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RePort

Celebrating 76 Years of Building Jewish Pride in Port

Port Washington, NY 11050
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www.tbiport.com

July/August 2009
Tammuz/Av/Elul 5769

President's Notes by Jay Silverman

TBI's Next Chapter

Have you ever read a book that totally grabbed your attention to the point where you just couldn't put the book down or wait until you got to the next chapter to see what was going to happen? Well, that's exactly how I feel about Temple Beth Israel at this time in its history. To me, Temple Beth Israel is a lengthy novel with many different and interesting chapters, and I can't wait to help write the next one.

Over the summer months, we began to write the next chapter in Temple Beth Israel's long and rich history by welcoming Rabbi Mishkin and his fiancé, Tamara Noble, into their new TBI family and the Port Washington community. While Rabbi Mishkin does not officially start until August 1, no one is waiting until then. Rabbi Mishkin has already visited Temple Beth Israel several times, and he has begun leading and partnering with us on our spiritual and religious journey that lies ahead.

To insure Rabbi Mishkin's and Tamara's successful transition and integration, Temple Beth Israel's officers, Board of Trustees and

(continued on page 5)

From the Rabbi

Shalom TBI Community

As I write my first bulletin article, I am full of joy, excitement, and gratitude for the opportunity I have to be a part of your community and to lead it as your rabbi. I also have these feelings because of other wonderful events that are taking place in my life. Most notably, my fiancé, Tamara Noble, and I are planning to be married on August 30. While the wedding will take place in Dallas, we look forward to celebrating this *simchah* with you in Port Washington.

It is an interesting coincidence that my engagement to Tamara and my connection to TBI occurred at the same time.

As I reflect on the past six months, I see some interesting parallels between my private and professional lives. A community finding the right rabbi and a rabbi finding the right community is very much like a *shidduch* — the coming together of two parties to form a deep connection and partnership. On both levels, there is a checklist. There are certain things that you know you are looking for. There are specific traits and values you hope to see. As a rabbi looking at synagogues, I wanted to make sure that my future community was multi-generational, egalitarian, vibrant, and engaged in supporting the activities of the community.

However, in both realms — the private and professional — the connection is about more than a checklist. It has to feel right. TBI feels like the right place for Tamara and me. At TBI, we have met wonderful and thoughtful people. We have seen a dynamic community praying and celebrating together. We have seen a community that cares for one another. And we have seen a community that beautifully fulfills the mitzvah of *hachnasat orchim* (welcoming in guests).

This mitzvah is not as easy as it sounds. When the opportunity arises to welcome in a guest, a community must consider the following questions: Are we open to sharing our homes, food, and other resources with people who do not live in our community? Are we able to give physical and emotional energy to our guests? Are we sensitive to the fact that new guests do not know other people in

(continued on page 9)



by Rabbi Michael Mishkin

This issue of The TBI RePort is sponsored by **Risa & Lawrence Chain**
in honor of the Bat Mitzvah of their daughter, **Peri**.

Thank You...

A VERY SPECIAL THANK YOU TO ALL THOSE WHO TOOK ADVERTISEMENTS IN OUR 2009 ANNUAL JOURNAL. WITHOUT YOUR SUPPORT, WE COULD NOT CONTINUE ALL OF OUR WONDERFUL PROGRAMMING.

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Editor's Spotlight

by Mark Alan Schneider

Knish Wish?

Celebrating the 100th Birthday of that Little 'OI Potato Pie



What a way to celebrate the 100th birthday of our favorite knish. All those in favor of having a Friday night Shabbat dinner at TBI featuring an all-knish menu (potato, sweet potato, kasha, broccoli, cabbage, mushroom, vegetable) perhaps washed down with a variety of Dr. Brown's sodas (cream, black cherry, root beer, Cel-Ray) and egg creams — raise your hand and email me at MarkASchn@optonline.net. Is there a better way to remember the century anniversary — the 100th birthday of the Yonah Schimmel's Knishery?

