

THE SHOFAR

Temple Beth Shalom Florida, New York
September 2024 Av / Elul 5784

From the Desk of Rabbi Rebecca P. Shinder

Formal and Informal

I hope that you had a chance to enjoy even a small sense of respite and renewal during these past summer months. As many of you know, after a slow process of difficulty with cardiac and renal failure, my father Rabbi Fredric Stanley Pomerantz died on July 8th. Many members of our Temple Beth Shalom family of families represented you all with what we do we best - TBS showed up! Whether it was by coming to the funeral or shivah or by sending a meal or a card, the Shinder-Pomerantz clan was showered with words of comfort and with the kind of care our community demonstrates lovingly time and time again. Thank you, thank you, thank you.

As Joni Mitchell penned in her folksong The Circle Game, "the seasons they go 'round and 'round...we're captive on a carousel of time." And although I have made every moment of my summer with my family count, the days grow shorter and shorter as the opening of our TBS programmatic year gets closer and closer.

I'd like to highlight some dates to diary (thank you Iris Barlet for that fabulous phrase!) Our first service of the 2024-2025 year will be September 6th at 7pm. We will have the chance to meet new members and study aspects of the High Holiday services together. We'll spend the Hebrew month of Elul informally preparing for our more stately Yontif worship. On the Second Day of Rosh Hashana, Friday, October 4th, we return to the camp formerly known as Kutz, Mountainside Park, Warwick. More information for this Second Annual RH Experience will be forthcoming, but I mention it to make sure you tell your friends, family, and neighbors to join us for a day of music and memory making while we enjoy a spiritual shorter service surrounded by the splendor of one of Orange County's finest spots. The program will include activities for kids, a tract for teens, and the easiest commute to Tashlich possible!

Although not necessarily in nature, we will have an informal Shabbat experiences through the year, typically on the third Shabbat of the month. We have had occasional programs with discussions, movement, wine and cheese and film clips (Thank you Barbieheimer participants!) in the past, but I have pledged to shake things up even more this year. If you have a suggestion or even a seedling of a possibility for a different way to share Shabbat, please let me know-rabbishinder2000@gmail.com.

Even though we are living in safer times thanks to vaccines, at the moment of my writing this article, I know three people who are home sick with Covid. In an effort to keep us all connected, I will once again open the TBS Zoom link for Shabbat and holiday services. Whereas I will not add videos and slides for the services until we only have the Zoom option for services in January and February, bit.ly/tbsservices will be available starting on September 6 for you to take part in the service, especially if you are feeling under the weather. Just as with a good old fashioned cold, if you could possibly share more than a "Shabbat Shalom" with someone, please be kind and join us in your jammie's!

In conclusion, back to the notion of starting the New Year - the Opening Day of Beit Sefer will be on September 8th at 9:30am at TBS. Parents, grandparents and caregivers are encouraged to attend in order to meet teachers and other members of the school community. In addition to Opening Ceremonies in our sanctuary and some introductions in the classrooms, our congregant Beth Quatrale will lead the school in some team building field games. We'll be ready for a BBQ coupled with some socialization on our field. All are welcome and encouraged to lend a hand to our Grill Masters!

This will be a fantastic year and your involvement and engagement will make our family of families even closer! If you haven't yet done so, I encourage you to provide your cell phone numbers using the link in the weekly e-blast. I know how easy it is to lose email in an inbox and both for environmental and financial reasons, we try to reduce paper mailings. Our Beit Sefer RemindApp has been a game changer for our school.

I look forward to reconnecting with and meeting new members in these final days of 5784! I also invite you to come share a coffee with me on a Sunday morning in 5785!

