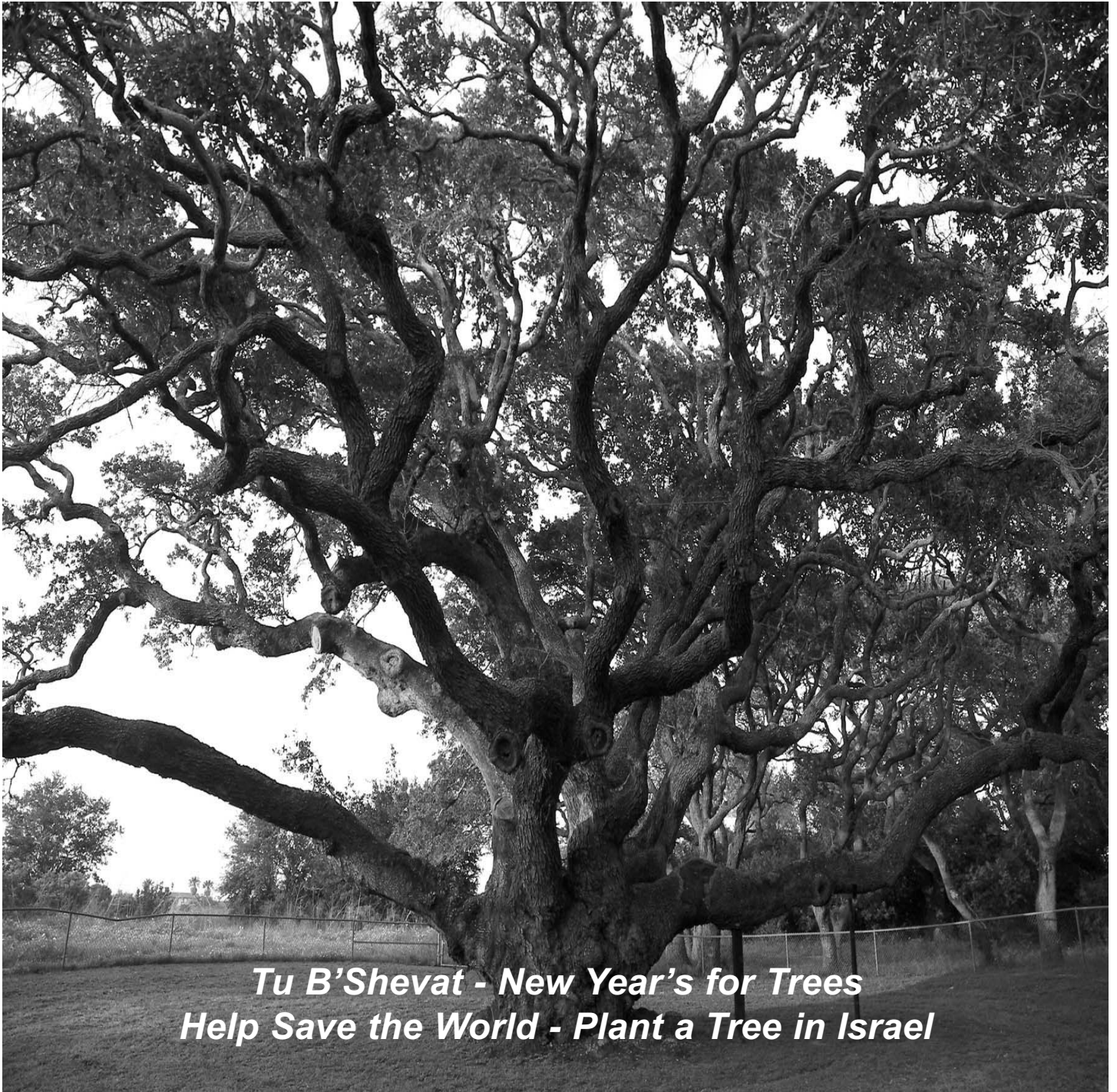


January 2011
Vol. 3, No. 5

B'nai Torah **TIMES**

A BREATH, BREEZE, AND SPIRIT OF THE TIMES

MAY IT BE A BREATH OF FRESH JEWISH SPIRIT ARRIVING AT YOUR HOME



***Tu B'Shevat - New Year's for Trees
Help Save the World - Plant a Tree in Israel***

Temple B'nai Torah • 2900 Jerusalem Avenue • Wantagh, New York 11793-2025

B'NAI MITZVAHS



Jan. 8

Chloe Gura

Lloyd & Staci

I am a 7th grade honors student at Grand Avenue Middle School. I love to dance, and compete with my teammates throughout the year. I also played on the middle school soccer team this past Fall; I enjoy listening to music, and spending time with my family and friends. With my older siblings, Alexa and Jason, I am actively involved in fundraising for the Crohn's and Colitis Foundation, for which we have raised close to \$100,000 for awareness and research to help find a cure. Thank you to all those who have helped me prepare for my Bat Mitzvah, and especially to my family for always being there for me.



Jan. 8

Jake Friedlander

Joe & Lori

My name is Jake Friedlander. I go to Grand Avenue Middle School and I am in all honors classes. I enjoy playing basketball and baseball. I would like to thank Rabbi Bellows, Cantor Heiseger, and Cantor Sher for preparing me for my Bar Mitzvah, as well as my family for all their support. I would like to extend to Chloe and her family a Mazel Tov, and wish her the best of luck on her Bat Mitzvah.

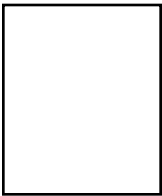


Jan. 15

Jennifer Breyer

Steven & Shari

My name is Jenny Breyer, and I am in the 7th grade at Wantagh Middle School. I am an honors student, and in addition to playing on the Wantagh Middle School volleyball team, I play soccer, basketball and run track. I have played the violin since 3rd grade, and am currently working on my Silver Award in Girl Scouts. I would like to thank Rabbi Bellows, Cantor Sher, and Mrs. Altman for helping me prepare for my Bat Mitzvah. I would also like to thank my parents and my sister Brooke for their support and encouragement. I would also like to thank my dog Cooper for always being by my side!