Historians claim that the knish was created by Eastern European Jews. They wanted to add some innovation to their basic inexpensive staple of potato. So they creatively wrapped dough around it. (Does the concept remind you of how the Japanese may have come up with sushi to creatively work with their staple of rice?) Anyway, a rabbi from Romania by the name of Yonah Schimmel started selling his knishes (potato and kasha) to New York immigrants on the beach in Coney Island. He also sold them in a pushcart on the Lower East Side before opening his store on Houston Street back in 1910.

My wife Barbara and I recently returned to the home of my favorite knish and learned that there's still a Schimmel family member running the business. A great-grandson is still overseeing the recipe. The original store itself looks like it has been stopped in time. You can just imagine feeling that the old black and white photos on the wall were taken yesterday instead of decades ago. But of course, you go to Yonah Schimmel's place for one thing. The knish. The king of the potato pie. It's a tough menu choice — one can fill you up so if you can, and you're with a group, vary the choices so you can nosh on a variety. At only \$3.50 a piece, it makes an inexpensive meal. Rabbi Schimmel would be proud that his potato pie is still a staple of the Lower East Side, still freshly made in the back and below the store. There's even a dumbwaiter chute to bring the freshly baked knishes up from below. Of course Rabbi Schimmel never could have imagined that you could now even order his knishes over the Internet! But that's just not the same as experiencing dining at his original location with its entire delicious atmosphere. By the way, just like there's no substitute for an original New York freshly made bagel (sorry Lender's and all the other so-called bagel manufacturers) there's really no substitute for a good old fashioned Yonah Schimmel round knish. Yes, we can debate (perhaps in a future column) the merits of the Knish Nosh on Queens Boulevard. And we can spend some time addressing the so-called Coney Island square knishes made by Gabila — they're now made in Copiague Long Island and even sold in supermarkets! No, the four-star winner is still Rabbi Schimmel's original — one hundred fresh years and still the knish champ by a mouthful.

Have a delish knish wish? Join me for some Happy Birthday bites.

Questions or comments? Contact me at MarkASchn@optonline.net

Sherrie and Michael Pollack

want to thank everyone for their thoughtfulness and good wishes on the wedding of Andrew and Arabella.



YASHER KOACH to **Jim Maloney**, for completing the Intermediate Hebrew class. And bravo to his teacher, **Bert Taffet!**

* * *

CONGRATS to **Eleanor Himel** for having her artwork exhibited at the Port Washington library.

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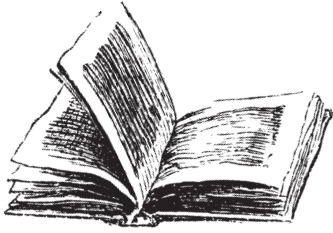
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The Harry and Jeanette Weinberg Foundation, Inc. provides generous funding for Senior Aid. UJA-Federation of New York



Library Update

Our Library Committee sponsored a unique and wonderful event on the evening of June 1. Approximately 50 congregants came to our beautiful library to hear Rabbi Fine share his reflections on his own spiritual and intellectual journey in Judaism with us. It was a special and most interesting opportunity for all who attended. Thanks to Rabbi Fine for his generosity of spirit that we have all grown to appreciate.

We encourage everyone to continue to attend future library events which we are presently planning for after the high holidays. Your collective participation, contributions and support have been vital to maintaining and building our library. Please avail yourselves of our resources over the summer months. If the library is closed, just drop by the office and ask for someone to let you in. We will also be acquiring some current children's books over the summer for various grade levels so that our religious school students will have an even better collection to choose from.

Have a wonderful summer.

TBI Shows Its Community Spirit

On Monday, May 25, Temple Beth Israel once again proudly participated in the Port Washington Memorial Day Parade. Led by Rabbi Fine and Cantor Blum, about 25 TBI members marched the length of the parade route, from Paul D. Schreiber High School to the foot of Main Street.



Save the Date: Shabbat on the Shore

Friday evening, September 11, 2009, we will begin the High Holiday season with Shabbat on the Shore. Come join us for sun, sand and services. Dairy Oneg in honor of Jordan Shedrofsky to follow!



