In Biblical times, when our ancestors heard God calling to them, they would often respond “Hineini” – “I am here!” Sometimes, God had to call more than once – to Abraham, when he bound his son to the altar and needed divine intervention so that Isaac's life could be spared, and even to Moses, who saw the burning bush, but hesitated before answering the Heavenly Voice.

It's not always easy to know which path to take in life, or how best to fulfill our destiny and be part of Tikkun Olam – the repair of our world that needs so much healing.

On Sunday morning, November 2, we will join together and say “Hineini” – “We are here!” as Temple Beth Hillel again takes part in Mitzvah Day. With synagogues all around Los Angeles, and encouraged by the Jewish Federation, we will have a morning of mitzvot, literally “commandments,” that help make our world a little more whole, and a little more holy.

By giving blood, packing bags for the North Hollywood Interfaith Food Pantry, sending letters to American young men and women serving in the Israel Defense Forces, donating much needed items ahead of time and on the day and so much more, the Temple Beth Hillel family will let our community, our people and our world know without a doubt that “WE ARE HERE!”

All events take place on the Temple Beth Hillel campus. Religious School students will start the day at 9:00 am in their classrooms. Everyone else will begin Mitzvah Day at 9:45 am in the Bauman Sanctuary.

For more information, please email me at cantorshana@tbhla.org
Sacred relationships occur when individuals come together face to face and take time to engage in conversation and common activities. From these moments friendships develop, and no matter how many friends we may have, there is always room for another. A person to count on in difficult times, to share your emotions with, to laugh alongside of, or to feel an attachment with.

We have a formal Havurah program here at Temple Beth Hillel. A Havurah consists of a small group of couples, individuals, or families who meet socially and share common interests. Havurah (Havurot is the plural) meet once or twice a month on a regular basis. The activities are different for each group depending on what they have in common. For example, one group may be into sharing Jewish holidays, another interested in hiking, and another interested in bistro pubs, and another into museums geared towards families.

For some, Temple Beth Hillel feels awfully big, and being a part of a Havurah extends the familiar and establishes a community. Strangers become friends as you gather in each other’s homes, celebrate Shabbat, adventure along a hike or lounge at the beach.

We know from experience that being a part of a Havurah can help you feel even more at home while at TBH. Some Havurot become like extended families, and others remain happily along the lines of a casual social group of friends. Each develops differently over time, and become meaningful in it’s own way.

Who could be in a Havurah with me? Answer: anyone who shares common interests. For example, fellow empty nesters, gardeners, individuals with kids in the same grades as your children, folks who appreciate wine or music or musical theater, families who appreciate spending time outdoors. We form Havurot with two different methods. Either you talk with some of your friends and help identify four to six other families you would like to spend more time with inside and outside of Temple, OR you share with us your interests, family make-up, and ages and we help make the matches of individuals.

A common question: “What about children?” Some Havurot are based around children, others may be adults only, and yet many have both and fluctuate between every other gathering to be with and without children.

Being in a Havurah adds both meaning to your Temple membership, deepens one’s sense of belonging, and increases the joy in life through the building of sacred relationships, sacred friendships. We build upon our Jewish community by rejoicing in the bonds created by touching soul to soul.

I would love to help you become a member of a Havurah. Please go to tbhla.org and fill in the Havurah questionnaire which is located under the “Community” tab. Once I collect similar forms from others, I will gather the group and begin the process of starting a new Havurah with a first meeting.

Don’t miss this opportunity. The more individuals interested, the more diverse groups and numerous Havurot will form, bringing you panim el panim and haver l’haver!

If I am not for myself, who will be for me? If am only for myself, what am I? And if not now, when? – Rabbi Hillel
**Shabbat & Holiday Observances**

**November**

**Shabbat, Nov. 7-8**
Torah Portion: Vayera
Genesis 18:1-22:24

Friday 6:00 pm - Community Shabbat Dinner. Join us in the Sands-Mallet Social Hall. Call the Temple office or make online reservations at BethHillel.info.

7:30 pm - Erev Shabbat Service. Led by Rabbi Sarah Hronsky, Cantor Shana Leon and the Adult Choir in the Bauman Sanctuary. Oneg to follow.

Saturday 5:00 pm - Bat Mitzvah of Beata Hitterer

**Shabbat, Nov. 14-15**
Torah Portion: Hayei Sarah
Genesis 23:1-25:18

Friday 7:30 pm - Family Shabbat Service. As part of the Jewish Federation’s 1000 Shabbats, we invite all supporters of the Federation to attend services and receive a special blessing. Led by Rabbi Sarah Hronsky, Song Leader Justin Stein and the Cantor’s Chanters in the Bauman Sanctuary. November birthday blessings included. Oneg to follow.

Saturday 9:30 am - Drumming Shabbat Experience for young families. Led by Rabbi Sarah Hronsky and a songleader in the Feldman-Horn Mercaz. Oneg to follow.

4:00 pm - Moses Program. Songs, prayers, and learning for Jews with developmental disabilities with Rabbi Jim Kaufman in the Kaufman Beit Midrash. RSVP to Tobi Schneider at tobianne63@gmail.com.

**Shabbat, Nov. 21-22**
Torah Portion: Toldot
Genesis 25:19-28:9

Friday 5:45 pm - Shabbat Nosh. Join us for a meet and greet with light refreshments on the Upper Patio.

6:05 pm - Musical Kabbalat Shabbat. Service led by Rabbi Sarah Hronsky and Song Leader Justin Stein in the Bauman Sanctuary.

Saturday 9:00 am - Shabbat Morning Minyan. Service led by Rabbi Sarah Hronsky and Song Leader Justin Stein in the Kaufman Beit Midrash. Oneg to follow.

**Shabbat, Nov. 28-29**
Torah Portion: Vayeshev
Genesis 28:10-32:3

Friday 6:30 pm - Tot Shabbat. Rabbi Sarah Hronsky and Song Leader Julie Lockman lead a brief service with story and song in the Bauman Sanctuary. Followed by an Oneg and Israeli dancing.