Jan. 22

Adam Rashkind

Ronald & Beth



Jan. 29

Kyle Lynam

John & Barbara

My name is Kyle Lynam and I am a 7th grader at Grand Ave. Middle School in Bellmore. I enjoy playing soccer and roller hockey, as well as spending time with my family and friends. I play soccer on my school team and the PAL Travel League; I also play roller hockey in the BMRH League. I play trombone in the school band, and also enjoy art. I am looking forward to becoming a Bar Mitzvah and thinking of doing something to help children in need for my Mitzvah project. I want to thank Mrs. Altman for preparing me well, and Cantor Sher for making it fun. I would also like to thank Rabbi Bellows for her encouragement and my parents for all of their support.

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Saturday, January 1		No services
Friday, January 7	7:30 pm	Family Services
Saturday, January 8	10:30 am	Services (2 B'nai Mitzvahs)
Friday, January 14	5:30 pm	Tot Shabbat Services
Friday, January 14	8:00 pm	Services honoring Martin Luther King, Jr.
Saturday, January 15	10:30 am	Services (1 Bat Mitzvah)
Friday, January 21	8:00 pm	Services
Saturday, January 22	10:30 am	Services (1 Bar Mitzvah)
Friday, January 28	8:00 pm	Services
Saturday, January 29	10:30 am	Services (1 Bar Mitzvah)

WARMTH IN JANUARY
by Judy Diamond

For me, the synagogue is a second home. I grew up in it, and, no matter what Temple I visit, I always feel like I belong. Every synagogue is a familiar and comforting environment to me. One reason I love being a Temple Administrator is that my work includes striving to create a similar connection for each member and each family.

So, what do I recommend that families do to feel at home here?

- * Come in and hang out when you bring your children to religious school. Visit with the other parents who might well have interests similar to yours.
- * Meet your friends here on Sunday morning: bring your newspaper, check your Facebook status (we have WiFi), and have breakfast prepared by the Brotherhood.
- * Come to Shabbat Services and stay for the oneg.
- * Have school-aged children? Come to Family Services (the first Friday of each month at 7:30 pm).
- * Have preschool aged children? Come to Tot Shabbat (the second Friday of each month at 5:30 pm).
- * Participate in Torah Study at 9 am on Saturday mornings (no previous experience necessary!)
- * Serve on a committee. What's your passion? How can we help you express it?
- * Participate in the Tu B'Shevat Seder (January 19; reservations required).
- * Work with your fellow congregants at Bingo on Wednesday mornings, Thursday nights or one Sunday evening a month.
- * Go to the next Book Club meeting: January 23 at 10 am.
- * Join the Choir.
- * Join Sisterhood or Brotherhood and attend their programs.
- * Come to Chai Club events.
- * Participate in Couples' Club events.

The more time you spend at Temple, the more people you know, the more familiar it is, the more spiritual it feels, and the more comforting it is. Being with the Jewish community provides a special warmth and sense of being "home," even on the coldest winter days.

Please come meet me next time you're at TBT!

In the House...
by Tessa Kean

You own your own home (house, co-op, or condo). You take care of it. You maintain it. You update it. You worry. On the first Tuesday of each month, the House Committee members meet and worry about our temple house. Join us at 7 p.m. so that we can share your expertise in caring for our temple, our home away from home.

In December, the committee members discussed a future Scout Project. Once the details are worked out we hope to see better in the temple. (Hint: let there be light.)

Our first snow of the winter came and went. The committee (actually Shelley Lomove and Judy Diamond) wisely had secured a snow removal contract prior to the snowfall to insure that our property is cleared in a timely manner. Remember: when you see snow in front of your home, it also snows in front of our temple home. We at Temple B'nai Torah do not have to worry about whether our sidewalks and parking lots are cleared. We need not fret. Thank you, Shelley and Judy.

Stay warm and remember: TBT is our home away from home.



Shalom, Chaverim – Hello, friends, Happy 2011! I hope this new secular year brings you and your family much joy and gladness. As I reflect on the areas of my life that have always brought me the most happiness, some of the best experiences took place during my years at camp. In junior high and high school, I spent a number of years at the Olin-Sang Ruby Union Institute (OSRUI), a Reform Jewish overnight camp in Oconomowoc, WI.

These years were both formative and transformative – I truly became myself there. I was surrounded by incredible, warm, and positive staff and campers. The days were filled with arts, learning, Hebrew, services, sports, and music. Nights were filled with games, programs, campfires, and song sessions. Perhaps most importantly, we experienced what it was like to be Jewish all day, and to look at the world around us through a Jewish lens. Judaism was something fun at camp, it was something that tied us all together, and it was the source of wonderful teachings and traditions. Every two weeks, a different set of rabbis, cantors, and Jewish educators spent time with us – we got to see them in much less formal settings, and see what wonderful human beings they were. Many of our counselors even went on to become clergy in subsequent years. I credit my years at OSRUI with much of my ultimate decision to become a rabbi.

One of my priorities in my rabbinate was to return to camp as a faculty member. I feel very fortunate that Temple B'nai Torah has supported my wish to spend two weeks each summer at our regional Union for Reform Judaism camps: Eisner and Crane Lake. It is truly an honor to now be one of those camp rabbis who can influence the next generation of Jewish leaders.

Recent studies from the Foundation for Jewish Camp (<http://www.jewishcamp.org/>) have found fascinating connections between families that send their children to camp and their involvement in Jewish life. They discovered: 1) parents of camp kids remained temple members longer; 2) kids who went to camp were more likely to stay in religious school post-B'nai Mitzvah; and 3) the entire family was more likely to be involved in temple life and leadership.

Last summer, TBT sent 3 kids to Eisner or Crane Lake, 2 kids to Israel on a NFTY trip, and we had a few students in staff positions. I would love to see these numbers grow in the coming years. There are a number of exciting renovations going on at each camp, including new cabins and facilities.

