

### *A message from Rabbi Len Muroff*



The devastation caused by the recent fires is unimaginable and overwhelming. There is so much fear and anxiety in the air. We are safe but we worry about the futures of our fellow citizens who have lost their homes and all their possessions all of which held memories of joyous times and where they created memories.

This severely harmful event provides us with an opportunity to provide aid and support and in the process allow them to know that they are not alone.

We have long been a caring community. So it is in that spirit that we have partnered with our interfaith partner, Neighborhood Life Church in La Mirada, to provide towels, sheets, shampoo and body wash to those evacuated to the Union Rescue Mission in Los Angeles. Thanks to Lorri Rosenfeld, our Social Action Chair for working with me and Pastor Dave and Assistant Pastor Arco to build a bridge between us in La Mirada and with our neighbors in need in the affected areas.

Thanks to those of you who have responded with generous donations thus far. More opportunities will be publicized in the coming days. We are in this for the long haul.

### **Branching Out: Celebrating Tu BiSh'vat and Valentine's Day**



While Valentine's Day celebrates love for people we hold dear, Tu BiSh'vat—the Jewish New Year for Trees—honors our love and responsibility for the earth. Though worlds apart, both holidays are rooted in the same universal theme: love.

Tu BiSh'vat—also known as Jewish Arbor Day—invites us to connect with nature, just as Valentine's Day inspires gratitude for loved ones. Together, they inspire a fuller understanding of love that includes connection, gratitude, and responsibility.

In Jewish tradition, Tu BiSh'vat is marked by eating fruits, planting trees, and reflecting on humanity's sacred bond with the environment. These actions remind us that love is not only expressed through words but through mitzvot that leave a lasting impact.

As we celebrate both Tu BiSh'vat and Valentine's Day this month, let's embrace love in all its forms. By showing kindness to others and caring for our planet, we honor both traditions and create a ripple effect of compassion and connection.

Get ready to put on your thinking kippah and dive into *The Alef-Bet Challenge*!



Check out what all the fun is about on page 5!

## *Tradition in Full Bloom*

Lily Hsin, a third-generation Temple Beth Ohr member, will be called to the Torah on February 22, 2025, as a Bat Mitzvah, proudly standing on the same bimah as the generations before her.

Currently a 7th-grader at Foothill Country Day School in Claremont—the same school where her dad teaches 4th grade—Lily excels academically and earned the prestigious Academic Excellence Award last year.

Her favorite memories at TBO include making hamantaschen with her class for Purim, spending time with her cousins, Tyler and Trent Porter, during Sunday School, and growing closer to her Jewish community.

Outside of Temple and school, Lily enjoys dancing, performing, and skiing with her family during the winter. She is also a budding philanthropist, actively raising funds for families impacted by metastatic breast cancer through Runway for Recovery, and volunteering with National Charity League, a mother-daughter organization that supports philanthropies like Meals on Wheels.

We are so proud of Lily and the bright light that she spreads to the world!



*Mazel Tov, Lily!*

## *Greeting from your TBO Presidents*

Thank you to everyone who donated to the victims of the devastating wildfires. A special thank you to Lorri Rosenfield, our ICR chairperson, for collecting items and personally delivering them to the Neighborhood Life Church. Keep watching eblasts and **TBOLM.org**, to stay informed and for more opportunities to help.



The Board has approved a new one-year contract for the Rabbi. We are still negotiating with him on some of the specific terms. Our goal is to have it to the congregation in the first week of February and then have a congregational vote at a General Membership meeting on February 17, 2025.

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Sharon Kravitz  
slkravitz@hotmail.com

**WE ♥ VOLUNTEERS!**



### **Be the First to Say Shalom!**

Volunteer as an usher to greet members and guests with warmth before Friday night Shabbat services.

For more info contact [security@tbolm.org](mailto:security@tbolm.org)



## From The Heart

A very heartfelt THANK YOU for all the tributes, cards, texts, emails and especially support during a difficult time in our lives. Our Temple community really showed up for us and it is so appreciated.

- The Kravitz Family



Moments  
to  
cherish

## Our Recent Gatherings

### Upcoming Events

- Feb. 2 – Flowers Aren't Enough at Alpert JCC
- Feb. 7 – BYOD Shabbat
- Feb. 9 – Tu'Bishvat Falafel lunch to Congregation

- Mar. 8 – Man of the Year at Temple Beth Tikvah – Honoree – Mike Kravitz
- Apr. 13 – TBO Community 2<sup>nd</sup> Night Seder







Bring Your Own Dinner  
(BYOD) Shabbat

First Friday of Each Month  
TBO Social Hall @ 6pm


2/7/2025 ♥ 3/7/2025 ♥  
4/4/2025 ♥ 5/2/2025 ♥  
6/6/2025

\*Sponsors as of 12/5/24

## Flowers Aren't Enough

A One-Woman Show by Naomi Ackerman




SUNDAY • FEBRUARY 2 • 2 - 4 PM

At the Alpert JCC on the Weinberg Jewish Long Beach Campus  
3801 E. Willow St. Long Beach, CA 90815  
Suitable for ages 14+

'Flowers Aren't Enough' tells the story of Michal, a young woman who falls into an abusive relationship. Based on true stories, Ms. Ackerman has woven the voices of women from different cultures and backgrounds into a performance that encourages social change. Discussion and dessert reception to follow.

