



# THE STAR

The Spring Issue

---

March April 2021

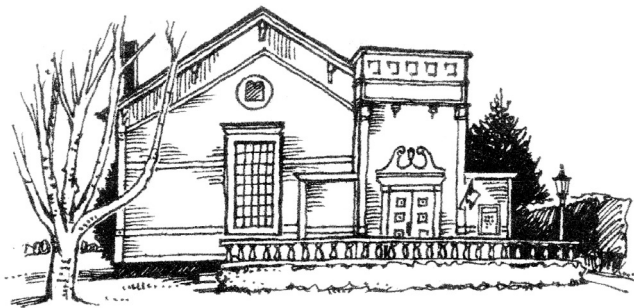
ADAR/NISAN/IYYAR 5781

VOL. 24 NO. 2

**TEMPLE BETH TORAH, 130 MAIN STREET  
WETHERSFIELD, CONNECTICUT**

# Contents

- Rabbi Seth
- Message from your presidents Sallyanne and Kathi
- Donations
- Bygone Miscellany



## ■ Spring Reflections from Rabbi Seth...

The world is starting to open up again, both naturally through springtide blossoming (that encourages outdoor activity and pastime) and socially in rising vaccinations (that allows for a return to in-person gatherings).

Relating to the first of those openings, the Jewish blessing upon seeing a tree in bloom comes to my mind: “Blessed are you, The Sublime One our God, the sovereign of all worlds, who has withheld nothing from your world, and created beautiful creatures and goodly trees for people to enjoy” (from Kol Haneshamah: Shirim Uvrahot). On my daily walk I can now smell the fragrance of trees and flowers in bloom, and Rabbinic tradition has blessings for those (and a host of other) sensory experiences as well. I hear birds singing, follow the movements of rabbits as they hop back and forth across the road, and smell the rain too. Even when clouds darken the sky, people seem happier now to be outside.

However, we have to be careful of Nature even as we revel in its renewed glories. Thunderstorm and flood, wind-gust and thick fog are hazards the mildest countenance of this gentle season cannot shield us from. The same unintended treachery can lurk behind our resurrected public engagements.

We don’t know if we can entirely trust our neighbors and ourselves not to accidentally pass on the virus, and mixed messages coming from public officials – politicians and physicians – give us pause, make us hesitate, as we open the front door a crack, peer out and calculate whether (barefaced or masked) to greet the human throng. Should I step into that restaurant or café? Can we go to a movie or concert? Oh, how we want to – but is the undeniable pleasure worth the serious risk? (Forget, for the time being, about shaking hands.)

I am hoping, anyhow, that we at TBT will have a few opportunities, before summer is upon us, to meet, whether indoors or outside, at the synagogue. Yes, let’s remain open to that possibility. We hope the impulse not to hold back but instead to reach out will be increasingly safe to act on. We pray, then, that we can follow Nature’s example and – like blossoming trees stretching their boughs toward sunlight – spread our arms wide to greet each other not just on a screen but in person.

I would love to see you before my time has come to blow away in the summer breeze



2021  
Hartford Avenue  
and State Street

## ■ Message from your presidents Sallyanne and Kathi

### Happy spring!

The weather is lovely, Mother Nature has sent out her first beautiful colors of spring, vaccines are being delivered to everyone, and life seems to be much improving! Your Board has decided to wait until the High Holidays in September to restart services at TBT. We decided to wait until everyone has been vaccinated and hopefully, herd immunity has been reached.

The removal of Maurice, our beloved birch tree is still on hold due to an equipment malfunction. We are happy to report that our new roof for the kitchen and rear bathrooms has been installed. As we said in February, we need to think about having the rest of the building repaired and repainted.

And so dear TBT family, this is the last Presidents' message from Kathi and me. I cannot believe that our tenure as Co-Presidents is coming to an end. We have a bright and vibrant future ahead, with wonderful and exciting new adventures to look forward to.