President's Notes (cont. from p. 1)

professional staff have begun to plan and schedule a number of welcoming events to take place over the next weeks and months. These events are intended to welcome Rabbi Mishkin and Tamara to our Temple Beth Israel family and the Port Washington community. I urge you to keep an eye on your mail for all the details.

Recently, Jonathan White and I had the opportunity, together with Rabbi Miskhin, to attend a full day workshop on transition called Eit Ratzon, which was held at the Rabbinical Assembly's offices at The Jewish Theological Seminary. The purpose of the program was to deepen our understanding of the process of transition, create a model for successful transition and be reflective and purposeful about the months ahead. The three of us found the program to be extremely informative.

In the materials that were handed out at the workshop, an article written by Rabbi Eliot Schoenberg entitled *Parnasah: Finding It. Keeping It, Enjoying It* explored what rabbis and congregations can learn and expect from the phenomenon of a new rabbi's first 100 days in comparison to that of a new U.S. president taking office.

According to Rabbi Schoenberg, a new president must rush to action, as citizens are looking for quick achievements and not necessarily establishing a healthy process or strong relationships. This is just the opposite for a new rabbi, as the rabbi must build a process and the key relationships that will permit him to have a long and successful tenure. A new president can also focus his attention on certain issues while leaving others on the back burner. A new rabbi does not have this luxury, as the rabbi must focus on many issues and different constituencies simultaneously when he starts his new position. Finally, a new president can find that despite his best efforts, new programs and plans can be derailed. Ideally, a new rabbi will be more successful than a new president

(continued on page 7)

Our Tree of Life Blooms Again

- Have you celebrated a simcha this year?
- A wedding?
- The birth of a child or grandchild?
- A special birthday or anniversary?
- An aufruf?
- Has your child become a Bar or Bat Mitzvah?
- Did your child become confirmed?
- Do you want to honor someone special in your life?
- Have you had any other simchas?

Purchasing a leaf on our Tree of Life is a lasting and beautiful way to commemorate an event in your life. Take a look at our Tree in the lobby. It highlights moments in the lives of our TBI family, generation to generation. Each leaf helps our tree to grow; someday it will cover the entire wall with the names of those who have learned, prayed, and rejoiced at Temple Beth Israel.

YES...

I would like to purchase a leaf on the Tree of Life (\$180).

Family Name: _____

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Call Lisa Naiburg in the TBI office for help with inscriptions or other questions. Mail this form to:

TBI, Temple Drive, Port Washington, NY 11050

Program Sponsorships

Please find below a list of possible sponsorships for various programs at TBI. Of course, if there is something you are particularly interested in sponsoring and it is not on the list, feel free to add it! Remember that any sponsorship can be shared by two or multiple families. Any of these can be sponsored for one or multiple years. We need your time too! Committee events will be advertised. Each of you has a talent or an interest that encourage participation.

Existing Sponsorships

Mezuzahs for B/M students, JTS mezuzah project

Sponsored by the Harvey Aiges Fund, in memory of Harvey Aiges

Gift of Tanakh to all B/M students

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Simchat Torah Candy Apples

sponsored by Sandy and Steve Garber

Simchat Torah Kandy Kiddush

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Yom Kippur Break Fast Orange Juice

sponsored by Beverly and Steve Hazelkorn

High Holiday Potted Plants and Flowers

sponsored by Lynn and Barry Rubin

Scholar-in-Residence Weekend

co-sponsored by Robin Serinsky/Jay Silverman

co-sponsorship available

Purim Baskets for College Students

co-sponsored by Robin Gitomer/Michael Plofker & Sandy Albert/Bob Gass

Chanukah Baskets for College Students

co-sponsored by Sandy Albert/Bob Gass

co-sponsorship available

New Opportunities

Installation for Rabbi Mishkin

Wedding Oneg for Rabbi Mishkin

Tisha B'Av Books

newly donated by Sandy Albert and Bob Gass

Shabbat Kiddush Lunches

High Holiday Leaders for Junior Congregation (3 days at approx \$350 per day)

