

Announcements (given by Marsha) – 2.17.2023

The Hebrew word “shalom” is a powerful one. It functions as the perfect salutation for both meeting and parting ways, adding sophistication to the more basic greetings of hello and goodbye. More to the point, shalom means peace. But it also has variations on the definition: harmony, wholeness, completeness, and tranquility.

It seemed the perfect word to use, therefore, when describing Dollie Closna. For nearly 11 years, Dollie has been the glue that has helped complete Temple and kept us whole. She’s not just the voice on the phone, she’s the first ear and caring heart to hear our issues. She’s not only the face we see when we arrive, she’s the first smile and warm laugh to brighten our day. She’s the keeper of Temple folklore, and she also knows where all the bodies are buried – both literally and figuratively. For over a decade she has worked tirelessly on our congregation’s behalf, weaving her magic into countless aspects of Temple operations.

As difficult as it will be when she leaves for New Jersey, we take a bit of solace in the wise words of Dr. Seuss: “Don’t cry because it’s over. Smile because it happened.” And smile we will, even if they are laced with a few tears... and some panicky phone calls about where things are located or how we’re supposed to accomplish some task that only Dollie would know how to do!

On behalf of the Board of Trustees, our clergy, the Temple staff, and our entire congregation, we thank you, Dollie for bringing shalom to Temple Beth-El. And we wish *you* shalom as you begin this exciting new chapter of your life.