad Center at 6220 E. Dublin-Granville Road in New Albany, is a realistic indoor city designed specifically for children with special needs to have fun while practicing important life skills through role-play.

We will be collecting items during the month of November to donate to LifeTown. To kick-off the drive, we will be doing tours of the facility on Sunday, Nov. 8, at 10:15 am, and Tuesday, Nov. 10 at 10:30 am.

We hope you can make it to one of the tours...you have to see the facility to really understand how beneficial it is to the students who visit. (They are always in need of volunteers to help out in their town as well.) The Tuesday tour will take place during LifeTown's normal operating hours, so you will get to see the town in action. Please RSVP for the tours to rachel.murray26@gmail.com.

Below is a list of items we will be collecting:

- Gifts for parents (inexpensive gifts...lotions, scarfs, cologne, tools, etc.)
- New or gently used jewelry, socks, hats, gloves, scarfs, children's books
- Kosher non-dairy snacks, juice boxes, water (Must be kosher non-dairy)
- Nail polish

Items may be dropped off at Temple Beth Shalom, 5089 Johnstown Rd., New Albany.

Please contact Rachel Murray at rachel.murray26@gmail.com if you have any questions. For more information about LifeTown, visit www.lifetowncolumbus.org.

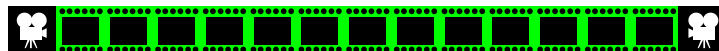
Members' Forum

TBS member Ellery Block has submitted the following article of interest.*

He states: "Israel has offered comprehensive peace proposals to the Palestinian leadership in 2000, 2001, and 2008. Each time, the proposal was turned down without discussion – just No! Instead, a culture of hatred and death to Jews (also to Arab Christians) – going back to the 1920's – well before the establishment of the State of Israel, has kept the majority of Palestinian Muslims doomed to a bleak future. The following article by a Palestinian scholar provides a bright light on the pervasive hatred toward people of a different religion that has been ingrained in the minds of Palestinian youth for the purpose of driving others out of the Middle East."

To read the article, "What Do Palestinian Terrorists Want?" published online by the Gatestone Institute on Oct. 15, to which Ellery refers, please visit <http://www.gatestoneinstitute.org/6669/palestinian-terrorists>.

* Both the weekly eWindow and the monthly Window newsletter accept opinion articles from members on any topic of interest to the membership, provided they are well-written and signed. The editorial board, however, does reserve the right to publish or edit for length.



Ever wonder where all those photos taken during Temple events go? Look no further than www.flickr.com/photos/tbsohio/

All Friday Evening Services to Begin at 6:30

This month, we are continuing a trial period where all Erev Shabbat services begin at 6:30 pm. A consistent 6:30 pm service gives our congregants the opportunity to have Shabbat dinners together following services, and to develop a sense of community. A Religious Practices Task Force is determining what the best practices for service times would be moving forward. If you would like to be on the Task Force, the only requirement is that you attend services during the trial period. If you have feedback or thoughts, please send a note to the Task Force at tbs@tbsohio.org or contact either Rabbi A. or Rabbi B. at the Temple office at (614) 855-4882.

SCRIP Anyone?

Did you know that TBS members may purchase Scrip cards (similar to gift cards) through the Temple, and TBS earns an average of about 4% of each dollar spent? There are more than 400 participating merchants, including Giant Eagle, Meijer, CVS, Lowes, Home Depot, and Staples, as well as restaurants and even cruises. For more info and to download an order form, visit TBS website's Scrip page at www.tbsohio.org/scrip.html. When you're ready to order, contact Marty Schuster at (614) 245-8933 or mbjschuster@insight.rr.com.



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ROOFING - WINDOWS - SIDING - MASONRY

President's Column

Steve Herman, TBS Board President



I love this time of year!

For Diane and I, the Fall is a very busy time of year with all of the kid's sporting activities, the football games, experiencing the crisp air at night while sitting around a fire pit with the family on weekends, getting outdoors, and as much as I can, to jog in the crisp mornings before the sun even comes up. Our youngest daughter, Olivia, is also preparing to be called to the Torah for her Bat Mitzvah, in January. It is a very busy, but exciting time of year!