A profoundly moving piece of work, beautifully written and brilliantly portrayed  
Rev. Dr. Donna L. Byrns

Tickets: \$15/person  
Scan to get tickets today!  
alpertjcc.org



Naomi draws you into her character in a way that I've never quite seen before, telling the story in such an intimate, gut-wrenching narrative that you feel as if you're almost experiencing it yourself.  
Dave Kaz

# Save the Date



TBO Community  
2nd Night Seder

## Sunday April 13th

Details to follow in March

# Hearts and Community: This Month's Events at TBO

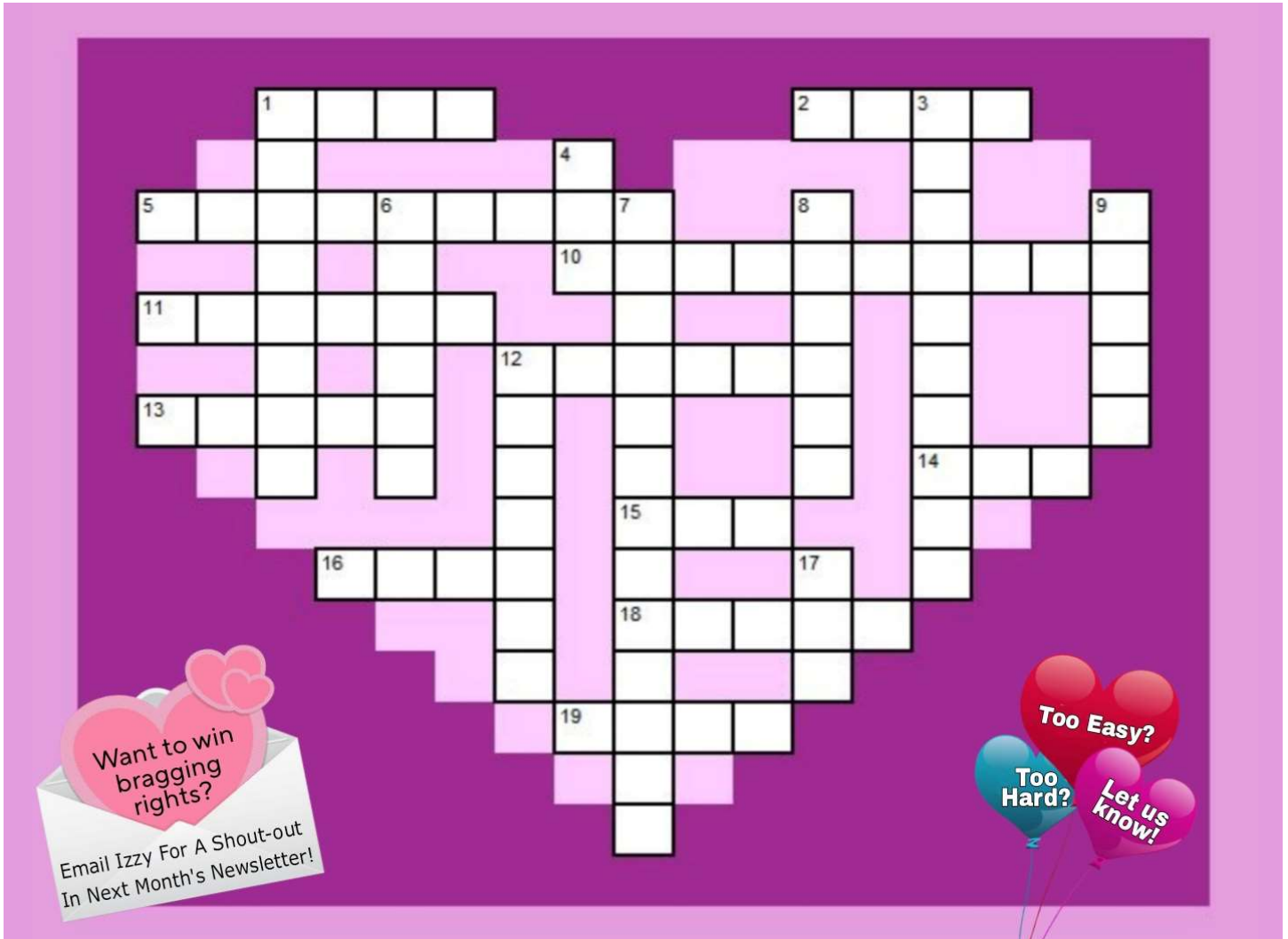
## ♥ FEBRUARY 2025 ♥

Date		Time	Event	OS	Z	YT
2/2	Sun	2:00pm	Flowers Aren't Enough: Domestic Violence Awareness Show	JCC		
2/3	Mon	7:00pm	Ways & Means Committee		Z	
2/4	Tue	10:00am	Mayor Community Breakfast Planning Meeting	OS		
2/4	Tue	10:30am	Knotty Ladies		Z	
2/4	Tue	7:30pm	Sisterhood Board		Z	
2/5	Wed	7:00pm	Religious Committee		Z	
2/7	Fri	6:00pm	Bring Your Own Shabbat Dinner	OS		
2/7	Fri	7:30pm	Erev Shabbat Worship	OS		YT
2/8	Sat	10:00am	Shabbat Prayer, Torah Study & Potluck Lunch	OS	Z	
2/9	Sun	11:00am	Brotherhood Tu B'shvat Falafel Lunch	OS		
2/11	Tue	10:30am	Knotty Ladies	OS	Z	
2/11	Tue	7:00pm	Safety & Security Meeting		Z	
2/11	Tue	7:00pm	Rabbi's Book Club	OS	Z	
2/12	Wed	10:30am	Adult Education Committee	OS	Z	
2/12	Wed	6:30pm	Sisterhood Social & Program	OS	Z	
2/13	Thu	5:30pm	A&A Finance Meeting		Z	
2/14	Fri	7:30pm	Erev Shabbat Worship	OS		YT
2/17	Mon	All Day	Office Closed for President's Day			
2/17	Mon	7:00pm	Board Meeting	OS	Z	
2/18	Tue	10:30am	Knotty Ladies		Z	
2/19	Wed	10:30am	ICR/Social Action Committee		Z	
2/19	Wed	6:15pm	Brotherhood Dinner Program & Meeting	OS	Z	
2/21	Fri	7:30pm	Erev Shabbat Worship	OS		
2/22	Sat	10:00am	Lily H. Bat Mitzvah	OS		
2/23	Sun	2:00pm	AE: How Ordinary Jews Fought Persecution Hitler's Germany	OS		
2/24	Mon	7:00pm	Membership Committee		Z	
2/25	Tue	10:30am	Knotty Ladies	OS	Z	
2/26	Wed	12:00pm	Brown Bag & Books		Z	
2/26	Wed	4:00pm	Sisterhood Dineout	TBD		
2/27	Thu	11:00am	La Mirada State of the City Luncheon	TBD		
