Save the Date! Temple Beth Hillel is holding its 5th Annual Comedy Night - Stand Up for TBH - Saturday, January 31, 2015. 7:00 pm - 11:00 pm.

Featuring the stellar comedic talent of:
Wendy Liebman, Adam Hunter, Iliza Shlesinger, and our host, Jay Davis

RSVP HERE!
from the senior rabbi

Helping to Shape the Israel we Desire

by Sarah Hronsky, Senior Rabbi

Judahism holds dear the basic human rights of all people based on the fact that we all come from the line of Adam—the first human being, that we are all created in God’s image, and created as a holy people. With all that is going on in the world around us, we should be all that much more aware of the call to take action protecting basic human rights. Whether it be harm inflicted on another due to the color of their skin, a uniform worn, religious affiliation, or religious observance level. The call: raise our voices in rebuke when another in our community is doing wrong, elect officials that will accurately represent our community’s needs, and stay in discourse on the tough topics delving into a situation, learning the facts, and acting within our values and beliefs.

I recognize that much seems beyond our control and too big for us to tackle; yet, in many cases we have the ability to make change, to right a wrong, and to be in front of a situation. In Deuteronomy we read, “Appoint judges and officials for your tribes, in all the settlements that Adonai your God gives you, and they shall govern the people with due justice.” Here our tradition guides us to elect for ourselves individuals who will represent each of our tribes, in the best way possible. We need representatives who are familiar with our particular community and aware of our specific needs. And, not just any representatives, but ones who will be just in action and judgment, never placing the need of the more affluent over the poor or the more religious over the less.

Acknowledging there is much unrest within our own borders that deserves our attention, I want to take a moment to highlight an opportunity with a very small window of time where our voice can be heard in Israel. We have the opportunity to be a vehicle of change in Israel, our homeland, through the election of just representatives. Israel is at a crossroads with the citizens in two big areas: 1. Jew and non-Jew 2. Orthodox Jew verses Pluralistic or Secular Jewy. Reform Jews are focusing on K’lal Israel – the united voices of all Jewish people fighting for the rights of women, freedom of worship and peace within the region. The goal of our representative body, ARZA, is working to make our Holy Land a place of pluralism and equality. And, Reform Jews right here in the United States can make a huge impact. There is only a short time left to be a part of ensuring gender equality, religious equality, and being a part of laying the pavers on the long path toward peace between Israelis and Palestinians.

To achieve this, each one of us needs to register to support Reform Judaism in the 2015 World Zionist Organization (WZO) election. The WZO is a forum for the entire Jewish population around the world to discuss issues facing the State of Israel and the diaspora. The legislating body of the WZO is the World Zionist Congress. Of which Americans hold 145 seats. The Congress determines things such as financial resources available to political parties and stakeholders in Israel. For us, this means 145 seats are available to be filled by individuals with Reform or Pluralistic values. The American Zionist Movement holds elections to determine the religious make-up of the 145 seats. This means we have the potential of filling these seats and directing policy with a Reform, egalitarian, pluralistic voice in Israel. But, if we don’t get out, the 145 seats will potentially go to a different voice, one not representing our community, our particular needs and desires.

There are only a few days left to sign up to pledge your vote. Go to www.reformjews4Israel.org and register. You must be 18, Jewish, and US citizen. There is a small $10 fee. This $10 is not the same as your ARZA membership on your Temple dues statement. With $10 and the small action of registering to vote, you can increase the voice of Pluralistic Judaism in Israel and actually change the political climate within Israel.

We often feel helpless in crisis, ineffective to make change, thinking our voice is too small, too late, too this or that. In this one important area we can make a difference. Let’s heed the call of Deuteronomy, elect for ourselves just officials who will represent our needs within Israel, and be a Reform voice making change in our global environment. It’s not too late. Join Rabbi Ellie and I, go to www.reformjews4Israel.org, and make your voice heard.

If I am not for myself, who will be for me? If am only for myself, what am I? And if not now, when? – Rabbi Hillel
Table: Shabbat & Holiday Observances

### January

| Shabbat, Jan. 2-3 | Torah Portion: Va-y’chi  
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Genesis 47:28–50:26</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Friday</strong></td>
<td>7:30 pm - Erev Shabbat Service. Led by Rabbi Sarah Hronsky and Song Leader Justin Stein in the Kaufman Beit Midrash. Oneg to follow.</td>
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| Shabbat, Jan. 9-10 | Torah Portion: Sh’mot  
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Exodus 1:1–6:1</td>
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| **Friday**         | 7:30 pm - Family Shabbat Service. Led by Rabbi Sarah Hronsky and Song Leader Justin Stein in the Feldman Horn Mercaz.  
|                    | 6:00-7:30 pm.               |
|                    | 5:00 pm - Bar Mitzvah of Jacob Sher |

| Shabbat, Jan. 16-17 | Torah Portion: Va-eira  
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Exodus 6:2–9:35</td>
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| **Friday**          | 5:45 pm - Shabbat Nosh. Join us for a meet and greet with light refreshments in Sands-Mallet Hall.  
|                     | 6:05 pm - Musical Kabbalat Shabbat. Service led by Rabbi Ellie Steinman and Song Leader Justin Stein in the Bauman Sanctuary.  
|                     | 6:45 pm - Shabbat Guest Speaker. Jewish World Watch speaker discusses the experience of visiting Darfur and how the JWW can help build upon TBH’s “Tents of Hope” project in the Bauman Sanctuary.  
|                     | 7:30 pm - Community Shabbat Dinner in Sands-Mallet Hall. |