The Temple Board and I are also very busy during this time of year. Michael Rothstein and I are meeting with as many of the congregants as we can, either individually or in small groups, to share exactly where we are financially and to hear directly from you, your ideas to make our Temple even better, both financially and spiritually. We have successfully started Wave II of our 2008 capital campaign. We raised \$1.2 million during Wave 1 of the campaign and are now speaking with our New Members who joined after 2008, those members who were not able to participate in our capital campaign the first time, and those members who are graciously able to participate again. Our goal is to raise enough money to do the following: continue providing the programs and level of service that make TBS such a special place, pay off our

approximately \$500,000 mortgage, raise enough money to sponsor those members who are not able to afford their dues/Religious school dues or their Bar or Bat Mitzvah fees and/or raise enough money for specific projects that an individual member is passionate about (sound system panels in the sanctuary, the library, new prayer books, update the Kitchen or Social Hall etc). To date, we have raised over \$100,000 towards our goal. Thank you.

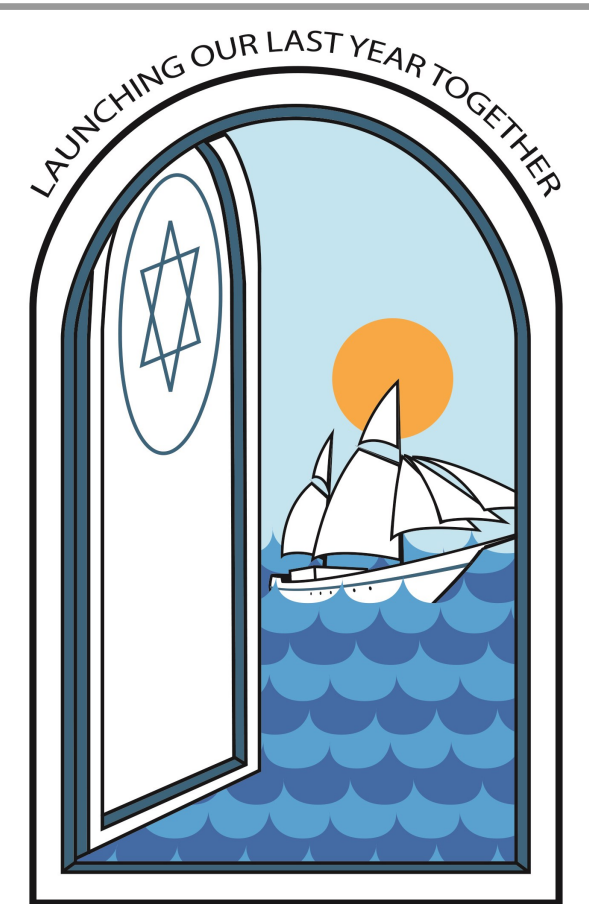
Fall is also a time for Thanksgiving and a time to reflect on everything that we are grateful for. I am very thankful for my family, our health and happiness and wish each and every one of you a Happy, Healthy Fall Season.

Thank you for all of your support.

Steve

Reflections...

- Second: Separate the persons whose intelligent and well-documented opinions you are used to opposing, and listen to them. When they agree with you, do not impugn motivations. Avoid saying, if possible: "Well he is only saying this because...." What, are you a mind reader?
- Third, but related: Find someone who will challenge your beliefs but with whom you can shake hands in the end and agree to disagree. This has become harder to do. In such conversations, stipulate when the data or information is against you; say, you have a good point there and I shall have to think about it.
- Above all, be humble. You could be wrong. Be suspicious of that which seems to fit your pre-conceived position "obviously." Seek out the other.
- The Internet creates a bubble around us that we are often not even aware of, but we often deliberately enclose ourselves in a bubble of information of our own making. We have learned that we must defy our comfort with givens; to stretch beyond what we know; to confront that which we fear will break the bubble; to face the challenge of living outside our comfort zone. Here's the Tweet in 121: Be curious. Question your instincts. Pursue data and perspectives that would moderate or even modify your predispositions. Open your ears to what you don't want to hear; open your eyes to the things you might would instinctively ignore; open your mind, to stretch beyond what you already think you know so as to learn and to grow.



Save The Date!
For the "Setting Sail" Weekend honoring Rabbi Howard Apothaker & Marcie Golden on April 15-17, 2016

Thank You for Your *Mishkan T'filah* Prayer Book Dedications!

