

**CHAILIGHTS
OCTOBER 2017**

RABBI:

A deep and heartfelt thank you to Deb and Stuart and each one of you who did your part to help ensure our time together during High Holy Days was a rich one. I appreciate Eljay and Priya being my voice when I was without one during large parts of Rosh Hashana services. Clay and Yuri led us in a spirited and unique Shofar service! Nancy Schwartz, despite being ill, with her many helpers made sure we had a beautiful oneg to enjoy one another's company. Mike worked very hard to get our building in the best shape possible to bring in the New Year. It was nice to welcome Stew and Cheryl to TBT and be uplifted by their music. I am especially reminded this time of year that it truly takes a village, and what an honor indeed it is to be part of our TBT village.

This Shabbat we will celebrate Sydney's Bat Mitzvah during Simchat Torah on October 13 and 14, and look forward to having you join us for this Simcha.

After the success of our joint service with Shaar HaShalom following Hurricane Harvey, we will host a joint Shabbat service and pot luck oneg Friday October 27 here at TBT. Please bring an already plated dairy or vegetarian dish ready to serve.

Rabbi Johnny from TORCH will resume classes with us this Sunday October 15th following my Adult Education class from 9 to 10:30. He will share his schedule with us at that time.

Several of you have asked if I would consider organizing another TBT Israel trip and of course my answer is a resounding YES, as long as we have a core of at least 15 or so people. After speaking with several of you who are interested, I heard a preference to travel during a winter break in order to not to walk and tour in hot and humid weather, so we are looking at end of December 2019 if there is enough interest. Please email me at rebdeb18@comcast.net and let me know if this trip is one you would like to consider! I am happy to make it a family friendly one if you would like to bring your children or grandchildren.

As you can see the Jewish New Year is in full swing here at TBT,

Rabbi Deborah

PRESIDENT:

What a month September was! I hope that those of you whose homes suffered damage from the floods of Harvey are well on your way to getting your lives back to "normal".

The High Holy Day services were wonderful, despite Rabbi Deborah losing her voice. One of the great things about TBT is how we all rallied around and made the adjustments necessary to bring you the best services possible. Many thanks go out to Deb Nowinski for all of her hard work as Ritual VP, Eljay and Priyah for all of their readings, Clay Moliver and Yuri Kahn for their shofar-blowing, Stew Zuckerbrod for beautiful singing as cantorial soloist, and Cheryl Kinion, who did a marvelous job as Stew's accompanist. Judith Oppenheim put together a beautiful Book of Remembrance for Yizkor. Also, a big thank you to Mike Howell, for getting the building ready, and to the countless members who helped set up the sanctuary, did readings, aliyot, and prepared for, and contributed to, the break-fast. It truly does take a village, and we have the best village out there!

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Heart to Heart, International has reached out to us, and offered free tetanus vaccines to anyone in our community who might need one. Normally, we should be immunized every ten years, but with all of the "stuff" we were exposed to in the floods, it is recommended that we get a shot if it has been more than five years since your last tetanus injection. H to H will be at TBT on Sunday, October 8th (the first day of Religious School) from 9:00 am-3:00 pm. Please take advantage of this opportunity. I have also invited members of Shaar Hashalom, Clear Lake Unitarian Church, and The Clear Lake Islamic Center, to take advantage of this.

We will be welcoming Rabbi Johnny, from TORCH (Torah Outreach Community Houston) for another informative series of talks, beginning in October. Stay tuned for updates on specific dates and times. Finally, we will be welcoming members of Shaar Hashalom to observe Shabbat with us on October 27.

Our combined service in September, at Shaar Hashalom was a wonderful evening, and we will reciprocate with a beautiful service in "our house" on October 27th. I hope to see you all in the near future!

Note: ERJCC Rice Lecture Series, beginning this Sunday is entitled "The Zionist Evolution: Reinterpreting Prevailing Ideas about Israel." The 3 lectures scheduled on Oct 15, 18 and 22 at the ERJCC are:

President Truman and the Birth of Israel

The Rise of Diaspora: The Negation of the Negation of Exile

Exodus and Beyond: Israeli Culture in American Jewish Life Before 1967

For more information or to register: <http://www.erjcchouston.org/jewish-learning/rice-university-jewish-studies-lecture-series/>

Lori Actor | Israel Engagement Center Director

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RITUAL:

Thanks to everyone who made the High Holy Days so very special at TBT.

We had our challenges, but grateful we had our Temple intact, as many in Houston and surrounding cities did not. While we survived our "Biblical Storm" of officially 64 inches of rain (Source: Houston National Weather Service), we came together as a family.

My first year as Ritual Director/HHD is certainly something I wont forget.

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Thanks to Nancy Harris, Membership and Jill Macgregor for their wonderful support.

And, of course the Rabbi who overlooked my less than tech savvy ways..

Let us look forward to Sukkot, the holiday of harvest, and hopefully bountiful of better days on Friday, October 6th!

(And maybe cooler weather?)

Thanks again - L'shanah Tova.

Best

Deb Nowinski

EDUCATION:

Dear Parents,

This notice contains important dates for this year of Religious School. Based on the age groupings and teacher availability this year, we are opening pre-school to any child who is 4 years old by September 1st 2017. Also, we will be holding Religious School for pre-school about every other week. Due to how religious and school holidays fall this year, we have specifically identified the dates pre-school will attend with asterisks on those dates below.

Religious School Schedule:

October 8*, 15, 22, 29*

November 5*, 12*

December 3*, 10, 17*

January 7*, 14, 21*, 28

February 4*, 11, 18*, 25

March 4*, 25*

April 8*, 15, 22*, 29

May 6*

Please call, text or email me with any questions.

Best,

Cori

corinovy@yahoo.com

Financial Tips

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In light of the recent Equifax break-in, you might want to consider the following to protect oneself financially:

1. Check online on the Equifax.com website to find out if you and/or your spouse are vulnerable as a result of the break-in.
2. If so, put a 90 day fraud alert on your/your spouse's credit report with Equifax, Experian and the Trans Union credit reporting agencies. You can also put a credit freeze on your report with each agency for \$10 each in the state of Texas.
3. Whether or not you are vulnerable, set up **alerts** on each of your online bank and brokerage accounts, as well as on other financial accounts in your name. In addition, some companies let you add a password to your account, so that if anyone calls the bank or company, they need to know your password (different from your online password) in order to carry on any business with the account.