



the shofar

Temple Beth El Jewish Community Center, Aptos, California ☆ Vol. 50, No 1 ☆ September 2016 ☆ Av—Elul 5776

Temple School Opening Day and TBE Community Picnic & Games

All are invited!

Sunday, September 11
DeLaveaga Park

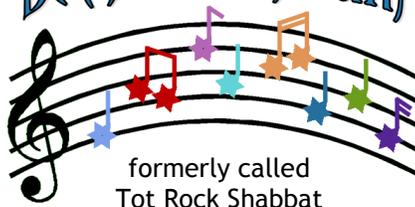
- 9:30 AM - Optional Breakfast
- 10:00 AM - Class/Activities
- 11:30 AM - TBE Community-Wide Picnic
- 12:30 PM - Brotherhood Picnic & Games for All



Food - Community - Fun!

Brotherhood and Temple School are once again teaming up to host the Temple Community Picnic at DeLaveaga Park on Sunday, September 11. The picnic is open to all TBE members. It also marks the first day of Temple School. Back-to-Temple-School activities begin with an optional breakfast at 9:30, followed by Temple School classes under the trees at 10:00. Brotherhood presents its usual yummy BBQ lunch for everyone in attendance at 11:30. Lunch will include BBQ chicken, hot dogs, vegetarian alternatives, salad, chips, drinks, fruit and—most fun of all—Sisterhood's make-your-own cookie table for kids and dessert for all ages. After lunch, everyone can enjoy traditional picnic games like tug-of-war, bocce ball, 3-legged races, volleyball and other kid-approved stuff, organized by Brotherhood. Of course, everyone wins and everyone is invited. For more information about Temple School activities, contact Sarah Clarkson at sclarkson@tbeaptos.org, and if you'd like to volunteer to help Brotherhood host the picnic or run the games, contact Jay Lerman at jay_lerman@yahoo.com.

Beth El Bim Bam



formerly called
Tot Rock Shabbat

Please join us for our new
Shabbat program for families
with young children

Friday, September 23, 2016

- 5:45 PM - Vegetarian family potluck
Shabbat singing dinner
- 6:30 PM - Fabulous engaging Shabbat
activities for all ages
 - Family Story Time
 - Child-friendly hands-on
Jewish activities

Meet and schmooze with other
Jewish families with young children at
this new fun community Shabbat event.
*Potlucks at TBE are kosher style. We
do not serve meat and milk together
and we don't serve pork or shellfish.*

Selichot Shabbat at the Beach

Friday, September 30

- 6:00 PM
BYO Picnic Dinner
- 7:00 PM
Selichot Service & Bonfire



Seabright/Castle Beach
Across from the Santa Cruz City
Museum of Natural History

A night to rekindle friendships, meet new friends, and prepare for the High Holidays. Bring a picnic for dinner al fresco, a blanket and/or chairs. Then join in as we gather around the bonfire to pray, sing and enjoy the warmth of our community. A high-spirited evening for the whole family, including Sisterhood-sponsored Selichot s'mores!

High Holidays 5777

We will be sending the High Holiday
Reservation packet the first week of
September. We look forward to bringing
in the new year with you.



The program is free and open to the
public. Please RSVP to Sarah Clarkson
sclarkson@tbeaptos.org to save your
place at dinner.

A special thank you to Lynn LeRose
and Ed Garner and PJ Library
www.pjlibrary.org

Beth El Bim Bam future dates:
December 9, 2016 - *sponsorship
available*

March 17, 2017 - *sponsorship available*
April 28, 2017 - *sponsorship available*

Spirituality

THOUGHTS FROM RABBI PAULA



Rabbi Paula

It was well worth the five-hour drive from Santa Cruz to Santa Rosa for Shabbat evening at URJ Camp Newman. Almost as soon as I arrived, one of our TBE moms and her son greeted me at the reception area. Her son had just returned from his camp session two weeks ago and he was eager to reconnect with his counselors and experience another magical Shabbat at camp. With them as my guides, we found two other TBE kids who were currently enrolled as campers and it was such a joy to see them feeling at home and connected to their newfound camp friends. As we were sitting near the chadar ochel (dining room) we noticed some trees with tags hanging from the branches. I had no idea where they came from, but was soon to solve this mystery.

After a while, it was time for all of the guests to gather together for a reception with the camp director. We found another TBE member who had made the long trek, partially because his son had gone on a NFTY youth trip to Israel, instead of working at camp, and his son missed his camp friends so much that he was there to “come home to Camp Newman.” After a few songs, we were each handed one of those tags and a pen and asked to finish this sentence: “Because of camp, I...” I really had to think about this because it was a fairly small tag. I wrote, “Because of camp, I had my first experience of God in the beauty

of the natural world.” Another TBE member wrote and shared, “Because of a young adult weekend at camp, I met my wife.” These tags were collected and I would imagine that they have now joined the other tags, hanging from the trees by the chadar ochel.