The following have answered the call of the High Holy Day Appeal and purchased dedications of numerous *Mishkan T'filah* prayer books.

Bookplates will be placed in the prayer books, indicating to whom or for which event they are being dedicated. A dedication ceremony will take place at Temple Beth Shalom in the near future. Stay tuned!



- Andrea Alexander-Shnider and Lance Shnider
- Rabbi Howard Apothaker and Marcie Golden
- Susan Bader & June Sahara
- Ruth & Randy Bank
- Rabbi Benjy & Dr. Lauren Bar-Lev
- Madalyn & Roger Benjamin
- Cheryl & Patrick Boyce
- Janice & Leonard Brillson
- Susan & Jim Bugenstein
- Howard & Phyllis Byer
- David & Elizabeth Cohen
- I. David & Rita Cohen
- Wendy & Steve Cohen
- Stephanie Cotell & Philip Arnold
- Nick & Marge Ciranni
- Emily Desmond & Bart Kelsey
- Lynn & Jerry Dobb
- Lori & John Ellinger
- Julie & Randy Friedlander
- Marilyn & Roger Friedman
- Connie Freundlich
- Kriss & Brian Galloway
- Leslie & Hesh Green
- Rose Hart
- Irina & Yakov Kamenetskiy
- Andrew Klein
- Debbie & Tim Leasure
- Robin, Jeremy & Amanda Lifter
- Barbara & Mario Lusignolo
- Ava & David McKean

- Adelaide Mentser and Barry Mentser
- Judy & Ed Radin
- Sherri & Steve Register
- Sandra & Michael Roads
- Valerie & Nate Robbins
- Gail & Arthur Rose
- Joy & Steve Seeskin
- Geno Shifrin & Phyllis Rosen
- Arlene & Ben Roth
- Marcy & Jonathan Schaffir
- Toni & Miriam Shoap
- Miriam & Ken Siegfried
- Edye & Marc Slutsky
- Ron & Nancy Tannenbaum
- Adriana Shnider & Brian Tomer
- Sheila & Martin Torch
- Francine Wahrman
- Cynthia & Dr. Alan Weisenberg
- Susannah & Jonathan Wolman
- Bette Young
- Laurel & John Zulliger

If you would like to dedicate one or several copies of the new prayer book in honor or in memory of a loved one, or for a special occasion, or just because, please fill in and clip out the form on page 13, and mail it to Executive Director Bonnie Abramowitz at Temple Beth Shalom, 5089 Johnstown Rd., New Albany, OH 43054.

Director's Briefing

Bonnie Abramowitz, TBS Executive Director



\$130,000 Raised Toward Our Goal of \$600,000

Our capital campaign now is well underway! While our focus is to retire the current mortgage, it is so much more than that. Thank you to the families who already have

attended our small group meetings to hear all the exciting things planned. We invite you to learn more. Please contact me at babramowitz@tbsohio.org, or (614) 855-4882.

HIGH HOLY DAY APPEAL UPDATE:

Many of you have already answered the High Holy Day Appeal. We are 60% toward our goal. If you would like to dedicate one or several copies of the new prayer book in honor or in memory of a loved one, or for a special occasion, or just because, please fill out the form below, and mail it to me at Temple Beth Shalom, 5089 Johnstown Rd., New Albany, OH 43054. Thank you!

Ways to Give and Say 'Thank You'

Did our clergy and staff go above and beyond for you? Here are four of the funds to which members, family and friends may donate:

- **Executive Director's Discretionary Fund** - funds used at the Executive Director's discretion
- **Music Director's Discretionary Fund** - funds used at the Music Director's discretion
- **Rabbi Apothaker's Discretionary Fund** - funds used at the Rabbi's discretion
- **Rabbi Bar-Lev's Discretionary Fund** - funds used at the Rabbi's discretion

REMEMBER: We send an acknowledgement for all donations received. What great way to celebrate a milestone birthday, anniversary and simcha!

Donate online *today* at www.tbsohio.org/donate-now.html

High Holy Day Appeal

Ways To Contribute

Please consider dedicating multiple copies of *Mishkan T'filah* in honor or in memory of a loved one, for a special occasion...or just because.

