From our President

Dear Fellow Congregants,

It is hard to believe that another summer is upon us! So much is happening at our shul in June and July. First, a huge heartfelt Mazal Tov to our Executive Director Sheryl Goldman who we will honor at our June Gala for the leadership, legacy and light she brings to Temple Beth Am. We will also posthumously recognize Lou Colen for the many legacies he gave our synagogue and community during his long life. I look forward to seeing many of you at the gala.

Mazal Tov also to the many children graduating from our Pressman Academy Day School and Jewish Learning Community. May each graduate continue to find Temple Beth Am their home away from home! Much success to our many high school and college graduates whose educational plans are featured in this issue.

The first part of summer will be a happening place at Temple Beth Am! Camp Keshet will be operating a full program of fun for many of our children. It is not too late to sign your child up for the many offerings and urge friends to take advantage of the stellar program that will be provided.

As our children run, play and learn throughout the school and shul, our lay leaders and synagogue staff will take a few big steps for the campus expansion project. Please watch for more specific details as the summer progresses.

Speaking of our lay leaders please join me and my fellow officers and Board of Trustees as we are installed on Friday, June 19th. Join us for Kabbalat Shabbat Services and a lovely Shabbat Dinner. Details and the full list of the slate can be found in the adjacent column of this issue.

Wishing you a wonderful start to summer and remember that your shul is open for you seven days a week and summer is no exception!

Mike Cohn, President
Temple Beth Am is an egalitarian Conservative synagogue that is devoted to spiritual and religious enrichment and that values Jewish tradition while embracing innovation. Its many programs serve a multi-generational congregation. These include multiple opportunities for: worship of God, adult learning, education of children and families, acts of loving kindness, and outreach to those seeking community and meaning in their lives. The synagogue is committed to the institutions of Conservative Judaism, the broader Jewish community, the State of Israel and the advocacy of democracy and religious pluralism.

Mike Cohn, President
Rabbi Adam Kligfeld, Senior Rabbi
Rabbi Ari Lucas, Associate Rabbi
Rabbi Hillary Chorny, Cantor
Sheryl Goldman, Executive Director
Rabbi Yechiel Hoffman, Director of Youth Learning & Engagement
Dr. Erica Rothblum, Head of School
Rabbi Joel E. Rembaum, Emeritus
Rabbi Jacob Pressman, Emeritus
Rabbi Harry Silverstein, Emeritus

Kol Ha’Am

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Kol Ha’Am

June marks the descent into a calming summer slowdown. School years wind to a close; fiscal years come to an end. Days lengthen, bringing hours of additional sunshine and long, relaxed Shabbat afternoons. The city slows its daily routine: school buses take leave of the road and leave commutes a little lighter at crucial hours. Families vacate the city for summer getaways and kids head to summer camp and weekends with grandparents.

The Jewish calendar also drops into a quieter place. After Shavuot, both weekdays and Shabbat become remarkably regular: Tuesday morning and Wednesday morning services look and sound the same as one another; one Shabbat blends into the next. Thus, summertime for Jews in the northern hemisphere means not just a slowdown, but also the establishment of a real and recognizable rhythm.

There is comfort in rhythm. During the special seasons on our calendar, like the stretch of time from Rosh Hashanah through Simchat Torah, rhythm and regularity feel impossible to achieve. Holidays are tagged onto Shabbat, complicating our family routines (and taking our food preparation to a very stressful place). Every week comes with a new set of meals to plan, services to attend, people to host. All this builds to a lump of real excitement and also exhaustion, a sense that there is no catching our breath.

Summer is the perfect time to catch our breath. It’s a warm and spacious season to establish routine and push our selves to commit to regular reunions with our Jewish community, with tefillah (prayer), with God. Once, I heard the story from a beloved rabbi and teacher that when his first child was born, his father came to the hospital to await the arrival of his grandchild. This rabbi emerged from behind heavy doors to share the exciting news of the birth, and he ran to his father to give him a hug. But because these two men never shared hugs, never used touch to acknowledge emotion, the hug was awkward and cold. From then on, this rabbi resolved that he would use hugs as often as possible to awaken human emotion in all his relationships.