Warmly, Rabbi Rebecca P. Shinder

2024 ~ HIGH HOLIDAY SCHEDULE ~ 5785

Fri., 9/27 - Informal Shabbat/Selichot Experience with Potluck Oneg

ROSH HASHANAH

Wed., 10/2-7:30PM Erev Rosh HaShanah Service

Thurs., 10/3 - 10AM RH Day 1 Service with luncheon to follow, 2:30PM Family Service

Fri., 10/4 - 11AM RH Day 2 Experience at Mountain Lake Park with Tashlich

YOM KIPPUR

Fri., 10/11 - 7:30PM Kol Nidre

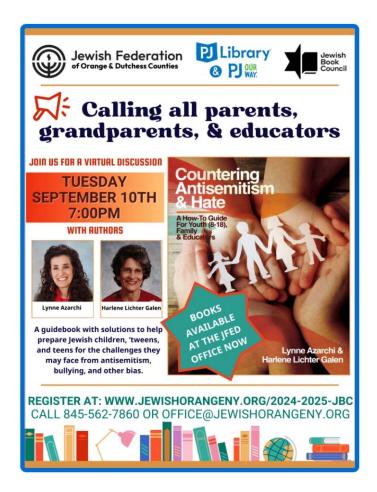
Sat., 10/12 - 10AM Morning Service, 2:30PM Family Service, 4PM Book of Jonah, 5:30PM Yiskor with Ne'liah following, 6PM Break the Fast

MORE

Fri., 10/18 - 7PM Sukkot Under the Stars

Fri., 10/25 - 7PM Simchat Torah at Monroe

Fri., 12/27 - 7PM Chanukah at Monroe



CO~PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE #1

First things first...Welcome Back to TBS! I hope everyone enjoyed their summer as we had our usual summer hiatus. Or did we?

In July, TBS held a Summer Bash at the Hannes lakeside home that was heartwarming to see! A wonderful event to honor past Co-Presidents Catherine Greenblatt and Wendy Cedar complete with "fun and frolic!" A well-deserved celebration pulled off beautifully by TBS! In August, TBS was well represented at Federation Fun-Day with a table, raffles, flyers for Beit Sefer – and of course some of the finest folks from TBS to chat with!



And now for a new chapter as Jeff Hannes and I embark on our journey as your new Co-Presidents. "The most rewarding parts of your life are the most challenging." A quote from Kyle Okposo of the Florida Panthers who recently won the Stanley Cup for the first time, after playing in the NHL for 16 years - 8 of those years with the New York Islanders! I hope, pray, and expect my time as Co-President of TBS to be both rewarding and challenging!

September kicks into high-gear at Temple Beth Shalom – please join us for as much as you can. Our Shul depends on your participation. Here are some of the many things you can be a part of – additional details and times will be in the Shofar and in TBS e-mail blasts:

- Sabbath services resume Friday Sept. 6th, and continue throughout the month!
- Our Religious School, Beit Sefer will be back in action at Temple Beth Shalom for the month of September! Our Annual Opening Day BBQ is on Sunday, Sept. 8th.
- It's a mitzvah! Saturday, September 14th is our turn to take care of food distribution at the Goshen Ecumenical Church Food Pantry. Always a rewarding experience.

We need your input and your vote. Behind the scenes your Executive Board has been meeting with the Executive Team at Monroe Temple Beth-El to discuss a merger of our two Temples. Please join us for two informational sessions on Sunday, Sept. 15th at 10AM and Thursday, 19th at 7PM, culminating in a Congregational Meeting on Monday, Sept. 23rd at 7PM which will include the vote. Keep an eye out for a letter being sent via snail mail and also included in this Shofar which will include many details of how we arrived at this pivotal time for TBS.

It is my honor to be Co-President of Temple Beth Shalom. The Little Shul That Can! I recently said to Jeff, our co-presidency certainly will not be dull! Contact Jeff or me with any questions you may have or help you may need – we are here for our TBS community.

L'Chayim! Eric Goodman, Co-President of TBS 845-699-5705 eric2112goodman@gmail.com

IMPORTANT NOTICE

Security for all events either held at Temple Beth Shalom or hosted offsite, which are open to all ages, is made possible by a grant from The Tepper Foundation's National Emergency Security Fund, awarded through Jewish Federations of North America, administered by the Jewish Federation of Greater Orange County.