After the reception, off we went to the outdoor sanctuary for Shabbat evening services, led of course by campers. As group after group stepped up to the Bimah, with at least one guitar in hand, I could remember myself as a teenager proudly leading camp in Shabbat song. I wondered, which of these young people will be our future rabbis and cantors, executive directors, social workers, synagogue presidents (Scott Roseman) or educators?

Some of the campers shared stories of why camp was so important to them, how they stayed connected to their camp friends during the year, and when November came around, chose which session to attend the following summer. A few stories stood out. One young person shared his coming-out story. He said that when he came out to his parents at 11 years old, they had two words for him: “we know.” The acceptance and affirmation he has felt from his family and at camp is profound. It made me so proud of the way in which the Reform movement has been on the forefront of LGBTQ

inclusion and how important it has been in our congregation

When it was time to bless the children, all of the counselors stood and extended their hands toward their campers. I spotted one of our TBE kids who was on staff and stood with my hands on her shoulders, thinking of the many times I’ve seen her parents bless her on Shabbat at TBE.

Before Kaddish, another young person took the mic and spoke about his grandfather. His grandfather had died a few years back, and this camper understood how important it was for him to carry on the Jewish traditions for his grandfather and for himself. I watched as other campers rose to say Kaddish for loved ones. There it was, the past, present and future right before my eyes.

I can’t say enough about the value of Jewish summer camp and Camp Newman in particular. Many of these campers would be seeing their friends at NFTY events during the year. One of my best friends is someone I met through Youth Group and we were campers together at a URJ camp back east. I hope you will meet her at my celebration in November, because she is now president of the URJ and has agreed to speak on Friday evening.

We are building the future of the Jewish people here at TBE and it is happening all over the world. Jewish summer camp is one essential part of this sacred task.

– Rabbi Paula Marcus

Rock Shabbat Service



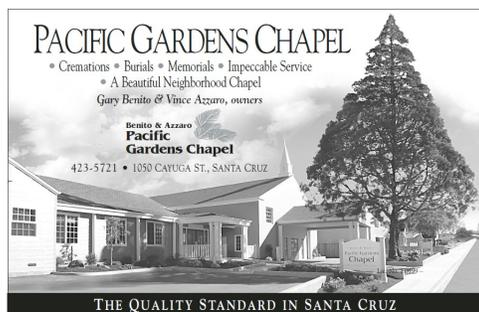
Friday, September 9
7:30 PM
at Temple Beth EL

An evening of music,
spirituality and worship.

*Sponsored by the Resneck-Sannes
and Kaupp families—thank you!*

Reflections

The month of Elul begins our spiritual preparation for the High Holidays, also known in Hebrew as the Days of Awe. To help with our preparations Rabbi Paula will be posting a daily reflection each day of the month of Elul on the Temple Beth El Facebook page. If you are a Facebook user, please be sure that you have joined the Temple Beth El, Aptos group. These postings will begin on September 4, the first day of Elul.



High Holidays

Rosh Hashanah, the Jewish New Year, begins the ten-day period known as the High Holidays. Rosh Hashanah celebrates the ability of people to change and grow, as it is a time for deep thought, self-examination, and prayer.

Schedule

ROSH HASHANAH

Sunday, October 2

Erev Rosh Hashanah Service
8:00 PM

Monday, October 3

First Day Rosh Hashanah Service
9:30 AM-1:00 PM

Children's Programs & Childcare
9:15 AM-end of adult service

Junior Congregation Family Service
9:30-10:30 AM

Grades 7 & 8 Programming
9:30-11:45 AM

Young Family Service (ages 7 & under)
3:00-3:45 PM

Tashlich Service at Ben Lomond Dam
5:00-6:00 PM

"Rock Hashanah" Service (with the Rock Shabbat Band) - all ages
No tickets required. Bring your friends.
7:00-8:30 PM

Tuesday, October 4

Second Day Rosh Hashanah Service and Potluck Lunch
10:00 AM-1:30 PM

Tashlich Services at Rio Del Mar Beach & Natural Bridges Beach
6:00-6:30 PM

YOM KIPPUR

Tuesday, October 11

Kol Nidre Service
8:00 PM

Wednesday, October 12

Yom Kippur Service
9:30 AM-1:00 PM

Children's Programs & Childcare
9:15 AM-end of adult service

Junior Congregation Family Service
9:30-10:30 AM

Grades 7 & 8 Programming
9:30-11:45 AM

Yiskor Service
1:15-1:45 PM

Afternoon Meditation
2:00-4:30 PM

Reading of the Book of Jonah & Text Study
4:30-6:00 PM

Tot Family Service (ages 5 & under)
4:15-4:45 PM

School Age Family Service (ages 6-11)
5:00-6:00 PM

Neilah Concluding Service
6:15-7:00 PM



Yom Kippur Afternoon

Yiskor Service, A Sacred Remembrance • 1:15 PM

Remembrance of the dead is a sacred aspect of Yom Kippur. This afternoon service provides an opportunity for personal prayer and remembrance of beloved dead in the companionship of others who mourn and remember. See your High Holiday packet for a form to have your loved ones included in the Yiskor Book.