| Shabbat, Jan. 23-24 | Torah Portion: Bo  
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Exodus 10:1–13:16</td>
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| **Friday**          | 5:45 pm - ECE Shabbat Dinner. Bring your own or dinner available for pre-purchase in the Feldman Horn Mercaz.  
|                     | 6:30 pm - Tot Shabbat. Rabbi Sarah Hronsky, Song Leader Justin Stein and ECE Mechina lead a brief service with story and song in the Bauman Sanctuary. Oneg and Israeli dancing to follow.  
|                     | 7:30 pm - Adult Shabbat. Led by Rabbi Sarah Hronsky and Cantor Shana Leon in the Kaufman Beit Midrash. Oneg to follow.  
|                     | 4:00 pm - Moses Program. Outreach to Jews with developmental disabilities. Songs, prayers, and learning with Rabbi Jim Kaufman in the Kaufman Beit Midrash. RSVP to Tobi Schneider at tobianne63@gmail.com.  
|                     | 5:00 pm - Bar Mitzvah of Alexander Rotmensz |

| Shabbat, Jan. 30-31 | Torah Portion: B’shalach  
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<td></td>
<td>Exodus 13:17–17:16</td>
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| **Friday**          | 7:30 pm - Erev Shabbat Service. Led by Rabbi Sarah Hronsky and Cantor Shana Leon in the Bauman Sanctuary. Oneg to follow.  

### February

| Shabbat, Feb. 6-7 | Torah Portion: Yitro  
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<tr>
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<td>Exodus 18:1–20:23</td>
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| **Friday**        | 6:00 pm - Community Shabbat Dinner. Our monthly opportunity to break bread with friends old and new. Join us for prayer and a delicious catered meal in the Sands-Mallet Social Hall before we move to services in the Bauman Sanctuary. RSVP and tickets at BethHillel.info.  
|                   | 6:00-7:30 pm.               |
|                   | 7:30 pm - Erev Shabbat Service. Led by Rabbi Sarah Hronsky, Cantor Shana Leon and the Adult Choir in the Bauman Sanctuary. Oneg to follow.  
|                   | 10:00 am - Bar Mitzvah of Zoe Paige Green  
|                   | 4:00 pm - Moses Program. Outreach to Jews with developmental disabilities. Songs, prayers, and learning with Rabbi Jim Kaufman in the Kaufman Beit Midrash. RSVP to Tobi Schneider at tobianne63@gmail.com.  
|                   | 5:00 pm - Bar Mitzvah of Asher Kartman |

| Shabbat, Feb. 13-14 | Torah Portion: Mishpatim  
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<tr>
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<td>Exodus 21:1–24:18</td>
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| **Friday**          | 6:30 pm - Tot Shabbat. Rabbi Eleanor Steinman, Song Leader Justin Stein, and Religious School Kindergarten & 1st Grade classes lead a brief service with story and song in the Bauman Sanctuary. Followed by an Oneg.  
|                     | 7:30 pm - Adult Shabbat. Led by Rabbi Sarah Hronsky and Cantor Shana Leon in the Kaufman Beit Midrash. Oneg to follow.  
|                     | 10:00 am - Elementary School Shabbat Morning Shabbat Morning Minyan. Service led by Rabbi Sarah Hronsky and Song Leader Andrew Fromer in the Sands-Mallet Hall. Oneg to follow.  

| Shabbat, Feb. 20-21 | Torah Portion: T’rumah  
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Exodus 27:20–30:10</td>
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| **Friday**          | 6:30 pm - Community Shabbat Experience and TBH Brotherhood Celebration. Rabbi Sarah Hronsky, Song Leader Justin Stein, and the TBH Brotherhood lead services in the Kaufman Beit Midrash. Special brunch Oneg to follow.  
|                     | 10:00 am - Bar Mitzvah of Chloe Seeger  
|                     | 5:00 pm - Bar Mitzvah of Margaret Cashdan  
|                     | 9:00 am - Shabbat Experience and TBH Brotherhood Celebration. Rabbi Sarah Hronsky, Song Leader Justin Stein, and the TBH Brotherhood lead services in the Kaufman Beit Midrash. Special brunch Oneg to follow.  

At Mitzvah Day, a couple of months ago, one of the projects was to prepare the Mitzvah Garden for planting. This garden, in a former sandbox behind the classroom wing of the Temple, grows vegetables that are donated to the North Hollywood Interfaith Food Pantry. And this garden is a shining example of how the entire Temple can come together.

The materials to prepare the garden and the plants were donated by our TBH Brotherhood. On Mitzvah Day, the plot was cleared, and the soil was tilled and prepared by a group of people who – on the surface – have little in common and most of whom barely knew each other. They included: an empty nester, a past president of TBH, a couple of religious school parents (one a current officer of the Temple), an older religious school student and an alumni of the Elementary School and his dad. The vegetables have been planted and are being tended by the Elementary School’s science classes under the supervision of their science teacher, who is herself a parent of an ECE student. As the vegetables are harvested, their delivery to the North Hollywood Interfaith Food Pantry will be coordinated by yet another Temple member, who is active in that organization.

The Mitzvah Garden does not belong to any one of our Temple’s many groups. It is not the Brotherhood’s garden or the Elementary School’s garden. It is not the garden of those congregants who tilled and prepared the soil. It is the Beth Hillel Mitzvah Garden. It blooms and grows because different people have helped it along. They have helped it along without thinking which temple group it belongs to. They help to make the garden a reality, simply because it is the right thing to do. And, as a result, we have something we can all be proud of.

Our Temple is like the Mitzvah Garden. It blooms and grows because of the involvement of all our members, regardless of whether they are school parents, singles, empty nesters or seniors. And, when we come together to support our Temple (don’t forget Comedy Nite!), there is another benefit. We are making stronger connections with members of our community, building relationships and enriching our own Temple experience. And, like the Mitzvah Garden, we will continue to grow.