2/28	Fri	7:30pm	Erev Shabbat Worship	OS		YT

- ♥ **Please note that dates are subject to change**, so always check the website [tboldm.org](http://tboldm.org).
- ♥ Event notations: OS (On-Site), Z (Zoom), YT (YouTube), or JCC (Alpert JCC, Long Beach).
- ♥ If an RSVP is required, go to the TBO website and click on the calendar or event flyer link.

# THE ALEF BET Challenge

A new puzzle each month to test your knowledge of Jewish culture, temple life, and Torah trivia. It's all about fun and connection. Grab a pen and join the challenge— maybe even earn some bragging rights!



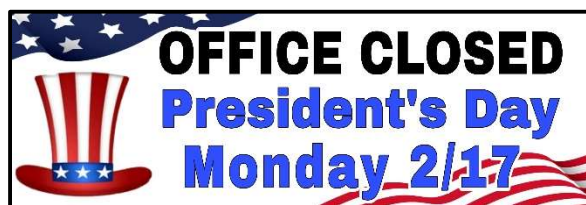
Across	Down
1 First letter of the alphabet	1 TuBish'vat aka Jewish ____ (2 words)
2 Universal theme of both holidays this month	3 Love holiday
5 Jewish Arbor Day	4 TBO kids learn at Hebrew ___ every week
10 Newsletter	6 11th month of the Jewish calendar
11 Jewish state	7 Best Reform Synagogue in La Mirada
12 Skullcap	8 Food that is ritually fit to eat
13 Hebrew word for LOVE	9 Passover meal
14 Not a dreidel winner	12 Prayer recited in memory of loved ones
15 Girls have a ___ mitzvah	17 Boys have a ___ mitzvah
16 Am Yisrael ___	
18 Most famous five books of all time	Did you get all the answers? Email: <a href="mailto:izzyfregoso@gmail.com">izzyfregoso@gmail.com</a>
19 He had a boat	



## *Feel The Love of Giving Back*



- ♥ Sponsor erev Shabbat flowers (email [office@tboldm.org](mailto:office@tboldm.org))
- ♥ Sponsor an Oneg (email [religion@tboldm.org](mailto:religion@tboldm.org))
- ♥ Shabbat Greetings (email [fundraising@tboldm.org](mailto:fundraising@tboldm.org))
- ♥ Tree of life (email [office@tboldm.org](mailto:office@tboldm.org))
- ♥ Framed Torah portions (email [office@tboldm.org](mailto:office@tboldm.org))
- ♥ Donation to general or specific fund (<https://tboldm.shulcloud.com/payment.php>)



Check out [tboldm.org](http://tboldm.org) for more information or contact us at [office@tboldm.org](mailto:office@tboldm.org) for more information on Temple Beth Ohr committees, clubs, and other groups.