Understandably, financial concerns can often be a reason that families do not consider going to an overnight camp. Eisner and Crane Lake gave out over \$400,000 in scholarships last year, and are looking forward to doing so again. Additionally, it is important to TBT that we support our campers, and thus a number of our arms, and my discretionary fund, provide scholarships to campers, regardless of need.

So, what should you do? I ask for a few things:

1. Seriously consider sending your school-age children to one of our URJ Camps. For more information, visit <http://eisnercranelake.urjcamp.org/>, or come speak with one of our clergy or staff people at the synagogue. There is also a brand-new Special Needs camp called, “Camp Chazak” (<http://www.urjcamp.org/programs/special-needs/>) that is debuting this upcoming summer. Help create the next generation of involved, educated, passionate Jews!
2. Donate generously to the Rabbi’s Discretionary Fund with the intent of providing scholarships to our students who attend URJ Camps.
3. Come celebrate with us at our 1st Annual Camp Shabbat on Friday, January 7. We will be recreating a Camp Shabbat experience during our 7:30 pm Family Service, including many camp melodies of yesterday and today, and with participation from a number of our campers and NFTY participants.
4. Attend our Camp Presentation on Sunday, January 9 at 9:00 am. Representatives from Eisner and Crane Lake will be with us to tell us more about camp, to answer your questions, and to get us all excited about the upcoming summer.

Best wishes for a good 2011,
Rabbi Marci N. Bellows



Welcoming in a new year always reminds me of years gone by. I normally fall into the warm, nurturing pool of nostalgia that accompanies such moments. This month, we will engage in a bit of constructive and spiritual nostalgia through a unique worship experience: The reform summer camp institute Shabbat service.

It has long been recognized that the heart of our movement's spiritual and leadership growth has found its origins in the Jewish summer camp for the last 50 years. I began my own summer camp experience, at the tender age of 12, at Herzl Camp, in Webster, Wisconsin. I wrote about my experiences there in a previous article and how it significantly contributed to my life's journey. Herzl is still an active part of the Midwestern Jewish community.

In the fall of 1968, I had become "1-A" and eligible for induction. At the height of the Vietnam conflict, I was sure I would eventually be drafted and end up in Southeast Asia. I had a friend, Steve Gill, who had spent many summers at the reform Jewish camp in Oconomowoc, Wisconsin, then named the Olin-Sang Union Institute. Being completely unfamiliar with Reform Judaism and its affiliate programs, I asked Steve if it was worth spending a last summer as a counselor there before possibly encountering a conflagration leaving me with an uncertain destiny. He set up a meeting with the director, Irv Kaplan, in Chicago, where the camp office is.

"Barefoot Boy with Cheek," I had never even been to Chicago! (Having now lived in the New York area for 35 years, I often wonder what was so awesome in Chicago). It was a bit overwhelming, but exciting: A new experience, a new group of people, and a new challenge. It was one of the most influential and formative experiences of my young life. Having grown up in the conservative Jewish community of St. Paul, Minnesota, I was confronted with many new customs and challenges to the philosophy and practice of the Judaism I had known throughout my childhood. At this camp, I first learned the meaning of Jewish freedom; to be able to worship as one felt comfortable and believed; to worship with or without a yarmulke, tallit or t'fillin. The staff members ran the gamut of ritual observance, from Orthodox to humanistic. This is at the heart of our movement and was practiced at this Union Institute Camp.

However, the outstanding certainty that brought together these disparate staff members was the wonderful music that

coursed through almost every aspect of camp life. We sang in the morning, at breakfast, after lunch, and for long periods after dinner. We sang at services, in choirs and at evening programs. Music was a huge part of camp life, as it is in synagogue worship. The difference was the environment. The synagogue is only part of the busy lives we lead; at camp, we "live," first and foremost, as a Jewish community.

On January 7, we will try to re-create a bit of that treasured atmosphere that I and, later, Rabbi Bellows, experienced in that same camp, tucked away in rural Wisconsin, outside of Milwaukee. I urge you to attend!

Cantor Steven Sher

LIKE TO SING?

We are blessed to have music featured prominently in our services, and this is due, in some part, to the participation of our choirs. The choirs of Temple B'nai Torah perform at regular intervals: the Youth choir performs at Family services (the first Friday of every month); the Adult choir performs at least once a month; and the High Holy Days choir performs during Rosh Hashanah, Kol Nidre, and Yom Kippur.

Members of the choir practice weekly, usually on Monday nights, throughout the year. They review long-standing pieces that they have done many times, and they learn new pieces as well. An ability to sing is helpful, but desire and a willingness to learn are the keys to successful participation.

Our choirs are looking to add fresh voices. If you enjoy singing (even if you think you don't sing well), and are willing to attend rehearsals regularly, please contact Cantor Sher (shersteven@aol.com) or Barbara Morgenlender ([mismorgy@aol.com](mailto:msmorgy@aol.com)) for more information.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



As January 2011 is upon us, we all, in our own way, take stock of the previous year's events as we look forward to the coming New Year. As members of our new Temple B'nai Torah entity, our congregation has experienced some fresh and exciting adventures as it continues its journey into the future. As we move forward and experience our new clergy, staff members, committees...and everything else "new" that comes with the territory, we all must continue to work hard to find a way to achieve the right balance to enable us to move into the future. As I write these words, I wonder if we are truly "new" anymore. However, when I consider that our plan for Temple B'nai Torah is to be around for decades to come, it seems that we are truly still in the infancy of our anticipated long life. Even though, at times, it feels like we've all been together forever, we must remind ourselves that the familiarity that we enjoy is due to the hard-working group of congregants, volunteers and professionals who strive everyday to enhance our experience at Temple B'nai Torah.

As the months pass at TBT, we see an increase in activity, rounding out our already full schedule of Temple activities. You can view this by visiting our temple website at www.temple-bnai-torah.org and clicking on the Temple Calendar link. As you will see, there is something going on virtually every day at Temple B'nai Torah. For some of us, the challenge is to find something we would like to attend that piques our interest. For others, it's a difficult decision to pick and choose which of the many meetings/events are the most important to us. I encourage you all to use this online calendar as a planning tool. It's easy to use, and is filled with up-to-the-minute information that will give you a day's schedule of events at the touch of your mouse.

