



Temple Beth Israel



The Center of Jewish Living on Longboat Key.

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TBI's Officers & Board For 2018-2019 Ready To Serve



We welcome our 2018-2019 Officers:

Murray Blueglass, President
Marion Levine, Vice President
Allan Goldfarb, Vice President
Sandra Packard, Vice President
Stuart Sinai, Vice President
Irwin Parmet, Vice President
Earl Gordon, Financial Secretary
Ruth Engman, Recording Secretary
Sylvia Pastor & Judy Goldstein, BIW Co-Presidents
Lewis Moyer & Roger Goldstein,
Mens Club Co-Presidents
Richard Levine, Endowment Chairperson

May 4 Shabbat Dinner at 6:00 p.m. Services to follow.
May 11 summer Friday service hours begin at 5:30 p.m.



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

In the overall scheme of things, two years isn't a very long time. But as my term as your President comes to an end, I can look back at two very eventful years filled with challenges, a wide variety of activities, and what I hope will be viewed as positive accomplishments.

When I was approached to consider assuming the position by former Presidents **Kathy Brooks (z'l)** and **Elaine Weill**, they assured me that I would look back at my time in office as a very positive and satisfying experience. Although there were times when I questioned their predictions, I can now say that they were absolutely right.

The one regret that I have is the fact that I was unavailable at times due to family medical needs. I was fortunate to have the backup and support of my two very capable Vice Presidents (**Marion Levine** and **Murray Blueglass**) as well as **Isaac Azerad** our very talented Executive Director. I owe these people, as well as **Rabbi Sniderman** and our office staff, a great deal of gratitude.

In terms of accomplishments over the past two years, there are a few that stand out in my mind. The first is the hiring of **Rabbi Sniderman** as our spiritual leader in August of 2016. The Rabbi has brought personal warmth and a high level of Jewish scholarship to our pulpit. Another is the very effective efforts of **Isaac Azerad** as our Executive Director. A Financial Planning Retreat in November of 2016 laid the ground work for ensuring the future financial stability of the congregation. The introduction of the Life and Legacy Program and the participation of eighteen of our members, to date, indicate a strong commitment to the future of **TBI**. The success of the many programs and events sponsored by the congregation, the BIW, and the Men's Club, speaks to the vitality of the congregation.

I will be leaving office knowing that the leadership of the congregation is passing into very capable hands. Few Presidents have moved into the position with credentials and experience as strong as **Murray Blueglass**. He will be joined by a group of Vice Presidents and other officers with outstanding talents and records of service to the congregation. The addition of four new members to the Board of Trustees helps to ensure a progressive approach to our policies and programs.

My best wishes to all for a pleasant and healthy summer, and my thanks for the opportunity to be of service.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bob Vigder". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Bob Vigder, President



FROM THE RABBI'S STUDY

As so many of our members are planning to go “up north” for the summer or take trips, it is most appropriate to look at the traditional Jewish traveler’s prayer. While we may take traveling for granted, we still hear the expression, “Have a safe trip.” Our traditional prayer is a little longer. In translation, here it is:

May it be Your will Eternal our God and God of our ancestors that You should lead us in peace, direct our steps in peace, guide us in peace, support us in peace and cause us to reach our destination in life, joy and peace. Save us from every enemy and ambush, from robbers and wild beasts, from all kinds of punishments. May You confer blessing on the work of our hands and grant us grace, kindness and mercy and bestow upon us abundant kindness and hear the voice of our prayer for You hear the prayers of all. Praised are You, Eternal One, who hears prayer.

This prayer is more powerful than just wishing someone a safe trip. It is also more vivid in asking for protection from robbers and wild beasts. It reminds us of the potential precariousness of travel. The bottom line is the same,” Have a safe trip”.

Debbie Friedman wrote a contemporary version of this prayer which can be found in *Mishkan T'filah*, We sang it to wish our “snow birds” a good summer.

We also wish those of us who are staying here over the summer the very best. The BIW book group just finished discussing a novel that was set in 15 below zero Minneapolis. Let us enjoy the warmth of Florida and the warmth that comes from being part of a warm community. Do come to our services, classes and programs over the summer.

A POST SCRIPT: My personal email and cell phone number are in the directory. If you are in the hospital and want a visit, contact me directly. I'd rather hear twice or three times than not at all. And you don't have to be in the hospital or ill, if you want a visit.

Be well. Take care. Safe travels.

Rabbi Stephen L. Sniderman

FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S DESK

As we close our last issue of the *Bulletin* for the 2017-2018 season, I would like to congratulate our New Board of Trustees and Officers for being selected to serve our congregation. I pledge to avail myself in any way I can to make your administration a success. The New Board is rich in talent and commitment. I have had the privilege of working with every one of its members and look forward to a great year partnering in their vision and accomplishments.

To the departing Board members, and the many volunteers, I salute your hard work and dedication. You have made this last year a success to build on. Your accomplishments are many but permit me to brag on your behalf with a few of them.

Here are some highlights:

Life & Legacy, in its first year, the partnership with the Grinspoon Foundation and the Jewish Federation of Sarasota-Manatee raised close to \$350,000 in potential endowment funds to help secure our Temple's future. Membership dues only contribute some 40% of our operating budget. The remainder is made up of generous donations from our members, grants and subsidies from organizations and foundations. Even as nationwide trends show a decline in temple affiliation, we will help secure our continuity with a robust endowment and a generous donor participation. While membership retention and the recruitment of new members will remain among our top priorities for years to come.

92Y, our programming blossomed into a rich blend of culture and arts, along with politics, religion and science. 92Y has attracted many members and non-members alike. This year we took advantage of our attendance to create a social half-hour before the screenings. Our membership team prepared desserts and goodies to offer the potential members. This may prove to be another valuable source for future new members.

Through our Michael B. Eisenstat Miniversity we've managed to study with our Rabbis, we screened a documentary which was a Florida premiere; we enjoyed a concert by the talented Alumni musicians of the Yitzhak Perlman String Quartet and learned from many dynamic speakers and presenters.

We've experienced engaging scholarly presentations from Dr. Katz, our Scholar in Residence and Rabbi Saperstein our Kallah Scholar. Our speakers' bureau continues to provide us with world class scholars and presenters.

BIW entertained us stylishly with a Fashion Show at Michael's on East and a fun Game Day that was very well attended.

When BIW and the Men's Club join hands in featuring our Choir, the result is the **Second Annual Florence Katz Concert** drawing a full house of 292 happy spectators.

The Men's Club brought back the very popular Westcoast Black Theatre Troupe and a Klezmer concert that saw many of our members dancing in the aisles.

We've sampled Japanese, Israeli and Eastern European Shabbat dinners in full attendance. Our Seder had 178 registered members and guests and that is close to full capacity.

We have partnered with The Jewish Federation of Sarasota Manatee, The Community Foundation of Sarasota County, JNF, The Jazz Club of Sarasota, The Paradise Center and plan on opening new doors of funding and cooperation in the future.

Our Gala this year was a notable success. Close to 150 members and guests enjoyed the Sarasota Yacht Club, the gourmet offerings and drinks and the entertainment provided by the very talented QOL group. We raised close to \$45,000.

Rabbi Stephen Sniderman offered two classes, a class to teach Hebrew and another to explore Judaism.

The Long-Term Planning Committee updated the Temple Bylaws which were approved by the Board.

Through the efforts of the Social Action Committee, we have provided transportation to Shabbat Services to residents of Sarasota Bay Club and Plymouth Harbor. This is a vital effort to keep those who cannot drive access to their Temple Family.

Those are but a few of what your administration has accomplished for us this year. We are now preparing for a new fiscal year with great anticipation and optimism. Thanks to you we have accomplished much and will continue to accomplish even more in the coming year. To all our volunteers, leaders and staff, you make it happen.

I am honored to serve as your Executive Director; thank you for the opportunity to continue to be of service.



Isaac Azerad
Executive Director

VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

**Dr. Lev Klempner
Robert & Lynn Gould**

SHABBAT DINNERS

There will be a Shabbat Dinner on **Friday, May 4, 2018** at **6:00 p.m.** The Theme will be Cinco de Mayo and the meal will be catered by Chef Mike. Shabbat Dinners will continue throughout the Summer Months. Services will be at **7:30 p.m.** starting the end of May so dinners will be held before services. The themes will be announced. We look forward to having all our members attend.

MEMBERSHIP

After the very successful membership event at Grand Bay we have signed up three new membership units. There are many people that have discussed joining after **June 1st**. We have 21 new units since **June 1, 2017**. As a reminder there seems to be many new Jewish residents of LBK. Should you know of any who have recently moved to your community, please pass on their information to a member of our committee so we may contact them and welcome them.

PASSOVER SEDER

178 Temple members, their families and non-members gathered on Friday, March 30, 2018 for Shabbat Services followed by a Seder catered by Michael's on East and led by **Rabbi Sniderman**. It was a very festive evening. The Haggadah written and prepared by **Rabbi Eisenstat** was easy to follow and made the service so enjoyable. **Rabbi Sniderman** was at his best. He visited every table to meet our guests and so many commented on what a great evening we all had.

Marion Levine
VP Membership

BETH ISRAEL WOMEN PRESIDENT'S LETTER

There are many firsts in life. I enjoyed many 'first days of school' during my teaching career. But this was my first time ever chairing a grown-up meeting, filled with wonderfully helpful BIW women. Though much was discussed and disposed of, a couple of ideas stood out. For one, we had to put together our charities list so that we could help the needy with the money we made on the various events we run. One of the charities we donated to is the Children's Healthy Pantry, a charity started by our own Temple member, **Susan Morin**. She discovered, one day, that the child she had volunteered to tutor kept falling asleep because he was so very hungry. He admitted that to her after she asked if he'd had enough sleep. That was when she learned that schools in Florida do not have breakfasts and lunches for the children from poor homes during the summer.