Sukkot and Simchat Torah Onegs

Bulletin Sponsorships for Special Events (i.e. weddings, births, aufrufs, Bar/Bat Mitzvahs — \$180 per sponsor)

Yom Kippur Break Fast Challah

Challah and Age-appropriate Oneg for Mini Minyan and Tot Shabbat

Shabbat Bima Flowers: Shabbaton available

Sufganiyot (jelly donuts) for Religious School Chanukah Party

Shabbat Wine

(continued on page 8)



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President's Notes *(cont. from p.5)*

in implementing new programs and his vision for the congregation if the new rabbi is ready for and expects a healthy discussion of his ideas to occur.

During the workshop, one theme that Rabbi Schoenfeld stressed over and over was the importance of the congregation in building a relationship with the new rabbi and the rabbi building relationships with the individual members. While we intend to move forward with new and exciting programs and ideas, the priority for all of us will be to build individual relationships as well as a collective relationship with Rabbi Mishkin and Tamara. From speaking with Rabbi Mishkin, I am convinced this is his and Tamara's top priority.

When writing this new chapter, we must keep in mind that all of us, including Rabbi Mishkin and Tamara, will be experiencing many different emotions. Building strong relationships will surely ease the transition and help to deal with handling these emotions.

Finally, while we're all excited and our expectations are high, let us remember that our expectations must be realistic. In addition, we must keep in mind that no one person can write this chapter, but that it must be written by all of us with everyone contributing a paragraph or two.

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Welcome Back BBQ (Main Course, Paper Goods, Other Food Items, Drinks)

Hazak (55+) Programming (to be determined)

Purchases

Replacement Bulletin Boards

Replacement Desks

Replacement Tables

Replacement Outside Information Board

Kitchen Items

August 2009						Av/Elul 5769	
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
						1	11 AV 9:30 am Services <i>Va'etchanan</i> SHABBAT NACHAMU
2 12 AV 9 am Minyan	3 13 AV Exec Bd Mtg: 7:30 pm	4 14 AV Ritual Meeting: 8 pm	5 15 AV	6 16 AV	7 17 AV 6:45 pm Services C.L. 7:48 pm	8 18 AV 9:30 am Services <i>Ekev</i>	
9 19 AV 9 am Minyan	10 20 AV	11 21 AV Board Meeting: 7:30 pm	12 22 AV	13 23 AV	14 24 AV 6:45 pm Services C.L. 7:39 pm	15 25 AV 9:30 am Services <i>Re'eh</i>	
16 26 AV 9 am Minyan	17 27 AV	18 28 AV	19 29 AV	20 30 AV ROSH CHODESH	21 1 ELUL 6:45 pm Services C.L. 7:29 pm ROSH CHODESH	22 2 ELUL 9:30 am Services <i>Shofetim</i>	
23 3 ELUL 9 am Minyan	24 4 ELUL	25 5 ELUL	26 6 ELUL	27 7 ELUL	28 8 ELUL 6:45 pm Services C.L. 7:18 pm	29 9 ELUL 9:30 am Services <i>Ki Tetze</i>	
30 10 ELUL 9 am Minyan	31 11 ELUL						

From the Rabbi*(continued from page 1)*

our community or our customs? Communities answer these questions through their actions. And how a community acts when new guests arrive says a lot about the character of that community. The way you have welcomed Tamara and me has impressed us. Thank you for welcoming us with open arms and open hearts.

In our tradition, the exemplars of this mitzvah are Abraham and Sarah. Famously, they lived in a tent, which was open on all sides in order to be able to see travelers coming from all directions. In one of the stories in the book of Genesis, Abraham and Sarah burst into action, welcoming three guests into their home (the guests turned out to be angels). Welcoming in guests, feeding them, and allowing them to rest are all acts of *chesed* (loving kindness). Through their actions, Abraham and Sarah teach us that these acts of *chesed* are some of the most important that we can do. We shower guests — even strangers — with *chesed* because they are human beings, created in the image of God.

I valued the *chesed* I have seen in the TBI community. I know that I will be nourished by it, and I look forward to adding to it. May we, together, go from strength to strength.