7:30 pm - Shabbat Service. Led by Rabbi Sarah Hronsky and Cantor Shana Leon in the Bauman Sanctuary. November birthday blessings included. Oneg to follow.

**December**

**Shabbat, Dec. 5-6**
Torah Portion: Vayishlah
Genesis 32:4-36:43

Friday 7:30 pm - Erev Shabbat Service. Led by Rabbi Sarah Hronsky, Cantor Shana Leon and the Adult Choir in the Bauman Sanctuary. Special guest speaker Doron Harel, TBH’s Israel tour guide, addressing Zionism vs. Arab Nationality. Oneg to follow.

Saturday 10:00 am - Bat Mitzvah of Sofia Chojniak

**Shabbat, Dec. 12-13**
Torah Portion: Vayeshev
Genesis 37:1-40:23

Friday 7:30 pm - Family Shabbat Service. Led by Rabbi Sarah Hronsky, Song Leader Justin Stein, the Cantor’s Chanters, and Religious School second and third graders in the Bauman Sanctuary. December birthday blessings included. Oneg to follow.

Saturday 10:00 am - Bar Mitzvah of William Goldman

**Shabbat, Dec. 19-20**
Torah Portion: Miketz
Genesis 41:1-44:17

Friday 6:00 pm - Chanukah Celebration and Shabbat Service. Bring your own chanukiah and we’ll light our candles, sing, and welcome Shabbat together! Led by Rabbi Sarah Hronsky, Rabbi Eleanor Steinman, Cantor Shana Leon, Song Leader Justin Stein, and the Cantor’s Chanters in the Sands-Mallet Social Hall.

7:00 pm - Chanukah Shabbat Dinner and activities.

Saturday 9:00 am - Shabbat Morning Minyan. Service led by Rabbi Sarah Hronsky and Song Leader Justin Stein in the Kaufman Beit Midrash. Oneg to follow.

**Shabbat, Dec. 26-27**
Torah Portion: Vayigash
Genesis 44:18-47:27

Friday 6:30 pm - Tot Shabbat. Rabbi Eleanor Steinman leads a brief service with story and song in the Bauman Sanctuary. Followed by an Oneg.

7:30 pm - Shabbat Service. Led by Rabbi Sarah Hronsky and Cantor Shana Leon in the Bauman Sanctuary. Oneg to follow.

---

Mazel Tov to the families celebrating B’nei Mitzvahs at Temple Beth Hillel in November and December.

Proud to be a TBHer
by Barbara Motz, President

As I sat down to write the President’s Column for this issue of the Omer, I realized that I had not introduced myself to our community. Even though many of you may know me, I thought that I might tell a little bit about myself and why I chose to run for president of Temple Beth Hillel.

First, about me... I grew up on the Westside of Los Angeles. My family belonged to Temple Isaiah where I was confirmed and where my husband, David, and I were married. After a brief sojourn in Orange County, including membership at Temple Beth Shalom of Santa Ana, we moved to the San Fernando Valley and promptly joined Temple Beth Hillel. We’ve been members here since 1981.

David had his adult Bar Mitzvah here, and our children had their b’ni mitzvahs and were confirmed here. We’ve been members here since 1981. David had his adult Bar Mitzvah here, and our children had their b’ni mitzvahs and were confirmed here. We’ve been members here since 1981.

Professionally, I worked as an attorney and spent 33 years with the California Attorney General’s Office. When I retired in 2009, I realized that I wanted to become more involved in TBH, which has been there for us for almost thirty years.

I joined the Board of Trustees and served as chairperson of the Personnel Committee. In subsequent years, I was the recording secretary and then, first vice president. In May, I was elected president.

When asked to take on the responsibility of being the President of TBH, I thought seriously about it. I realized that (as I said at Kol Nidre) I am proud of Temple Beth Hillel. It is a welcoming place that values diversity, education, community, tzedakah, and social action.

I am proud of our clergy who provide for our spiritual life, through High Holy Days, festivals and Shabbat services, as well as life cycle events. I am proud of the programs and activities that we put on. I am proud of our counseling center that helps people in need. I am proud of our Food Pantry and our Thanksgiving Dinner that provide sustenance for those in our community who are hungry. And, I am proud of our schools that teach our children and help them to grow up into knowledgeable Jews. This is an organization to which I want to devote my energies, because it is an organization that serves our congregants and our community.

As much as I am proud of TBH and all it does, I am not a “Pollyanna.” I know there are areas in which we can improve.

The Board and I are working hard on many of these matters, as well as upcoming events. If you would like to get involved or if you have any ideas that will help our temple, please get in touch with me at president@tbhla.org. I would appreciate very much hearing from you.

High Holy Days Thank you

The Temple Beth Hillel family would like to thank:

All our service leaders: Rabbi Sarah Hronsky, Rabbi Ellie Steinman, Cantor Shana Leon, Rabbi Emeritus Jim Kaufman, Cantor Emeritus Alan Weiner, Chaplain Barbara Singer, Song Leaders Andy Henry and Julie Lockman.

Our 12-step service leaders, whose anonymity we respect.

Howard Blumenfeld for leading guided meditation.

Our senior youth group HRTY for leading youth services.

Elissa Goldman, Eric Goldman, and Ally Abraham who led our George Friedman Shofar Corps class.

All of our shofar sounders for joining us week after week to practice and then truly being the highlight for so many during our RH services.

All of our Torah readers.

Our Choir for being truly inspiring.

Our ushers who kept our services running smoothly. At the helm this year were Freddie Goldberg and David Reff.

Our lay leaders who joined us on the bimah.

The Temple staff with hours of special preparation, and to our maintenance staff, led by Carlos Mendoza, for going above and beyond.

The Women of TBH for their special oneg at shachot.

Our Board of Trustees for sponsoring the oneg on Rosh Hashanah.

The Brotherhood for their break fast.