This time of year makes me think of renewal. Beginning over again, repeating the motions...but, sometimes thinking of doing some things differently. This time of year makes me think of new possibilities and renewed hope. This time of year brings us Tu B'Shevat, which is observed on the 15th (Tu) of Shevat (corresponding to January 20 this year). Scholars tell us that Tu B'Shevat was originally an agricultural festival, marking the emergence of spring, as well as the period when the fruits were ripe enough to give, as part of an Israelite's tithe (their monetary commitment to their community). Today, Tu B'Shevat has become a tree-planting festival in Israel, in which both Israelis and Jews around the world plant trees to enable our land to be preserved from generation to generation. The tree is a symbol in our tradition that represents growth, responsibility and stability.

"It is a tree of life to those who take hold of it, and happy are those who support it".

As I think of new beginnings and where they lead us in life, I have come across the following poem from the book "Covenant of The Soul" published by Women of Reform Judaism.

The Seasons of Life

In the beginning
There was nothing
and
there will be no end

To live is to be in G-d's world
To share the universe
with every living thing

Every living thing began
and so did we
Every living thing has its time
And so do we

But we...alive to all possibilities
always reach for more
More time, more life, more love
We are seldom ready to accept
the end of our time

How can we share G-d's world
How live with grace
How lose with dignity

Every day is a new beginning
Any day may seem like an ending
But
Every day we can be renewed

As Temple B'nai Torah finds its way into the future, I encourage you to be part of the journey. Give yourself the "gift" of getting involved. This isn't a plea for "we need help"...this is a heartfelt suggestion, from one congregant to another, which says...being involved with temple life is a most rewarding and uplifting experience. Temple B'nai Torah is a place of comfort, for all that seek to find it. It is my hope that you will try a new experience at TBT in this new year of 2011...and may it bring you a renewed sense of comfort. I wish you and your family and friends a very happy, healthy and prosperous New Year.

Barbara Cohen
Temple President



Winter. Nightfall comes early. The temperature is cold, sometimes biting. With friendship, interesting, informative and fun programs, Sisterhood is the place to keep you toasty during the winter months.

The program for our general meeting on Monday, January 24 will be a scrap-booking session. Join us for a creative, enjoyable evening. Rabbi Bellows has been leading us in a series of Rosh Chodesh programs about Jewish Mysticism or Kaballah. The journey has been extremely interesting and informative. The next Rosh Chodesh will be Tuesday, January 11 at 7:30 PM.

On Sunday, January 30, Sisterhood will host a fundraiser at Brokerage Comedy Club on Merrick Rd. in Bellmore. Our annual "Evening of Comedy" will have you in stitches. By attending this fun and funny evening, you not only help Sisterhood raise much needed funds for our temple, but laugh away the evening. A private party, the "Evening of Comedy" at the Brokerage is full of laughs and prizes. Bring your friends!

Now is the time to order Mah Jongg cards. Regular size cards are \$7 and large size cards are \$8. Send your name, address and card size, along with a check made out to TBT Sisterhood to Ellen Solomon, 14 Ashley Circle, Commack, NY 11725. Ask your friends to order their cards through us, too. The cards will be mailed directly to the purchaser.

We may be in the middle of winter, but keep thinking, Spring is not far behind! Wishing you a wonderful 2011 filled with health, happiness and prosperity.

Stephanie Jacobson

SISTERHOOD PRESENTS:

BROKERAGE COMEDY CLUB

SUNDAY, JANUARY 30, 2011 at 7PM
\$18.00 PER PERSON
RAFFLES – DOOR PRIZES

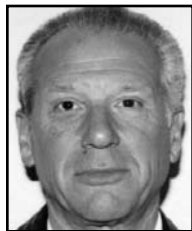
CALL: MARILYN WORONOFF
(516) 785-0628

TBT TRIP TO ISRAEL
Story and Photo submitted by
Harvey Drucker

This October, a group of thirty people, led by Rabbi Bellows, had a wonderful educational and tourists' excursion of Israel. We met with many interesting people, and shared a Friday night Shabbat service with our sister congregation, Birkat Shalom Synagogue at Kibbutz Gezer, led by Rabbi Miri Gold. The trip was outstanding and enjoyed by all. Rabbi Bellows will be organizing an interfaith journey to the Holy Land in August 2011, with congregants from TBT and several Christian churches from the area. Members of all faiths are encouraged to make the trip.

This photo, of our group arm in arm, was taken atop Mount Scopus just before we entered Jerusalem for the first time. We said a prayer, as we were all thankful for the moment.





BROTHERHOOD SPEAKS

By Les Richards

Shalom everyone,

November was another busy month for Brotherhood. Kudos to the Brotherhood members who volunteered their time and energy for the Sisterhood dinner, serving 150+ women on November 1st. Thank you to Scott Abrams, Stu Altman, Jeff Beller, Larry Bloom, Ben Cernese, Sol Goldstein, Marty Happes, Mark Kean, Arnie Minsky, Les Richards, Harvey Wiener and Mike Wolff.

On November 7th, 120 people attended a SPECIAL breakfast for UJA honoring Shelley and Barry Lomove for their dedication to the Temple. Rob Saunders, along with many Brotherhood members, prepared and served breakfast (as they normally do on Sundays when Religious School is in session).

The November 15th Brotherhood/Sisterhood Dinner was a wonderful event for the 90 who attended. A tasty and filling dinner was prepared by Rob Saunders with the help of Larry Bloom, Mike Bruno, Ben Cernese, Mark Chester, Bernie Davidson, Craig Field, Stan Friedman, Sol Goldstein, Mark Kean, Jack Klein, Arnie Minsky, Larry Prosky and Dave Schuster. A special thanks to Joni Christie and Heather Gottfried who assisted in the planning and execution of the dinner and who organized their own crew to prepare and serve appetizers, coffee and dessert. After dinner, Cantor Sher entertained us with witty renditions of songs, followed by the Mac Gollehan Trio. A BIG THANKS to our custodian Anthony for the tremendous amount of clean-up that he did.