~ CARING COMMUNITY ~

Thanks to the following donors for donations to the Pomerantz Memorial Garden:

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Thanks to the following for their generous donations:

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Wendy & Marc Wayman IMO Sylvia Herman

Norma Saks IMO Frances & Max Susswein and Carol Susswein

Thanks to the following for Summer Bash Donations and/or Ads:

TBS Sisterhood Kristina Stracco

Wendy & Marc Wayman

Vicki Ledwitz

Anna, Mitchell and Samuel Greenblatt

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SEPTEMBER YAHRTZEIT REMINDERS 63

6 4 1 6 2024		S . 1 . 27 . 202.4		
<u>September 6, 2024</u>	20 4	<u>September 27, 2024</u>	10 EL-1	
Harry Tuckfelt	28 Av	George Hecht	18 Elul	
Lillian S. Hannes	28 Av	Joseph Kronitz	20 Elul	
Helene Weisbuch	30 Av	Gary Smolian	21 Elul	
Lillian S. Hannes	1-Sep	Max Rabiner	22 Elul	
Muriel Birnbaum	3-Sep	Eugene Schacher	24 Elul	
Rose Levy	4-Sep	Gregg Kleinman	21-Sep	
Iris Burlock	5-Sep	Maya Kreymer	21-Sep	
	_	Joseph Rubinstein	23-Sep	
September 13, 2024		Donald Rosenfeld	26-Sep	
David V. Cohen	4 Elul		•	
Anna Davidoff	8 Elul	October 4, 2024		
Barbara Steinberg	10 Elul	Simon Agress	29 Elul	
Darren Mark Gertz	10 Elul	Herbert Gottlieb	1Tishri	
Nathan Barsky	7-Sep	Jeremy Pomerantz	2 Tishri	
Helen Mayer	8-Sep	Abe H. Chiron	2 Tishri	
Miriam Frischman	8-Sep	Minnie Spitzer	1-Oct	
Melvyn A. Cohen	10-Sep	Alexander Dinstag	1-Oct	
Leonard Gappelberg	10-Sep	Leroy Ronald Levin	1-Oct	
	-	Steve Ostrove.	2-Oct	
<u>September 20, 2024</u>		Alice Wolff	3-Oct	
Louis B. Cohen	11 Elul	Seymour Schoenholz 3-Oct		
Martin Goldberg	13 Elul	•		
George Birnbaum	16 Elul	May the Course	of nonco	
Rose Auerbach	17 Elul	May the Source of peace		
Eva Kohn	17 Elul	send peace to all who		
Lawrence Furst	16-Sep	mourn and comfort to all		
Gloria Wishnia	17-Sep			
Hyman Nizewitz	20-Sep	who are bereaved.		
	·			

A candle may be lit at home the evening before the yahrtzheit date. From September through June these names will be read during the erev Shabbat service before kaddish is recited.

20-Sep

Herbert Gottlieb

If you have a loved one you wish to add to our yahrtzheit list, or if you have not been getting yahrtzheit reminders from us, please email the office, tbs-ny@optimum.net.



~ CARING COMMUNITY CONTINUED ~

- ★ Thank You to Kim Sumner-Mayer & Larry Mayer and Norma Saks for their donations towards Shofar Postage.
- **♦** Thank you for the anonymous donations for Oneg supplies & Shabbat wine!



We are looking forward to another great year, combining the students, teachers and resources of Temple Beth Shalom and Monroe Temple!

Once again we will have in person and zoom options for Hebrew learning. In person classes will take place at Monroe Temple on Tuesdays; zoom classes will take place on Thursdays. You will choose one or the other. The time for either option will be from 4:30pm to 5:45pm.

Children from both Temples will meet together on Sundays for more fun and learning! We will alternate locations month by month. The school calendar will be available shortly.

If you have not yet signed up for the Remind app which brings timely notifications and updates pertaining to school, please send a text to 81010. Text @beitsefer and you will receive a welcome text.

Please complete a separate form for each child you are enrolling. Please use this URL for registration: https://forms.gle/KcuhCL8AWoJV8q399

PS- We can use your help with our creative Jewish learning activities. If you are willing to assist us with your talents, please let us know in the final question on this form.