Afternoon Meditation & Contemplation • 2:00 PM

with Aryeh (Richard) Nanas
When it is invested with awareness, Yom Kippur, the day itself, has the power to heal. We will parallel some Yom Kippur practices to meet our meditation practices. There will be periods of sharing, and walking meditation for those who are keeping silent. The focus will be on *Tshuvah*, reconciliation and facing the inevitability of the end of life.

Reading of the Book of Jonah • 4:30 PM

with Rabbi Shifra Weiss-Penzias
What does the story of Jonah teach us about prayer and redemption? Rabbi Shifra will once again lead an in-depth discussion about an aspect of the *Book of Jonah*. Whether or not you are familiar with the text, this discussion is sure to bring insight and inspiration to your Yom Kippur experience.

"Rock Hashanah"

with the Rock Shabbat Band
Monday, October 3 • 7:00 PM



Everyone is invited to "Rock Hashanah." Partly mystical, always musical and somewhat magical, a High Holiday version of Rock Shabbat. Childcare will be in the library. Tickets are not required. Spread the word.

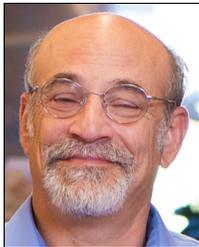
Three Tashlich Opportunities on Two Different Days

Tashlich services will be held at Ben Lomond Dam on Monday, October 3, at 5:00 PM. *Tashlich* will also be held at Rio Del Mar Beach and Natural Bridges Beach on Tuesday, October 4, at 6:00 PM.

For centuries, Jews have gone to the nearest body of free-flowing water to cast a few small crumbs of bread into the water as they recite the words of the prophet Micah, "You will cast all your sins into the depths of the seas." Join us as we come together to joyfully begin the task of searching our souls and casting out the failures and transgressions of the past year.

Synagogue News

A MESSAGE FROM OUR TEMPLE PRESIDENT



Scott Roseman

L'shana Tova. Well, almost. High Holidays are late this year (though, not really, if you live your life following the Jewish calendar, as it is the same time every year on that

calendar). But, it is a new year for Temple Beth El, and with that, there is a heck of a lot of newness to go with that.

We have a new Senior Rabbi—though she is not really new to most of us—in Rabbi Paula Marcus.

We have a new Associate Rabbi-Educator—though she is also not really new, but is new in that she will be spending some of her time as a congregational rabbi—in Rabbi Shifra Weiss-Penzias.

We now have a Rabbi Emeritus, Rabbi Rick, who is certainly not new to our congregation, but has a *new* role as TBE's first emeritus rabbi.

We have a new Executive Director, Ryvenna Lewis, who is actually new to our congregation after serving in a

similar role at a congregation in Foster City.

We have a new Congregational Learning Coordinator—though she is also not new, but assuming a newly created and more responsible position in supporting Rabbi Shifra to oversee our educational programs—in Sarah Clarkson.

Another new face is Harry, who is working in the custodial area, making long-needed repairs and doing his best to keep the building and the grounds in shape.

And, we have a new Board President—that's me.

Over the next few months you'll begin to see the brand new Litvak Wing taking shape, where we'll all have a place to hang out in our new coffee lounge, and our young people will have their very own youth lounge, and Rabbi Rick will have his office.

That's a lot of newness!

So while the word "new" is not really in the literal translation of our new year greeting, it certainly is more than just a word in what is happening at Temple Beth El this new year!

L'shana Tova,
Scott Roseman

Temple Board of Directors Report

The board has revised the Temple bylaws, with the most significant change being the addition of a post of executive vice president. The person in this position will be the president-elect and will work closely with the current president in an effort to assure a smooth leadership transition.

President Scott Roseman is working with current board members to reassign their duties, including tasking the immediate past president to focus on ongoing leadership development.

The board also accepted a plan to reorganize the Simcha program, while at the same time embarking on a marketing effort to boost the school's enrollment in the future.

Transitions

The Temple received final approval for construction of the new Litvak Wing at the beginning of August, so the work will probably be under way by the time you read this. We can't say enough how much we appreciate the efforts of volunteers Teall Messer, Ed Newman, Rick Hochler, Wally Brondstatter, and Shira Coleman who have worked tirelessly to make this happen.

Another construction project is now in consideration—a brand new play yard for Simcha Preschool. The board greatly appreciates a very generous gift from Gail Michaelis-Ow and George Ow toward this effort to create a new, engaging, and safe play area for the preschool children.

Endowment Update Our Goal is in Sight!

Our Temple Beth El Endowment is growing! We are aiming to reach our goal of \$1,000,000 by the end of this year. We only need less than \$100,000 more to reach that goal, so please consider making a contribution to honor Rabbi Paula as our new Senior Rabbi. Make checks out to Temple Beth El, with "Endowment" in the memo. Stock transfers and donations via credit cards are also welcome.