The thought that in this country, with all its riches, children are literally starving every day, is abhorrent. I would ask that each woman in our congregation consider writing a check, no matter how small, to this charity and bring it to the office. A member of BIW will collect them and send them to this worthy venture, the Children's Healthy Pantry.

Next, we would like to assert again that every woman belonging to the Temple should try her best to belong to BIW as well. Our dues are only \$40.00 a year; and even if you do not sit on the Board, you can sign up for one of our many committees, and thus help a great deal with the running of our organization. A list of committees will be included with the letter sent to you in the fall for paying dues. You can thus send in your dues money and at the same time sign up for a committee of your liking. BIW members have a lot of talent, energy and willingness to work. The following is a list of some committees. If you can think of some other way to help our women's organization out, feel free to contact us by either leaving a note in the BIW mailbox or responding to the e-mail I have mentioned below.

The Gift Shop Committee: Members would work in the shop and help with inventory and pricing. Input as to the selection of items would be up to the chairpersons. We really need more hands in our Judaica shop. If you have any retail experience or none at all, you are most welcome. We have found that we do best by being open at "Temple events" for now, so extra help is needed at these times and open on some weekdays, also "Special Sales Days" are being considered.

Greet at the Door on Friday Nights Committee: **Doris Kaplan** will serve as chairperson. All we need are women to come on Friday nights and greet people at the door. Doris sets such a good example of the warm and friendly "Hello" we are looking for. Contact us if this is something you might like to do.

Do What You're Best At Committee: Do you have special talents, anything from writing, acting, knitting, cooking, and more talents you can share with others? Then this is the committee for you. You might be good at teaching Mahjongg or Bridge or even ballet or choreographing dance. This committee is wide open and the suggestions come from you.

Program Committee: Each of our luncheons features a speaker. We need a committee to research and find people who will enlighten or entertain us. You begin with the Chamber of Commerce, or so we are told. This should be an excellent place to get your feet wet with BIW. You would work with others who are on your wavelength in bringing us interesting featured speakers.

Kitchen Committee: Although our Expert Chef **Sylvia Pastor** is the best we know of, she can always use help in the kitchen. If you like preparing and setting up for occasions that involve food (Don't all Jewish events do that?) then this committee would suit you.

Holiday Celebrations Committee: I freely admit that **Elise Galinsky** and I could use help with Purim. From the writing of the play or spiel, to being in it, to helping put together our cocktail party to all of the fun that is Purim, we could use some help. Right now, we are a two-woman show.

Another holiday, with far larger attendance than Esther and Mordecai's story, is the story of Chanukah and the dinner that goes with it. This event is always heavily attended and help can be used everywhere. Sometimes latkes are even homemade, but however we put it together, BIW can use help in serving up this **TBI** event.

If you are interested in any of the above, please either drop off a note at the Temple for the BIW mailbox, or contact me at my alternate e-mail address of jgandrg@comcast.net.

This was our last Board meeting before summer begins. Meetings and luncheons will resume in October. The Men's Club Co-Presidents said at the Temple Board meeting that they will extend their summer lunches to women as well. We are casting about for more summer activities, such as Bridge duplicate or not? You can offer your opinions at jgandrg@comcast.net. **Marion Levine** is looking into continuing the duplicate bridge, but there have to be enough people willing to play in order for us to have it.

So, best wishes to all for your summer, wherever it may be that you are spending it, and there will be more information coming your way in the fall.

Judy Goldstein
Co-President, BIW

Postscript: BIW would like to thank **Maxine Tauber** for sponsoring the flowers for the BIW Fashion Show.

FROM THE LIBRARY

New books are here for your summer reading pleasure. Stop by the library and sign out a book or two. As always, they are located with other new books on top of the bookshelves in the center of the library. Please put your name and current date on the card in the back of the book, and leave it in the box on the desk.

FICTION

Carroll, James - *The Cloister*
Englander, Nathan - *Dinner at the Center of the Earth*
Gundar-Goshen, Ayelet - *Waking Lions*
Horn, Dara - *Eternal Life*
Kellerman, Jonathan - *Night Moves*
Rothman-Zecher, Moriel - *Sadness Is a White Bird*
Taylor, Brad - *Operator Down*
Tremain, Rose - *The Gustav Sonata*

NON-FICTION

Friedman, Richard Elliott - *The Exodus: How it Happened and Why It Matters*
Gruen, Judy - *The Skeptic and the Rabbi*
Gurock, Jeffrey S. - *The Jews of Harlem*
Pagirsky, Ruth Wachner - *Memoirs*
Schwartz, Bryan - *Scattered Among the Nations*

BIOGRAPHY

Klagsbrun, Francine - *Lioness: Golda Meir and the Nation of Israel*
Diner, Hasia R. - *Julius Rosenwald: Repairing the World*

Amy Roth, Librarian

Thank You!

Thank You to the congregation for the beautiful flowers, cards, and donations that I received during my illness and our trip to Sloan Kettering in New York.

It was a cold, snowy day in New York and after spending many hours of tests at Sloan Kettering; we arrived back at our condo and received this amazing flower arrangement of bright flowers from my **TBI** Family! And that is what you have been to Bob and I... our family away from family. It has been hard for Bob as he has been torn between taking care of me and his responsibilities at Temple. Many thanks for helping us so that Bob could be with me and make as many meetings and events as possible. We are pleased with the new treatment and know with your support it will be successful.

Many thanks again & with great appreciation,
Judy Vigder

BOOKS & BROWN BAGS

The season of busy activities has ended but planning is already underway for next year's book selections. All of the women who serve as facilitators spend a great deal of time preparing for their specific "assignment" and their efforts are always appreciated. However, special mention must be made of the last program held in March.

Corinne Sniderman, facilitator for *Terrible Virtue* by Ellen Feldman, gave an outstanding presentation that included a literal table-full of delicious food, desserts and drinks that connected with aspects of the book. Mention must also be made of the tasty homemade cookies and cakes provided each month by co-chair **Tena Tessler**.

Next year's books are listed below with the first program to be held in November and the last in April of the following year. Read as many as possible over the summer to get a head start.

And After the Fire by Lauren Belfer
The Weight of Ink by Rachel Kadish
All the Rivers by Dorit Rabinyan
The Other Einstein by Marie Benedict
The Saturday Wife by Naomi Ragen
Hope and Honor by Sidney Shachnow

These books will be available in the temple library closer to the fall season. They can also be obtained in the local libraries, online and at bookstores.

Wishing everyone a happy, healthy summer and time to read and enjoy.

Gloria Sabin, Chairperson & **Tena Tessler**, Co-chairperson, Books & Brown Bags



(L to R) **Sue Boorstein, Karen Gary, Maxine Tauber, Judy Blume**



(L to R) **Pat Gelber, Bernie Levine, Marion Levine, Dr. Philip Gelber**

BENEFACTORS PROGRAM

Since the program's inception in November, **twenty five** of our members have voluntarily provided contributions varying from **\$100** to **\$400** totaling **\$4,800**. Listed below are those who have shown their concern for the well-being of the congregation by participating in the program.

Patricia & Norton Baron, Audrey & Dr. Julius Deren, Francis Eisner, Joel Feidelman, Mark Fishman, Yvette & Len Fishman, Paul Francis & Lolli Zarin, Judith Glass, Lois Hauselman, Pat & Irwin Kaplan, Sheila & Rabbi Peter Kasdan, Betty & Edward Levi, Ina Rae Levy, Lois Lowsky, Barbara & Jay Moscow, Sue & Bob Nusbaum, Judith & Irwin Parmet, Walter D. Rosengarten, Suzanne Schuster, Sharon Shreiber & Armand Mazius, Estelle & Dr. Burton Silbert, Stuart Sinai & Carole Shaw, Jenny Walder, Miriam & Dr. Herbert Waltzer, Roberta Wladis.

The concern and generosity of these participants is greatly appreciated.

Bob Vigder
President

OUR CEMETERY "GARDEN"

Temple Beth Israel, as a congregation, has burial plots for sale to its members and their Jewish family members at Palms-Robarts Memorial Park. We invite members to purchase available plots.

The Cemetery Committee can arrange your visits to the park at your convenience. Upon arrival, a Palms-Robarts associate will drive you in a golf cart to the **TBI** Garden and show you available plots.

Our spaces are priced well below other Gardens within the Park. We suggest you consider this opportunity to pre-arrange your space now.

If interested, please call the Temple and they will have a member of our Committee call you to arrange a convenient time to visit.

Stuart Sinai

MEN'S CLUB

The Men's Club has had a very successful year. In late fall we had Dr. Irwin Segal speak to the group regarding the significant influence that Jewish Psychologists have in our understanding of human behavior.

In January, we had a wonderful brunch served by the Cafe L'Europe. In addition we had the KlezMania on the Gulf jazz musicians. Their program was enjoyed by everyone and some people were even dancing in the aisles.

In February, **TBI** member **Bob Gary** spoke to the group. Bob is a former federal prosecutor. He spoke to the group about the investigation in Washington by the federal prosecutor. We are anxious to have Bob back next year to review Mueller's findings in terms we can understand.

Later in February, we had the Westcoast Black Theatre Troupe. We had over 100 people attend. As always they put on a spectacular performance. Every year that they perform at Temple they bring something new.

In March, we had **TBI** member **Lee Mirman** speak along with representatives from the Tesla Company and Ocean Properties. They spoke about what is going on in the community regarding new buildings and possible changes to the transportation system. This was in a question and answer format and very interesting to all who attended. The representative from Tesla brought a Tesla car which many attendees enjoyed examining.

On March 21, we co-sponsored with the BIW the Second **Annual Florence Katz (z"l) Memorial Concert** to raise funds for the Choir. This was a tremendous draw as we had close to 300 people attend. Much thanks goes to **Ann Stephenson-Moe** and **Isaac Azerad** for their exceptional support and participation. And special thanks goes to the women of BIW who did the baking of the wonderful goodies we enjoyed after the performance.

On April 22, we had our last formal function a moonlight dinner cruise aboard Marina Jack's fabulous ship.