Sincerely, The Beit Sefer committee

BOGO FOR MEMBERS

has one of the nicest cemeteries around, including a newly refurbished Interfaith Section, below right, amid fields of green, nothing in the area comes close. For a limited time, for TBS members only, we are having a BOGO, buy one plot, get one free. Yes, that's correct - 2 plots in our beautiful cemetery for \$850! The sale does not include perpetual care, which is a one time payment of \$600 each for opening costs, which you hopefully will not have to worry about for quite a while. If you are interested in scoping out a plot, email Michael Melasky, molas.1980@yahoo.com and set up an appointment soon.

DID YOU KNOW that Temple Beth Shalom





TREASURER'S REPORT - Catherine Greenblatt

Shalom and Welcome Back!

Many thanks to everyone who attended, supported, and/or volunteered to create a very successful TBS' Summer Bash. It was a super-hot but fabulous day. Terrific food, company and swimming! We were able to raise almost \$4000. This terrific net amount was due to all the volunteers who worked tirelessly to make this event happen. No need to book a venue, no food was catered, no servers hired. The event would never have been possible without our volunteers and without everyone who not only bought a ticket, an ad, and supported the event. The extra support donations allowed all proceeds from the journal to go to the TBS bank account!

Thank you to those who saw my wish list in the June Shofar and donated. So far, we have received a donation towards oneg supplies and Shofar postage! See my wish list reprinted below or contact me if you are interested in donating to one of my special causes!

And...thank you to all who have paid or are paying their dues monthly. As we prepare to come back to our Jewish home (services begin 9/6 and school starts on 9/8!) I would like to remind you to make every effort to pay your financial responsibility on a timely basis. TBS is very flexible with how every member meets their financial responsibility. Some pay all at once, some monthly and some wait until a certain time of year (i.e. tax returns). We are not a shul which demands dues are paid up or you will not have access to High Holiday services. We don't and have not (as long as I have been affiliated with TBS) expect your dues to be paid to enter our sacred space. In my opinion, how sacred is a space if we put a restriction on entering? I look forward to seeing you all at shul,

Catherine 845.978.3899 catherinegreenblatt@gmail.com

Treasurer's Wish List

- ♦ \$360/year for URJ dues. Yes, we need to be a member of the Union for Reform Judaism. I am happy to explain to anyone why. This year, Jeff was able to receive an abatement, reducing our normal dues amount of \$2500.
- \$175: Cleaning our synagogue. We will be cutting back as the cleaning budget has been cut in half. James can assist, but he is not contracted as our caretaker to do a full cleaning of the synagogue.
- \$150/month or \$1800/year: lawn maintenance.
- Help "build" our Building Fund. The building fund has been depleted. Each member is assessed \$1000 per lifetime membership.

We are accepting names for the Mi Sheiberach list, read at Shabbat

services. Please email names of those who are in need of healing to the office, tbs-ny@optimum.net or call 845-651-7817.

We only ask that you keep track of those names and have them taken off the list at the appropriate time.



SISTERHOOD PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Dear Friends.

We hope everyone is doing well and had a wonderful summer, time to rejuvenate, time to refresh.

Over the years TBS sisterhood has meant so much to all of us. Through our efforts we have supported many events and needs of Temple Beth Shalom. We could not have done it without everyone's contributions and their time given to volunteer and

participate. We are a small group of women dedicated to Temple Beth Shalom. We can contribute funds generated by our dues to sponsor events held at the temple. Over the years sisterhood has supported many events and programming at the temple such as holiday drives, Hanukkah events, children's programs, and Rabbi's programs.

We hope that you join or renew your Temple Beth Shalom sisterhood membership today. Make a difference in your temple community, have fun, and develop life-long friendships through sisterhood. We welcome any ideas you have. Please remember that we are a group of women who care and support each other, our temple and community. We need you and your support. Sisterhood dues are \$54 for TBS members for September 2024 through June 2025. A portion of your dues goes to support WRJ Women of Reform Judaism, as well as support our temple community. Please make your check payable to Temple Beth Shalom Sisterhood with the information below.