I know we can reach our goal this year and begin taking out interest in February 2017 to help fund our beloved Temple. Call Ryvenna at TBE, 479-3444, if you have any questions.

—Amy Harrington
VP, Fund Development

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OCTOBER 2016 SHOFAR DEADLINES

Copy is due September 2. Advertising deadline is September 6. Email copy or advertising questions to mstein@tbeaptos.org or call 831-460-1389. The SHOFAR is published September–June by Temple Beth El Jewish Community Center, 3055 Porter Gulch Road, Aptos, CA 95003. Phone 831-479-3444, fax 831-475-7246. A TBE membership benefit. Non-member subscription rate is \$40/year. Vol. 50, No 1. Marcia Stein, Editor/Publisher.

Youth

TEMPLE SCHOOL NEWS



Rabbi Shifra

Temple School fosters a love of Jewish learning in a joyful, engaging and supportive community.

Many times when I tell a Jewish adult that I am a rabbi, they apologize to me for not being in a synagogue since their Bar or Bat Mitzvah. They often tell me that they went to a stuffy, boring religious school where they were expected to believe something that they really didn't. They express a longing for a meaningful connection to Judaism for their children. Have you ever met someone like this? If so, PLEASE invite them to check out Temple School, and Temple Beth El in general! Our opening day picnic on September 11th at Delaveaga Park is open to everyone, and potential students are welcome to attend any day of temple school to see for themselves how great it is.

Temple School runs on the philosophy that kids form their Jewish identity through positive and interesting Jewish experiences and connection to other Jewish kids and role models. We encourage students to express their preferences and provide them with choices to enable kids to find their personal Jewish path. Our goal is that our students will fall in love with their Jewish heritage. If you

TEMPLE SCHOOL CALENDAR

September 11, Sunday

Opening Day Picnic at DeLaveaga Park

September 18, Sunday

Tea with Rabbi Shifra; 1st Sunday at TBE for K-6

September 21, Wednesday

1st Wednesday for 4-6th grade KEF & hebrew; 7th grade & Hebrew High Ice Cream Social

September 23, Friday

Beth El Bim Bam

September 25, Sunday

K-6; Intro to Jewish Parenting Class

September 28, Wednesday

4-6th grade KEF & hebrew; 7th grade & Hebrew High fall quarter begins

know someone who would like to register, or haven't registered yet yourself, registration forms are available at <http://www.tbeaptos.org> under Children and Teens, or at the temple office.

On Wednesday September 21 & 28, from 4:00-6:00 PM, classes for 4th through 6th grade will meet at the Friends Meeting House at the Morrissey exit. This would allow students from all over the county to get to our program without facing significant traffic. If this decision affects you, please check your email for further information, and I encourage anyone who has not already given me their input regarding this potential change to do so ASAP. There will be a community meeting on October 16 to decide on future class location.

I look forward to a great year with you and your children!

Blessings,

Rabbi Shifra Weiss Penzias

7th Grade & Hebrew High Ice Cream Social



On the first Wednesday of class, September 21, from 7:00-8:30 PM, at Temple Beth El, join us for our annual ice cream social. Come and find out about Wednesday evening programs for 7th, 8th, 9th, & 10th graders.

Tea with Rabbi Shifra

Sunday, September 18



9:45 AM - Please go to your child's classroom and then join us in the Social Hall for tea

10:00 AM - Temple School Parent Meeting with Rabbi Shifra

Please join Rabbi Shifra for Tea in Temple Beth El's Social Hall. Parent meetings will be held to gather your feedback, concerns and compliments as the year progresses.

Free Jewish Books

You can now sign up for Free Jewish books sent to your home. Grandparents can sign up grandchildren as well!



For families with children ages 6 months-8 years old go to www.pjlibrary.org. Sign up today!



Brand new to our Santa Cruz community, PJ Our Way is available for families with children ages 9-11 years old. Free Jewish chapter books, selected monthly online by your child. Go to www.pjourway.org. Sign up today!

Questions about PJ Library or PJ Our Way can be directed to Sarah Clarkson at sclarkson@tbeaptos.org.

Spread the Word about Simcha



As we start another new year at Simcha we are continuing a tradition of excellence that stretches back over forty years. During that time Simcha Preschool has served several thousand families and children, instilling meaningful memories and forming lifelong friendships (probably many of you reading this are some of our former alums!) This past year we actually had two families who had attended Simcha as children and were now returning with their own children, carrying on the Simcha legacy.

We still have some coveted openings available for two-to-five year olds. Please help us spread the word and invite families to have their children join our "Simcha Family!" They can call Silvia at 479-3449 for more information.

Youth/Membership

Yad b'Yad (Hand-in-Hand)

Program for Young Children & Their Families

This program of fun activities is for children five years and under, and their families. We meet on Sundays once a month from 9:45–11:15 AM. Our first activity of the new year will be to join the Opening Day Picnic at DeLaveaga Park on September 11th. Drop-in; no reservations needed. A \$5 donation is suggested. Please bring a healthy snack to share. For more information or questions contact Sarah Clarkson at sclarkson@tbeaptos.org or 831-479-3444 ext 218. This is a great way to make friends with other young parents raising Jewish children, and for your children to make Jewish friends.