- 6 Dedications – \$300
- 5 Dedications – \$250
- 4 Dedications – \$200
- 3 Dedications – \$150
- 2 Dedications – \$100
- 1 Dedication – \$54

I'd like to make a donation of: \$ _____

___ in Honor Of:
___ in Memory Of:

Please fill out and Mail to: Temple Beth Shalom, 5089 Johnstown Rd., New Albany, OH 43054.

You Are Cordially Invited to the

Kindergarten & First Grade Shabbat, with Consecration Ceremony On Friday, Nov. 6, 6:30 p.m., at TBS

It's a time to celebrate our Jewish community, and a perfect time to welcome our newest students into our midst! First Friday dinner, served by the TBS Men's Club, to follow.

RSVP for your Turkey dinner to rsvp@tbsohio.org

Please Join In the Celebration!



Celebrating 36 Years with TBS

Temple Beth Shalom will celebrate Rabbi Apothaker's 36 years as our Rabbi – as well as honoring Marcie Golden for everything she has done for us all these years – during a weekend gala, from Friday, April 15 through Sunday, April 17, 2016.

We are beginning to design a program for the celebration, and we need your help!

Did Rabbi Apothaker perform a lifecycle ceremony for you, such as a wedding, bris, baby naming, b'nai mitzvah, or conversion? If so, please share your photos or written memories with us. Photos and written memories may be sent via e-mail to SpringGala@tbsohio.org.

Also, if you know of others for whom Rabbi performed a ceremony, please share this page with them.

The Third Friday of November Is...

Shabbat Chai!

Beth Shalom's Entirely Musical, Lively,
Toe-Tapping Simchat Shabbat service

featuring our Shabbband of Guitar,

Piano, Flute, Violin, String Bass, Percussion,
Mandolin and beautiful Vocals!

6:30 p.m. Friday, Nov. 20

Bring Your Friends & Neighbors!



Join Rabbi Apothaker

in a 9 Session

"How Do You Jew?"

Sunday class

NOW thru Nov. 22

at the JCC New Albany

Conference Room

during Religious School,

from 9:15-10:15 a.m.

For more information, contact the Temple office at (614) 855-4882,
or visit the Temple Beth Shalom website at www.tbsohio.org.

Cantorial Corner

Gail Rose, Cantorial Soloist & Music Director



Join Us for TBS' Annual Veterans Day Shabbat, Nov. 13

Veteran's Day will be celebrated at Temple Beth Shalom on Friday, Nov. 14. During this 6:30 p.m. Shabbat Service, we will join together in prayer and song to pay tribute to the men and women who have given their service to the cause of peace and freedom throughout the world. The Sharyonim Choir, directed by Debbie Costa, will be leading us in patriotic songs that will inspire us to strengthen our bond with our Nation and the people who have contributed so much to preserve our liberties.

Col. John M. Dreska, USAR, will be our keynote speaker. Colonel Dreska is in charge of Army Reservists at the Tank Automotive and Armaments Life Cycle Management Command in Detroit Michigan. His 23-year career includes key overseas assignments in Afghanistan, Iraq and Somalia. His speech will include examples of the military friendship of the United States and Israel.

We are asking veterans to bring a picture of themselves in uniform for our living tribute table and slide show. If you also have a photo of a deceased beloved relative who was a veteran, please provide a picture for our Memorial Table. These photos are due by Nov. 9. Photos and mementos may be brought to Temple and given to our Marketing Director, Kriss Galloway, for safekeeping. She will ensure that items are returned to you at the conclusion of services. Scans of photos also may be e-mailed to her at KGalloway@tbsohio.org.

Thank you to Dick Golden and Steve Seeskin for chairing this event, and to the Seeskins for sponsoring the Oneg!

If you are a veteran, please join us to be recognized. If you are not a veteran, please join us to recognize our veterans.