Yuri Hronsky for our We Are Here videos

Bruce Thomas for helping with security, and our security company as it is important for all to feel safe.

Claudine Douglas, our ECE director, and Rabbi Ellie, our Director of Religious Education, for arranging our childbirth.

To all those who participated in our High Holy Day Annual campaign, assisting us in keeping our doors open to our members and the wider East San Fernando Valley community,

Statement of Ownership, Management and Circulation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of Publication</th>
<th>Frequency of Issue</th>
<th>Total No. of Copies Distributed</th>
<th>No. of Copies Distributed in the United States</th>
<th>No. of Copies Distributed Out of the United States</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Temple Beth Hillel</td>
<td>Monthly</td>
<td>1,000</td>
<td>900</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The Temple Beth Hillel family would like to thank:

All our service leaders: Rabbi Sarah Hronsky, Rabbi Ellie Steinman, Cantor Shana Leon, Rabbi Emeritus Jim Kaufman, Cantor Emeritus Alan Weiner, Chaplain Barbara Singer, Song Leaders Andy Henry and Julie Lockman.

Our 12-step service leaders, whose anonymity we respect.

Howard Blumenfeld for leading guided meditation.

Our senior youth group HRTY for leading youth services.

Elissa Goldman, Eric Goldman, and Ally Abraham who led our George Friedman Shofar Corps class.

All of our shofar sounders for joining us week after week to practice and then truly being the highlight for so many during our RH services.

All of our Torah readers.

Our Choir for being truly inspiring.

Our ushers who kept our services running smoothly. At the helm this year were Freddie Goldberg and David Reff.

Our lay leaders who joined us on the bimah.

The Temple staff with hours of special preparation, and to our maintenance staff, led by Carlos Mendoza, for going above and beyond.

The Women of TBH for their special oneg at shachot.

Our Board of Trustees for sponsoring the oneg on Rosh Hashanah.

The Brotherhood for their break fast.

Yuri Hronsky for our We Are Here videos

Bruce Thomas for helping with security, and our security company as it is important for all to feel safe.

Claudine Douglas, our ECE director, and Rabbi Ellie, our Director of Religious Education, for arranging our childbirth.

To all those who participated in our High Holy Day Annual campaign, assisting us in keeping our doors open to our members and the wider East San Fernando Valley community.
Holiday Sales and Service
by Jodie Reff and Lillian Burkenheim Silver
Women of TBH Co-Presidents

This is a wonderful busy time of year. The Women of TBH are busy planning our annual Holiday Boutique (see the ad on the back cover.) We look forward to you joining us on November 23rd from 9-3 and getting all your holiday shopping done. Invite your non-Jewish friends, too, to shop for their celebrations!

Besides the amazing vendors, we also have the special 4 Kids Only Shop, where each child can buy something for their parents or siblings.

Breakfast and lunch (including delicious homemade Latkes) will be served. And, of course, there will be a very special bake sale.

This year, we will add something new to our boutique and put out some bins for a holiday toy drive. We will be collecting Toys for Teens living at a L.A. Family Housing facility. L.A. Family Housing helps families’ transition out of homelessness and poverty through providing housing, tutoring, job training, counseling and job placement services. See the ad on page 14.

In the past, we have adopted families through this organization and have granted many of their holiday wishes. The parents and kids received things they really wanted and needed and we were filled with much joy. We will also be continuing that wonderful program. So please come to the boutique, shop, and donate Toys for Teens. If you want to participate in the Adopt a Family, let us know and we will share the “wish list.”

Happy Chanukah. May you enjoy this miraculous season with family and friends.

For more information on any Women of TBH programs, please email Jodie (reffhouse@sbcglobal.net) or Lillian (lburkenheim@gmail.com). We encourage and welcome your participation.

Building a Better New Year
by Chris Dwyer and David Schneider
Co-Presidents, TBH Brotherhood

Temple Beth Hillel Brotherhood hopes that everyone is enjoying a sweet new year. We would like to thank all of those who assisted during the High Holy Days with ushering and with the Break Fast following Yom Kippur services. A special thank you to those who helped put up the sukkah on the lawn (see the picture at right).

As you know, November 2 is Mitzvah Day. We like to think of this time of year as "Mitzvah Month." In this regard, please note that we are preparing for our 14th annual Thanksgiving Day feast where we provide a festive meal for those in our community who are less fortunate.

You will be receiving information in the mail and in the Temple E-news about the event and how you can help.

One of the exciting new features of the Thanksgiving Day feast is the design of a new T-shirt for our volunteers. We asked the Religious and Day School kids to participate in a design contest and are happy to announce that the winner is Hannah Carbunaru, who is a Religious School third grader. You can see her design on page 14. Congratulations, Hannah. You will be receiving a $100 gift card for iTunes.

Brotherhood members meet the first Thursday of each month at 7 pm in Room 21/22. If you are interested in becoming more involved in our activities, please contact us at brotherhood@tbhla.org.

Feed the Hungry on Thanksgiving

Community volunteers cook, set-up, and serve over 500 meals on Thanksgiving Day. But the food isn’t free, and financial donations are necessary. Won’t you help fund the feast?

Yes! I want to feed the hungry! Here is a Thanksgiving gift of:

☐ $10 to feed 5 people
☐ $20 to feed 10 people
☐ $40 to feed 20 people
☐ $______, a donation that is meaningful to me, to feed as many people as possible.

Please return this form to Temple Beth Hillel Brotherhood, 12326 Riverside Drive, Valley Village, CA 91607

Donate online at tbhla.org/donate.

Volunteer via email at brotherhood@tbhla.org
TBH is a Social Media Site
by Bill Weber
Communications Team Leader

In the old days, everyone went to shul on Saturday morning. Literally.
If there was news to hear (births, deaths, b’nai mitzvahs), an event to promote, or a cause to collect for, it was easy to get the word out. Everyone was present for the congregational announcements and the Oneg.