On October 16, there will be a Yad b'Yad with a Sukkot theme, 9:45–11:15 AM, at TBE.

SAVE THE DATE for October 22, Pajama Havdallah and Sukkot Sleepover starting at 6:00 PM, at TBE.

Do you want to get all of the Young Families Project events on a google calendar? Contact Sarah Clarkson.

Long-Time Members Gathering

Congregants who have been members of TBE for 18+ years convened at the lovely country-setting home of Len and Geri Wolff, Gus and Wilma Gold and Dan Gold to celebrate. The gathering was a “reminder of what has brought us all together and a deepening of that relationship,” as stated by Rabbi Paula. Sincere appreciation goes to Chairperson Andrea Yanowitz and her committee for their efforts in bringing almost 80 congregants together. Talented Zena Krakowsky and her hard-working crew provided a bounty of Sephardic delicacies that sent everyone back for seconds. Hallcrest Vineyards generously donated the wine. As the stories of the journeys that got many of the 18+ year members to the gathering were told, friendships were renewed and the commitment to building our holy community continues.

This new feature highlights a TBE group and how it welcomes new members with transparency as to what to expect when attending.

By Jonathan Marx
as told to Marilyn Breiling.

Do You Know That At Shabbat Unplugged:

We meet on the First Saturday morning of every month at 10:00 AM.

There are almost always a nice combination of participants, from families preparing for bar/bat mitzvahs, mourners wishing to say kaddish, out-of-town visitors and guests, TBE members giving us a try and our regulars.

A highlight of Shabbat Unplugged for me is the high level of participation in our service, with responsive readings, communal singing, silent prayer and discussion—always topped by peoples’ appreciation for being there and together.

You should join us if you would like to dip your toe into a Shabbat morning service, you would like a deeper understanding of our prayers and the Torah, if you feel a need for a morning off and a spiritual oasis, or if you have a special event to commemorate or mark with others.

And one last thing about Shabbat Unplugged is that I have led Shabbat morning services with guitar since 1996 in San Francisco. We started Shabbat Unplugged at TBE in September of 2013, so we’re celebrating our third birthday! I am a student of Torah, have much to share, and always learn something new from our community as we turn the scroll throughout the year. If you’re looking for something spiritual you are unsure of, or want to know where to find it, you may possibly be delighted with a Shabbat Unplugged experience. Blessings, on your way...

Questions? Email

jonathanbmarx@gmail.com

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In The Temple Family



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Calendar Highlights

Senior Connzations

September 12

Santa Cruz's 1st District Supervisor John Leopold

John will discuss some of the many local issues on this year's ballot.



September 26

From the Living Room to the Concert Hall: a Conductor Prepares

Michel Singher, founder and Artistic Director of *Espressivo*—a small, intense orchestra—traces a conductor's path from program concept to podium. The audience will enjoy a preview of *Espressivo's* upcoming October 6th

concert, the first in their 2nd season in Santa Cruz. (This is a new program! The originally scheduled film, *A New Life on the Land, the Jewish Farmers of Canada*, will be shown at a later date.)



Programs are on the 2nd & 4th Monday of each month, 2:00–3:30 PM in the TBE Library. (Come at 1:30 to nosh & schmooze.) Open to the public. Free.

Women's Wine and Cheese

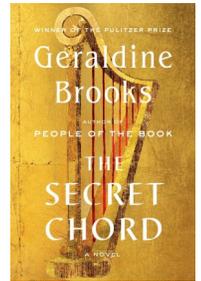
Sisterhood invites you to "Women's Wine and Cheese Wednesdays"—an informal get together for women to bond with their TBE sisters. The next meeting will be on Wednesday, September 21, 7:00–8:30 PM. Drop-ins are more than welcome. RSVPs to Sarah Clarkson at sclarkson@tbeaptos.org are helpful. If you are driving kids to 7th grade and Hebrew High, we would love for you to join us for a schmooze.



TBE Book Group

Our next book selection will be Geraldine Brooks' *The Secret Chord*, a novel retelling of the story of King David. Brooks is the author of *People of the Book*, a popular book group selection from several years ago. The book is available in paperback, audible and Kindle.

We will be graciously hosted by Vicki Hendin, 745 Escalona, Santa Cruz, on Tuesday, September 20. We want to begin our discussion promptly at 7:30 PM, so we ask folks to arrive early enough to allow us to start on time.



“Rock Hashanah” Services
Monday, October 3

Check our calendar
for Sukkot events

Simchat Torah Service
Tuesday, October 28

Rock Shabbat
Rockin' Rabbi Paula Installation
Friday, November 18

Why Prison Reform is a Jewish Issue

On October 16, the TBE Social Action Committee is hosting a Sukkot celebration with a dialogue on Jewish values and our relationship to juvenile justice reform. Please join us in the Social Hall at 7:00 PM for lively conversation and delicious food in our Temple sukkah. To read more, please go to the Social Action page on the TBE website at www.tbeaptos.org. Contact Merle Lustig at merlelustig@gmail.com if you have questions or want to join the work.