Over the summer we plan lunches at various restaurants and encourage both men and women members of **TBI** to join us for lunch. Watch your e-blasts for further information.

Respectfully submitted

Lewis Moyer & Roger Goldstein, Co-Presidents Men's Club

BETH ISRAEL BIO: Dr. LOIS BARSON



Dr. Lois Barson is an educated woman, a deeply educated woman with two Masters Degrees and a Ph.D. And yet this pretty, sparkly woman was ambushed by her eight-year-old student, Anthony, who caused her most embarrassing moment. But let's save that story for awhile, as it is SO funny and by her spilling the beans, one can't help but admire her down-to-earth personality.

Little Lois Prolman grew up with her younger siblings, Robert, Beth, and David in the magical Methuen, MA with Mom, Ruth, and Dad, Maury. Grandpa Louie had immigrated from an unpronounceable named Russian City, whose location remains a mystery. He was an inspiration for Lois' parents and for whom she was named. Meanwhile, Dad Maury, with his best friend, opened a fruit and vegetable emporium called "Fruitland" in Lawrence, MA, which is just up the road from Methuen.

The romantic history of Methuen sparked any little girl's imagination. It is home to not one, but two grandiose castles, both built by turn-of-the-century men whose lives were wrought with intrigue. For example, the 74 room Searles Castle was built by Edward Francis Searles, an ambitious decorator, who, at 47, married his 67-year-old widow client whose net worth, way-back-when, was 61 million dollars. She died. He died. But he left the castle to his male secretary, whose relationship with Mr. Searles has always been a mystery.

Inspired by their surroundings, Lois' parents had always been a team, working together with the goal of educating their four children. "It was a given that we were going to college," said Lois. Her mother always told her to "make the best decision you can at the time with the

information you have." So when Lois saw how much it would cost for her to get into Wheaton College, she was shocked and told her Dad she wouldn't apply. But he insisted she apply, and if she was accepted, "You will go." he said.

Lois' Aunt Selma was her rock. Aunt Selma wrote a letter to Lois both when she was one day old, and on her wedding day. Always a listener and full of encouragement, Aunt Selma was another part of her strong family and the Jewish community that shaped our Lois. Temple, B'nai Brith, and Jewish camps had a profound effect on her life-long support of her Jewish identity and Jewish causes.

Although she has never finished going to school and has to this day continued her education, Lois' first job was teaching in a nine-room school as the Language Arts Specialist. And even though by this time she was extremely educated, her one educational flaw was that she just couldn't spell worth a damn. To compensate for this, our Language Arts Specialist developed an extraordinarily beautiful handwriting, as if it might cover her errors in spelling.

But remember her student, Anthony? He pointed out to Miss Prolman that she had beautifully written a mistake on the blackboard. Instead of writing the "o", which belonged in the word shot, she had instead written an "i". Was she EMBARRASSED! The kids loved it and just cracked up while she turned all shades of red and was fearful she would lose her job. Anthony got an "A" in the class as she figured he could spell better than she could.

A couple of years after teaching, while at an education conference in Philadelphia taught by Alan Barson (z"l), our Miss Lois was impressed by her teacher, though she thought he was a little old and too conservative for her tastes. Not so. Master Barson chased her around for a couple of years until she married him, and together they enjoyed 33 years together. Both educators, they taught, traveled, wrote and published together, always with laughter and love.

Eventually they made their way to Sarasota, while maintaining their house on the water in

New Jersey. While here they enjoyed all the theatre, art, education classes and fine dining, especially Ophelia's.

When Alan passed away, a new chapter began to evolve for Lois. Her life's love is gone, but she continues to enjoy life through her dedication to education and to those less fortunate. Asked where she would donate one million dollars today, she didn't hesitate to answer. "I would give the money to make the lives better for children, for educational funds, for family support, and for the homeless."

And our educator's advice for a happy life? "If you over-analyze things, you can't fully enjoy them."

Suzanne Schuster
Beth Israel Bio Editor

SOCIAL ACTION COMMITTEE

A recent newspaper article told us about the Summer Hunger Campaign sponsored by the All Faiths Food Bank. During the summer months, many of the school children in Sarasota and Manatee counties do not have the free breakfast and free lunch which is provided to eligible children during the school year at their schools.

It is hard to accept the fact that children go hungry right here in our town during the summer months. Sarasota has some of the wealthiest people and businesses.

The Social Action Committee will be helping the All Faiths Food Bank this summer. We are asking you, our generous congregation to direct your attention to donations of non-perishable food. We have a yellow barrel in the Social Hall for your contributions. Please think of the children each time you go to Publix. If you are cleaning out your pantry, bring cans and boxes of food to **TBI**. Fill up that barrel, often. Some of the bins for Turning Points will also be used for food collections this summer. You can continue donating items for Turning Points but the children's hunger should take priority. All Faiths Food Bank will pick up the food items when we call.

We are pleased to report that the Shabbat Shuttle (named by **Richard Olin**) has made several trips from Sarasota Bay Club to **TBI**. We have heard that the SBC residents are very pleased and appreciative. We are hoping to make this an ongoing service and we are planning for ways to make this happen with a nominal charge to the passengers. Donations to the Transportation Fund of **TBI** would greatly help support this worthy service. Some of our congregants have been very helpful and generous in this area. Thank you.

We can't help everyone, but everyone can help someone.

To all of you who are leaving us for the summer, have a happy time wherever your travels take you and come back to us in good health and vigor.

Alice Blueglass
Social Action Chairperson

A TRIBUTE TO BOB VIGDER - A GENTLE SUPER MENSCH!

Grace, wisdom, knowledge, caring and class: these are but a few of the descriptive words for **Bob Vigder**, who has served as President of **Temple Beth Israel** for the past two years. In his own quiet way, Bob has been able to provide meaningful leadership to the Temple Board and membership. In addition to the Executive Committee, Board of Trustees and regular meetings with the Rabbi, he has also attended many, many committee meetings and events. His personal commitment to the Temple and all its activities has been profound. What makes it even more extraordinary is that during this entire period of time, Bob has also been a caring and dedicated husband to his beloved wife Judy, whose medical needs intensified during this same time. This required many trips to Tampa and other medical centers out of the state. It required the focused attention of a deeply caring husband to make sure that his wife received the best attention. These two years are a testament to the great patience, energy, determination and leadership of this very special person.

During his time as President of the Temple, Bob attended services on a regular basis, sought the counsel of the Rabbi and Temple elders, and provided practical and diplomatic leadership in dealing with any and all of the challenges he faced. His vision for the future of the Temple enabled him to support the creation of the annual Choir Concert. This concert, in honor of **Florence Katz (z"l)**, helped to close the financial gap in balancing the budget. He constantly searched for new and better ways for the Temple to operate on a daily basis. His wisdom in selecting and supporting **Isaac Azerad** as the Executive Director was one of his best decisions. The Executive Committee and the Board of Trustees join me in applauding and thanking him for all he has done for us.

Bob Vigder has truly made a positive and significant difference in the organization and operation of **Temple Beth Israel**. He is a genuine Super Mensch!

With sincere and deep gratitude,

Murray Blueglass
Vice President



(L to R) **BIW honors Barbara for her leadership - BIW current Co-Presidents Judy Goldstein and Sylvia Pastor & Past President Barbara Siegel**



Windy and fun filled BIW luncheon at the Beach House

RITUAL COMMITTEE

We wish all our members, their families and friends, a safe, comfortable, relaxed and enjoyable spring and summer. Our Sabbath Services continue all year. Please see the schedule below.

If you spend the High Holy Days with us at **Temple Beth Israel**, you will be delighted with the return of Cantorial Soloist Robert Marinoff. He will join **Rabbi Stephen Sniderman, Dr. Ann Stephenson-Moe**, our Director of Music, and the Temple Choir in joyous and memorable High Holy Day Services. We will also be using a new two-volume set of prayer books, donated in memory of beloved Temple members, by their families.

FRIDAY SABBATH SERVICE TIMES FOR MAY THROUGH SEPTEMBER 2018:

The first Friday of each month of the year, effective **May 4, 2018**, there will be a Congregational, Catered Dinner at 6:00 p.m., in the Social Hall, paid by the members and guests attending the dinner. Immediately following, there will be a Sabbath Service in the Sanctuary at 7:30 p.m.

All other Fridays, beginning with the second Friday in May (**May 11, 2018**) and continuing to the Friday after Yom Kippur, (**September 21, 2018**) Sabbath services will begin at 5:30 p.m.

SHABBAT DINNERS:

Sabbath dinners are planned for Fridays at 6:00 p.m. on: **June 1, July 6, August 3, September 7, October 5, November 2, December 7**. Dinner dates for 2019 will be announced in the fall.

SATURDAY MORNING SABBATH SERVICES:

Saturday morning services will continue to begin at 10:00 a.m.