On November 28th, Brotherhood held its First Annual Winter Holiday Fair/Flea Market. It was a beautiful day, as more than 90 vendors set up their booths, making the Fair a financial success. THANKS to all those who helped and a special THANKS to SHARON and BEN CERNESE, who worked on every aspect of this successful event.

The Brotherhood Board wishes you and yours a HEALTHY & HAPPY NEW YEAR.

TBT-PTA Mitzvah Project 2010 and Upcoming Events

On October 24, 2010, the TBT-PTA hosted a mitzvah project to celebrate the spirit of the upcoming holidays. About 30 families attended the event and decorated tote bags with ribbon, markers, and stamps for women and men at the White Oaks Nursing Home in Woodbury. Children and families ate pizza while they discussed the levels of a mitzvah and shared their own experiences with nursing homes and long-term-care facilities. A few of the children told us about special relatives who are in long-term-care facilities now, and held on to their tote bags to give to them for the holidays.

The children worked together with their parents to create the tote bags for carrying sweaters, books, medicine, or other items. Every bag had something unique on it for the recipient; a special picture, patterns of ribbon or stamps, or messages of love and hope. All were wonderful and inspiring! The bags were delivered to the nursing home, where many of the staff and residents commented on how exquisite the bags were and how useful they will be during the holiday visits. Thanks to all of the families and children who participated!

Please join us for all our upcoming TBT-PTA sponsored events! On January 9th, we will gather at the Temple for the annual creation of our Tu B'Shevat Family Tree. Each family will decorate a leaf for the tree, which will be hung in the Temple for the Tu B'Shevat holiday service. Family Bingo will be held on February 13th! This is always a popular and fun event, with all children winning a prize! Finally, on March 6th, we will be rolling along to United Skates in Seaford, for a family afternoon of skating. Get your children and join in the fun this year with Temple family members and friends!

It's not too late to join the TBT-PTA and get extra perks such as free pizza at the Tu B'Shevat event, or buy-one-get-one-free boards at Bingo! Please contact Howard Popeck, PTA president: MFD417@aol.com for more information. We look forward to seeing you!



OUR COMMUNITY

CHAI NOTES



January Chai General Meeting: Our program on Monday, January 3rd (7:30 pm) will feature Sol Goldstein, who will give a short talk on "Rebuilding Together."

Rebuilding Together, Inc., in partnership with the community, rehabilitates the homes of low-income homeowners, particularly the elderly and disabled, so that they may live in warmth, safety and independence. Additionally, Al Weinberg, a Holocaust survivor who escaped to Dominican Republic, will discuss his interesting and desperate flight from Nazi oppression. Please join us at the Temple as we also celebrate our January birthdays. A RALLI (Retired and Living on Long Island) meeting will be held at 7:00 pm, preceding the regular meeting. RALLI schedules monthly excursions to the movies and local restaurants. Special thanks to Miriam Itzkowitz, who organized our December RALLI.

Kudos to Les Kule, who provided a delightful seminar on Computer Skills for Seniors last month. Les covered basic computer skills needed to navigate the Internet and Personal Computer.

On February 7th, our program will feature another visit by a Barbershop Quartet that was well-received a few years ago.

We will try something different in March: an exercise program for seniors led by Sue Salko. Sue will teach us how exercise can be a vital link to strength, balance and harmony in our active lives. (Please note that the exercise is not strenuous: you will not be running up and down the stairs. All movements will be done in and around your own chair.)

We are so pleased to announce that the Chai Club will once again join Cantor Sher's Adventures In Music series for the Spring of 2011. Watch your temple communications for further details. The dates are: Mondays, March 21st, March 28th, April 4th, and April 11. All will start at 12:00 noon.

As this article is being written, we wish Chai Board member Mark Kean the best of health, and send our love and prayers to him and his family.

Brian Levy, Chai Club President

Carmel Fire - Israel Emergency Fund



The worst fire in Israel's history roared across Haifa and the Carmel Forest, fueled by drought and strong winds. More than 40 lives were lost, many with young families at home, one a 16-year-old volunteer. Thankfully, there were heavy rains over the region, providing a strong hand of support to the international fire-fighting force and allowing them to get the fire under control. We grieve for those who lost their lives. We are sorrowful for the loss of homes, forests, animals, and the scarring of our sacred land. Yet, we are also hopeful.

You can help. ARZA and the URJ, with our partners, the **Israel Movement for Progressive Judaism**, will help rebuild human lives through the IMPJ Humanitarian Fund. Contributing to our Carmel Fire-Israel Emergency Fund* is one more way for you to participate in building Israel, the land that we love.

Entertainment 2011

Special thanks to all those who bought the Entertainment 2011 Coupon Books. As a result of your continued support, as well as the efforts of the sales team: Rita Hofer, Nancy Baker and Sue Beller, the Temple made a profit of over \$750. - Brian Levy

Hold The Date:

Monday Night, June 6th, 2011
Nassau County District Attorney
Kathleen M. Rice
Will be speaking to the Chai Club.
All are Invited.

OUR COMMUNITY



COUPLES' CLUB

by Vicki and Marty Goldberger,
Couples' Club Co-Presidents

Happy New Year, everyone! We saw the old year out with lots of festivities and sharing special times with family and good friends, and we look forward to more of the same in the new year. On December 4, 34 members of Couples' Club celebrated Chanukah with a wonderful party at Rosemarie's in Farmingdale. The evening featured a delicious five-course dinner, a holiday grab-bag, and holiday songs led by Artie Schlesinger on guitar (Artie even wrote three of the songs!) Our thanks again to Fred & Ann Dinstell and Steve & Marilynn Block, who didn't let vacation exhaustion and a bad cold stop them from giving us a night to remember!