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General News

Brotherhood Ushers for the High Holidays

John Oppenheimer is once again organizing the Brotherhood ushers to help out at High Holidays. Brotherhood members provide a much-appreciated welcome to congregants and guests, help the rabbis and Temple staff run the services, and keep an eye out for all of us. Ushers will be on duty for Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur. Erev Rosh Hashanah is Sunday, October 2 and Kol Nidre is Tuesday, October 11. If you're interested, please contact John as soon as possible at jm5843@aol.com or (831) 247-4709.

Nominate a Woman of Valor

Do you know a woman of valor? Nominate her for the Candy Coonerty Woman of Valor award! Every year, the Candy Coonerty Woman of Valor Committee honors a woman from the Temple who serves the Jewish community and the community at large. The committee would love to have input from temple members to help with the selection process. Email caseycoonerty@hotmail.com with any nominations and include just a line or two about why you think they are a Woman of Valor.

Nominations are accepted year round.

Gift Shop Offerings

Hours Sunday 9:30 AM-12:00 PM
Wednesday 2:30-6:00 PM

You are also welcome to make an appointment with Ruth at 476-1154 or Shirley at 685-2710. We love to help our customers.

Find Rosh Hashanah gifts, shofars from Israel, 16-month Jewish calendars, and our usual terrific selection of tallits, kippot and jewelry.

Just in: adult coloring books with beautiful Jewish motifs and mandalas. Find serenity in artwork that YOU bring to life.

Rabbi Paula's Weekend Celebration

November 18 and 19

We have had two great meetings this summer to start planning this special weekend in honor of Rabbi Paula. We would love congregants to get involved in any way they would like to contribute. Watch for our next meeting time in the Temple Weekly. For information, please contact Amy Harrington at amykrosa@gmail.com or Wilma Gold wilmagold@gmail.com.

What is the Chevra Kadisha?

It is said that "the highest act of *g'milut chasidim* (acts of loving kindness) is that which is done for the dead, for there can never be any thought of repayment." (Tanchuma Vayechi 107a) The act of caring for our dead is a profound experience. Ask any member of our *Chevra Kadisha*. You may have wondered what it would be like to participate in the Jewish tradition of caring for and preparing a body for burial. If you are curious, this is an opportunity to learn and practice, and have your questions answered, and explore whether you feel called to this *mitzvah*. The training will be provided by members of our *Chevra Kadisha*, some of whom have been performing the ceremony of *taharah* for over twenty years.

For more information and to sign up, please email Holly Blue Hawkins at batmalkah@gmail.com.

The Program Council Wants To Hear From You!

As the new year begins, our Temple Program Council continues to work with the Board of Directors to set goals for our congregation. The Program Council will be embarking on a plan to engage our congregation in our many activities and programs. To that end, if you have not yet sent in your interest form that came with your membership packet, please complete and return it to the office. The Program Council will call congregants this fall to connect with our members and to see where you may be interested in participating—which can be in a range of opportunities, such as taking a class, attending an event, creating or managing a program or event, or helping out on an as-needed basis in your own area of interest. We want to make sure all our members know they are an important part of our Temple community. For information about specific committees, check the Temple directory. For Program Council information, contact Wilma Gold (wilmagold@gmail.com) or Judi Sherman (jsherman@cruzio.com).

Communications Experts

Do you have experience in writing, editing, advertising, marketing, or website development? Would you be interested in helping with occasional Temple communication projects? Vice President of Communications Nancy Barr is looking for a few people to help as various projects come up. Contact Nancy at nsbarr@sbcglobal.net if you are interested.

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General News

A New Year for Sisterhood

It's a new year for Sisterhood and a good time to review what we are about. Sisterhood exists as a way for us to develop and enjoy friendships within our temple while directly supporting youth activities and maintaining our kitchen. Funds raised through our membership dues, gift shop proceeds and any fund raisers we sponsor go directly back to our temple. From support as small as the s'mores at Selichot Shabbat at the beach, to major purchases such as an oven for the kitchen, Sisterhood gives.



We support youth, starting with preschoolers and Simcha, through to our teenagers and SRFY programs, (and on to college age through our local Hille!!) The reason our kitchen continues to be supplied is primarily through Sisterhood support. Our activities fluctuate from year to year, depending on what our members are interested in and willing to involve themselves with. As a group we are willing to become what our members want us to be, so renew, join up, and speak up! Shop our 100% volunteer-run gift shop. Pay your dues. Be a part of an event. Help develop new ones. Sisterhood can be a great way to be a part of our great temple. It's a new year and we look forward to fun times together.