This, taught the rabbi, is how we ought to think about being in relationship with God and with our own Jewish community. We may not need a “hug” every single day from the community, but praying daily, learning routinely, and creating Shabbat and ritual habits make it so that, when we do truly need that “hug,” we are already in relationship. And what better time is there to establish these routines than in the slow and steady march of summertime?

In the coming months, I will be teaching a few courses that focus on the skills and structure of tefillah. Each series has a different focus, and all classes can be attended as individual sessions. Part I of this series is an Advanced Davening Academy: A Black-belt Mini-Course in Leading Daily Services (it began May 31 and continues on June 7, 14, 28) and meets on Sunday mornings at 9 a.m.; the course costs $18 and includes brunch. Sign up online at www.tbala.org/learntolead.

Part II of this series will be a six-part series on High Holy Day leadership, which will begin later this summer. I am also putting together a Temple Beth Am Choral Society, a club that will meet monthly to sing through classic Jewish choral music both old and new. Please contact me directly with interest or questions about these upcoming opportunities to learn, sing, and engage.

May you be blessed with calm and healthy summers, and with the strength to find new, enlivening routines that fill your days with purpose and comfort.

Rabbi Hillary Chorny
Temple Beth Am's Youth Learning and Engagement (YLE) cultivates young Jews to embark on a lifetime of Jewish journeying. We strive to nurture and provide for each child's Jewish journey, from their toddler years through their graduation from high school.

Through a thoughtful and strategic design process we offer programs for children to engage in and learn through in the areas of: Youth, Camp Keshet, our Jewish Learning Community, the B’nei Mitzvah experience, Teen and family and parent oriented programs.

We provide a critical emphasis on programs during the key transition moments of children and family’s lives to encourage continued engagement as illustrated in the chart below:

1) The transition into pre-school
2) The transition to Kindergarten
3) The transition into Middle School
4) The transition into High School
5) The transition into College

By engaging with youth, from ages zero to eighteen, and their families in Judaism, Jewish life and the Jewish people, we strive to develop healthy and thriving human beings who create a Jewish life to enhance their spiritual journey, their connections with others and their impact on the world.

Best,
Rabbi Yechiel Hoffman, EdD
Director of Youth Learning and Engagement

Pressman Academy’s Jewish Learning Community of Temple Beth Am proudly congratulates this year’s Kitah Zayin class on completing their journey as graduates of our program. We wish them many wonderful journeys in their Jewish future.

Top Row, Right to Left: Donna Hakimbaba, Eva Jussim, Rachel Brown, Liv Berg, Ellie Goldzweig, Samantha Linderman
Bottom Row, Right to Left: Aaron Hedvat, Avrami Hacker, Sam Hakimbaba, Judah Braman, Jack Abrams

YMCA Premier Acts: Best Practices in Youth Engagement & Development

YELE AREAS | ECC | K | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12
--- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | ---
YOUTH | Mahar | Kadima | Jr. USY | USY | Shabbat Yeladim | Shabbat Yeladim Staff | Camp Keshet | Camp Keshet Staff | Jewish Learning Community (Sunday) | Jewish Learning Community (Sunday & Tuesday Learning Labs) | Ritual Skills Learning & Torah Study Experiences | Shabbat Family Services | B’nei Mitzvah Family Cohorts | Parents of Teens Learning Groups | Family Shabbaton | 7th/8th Grade Bridge Program | Teen Programs (Structured Groups & Community Programs)
Our B’ni Mitzvah

Itai Koronyo
Son of Maya and Yosef Koronyo
JUNE 13, 2015

Naomi Akram
Daughter of Corinne and Korah Akram
JUNE 20, 2015

Michael Wachsman
Son of Elizabeth Nimni and Ashley Wachsman
JUNE 27, 2015

Engagements & Weddings

Mazal Tov to:
Eliana Zajdman and Alex Zajdman
To be married on June 7, 2015

Rochelle Emert and Robert Schultz
to be married on June 28, 2015

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

We welcome the following New Members to our Temple Beth Am family (as of 5/1/15):
Solomon & Sandi Bien
Bryan & Anamay Carmel
Simon & Anna Farandel
Karen Roth & Richard Ginsburg
Scott & Barbara Neitlich
Yoram & Sepideh Saghian
Naomi Langer-Voss & Jason Voss
Benjamin & Tali Zelkowicz