Shabbat Services Featuring Our Kehillat Torah Students

Our children's services are held on the first Friday of each month. The music that is played at this 6:30 p.m. service is taught to our students during our Kehillat Torah Service and music classes each Sunday. The fun, interactive story (instead of a sermon) always is a highlight of the service. This service is immediately followed by a delicious dinner and children's activities. Our First Friday Family Shabbat Services are a wonderful opportunity to meet new people and feel connected to the Temple Beth Shalom Community. Please mark your calendars so that your family can participate with your child in our future Kehillat Torah Friday Shabbat Services:

- Friday, Nov. 6 – Consecration Shabbat, with Kindergarten, 1st Grade, and new students
- Friday, Feb. 5, 2016 – Third Grade Camp Shabbat, led by 3rd Grade students
- Friday, April 1, 2016 – Hag HaSiddur Ceremony, with 4th Grade students receiving their prayer books.
- Friday, May 6, 2016 – Geshet Ceremony, with 2nd Grade students "crossing the bridge to Hebrew" lessons.

**Soldiers, Sailors, Marines,
Coast Guard & Airmen...ah-tennnnn-SHUN!**

Fall IN for

VETERANS SHABBAT

Friday, Nov. 13, 2015, 6:30 p.m. at TBS

Help us celebrate & honor our veterans!

Need more info? Call (614) 855-4882.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 9:00 am: Religious School 9:15 am: Sunday School for Parents & How Do You Jew? 11:00 am: Intro to Judaism	2 *	3 6:00 pm: Weight Watchers 7:30 pm: Shayronim Choir Rehearsal	4 1:00 pm: Mah Jongg on the Mezzanine 4:00 pm: Midweek Hebrew	5 1:30 pm: Afternoon Torah Study in the TBS library 6:30 pm: WBS Wine & Mahj at TBS	6 6:30 pm: First Friday Erev Shabbat, with Rubenstein First Aliyah dinner following. RSVP@tbsohio.org	7 10:00 am: Morning Shabbat services, with Elijah Rubenstein First Aliyah 4:00 pm: Afternoon Shabbat services, with Logan Goldberg First Aliyah
8 9:00 am: Religious School; 7th grade Mitzvah trip 9:15 am: Sunday School for Parents & How Do You Jew? 10:00 am: Library Comm. Mtg. at Temple	9	10 6:00 pm: Weight Watchers 6:30 pm: Daisy Girls Scout Troop #1682 meeting, open to first graders. 7:30 pm: Shayronim Choir	11 1:00 pm: Mah Jongg on the Mezzanine 4:00 pm: Midweek Hebrew	12 1:30 pm: Afternoon Torah Study in the TBS library 6:30 pm: WBS Wine & Mahj at TBS	13 6:30 pm: Veterans Shabbat	14 10:00 am: Tot Shabbat services 4:00 pm: Afternoon Shabbat services, with Sydney Belford First Aliyah
15 WBS Clothing Drive 9:00 am: Religious School & 6th Grade Parent Meeting 9:15 am: Sunday School for Parents & How Do You Jew? 11:00 am: Intro to Judaism 4:00 pm: TBS Board Mtg. at Temple	16 7th-12th Graders in TBS Social Hall after school for Pizza & Quiet Studying. Perfect for tutoring, studying & community!	17 Noon: WBS Lunch-n-Learn 6:00 pm: Weight Watchers	18 Noon: Torah Downtown 1:00 pm: Mah Jongg on the Mezzanine 4:00 pm: Midweek Hebrew 7:00 pm: JCC Bookfair Author Mike Kelly	19 11:30 am: Finance Committee Meeting	20 6:30 pm: Shabbat Chai with Shabbband	21 10:00 am: Morning Shabbat services, with Taylor Weiss First Aliyah 6th Grade Retreat at Deer Creek
22 WBS Clothing Drive 9:00 am: Religious School 9:15 am: Sunday School for Parents & How Do You Jew? 11:00 am: Intro to Judaism 5:00 pm: Thanksgiving with All Saints Church	23	24 6:00 pm: Weight Watchers	25 1:00 pm: Mah Jongg on the Mezzanine NO Midweek Hebrew	26 Thanksgiving	27 6:30 pm: Erev Shabbat	28 10:00 am: Simchat Shabbat Services
29 Thanksgiving Break - NO RELIGIOUS SCHOOL	30					

* All Religious School and Adult Sunday classes take place at JCC New Albany, 150 E. Dublin-Granville Rd., New Albany, unless otherwise noted.