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General News/Recognition

Library Progress Report

The library continues to be open for study and research on Thursdays from 3:00-5:00 PM (as well as other hours when the room is not otherwise scheduled). We have cataloged more than 2900 titles and have begun to relabel the collection. The books are not circulating at this time, while this work is in progress. We invite you to explore the catalog at <http://tbeaptos.libib.com>.

The library crew recently helped sort and pack Rabbi Rick's collection and in the process managed to divert dozens of his books, augmenting the library's life cycle collection. We gratefully accept donations of books by prior arrangement—to do this please contact Lee Jaffe. Financial donations to the Temple's Library Fund are always appreciated.

Some highlights of the Temple collection which can be viewed through the catalog include:

NEW BOOKS

In addition to items from Rabbi Rick's collection and other book donations, we have managed to buy many new books through your generous gifts to the temple's Library Fund. A review of recent purchases shows the range of subjects—and perspectives—that make a good Jewish library. There is no shortage of opinions in the Jewish world and our libraries reflect that.

Some special areas of growth and interest include:

COOKBOOKS

We've added a lot of cookbooks to the collection in recent months, featuring both traditional and innovative approaches to Jewish cooking, as well as the range found in the wider diaspora. Highlights include the "The First Jewish-American Cookbook" and Ottolenghi's "Jerusalem: A Cookbook."

NATIONAL JEWISH BOOK AWARDS

We have selectively been adding NJBA winners, as well as tagging those already in our collection.



Toda Rabah

Sisterhood thanks all who helped Julie Lorraine with the kitchen inventory this summer: Melissa Ross, Amy Harrington, Shelly Nadelman-Douglass. Much appreciated!

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Nachas

Sharon Papo and Amber Weiss joyfully welcomed their second child, INDIGO ZAHARA PAPO-WEISS into the world on April 6, in Santa Cruz.

Indigo is adored by her brother, Skyler, her grandparents, Michael and Dorothy Papo of New York, and Patti and David Weiss of Santa Cruz, as well as her aunt Dara Papo of San Francisco and Joel Papo and Eliza Cooney of New York.



SOLOMON LUBELL, son of John Lubell and Kristin Taylor-Lubell, will be called to the Torah as a Bar Mitzvah on September 10th. Solomon is an 8th grader and he enjoys fencing, rock climbing, skiing, and all things Marvel. He also sometimes enjoys playing piano.



REUBEN SAUNDERS, the son of Ziesel & Penny, graduated Phi Beta Kappa with a SB in Chemistry from MIT. Funded by a Churchill Fellowship, Reuben will pursue a MPhil in Chemistry at Cambridge University in England in 2016-17. Reuben has been awarded a Hertz Fellowship to obtain a PhD in Biochemistry at UCSF beginning in the fall of 2017.



An essay by RABBI RICK entitled, "My Grandfather's Blood and Great Grandfather's Blood Cry Out From the Grave," has been published in a new book, *Not By Might: Channeling The Power of Faith To End Gun Violence*. This new volume is published by Rabbis Against Gun Violence. In his essay, Rabbi Rick powerfully recounts the murder of his paternal grandfather and maternal great grandfather by gun violence and the meaning of those deaths for gun control efforts today.





The smallest act of kindness is worth
more than the grandest intention.

Oscar Wilde

September 2016

Temple Beth El Jewish Community Center • Av—Elul 5776

All events are subject to change. Please check the Temple website. www.tbeaptos.org or call the office at 831-479-3444 to verify information.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1 Rosh Chodesh Elul 7:00pm Library Open 3:00pm Simcha Closed	2 Erev Shabbat Service 7:30pm  7:17pm Simcha Closed Shofar Deadline	3 Shabbat Morning Service (Re'eh) 10:00am
4	5 Offices Closed for Labor Day	6 Meditation 7:00pm Simcha Reopens	7 Hebrew Reading Practice 11:00am Beginning Hebrew 12:30pm	8 Library Open 3:00pm Simcha Parent Orientation 6:30pm	9 Rock Shabbat Service 7:30pm  7:06pm	10 Solomon Lubell Bar Mitzvah (Shoftim) 10:00am ShabbASANA Shabbat Yoga with Katie Jacobson 10:00am Shabbat Morning Service with CY 10:00am (out)
11 Temple School Opening Day & TBE Community Picnic—DeLaveaga Park Breakfast 9:30am Class/Activity 10:00am Community-Wide Picnic 11:30am Brotherhood Games 12:30pm	12 Senior Connections 1:30pm	13 Meditation 7:00pm	14 Simcha Preschool Fundraiser at Pizza My Heart 4:00-9:00pm No Temple School	15 Library Open 3:00pm	16 Erev Shabbat Service 7:30pm  6:56pm	17 Shabbat Morning Service (Ki Tetze) 10:00am
18 Tea with Rabbi Shifra 9:45am Temple School opening day at TBE 9:45am Chevrah Kadisha Training 1:00pm	19	20 General Board Meeting 7:00 pm Meditation 7:00pm	21 Temple School - 1st Wednesday 4:00pm Hebrew High Ice Cream Social 7:00pm	22 Library Open 3:00pm	23 Beth El Bim Bam Dinner 5:45pm Beth El Bim Bam Activities 6:45pm Erev Shabbat Service 7:30pm  6:45pm	24 Shabbat Morning Service (Ki Tavo) 10:00am
25 Temple School 9:45am Introduction to Jewish Parenting Class 9:45am	26 Senior Connections 1:30pm	27 Meditation 7:00pm	28 Temple School 4:00pm 7th Grade & Hebrew High 6:45pm	29 Library Open 3:00pm	30 Selichot Shabbat at Seabright Beach Picnic 6:00pm Service 7:00pm  6:35pm	1 Shabbat Unplugged Morning Service (Nitzavim) 10:00am