I along with the sisterhood executive board look forward to making Sisterhood stronger and better than ever this year. Thank you,

The Sisterhood Executive Board: Robin Bordman, Wendy Wayman, Judy Potter, Mindy Hazzard, Holli Teshome, and Ileene Cahn

Join the Women of Temple Beth Shalom
Be a part of an Awesome Sisterhood!!
Temple Beth Shalom Sisterhood wants you!
Sisterhood needs the support of all the women in the congregation.

Temple Beth Shalom Sis	sterhood Membership Form ~ September 2024	4-June 2025
Name	<u> </u>	
Address		
Home phone	Cell phone	
Email	Ideas/Interests	

Please make your check for \$54 (TBS members) payable to Temple Beth Shalom Sisterhood and mail to: Judy Potter 380 Cosh Road, Westtown NY 10998 Throughout the years, these are the ways your membership has helped sisterhood support our temple:

*WRJ Dues *Erev Rosh Hashanah Oneg *Organize Break-Fast

*Organize Second Night Seder *Contribute financially to temple renovations

*Provide Hanukkah Gift Shop *Support temple youth programming through scholarships to NFTY programs, camps and gifts for our B'nai Mitzvah students

*Support of Rabbi's programming *Support of many local food pantries

*event security and many more activities are supported through your dues and sisterhood fundraisers throughout the year.

Sisterhood Holiday Greeting Card Fundraiser

This year we will send our best wishes for a happy and healthy New Year to all the families of Temple Beth Shalom! This year we need to stand together. This fundraiser helps support many events at temple throughout the year. Sisterhood will send a beautiful New Year card to each member of the Temple Beth Shalom congregation. For a donation of \$18.00, your name will be printed on the cards. This is a lovely way to celebrate the High Holidays as well as support our TBS Sisterhood.



Please tell us how you would like your name to appear on the card. Send an \$18 check no later than September 25th, made out to TBS Sisterhood to *Mindy Hazzard* 119 Hillside Road Sparta, NJ 07871.

Your name



Sisterhood and Succulents

Sisterhood Open House <Come Grow With Us>

Please gather with sisterhood to help plant the beginning of the new year. We will have dessert, and you will create your own succulent planter. Help us grow sisterhood together to provide a strong community for Temple Beth Shalom.

Wednesday, October 9th 6:30pm at Temple Beth Shalom

<u>Kindly RSVP</u> to Robin Bordman 845-699-6460 so we have enough plants and planters for everyone.

CO-PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE #2

Dear Chaverim,

At the 2023 Annual Congregational Meeting, we voted to begin discussions on merging with Monroe Temple Beth-El. It is now time for our congregation to come together and vote on whether TBS will merge with Monroe Temple Beth-El. This is not a Leadership, Executive Committee or Board of Trustees vote – this is a congregational vote. All of us must make this decision together.

Monroe is selling their building; the new entity would be based at Temple Beth Shalom.

How did we arrive at this pivotal point? Let's look at our congregational history: It is said (perhaps folklore) that TBS once

reached a membership high mark of 120 families (though - we believe the actual number to be around 100.) In the 2000's the number of families hovered in the low 90s; the 2010's membership decreased to a range in the 80's. Today, our present membership is in the 70's.

With the decline in membership, our student roster has shrunk as well with some years having only one or two B'nei Mitzvah. This year there are none, although the future is bright with seven B'nei Mitzvah coming in 5786. This is why last year TBS and Monroe Temple created a new school – Beit Sefer. The first year of Beit Sefer has successfully concluded. There is a school roster of approximately 30 students, and it is a blessing to see our children creating new friendships with Monroe's children.

The TBS leadership was approached about two years ago by Monroe Temple leadership to discuss the status of both shuls and a possible merger. Monroe's membership has decreased from once over 400 families to now about 100 families. With their building being in decline, the only option for Monroe was to sell their building, and that process is nearly complete.

The Executive Committees of both shuls have been meeting monthly to chart a path forward. Monroe has sold their building with a possible December 2024 closing date, and a move-in date to TBS immediately thereafter.