Every week, the entire congregation came together to catch up, schmooze, nosh and, of course, pray. Just as important was the Temple secretary who would call anyone who didn’t show up to ask “nu?” and see if some chicken soup was in order.

It’s not like that today. People connect through many circles – work, school, politics, neighborhood, extra-curricular activities. They connect through Facebook, LinkedIn, Meetup, Pinterest and other web services. And when they venture out into the real world, they pick and choose between small groups and community-wide events.

Synagogues have always been communities where members support and contribute to each other, and now we exchange our information communally, too.

This can be a good thing. Social media offers us many wonderful tools to minister to each other and to spread the word about Temple services, events, social action and educational opportunities. I say, let’s use them and spread the TBH love!

So keep a few of our new membership brochures (it says, “People - Prayer - Possibility” on the cover) on hand to give to people you meet. Comment on and forward our Facebook posts. Leave a print copy of the Hillel Omer at your dentist’s office and post the electronic version online. Take a few postcards for the Chanukah Holiday Boutique and leave them around town. Invite neighbors (Jews and non-Jews alike) to shop there.

And while you are ministering to all these new friends, don’t forget to ask “nu?” and offer them some chicken soup.

Silver Spoons Catering
When you and your guests want to be treated like royalty!

Over 20 years serving the San Fernando Valley
Bat/Bar Mitzvah Celebrations ~ Weddings ~ Corporate Events
Baby Namings ~ Luncheons ~ Showers
Please Call Scott Tessler at 818-996-2911
when planning your next simcha

SilverSpoonsCateringInc.com
Discover spectacular retirement living right in your own backyard.

Enjoy the comfort and peace of mind of Independent and Assisted Living right in your own backyard. Available on an affordable monthly fee basis, at The Village at Sherman Oaks we provide blended independence and personalized care with exceptional service to meet your needs today and tomorrow.

The Village
At Sherman Oaks

INDEPENDENT LIVING AND ASSISTED LIVING RESIDENCES
5450 Vesper Avenue
Sherman Oaks, CA 91411
(818) 245-5832

Ask how you can benefit from a CARF accredited retirement community!

Commission for the Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities
Mitzvah Day

Sunday, Nov. 2

Religious School Students meet at 9 am in their classrooms. (Coffee Cart at 9 am for adults.) Everyone else meets in the Sanctuary for the opening ceremony at 9:45 am.

**Things to Do**

- **Donate blood** - sign up atreffhouse@sbcglobal.net. (Providence St. Joseph’s Blood Donor Center)
- **Decorate** tent fabric for shelters for families in Africa (Jewish World Watch)
- **Craft** hair decorations for teens living in local shelters (Children of the Night)
- **Make cards and gifts** for American Jewish soldiers serving in the Israeli army (Lone Soldier Foundation)
- **Braid, decorate, bake**, and take home Kiddush challah (pre-sign up $3)
- **Till the soil** (adults) and **plant seedlings** (families) (Temple Beth Hillel Mitzvah Garden)
- **Pack bags** with non-perishable foods (North Hollywood Interfaith Food Pantry)
- **Knit and crochet** clothing and blankets for premature babies across the U.S. (Stitches from the Heart)
- **Make blankets** for animals in local pet shelters (Lucky Puppy Rescue)
- **Create** table centerpieces for local families that attend our Thanksgiving Feed the Hungry Feast (TBH Brotherhood)

**Items to Donate**

- Full-size bottles of shampoo, conditioner, hairbrushes and hair accessories (Children of the Night)
- Adult athletic socks, toothpaste, travel-size moist towelettes (Lone Soldier Foundation)
- Tuna, beans, peanut butter, other non-perishable foods, paper bags (Food Pantry)
- Halloween candy (TBH Brotherhood)
- Musical instruments - no guitars or keyboards (Mr. Holland’s Opus Foundation)
- Eyeglasses
- Baked goods and coffee
- Pizza and soft drinks (available at 11:30 am)
- Games on the Yard
- The Well

Volunteers Wanted! Contact CantorShana@tbhla.org

---

**Calendar**

RSVP AND BUY TICKETS ONLINE for courses, dinners, and special events at BethHillel.info.

All events are held at our Valley Village campus unless otherwise noted.

**Every Sunday** - Food Pantry Volunteer Service. Come anytime between 8:30 and 10 am to pick, pack, and prepare grocery bags for distribution. Newcomers are asked to call Leslye at 818-929-2606 in advance.

**Every Tuesday** - Torah Tuesday. Study Torah with our clergy in a relaxed and friendly environment. No prior Torah study or Hebrew knowledge is required, only a desire to learn. 12:30 pm.

**Every Tuesday** - Boy Scouts. 7:00 pm.

Nov. 2 - Mitzvah Day. See the article on page 1 and the ad at left.

Nov. 4 - Tues. - Does the Middle East Need Another Failed State? with Lt. Col. (Res.) Avital Leibovich, former spokesperson for the IDF and current director of the American Jewish Committee in Jerusalem. A joint program of TBH and Adat Ari-El. Free. No RSVP necessary. Held in the Deiber Chapel at Adat Ari-El, 12020 Burbank Blvd, Valley Village. 7:30 pm.

Nov. 5 - Wed. - Bringing Bubbe Home - Social action event co-sponsored by the Women of TBH, TBH Caring Across Generations Committee, Bend the Arc - A Jewish Partnership for Justice, and Temple Judea. Based on Bringing Bubbe Home, an important new book, we’ll discuss how to provide emotional and physical support with grace and dignity for both elderly and caregiver.

Program at Temple Judea, 5429 Lindley Ave., Tarzana (818-758-3800). 7:30 to 9:00 pm. RSVP to Julia Wackenheim at julieville@gmail.com or Rabbi Jim at rabbikaufman@tbhla.org

Nov. 7 - Fri. - Community Shabbat Dinner. Share a catered meal with your TBH mishpocha, then walk to evening services in our Bauman Sanctuary. RSVP and tickets at BethHillel.info.
FOR ADULT SOFTBALL

Play with the Temple Beth Hillel Bears in the L.A. Synagogue Softball League!