Mazel Tov

Mazel Tov to the families celebrating B’nei Mitzvah at Temple Beth Hillel in January and February.

Jacob Sher, son of Brian & Debra Sher, Jan. 10.
Alexander Rotmensz, son of Nathan & Sharon Rotmensz, Jan. 24.
Jessica Gaisford, daughter of Ted & Eileen Gaisford, Feb. 7.
Margaret Cashdan, daughter of Donna & Russ Cashdan, Feb. 14.
Zoe Paige Green, daughter of David Green, Feb. 21.
Asher Kartman, son of Leila & David Mahler, Feb. 21.
Building a Better New Year
by Chris Dwyer and David Schneider
Co-Presidents, TBH Brotherhood

TBH Brotherhood hopes everyone enjoyed a festive Hanukkah and we wish you all a very Happy New Year.

For the 14th consecutive year, Brotherhood hosted our Thanksgiving Day Feast, serving over 400 guests from our community on Temple grounds, sending another 300 meals to families affiliated with Grandparents as parents, and providing hundreds of meals more to homeless advocates who in turn distributed meals to those who were unable to attend the event on site. It was a fantastic day, made possible by the hard work of those who prepared the food over several days overseen by our own Scott Tessler of Silver Spoons Catering, as well as by all of our TBH volunteers who participated on Thanksgiving Day.

Please mark your calendars for Sunday, February 8, for a Tu B’S’vvat Seder a fun family event you do not want to miss, sponsored by the Women of TBH and Brotherhood.

Everyone is invited to attend the Brotherhood Morning Minyan on Saturday, February 21, at 9:00 a.m. Brunch will be served immediately following the service.

We always welcome participation in Brotherhood and especially welcome young dads who would like to get involved and who may like to introduce some new activities. Everyone interested is welcome to attend our monthly Brotherhood meetings which take place the first Thursday of each month at 7:00 p.m.

And last, but definitely not least, please join Brotherhood in congratulating Richard Konigsberg as our Man of the Year. Richard will be honored at the Regional Temple Brotherhoods’ Man of the Year Dinner in March. Mazel Tov, Richard.

For more information or to get involved, contact us at brotherhood@tbhla.org or 818-763-9148 ext. 6271

Happy New Year!

Pictures from Thanksgiving Feed the Hungry Feast. Captured by Yuri Hronsky
Rabbi Ben Bag Bag taught, “Turn it and turn it, for everything is in it. Reflect on it and grow old and gray with it. Don’t turn from it, for nothing is better than it,” (Avot, 5:24). The “it” Rabbi Ben Bag Bag refers to is the Torah, and the Torah in the most broad sense, all of Jewish teaching including our precious 5 Books of Moses. Reflected in this citation is the importance Jewish tradition places upon learning as an ongoing part of one’s life. As you entrust us to educate your children in the Temple Beth Hillel schools we take this responsibility seriously and work tirelessly to do so.

There is just one thing, we cannot do it alone. We need you, parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles and friends to be our partners in teaching and modeling the multitude of ways that Jewish tradition lives. By reinforcing the facts, values, and skills that your children learn you are helping to create the Jewish present and the Jewish future. And there are so many different things you can try together.

1. Come as a family to services. All of our Shabbat services are family friendly whether a 6:00pm or 7:30pm Friday night or 9:00am Saturday morning minyan. Tot Shabbats are just right for those children from birth to 5 years old.

2. Celebrate Shabbat at home as a family. Say the blessing and light Shabbat candles, have Kiddush and maybe challah as well. The dinner does not have to be too fancy. Make Shabbat something special for your family.

3. Pray with your children. These prayers can be the Hebrew blessings they are learning in school, or they can be their own spontaneous creation in English. Both are holy!

4. Read age-appropriate Jewish books with your children. There are hundreds of titles appropriate for all age levels. Rabbi Sarah and I are happy to make suggestions. Just let us know.

5. Do a social action project together as a family. Go shopping and bring food items into the Interfaith Food Pantry collection bin. Use the Hebrew words your children are learning like tzedakah and mitzvah. Show them that doing these things can be fun and can make a world of difference to another person.

6. Bring your child to our TBH youth group events (see column on right). Club 345, Jr. HRTY, and HRTY are an additional and important way that your children can interact and engage with their Jewish community. Though you cannot participate in all of the activities with your children, driving them and making Youth Group a priority on your family calendar is teaching them that as a family, everyone values time spent engaging with the Jewish community.

This is just the beginning of a list of wonderful options. I would love to know what you do or are planning and if there is any way that I can support your family in this vital endeavor. Please do not hesitate to call or email me.

L’shalom,
Rabbi Ellie Steinman

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All 4-5th grade students (includes BHDS and Religious School) are invited to participate in the 4-5th grade retreat at JCA Shalom January 30-February 1. For more information, contact Micah Miller at religiousschool@tbhla.org.

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Youth Group Programming

Temple Beth Hillel youth groups enable our students to work together, build character and confidence and develop their individual potential in an exciting format.

These youth programs offer age-appropriate opportunities such as trips, sports, social action, games, art, drama, music and free discussion.

Please see the list of upcoming programs for our kids in grades 3-12.

If you have any questions feel free to contact Micah Miller either by phone (818) 763-9148 ext. 109 or email religiousschool@tbhla.org.

Upcoming Youth Group Events

CLUB 345 (3rd, 4th, and 5th Graders)
February 8th – movie outing to see “Paddington”
March 8th – Purim Carnival

JR HRTY (6th, 7th, and 8th Graders)
January 25th- Broomball with Temple Or Ami
January 31st – SoCal 678 regional event happening at University Synagogue

HRTY (9th, 10th, 11th, and 12th Graders)
January 16th – Progressive Shabbat Dinner
February 13th-17th – NFTY Convention in Atlanta, GA

Save the Date!