We know that TBT is in excellent hands with Deb Hammer and Dave Forrest as Co-Presidents, and Barry Goldberg as Vice-President. Rabbi Lefkowitz will be leading us on as we continue our spiritual journey. Mazel Tov to all of us!

The board plans on having a Farewell/Welcome gathering at the end of June behind TBT to say goodbye to the outgoing officers and hello to the new ones and Rabbi Alan! Details to follow.

■ **Donations as of 3/31/21**

---

*From Karen and Bob Klein*  
In honor of outgoing  
Co-Presidents **Sallyanne Scott**  
and **Kathi Mag** and  
Incoming Co-Presidents  
**Deb Hammer and Dave Forrest**

*From Eliot and Kathi Mag*  
In honor of **Ralph Horowitz's**  
**EIGHTIETH BIRTHDAY,**  
mazel tov!

Good News: **Barry Goldberg** called the town about repair to the storm-crushed end of our Felicia bench and happily 5 months later these Wethersfield Physical Services men turned up to do the job and thus saving us \$345!





# Helene in Concert





Mo worries...



# 2016 Succah



Kathi plants...

# 2014 Gala !





Former TBT president and greatly missed guy, Michael Kay

# 2020 Irises





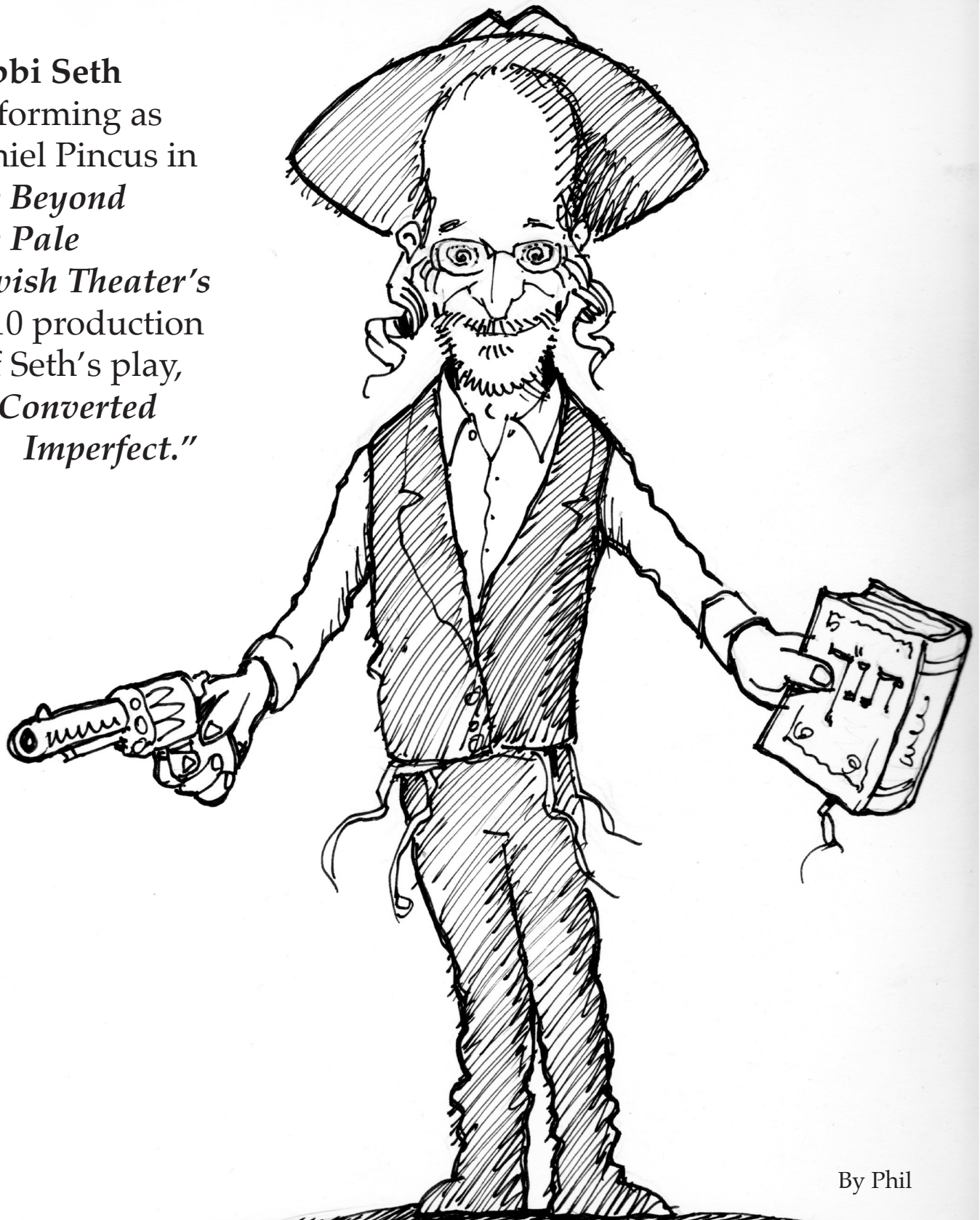
*Phil and Ralph: Menorah Men*



Ah, Cy....



Rabbi Seth  
performing as  
Daniel Pincus in  
*The Beyond*  
*The Pale*  
Jewish Theater's  
2010 production  
of Seth's play,  
"Converted  
Imperfect."



By Phil

**Star readers:** If you have more photos you might like to share please forward them with ID's to:

**The Star**

(aka Phil...pjlohman@att.net) for Star's next issue, ideally as jpegs!