Shalom and Be Well,

Murray Blueglass

Ritual Committee Chairperson

May, June, July & Aug Birthdays

MAY

MAY 1

Howard Silver
Ed Sobel

MAY 2

Patricia Baron

MAY 3

Jay Moskow
Judith Rudges
Stuart Sinai

MAY 4

Marge Heller

MAY 6

Eden Neumann

MAY 7

Merle Greenwald

MAY 8

Marcia Bardos

MAY 9

Robert Berns
Barbara Perilstein

MAY 10

Judy Krasnow

MAY 11

Sharon Frankel
Irwin Kaplan
Frances Sax

MAY 12

Roberta Berger
Edwin Biron
Barbara Biron
Margo Lee

MAY 13

Norma Greenwald
Robert Israeloff
Cyvia Snyder

MAY 14

Lynn Burton
Dr. Julius Deren
Amy Goldman
Margot Robinson

MAY 15

Edward Levi

MAY 16

Pat Kaplan

MAY 17

Warren Coville
Louise Solomon

MAY 18

Pamela Reiter

MAY 20

Ada Mae Abuza
Rosolyn Brott
Rhoda Cooper
Ronald Krum

MAY 21

Steven Wexler

MAY 23

Bib Grossman
Claudine Siegel

MAY 24

Miriam Waltzer

MAY 26

Leonard Berenfield
Robert Dinkin
US Marshal
Alvin Grossman

MAY 27

Edith Weinberger

MAY 28

Roslyn Mazur

MAY 29

Esther Rose
Dr. Herbert Waltzer

MAY 30

Ann Berenfield
Marvin Black
Betty Levi

MAY 31

Rochelle "Ronni"
Bernard
Barbara Struth

JUNE

JUNE 1

Amy Roth

JUNE 2

Efat Powell
Gail Sinick

JUNE 3

Charles Ackerman
Carole Shaw
Alan Siegel
Elaine Weill

JUNE 4

Robert Gary

JUNE 5

Liz Gold
Rabbi Jonathan Katz

JUNE 6

Alice Blueglass
Gerard Daniel
Phyllis Ploener
Mildred Stein

JUNE 7

Vian Ewart

JUNE 9

Jayne Meth
Dr. Robert
Rosenbluth

JUNE 11

Burton Gold

JUNE 14

Dr. Philip Gelber

JUNE 16

Audrey Heimler
Lee Mirman

JUNE 18

Carolyn Fay

JUNE 21

Martin Bader
Elaine Beck
Robert Biller
Lois Schottenstein

JUNE 22

Gerry Ronkin
Tena Tessler

JUNE 24

Earl Gordon
Carole Singer
David Thierman

JUNE 25

Roxane Dinkin
Alice Fishman
Rabbi Peter Kasdan
Claire Smith

JUNE 26

Sanford Mackman

JUNE 28

R. Bonnie Haber

JUNE 29

Neil Blume
Ann Glickman
Barbara Gross

JUNE 30

Robert Spitzer

JULY

JULY 1

David Snyder

JULY 2

Lee Mirman
Robert Smith

JULY 3

George Bardos
Suzan Gaynes
Judy Vigder

JULY 4

Linda Albert
Theresa Blumberg

JULY 5

June Stern

JULY 6

Dr. Lois Barson
Tamra Shankman

JULY 7

Jay Clement
Marilyn Naiditch
Wendy Blumenthal

JULY 8

Wendy Blumenthal
Debby Hamburg
Ronda Manasse
Burton Silbert

JULY 11

Ilse Hecht

JULY 14

Kelli Veit

JULY 15

Jenny L. Walder

JULY 16

Arthur Karafin

JULY 17

Maxine Spitzer

JULY 18

Irma Eison
Ruth Engman

JULY 19

Judge Marvin Morse

JULY 20

Robert Rutzen
Marilyn Taub

JULY 21

Judith Parmet

JULY 22

Morris Jacobson
Ina Rae Levy
Alan Schottenstein

JULY 24

Doris Kaplan

JULY 27

Marc Bazilian

JULY 30

Rabbi Michael B.
Eisenstat

JULY 31

Jan Goldsmith
Richard Olin
Barbara Siegel

AUGUST**AUG 1**

Stanley Kolodkin

AUG 2

Sam Brott

AUG 4

Mildred Field

AUG 8

Martha Friedman
Joan Lieberman

AUG 10

Ivan Kushen
Rae Lichtenstein
Evans Tilles
Dee Etshtien

AUG 12

Robin Tannenbaum

AUG 13

Ruth Orne

AUG 14

Thomas Hecht
Brenda Sax

AUG 16

Peggy Ruder

AUG 19

Elana Gordon

AUG 22

Leonard Libman
Allen Siegel
Corinne Sniderman

AUG 23

Carl Friedman
Sheldon Glickman

AUG 24

Rochelle Tarter

AUG 28

Alice Wolkenberg

AUG 30

Michael Sherrow

Happy Birthdays!

Happy Anniversary!

May: Lois & Leslie Fishman 1, Carole & Dr. Ira Singer 3, Ann & Leonard Berenfield 9, Judith & Donald Markstein 15, Florence & Milton Harr 19, Marilyn & Irving Naiditch 30, Bib & U.S. Marshall Alvin Grossman 31

JUNE: Helen & Roy Diton 2, Norma & Merle Greenwald 3, Carole & Sy Klionsky 3, Roxane & Robert Dinkin 5, Nancy & Mark Bazilian 7, Joan & Robert Biller 10, Ellen & Richard Klein 12, Jay & Phyllis Clement 13, Lousie & Dr. O. David Solomon 14, William & Marjorie Sandy 15, Elana & Earl Gordon 16, Sylvia & Irwin Pastor 16, Joelle & Jerry Hamovit 17, Susan & Dr. Kenneth Newmark 18, Estelle & Burton Silbert 19, Elaine & Allan Shwartzman 22, Diane & Howard Small 24, Marcie & Dr. Sandford Mackman 25, Corinne & Rabbi Stephen Sniderman 30

JULY: Bonny & Robert Israeloff 3, Sheila & Richard Olin 3, Maxine & Robert Spitzer 4, Andrea & Howard Lieb 6, Theresa & Robert Blumberg 11, Sandra & Benjamin Krause 22, Judy & Eugene Krasnow 29

AUGUST: Sophie & Jake Pollack 3, Betty & Edward Levi 4, Karen & Robert Gary 14, Martha & Carl Friedman 15, Judith & Robert Vigder 16, Barbara & Norman Gross 23, Nessa & Richard Levine 23, Linda & Dr. Robert Rosenbluth 23, Judith & Robin Tannenbaum 24, Lee Ann & Jerome Salle 24, Marlena & Walter 28, Bonney & Leonard Libman 28, Bernice & Morton Skirboll 28, Sandra & Arthur Frater 30, Elise & James Galinsky 30, Angela & Robert Thierman 30, Miriam & Dr. Herbert Waltzer 30

May, June, July & Aug Jahrzeits

To be read on each of the following Fridays:

MAY 4

Pearl Angstreich
Mary Bardos
Ida Blume
Joseph Burstyn
Ralph Cohen
Irving Eisenstat
Eva Goldblatt
Irving Golden
Mickey Goldstein
Reba Green
Lawrence Greene
Arthur Herman
Marion Klionsky
Faye Kolbur
Ben Kolbur
David Lutkoff
Erwin Marks

MAY 11

Mary Dorf
Ann Emmerman
Dr. Harold S. Feldman
Mary Field
Morris Gerber
Rose Goldberg
Henry Golde
Ruth Haber
Harry Horwitz
Christine Lasker
Herman Meckler
Sydney Pastor
Dorothy Rosenzweig
Lucille Rosin
Lena Wolowitz

MAY 18

Elliot Belson
Robert Bobowick
Laurence DeLynn
Ruth Gary
Dorothy Goldsmith
Elsbeth K. Gottschalk
Betty Hess
Dr. Robert Katz
Todd Andrew Pastor
Hymen Pollack
Jack Wexler

MAY 25

Norbert Daniel
Sarah Frank
Emma Jacob
Max Levy
Faye Leah Robiner
Teddy Schulman
Milton Wolf

JUN 1

Frederick Burton
Meyer Gerson
Tillie Gordon
Sylvia Granowitz
Lillian Greenwald
Gerald Harlam
Julius Klanfer
Ari David Moses Morse
Frances Nelson
Andrew Pastor
Arnold Rosen
Abe Rosenzweig
Maurice Schottenfeld
Mayve Skirboll

JUN 8

Abraham L Berk
Hermine Biller
Abe Casden
Bertha Cohen
Howard Fineshriber
Pearl Fishman
Sol C. Grossman
Albert Hess
Max Klionsky
Lucille Lee
Sheila Mahler
Belle Novick
Rose Orlic
Minnie Riefs
Howard A. Sabin
Sylvia Schottenfeld
Abraham Silverstein
Philip Sinai
Leonard Steinberg
Hannah Wedeen
Max Yospin

JUN 15

Sidney Alexander
Benjamin Gilfix
Maxine Levi
Philip Nelson
Leonard Ploener
Bruce Sands
Samuel Waltzer
Sam Wolf
Minnie Ziskind

JUN 25

Beatrice Alexander
Dora S. Biller
David Cohen
Sara Feld
Esther Fishman
Lydia Gamer

Edwin B. Goddin
Max Granowitz

JUN 29

Sarah Belson
Ruth Daniel
Louis Davis
Irving Eison
Arnold Fein
Glen Fishman
Hilbert Fleischman
Etta Gerber
Harry Heller
Howard Hess
Sadie Lefcowitz
Robert Levine
Shirley Newmark
Dorothy Schmierer
Goldie Schoenbaum
Ella Schilling
Irving Vogel

JUL 6

Rose Boorstein
Kaete Feilchenfeld
Solomon Field
Harry Fishman
Sarah Friedkin
Michael Katz
Murray Klanfer
Blanche Langs
Gertrude Lazorow
Gloria Libien
Joseph Rosenberg
Richard Siegel
Jack Solomon
Lillian Steinberg
Norman Tendler
Frances Yavetz

JUL 13

J. Brock Albert
Sylvia Bergman
Lucille Biron
Ivy Diton
Louis Froman
Leo Gilman
Jeanette Goldschmidt
Dorothy Goldstein
Morris Golub
Norman Grocer
Jodie Grossman
Geri Pitasky Silverstein
Fanny Wexler
Gladys Yospin

JUL 20

Samuel Ackerman
Shirley Behrendt
Norman Berns
Robert Blumfield
Harry Boorstein
Ben Brooks
Doris Burdman
Gerald Engman
Abraham Fein
Robert Gilbert
Harry Goldman
Joseph Harburger
Clara Kaplan
Mina Levy
Marilyn Liebovitz
Lillian Morse
Harry Pielet
Samuel Polinsky
Daniel Rosenbluth
William Rosenbluth

JUL 27

Micki Gamer
Nathan Griesman
Albert Naiditch
David Olin
Louis B. Olin
Charles White

AUG 3

James Ackerman
Isaac Aronsohn
Charles Bardos
Barney Cole
Rose Hamovit
Hugo Kaufmann
Rachel Naiditch
John Pitasky
Harry Riefs
Seymour C. Rudes
Sophia Silverstein
Judge Carl Stier