January 25, 2015 – 4th grade Family Education Day
February 22, 2015 – 3rd grade Family Education Day
Discover spectacular retirement living right in your own backyard.

Enjoy the comfort and peace of mind of Independent and Assisted Living right in your own backyard. Available on an affordable monthly fee basis, at The Village at Sherman Oaks we’ve blended independence and personalized care with exceptional service to meet your needs today and tomorrow.

The Village at Sherman Oaks
INDEPENDENT LIVING AND ASSISTED LIVING RESIDENCES
5450 Vesper Avenue
Sherman Oaks, CA 91411
(818) 245-5832

Ask how you can benefit from a CARF accredited retirement community!
What is “Midlife” for Women?

by Gussie Sitkin, MFT, Clinical Director of TBH Community Counseling Center

As a life expectancy for women extends, the expected ideas about what individuals will look like, feel like, and be doing by middle age continues to change. The life expectancy in 1900 was 47 years, but in 2000, it was 77 years. So, what is middle age? What one looks like as an aging adult is changing as more and more effects from improved medicine, exercise and environment tend to lead to a more youthful life and outlook.

Current thinking is that midlife is age 45 and beyond. Thus, women in midlife may face career issues, changes in their marriage, challenges parenting adult children and becoming caregivers to their own parents – “all at a time when Hollywood tells us they should either be enjoying complete success or be thoroughly ignored as popular culture trains its spotlight on ever younger role models”, says Stacy Notoras Murphy, licensed professional counselor, writer for “Counseling Today” of October 2014.

Women at midlife are often experiencing emotions that are deeper than they have experienced in the past. For some women, midlife becomes a time to consider past unresolved issues that they did not have the time or energy to address previously. Many women are wanting to work but may be experiencing low self-esteem and self-worth issues related to being out of the work force, feeling inferior to younger women and sometimes even to their own adult children who are not always supportive because they might want “Mom” to still be “Mom”.

Counselors of women in midlife tell us that they are often struggling with the way their bodies are changing, while others have accepted those changes, but are noticing that sex has a different meaning for them at this stage. Women in midlife often exhibit a strong sexuality to career development, self-worth issues, and how to enrich their own understanding of development across the life span – understandably, a lot to take on!

Women in midlife need to feel they are not stuck, but believe they can overcome barriers to moving forward and in finding rewarding work in a variety of fields, such as volunteerism, classes in the arts, part-time jobs, creative projects, and, especially in the fulfillment of past dreams and goals.

For more information, call the Counseling Center, at 818 762-4817.

We Are Here to Nourish

by Leslye Adelman
Food Pantry Volunteer Coordinator

It’s a new year and the statistics have gotten even gloomier. Did you know there are 2.5 million homeless children in the United States and 1.2 million of them are of school age? According to the organization Feeding America, in 2013, 49.1 million Americans lived in food insecure households, and households with children reported food insecurity at about 20% as opposed to 12% of households without children. 8% of all seniors were food insecure in 2013 (4.8 million over age 60.) AND a glaring ad in a recent Jewish Journal stated “Over 50,000 Jews in L.A. live in poverty. They are our brothers and sisters-and our neighbors. They desperately need our help.”

When I began volunteering at the Food Pantry almost 15 years ago, like many of you, I assumed that Jews were not included in the grim statistics of those who stand in long lines to get groceries because they did not need “handouts” but I quickly learned how wrong I was. Could it be that as Jews we were brought up to be a strong, proud population and it is humiliating to stand in line? To admit you need help? Rabbi Sarah and I do receive calls from Temple members and other Jews, asking for assistance from the Pantry but they are embarrassed by the thought of seeing someone who might know them if they stand in line at the Pantry. So we arrange to get groceries to them at a time when they might not bump into someone they know. Those 50,000 plus Jews are indeed possibly your neighbors or mine.

Thanks to our Social Action Program, TBH has really stepped up to the plate (or should I say the grocery bag) with the “Food for Thought” monthly program and the Pantry box in the lobby is usually flowing with your donations. Ongoing is the request for peanut butter and grocery bags and then each month an additional item is added. For January we will need canned soup (not concentrated) and in February we will be looking for canned protein (tuna, salmon, other fish, chicken, beef, ham.) Signs are posted around the Temple and the monthly request is always in the eblast.

If your children belong to Boy or Girl Scouts and meet monthly, why not ask that an item from the Food of the Month be brought by each scout. You can do a monthly food drive at work and use the list of requested foods for donations. If you belong to a book group, play mahjong or cards, please make it a monthly request as well. Every can or bag helps.

I recently read an article that explained what Food Banks in general are really looking. (http://foodlets.com/what-food-banks-need-most...) In 2013, 84% of food insecure households purchased the least expensive food available in order to provide enough food for their family. Quantity over quality.

We are desperately attempting to fill the bags with healthier foods than what might otherwise go into them. Although we turn no food away, we are really trying to put “healthier” foods into the bags, such as low sugar and low sodium foods, including cereal, canned fruit, vegetables and soup. We like foods that are easy to cook and use, such as instant cereal, rice and milk and foods that can be eaten right out of the can, particularly all types of beans. Since our recipients are of all ages, we need diapers for babies, toddlers, the homeless and the elderly. Toiletries in small containers (hotel size are best) feminine hygiene products (pads are better than tampons) and even toilet paper, paper towels and laundry soap are needed.

If you are working on a show or movie, ask the craft service people why you shouldn’t be able to take what is left at the end of a shoot, as I have learned that most gets trashed, because budgets don’t allow for anything to really be done with the food or products. We do not have space to store clothing, but this time of the year we will distribute any new or gently used blankets we get donated.