Bris & Baby Namings

Lola Marie Weiselman
Daughter of Monika and David Weiselman
Born March 13, 2015
Given the name Lea Miriam bat Dovid Mendl v’Malka Maxim Mazal

Omri Atiya
Son of Shany and Yuval Atiya
Brother of Eylon and Harel
Born April 30, 2015
Given the name Omri

Naomi Langer-Voss & Jason Voss
Benjamin & Tali Zelkowicz

Yahrzeit Donations

We thank those who support the synagogue community in memory of their loved ones named below:


In Memoriam

We mourn the passing of

Jackson Alberts
Grandson of Jeanne Jacoves
Nephew to Carrie & Mitch Jacoves

Shirley Cohen
Wife of Seymour Cohen

Lou Colen

Jakob Lowinger
Husband of Rachel Lowinger

Carlos Quintanilla
Temple Beth Am parking valet
MAZAL TOV TO OUR GRADS!

Jen Abeles, daughter of Debbie & Jerry Abeles, is graduating Phi Beta Kappa from the University of Colorado, majoring in Linguistics and minoring in Spanish.

Ben Ackerman, son of Ellen & Larry Ackerman, is graduating from Johns Hopkins University with honors in his major, Public Health Studies, and a minor in Applied Math and Statistics. He will be starting the PhD program in Biostatistics at the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health.

Shelley Ackerman, daughter of Ellen & Larry Ackerman, is receiving a Master’s degree in Bioengineering from the Stanford University School of Engineering and Stanford School of Medicine, where she is continuing her work towards a PhD in Bioengineering.

Shira Artson, daughter of Elana & Bradley Artson, is graduating from Ithaca College with a BS in occupational science and will continue in the program for a Master's degree in occupational therapy.

Talia Bacharach, daughter of Sharon & Michael Bacharach, is graduating from Hamilton High School Music Academy. She will be attending University of Colorado, Boulder.

Edon Bainvoll, son of Renne & Efraim Bainvoll, will be graduating from American Jewish University with a BA in Liberal Arts. He will be working in the field of Early Childhood.

Shimonah Breger, daughter of Barbara Breger, will graduate from Shalhevet High School. Following a gap year in Israel, he will be working in the field of Early Childhood.

Shan Cohen-Hodos, daughter of Andrea Hodos and Aryeh Cohen, is graduating from Hamilton High School Humanities Magnet. She will be attending List College in the dual degree program with Columbia University.

Aaron Drooks, son of Mark Drooks, is graduating from Harvard-Westlake School. He will be attending University of Pennsylvania.

Ilan Goldberg, son of Ivonne & Daniel Goldberg, is graduating from Milken Community High School. He will take a gap year combining travel, work and social service, after which he will be attending Harvard University.

Rina Goldman, daughter of Sheryl & Seth Goldman, is graduating from Milken Community High School and will be attending University of Maryland, College Park.

Josh Goldner, son of Lauren & Scott Goldner, is graduating from Shalhevet and will be attending USC School of Cinematic Arts (Film school) in 2015.

Noah Feldman Greene, son of Lisa Feldman Greene & Brian Greene, graduated summa cum laude and Phi Beta Kappa from Emory University with a BA in International Studies.

Michael Jay Kahn, son of Carole & Richard Kahn is graduating from the Collins College of Hospitality of Cal Poly Pomona. He will be going to Europe this summer, and then will work with a national restaurant management group.

Michelle Lynn Kahn, daughter of Carole & Richard Kahn, recently received her Master’s Degree in Western European History from Stanford University, where she is in a PhD program. Michelle was awarded a Fulbright Scholarship, and this year she will be in Europe, conducting research for her doctorate.