Anyone 18 or older in 2015 who is interested in playing and having fun is welcome. The new season starts in January, and we play games most Sundays in the Valley through June.

For more information, contact Richard Bromberg at richbrom@aol.com or 818-606-0500.

WE WANT YOU FOR ADULT SOFTBALL

Temple Beth Hillel

Family Chanukah Celebration

Shabbat Service and Dinner

Friday, December 19
6:00 pm - Shabbat Service and Celebration
7:00 pm - Dinner
Sands Mallet Social Hall and Bauman Sanctuary

Singing, arts & crafts and dreidel playing

Bring your own Chanukiah as we light of our candles together

$15 adults, $7.50 children 3-9
Tickets available through BethHillel.info

Continued on page 10
The New Year, 5775, took off flying for the Food Pantry. You were all so generous with the High Holy Day Food Drive – bags were overflowing with peanut butter, tuna, toiletries and more.

The donations have continued non-stop. All of the Temple schools are involved in assisting the pantry this year with great mitzvah projects. The Food for Thought program has taken off like I never would have imagined. Every time I walk past the pantry box in the lobby it is overflowing. I thank you all.

The Brotherhood is putting together another amazing Thanksgiving meal for anyone in the area who needs a place to go. I expect that many of the guests will be regulars at the Pantry. Kudos in advance to all who will spend days preparing the sumptuous meal and to those of you who will make the decorations, set the tables, serve and clean up.

I’ve volunteered since I was a hospital candy striper in New York in the 60s and am excited that so many TBH members, the young and the more mature, are volunteering.

Hineini, I am here; Hineini, we are here. This is what the Food Pantry has been for me and it is a pleasure to have the temple family continue to provide for those in need.

In the New Year, 2015, I look forward to meeting new volunteers and embracing everyone who supports the effort in our 32nd year.

Shanah Tovah!

Continued from page 9

Nov. 27 - Thurs. - Feed the Hungry Thanksgiving Feast. The TBH Brotherhood takes the lead in this annual event that feeds over 500 families a full Thanksgiving meal. Service is from 11 am to 1 pm, but we arrive at 6 am to set-up, cook, and arrange gift bags for our guests. Contact brotherhood@tbhla.org for more information.


Dec. 10 - Wed. - The Golem and the Jinni by Helene Wecker is the topic of tonight’s discussion by the TBH Book Club. Dessert served. 7 pm. Free.

Dec. 10 - Wed. - Coffee & Schmooze with Rabbi Sarah. Join our Senior Rabbi in her office for casual conversation about parenting and other pertinent topics. 8:30-10 am. 8:30-10 am.

Dec. 17 - Wed. - 12-Step Chanukah Service. In the Feldman-Horn Mercaz. 7 pm.

Dec. 17 - Wed. - iEngage Hartman Video Seminars. Watch experts (on video from Jerusalem’s renowned Shalom Hartman Institute) discuss issues of concern to world Jewry, then engage in a discussion with Rabbi Eleanor Steinman and fellow congregants. $75 members, $150 non-members for the series. Details at BethHillel.info.

Dec. 19 - Fri. - Chanukah Family Celebration, Shabbat Service and Dinner. See the ad on page 9.

Life at BethHillel

It’s street fair season! Our membership committee (which, by the way, includes every one of us) has been greeting neighbors, handing out brochures, and inviting everyone to discover the warm, welcoming community that we are.

WE FED SOULS at the Studio City Farmers Market. Thanks to the men and women who shlepped the booth and schmoozed with farmers and shoppers that day.

OUR BOOTH at the Sherman Oaks Street Fair drew a lot of attention and a lot of new friends. Thanks to all the volunteers (pictured are afternoon-shift workers Jodie Reff, David Reff, and Barbara Motz) for their good work.
How ISPs (Individual Success Plans) Work
by Seth Pozzi, Elementary Principal

Beth Hillel Elementary School is a truly magical place, and one of just 13 Jewish Day Schools in North America that is affiliated with a Reform congregation. As a Reform Jewish school, we provide a unique emphasis on the whole child: academic skills, individual talents and Jewish identity.

What makes us magical is the constant attention to this trifecta of personal development in every child in our community. As one parent said at their child’s Individual Success Plan (ISP) meeting, “Beth Hillel is a boutique experience.” We provide this boutique experience while also delivering an academic program that is unparalleled.

The ISP is something that truly makes our school unique. It all begins with individual conferences with each family before the school year begins. These meetings are attended by all the teachers who will work with a child in the year ahead. It’s a time for us to listen to your hopes and dreams for your child and learn about their strengths, talents and interests, both in and out of school.

Then, over the next month, we gather assessment data and observations to aid us in developing individualized goals for each student.

Our staff are experts on social-emotional and cognitive development in children, and together they spend many hours collaboratively crafting these goals. Together, we consult assessment data, brain research, and behavioral and social-emotional research to identify specific academic, social-emotional and/or work habits related goals for each child.

The next step in the ISP process comes at the October parent-teacher conference. This is a time when teachers and parents work together – in the upper grades, parents, teachers and students – to devise measurable benchmarks for progress throughout the remainder of the school year. We explicitly map out what our staff will be doing to support the student with their goal(s), what parents can do at home, and what responsibilities the student will have.

This concise attention to detail and to the individual needs of each learner contribute to the Beth Hillel boutique experience.

Traditions Build Strong Children and Families
by Claudine Douglas, Director of Early Childhood Education

This time of year is particularly special to me. I find myself thinking about, planning and getting excited for all that comes with the holiday time: food, family, friends, the smell of turkey and pie baking in the oven, bringing out our Chanukiyot and dreidels, and the sound of latkes crisp ing in the pan.

In preparing for Thanksgiving and Chanukah, it is a perfect time to reflect on why teaching about tradition is so important.