AUG 10

Esther Adler
Harold Berger
Ernestine Berger
Regina Bobowick
Samuel Burgin
George Ginsburg
Gaynelle Greene
Howard Isermann
Joan Kaufmann
Samuel Markowitz

Samuel Robiner
Benjamin Salk
Sylvia Wolf

AUG 17

Harry Burdman
Harry Coville
Samuel N. Feidelman
Lillian Goldfarb
Judith Goldie
Doris Jacobson
Lois Lesser
Lucien Levy
Larry Lieberman
Mildred Mallets
Charles Rauch
Marion Reiter
Jerry Shankman
Celia Sherrow
Jean Wexler
Ruth Wexler

AUG 27

Herman Angstreich
Laurie Biskin
Elliott Cohen
Max Daniel
Andrew Eldredge
Barbara Felicetta
Ralph Grossman
Peter Kitay
Herman Kushen
Abraham Leis
Jay Lieberman
Ida Medvene
David Pitasky
Pauline Polinsky
David Silbert
Al Trope

Yahrzeits Donations

In Memory of

Pearl Angstreich
Nora Balk
Lucy Zizzen Berk
Edna Bikoff
Ida Blume
Celia Briefer
William Briefer
James Cantor
Sara Cantor
Gary Cole
Ethel Derechinsky
Morris Derechinsky
Rolf Joseph Feilchenfeld
Julia K. Fineshriber
Sarah Frank
Irving Golden
Kermit "Kit" Green
Samuel Green
Lawrence Greene
Theodore Greenwald
Harry Horwitz
Dr. Milton Jacobson
Rolf Joseph Feilchenfeld
Sally Kaplan
Belle Katz
Nathan Katz
Sydney Kitay
Simon Levin
Eugene Levine
Sarah Levy
Harry Mackman
Morton Margolies
Jerome Markstein
Meyer R. Milner
Bernard Polinsky
Carle Polinsky
Max Ringler
Sadie Ringler
Robert S. Bernard
Harold Sadwin
Dr. Israel Schmierer
Gerry Schreiber
Teddy Schulman
Shirley Schwartzberg
James Robert Slate
Robert Slote
Bert Struth
Henry Taub
Michael Veit
Dorothy Vigder
Judy & Bob Vigder
Betty Wiseman
Lena Wolowitz
Lucy Zizzen Berk

From

Cheryl Taub
Barry & Suzan Friedman
Suzanne Schuster
Joan & Dr. David Greene
Judy & Neil Blume
Gloria Bergman
Gloria Bergman
Judy & Neil Blume
Judy & Neil Blume
Tena Tessler
Audrey & Dr. Julius Deren
Audrey & Dr. Julius Deren
Gerry Daniel
Frank & Christa Fineshriber
Betty Schoenbaum
Gloria Sabin
Robin Green
Marcie & Dr. Sanford Mackman
Joan & Dr. David Greene
Norma & Merle Greenwald
Dorothy Jacobson
Dorothy Jacobson
Gerry Daniel
Cynthia Chesner
Barbara Struth
Judy & Bob Vigder
Rosalyn Fleischer
Ronda Manasse
Gloria Levine
Ina Rae Levy
Marcie & Dr. Sanford Mackman
Nancy Cohen
Judith & Donald Markstein
Doris Kaplan
Shirley Fein
Shirley Fein
Janice Ellison
Janice Ellison
Ronni Bernard
Susan Morin
Audrey Deren
Sharon Schreiber
Judy Goldstein
Judith Parmet
Shirley Fein
Shirley Fein
Barbara Struth
Marilyn Taub
Howard & Kelli Veit
Robert Vigder
Nathan Katz
Bonney Libman
Marvin Black
Suzanne Schuster

Donations

BIW KITCHEN FUND

Wishing you both continued recovery.
Nessa & Richard Levine
by Sylvia & Irwin Pastor

Wishing you happiness in your new home!

Nancy Cohen
by Doris Kaplan

In memory of Gary Lichtman.

Marsha Lichtman
by Sylvia & Irwin Pastor

In memory of Robert Garner.

Mrs. Dottie Garner & Family
by Doris Kaplan

In memory of Merrill Zinder.

Sheila Zinder
by Sylvia & Irwin Pastor

Wishing you happiness in your new home!

Joyce & Sherman Cooper
by Doris Kaplan

In loving memory of Blair Wolfson.

Frema Jane Wolfson
by Sylvia & Irwin Pastor

Wishing you speedy recovery

Sharon Levite
by Sylvia & Irwin Pastor

CHOIR FUND

Congratulations on becoming the President of TBI!

Murray Blueglass
by Doris Kaplan

In honor of Judy & Bob Vigder.

TBI Choir
by Susan & Randy Mallitz

Happy Mother's Day, Mom and Grandma!

Ruth Engman
by Suzy & Mark Weber

In honor of Marge Sandy's birthday.

Marge Sandy
by Dr. Sandra Packard & Lewis Moyer

Honoring the yahrzeit of Virginia King, mother of Sue Nusbaum.

TBI Choir
by Sue Nusbaum

In appreciation of services.

Temple Beth Israel
by Philip & Barbara Meltzer

In honor of Carole Klionsky.

Carole Klionsky
by Joel & Jan Feidelman

In honor of your 75th birthday!

Irene Ross
by Lorraine Kaplan

In memory of Aileen Farber.

Frank Levine
by Barbara Blumfield

In recognition of Ruth Engman.

Ruth Engman
by Terry & Arnold Belker

Continued on pg 30...

Temple Beth Israel Congregation wishes to acknowledge the estate of long time member **Sharon Elsbeth Oper (z"l)** for her generous gift. By making provisions to contribute to our endowment fund, **Sharon Oper** has demonstrated her love and devotion to her Temple. She will be remembered fondly. May her memory be a blessing.

*** Donations made after the 5th of the month will be acknowledged in the following month's bulletin.**

BEYOND THE BIMAH: Dr. Bernard & Marion Levine

Members' Personal Stories in Choosing TBI



Dr. Bernard & Marion Levine

"I feel very compelled to help the Jews of this community be part of Temple."

Marion Levine

For many of our columns we focus on newer members to learn what inspired them to join our Temple community. This month we take our first opportunity to look into what inspires those that have grown into a prominent leadership role at **TBI**. What drives their passion for investing countless hours volunteering here?

Despite the fact that **Marion Levine** still handles sales accounts for the janitorial supply business she sold off years ago, she has served consecutive terms on **TBI's** Board of Trustees as a Vice President, along with leadership positions within Beth Israel Women. Currently she serves as the VP of Special Events and Membership. She also is on the Board of the Jewish Family and Children Services (JFCS). Her husband **Bernard Levine** (Bernie) has always supported her endeavors with admiration for her intellect, ambition, and loving devotion to the people and causes that matter to her.

Although Bernie grew up in an Orthodox environment and had established himself on Longboat well before he met Marion, it wasn't until Marion entered his life that he became part

of **TBI** here on Longboat. Bernie appreciates attending Shabbat services, the visiting scholars, and the 92nd St.Y. He was, and still is, a long time seasonal member of Congregation B'nai Israel in Bridgeport, CT, where the couple still returns for services when in residence at their northern home in North Shore Towers (bordering Nassau and Queens Counties).

Marion was not always consistently involved with a synagogue throughout her life. While she always observed the High Holidays, having founded her own business, and a being a single mom, there were stages when she was not as observant on a day to day basis. What drove her back to synagogue was the importance it held for her mother. Her mom, Adeline Salomon (z"l) of Brookline, was still living when she joined **TBI**. Marion felt she needed a place they would attend together when her mom was visiting.

Marion also needed a place to perform Yizkor for her son Carl (z"l), for her children's father, and her own father. With the intensity and demands of her daily life, Marion cherishes the respite of Friday night services. It is her space to unwind and relax, and feel the presence of the loved ones who have passed. Now whenever Marion is in the synagogue, she finds a particular kind of peace, "When I am in the synagogue I feel I am with my mom".

The Temple's long-term survival is now Marion's calling. For her it is paramount that any Jewish individual who may be on the outside should be welcome with open arms into our Temple. When we personally joined **TBI**, Marion, as the VP of Membership, was the first person to welcome us into the Temple family. We immediately felt Marion's metaphorical welcoming embrace. She is attentive to every new member coming through the doors, hoping to connect them and give them a sense of belonging.

Bernie initially came to Longboat Key because his brother had a place here. At the time the east side of Gulf of Mexico Drive was a desert. Only the original golf course of the Longboat Key Club existed. In 1983 Bernie bought the model apartment in Fairway Bay. When the time came to get a bigger place, he bought what is now the couple's current home in Harbor Oaks Circle in Bay Isles.

It is a wonderment to listen to Bernie's life experiences, especially having lived through the Great Depression. He was heavily influenced by a cousin, who in 1929 graduated from dental school. Despite the state of the country's economy, Bernie saw that his cousin was able to earn a respectable living. Bernie, along with his brother, both decided to pursue dentistry. He practiced for 38 years. Interestingly, Bernie's daughter Susan started her career as a dental hygienist, and then surprised her father when she also decided to go to dental school. She continues today as a partner in the practice he started in Stratford, CT.

Two Lives Converge

While still living in Connecticut, Bernie was in the process of getting divorced. He was encouraged by life long friends to approach Marion Murray. Marion was widowed and living in NYC. On June 12 of 1992, Bernie finally called Marion. He asked her on a date in the city the following night. Marion already had plans, but ended up rearranging her weekend to accommodate Bernie. The couple talked that first meeting until they closed down the restaurant. They then ended up seeing each other on Sunday, and every night that following week.