Thanks



**ANY IDEA WHO THESE FOLKS ARE?**

# US

**Rabbi:** Seth Riemer

**Co-Presidents:** Sallyanne Scott and Kathi Mag,

Soon to be Deb Hammer, Dave Forrest and Barry Goldberg

**Executive Committee:** Sallyanne Scott, Kathi Mag,

Carol Gershenson, Barry Goldberg and Karen Klein

**Financial Secretary, Lead Person for board meetings:**

Sallyanne Scott

**Corresponding Secretary for Donations,**

**Co-President, Gardening:** Kathi Mag

**Recording Secretary:** Carol Gershenson

**Membership and Publicity Chairperson:** Karen Klein

**Treasurer and Memorial Park Director:** Barry Goldberg

**Nominating Chair and Board of Education**

**Chairperson:** Cecile Bronfin

**High Holidays Committee:** Rabbi Seth Riemer, Barbara Checknoff,

Cecile Bronfin, Fred London, Carol Gershenson,

Susan Reuben, Sallyanne and Barry Scott, Kathi and Eliot Mag

**Friday Night Announcements:** Deb Ehrlich

**Head Religious School Instructor:** Rabbi Seth Riemer

**Religious Studies Teacher:** Michelle Cyr

**Adult Education and Book Club:** Ellen