Tradition plays a vital role in shaping a child’s personal identity. Family traditions and rituals impart and reinforce values. Through lighting the candles and telling the story, the importance of faith is reinforced; through reading books, singing songs and creating art projects around the holidays, the value of education and lifelong learning is ingrained.

In the classroom, we emphasize the importance of family traditions. Researchers have consistently found that families who engage in frequent traditions report a stronger connection and unity than families that haven’t established rituals together. Traditions provide an opportunity for face-to-face interaction, help community members get to know and trust each other, and create a bond that comes from feeling that we are a part of something unique and special.

Psychologist Marshal Duke has found that children who have an intimate knowledge of their family’s history are typically more well-adjusted and self-confident than children who don’t. There is something about understanding your past and knowing you belong to something bigger than yourself that instills confidence.

It has long been a tradition in the ECE to prepare a bountiful feast that is prepared by our children to be shared together with our ECE families.

To make learning fun, meaningful and tangible, we construct the curriculum around Thanksgiving and Chanukah. As a result, the children are actively engaged in the planning and preparation. We started a new tradition last year by adding some entertainment to our feast. This year our music enrichment teacher, Julie Lockman, along with our dedicated teaching staff, will lead the children once again in a delightful musical performance at our feast and Chanukah celebrations.

Chanukah is a time for giving to others. We teach children the importance of tzedakah, giving charity, and tikkan olam, social responsibility. This includes making cards for the sick, giving gently used toys to kids in need, and helping our Interfaith Food Pantry.

These customs promote social growth and teach our children, from a very young age, that they matter and can help to make the world a better place.

Enjoy these precious moments with your children and families and may your traditions last for generations to come!
Kayaking, Hiking, Racing, and Learning

by Glenn Cote
Cubmaster, Cub scout Pack 311

During the second weekend of November, our boys will be joining with other area Cub Scouts who will be kayaking, hiking, and snorkeling at the Emerald Bay Cub/Family Weekend on Catalina Island.

As we do every year, the Pack will also participate in TBH’s Mitzvah Day on Sunday, November 2. We’ll have our November Pack meeting in the Mercaz on November 13th, followed that weekend by a Hiking Team event scheduled for the 15th at the Nike Tower off Mulholland Drive — everyone in the family is welcome to join us! We will also be conducting a new series of STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math) events to help the Scouts earn their NOVA STEM Awards.

December will find us meeting again in the Mercaz on the 11th (our last Pack meeting of 2014), when the boys will receive their Pinewood Derby kits. The Pinewood Derby is one of the most popular and successful family activities in Cub Scouting. Pinewood Derby cars are small wooden models that Cub Scouts make with help from their families. Then they race the cars in competition. The cars are powered by gravity and run down a track.

We give out trophies not only for winning races, but for these accomplishments as well: Most Patriotic, Best Cub Scout Theme, Funniest, Most Realistic Race Car, Best Detail, and Most Unusual. The Derby will be held on January 25.

Pack 311 welcomes boys in first through fifth grades, or 7-10 years of age, from all religious and family backgrounds. For more information, visit www.cubpack311.com

Life at BethHillel

DAY SCHOOL STUDENTS CELEBRATE
Rosh Hashanah with smiles, sweets, and shofars.

Mazel toy!
It’s a New Client!

Advertising in the Hillel Omer is a creative way to boost your business while supporting the members and mission of Temple Beth Hillel.

We publish bi-monthly, September through June.

For more information, contact our Communications Team at media@tbhla.org.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Size</th>
<th>1x Rate</th>
<th>5x Rate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Full Page</td>
<td>$450</td>
<td>$295</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$1475/annual</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Half Page</td>
<td>$310</td>
<td>$195</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$915/annual</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Third Page</td>
<td>$260</td>
<td>$140</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$700/annual</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sixth Page</td>
<td>$160</td>
<td>$80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$360/annual</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ninth Page</td>
<td>$95</td>
<td>$60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(business card)</td>
<td></td>
<td>$300/annual</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
IN THE MIDDLE OF SUKKOT, we took over JCA Camp Shalom in Malibu. We tended gardens and animals, made candles and challah, climbed trees and walls, and celebrated Shabbat with songs and smiles.

THE WOMEN OF TBH and the League of Women Voters put on a well-attended program that educated us on the upcoming election.

HAVDALAH, ITALIAN FOOD, AND BINGO made up a beautiful autumn night for members of the Women of TBH and the TBH Brotherhood. After a delicious dinner, they joined hands and sang goodbye to Shabbat, then played a few rounds of Bingo.

THE WOMEN OF TBH and the League of Women Voters put on a well-attended program that educated us on the upcoming election.

Life at Beth Hillel

Special thanks to THE LOUIS & HAROLD PRICE FOUNDATION for their generous support in matching Beth Hillel Day School annual giving through November 30th.

Give today and double your gift!

Earn Cash Back for TBH

Register or Re-Register in the Vons, Pavilions and Ralph’s Non-Profit Cash Back Programs.

We must re-register our cards every year in order for TBH to continue to receive 1-4% back from our purchases.

**VONS PAVILIONS**

1. Go to eScrip.com.
2. Click on YES! KEEP EARNING - RENEW.
3. Enter either your phone number, email, or Club Card number
4. Follow instructions if you are not currently enrolled in this program.
5. Temple Beth Hillel is group #137597043.

1. Bring this printed barcode to Ralphs.
2. Have the cashier scan it when he or she scans your Rewards Card and you make a purchase.
3. If you are not registered with a Ralph’s Rewards card, go to Ralphs.com.
4. After you register, go to the Community Rewards section and edit your Community Contribution to specify Temple Beth Hillel.
5. Our organization number is 83184.
MAZAL TOV

To Sue Dwyer and Robert Howell, who were married on August 31.

To Dan Fybel, executive producer of “Bob’s Burgers” and his team for winning a 2014 Emmy for Outstanding Animated Program.

To Hannah Carbunaru, a Religious School third-grader, who won the TBH Brotherhood T-Shirt Design contest. Her design will be adapted for the famous orange shirts given out to volunteers at the Thanksgiving Feed The Hungry Feast.

