Personal Prayer – Evelyn Frankford – Rosh Hashanah September 2015

Yehe Ratzon Mel Fanecha – Source of All Living Things, May it be your will that I jettison the vigilance, and the fear from which it arises, which no longer serve me, in fact harm me, and that I find the strength to experience and embrace the relative safety of my little corner of the Boston-New York world, with my family and friends, professional colleagues and social networks, especially in these past 15 years, spiritually anchored in TBZ...

Coming as I did from assimilated Viennese and Czech Jews whose lives were upended by the Holocaust, which in turn left its indelible mark on me, TBZ opened doors for me to delve into affirmative Jewish traditions, to explore the complexity and depth of Jewish thought about how to live, both individually and in community. TBZ’s sanctuary has become my own sanctuary. My social justice passions are continually affirmed with the Jewish concept of “never give up” taking on deeper meaning. Though I falter, I also keep returning to these grounding values and passions and am grateful to have them there as signposts to remind me...

Source of All Living Things, as I go forward into the New Year, into new experiences, may it be your will that I more fully absorb the wisdom and faith to live in unresolved territory with greater equanimity, trusting in my own resilience, vitality, and tenacity, and my capacity for handling the upheavals that come my way, as things always do and will. May it be your will that I move up, just a notch or two, in acquiring the trust to dispel the fear, just enough so that I am able to
live my experiences more fully, find repose and pleasure, have fun, and inhale the meaning of *hayom*. 