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Chai Lights

The monthly newsletter of Temple Beth Tikvah

12411 Park Shadows Trail
Houston, TX 77058
281-286-1717

December 2017/
Kislev/Tevet 5778

TBT Board of Directors

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Secretary – Scott Vickers
Men's Club – Ed Sheinberg
Sisterhood – Nancy Schwartz

Spiritual Leadership

Rabbi Deborah Schloss
rabbi@templebethtikvah.org
Office hours by appointment

Friday Services

Services are held at 6:30 p.m. on the first Friday of each month. Services begin at 7 p.m. on all other Fridays.

Oneg Sponsorship

The TBT Oneg Fund provides catered onegs for Musical Shabbats and for occasions when there is no sponsor. To sponsor an oneg or donate to the fund, please e-mail [Joe Wallack](mailto:Joe.Wallack@templebethtikvah.org).

President's Message



Wow! This year has just flown by!!! Here we are, in December, which is going to be action-packed.

We had a wonderful Family Shabbat on the December 1 with a d'var Torah from Rachel Fraade, our ISJL fellow, and lots of great food at the oneg. A special "yasher koach" to Michael Harris and Riley Dunegan, who led several songs and prayers! Rachel concluded her second visit with us on the following Sunday, speaking to the adults on "making your home Jewish", and also working with the kids during religious school.

Rabbi Johnny continues his current series highlighting the patriarchs and matriarchs on December 10 from 10:30 a.m. – noon. Please try to attend his sessions. They are really great!

Friday, December 8 will be highlighted by a visit by guest Cantor Francyne Jacobs. This will be a Torah service, with Francyne chanting the portion of the week. Please try to attend this service, as we are looking at Francyne as a candidate to perform the cantorial duties for HHD 2018. I would like to get YOUR feedback!

On December 15 we will hold our annual Specataculous, Miraculous Chanukah Service. This is one of the highlights of our year, featuring a mass menorah lighting (bring yours, with 5 candles), the music of Myrna, Jon, and our kids, and loads of luscious latkes, donuts, sour cream and apple sauce. Do you make great latkes? Bring a batch for everyone to taste.

Thank you to Annie Wallack for redesigning the Chanukah flyer (included later in this newsletter)!

I would like to encourage everyone to consider how you can help TBT. We have many opportunities to volunteer to teach, spruce up the building, or serve on the board. With a small congregation, it is important for everyone to come forward and help in some way. I hope that you will find some time to give to TBT, as so many have done and are currently doing.

As I enter my twelfth month as president of TBT, I want to thank the board, Rabbi Deborah, Eljay, and all of our members for your support and encouragement. It has been an interesting, fun, frustrating (just a bit), and growing experience for me. I am looking forward to seeing what year-two has in store. And on behalf of the TBT board, let me wish you all a "Chappy Chanukah" and a very good New Year.

Stuart Eisen

Men's Club

Please remember that we always welcome new members!

Send **Jed Login** or **Ed Sheinberg** an e-mail if you have ideas for an activity, suggestions, questions or concerns.

The men's club encourages suggestions for speakers to present at some of our 2017 meetings.

If you'd like to volunteer to pick up bagels or contribute any other way, drop Jed a line at TBTMen@jlogin.e4ward.com.

Donations

TBT thanks the following members for their generous donations.



Steve and Lisa Levy – In honor of the birth of **Rachel Moliver**, daughter of **Hunter & Anne Moliver**

Oneg fund - **Allen and Mariana Buchner**

High Holy Days

Anonymous
Buchner, Allen & Mariana
Cahn, Gerald & Jean
Camille, Seymour & Sylvia
Eisen, Stuart & Leah
Gonzalez, David & Jodie
Grabois, Michael
Hamer, Paul
Howell, Michael & Cinnamon
Leboe, Harvey & Arlene
Levy, Steven & Lisa
Liebman, J & L
Oppenheim, Judith
Oshman, Rick
Paul, Christine
South, Charles
Sullivan, Rick & Susan
Zelon, Jon & Barbara

Donations can be mailed to

Temple Beth Tikvah
12411 Park Shadows Trail
Houston, TX 77058.

If you would like to donate to a specific fund, please indicate it on the memo line of your check.

Book Club

When: January 21, 12:15 pm

Where: TBT Library

Who: **Jeanne Sheinberg**

What: Review of the book *Burial Rites* by Hannah Kent

Book Club will have an entry at the Chicken Soup Cook-Off (January 28). If this would be fun for you and you would like to help cook, please contact **Mardy Schweitzer** (mardy@horizonautoshipping.com).

Have a safe and joyful Festival of Lights,
Judith Oppenheim

Sisterhood News

Sisterhood held its annual meeting on October 29, a month or so late due to Hurricane Harvey, the High Holy Days, and other happenings. We picked up right where we left off...eating, laughing, enjoying each other's company, and planning for the months ahead.

With about 14 sistas in attendance, it was decided that the officers and successful rotating of hosts for monthly events will remain the same. Thanks to **Corinne Blancas** and **Mardy Schweitzer** for continuing to serve as Secretary and Treasurer. I am also happy to continue serving as your President. Please share your ideas for future events with any of us.

After taking care of business, we got down to the realllly fun stuff, rock painting! We rounded up rocks, brought them along with our ideas (and cell phones to google ideas), dipped into the paint and voila! Our creativity was overflowing with all of us together. Messages on rocks, floral and abstract designs, a snoopy face, and even a very colorful unicorn!