Erin Krinsky, daughter of Lara & Glen Krinsky, will be graduating Hamilton High School Music Academy and attend Emerson College in Boston.

Lauren Kurtz, daughter of Pam & Lyle Kurtz, is graduating from Beverly Hills High School and will be attending San Diego State University.

Ilana Emert Lasner, daughter of Agnes and Seymon Emert, is graduating from Midwestern University, Arizona College of Osteopathic Medicine, with a Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine.

Ariella Leiter, daughter of Marci Maniker, is graduating from Windward School and will be going to George Washington University in D.C.

Yelli Lewin, daughter of Lori Silver & Howard Lewin, is graduating from Milken Community School and attending Skidmore College in Saratoga Springs, NY in the fall.

Tal Link, daughter of Teri Cohan Link & Baruch Link, will receive an MSc in Water Science and Governance from King’s College, London.

Shmuel Link, son of Teri Cohan Link & Baruch Link, will receive a PhD from University of California Berkeley in Mechanical Engineering.

David Lorell, son of Mary Chenoweth & Mark Lorell is graduating from Shalhevet High School. He will either enter UC Santa Barbara this fall, USC next spring, or U of Chicago in the fall of 2016. He plans to major in Cognitive Sciences.

Jonah Malkin, son of Bobbie Feinberg & Ely Malkin, is graduating from Beverly Hills High School and attending University of Wisconsin.

Joshua Papernik, son of Lori & Brian Papernik, is graduating from Alexander Hamilton High School, Humanities Magnet and will attend UC Berkeley.

Avishai Rabin, son of Amy & Jeffrey Rabin is graduating from Shalhevet High School. Following a gap year in Israel, he will be attending the University of Illinois at Urbana–Champaign.

Daniel Reich, son of Gloria Reich, will graduate from Summit View High School and then spend a year in Israel on a gap program.

Sam Rosenberg, son of Roberta Goodman-Rosenberg and David Rosenberg, is graduating from Milken Community High School. He will be attending the University of Michigan.

Stephanie Salem, daughter of Linda & Lee Salem, is graduating from UCSB with a major in Global Studies and a minor in Spanish. She’ll be interning in Washington, D.C. this summer then will be moving to Spain to teach English as a Foreign Language in the Madrid area this fall.

Jacob Simpson, son of Orly & Robert Simpson is graduating from Milken Community School. He will attend NYU next year to study Economy and Business.

Leora Svedlow, daughter of Sharon & Jonathan Svedlow is graduating from Marlborough and will be going to Oberlin College.

Ariella Vaakil, daughter of Michal & Jacob Vaakil, granddaughter of Gabriela & Elie Litov, is graduating from Shalhevet High School. She will be attending the University of Massachusetts, Amherst.

Erica Weiss, daughter of Marla and Stuart Weiss, will be graduating from UC Berkeley. She will be pursuing a career with YELP in San Francisco.

Emma Balaban Wergeles, daughter of Melissa Balaban & Adam Wergeles is graduating from Santa Monica High School and is going to Israel with Kivunim next year and then to the University of Wisconsin, Madison.

Leila Claire Wolf, daughter of Hilary & Mark Wolf, will graduate University of California Santa Cruz with a Bachelor of Arts in Sociology.

Aviva Wolf-Jacobs, granddaughter of Ellen L. & Marty Jacobs will be graduating from Berkeley High School. She will be attending Pitzer College in Claremont.