WELCOME

To Amanda Craig, the new administrative assistant for our Religious School. Amanda, originally from Alabama and newly married, is studying early childhood education at CSUN Northridge. Look for her during Religious School sessions.

SYMPATHY

To Leslye Adelman and family, on the passing of her father, Leo.

To Michelle Amber and family, on the loss of her father, Robert Seligman

REFUAH SHLEIMAH

Wishing a full and speedy recovery to Joyce Reichard, David Schneider, and Sid Yukelson.

KOL HAKAVOD

To our students, volunteers and staff for sharing themselves in “We Are Here,” a series of music videos about making a difference in the world. A special thank you to Yuri Hronsky, who produced the videos.

Watch them on the Beth Hillel YouTube channel at http://tbhla.org/about-us/connect/

CORRECTION

In the last issue of the Hillel Omer, we misidentified the first place winner of the Texas Hold’em Tournament. The winner was Steven Weinstock.

HONOR, APPRECIATE OR REMEMBER A LOVED ONE

Make your choice from the funds listed below, then send your tribute and payment to Temple Beth Hillel, 12326 Riverside Drive, Valley Village, CA 91607.

Please include the name and address of the person you are honoring, so that we can send a special acknowledgment card in your name.

You can also make your donation online at tbhla.org/donate.

$360 Construction Fund

Clergy Funds
- Rabbi Sarah Hronsky Fund
- Cantorial and Music Fund
- Emeritus Rabbi Jim Kaufman Fund

Building Funds

School & Youth Funds
- Beth Hillel Day School
- Religious School
- Scholarship
- Campership

Community Outreach Funds
- North Hollywood Interfaith Food Pantry
- Community Counseling Center Fund
- Moses Fund
- Tree of Life
- Endowment

A complete list of Temple funds is available online at tbhla.org/donate

SHOP OUR BIG SALE ON NOV. 23

Women of TBH Gift Shop

Time for a new Menorah

We carry an extensive collection for all!

Judaica and more!

Your purchases support TBH.

Visit tbhla.org for store hours.

NEW PLANTINGS ENHANCE SECURITY AND SPIRITUALITY

We’ve installed better security fencing and plantings along the northeast corner of our Upper Yard and playground. The shrubs are Podocarpus, a variety of evergreen conifer also known as Buddhist pine for its straight posture, dignity and humility. The Chinese grow this dense, upright tree on temple grounds. The shrub thrives in southern California weather and tolerates sun, shade, drought, sea salt and heavy pruning.

HONOR, APPRECIATE OR REMEMBER A LOVED ONE

ark a birthday, bar or bat mitzvah, anniversary, yahrzeit or special occasion with a donation to Temple Beth Hillel.

Make your choice from the funds listed below, then send your tribute and payment to Temple Beth Hillel, 12326 Riverside Drive, Valley Village, CA 91607.

Please include the name and address of the person you are honoring, so that we can send a special acknowledgment card in your name.

You can also make your donation online at tbhla.org/donate.

$360 Construction Fund

Clergy Funds
- Rabbi Sarah Hronsky Fund
- Cantorial and Music Fund
- Emeritus Rabbi Jim Kaufman Fund

Building Funds

School & Youth Funds
- Beth Hillel Day School
- Religious School
- Scholarship
- Campership

Community Outreach Funds
- North Hollywood Interfaith Food Pantry
- Community Counseling Center Fund
- Moses Fund
- Tree of Life
- Endowment

A complete list of Temple funds is available online at tbhla.org/donate
Temple Funds

In gratitude, we acknowledge the contributions of our friends to the mission of Temple Beth Hillel.

Rabbi Sarah Hronsky’s Fund

In Honor of
Rose Tadelis, by Sheila Milov

In Appreciation of
The Hronsky Family, by Arleen Ryan Benjamin Hronsky, by Rebecca Pathak
Ryan Benjamin Hronsky, Cub Scout Pack 311
Ryan Benjamin Hronsky, by Irv and Nathalie Gittelman and Family
Ryan Hronsky and Family, by Michael, Mya and the Rosset Family
Ryan Benjamin Hronsky, by Dolly Grosswirth
Bob and Sue Howell, by Leslie Anderson
Michael Heiss, by Leslie Nathan

In Appreciation of Rabbi Sarah
The Women of TBH
Leslie Adelman

Donations
Ricci Rukavina

Cantorial and Music Fund

In Loving Memory of
Annette Michaels, by Sheila Milov
Grandmother of Margie Meadow, by Sheila Milov

In appreciation of Cantor Shana
Tobi Stone and Lynnanne Zager
The Women of TBH

Emeritus Rabbi Kaufman’s Fund

In Loving Memory of
Millie Caplan, by Carol Somers
Susan Branman, by Larry and Noah Branman
Michael Adler, by Joyce Adler and Family
Annie Berman, by The Kaiserman Family
Beverley Teitelbaum Weber Bayar, by Sheila Milov

In Appreciation of Rabbi Jim
Sandy Ginsburg and Family
Freddie and Jennifer Goldberg
Harvey and Joyce Reichard
Benjamin and Bobbe Tadelis

David S. Morhar
Campership Fund

In Loving Memory of
Shirley Arenson, by Arlene and Sid Rosenblatt

Early Childhood Education Fund

In Loving Memory of
Mollie Keays, by Marilyn Morris
Frances Keays, by Marilyn Morris
Arnold Morris, by Lisa Tisdale

Donations

In Honor of
Sylvia Erenholtz, by Marilyn Morris
Ruth Hyman, by Marilyn Morris
Jennifer Tisdale, by Marilyn Morris
Ashley Tisdale and Chris French, by Marilyn Morris