I would like to take a moment and give a special thank you to Jonathan White, Jay Silverman, Mitch Schuckman, Cantor Baruch Blum, Rabbi Robert Fine, and Lisa Naiburg for their support during the interview process and for their personal acts of *hachnasat orchim*.

Shalom U'lehitraot (Goodbye and I look forward to seeing you soon).

— Rabbi Michael Mishkin
rabbimishkin@gmail.com

Sisterhood Contributions*(continued from page 13)*

Sincere Condolences to Claire Brezel and family on the loss of her Beloved Mother, Clotilde Treves

Board & Officers WLTF

Joan & Bernie Hulkower TRF

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Sisterhood WLTF

Beverly & Gene Taubel FF

Doris & Mark Novick NSF

Sincere condolences to Stacy Satovsky on the loss of her Beloved Grandmother, Sara Har-Zvi

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July/August Donations *(continued from page 12)***Harvey Aiges Fund**

Jeffrey Rubin and Cora Brettler in honor of the 90th birthday of Estelle Aiges Bokser, mother of Harvey Aiges. Her courage and strength are an inspiration.

Kiddush Lunch Fund

Carol and Don Goldblatt, just because. Estelle and Arnold Rynston in loving memory of Eva Rynston.

Library Fund

Susan and Richard Levin:
in loving memory of Jesse Menzer.
in honor of Samantha Gass' graduation from Washinton University.
in honor of Eleanor Himel for being chosen by the AAC to exhibit her work at the PW Library.

Mazal tov to Doris and Bob Kleinman on Ruth's recognition as an honoree at the SAJES Annual Tribute from Susan and Richard Levin.

Jim Maloney and Debra Comer in honor of Bert Taffet.

Bob Epstein and Beth Hisler:
in memory of Clotilde Treves, mother of Claire Brezel.
in honor of the Library Committee.

Mostly Mitzvahs Fund

Eve Rosen in loving memory of Jerome Rosen

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

Irene Zuckerman in loving memory of Jed P. Zuckerman.
Eve Rosen in loving memory of Eliezer Bakshi.
Richard and Susan Levin in honor of Jessica Braginsky's Hadassah Chapter Leadership Award.
Irene Zuckerman in loving memory of Abraham Cohen.

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Herb and Sandra Ash:
in loving memory of Mollie Ash, Herb's mother.

in memory of Ester Blum.
in loving memory of Sandy' father,
Sidney Engel.

in honor of the birth of Cantor and Gerri Blum's grandsons.

Neil and Sylvia Blumstein in memory of Ester Blum, Cantor Blum's mother.

Hilton and Irene Silver in honor of Cantor Blum.

Richard and Susan Levin:
in honor of the marriage of Danya Heller to David Rosen.

in honor of Laura Aiges' graduation from Boston University.

Sylvia Mermel in memory of Helen Hazelkorn, mother of Steve Hazelkorn.

Jay Silverman and Robin Serinsky in honor of Avra Hammerschlag chanting the Haftarah.

Stuart and Nancy Braman in memory of Ester Blum, mother of Cantor Blum.

Chesed Fund

Susan Isaacs and Elkan Abramowitz in loving memory of Irene Taxerman.

Randie and Bruce Hammerschlag in loving memory of Dr. Irving L. Hammerschlag, Herbert A. Katzel and Nancy P. Katzel.

Education Fund

Eve Rosen in loving memory of Morris Rosen.

Arnold Abramowitz in loving memory of Irene Taxerman.

General Fund

Don and Carol Goldblatt in honor of Reuben Berman's High School graduation and acceptance to the Columbia/JTS program.

Beth Hisler and Bob Epstein.

Jill and Len Berman in honor of Rebecca Schaub becoming a Bat Mitzvah.

Frieda Gutfriend in memory of Sara Har-Zvi, grandmother of Stacey Satovsky.

Jay Silverman and Robin Serinsky:
in honor of Anita and Chas Goldsmith's new granddaughter.

in honor of Beverly and Steve Hazelkorn's new granddaughter.

in honor of the marriage of Renee Prager and Dan Seidman.