In December, we reflected on all that has happened in the 5 years since we joined Temple B'nai Torah. We know that isn't much compared to all the others who have been temple members for so many years. But it has been a very meaningful period for us. We made the decision to reach out to a new group of people and allow our Jewish heritage to play a significant role in our lives. We were, and are still, delighted by the warm welcome we received from our temple brothers and sisters. But we hold a special place in our hearts for our friends from Couples' Club. We underwent a personal crisis around the time of our joining TBT, and the Couples' Club responded more generously than we could

have imagined. They were there with food to feed us, drivers to take us to doctors, shoulders to cry on, and reassurances that we were not going through it alone. What more can you ask from a group of friends? And this year, they made us Co-Presidents of the group! We hope that those of you reading this who are not Couples' Club members will take the opportunity in the new year to join us and discover for yourselves a truly remarkable group of men and women. This month, Brian & Joan Levy have taken the reins in planning a great Martin Luther King Jr. holiday weekend. The TBT Square Dance is coming on Saturday, February 5. We're hoping for a big Couples' Club turn-out for this yearly do-si-do! Richard & Francine Tepper have done a wonderful job researching and sharing information on possible CC outings – theater and concert dates, museums, and much more. Remember to keep your eyes open for upcoming Couples' Club events in the months to come (such as our Games Night and Military Bridge), and for the Couples' Club Shabbat service in March. We would love to see as many of you join us as possible. As with the other Temple arms, most of our events are open to the general membership.

Thanks again to Bernie & Vicki Deutsch, who hosted our Board meeting on December 5, and to Ed & Marilyn Pincus, who will be our hosts on February 13.

Let's take that cup of kindness now! May you remember those resolutions you can work on, and conveniently forget all those you can't, and may all your New Year's wishes come true.



Camp Eisner – The Ultimate Jewish Experience

My introduction to Camp Eisner came when my teenage son, daughter, and future son-in-law were accepted as counselors there. They had all been active in their temple youth groups and were encouraged by their youth group leaders to apply for counselor positions at Eisner. They had to undertake extensive training for the counselor positions, both in Jewish Studies and in caring for the young campers who would be in their bunks. I was very impressed by the training and the fact that there were a number of levels of adult supervision. As an educator, I knew that this would provide a sense of security for the campers, their parents, and the counselors.

However, the camp experience is more about feelings than logistics. Camp Eisner is in the Berkshires, which is a beautiful piece of G-d's earth. The setting alone is a religious experience. My husband and I went to visit a number of times during the years our children were counselors.

The first Friday night we visited, we attended services by the lake. We were seated, waiting for the service to begin, when we heard the sound of guitars and voices singing songs of welcome for Shabbat. We looked up to see many groups of campers, each group led by a guitar player, walking towards the lake. The sight and sound took our breath away. This was the beginning of a spiritually uplifting Shabbat Service. The campers (and there were many of them) were involved in leading the service. Each bunk led a part of the service. The song leaders were grouped in the front and played together for all the songs. This was truly a service of song.

Sending children to Camp Eisner is the next best thing to sending them to Israel. They are immersed in an overall Jewish environment which permeates every aspect of camp life, from eating in the dining hall to their daily activities. It is not formal education, but the campers do learn about living "Jewishly". This is not something they have in most of the communities on Long Island, where they are distinctly in the minority in their schools and extracurricular activities. Camp Eisner allows our children to build a positive Jewish identity, which has been shown to be a large factor in their identifying themselves as Jewish adults.

Rabbi Deanna Pasternak

Join us for URJ CAMP WEEKEND!!!

**Friday, January 7, 7:30 pm
Camp Shabbat!!**

A fun-filled, exciting Shabbat experience for campers of all ages! Come sing, clap, and celebrate Shabbat in typical camp style. Former and current campers from the Temple B'nai Torah community will help us create the festive atmosphere!

**Sunday, January 9, 9:00 am
Camp Presentation!!**

A representative from our regional URJ Camps, Eisner and Crane Lake, will be with us. All families are invited to the sanctuary for the presentation. There will be an opportunity to learn all about camp and to ask questions. Camp songs and tchotchkes included!!

***Deadline for submissions to the B'nai Torah TIMES
is the first day of EVERY MONTH.***

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YAC

In memory of:
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Ian Goldstein becoming a Bar Mitzvah from Lenny & Toby Gopstein
Ian Goldstein becoming a Bar Mitzvah from Barbara & David Levine & Family
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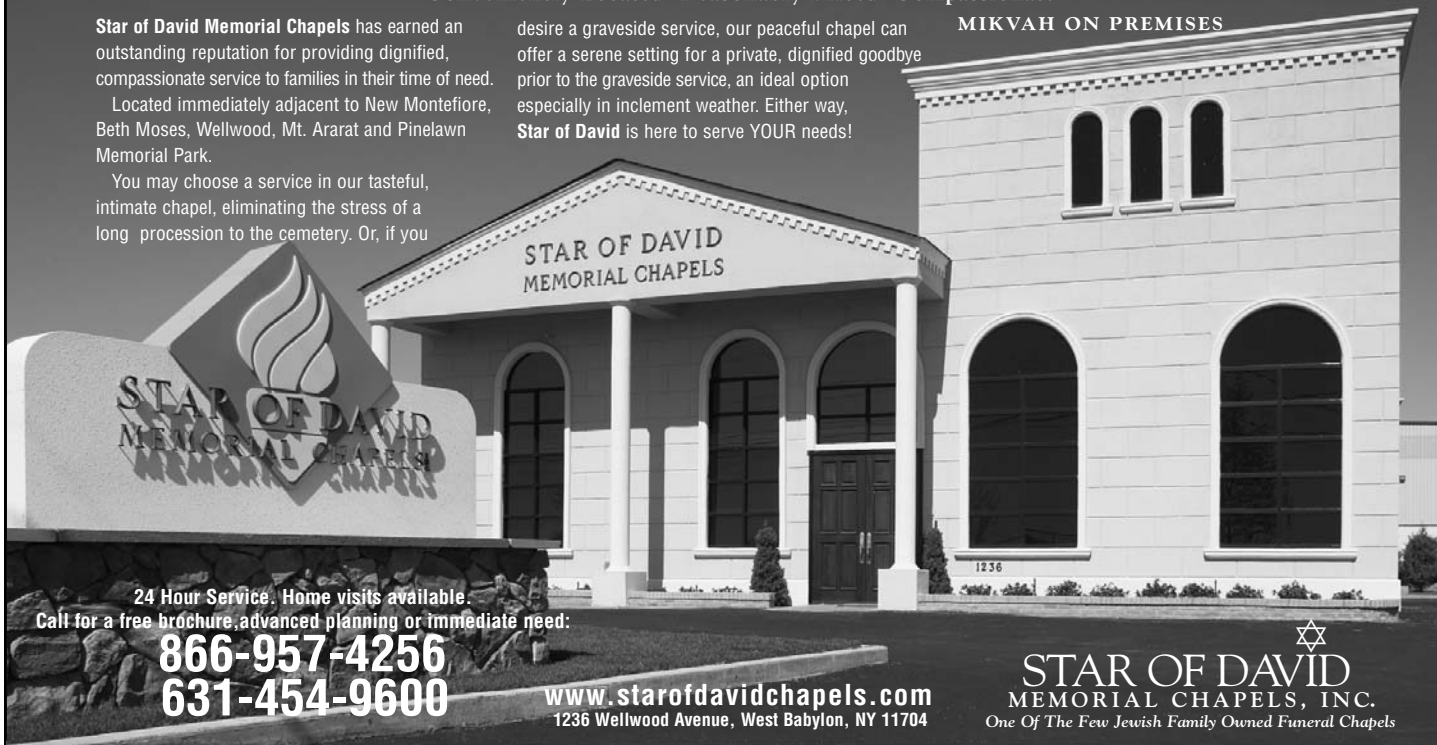
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FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

