WE DID IT! NOW TOWARD ZERO DEBT

WE DID IT! We Reached Our Minimum Fundraising Goal! Now, With Your Help, We're Heading Towards ZERO DEBT!

But there is more we can do together! ZERO debt is within our reach!

I never dreamed that I'd be letting you know that with two weeks remaining until our April 15 fundraising deadline that we successfully made our minimum goal. But that's exactly what you have all helped make happen! You are amazing!

As if that wasn't enough...our extraordinary success has inspired several donors to step forward with additional gifts aimed at eliminating the $300,000 debt portion of this project. In fact, with two weeks left to go we only have to raise $125,000 for ZERO DEBT!

Please join me in stretching just a little further by either making your first contribution to this effort, or by adding to your already generous contribution to TBH's Securing Our Future Campaign. We have two weeks left and if we all stretch just a little further this project will turn into a revenue generator for TBH. By eliminating debt, we will avoid paying on a commercial loan for the coming decade, and TBH will retain all net rental proceeds from our new property. Conservative estimates suggest this could be approximately $30,000 per year. Thirty thousand of net income a year would be an enormous financial boost to TBH's financial profile and strength!! Not only will the lot be available for our future but we will be generating an income as well.

Please reach out directly to me or members of our Campaign committee if you have any questions. I know I am asking you to stretch by donating just a little more. If it makes any difference, please know that I've added to my gift, as have many other members of our fundraising committee. If enough of us stretch just a little bit more we can make this happen! We will control our future in downtown Olympia and be debt free!

Make Your Pledge to Secure Our Future
BLINTZAPALOOZA!!
April 11, 2021
10:00 am to 12:00 pm

We're Baaack (well, sort of). If you missed Blintzapalooza last year, you're not alone. The pandemic hit in earnest as we at Temple Beth Hatfiloh were doing the final preparations; pulling the plug at the last minute was pretty discouraging especially for our faith and spiritual communities, which have always been a mainstay.

This year we're coming back on a limited basis to have some fun and sell frozen Blintzes by the dozen for pick up in the TBH parking lot. Blintzes will be available for pick up in the TBH lot (drive-thru) on the morning of Sunday the 11th. **Pre-ordering is available until Thursday, April 8th.** Any blintzes left over after pre-ordering will be made available for day-of sale. **Please limit to 1 or 2 dozen blintzes per family.**

Most years we support two or three local charities as well as Interfaith Works with the proceeds. Because of the limitation on sales this year, the entire net proceeds will be going to support the work of Interfaith Works, and we will be soliciting extra donations for IW as well.

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Racial Justice Reading Group

Starts April 11th & 12th

This fall and winter we held three thoughtful and engaging programs on racial justice, and how we as a Jewish community can take on the work of anti-racism. Thank you to all who participated, and indicated their ideas for next steps in our survey.

Starting April 11th & 12th we will begin an anti-racism book group to read and discuss “So You Want to Talk About Race” by Ijeoma Oulo. We hope to create safe and brave space to do a deep dive into the themes and topics of the book, to be challenged and to grow from the experience, and to lay the foundation for action.

In order to allow for the richest experience, the group will be structured like this:

- The groups will meet **weekly for one-hour a week for 18 weeks** (one week of introduction and group agreements, and one week for each chapter of the book.)
- **Each group will be limited in size to 15 individuals** in order to allow for the most participation. We invite you to commit to a group even if you can’t make every single gathering, but this will not be a “drop-in” group.
- **Two timeslots are available: Sunday from 4-5 p.m. or Monday from 7-8 p.m.**
- Each group will be facilitated.
- Books will be available to borrow from TBH.

Please register and join in this work. If more than 15 people are interested in a time slot then we will expand to multiple “sections.” And if you are interested and unable to commit right now, there is the possibility that we can run the group again once the cycle is finished.

Contact Rabbi Seth with any questions. Thanks to Mari Nowitz, Paul Paroff and Heather Rudich for organizing this group for our community!
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**MUSSAR**  
Saturday, April 17  10:00 am  
We will study *M’tzora*, Lev.14:1 – 15:33. The *middah*/soul trait for this parashah is *Busha*/Shame as a Blessing. Please plan on joining Michele & Richard Jackman on zoom for an intriguing Mussar discussion of this Torah portion and a practice for you.