The plot thickened when Bernie, at this point already retired, had plans to leave a few days later (on June 26th) to volunteer his dentistry services for that entire summer at a kibbutz in Israel. Marion had family in Israel, and connected Bernie to her first cousin near Tel Aviv. He pleaded for her to come visit him there. Marion was reticent to leave NY because her son Carl (z"l) was recovering from a bone marrow transplant and she was also working. They stayed in touch, sending letters via fax. Then finally, with the encouragement and support of her family, Marion decided to take the plunge and spent the last two weeks of the summer with Bernie in Israel.

Bernie met Marion at the airport in Israel with a bouquet of flowers. From that point forward, anytime Marion returned from any trip he has always presented her with flowers. At the close of that summer, the couple returned to NYC together.... and they stayed together.

Once they were married on April 28 of 1996, Marion joined Bernie on Longboat Key, where they continue to live half the year. They are currently celebrating 22 years of marriage.

Marion and Bernie have four children between them- Martin, Susan, Jill & Heidi. They have 5 grandchildren- Aaron, Alex, Ashley, Cameron and Dylan. Marion's son Carl passed away from Leukemia.

Marion, though we have only seen Carl through pictures, we feel a kinship to him in spirit, not only because he is our same age, but also because you have been like a surrogate mother/grandmother to us, bringing our family into the fold of your family and the Temple family.

Much gratitude to Marion and Bernie for being pillars of **TBI**.

Lisa & Lee Mirman
Beyond the Bimah Editors

Scam, Sham: No Thank you, Ma'am

As with all unwanted phone calls, the first scam of the week arrived just as we sat down to lunch. My husband's cell went off and even though I have declared that we answer no phone calls at lunch or dinner time (they haven't caught on to breakfast yet) he answered it.

"Grandpa?" said a young-sounding voice on the other end. My carefully drawn eyebrows raised themselves. Our grandkids call my husband "Pop-pop." No, it's not terribly original, but it put me on to the fact that we might have something going on here, something I like to call "unsavory."

But my husband, oblivious to all but the soup he was heating on the stove, said, "Yes?" Men!

Then the little scammer went on to cajole us with this untrue statement. "I can't tell this to Mom and Dad. They would get angry with me and I trust you so much more than I trust them. I know you will help me."

That has never been the case. Our grandchildren go to their parents with all their problems and we were there more for laughs than anything else, and hugs and kisses (although getting harder to get from the teens nowadays).

The young man had a whole story about going out for a ride with his friend and the friend was caught speeding and when the cops pulled him over they found pot in his glove compartment and now my darling 'grandson' was in a holding cell and he needed a thousand dollars to get out. Somewhere he said the word "about" but he said, "aboot" so I knew he was Canadian, which my grandchildren are not.

I took the phone from my dazed spouse, and said very earnestly, "My darling grandson. I love you so much, and I am going to go to the bank and send you that money just as soon as you tell me the names of the two dogs who live in our home."

The boy dropped the phone and a man came on. They always try to save the Sting no matter what.

"Who is this?" I asked politely.
 "My name is Sergeant Jones," he said.
 "And where are you, Sergeant Jones?"
 "I am downtown."

"Downtown where?"

"New York City, of course," he said, sounding as though his brain were far superior to my pitiful little one. My husband's cell has a New York number on it, but not mine. Too bad they didn't know that. I could have saved them some time.

"Well, I am in Florida. Obviously, you sir are in the wrong "downtown."

There was no response. Question: How do they find us and how do they know we are old?"

The second scam partially occurred while I was out shopping, a habit I need to break.

When I came in my darling partner was talking on the phone to someone who was threatening to send the sheriff to our home. I didn't like the sound of that. I quickly decided it was a scam when my spouse covered the phone with his hand and whispered, "It's' the IRS." The IRS NEVER calls you, but they might send a registered letter sometime. So far, we've never had one sent to us.

Now I am going to be the bigger person here and just say that my husband was momentarily befuddled, thinking that perhaps all those pictures he's taken of clothes I donate so that I can fit new ones into my closet had somehow backfired, and the IRS was thinking that I needed to give away better stuff.

Meanwhile, my better half was making arrangements to meet this supposed IRS man at the bank. I grabbed the phone and said, "That little meeting isn't going to take place, do you understand?"

"Then the sheriff will be at your home momentarily," the voice on the other end responded.

"Oh, please do send him. I know him well (I don't) and we'll have a cup of coffee together, along with some cookies I just baked," I lied. If they can, so can I, I reasoned.

Needless to say, a very unhappy scammer hung up and the sheriff never showed. Imagine that!

Judy Goldstein

SAC - PLASTIC GARBAGE

“Malibu votes unanimously to ban plastic cutlery and straws on its beaches. The city already bans Styrofoam and plastic bags.”

“The Church of England bans consumer plastics for Lent.”

“Dutch Supermarket Chain Unveils Plastic-Free Aisle.”

These are headlines from the New York Times and Sarasota Herald Tribune.

Did you know that there are islands of plastic garbage in all of the world’s oceans? The largest one, in the Pacific, is twice the size of the state of Texas, and 80% of it comes from plastic waste that originates from land. It floats down the rivers or is borne by the winds into the ocean currents.

Every day people throw away about four million tons of trash, and about 13% of it is made up of plastic. Plastics contain endocrine disruptors, chemicals that may interfere with the body’s endocrine system and produce adverse developmental, reproductive, neurological, and immune effects in both humans and wildlife. They pose the greatest risk during prenatal and early postnatal development. (NIH)

So what can you do to reduce the amount of plastic in the garbage?

- **Minimize use of plastic bottles; don’t buy water in small bottles.**
- **Buy larger bottles of lotions, cleaning supplies and refill a small bottle.**
- **Buy products with less packaging.**
- **Don’t buy toothpaste or other products with the blue microbeads.**
- **Use reusable shopping bags.**
- **Minimize use of disposable plastic dishes and Styrofoam cups. Use biodegradable ones instead.**

And most of all Reduce Reuse & Recycle.

Jo Ann Goldwater
TBI Social Action Committee



MY SPIRITUAL JOURNEY TO REFORM JUDAISM

My introduction and conversion to Reform Judaism from a diluted, pseudo-Orthodoxy, began at Rosh Hashanah services in Mt. Neboh Temple on West 79th Street in New York City in September of 1954.

At that time, I was a single working girl living in Manhattan. I was dating a very nice Jewish fellow who mentioned to his parents that my family lived in Connecticut and I would be alone for the High Holidays. They opened their hearts and not only invited me to join them at Mt. Neboh for services, but to also share their holiday meals as well. I was a stranger in their midst and yet they welcomed me; a mitzvah of the highest caliber.

While growing up on the family farm with my parents, three brothers and paternal grandpa Joseph, my knowledge of Judaism was scant. Yet, I knew that I was Jewish, primarily because my Father made daily speeches to my brothers and me attesting to this fact.

I can hear him now, "You are Jewish, you are special and you are different." He was trying so hard to live as a Jew in a non-Jewish area. Orthodox Judaism was the route that he chose. He did not know any other way. My family and all their Jewish friends bent and molded Judaism into a shape that they could live with; a shape that accommodated only men and boys. No women allowed in their spiritual world. My knowledge of Judaism extended from the kitchen where I helped my Mother prepare the holiday meals, to setting the table for the Friday evening Sabbath dinner.

My Mother acknowledged her Jewishness by performing the rituals-lighting of the Shabbos Candles every Friday night before our special dinner of gefilte fish, chicken soup, roast chicken and honey cake for dessert. She also made sure that the men and boys in our home had clean, starched, white shirts to wear when they went to services.

My three brothers were all bar mitzvahed and knew enough of ritual and Hebrew to pray with their elders in the one room shul (synagogue) that my Father and six other Jewish families built in the early 1930's. I am sure that they learned their prayers by repetition, albeit, without full understanding. Yet, they were valued because they would be available for a minyan (quorum of 10 males) if needed.

Here in this primitive House of Worship, with no heat or plumbing, the minuscule congregation practiced orthodoxy each in their own way. There was no Rabbi. Lay people took turns to read the prayers, and above all, no English was uttered at any time during the service. On occasion, when I would attend High Holy Day Services with the entire family, I would stare out of a window and count the birds that sat on the limbs of the birch tree that my Father planted when he helped to build this tiny House of Worship.

I was denied a Jewish education because I was a girl. Girls get married and their place is in the home and the nursery. In our tiny synagogue in Connecticut, Anshe Israel, a wooden building, (now an Historical Monument), I was truly a stranger. I did not understand what was going on. I did not know the meaning and importance of the Torah, as well as of all the other sacred writings and symbols. I was devoid of spirituality. I did not know how to pray. At that time in my life, I did not know that Reform Judaism or Conservative Judaism existed.

Now, here I was sitting in Mount Nebo Synagogue with my friend and his parents. I looked around and discovered many wonderful situations. First, I noticed that all the men and women were sitting together. How wonderful! I was not expected to sit at the rear door with the women as I had been made to do back in Connecticut long ago. My second observation was notable as well. I could read the prayers in English and follow the services. I did not have to stare out of a window and look for birds to count. A form of meditation seemed to flow through my person. I could understand and make sense out of all that I was hearing. I was part of larger group. I belonged here.

My third observation was the excitement and surprise regarding the Rabbi's sermon. Before this day, I had never heard a sermon. Immediately, I was drawn into this discovery in an intellectual way. Even though I no longer remember the contents of that wonderful sermon, I do remember the expertise of the Rabbi and his apparent skill and great knowledge. I felt like a sponge soaking up all that I could from this amazing sermonic speech. The music of the services was my fourth observation. The beautiful melodies and voices filled me with pleasure and joy that I remember to this day. The history of our people was becoming a reality to me. But, I knew that I had much to learn and it would take a long time.

These four major observations became the fundamental foundation and the transforming encounter upon which I have expanded and developed as a reform Jew. Even though my roots were Jewish, Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kipper of 1954 were the turning points in my personal journey to religious fulfillment.