Sponsor an issue of the Shofar ~ Contact Marcia Stein at 831-460-1389 or mstein@tbeaptos.org

Contributions *May-July*

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Alpert's husband
Vicki Hendin
In memory of Anne Hendin, Alan's
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Vicki Hendin

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In honor of Leta Miller and the reunion
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In memory of Esther Weill, beloved
mother
Irving Weill
In Memory of George Serlin, my
brother
Olive Pechner
In memory of Milkah Tomash, my
beloved daughter-in-law
Adelle Tomash
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In memory of Len Gold
Dennis & Cheryl Caspe

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In memory of Ann Singer and all she
contributed to the temple Community
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In memory of Randy Getz, beloved
husband, father, friend
Laurie Getz
In memory of Nana
Jacob Ballon

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In honor of the engagement of Monica
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TBE
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Contributions *May-July*

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In honor of your prayers for Hinda Bat Esther

Philippa Gamse & Holly Blue Hawkins

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John & Merry Oppenheimer

In memory of Bob Krause, my beloved son

Sonja Aiwohi

In memory of Yetta Kaplan

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In memory of Irving Levin, father of Alan Levin, who died in 1937

Alan & Judy Levin

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Peg Shemaria-Hedman

In honor of Rabbi Paula officiating at my niece Laurel's wedding

Estalee Weill

In honor of Rabbi Marcus,
congratulations

Paul F. Frommherz

In honor of helping Milo Rudman become a Bar Mitzvah

Milo Rudman

In honor of Rabbi Paula in gratitude for her presence and blessings at the marriage of Laurel Marks to Shane Fenton

Barry Marks & Julie Lorraine

In memory of Dorothy Irene Guttman
Daniel, Judith, Ray & Chris Phillips

In memory of my partner Lois Hedman
Peg Shemaria-Hedman

In memory of beloved cousin Heather Slayen

Nita Lamendola

In memory of Ruthie Slayen, my aunt
Nita Lamendola

RABBI RICK & NANCY LITVAK CULTURAL ACTIVITIES

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Estelle Levine

In memory of my beloved mother
Blanche Schoenfeld
Estelle Levine

SENIOR CONNECTIONS

A gift

Jill Tardiff

Carol Maler

In honor of Len Jackel's Birthday
Diane Grunes

In honor of and thanks to everyone who worked on Rabbi Rick's Gala, it was lovely

Bobi Robinson

In memory of Feingold

Jack & Hila Michaelson

In memory of Natalie Weill, Julie's mother

Barry Marks & Julie Lorraine

In memory of Martin Rappaport
Bobi Robinson

In memory of Libbie Hilberman:
beloved aunt and former TBE member
The Hilberman family

In memory of Robert E. Levinson
Fay Levinson

In memory of Natalie Weill, my beloved wife

Irving Weill

In memory of Robert Pechner, my beloved husband

Olive Pechner

In memory of John Warren's sister
Fay Levinson & Joe Vela

In memory of my mother Bertha Morris
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In memory of my beloved mother
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Confirmations

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Gail Levine & Emily Wughalter

In memory of Leonard Gold
Shirley Knowles

Rabbi Rick's Retirement Celebrations

Memories, Blessings, Gratitude!!

Celebrating Rabbi Rick—40 years of Leadership, Laughter, and Learning

During the weekend of May 20, 21, and 22, our Temple Beth El community honored Rabbi Rick for his 40 years of service to our community and celebrated his becoming TBE's first Emeritus Rabbi.

Many from our congregation and our Santa Cruz community acknowledged Rabbi Rick and Nancy Litvak by attending Shabbat services, the Gala, and the Sunday Simcha—and joined in a *Shechechyanu* as we broke ground for the new Litvak Wing. The Board and the entire community appreciate all of the many volunteers who were tireless in their commitments and to all of you who sponsored the celebrations or made donations to the Endowment Fund or other important Temple funds in honor of Rabbi Rick.

These celebrations offered many of us opportunities to share memories, offer blessings, and express gratitude. May Rabbi Rick enjoy the blessings of retirement and the adventure of new paths within our congregation and our community.

Thanks a million Rabbi Rick!!

(See a few more Celebration photos on the back cover.)



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ROSH HASHANA

Sunday, October 2nd

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WITH RED WINE, CARROT,
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