**Welcome New Members**  
Raquel & Colin Montoya-Lewis

**ICYMI**  
In case the informational session on upcoming youth pro-
gramming, [here is a link to the recording](#).
**APRIL EVENTS**

**Creative Circle**  
Thursday, April 1, 6:30 pm  
This is a recurring group. See additional information on April 19th.

**Counting the Omer**  
Every Sunday in April at 5:00 pm  
**Counting the Omer: A Week by Week Immersion with Nomy Lamm** began on March 29th, but is still accepting late registrants! Join Kohenet Nomy Lamm for weekly songs, blessings, teachings and reflections throughout the Omer period, extending from Pesach to Shavuot. Immerse yourself in the resonance of each week’s sephirah on the kabbalistic tree of life as we prepare for the revelation of Shavuot, and reflect in community on the experience of cultivating the essences of the sephirot in our lives.  
**Register>>**

**Mimouna**  
Sunday, April 4, 7:00 pm  
Rabbi Kinberg and Congregation Kol Ami invites TBH'ers to join: Mimouna - Mufleta Cooking Class and Celebration with Rabbis Kinberg & Goldstein. Learn more about Mimouna here and here. Learn more about the post-Passover celebration food Mufleta here.

**Senior Schmooze**  
Tuesday, April 6, 12:00 pm  
Join us on the first Tuesday of every month for a social gathering and healthy dose of humor. Definition of "senior" is up to you. All are welcome.  
**Join Zoom>>**

**Blintzapalooza (mini!!)**  
Sunday, April 11, 10 am - 12 pm  
Read more on page 2.

**Groundwork Party**  
Sunday, April 11, 1:00 - 3:00 pm  
With the return of some nicer weather, it is time to once again turn our attention to the grounds around the temple! Bring your own hand tools if you have them. We'll have some here too. Come for some or all of the time. Many hands make light work! Contact Catherine at betitsefer@bethhatfiloh.org for more information.

**Racial Justice Reading Group**  
Starts April 11 & 12  
Read more on page 2.

**Capital Campaign Pledges Due**  
Thursday April 15

**Creative Circle**  
Monday, April 19, 6:30 pm  
When: 6:30. 3rd Monday and 1st Thursday of every month  
What: Come join us for conversation and if so inclined bringing a project of your choosing to work on during our time together.  
Where: Zoom  
Hosts: Leslie Goldstein, Melinda Holman, and Gail Pollock  
**Join Zoom>>**

**Green Team**  
Tuesday, April 20, 6:00 pm  
Everyone is welcome. Contact tbh@bethhatfiloh.org with any questions or information. See the Green Team update on page 7.  
**Join Zoom>>**

**Book Group**  
Tuesday, April 20, 7:00 pm  
**Anti-Semite and Jew - Jean-Paul Sartre**  
The essay deals with antisemitism and how Jews react to it. More broadly, the book tries to explain the etiology of hate by analyzing antisemitic hate See the full book group 20-21 reading list here.

**Join Zoom>>**

**Advancing In Hebrew**  
Tuesday, April 27, 7:00 pm  
This seminar-type gathering will work on advancing Hebrew knowledge, including grammar and roots.  
**Join Zoom>>**

**Lag B’Omer Celebration**  
Thursday, April 29, 7:00 pm  
Read more on page 5.

**PNW Reconstructionist Community Shabbaton**  
April 30 - May 1  
Join (virtually) together for services, learning, yoga, meditation and discussion with communities from Ashland to Seattle. Featuring Reconstructionist movement ethicist and Talmudist Dr. Mira Wasserman as Scholar-in-Residence, topic TBA. Shabbaton will include Friday evening and Shabbat morning communal prayer and gathering options as well as keynote late Saturday afternoon, with discussion and Havdalah Saturday evening. Let’s keep our inter-communal vibe going! Look out for Zoom information in the weekly and via separate email.
Our congregation has really been expressing in action our Jewish values related to Welcoming the Stranger.

After receiving supportive feedback from the membership, and following our endorsement policy, the TBH Board voted unanimously to endorse Rep Pramila Jayapal's House Resolution "Roadmap to Freedom." [https://jayapal.house.gov/2021/01/27/](https://jayapal.house.gov/2021/01/27/)

This Resolution promotes fairness, accountability, family unity, diversity and a just humane immigration system. In addition, the Resolution calls for addressing the root causes of migration.