Jill and Douglas Madenberg in memory of Sara Har-Zvi, grandmother of Stacey Satovsky.

Allison and Jonathan White:
in honor of Samantha Gass' graduation from Wash U.

In memory of Clotilde Treves, mother of Claire Brezel.

in honor of the birth of Keren Blumenfeld, daughter of Michelle Witman and Josh Blumenfeld.

In honor of Paul Winters' graduation from Wash U.

in honor of Rachel Silberstein's graduation from Barnard.

in honor of Laura Aiges' graduation from Boston University.

in honor of Jay Silverman and Robin Serinsky.

Randie and Bruce Hammerschlag in loving memory of Dr. Irving L. Hammerschlag, Herbert A. Katzel and Nancy P. Katzel.

(continued on page 9)

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Mazal Tov to Michele Witman & Josh Blumenfeld on the arrival of their daughter, Keren

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Mazal Tov to Anita & Charles Goldsmith on the arrival of their granddaughter, Eliza Joy

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Mindy & Sean Mintz NSF
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Beverly & Gene Taubel NSF

Mazal Tov to Tara & Cory Elbaum, proud parents of Eliza Joy

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Mazal Tov to Beverly & Steve Hazelkorn on the arrival of their granddaughter, Eve Gussie

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Mazal Tov to Rene Prager & Dan Seidman on their recent marriage

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Mazal Tov to Joan Weintraub on becoming President of Sandsport/Shoshana Hadassah

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Mazal Tov to Lauren & Howard Wolf on the Bnai Mitzvot of Elizabeth & Eric Doris & Mark Novick

Mazal Tov to Gerri & Cantor Blum on the arrival of their grandsons Doris & Mark Novick NSF

We welcome Danya Heller & David Rosen, recently married, to our Temple Beth Israel Community

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In loving memory of Inge Ringel Sandy & Steve Garber FF

In loving memory of Harvey Abbot Shevrin

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Sincere condolences to Cantor Blum and family on the loss of his Beloved Mother, Ester Blum

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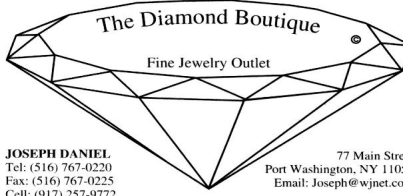
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July 2009

Tammuz/Av 5769

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 9 TAMMUZ	2 10 TAMMUZ	3 11 TAMMUZ Office Closed 6:45 pm Services C.L. 8:13 pm	4 12 TAMMUZ 9:30 am Services <i>Chukat/Balak</i> INDEPENDENCE DAY
5 13 TAMMUZ 9 am Minyan	6 14 TAMMUZ Exec Board: 7:30 pm @ TBI	7 15 TAMMUZ Ritual Meeting: 8 pm	8 16 TAMMUZ	9 17 TAMMUZ FAST DAY	10 18 TAMMUZ 6:45 pm Services C.L. 8:11 pm	11 19 TAMMUZ 9:30 am Services <i>Pinchas</i>
12 20 TAMMUZ 9 am Minyan	13 21 TAMMUZ	14 22 TAMMUZ Board Mtg: 7:30 pm	15 23 TAMMUZ	16 24 TAMMUZ	17 25 TAMMUZ 6:45 pm Services C.L. 8:07 pm	18 26 TAMMUZ 9:30 am Services <i>Matot/Masei</i>
19 27 TAMMUZ 9 am Minyan	20 28 TAMMUZ	21 29 TAMMUZ	22 1 AV ROSH CHODESH	23 2 AV	24 3 AV 6:45 pm Services C.L. 8:02 pm	25 4 AV 9:30 am Serv Rabbi Fine's Last Shabbat <i>Devarim</i> SHABBAT CHAZON
26 5 AV 9 am Minyan	27 6 AV	28 7 AV	29 8 AV EREV TISHA B'AV	30 9 AV TISHA B'AV	31 10 AV 6:45 pm Services C.L. 7:55 pm	

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