Sue Moses

**Receiving phone calls:** Rhoda London

**The Star Newsletter:** Phil Lohman, Micki Bellamy, Deb Hammer

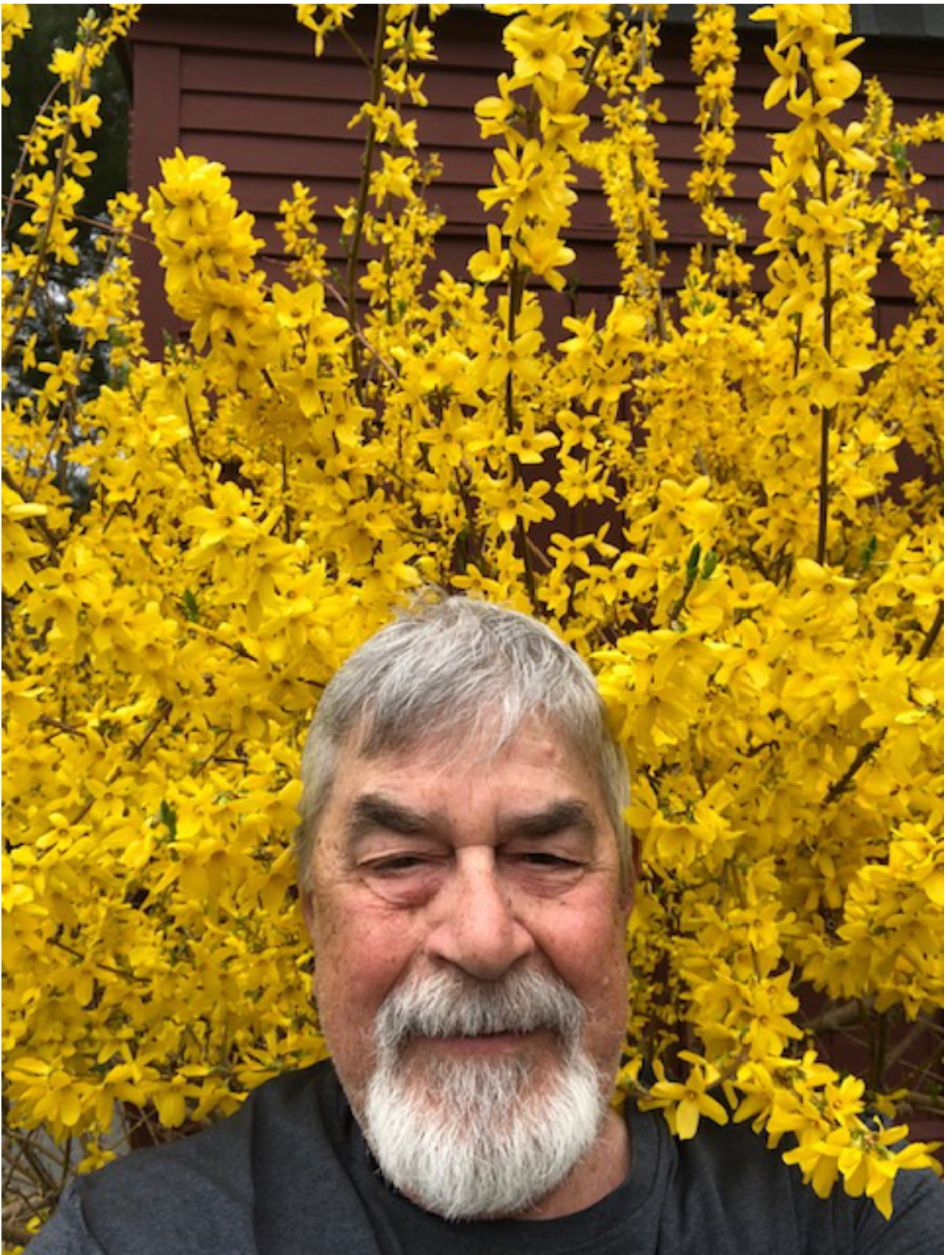
**Ways and Means:** Kathryn Kenzel

aided by Judy Gold and Helene Rosenblatt

**Building Consultants:** Ralph Horowitz, Dave Forrest,

Phil Lohman, Kathi Mag and Gary Evans

**Torah Study, Building Rentals, and Webmaster:** Deb Hammer



Ah Spring!

PAID ADVERTISEMENT

## MAUREEN HOROWITZ

ABR, GRI, SRES, REALTOR

Licensed in Connecticut since 2002



It isn't easy to find a real estate agent with Maureen's combination of skills, strengths and experience.

You will want to call her whenever you or someone you know is considering buying or selling a home. Maureen is a full-time, hard-working professional real estate agent.

Maureen says, "The highest compliment you can give me is recommending me to a friend or family member. Your satisfaction is my top priority."

**860.205.9678**

**MaureenHorowitz.Agnelli@gmail.com**



411 Naubuc Avenue  
Glastonbury, CT 06033