A great way to shop for the Pantry is to look for post-holiday items that cost pennies on the dollar. Did you know most markets have clearance racks where you can get real bargains? In the last few months I asked for post-holiday candies that had already been reduced several times and almost every time I asked I was given bags full. Although we want healthy, everyone deserves a piece of candy once in a while. The hard statistics demonstrate how crucial the needs are, and I hope they can motivate us to help in any and every way possible. Thank you for your continued support.

Leslye Adelman | (818) 929-2606
momof3inla@att.net
Jan. 15-Thu. - BHDS Winter Open House. We are proud of our students and want to show off the amazing things that they’ve accomplished this year.

Our annual school enrollment process will be starting soon, so if you know any parents or parents-to-be that might be interested in our school, bring them along, too!
7:00-9:00 pm in ECE and ES classrooms.

Jan. 16 - Fri. - Community Shabbat Dinner. Our monthly opportunity to break bread with friends old and new. Join us for prayer and a delicious catered meal in the Sands-Mallet Social Hall before we move to services in the Bauman Sanctuary. RSVP and tickets at BethHillel.info. 7:30 pm.

Jan. 21 - Wed. - iEngage Hartman Video Seminars. Watch experts (on video from Jerusalem’s renowned Shalom Hartman Institute) discuss issues of concern to world Jewry, then engage in a discussion with Rabbi Eleanor Steinman and fellow congregants. Must register. Details at BethHillel.info.

Jan. 22 - Thu. - Women of TBH Rosh Chodesh. Celebrate the blessing of the New Moon with the Women of TBH.
To RSVP and to receive the event address, please email Leslye Adelman at momo3inla@att.net.

Jan. 31 - Sat. - Comedy Night – “Stand Up For TBH!” This hilarious evening will benefit all of TBH, helping us continue to maintain high-quality schools for our children, to offer engaging adult education programs, to provide meaningful Shabbat, holiday and festival celebrations, to engage in important social action initiatives for TBH and our community at large and to continue to be the voice of Reform Judaism in the East San Fernando Valley.
RSVP and more details at TBHLA.org.

Feb. 6 - Fri. - Community Shabbat Dinner. Our monthly opportunity to break bread with friends old and new. Join us for prayer and a delicious catered meal in the Sands-Mallet Social Hall before we move to services in the Bauman Sanctuary. RSVP and tickets at BethHillel.info. 6:00-7:15 pm.

Feb. 8 - Sun. - TBH Brotherhood & Women of TBH Tu B’Shvat Celebration. 9:00 am - Tu B’Shvat Seder Open to Entire Congregation. Join our Women of TBH, Brotherhood, Religious School, and Clergy to celebrate the birthday of our trees. All adults should RSVP to BethHillel.info. Seder and adult lecture are free; donations are welcome. 10:30 am - Adult Speaker, Betty Cahill in Kaufman Beit Midrash - Learn to transform your property into beautiful landscaped edible gardens and native plants.
12:00 pm - Pot Luck Vegetarian lunch...if your last name begins with A-F salads, G-L main course, M-Q side dish, R-Z dessert.

Feb. 11 - Wed. - Coffee & Schmooze with Rabbi Sarah. Join our Senior Rabbi in her office for casual conversation about parenting and other pertinent topics. 8:30-10:00 am.

Feb. 11 - Wed. - “Saying Kaddish: How to Comfort the Dying, Bury the Dead, and Mourn as a Jew” by Anita Diamant. TBH Book Club meets to discuss “Saying Kaddish...” Discussion led by Rabbi Sarah Hronsky.
Dessert will be served. 7:00-8:30 pm in the Kaufman Beit Midrash.

Feb. 18 - Wed. - “Engage Hartman Video Seminars. Watch experts (on video from Jerusalem’s renowned Shalom Hartman Institute) discuss issues of concern to world Jewry, then engage in a discussion with Rabbi Eleanor Steinman and fellow congregants.
Please register. Details at BethHillel.info.

Feb. 19 - Thu. - Women of TBH Rosh Chodesh. Celebrate the blessing of the New Moon with the Women of TBH.
To RSVP, and to receive the event address, please email Leslye Adelman at momo3inla@att.net.

Feb. 22 - Sun. - Mitzvah Circle Brunch. As a thank you to all who stepped to the level of $1,000 gift or more for TBH’s annual campaign, please be our guest for a special brunch. TBH staff will present ideas for special programs and needs. After, our donors will vote to designate a small portion of their gift to a specific program. Please go to TBHLA.org/donate. Click on Mitzvah Circle or call the office to make arrangements. RSVP to ngilboa@tbhla.org. 12:00-2:00 pm at Kaufman Beit Midrash.

Feb. 24 - Tue. - Nosh & Learn. “Your Skin Throughout the Ages” with Dr. Rachel Bak. Presented by the Women of TBH. 7:00-9:00 pm in Kaufman Beit Midrash.
Stand Up for TBH! Comedy Night

Save the Date! Temple Beth Hillel is holding its 5th Annual Comedy Night - Stand Up for TBH - on Saturday, January 31, 2015. This event includes a silent auction, great food, specialty beverages, an opportunity drawing and stellar comedic talent including:

Wendy Liebman,
(The Late Show with Letterman, The Tonight Show starring Jimmy Fallon, Jimmy Kimmel Live and Season 9 of America’s Got Talent)

Adam Hunter,
(The Late Show with Letterman, The Tonight Show starring Jay Leno, and Last Comic Standing’s season 6 finalist)

Iliza Shlesinger,
(The Tonight Show starring Jimmy Fallon and is the youngest and only female champion of NBC’s Last Comic Standing)

Jay Davis- our host
(HBO, Comedy Central’s Tosh. O, and produces some of the best comedy shows of the past and present in LA)

This hilarious evening will benefit all of TBH, helping us continue to maintain high-quality schools for our children, offer engaging adult education programs, provide meaningful Shabbat, holiday and festival celebrations, engage in important social action initiatives for TBH and our community at large and to continue to be the voice of Reform Judaism in the East San Fernando Valley. Your support can make this happen!