by Rob Saunders

Happy 2011! It's hard to believe that a whole decade has elapsed since the start of the new millennium! Remember when that whole discussion was raging (about when the new millennium actually started?) And now it is more than ten years later... A lot has happened in those ten years. What are the things that stand out the most? Naturally, the September 11 attacks (and all of the ramifications of them), but what else? The Tea Party and its impact on the mid-term elections. The crash of the housing market, and the far-ranging effects it had on the economy. Facebook. The Biggest Loser. Billionaires pledging their fortunes to charity. The Wii, the I-phone, and a host of other technological marvels to make our lives easier and/or more interesting.

The thing that stands out in my mind is the merger between Temple Judea and the Suburban Temple. What started out as a "Mission: Impossible" and wound its way through "The Longest Day" has turned into "Survivor: Temple B'nai Torah". It has been a struggle, to be sure; a clash of cultures and values, but, to paraphrase Sir Elton, we're still standin'. If you want to know why, it can be summed up in just one word: determination.

The leadership of this Temple has literally willed this organization to survive, despite some long odds and devastating set-backs. We have had the typical problems of synagogues today, but we have also felt the sting of the extraordinary: a roof that needed major repairs, a real-estate market that has hampered the sale of the East building, the untimely departure of staff members. Through it all, one person has remained positive, upbeat, and single-minded in her focus on what needed to be done, and it is because of her energy and insight that we are surviving and even trying to prosper. They say that being Temple president is a thankless job, but on behalf of the congregation, I hope you will join me in extending a HUGE thank you to Barbara Cohen. Mere words could not fully express what her leadership has meant to this organization. Y'asher Koach!

Michael C. Horwitz, CPA, P.C.