To include your grad's information in the next KHA, email editor@tbala.org.
June

2

Tuesday - 6:00 p.m.
YLE TEEN BANQUET

14

Sunday - 5:30 p.m.
LEADERSHIP, LEGACY & LIGHT
An Evening of Celebration
See back cover for details
www.tbala.org/legacy2015

16

Tuesday - 4:30 p.m.
PRESSMAN ACADEMY DAY SCHOOL
8th Grade Graduation (see below)

19

Friday - 6:15 p.m.
KABBALAT SHABBAT & BOARD INSTALLATION –
SERVICE & DINNER (details on cover)
RSVP at www.tbala.org/communityshabbat

22

Monday
CAMP KESHET BEGINS!
Six Weeks through Friday, July 31
Limited space available for ECC through 6th Grade.
7th & 8th Grade Young Leaders’ Program
www.tbala.org/camp

The Day School Class of 2015

Liam Amzalag
Kaliray Arison
Jamie Berman
Ethan Blacher
Yaakov Broidy
Joshua Cohn
Daniella Dahan
Raphael Eidelman
Rebecca Eshtiaghpour
Lucy Fried
Hannah Friedman
Daniel Hanasab
Talya Havivi
Isabella Hoffman
Jennifer Javaheri
Isaac Kahtan

Michael Kahtan
Leor Kaminski
Noa Kligfeld
Gavriel Kollin
Gillian Kreintenberg
Daniella Nahmany
Amiel Nelson
Maya Nourian
Ari Reder
Daniel Schrager
Evan Sobolev
Madeleine Tessel
Naomi Willis
Sofia Yiffi
Daniel Zahavi

Pressman Academy of Temple Beth Am cordially invites you to
The Day School Eighth Grade Graduation Ceremony
Tuesday, June 16th – 29 • Sivan 5775
at 4:30 in the afternoon
Temple Beth Am Sanctuary
1039 S. La Cienega Blvd., Los Angeles, California
Reception immediately following

CLASSES OF THE REMBAUM INSTITUTE OF ADULT EDUCATION AND FAMILY PROGRAMMING
For information and class sign-ups, visit www.tbala.org/classes, or contact Program Director Daniel Sulzberg at dsulzberg@tbala.org or 310-652-7354 x215.

HUMASH WITH RASHI WITH RABBI ADAM KLGIFELD
June 3, 10, 17 and July 29 at 8:15 a.m.
Study Rashi’s original Hebrew commentary on the text of the Torah.

TORAH FOR TODAY WITH RABBI ARI LUCAS
Thursdays in June and July - 8:30-9:30 a.m.
Join Rabbi Lucas as we look at contemporary issues (GMOs, biomedical ethics, ethical questions around technology, and more) through the lens of Torah and the vast Jewish textual tradition. No advance registration required. Drop-ins welcome!

MINI-CLASS ON THE DAILY SIDDUR
Tuesdays from 8:10 - 8:25 a.m.
Join Rabbi Avi Havivi for a 15-minute discussion on topics from the daily prayerbook right after morning minyan on Tuesdays in Pilch Hall.

ADVANCED DAVENING ACADEMY – PART I
Sundays at 9:00 a.m. - June 7, 14, 28 – includes brunch!
A Black-belt Mini-Course in Leading Daily Services
With our cantor, Rabbi Hillary Chorny. Intended for both experienced and novice davening leaders
RSVP at www.tbala.org/learntolead
Cost: $18 for the course
Daily Minyan Times

MORNING MINYAN:
Monday - Friday: 7:30 a.m.
Sunday & Federal Holidays: 8:00 a.m.
Rosh Hodesh & Hol Ha-Moed: 7:15 a.m.

DAILY MINYAN - EVENING MINYAN
June 7-July 30  7:00 p.m.

FRIDAY NIGHT
NESHAMA MINYAN
6:15 p.m.

SATURDAY:
90 minutes before the end of Shabbat

July

3
Friday
TEMPLE OFFICES CLOSED IN HONOR OF INDEPENDENCE DAY

10
Friday - 6:15 p.m.
SHABBAT UNDER THE STARS
Kabbalat Shabbat on the Roof with Rabbi Ari Lucas and Cantor Hillary Chorny, followed by dinner in the Ballroom.
RSVP at www.tbala.org/communityshabbat

Do you have a friend who has never had the pleasure of joining you for TBA Shabbat Under the Stars? We’d love for him/her to be our dinner guest! When you RSVP, include the name(s) of your friend(s) - one (non-member) guest (or guest family) per member - and we’ll take care of the rest.