Upcoming Events

*Spread the word...the first 2 Friday nights and Sunday mornings in December - **the Sisterhood gift shop will be open.**

Purchase your Hannukah Candles, wrapping paper, gift bags and Holiday gifts!

- [December 30 – Zoo Lights at the Houston Zoo](#), 7 p.m. – bring your families!
 - [January 28 - Annual "Chicken" Soup Cook-Off](#)
- [February 9 - The women of TBT will honor the Sabbath](#). Sisterhood will host the oneg and light the shabbat candles.
 - [March 29 – \(Thursday\) Harriet hosts charoset prep for Passover](#)
- [April - \(date TBD\) Brunch at Sundance Grill II](#) in Waterford Harbour, 12:30 p.m.

Please share your ideas for events during any of the open months for hosting, May through August.

If you know of someone who's sick or needs our support, please let me know. If you need Sisterhood, call on us. We're here for you!

Shalom,
Nancy Schwartz
832-725-8062



Happy birthday

to the following Sisterhood members!

September3 - **Cinnamon Howell**
October 3 - **Mardy Schweitzer**
November 10 - **Corinne Blancas**
November 17 - **Maury Klann**
December 1 - **Erin Moeller**
December 2 - **Anna Oliver**
December 17- **Jessica Self**
December 18- **Nancy Harris**
December 31- **Marsha Henderson**

Religious School News

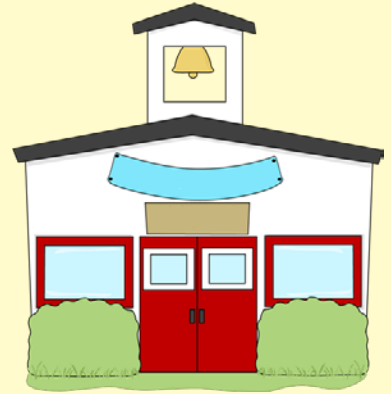
Dear Religious School Families,

December is full of events! We have class on December 10 and 17, with December 17 including our youngest kiddos. Also, please mark your calendars for Friday, December 15, which is our Chanukah service at 7:00 pm.

Last weekend, Rachel Fraade, our fellow from the Institute of Southern Jewish Living, participated in our service on Friday night, at Religious School on Sunday. She also gave a workshop on "Judaism at Home."

As always, please feel free to call, email or text me. I'm looking forward to seeing everyone this weekend.

Cori Wilson
corinovy@yahoo.com



Ritual News

Happy December!

You can't tell by the weather but when the candles of the menorah are lit, the dreidels are spinning, and the latkes are grilling - you know its CHANUKAH!

And the celebration of our superheroes - The Maccabees! Who doesn't love this story?

Here are the TBT services for this month! Come celebrate with us!

- December 8 – Torah service at 7 p.m. Come meet Cantor Francyne. She could be our cantor for the HHD 2018!
- December 15- CHANUKAH service. Music and merriment with Jon and Myrna. Please bring your menorah to light up the Temple!
- December 22 – Shabbat service at 7 p.m. with Rabbi Deborah
- December 29 – Shabbat service at 7 p.m. with Rabbi Deborah. Come end 2017 with our TBT family!

I hope to see you this month as we celebrate this wonderful time of year!

B'shalom
Deborah Nowinski
Ritual/VP



SPECTACULOUS MIRACULOUS DEC 15TH AT 7:00PM

Temple Beth Tikvah Invites you to...

Celebrate Chanukah 5778! BYO Menorah Candle Lighting!

Temple Beth Tikvah...

Small enough to know you. Large enough to serve you.



**MASS MENORAH
LIGHTING**

LIVE MUSIC

LATKE FRY CONTEST

CATERED ONEG

**WE WELCOME
INTERFAITH
FAMILIES!**

TEMPLE BETH TIKVAH

12411 Park Shadows Trail,
Houston TX 77058
(Between Middlebrook &
Bay Area Blvd).

www.tbthouston.com

281.286.1717



Jewish CultureFest

Music, art, food, and fun!

Sunday, December 17
2:00 PM-6:00 PM

Evelyn's Park | 4400 Bellaire Blvd.
Bellaire, TX 77401



ShirLaLa



The Koshers Klezmer Band



Avram Pengas

STAGE SCHEDULE

- 2:00 | Beth Yeshurun Day School Choir
- 2:15 | ShirLaLa Children's Concert
- 3:15 | The Koshers Klezmer Band
- 4:15 | Camp Young Judea Rikkud (Israeli Dancing)
- 4:45 | The Avram Pengas Duo
- 5:45 | Community Hanukkah Candle Lighting with the Shabbatones

SPECIAL FAMILY EVENTS

- 3:15 | Mishpacha & Me/PJ Library Hanukkah Fun
- 5:00 | IAC Keshet Hebrew Story Hour | שעת סיפור

FREE and Open to the Public

Join us for an afternoon celebrating Jewish culture. Featuring live music, local crafts and Judaica, specialty foods, art and mitzvah projects, and an amazing Summer Camp Fun Tent!

For more information, visit erjcchouston.org/culturefest or contact Rabbi Samantha Safran at 713.595.8163.

EVELYN RUBENSTEIN JCC HOUSTON
5601 S. Braeswood | Houston, TX 77096
713.729.3200 | erjcchouston.org

This event is partially underwritten by funding from the Houston Jewish Community Foundation.