Many Congregation members attended the March Shabbat Salon where Andrew Geibel from HIAS shared his knowledge and insights about the current situation at the border. HIAS (Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society) draws on Jewish values and history to provide advocacy and assistance to refugees and asylum seekers throughout the world. It is a very active organization and exerts widespread influence on many immigration issues.

Having just celebrated Passover, the time in our liturgical calendar when we are reminded that we, too, once fled a place of oppression, we are newly sensitized to the plight of so many others in today’s world.

The Immigration and Refugee Task Force, our Congregation, and our interfaith partners continue to support our asylum-seeking guests with friendship and financial assistance as they go through the lengthy legal process. Donations for both legal and general assistance are still needed and can be made to Interfaith Works [www.Interfaith-Works.org](http://www.Interfaith-Works.org). Please mark the donation "Sanctuary". We --- and they --- are grateful for this ongoing support.

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**Lag B'Omer Celebration**

On **Thursday, April 29th at 7pm**, Join Mo and Amanda, the co-founders of Jewish brand Gold Herring for a Lag B'Omer workshop. During the one hour Zoom session, participants will explore the themes of gratitude and humility through story, conversation, and mindfulness. This will be a time to stoke our inner fire, connect with what fuels us, and discover an embodied approach to observing Lag B'Omer and the 49 days of the counting of the Omer. Mo and Amanda will be sharing from The Omer Workbook and other immersive resources they've designed to help deepen people's connection to Jewish wisdom and culture.

In preparation for this event, if you would like to order your own copy of The Omer Workbook, they are available at GoldHerring.com. Mo and Amanda are gifting free digital copies of the workbook to TBH community members. To redeem your free digital, go to the Gold Herring website, put the digital workbook in your cart and use this coupon code at checkout: TBHOMER (expires April 30th). Here's a video with a little more info about the workbook.
FROM CATHERINE CARMEL:
JEWISH FAMILY LIFE AND LEARNING

I'm writing this while being constantly distracted from my Passover preparations by the eggs about to hatch in my incubator. Did you know chicks peep from inside their eggs? It's amazingly distracting to see the eggs bobble and hear the muffled peeps. I decided, since I can't think of much else, to take a page from our Shorashim book, What's Jewish About Butterflies? and ask what's Jewish about chickens? Certainly, I'm not the only Jewish person enthralled with the birds. There are way too many PJ Library books where chickens show up to not recognize we have a connection. Chickens even make an appearance on our Seder plates, so writing about them right now works, right? The egg would not exist without the chicken that laid it, which links chickens squarely in the holiday of Passover. I read that chickens connect us to a time when life was harder, but Jewish life was less complicated. Chickens were an integral part of the Eastern European Jewish family. In the shtetl, chickens were essentially useful pets. If a family kept chickens for laying, and went out to feed them and collect eggs every day, it makes sense that over the years they’d grow attached. Chickens have such entertaining personalities! This affection makes it easier to imagine that stories would include these entertaining pets.

Did you know that there is a Jewish blessing recited each morning for “giving the rooster the ability to distinguish between day and night?” There's a blessing for roosters! Roosters also play a part in our stories. Before the invention of the alarm clock, the rooster’s crow signaled it was time to wake up. That was something to be thankful for. Some rabbis even argued that because they crow before sunrise, roosters have the wisdom to see beyond the darkness and sense the light to come. By blessing the rooster in those early hours before sunrise, Jews are reminded that even when times look dark, to always look toward a brighter future. I appreciate that sentiment.

So, where do our PJ Library chicken stories originate? The Rooster Prince of Breslov, by Ann Stampler, retells an old folktale attributed to Rabbi Nachman of Breslov. Can Hens Give Milk?, by Joan Betty Stuchner, is a retold Chelm story about a man called Shlomo who schemes about how to get milk and butter without owning a cow. There are chicken stories even older than Chelm though, like One Little Chicken, by Elka Weber. It’s a retelling of a Talmudic story about the 1st-century rabbi Chanina ben Dosa, who found a lost chicken and, as directed by Torah, cared for it as it grew into an entire flock. When the original chicken’s owner returned, he gave him all the chickens instead of just the one. In the Weber version, a little girl named Leora finds a chicken, which her family eventually turns into a whole flock. A Hen for Izzy Pippik, by Aubrey Davis, tells the same story. In Davis’ version, a little girl named Shaina insists that Izzy Pippik, the lost chicken’s owner, will eventually come back and defends the growing flock from the annoyed villagers. The town is impoverished, and the hens seem to eventually bring prosperity.