If both congregations vote to merge, Monroe will rent from TBS until the merge is finalized in approximately two years. If the merge vote fails (i.e. if either congregation votes no), then Monroe will rent from TBS until they determine their future.

During, to quote Rabbi Shinder, "our dating period", we have shared many experiences with the Monroe Temple. The two Sisterhoods and Men's Clubs have joined successful events. We have opened special services with Monroe including, to note, Shabbat Shirah.

Financially, this year TBS is on an austerity budget. Yes, we can keep the lights on and pay Rabbi Shinder, Kelly, and our teachers. But our building is old, and we have had many required updates in the past few years. A few examples: the roof, parking lot, and recently, a major plumbing emergency. Fortunately, we have had donations from members to help cover the costs. However, this will not be sustainable at our current membership and expenses.

The Executive Committee and Board of Trustees of Temple Beth Shalom have one goal: to keep Reform Judaism vibrant in Orange County. The bottom line is that we feel we are unable to sustain a future without merging with Monroe Temple.

To be transparent and to answer your questions, we will have two informational/discussion meetings on Sunday, September 15th at 10am and Thursday, September 19th at 7pm, with a special congregational meeting to vote on the merge on Monday, September 23rd at 7pm. A Zoom link will be provided for those unable to attend the vote in person.

We need your input and vote. We implore you to join us for one of the informational meetings, and to cast your vote at the congregational meeting.

L'Shalom,

Eric Goodman & Jeff Hannes, Temple Beth Shalom Co-Presidents

Federation Summer Bash - Many of our TBS congregants volunteered and/or spent the day amongst the vendors and Orange County synagogues or agencies.





Enjoy looking back to the start of Summer and our awesome day at the Hannes Party house honoring Wendy Cedar and Catherine Greenblatt. Photos taken, of course, by Gail Conklin.













































































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Given by Kenneth Korn, TBS member and music teacher with over 35 years experience.

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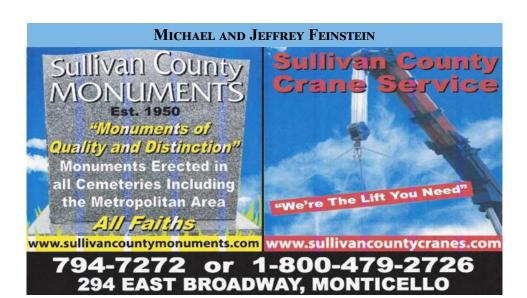
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The Shofar

13 Roosevelt Avenue Temple Beth Shalom **Published Monthly**

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57842024

September

av elul Temple Beth Shalom 13 Roosevelt Ave. Florida, NY 10921 845-651-7817 tbs-ny@optimum.net tbsny.org

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
28 av	29 av	30 av	4 1 elul	5 2 elul	6 7PM Welcome Back Shabbat Service Oneg: Sumner-Mayer Family	7 4 elul
9:30-11:30AM Opening Day Beit Sefer at TBS	9 6 elul	7 elul 4:30PM In-Person Hebrew School at Monroe Temple	ROSH CHODESH 8 elul	124:30PM Zoom Hebrew School 7:30PM Board In-person	13 10 elul 7PM Shabbat Service	Shoftim 11 elul 8AM Food Pantry Distribution Ki Teitzei
9:30AM Beit Sefer at TBS 10AM Merge Meeting	16 13 elul	4:30PM In-Person Hebrew School at Monroe Temple	18 15 elul	19 4:30PM Zoom Hebrew School 7PM Merge Meeting	20 17 elul Shabbat Service Uuf Ruf of Janet Kass's son, Dan	10AM Monroe Temple Chavurah
9:30AM Beit Sefer at TBS	7PM Congregation Meeting	4:30PM In-Person Hebrew School at Monroe Temple	25 Sisterhood Greeting Card Deadline	23 elul 4:30PM Zoom Hebrew School	27 7PM Informal Shabbat/ Selichot Experience: Potluck Oneg	28 25 elul
9:30AM Beit Sefer at TBS FIRE DRILL	30 ^{27 elul}	AUGUST S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	OCTOBER S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31			SELICHOT