November Birthdays

Sunday, Nov. 1: Shira Ahrenberg, Elijan Rubinstein, Juliann Zeidman.

Monday, Nov. 2: Noah Fox, Micah Harr, Alexandria Klodell, Kevin Resnick.

Tuesday, Nov. 3: Rachel & Sydney Alexander, Philip Barnett.

Wednesday, Nov. 4: Noa Kauffman.

Thursday, Nov. 5: Susan Bader, Scott Kleinman, Alyssa Mason.

Friday, Nov. 6: Kathryn Adler, Michele Flickinger, Richard Sherman, Ari Siegel, Bradley Sutton.

Saturday, Nov. 7: Melissa Mansur, Adlai Neubauer.

Sunday, Nov. 8: Sydney Belford, Karen Miner-Romanoff, Emily Spector, Kathy Worly.

Monday, Nov. 9: Cyd Goodman-McCray

Tuesday, Nov. 10: Angelo Dunlap, Richard Rathkopf.

Wednesday, Nov. 11: Melanie Butter, Emma Fireman, Amy Stone.

Thursday, Nov. 12: Jill Fortney, Carolyn Harding.

Friday, Nov. 13: Gabe Hund, Hilary Kleppel, Edwin Radin, Romi Winston.

Saturday, Nov. 14: Judy Ankerman, Alan Klodell, Michelle Waltman.

Sunday, Nov. 15: Joseph Gregor, Jane Klodell, Nathan Meizlish, Zoe Meizlish.

Monday, Nov. 16: Jodi Bering, Nancy Krasa, Jacob Naiman, Andy Patterson, Jonathan Schaffir, Bobbie Weiler, Taylor Weiss.

Tuesday, Nov. 17: Olivia Campen, Jay & Rachel Hirsh, Brady Kattan, Max Meizlish, Wesley Ryan, Bill Valentine-Cooper, Samantha Waltman.

Wednesday, Nov. 18: Betty Hersch, DJ Scherzer, Abigail Schubach.

Thursday, Nov. 19: Margaret Lee, Tamara Malkoff, Gary Smith.

Friday, Nov. 20: Patricia Pinto



Saturday, Nov. 21: Bennett Asch, Sandi Dubin, Greg Fortney, Burton Hirsch, Josephine Levy, Bonnie Katz.

Sunday, Nov. 22: Pamela Beeler, Brad Eckes, Jonah Fox, Tera Kauffman, Van Kauffman, Caroline Klodell, Meredith Paul, Gordon Schiffman, Dawn Schneir.

Monday, Nov. 23: Barry Chapman.

Tuesday, Nov. 24: Zachary Hall, Philip Remer.

Wednesday, Nov. 25: Orlay Alonso, Lindsay Brillson, David Bronstein, Gil Feiertag, Mark Feinknopf, Adam Green, Ian Mansur.

Thursday, Nov. 26: Matthew Derzon, Kriss Galloway, Larry Levine, Julia Rothstein.

Friday, Nov. 27: Martin Torch.

Saturday, Nov. 28: Megan Boyce, David Levinson, Sean Silver.

Sunday, Nov. 29: Jenna Cowan, Teresa Setnar, Ben Schulte, Patty Tumen, Benjamin Williams.

Monday, Nov. 30: Marcia Meizlish.

Women of Beth Shalom



November 12 at 6:30PM at TBS Wine & Mahj Night

Want to know what all this Mahj hype is about? Well now is your chance to come & learn how to play. We will have a learn-to-play & come-to-play at the same time, all while enjoying some drinks & nosh. So if you already play, grab your group & come join us for a night of fun. And if you want to learn, come and do so. You are in for a treat!" Please contact Alisa Handmaker for more information: amwh_2000@yahoo.com.

December 3 at 6:30PM at TBS Hanukkah Potluck Dinner & White Elephant Gift Exchange

Get into the holiday spirit at our Hanukkah potluck dinner. We also will have a white elephant gift exchange at this event. Food, friends & presents – what could be more fun? Be on the lookout for the Evite soon! Please contact Alisa Handmaker for more information: amwh_2000@yahoo.com.



Why not honor someone's birthday with a donation to their favorite Temple Beth Shalom fund?

It's Easy! Go to
www.tbsohio.org/donate-now.html
TODAY!