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EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES - JANUARY 2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<h1>January 2011</h1>						1 New Year's Day • BLDG. CLOSED
2 • NO SCHOOL - WINTER RECESS	3 • OFFICE CLOSED • 4:30pm REL. SCH. • 6:00pm Youth Choir • 7:00pm Hebrew H.S. • 7:00pm Ralli (K/L) • 7:30pm Chai General (K/L) • 7:30pm Adult Choir • 8:30pm BNTY SR.	4 • 10:00am AIAnon • 4:30pm Rel. Sch. • 6:45pm Sist Ex Board Meeting (Rm 101-103) • 7:00pm House Comm. Meeting • 7:45pm Sist. Bd Meeting (K/L) • 8:00pm Social / Comm. Meeting (Library)	5 • 10:30am Bingo • 4:30pm Rel. Sch.	6 • 6:00pm-7:30pm Cub Scouts (Y/L) • 7:30pm Bingo • 7:30pm-9:00pm Boy Scouts (Y/L)	7 • 3:00pm B'nai Mitzvah Rehearsal (Sanctuary) • 7:30pm Family Shabbat Service	8 • 9:00am Torah Study Group (Admin. Conf. Room) • 10:30am SVC. 2 B/M • 12:00pm B/M Luncheon-Gura Family (S/H) • 12:00pm-B/M Luncheon Friedlander Family (K/L)
9 • 9:00am Rel. Sch. • 9:00am-TBT-PTA Meeting • 9:15am Broth. Breakfast • 10:00am-12:00pm Adult B'nai Mitzvah Class with Rabbi Bellows (Library) • 10:30am Couples Club-Board (away) • 12:00pm TUB'Shevat Tree (Y/L) • 1:00pm-3:00pm Girl Scout Judaic Badge Courses (Rm.101-103) • 2:00pm-6:00pm Boy Scout Troop-Eagle Court of Honor (S/H) • 3:00pm Cub Scout Jewish Awards Class(1st Fl. Double Classroom)	10 • 12:00pm-3:00pm Tu B'Shevat Tree Volunteers TBD (Y/L) • 4:30pm REL. SCH. • 6:00pm Youth Choir • 7:00pm Hebrew H.S. • 7:30pm Adult Choir • 8:30pm BNTY SR.	11 • 10:00am AIAnon • 4:30pm Rel. Sch. • 7:30pm Brotherhood Bd. Meeting K/L • 7:30pm Rosh Chodesh (Y/L) • 8:00pm Rel. Ed. (Library)	12 • 10:30am Bingo • 4:30pm Rel. Sch. • 6:30pm-7:30pm BNTY Jr. (Y/L)	13 • 6:00pm-7:30pm Cub Scouts (Y/L) • 7:30pm Bingo • 7:30pm-9:00pm Boy Scouts (Y/L)	14 • 3:00pm B'nai Mitzvah Rehearsal (Sanctuary) • 5:30pm Tot Shabbat Service • 8:00pm SHABBAT SHIRAH, MLK JR, SHABBAT	15 • 9:00am Torah Study Group (Admin. Conf. Room) • 10:30am SVCS. 1 B/M • Couples Club MLK Weekend (away) • 8:00pm Ballroom Dance (S/H)
16 • NO SCHOOL - MARTIN LUTHER KING DAY • 1:00pm-3:00pm Memb./Comm. Meeting (Library) • 3:00pm Bingo/Set up • 6:45pm TRIPLE BINGO	17 • OFFICE CLOSED • NO SCHOOL • BLDG. CLOSED • MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. DAY	18 • 10:00am AIAnon • 4:30pm Rel. Sch. • 7:00pm Brother General Meeting/Dinner K • 7:30pm Ritual Committee Meeting (Rm 101-103)	19 • 10:30am Bingo • 4:30pm Rel. Sch. • 6:30pm TU B'SHEVAT SEDER	20 • 6:00pm-7:30pm Cub Scouts (Y/L) • 7:30pm Bingo • 7:30pm-9:00pm Boy Scouts (Y/L)	21 • 3:00pm B'nai Mitzvah Rehearsal (Sanctuary) • 8:00pm Services	22 • 9:00am Torah Study Group (Admin. Conf. Room) • 10:30am SVCS. 1 B/M • 7:00pm Loving Learning-A Southshore Kallah (held at Central Synagogue of Nassau)
23 • 9:00am Rel. Sch. - 4 Family Class Workshop • 9:15am Broth. Breakfast • 10:00am-12:00pm Adult B'nai Mitzvah Class with Rabbi Bellows (Library) • 10:00am Book Club (K/L) • 10:00am-12:00pm Past Pres. Mtg.(Admin.Conference Room) • 1:30pm Adult Education Class with Rabbi Bellows • 3:00pm Cub Scout Jewish Awards Class(1st Fl. Double Classroom)	24 • 1:00pm-3:00pm Meadowbrook Women's Initiative-Book Discussion (K/L) • 4:30pm REL. SCH. • 6:00pm Youth Choir • 7:00pm Hebrew H.S. • 7:30pm Sisterhood General Meeting (K/L) • 7:30pm Adult Choir • 8:30pm BNTY SR.	25 • 10:00am AIAnon • 4:30pm Rel. Sch. • 6:45pm Exec. Board Meeting (Rm 101-103) • 7:45pm Board of Trustees	26 • 10:30am Bingo • 4:30pm Rel. Sch. • 6:30pm-7:30pm BNTY Jr. (Y/L)	27 • 6:00pm-7:30pm Cub Scouts (Y/L) • 7:30pm Bingo • 7:30pm-9:00pm Boy Scouts (Y/L)	28 • 3:00pm B'nai Mitzvah Rehearsal (Sanctuary) • 8:00pm Services	29 • 9:00am Torah Study Group (Admin. Conf. Room) • 10:30am SVCS. 1 B/M
30 • 9:00am Rel. Sch. - 6 Family Class Workshop • 9:15am Broth. Breakfast • 10:00am-12:00pm Adult B'nai Mitzvah Class with Rabbi Bellows (Library) • 3:00pm Cub Scout Jewish Awards Class(1st Fl. Double Classroom) • 7:00pm Brokerage Comedy Night (away)	31 • 1:00pm Chai Board (K/L) • 4:30pm REL. SCH. • 6:00pm Youth Choir • 7:00pm Hebrew H.S. • 7:30pm Adult Choir • 8:30pm BNTY SR.	<div style="background-color: #e0ffe0; padding: 10px;"> <h2 style="margin: 0;">Temple B'nai Torah</h2> <p style="margin: 0;">For most up to date calendar Go to www.temple-bnai-torah.org</p> </div>				

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Jan. 15	Jennifer Breyer	Steven & Shari
Jan. 22	Adam Rashkind	Ronald & Beth
Jan. 29	Kyle Lynam	John & Barbara
Feb. 5	Austin Brill	Arthur & Randi
Feb. 12	Brandon Hornedo	Diego & Sheree
Feb. 26	Evan Spector	Harold & Cheryl
Mar. 5	Amanda Gustafson	Alan & Jennifer
Mar. 12	Rachel Ann Obergh	Beth
Mar. 19	Leena Klein Sara Wittenstein	David & Amy Jeffrey & Hillary
Mar. 26	Rachel Evans Alexa Silver	David & Lisa Russell & Rahni

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OUR COMMUNITY

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Rabbi Marci N. Bellows
Cantor Steven Sher

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Mission Statement

Temple B'nai Torah's mission is to embody, enhance and perpetuate Jewish tradition by providing a welcoming spiritual home where the community gathers to worship God, study Torah, engage in acts of Tikun Olam (repairing the world), participate in Jewish rituals and life cycle events and experience the joy of being part of a caring community.



Dated Material - Please Rush



December was another full month for both the Cub Scout Pack and Boy Scout Troop 189.

The Cub Scouts welcomed winter with 'Olympic-style games'. We had a ski slalom and speed skating course right in the Youth Lounge. Another week, we built wood models while the Webelos were working on the engineering requirement with a nephew of one of the temple congregants. We ended the month with a trip to the world-famous Nunley's Carousel at the Cradle of Aviation Museum. Huge thanks go to Beth Obergh for making that trip possible.

Boy Scout Troop 189 took a trip to Woodbury, CT for snow tubing. The troop camped out overnight and after breakfast, trekked to the mountain to go down as fast as they could. A great time was had by all. Afterwards, they warmed up with some hot chocolate before cooking dinner.

Both the Troop and Pack support our armed services by collecting items to be sent overseas to our troops. We are grateful to Sol Goldstein for spearheading this effort.

Cub Scout Pack and Boy Scout Troop 189 are both sponsored by the Brotherhood of Temple B'nai Torah. We thank President Ben Cernese, our Chartered Organization Representative Dave Schuster, and the entire Brotherhood for their support. It is because of them that we get to do all the wonderful things that we do.

Check out all our pictures and events at www.troop189ny.com.