Coming back around to Passover, you might find Jewish children enjoying The Little Red Hen and the Passover Matzah, a Jewish version of the classic, although not Jewish, European tale about lazy farm animals who want a free ride. At least in this version the Little Red Hen gets to put her feet up after all her hard work while the other animals wash the Passover dishes. Apologizing for being lazy is fine, but doing post-Seder cleanup is better. Whether you want to cuddle them or clean up after them, it seems that chickens have been a significant part of the Jewish people’s lives for thousands of years. I'm happy to be connected to the long line of Jewish chicken enthusiasts. Chag Pesach Sameach!
Cemetery Committee Update

Russell Lidman, Oscar Soule and Rabbi Seth Goldstein

We will be adding to the Traditional Cemetery two granite benches, each four feet in length. We have ordered the benches and we expect they will be installed this Spring. These benches will be for those who want to sit while remembering family or friends buried there.

There is another purpose for them as well. Anyone wishing to remember someone buried elsewhere will have the backs of the benches available to have names inscribed. Actually, more than a name can be accommodated. Some 34 letters and spaces will be available to anyone wishing to remember family or friends on a bench. The available number of spaces can be used in a variety of ways, for example - mentioning two people, or years of birth and death. Remembering a loved one or loved ones in this way will cost $250. Click here for the inscription form.

If you want to take advantage of this opportunity in the future, that is an option. It will be possible to have names inscribed on site.

Green Team Update

*TBH’s measures to reduce energy use and improve waste management are in line with the mission and goals of Thurston County Climate Mitigation Plan. We are investigating possibilities for solar energy for TBH.

*We’re in the process of re-applying for certification as a Thurston County Green Business. This must be done each year.

*We continue to coordinate our efforts with other local and national faith-based groups to reduce climate impacts.

APRIL YAHRZEITS

1  Evelyn Friedman          19  William Mann
1  Betty Robinson           20  Kenneth Royer
1  Ronald Philip Denitz    21  Sylvia Weiner
1  Joseph Shill            21  Ann Okun
1  Al Levinson             22  Isaac Robinson
2  Helen Pollock           22  Lisa Anne Silva
3  Jules Bank              24  Rose Rome
4  Sue Endres              24  Jerry Grotsky
4  Barbara Jean            24  Belle Rubinstein
4  H. Clinton Smith        25  Chana Sokoloff
5  Edith Mollan            25  Paul McCrea
7  Jonathan Michael Oren   25  David Levy Asher
7  Robert Mann             25  Reta Nightingale
7  Janet Wortman           25  Irving Samsky
8  Rose Siegel             26  Joseph Kolker
8  Max Bard                26  Nancy Mandeborg
10  Ruth Samsky            26  Paul Holman
10  Hartley Goldman        28  Esther Pollock
11  Joseph Jenkins         28  Rose Mogal
16  Julius Sokoloff        28  Gale Hope Matis
16  Michael Schon          28  Hyman Posner
17  Ada Blanke             29  Sam Stein
18  Leonora Leizerman      29  Judah Ben Rosen

These names will be read from the bimah at Shabbat services before and after the yahrzeit. Bold type denotes those inscribed on a plaque on our Memorial Wall. Please send any corrections and additions to the Yahrzeit listings to tbh@bethhatfiloh.org!
Thank you to all who have pledged and donated to the Securing our Future Capital Campaign! Please look for a list of donors in the May Schrift!

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund
Alan Rom
Barbara Gross in memory of Mark & Elaine Gross

Sustaining Fund
Charlene Healy
Frank Herman in memory of Gerard Herman

Salon Sponsors
Allyson Brooks
Dole Family
Emily Humphreys-Beher
Jack & Carole Kowitt
Craig Wallace & Lori Kishimoto

Seder Plate Sponsors
Michael Hirsch
Marcia David & Howard Goldberg
Holly Tichenor
Sierra Abrams
Cobie Whitten
Simone Boe

Thank you to all who have pledged and donated to the Securing our Future Capital Campaign! Please look for a list of donors in the May Schrift!

Thank you for your contributions.

Visit www.smile.amazon.com and type “Temple Beth Hatfiloh” into the search box. When you shop Amazon, go to www.smile.amazon.com. To make donations, contact the CFD at (360) 902-4162 or cfd@sos.wa.gov. Temple Beth Hatfiloh, Charity Code 1478808.