Memorial and Tribute Fund

In Loving Memory of
Benjamin Pokras, by Neanne Quin
Charlotte Tucker, by Gertrude Tucker and Arleen Siegel
Zolotaryova Ronya, by Simon and Bella Shpitalnak
Philip Copper, by Harry and Barbara Hirschenson
Frieda Gerstein, by Larry Picus and Susan Pasternak
Barbara Franken, by Steven and Manuela Wisner
Harry Wisner, by Steven and Manuela Wisner
Sam Jenkins, by Sid Jenkins
Martha Coleman-Hubbard, by Leslie Anderson
Lena Yorkshire, by Teyla and Murray Weiss
Albert Gale, by Arlene and Sandy Weinstock
Pearl Gale, by Arlene and Sandy Weinstock
Jean Weinstock, by Arlene and Sandy Weinstock
Arthur Weinstock, by Arlene and Sandy Weinstock
Sophie Altman, Tara and Moshe Kaiserman
William Honeman, by Karen Stern
Harvey Haimovitz, by David and Jo Haimovitz
Jack Ortmann, by David and Jo Haimovitz
Betty Wunsch, by Paul and Gail Wunsch
Sarah Rabinovitz, by Lynn Rabin
Minnie Schwartz, by Gertrude Tucker
Vycheslav Vizel, by Klara Vizel
Ruth Loewenthal, by Werner and Ben Loewenthal
Ted Galatzan, by Sharon Galatzan
Solomon Rothfield, by Marlene Putterman
Mitchell Schwartz, by Marlene Putterman
Dorothy Cohen, by Marlene Putterman
Irving Chaiken, by Marlene Putterman
Harry Chaiken, by Marlene Putterman
Emilie Bose, by Ann Bose
Billie Koppe, by Charlotte Koppe
Sylvia Schneider, by David and Tobi Schneider

Moses Fund

In Loving Memory of
Hirsch Silverman, by the Mattson Family
Robert Selgamin, by David and Tobi Schneider
Hirsch L. Silverman, by Stuart, Paula and Hyla Silverman

Donations
Yuri Shaposh

Neil J. Gittelman Fund

In Loving Memory of
Neil Gittelman, by Lori and Tim Wilson

North Hollywood Interfaith Food Pantry

In Loving Memory of
Craig Pynes, by Martha Pynes
Murray Gesshel, by Susan Gesshel

In Loving Memory of
Leo Adelman

Susan Pasternak, Larry and Matthew Picus
Tobi and David Schneider
Sheila Milov
Leslie Anderson and Family
Scott and Faith Tessler and Family
The Plotnik Family
Judy and Joyce Rabinowitz
Phillip and Sharon Weber
Zan Frailich and Howard Blumenfeld

Get Well Wishes to
Bob Friedman, by Zan Frailich and Howard Blumenfeld

Donations

In Honor of
Ryan Benjamin Hronsky, by Cantor Shana and Aaron Leon
Bea Dubman, by Lori Dinkin
Horan and Charlie Brashare, by Lori Dinkin

In Honor of Bob and Sue Howell
Faye Zeberman
Melvin and Gloria Shefel
Fredell S. Goldberg
ANC
Morgan and Jon Miller
David and Tobi Schneider
Nancy Nyberg and Dean Cleverdon
Dana and Pamela Karlin
Phyllis and Lloyd Newman

Religious School Discretionary Fund

In Appreciation of
Rabbi Eleanor Steinman, by Lily Ann Niefield
Roen & John Pasternak Scholarship Fund

In Loving Memory of
Harold Gerstein, by Susan Pasternak and Larry Picus

Bimah Fruit Fund

June 15 - In honor of Charles Baker and all other fathers, by Bobbie Baker.

July 5 - In honor of the second Bar Mitzvah of Herb Slavin, by Herb Slavin and family.

August 8 - In honor of Bob Friedman’s 92nd birthday, by Marcia Friedman.

August 16 - In honor of their children, Jackson and Jessica’s Nathan’s Bar Mitzvah, by the Nathan Family

August 16 - In honor of Kiara Soleman’s Bat Mitzvah, by the Soleman family.

August 22 - In honor of the new school year, by the BHDS Parent’s Association.

August 29 - In honor of Jared Matich’s Bar Mitzvah, by the Matich family.

September 5 - In honor of her husband, Scott Gimple, on their Fifth anniversary, by Julia Wackenheim

September 12 - In honor of Ryan Wollaston’s Bar Mitzvah, by the Wollaston Family

360 Construction Fund

In Honor of
Bob and Sue Howell
Michael and Janice Ruth
David and Jodie Reff
Fredell S. Goldberg
Janet and Richard Johnson
ANC
Melanie and Mark Gagnani
Robert and Cheryl Shaw
Linda and Stephen Hirsch

Donations
Denise Howell
Eric Goldman
Annual Chanukah Boutique
Sponsored by the Women of TBH

ONE DAY ONLY
Sunday, Nov. 23
9 am - 3 pm

Amazing artisans and vendors selling unique and distinct items for all your holiday shopping.

- Women’s & Children’s Clothing
- Chocolate, Vinegars & Jams
- Candles, Soaps and Books
- Jewelry & Glass Artisans
- Judaica Art & Accessories
- Chanukah Decorations & Supplies

Gourmet Baked Goods and Starbucks Coffee.
Homemade latkes, hot dogs, salads and sandwiches, too.

4 Kids Only Shop
No Item over $5
So our little ones can join in the fun!

Our Judaica gift shop is open all day

Toys for Teens
Bring holiday cheer to local teenagers receiving support from L.A. Family Housing.

There will be collection bins at the Chanukah Boutique for these requested items:

- Gift Cards (movie theaters, Target, McDonalds, etc.)
- Headphones and other electronics
- Sporting goods (basketballs, footballs, etc.)
- Bracelet kits
- Make-up
- PG movies on DVD

You can also drop donations off at the Temple before the Boutique.

Adopt-A-Family
Each year, the Women of TBH “adopts” a family living in L.A. Family Housing and buys them holiday gifts. Help us fill the family’s “wish list” this year.

Contact Jan Goldsmith at sisterhood@tbhla.org to join in this very special mitzvah.