I was married for 54 years to that nice Jewish fellow that took me to High Holy Day Service at Mount Nebo with his parents many years ago. When we moved to New Jersey in 1961, we became members of Temple Sinai in Tenafly, New Jersey, where both of us enjoyed our Board positions and new friends. During our married life, we traveled to many foreign lands and enjoyed Judaism in many different locations. We experienced Passover in Sydney, Australia; Rosh Hashanah in Tokyo Japan; Yom Kippur in Casablanca; Chanukah in Turkey; and Sabbath services in South Africa as well. Wherever we traveled we always connected with the House of Israel. How fortunate we were.

In 1989 we retired to Longboat Key and found **Temple Beth Israel**, where my journey to Reform Judaism found a permanent home. It's good to be here!

STATE OF THE CONGREGATION

About 80 members gathered in the Temple Sanctuary on Sunday, March 25th, at 2:00 p.m. for the Annual Meeting of the Congregation. **President-Elect Murray Blueglass** presided firmly and graciously as **President Bob Vigder** and **Judy Vigder** were away. Bob sent a nice message reviewing the positive outcomes of his time as President and his confidence for the future with the incoming officers and trustees, which Murray read with his wonderful voice that has a smile in it. He didn't need the help of our ailing sound system.

Rabbi Sniderman opened the meeting with the invocation "May we have the strength, courage, and commitment to keep this wonderful congregation thriving and developing." Later in the meeting, **Rabbi Sniderman** expressed how happy he, **Corinne**, and **Spencer** are in **Temple Beth Israel** and Sarasota. The new two-year contract for **Rabbi Sniderman** was approved unanimously. The Rabbi's goals include implementing the new High Holy Day books into our services as a top priority. He will also work on continuing education programs and membership efforts.

There were many positive reports. **Acting Treasurer Richard Levine** said that the fiscal year 2016-17 ended with a small surplus, and the same is expected for this fiscal Year ending May 31, 2018. This is because of generous donations from the Leadership Circle, the new Benefactor's Fund, and more than usual special donations.

Starting June 1, 2018, financial matters will be watched over by the new **Vice President of Finance, Irwin Parmet** and his finance committee, **Isaac Azerad, David Brenner** and **Allan Goldfarb**. Financial figures will be reported monthly, rather than on an annual basis. The format for listing finance categories has been changed to eight departments. A few members at this meeting spoke, saying contributions donated for a specific purpose should be recorded and counted as such, i.e. contributions for the choir. The budget that Irwin presented for fiscal 2017-18 was unanimously approved by those present at the meeting.

Endowment Chairman **Ben Krause** announced that the Endowment Fund is well diversified and conservatively invested. For the first time, it passed the one million dollar mark in 2017. \$35,000 of Endowment income will be contributed to our Operating Fund for the next fiscal year.

Men's Club Co-Presidents, Lewis Moyer and **Roger Goldstein** reviewed the Men's Club successful Sunday brunches with speakers, and the many special events including the Westcoast Black Theater Troupe presentation, and the coming sunset cruise aboard the Marina Jack yacht. They, along with BIW, sponsored the **2nd Annual Florence Katz (z"l) Memorial Concert**. A check for \$5,000 will be given by the Men's Club to the Temple Operating Account. The Men's Club will sponsor "dutch-treat" lunches during the summer to which both men and women are invited.

New **BIW Co-Presidents, Sylvia Pastor** and **Judy Goldstein**, charmingly reviewed their successful events, BIW lunches, the fashion show, Chanukah dinner, flea market, and plans for the newly reorganized Gift Shop and coming year. The co-sponsored choir concert realized \$17,050. Books and Brown Bags is a long-standing special group within BIW. They hosted

several stimulating book discussions. BIW will contribute at least \$5,000 to the Temple Operating Account.

Our **Executive Director, Isaac Azerad**, spoke about two major efforts. One, Life and Legacy, is a four year deferred donation program throughout our Jewish community and others nationwide and is vital for the future well-being of Jewish organizations and life. So far, we have \$350,000 in Letters of Intent for **Temple Beth Israel's** future from members.

We have had a varied, rich programming schedule this year. The 92nd St. Y programs we show on DVDs throughout the season bring many Jewish people from all parts of the community into Temple and provide an opportunity to gain new members. Isaac appreciates the volunteers who help him but wishes for more. He hopes that extra money will continue to be available for the Scholar in Residence and Kallah Scholar Weekends.

A big concern is membership. Early in the meeting, **Vice President Marion Levine** reported that we have 262 units of membership. A unit is a couple, one family, or a single member. This is down from 322 units two years ago. We are a congregation of older people. It takes great effort to replace those members we lose each year. This year we gained 64 new members but lost 48. **Murray Blueglass** said that everyone in the congregation needs to work on membership. If every member could bring in one new member each year, we would be secure financially.

Dr. Herbert Waltzer, Nominating Committee Chairperson presented the new slate of officers and trustees. **Murray Blueglass, President**. There will now be five Vice Presidents, **Marion Levine** and four new VPs, **Allan Goldfarb, Dr. Sandra Packard, Irwin Parmet**, and **Stuart Sinai**. **Earl Gordon** is the new Financial Secretary. There are nine trustees, five of whom are new, **Lynn Burton, Joel Feidelman, Stuart Tauber, Dr. Howard Tessler**, and **Kelli Veit**. There was a motion, a second, and unanimous acceptance of the new Board. **Rabbi Sniderman** installed this board, encouraging us to do our best and do it with good humor.

Murray Blueglass ended the meeting with a lovely message, promising that he and the entire Board will work hard for **Temple Beth Israel** to merit the trust placed in them. He expressed gratitude for the outstanding leadership provided by **Bob Vigder** the past two years. He commended **Richard Levine** for his 10 years as Treasurer. He stressed the need for even greater effort in finding new members and said "this challenge needs to be recognized and owned by everyone in Temple." He ended his message by remembering "Mr. Roger's Neighborhood," a children's program added to PBS 50 years ago, and still shown in many cities across our country. Mr. Rogers helped a young, wheel-chair bound girl deal with her disability. At the end of a certain show, she said in a proud, determined voice, "I AM, I CAN, I WILL!" So will we meet the challenges of maintaining and furthering our wonderful Temple on Longboat Key.

Ruth Engman
Recording Secretary

GERRY DANIEL HELPS MAKE A MINYAN

Gerry Daniel, TBI member, Past President of the World Union for Progressive Judaism and sponsor of **Temple Beth Israel's Kallah Scholar** weekend, joined nine rabbis to make a minyan.

Temple Beth Israel of Longboat Key welcomed **Rabbi David Saperstein** as its 2018 Kallah Scholar. Rabbi Saperstein is Senior Advisor for Policy and Strategy at the Union for Reform Judaism. He recently served as U.S. Ambassador at large for International Religious Freedom and for 40 years was the Director of the Religious Action Center of Reform Judaism.

Temple Beth Israel's sanctuary was full as Rabbi Saperstein spoke on "Being the Hands of God: Jewish Social Justice in a Time of Crisis and Opportunity" on Friday night, March 16 and "Religious Persecution, Refugees and the Search for Religious Freedom Across the Globe" on Saturday, March 17.



(L to R) **Rabbi Howard Simon, Rabbi Max Hausen, Rabbi Peter Kasdan, Rabbi Everett Gendler, Gerry Daniel, Rabbi David Saperstein, Rabbi Michael B. Eisenstat, Rabbi Mark Goldman, Rabbi Richard Klein and Rabbi Stephen Sniderman.**



(L to R) **Rabbi David Saperstein & Gerry Daniel**

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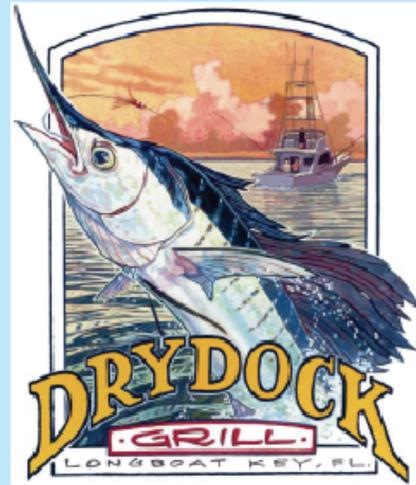