This spectacular event is part of our annual fundraising and plays an essential role in our non-profit community meeting its budgetary needs. In addition to your attendance, we would appreciate your assistance in making this event a fun and financial success for the benefit of our community. Sponsor the event by placing an ad, and/or by making a donation to our silent auction. Please fill out the attached forms and help our temple and all the good it does for our community. We cannot do it alone!

WE WANT YOU FOR ADULT SOFTBALL

Play with the Temple Beth Hillel Bears in the L.A. Synagogue Softball League!

Anyone 18 or older in 2015 who is interested in playing and having fun is welcome. The new season starts in January, and we play games most Sundays in the Valley through June.

For more information, contact Richard Bromberg at richbrom@aol.com or 818-606-0500.

NEW YEAR! NEW MEZUZAH!
Women of TBH
Gift Shop
Open Tuesday-Friday & Sunday

We carry an extensive collection for all!
Judaica and more!
Your purchases support TBH.
Visit tbhla.org for store hours.

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Visit tbhla.org for store hours.

WE NEED BAKED GOODS FOR FRIDAY NIGHT ONEGS!

Please help us and bring baked goods for our Friday night Onegs.
We could have goods such as: home baked cookies, bars & cakes.

Please contact Sheila at sheilamilov@yahoo.com if you would like to contribute.
Thank you!

Baked Goods for Friday Night Onegs

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Please contact Sheila at sheilamilov@yahoo.com if you would like to contribute.
Thank you!
Returning as an adult to Temple Beth Hillel awakened many fond memories of growing up at TBH. I clearly remember running up and down the Temple ramp, singing my heart out in te’filla, and listening to my bat mitzvah lessons on cassette tapes as I studied each prayer and song. TBH was a wonderful place for me to have time with my Temple friends, learn about Judaism, become a bat mitzvah and eventually become Confirmed.

I also keenly remember the TBH Board of Trustees. As a teenager, the idea of a board member was a little intimidating, and the thought that I would ever sit on a temple board seemed even more unrealistic. I was in the same class as the Temple president’s son, as well as other students whose parents held important roles on the various committees that helped to support the growth and betterment of our Temple. Again, these positions seemed like jobs for “older” adults, or very serious, mature individuals.

In 2010, I returned to Temple Beth Hillel, along with my husband and our son who was 2 years old at that time. I was in my mid thirties, and suddenly I realized that I had become that “older” adult, whom as a child I viewed as being SO much older, wiser, and able to sit on a Temple Board! Returning to TBH, I knew I wanted to give back to the Temple that felt to me like a home away from home. I also wanted to do more to help continue this wonderful place for my children; for them to have the same social, spiritual, and inspired feelings about Judaism was very exciting to me.

After being very involved with the ECE, I thought, “Whose BOARD is it anyway?” I had met some of the board members. They were not intimating, or anything that I had envisioned as a child. They are smart, kind people who are down to earth and want the same thing as me: to see TBH thrive; to bring comfort and joy to others; and to be a place that people can feel as if they are at home celebrating their Judaism. This is when I decided to join the board as a member at large.

I made it very clear that I had two young kids, and my time was limited. This was kindly understood. I was clear that I have various strengths and weaknesses, as well as areas of interests and dislikes. This was heard and accepted.

I explained that this was my first time sitting on a board, and this was welcomed too. That is when I truly learned what the Board of Trustees is: it represents all the members of TBH and works to serve our Temple members.

So, whose BOARD is it anyway? It’s your board; it’s my board; it’s OUR board. It’s a group of people coming together to help generate and implement fabulous programs, great education, places of worship and a source of unity for those wishing to celebrate all things Jewish!
Akela’s Corner
by Glenn Cote
Cubmaster, Cub Scout Pack 311

On Saturday, January 10th, the first of Pack 311’s monthly Hiking Team events for the new year will take place — a hike to Eagle Rock (the one in Topanga State Park) — and TBH Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts, congregants, friends and family alike are all welcome to join us! Just contact our Hiking Team leaders at hikingteam@cubpack311.com.

Also in January, we’ll have a Pack Meeting at TBH on the 22nd, and a special Pack fundraiser the next evening, Friday, January 23rd, at Bob’s Big Boy in Burbank (the oldest Big Boy in the country) — where classic car lovers from all around Los Angeles gather every Friday for a trip down memory lane. Come get in the spirit of the Cub Scout Pack 311 Pinewood Derby and raise some money for the Pack! Contact me at cubmaster@cubpack311.com to obtain the flyer for this event, and turn it in when you pay for dinner so that Pack 311 will receive a portion of the proceeds.

Round out our February Scout schedule of events is a Pack Meeting at TBH on the 12th, followed on the 15th by another hike (this time, Runyan Canyon). Finally, Scout families are encouraged to attend the President’s Day Celebration at the Reagan Library on February 16th and mingle with our Founding Fathers in a celebration that includes fun for the whole family, including crafts, musical entertainment, storytelling, and presidential and first lady look-alikes.