Saturday
EREV TISHA B’AV
Eicha Reading after Shabbat

Sunday
TISHA B’AV
Fast ends at 8:44 p.m.

Shabbat

Saturday Morning Services

Meditation Plus
9:15 a.m. Whiteman Conference Room

Shir Hadash
9:15 a.m.
For the month of June: Sanctuary
Combined with BAIT for the month of July: Ballroom

BAIT Tefillah
9:45 a.m.
For the month of June: Pilch Hall
Combined with Shir Hadash for the month of July: Ballroom

Library Minyan
9:45 a.m. Dorff Nelson Chapel
June 7: High School Graduates Shabbat!

Family Shabbat
June 6, 10:00 a.m.

Havah Narishah
June 13
10:30 a.m. in the Lainer Library

PRESSMAN ACADEMY ECC PARENT AND ME CLASSES

Are you looking for a fun way to spend time with your baby or toddler this summer? Check out our amazing Music and Shabbat classes!

For more information, please contact Betsy: email bkrut@pressmanacademy.org or call (310) 652-7354 x237. Or check out our website at www.pressmanacademy.org/parentandme

Torah Portion

| June 6 | Beha-alotekha | July 4 | Balak |
| June 13 | Shelah-Lekha | July 11 | Pinhas |
| June 20 | Korah | July 18 | Matot-Masei |
| June 27 | Hukkat | July 25 | Devarim |

Candle Lighting

| June 5 | 7:43 p.m. | July 10 | 7:48 p.m. |
| June 12 | 7:47 p.m. | July 17 | 7:45 p.m. |
| June 19 | 7:49 p.m. | July 24 | 7:41 p.m. |
| June 26 | 7:50 p.m. | July 31 | 7:36 p.m. |
| July 3 | 7:50 p.m. |
Finding a space that is both accessible physically and spiritually and yet will have resonance with the Temple Beth Am Community is no easy feat. The clergy of Temple Beth Am share their vision of the redesigned sanctuary for a new generation, yet also honoring the legacy of our community.

KR [KHA Reporter]: What is your ultimate dream for a new prayer space?

RCHC [Rabbi Cantor Hillary Chorny]: I’ve been here the shortest amount of time, but I remember the Sanctuary from when I was a kid and slept overnight in the ballroom as part of a USY Shabbaton. One of the ideas that sings to me is “emanate accessibility.” It is about physical accessibility, i.e. the Bimah must be ADA accessible, with good site lines and audio quality. And, it’s also about spiritual accessibility or as some say, “radical hospitality.” I believe that creating a space that is flexible and brings the person who is leading the service in more direct contact with the community is not just a “trend” in prayer, but a way to make prayer more accessible to this and future generations. I see something enduring yet modular, that is infinitely changeable in shape so that any type of group can be accommodated, yet will have resonance with everyone in some way.

KR: What do you say to the people who want to preserve the legacy of the current sanctuary?

RAK [Rabbi Adam Kligfeld]: It’s important to remember that our sanctuary is more than 50 years old, needs repair and was built as a response to a post-war resurgence in Jewish pride. There is so much art and history in the current sanctuary. It is critical to honor that legacy and memorialize the Holocaust wall and other unique aspects so that future generations understand the history of the Jewish people as well as their Beth Am ancestors. What I see as a way to honor the space is to “curate” it, like an interactive exhibit, as opposed to preserving it.

RAL [Rabbi Ari Lucas]: I believe there is a way to honor our history yet make it new. Perhaps we find a way to move from an oral history to a codified one, a collection of memories and stories to be shared with future generations.

KR: What would be different in a renovated sanctuary?

RAL: One thing I believe we need to utilize is the resource that is uniquely Los Angeles about Beth Am... the quality of natural light we have all year round. We may not have a forest or a mountain to look at from our sanctuary, but we have the natural beauty of our sky. Connection to nature makes a spiritual moment that blurs the boundary between inside and outside bringing us closer to God.