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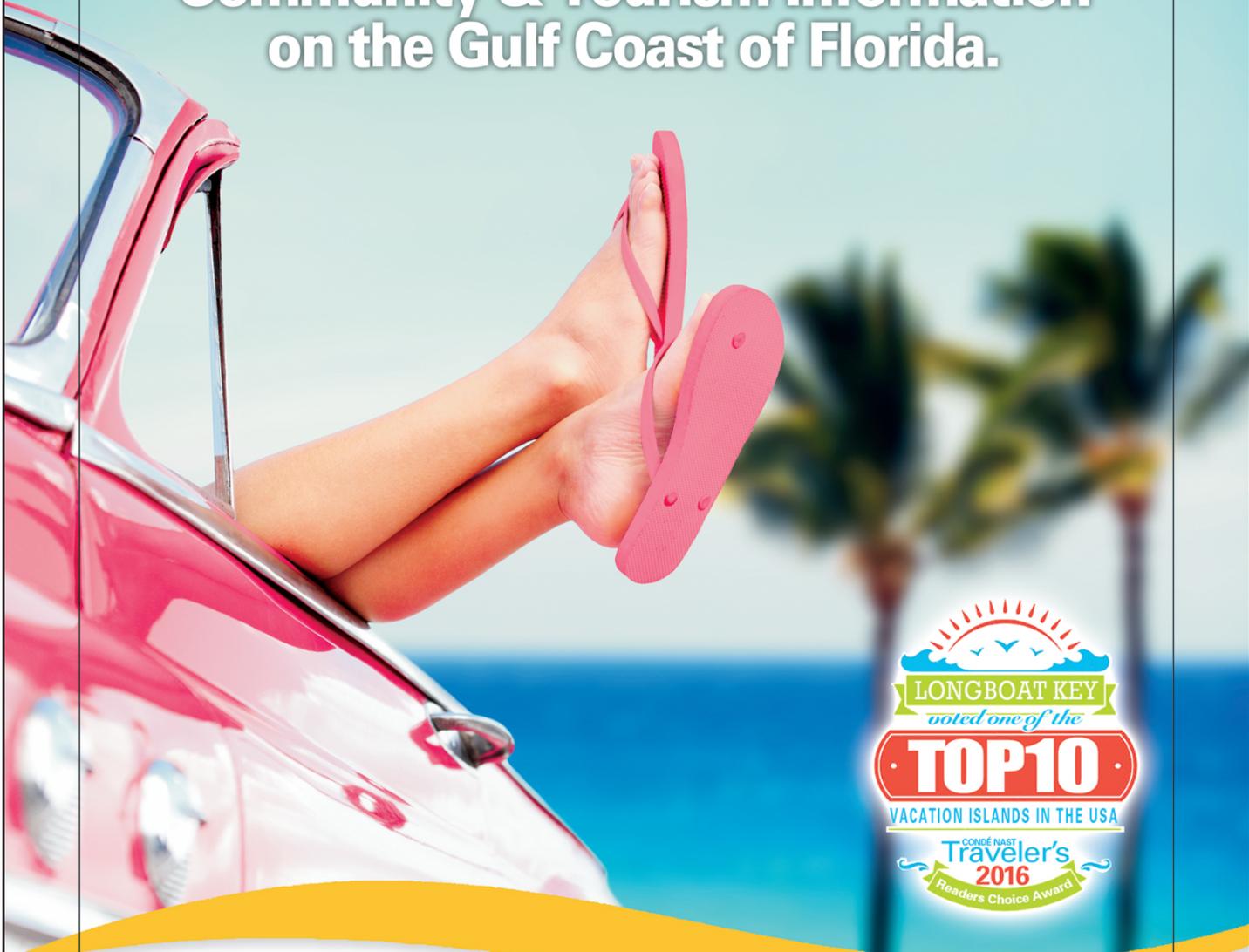
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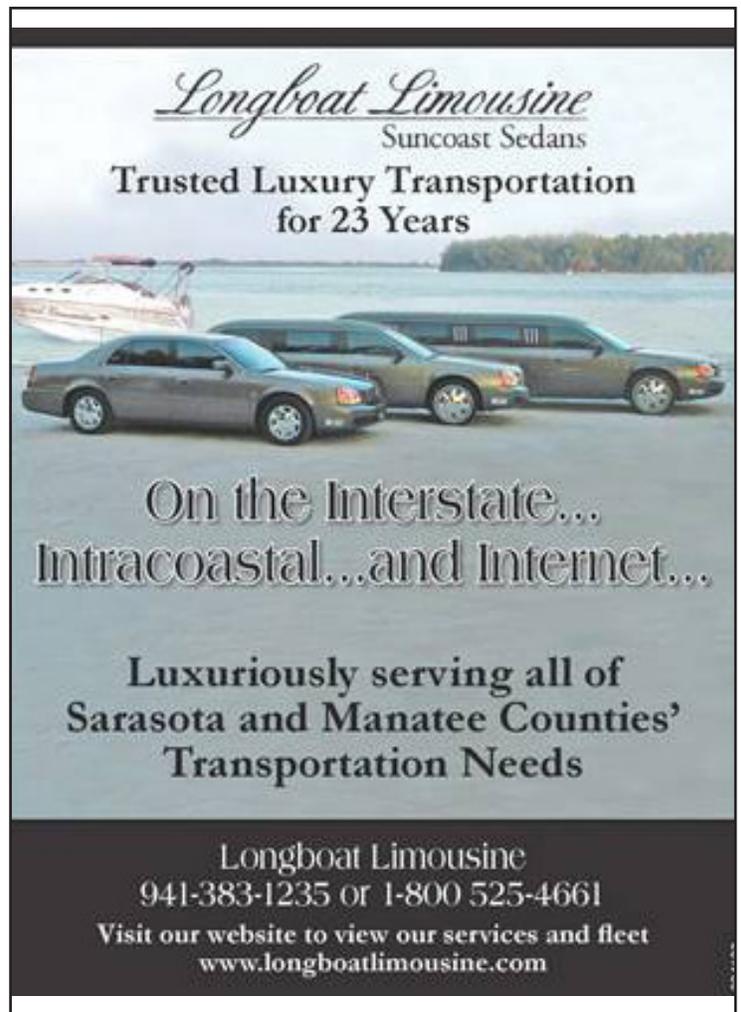
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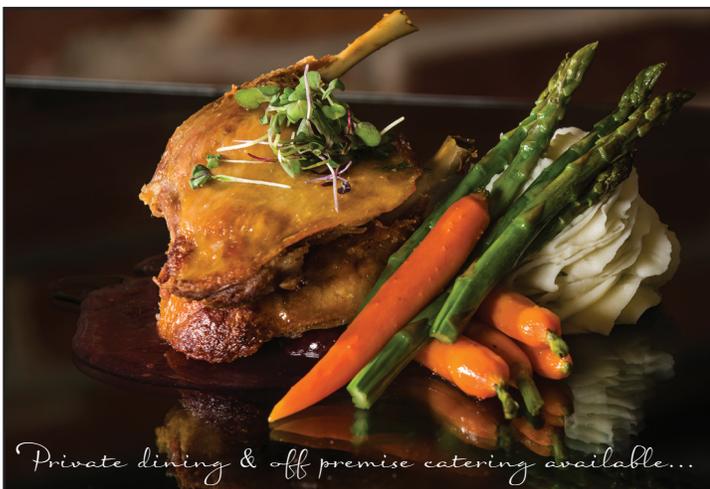
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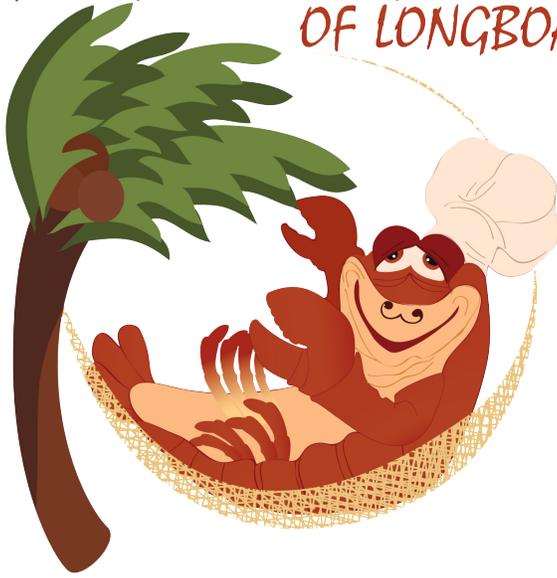
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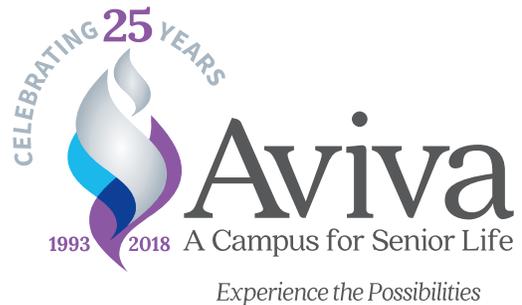
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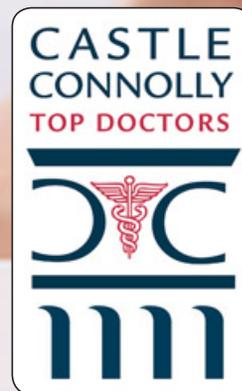


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May 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4 Bridge 9:30 a.m. Shabbat Dinner 6 p.m. Service 7:30 p.m.	5 Service 10 a.m.
6	7	8 Executive Meeting 2 p.m.	9	10	11 Bridge 9:30 a.m. Service 5:30 p.m.	12 Service 10 a.m.
13	14	15	16	17	18 Bridge 9:30 a.m. Service 5:30 p.m.	19 Service 10 a.m.
20	21	22 Board Meeting 2 p.m.	23	24	25 Bridge 9:30 a.m. Service 5:30 p.m.	26 Service 10 a.m.
27	28 Memorial Day Temple closed	29	30	31		

May Shabbat Dinner - 6 p.m.
Friday, May 4, 2018
\$30 for members, \$35 for guests.

Name: _____

Amount Enclosed: _____

Please make checks payable to TBI

June Shabbat Dinner - 6 p.m.
Friday, June 1, 2018
\$30 for members, \$35 for guests.

Name: _____

Amount Enclosed: _____

Please make checks payable to TBI

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New members soiree hosted by Marion & Bernard Levine
at the Levines 3/15/18

EDITOR'S NOTES

Articles and photos from **TBI** members are most welcome. The deadline for submission is the 10th of the preceding month for publication. Please submit your articles, photos and coupons as Microsoft Word email attachments to packard@oakland.edu. Photos submitted should include the name of each person in the photo, as well as the event at which the photo was taken.

TBI member and staff contributors to this issue include: authors **Rabbi Stephen Sniderman; President Bob Vigder; Executive Director Isaac Azerad; Men's Club Co-President Lewis Moyer; VP Marion Levine; VP Murray Blueglass; Committee Chairpersons, Program Chairpersons or Board Members Gloria Sabin, Alice Blueglass, Ruth Engman, Judy Vigder, Amy Roth; and regular or occasional column writers Suzanne Schuster, Lee and Lisa Mirman, Doris Kaplan, Judy Goldstein, Jo Ann Goldwater. Neil Blume** is our official

photographer. **Allan Goldfarb** and **Barbara Pressman** obtain our funding by selling ads. **Jen** and **Shana** compile the names for Birthdays, Anniversaries, Yahrzeits, Donations, etc.

There are also some very diligent and generous **TBI** members who read each submission and find the errors and corrections needed before printing. These people are: **Lynn Burton, Madeleine and David Brenner, Ed Cohen, Sandra Cutler-Cohen, Judy Goldstein, Paul Morgenstern, Lewis Moyer, Gloria Sabin, Carol Shaw, and Estelle Silbert.**

The *Bulletin* is not just about our community, it is the "offspring" of our community.

Sandy Packard, Editor