Thank You
by Sarah Hronsky,
Senior Rabbi

Temple Beth Hillel extends our appreciation to Sandor Sigmond, of blessed memory, and his family, for Sandor’s legacy gift. Sandor wished to honor the memory of his beloved, Eleanor “Ellie” Freedman. After Ellie died, Sandor contacted TBH and discussed leaving a significant gift to honor Ellie’s memory. Ellie held a deep commitment to Temple Beth Hillel, and Sandor a commitment to the continuity of Judaism. Thus, he graciously included TBH in his estate plan, and with his gift a room will be dedicated in Ellie’s name and a commitment to a significant education program to benefit adults has been made.

Thank you Ellie for your years of dedication and service, even serving as President of our Sisterhood, and for bringing your heart and soul to our community. Thank you to Sandor and his family for helping to ensure the future of Reform Judaism in the East San Fernando Valley.

Please consider Temple Beth Hillel, and the Jewish future, as you make your estate plans. Legacy gifts such as these can be dedicated to specific programs, to our operational budget, or to our Endowment — whose perpetual spinoff means a stronger future for TBH.

For further information or assistance, contact the Temple main office: (818) 763-9148.

Life at BethHillel

Girl Scout
Boat Regatta
Beth Hillel Day School SIMCHA “PARTY” BOOK is coming, FRIDAY, JANUARY 23rd.

Parties go on sale through our secure website at:

https://bhds.onlinelpartybook.com/catalog.php

Support us by attending a FABULOUS party, and ALL the money goes to BHDS!

Some parties will sell out in minutes…DON’T MISS OUT ON THE PARTY!

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When you and your guests want to be treated like royalty!

Over 20 years serving the San Fernando Valley
Bat/Bar Mitzvah Celebrations ~ Weddings ~ Corporate Events
Baby Namings ~ Luncheons ~ Showers
Please Call Scott Tessler at 818-996-2911 when planning your next simcha

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Earn Cash Back for TBH
Register or Re-Register in the Vons, Pavilions and Ralph’s Non-Profit Cash Back Programs.
We must re-register our cards every year in order for TBH to continue to receive 1-4% back from our purchases.

VONS PAVLIONS
1. Go to eScrip.com.
2. Click on YES! KEEP EARNING - RENEW.
3. Enter either your phone number, email, or Club Card number
4. Follow instructions if you are not currently enrolled in this program.
5. Temple Beth Hillel is group #137597043.

1. Bring this printed barcode to Ralphs.
2. Have the cashier scan it when he or she scans your Rewards Card and you make a purchase.
3. If you are not registered with a Ralph’s Rewards card, go to Ralphs.com.
4. After you register, go to the Community Rewards section and edit your Community Contribution to specify Temple Beth Hillel.
5. Our organization number is 83184.
Celebrations & Contributions

MAZAL TOV

To Brandon and Laura Noll who had a baby girl, Madeline, and to Gabe Noll for becoming a big brother.

To all who helped at Mitzvah Day!

SYMPATHY

To Eunice Kerman and family, on the loss of her husband, Max Kerman.

To Marta Harmon and family, on the passing of her father, Ron Rubenstein.

To Lillian Burkenheim Silver and family, on the death of her father, Jack Burkenheim.

To Karin Gault and family, on the death of her father, Sidney Gault.

To the Steiner family, on the loss of both, Margery Steiner and M. Howard Steiner.

To the family of Beatrice Spero, who died in November.

To Jennifer Russ and family on the death of her grandmother, Joy Niefeld.

To the family of Ira Geldin, who died in November.

To Garland Fybel and family on the death of her father, James P. Testa.

REFUAH SHLEIMAH

Wishing a full and speedy recovery to Lesley Adelman, Richard Konigsberg, and Lily Mandell.

Life at BethHillel

BHDS Generation's Day 2014 - 2015

Photos by Sari Edber
Temple Funds

In gratitude, we acknowledge the contributions of our friends to the mission of Temple Beth Hillel.

Rabbi Sarah Hronsky’s Fund
In Loving Memory of
Family, by Rhea L Sallin
Ronald Rubenstein, by Ilene Rubenstein
Jack Burkenheim, by Sheila Milov
Ronald Rubenstein, by Sheila Milov
Marie Goodman, by Bobbe and Ben Tadelis
Jack Burkenheim, by Evelyn Lever

Cantorial and Music Fund
In appreciation of Cantor Shana
Anna Henry and Andy Henry
Anita Pinsker
The Klain and Shuter Family

Emeritus Rabbi Kaufman’s Fund
In Loving Memory of
Annie Berman, by Tara and Moshe Kaiserman, and Family
Herman Berman, by Tara and Moshe Kaiserman, and Family
Abraham Pomerantz, by Irwin Pomerantz
Max Kerman, by Carol and Janet Somers
Margie Steiner, by Carol and Janet Somers
Cecile Marx, by Marion Marx
In Honor of
Virginia Rauscher, by Barbara and Mark Singer
In Appreciation of Rabbi Jim
Jerry and Lisa Friedman
Marilyn Brooks

Community Counseling Center
Donations
Spencer Cohen

Day School Fund
In Loving Memory of
Ronald Rubenstein, by BHDS PA Board
In Honor of
Soﬁa Chojniak’s Bat Mitzvah, by Talia Edber and Family

Memorial and Tribute Fund
In Loving Memory of
Joseph Chilk, by Laurel Brodsky
Larry Zoller, by Dolly Growirth
Steven Maler, by Helen Maler
Robert Cohen, by Roger and Sandra Cohen