RAK: Here, Here! I like all these ideas. For me the sanctuary must strike a balance between grand and warm. It should be aesthetic and beautiful, connected to the heavens and at the same time modular enough to be able to have an intimate space that does not feel awkward or inorganic. I see a space that provides tranquility as well as connection with God, introspection as well as community. And, I want all of that for $6M including soft costs. I actually enjoy spiritual spaces where I’ve been crowded, close to others, as if you are in a space just a bit smaller than is needed for all the people present. Americans can be overly concerned with personal space. You feel close to others when you are literally closer to them.


RCHC: Yes, of course! I love praying on a mountain or at the beach. Carefully designed spaces can evoke different feelings. What we are talking about here is creating an intentional space that is designed to bring people together in solidarity and community for a common purpose. A sanctuary is a statement about investing in our people. We are so confident that this community is going to maintain its spiritual livelihood that generation after generation is going to pray here. It’s a promise to the future. We are going to be around.

RAL: I am reminded of the Hassidic story of boy who went to the woods to pray. God is the same everywhere, yet I am different in different places. This will be a space that makes us different and prunes us for a particular experience.

RAL: I’m very excited by the creative energy of the Sanctuary Re-design committee. I can’t wait to see what they come up with and I look forward to looking back 50 years from now to all the memories we will have created.
Coming to Pressman 22 years ago, no one – especially not Andy Polsky – knew what was in store for him. The school had just over 100 students, the building was on what is now the parking lot, and the title “Elementary School Principal” did not exist. And yet he came every morning, often the first to arrive and the last to leave, bringing fresh ideas, strategic thinking and a kind soul.

During his tenure, the school grew to the current enrollment of 350 students and gained in local and national prominence for its academic reputation. Because of his work, Pressman Academy adopted Reading and Writing Workshop and was awarded the Blue Ribbon Award for Academic Excellence by the U.S. Department of Education. As a result of the excellent foundation given at Pressman Academy, graduates of the school continue to go on and succeed academically across disciplines.

Beyond his academic contributions, Andy Polsky has remained a bedrock of the community through five Heads of School. His calm and caring manner have allowed him to act as an instructional leader for teachers, a guide and mentor for students, a resource for parents, and a support for colleagues. Still often the first to arrive in the morning and the last to leave, Andy has gone beyond the roles usually attributed to Elementary School principal to also act as the scheduler, facilities manager, repairman, shofar blower, archive manager, institutional historian and logistics contact.

Andy is looking forward to less stress in his retirement – home projects, regular gym attendance, long bike rides, woodworking and ceramic classes and traveling in the off-season.

As Michelle Barton, third grade teacher and Pressman alumni shared, “Many of my Pressman memories involve you and I am so grateful for everything you have done for the thousands of students who have walked through these walls and all that you have done for me personally and professionally... You gave me my foundation at this school as a child and my foundation on my career path. You have been my principal, my friend's father, my boss, and one of the truest examples of menschlekeit in my life.”

We extend our deepest appreciation to Andy Polsky for his contributions, his heart and his work to elevate our school to the work we do every day. Todah Raba, Andy!

Dr. Erica Rothblum
By the time you read this, our wonderful Stella Ezros will have been installed as the new Sisterhood President. This is a transition full of excitement and anticipation, and I hope Stella enjoys her tenure as much as I have enjoyed mine. I feel like I have gotten back a great deal more than I have given—particularly the friendship and fellowship of a very special bunch of Sisters. It was wonderful helping to plan all the terrific events Sisterhood has put on, and be part of the Torah Fund effort. Interfacing with others in the Shul, both staff and lay leaders, has been especially rewarding. So now I am pleased to “pass the torch.”

One of the goals of my presidency was to involve women of all ages in Sisterhood; women who were previously unable to make commitments to meetings and events that were held during the workday. I am thankful that, with the help of our enthusiastic executive board we were able to attract a diverse population of women who would otherwise be unable to participate.

We have had many outstanding events thanks to Ann Istrin’s hard working team, and Sisterhood has made major contributions to Torah Fund, to Pressman Academy and Temple Beth Am youth educational programs. Our events have also been well publicized, thanks to Deb Kollin’s tireless efforts.

I can’t thank my Board enough for working so hard for Sisterhood’s success. Yasher Koach to the BEST Executive Board ever that allowed me to travel as often I as did and still made me look good as President of the Sisterhood!

B'Shalom
Rosana Chermisqui
Sisterhood President

On Sunday, April 19, approximately 75 TBA members and friends of all ages participated in the Jewish World Watch Walk to End Genocide at Pan Pacific Park, raising over $3700.

Sarah Pretsky, a seventh grader at Pressman Academy, commented on the experience.

“I’m glad that I had a chance to participate in the JWW Walk to End Genocide. This is the first year that I walked. Last year, my grade and I were in Israel on the day of the walk. This year, we studied the meaning of “genocide.” It’s hard to believe that genocides still happen. I felt that I had to walk and give money in order to bring awareness to the Los Angeles community. My grade and I can not be silent when other people are persecuted and losing their lives because of their beliefs or their race. To walk together with my classmates and the Temple Beth Am community was empowering. I hope that we will continue to come together like this every year.”

Thanks to all of the walkers, contributors, and shul and school staff who demonstrated that we do not stand idly by. I want to extend my appreciation to Rabbi Kligfeld and Rabbi Lucas for actively taking part in the Walk.

B’Shalom,
Dianne Shershow
Team TBA Captain
GENERAL FUND
IN HONOR OF
The birth of Eliana Mihal Rainisch
Tochner Family for a wonderful Passover
Jennifer & Todd Zoltan
Callin & Alan Witten

IN MEMORY OF
Lou Colen
Mina Lerman
Ivonne & Daniel Goldberg
Melanie and Neil Hirshorn, Gloria & Regina Leiter

ROBERT FRIEDMAN MEMORIAL FUND
IN MEMORY OF
Erwin Gaines
Julius Mischel
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Elaine & Larry Friedman

DONATION
Ronald Zipperstein

LAURA & SID KLEIN MEMORIAL FUND
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IN HONOR OF
Josh Richland’s bar mitzvah,
and in thanks for your guidance
and making the bar mitzvah
an unforgettable experience
In thanks
Rabbi Kligfeld completing Masekhet/Tractate Sukkah
Andy Polsky
Kathy Lebovic

IN MEMORY OF
Ida Ginsburg
Esther Hakman
Barbara Immergluck
Lou Colen
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Max Bogen, Sonia Bogen and Betty Bogen

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The birth of Shalev Lucas
Bella and Howard Kapp and Irving Szkolnik,
Lisa and Larry Rosenberg, Lisa and Alan Petlak
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Yizkor services on Pesach
Thank you for support during our time of loss
Rabbi Lucas

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IN HONOR OF
Aliyah to the Torah
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Nina Golden
Paul Miller

IN MEMORY OF
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To place a Sisterhood Tribute, contact Marlene Glaser
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MAZAL TOV!
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Birth of Son
Agnes and Semyon Emert
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CONDOLENCES
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Loss of her Yelena’s Mother, Mariya Savinskaya
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The Family of Irving Feffer
Loss of Father, Grandfather, Irving
Marlene Glaser and Family
Loss of Mother, Ida Ginsburg
Max Lerman and Family
Loss of Wife, Mina
The Family of Berry M. Locke
Loss of Husband, Father, Berry
Harvey and Marlene Glaser
LEADERSHIP, LEGACY & LIGHT
an Evening of Celebration at Temple Beth Am

Sunday, June 14th, 2015
5:30 p.m.  Cocktails and Hors D’oeuvres
6:30 p.m.  Dinner, Presentations, Entertainment

The inaugural Ma’ayan Hamitgaber Legacy Award will be presented in memory of

Lou Colen

A pillar of our community for six decades who demonstrated the highest levels of integrity, philanthropy and leadership for Temple Beth Am, the Jewish Community, Israel, and social services & cultural organizations throughout Los Angeles;

...and honoring

Sheryl Goldman
for 20 years as our Executive Director

RSVP at www.tbala.org/legacy2015 310-652-7354 x223