Eli Maiman, by Belle Maiman
Sophie Pokras, by Neanette Quint
Anna Zalis, by Sanaat Vakhidova
Murray Schneider, by David and Tobi Schneider
Lena Golden, by Jo and David Haimowitz
Ruth Rosenberg, by Larry and Susan Rosenberg
Arthur Maler, by Helen Maler
David Yorkshire, by Tsva and Murray Weiss
Anne Miller, by Barney and Jean Kort
Judith Seuthe, by Kathy Seuthe
Susan Kaiserman, by Moshe and Tara Kaiserman
Marlin Lieberman, by Audrey Lieberman
Leonard Beller, by Sheila Beller
George Silverman, by Herbert and Rita Silverman
Sol Moss, by Faye Viner
Vinnitskaya Filipp, by Vladimir Betis
Mariya Filipp, by Vladimir Betis
Vinnitskaya Filipp, by Vladimir Betis
Al Pink, by Howard and Lee Pink
Pauline Maler, by Helen Maler
Ronald Rubenstein, by Jason, Susan and Cole Lumsden
Bea Spero, by John and Linda Vacca
Rose Bromberg, by George and Riva Bromberg
Lawrence Wicker, by Robin Kay-Wicker
Abraham Barbolet, by June Ross
Ida Kohlberg, by June Ross
Shimon Kaiserman, by Moshe and Tara Kaiserman
Irwin Tucker, by Arleen Siegel
Sofia Balshin, by the Linetsky and Balshin Families
Robert Neiman, by Susan Howell
Anne Langsdon, by Bobbi and Charles Baker
In Loving Memory of
Jack Burkenheim
By Phyllis Bigelson
By Zan Freilich and Howard Blumenfeld
By Jo, David, Jacob and Darah Haimowitz
By Stephen Davis and Karen Yamamoto
Donations
Elayne Wenz

Moses Fund
In Loving Memory of
Ron Rubenstein, by Tobi and David Schneider
Stanley Levs, by Tobi and David Schneider
Jack Burkenheim, by Tobi and

David Schneider
Laura Benichou, by Karen Stern
Get Well Wishes to Richard Konigsberg, by Tobi and David Schneider

Neil J. Gittelman Fund
In Loving Memory of
Marcella Rosen, by Irv, Nathalie and David Gittelman, Susanna Griffin and Judy Harris
Abraham Fruitan, by The Elman Family
Irwin H. Bloom, by The Elman Family
Jean Elman, by The Elman Family

North Hollywood Interfaith Food Pantry
In Loving Memory of
Ann Voiler, by Natalie Goldman
Jeanne Seymour, Natalie Goldman
Judy Slavin, by Herb Slavin
Max Kerman, by Maxine Stern
Aunt Minnie Rudolph, by Natalie Goldman
The father of Robin Tucker, by Maxine Stern
Bea Spero, by Maxine Stern
Roz Livick, by Joyce and Jerry Rabinowitz
Margie Stein, by Joyce and Jerry Rabinowitz
Ruth Sigman, by Robin Movich
Jack Burkenheim, by Susan Pasternak, Larry Picus and Matthew Murray Odell, by Zan Frailich and Howard Blumenfeld
In Loving Memory of
Leo Adelman
Gloria Carbone Mitchell
Leonard and Linda Goldberg
John and Linda Vacca
Barbara and Mark Singer
Jodie and David Reff
Evelyn Lever
Get Well Wishes to Leslye Adelman
Susan Pasternak, Larry Picus and Matthew
Sheila Milov
Bobbi and Charles Baker
Donations
Barbara Kramer
The Connie Frank Foundation
Stephanie Vassallo and Holly Whatley
By Michael Kramer and Barbara Kramer

In Honor of
Roger Rashman, by Maxine Stern
Shainez Burg, by Rabbi Sarah Hronsky
Herb Slavin, by Barbara and Mark Singer
Bob and Sue Howell, by Cantor Shana Leon
Zev Yaroslavsky, by Lori Dinkin
Kathy Cantella, by John and Linda Vacca
Sue and Bud Bulkin, by Arlene, Dan, and Frank Balkin

Religious School Discretionary Fund
Donations
Bruce Kulick

Max Sands Special Projects Fund
In Loving Memory of
Frances Sands, by Leslie and Steve Rouf
Seymour Rouf, by Leslie and Steve Rouf
Johanna Spiegel, by Leslie and Steve Rouf
Samuel & Tibbie Rouf, by Leslie and Steve Rouf
Samuel & Mary Eisberg, by Leslie and Steve Rouf
Max Kerman, by Leslie and Steve Rouf
William Eisberg, by Leslie and Steve Rouf
Jack Burkenheim, by Leslie and Steve Rouf
In Honor Of
Steven Rouf, by Bettylee and Marshall Balsam

Robert & Betty Joseph Reaper Fund
In Loving Memory of
Alissa Shulman, by The Elman Family

360 Construction Fund
In Loving Memory of
Jack Burkenheim, by Lillian and Bruce Silver
In Honor of
Rabbi Sarah Hronsky, by Lillian and Bruce Silver
Rabbi Jim Kaufman, by Lillian and Bruce Silver

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Mark a birthday, bar or bat mitzvah, anniversary, yahrzeit or special occasion with a donation to Temple Beth Hillel. Make your choice from the funds listed below, then send your tribute and payment to Temple Beth Hillel, 12326 Riverside Drive, Valley Village, CA 91607. Please include the name and address of the person you are honoring, so that we can send a special acknowledgment card in your name. You can also make your donation online at tbhla.org/donate.

- $360 Construction Fund
- Clergy Funds
  - Rabbi Sarah Hronsky Fund
  - Cantorial and Music Fund
  - Emeritus Rabbi Jim Kaufman Fund
- Building Funds
- School & Youth Funds
  - Beth Hillel Day School
  - Religious School
  - Scholarship
  - Campership
- Community Outreach Funds
  - North Hollywood Interfaith Food Pantry
  - Community Counseling Center Fund
  - Moses Fund
- Tree of Life
- Endowment

A complete list of Temple funds is available online at tbhla.org/donate.