

Temple Beth Tikvah

Your Shul on the Shoreline



DECEMBER 2023 SHOFAR



Dear TBT family,

Reflecting on the recent season of Thanksgiving, I am deeply moved by the whirlwind of emotions over this past week. My extended family gathered 20 strong in Boston and had a beautiful Thanksgiving only to then rush to Washington, D.C. as my father-in-law entered hospice and then passed away. At this moment, I choose to focus on gratitude. I am grateful for my brother and his wife who host Thanksgiving every year and for my car that drove me over 900 miles this week. I am thankful for the good health of my husband, children, and parents, and for the kindness of hospice nurses. I am thankful for cornbread stuffing and for having the honor of holding Marv's hand as he took his last breath. I am also especially thankful for the support and solidarity within our temple community.

It is times like this when it is especially obvious how important our Jewish home is. The strength of our community, evident in your care and empathy, has been a guiding light through these moments of darkness. My dear neighbor who is not Jewish talked to me after our service and said, "I am always jealous of the Jewish people. They know how to do death right." We do. There was joy, sadness, celebration, love, songs, prayers, hugs, and lots and lots of food.

As we move forward, let us carry the spirit of Thanksgiving today and every day, recognizing and appreciating the value of gratitude. I often remind myself of a bumper sticker that caught my attention. It said, "Someone is praying for something that you are taking for granted." Death teaches us to appreciate the here and now, to remember what is important, and to not worry about things that really don't matter.

I am immensely grateful for each member of our TBT family and the friendship, traditions, and faith that connects us. Your continued support uplifts and strengthens us. May our ongoing journey together be filled with shared blessings and moments of profound gratitude.

Toda Raba,

Karen Goldberg

EDUCATION DIRECTOR'S COLUMN

Happy Chanukah!

The library at the Jewish Theological Seminary in New York has some amazing books and artifacts. On a visit with a group of educators many years ago, librarian David Kraemer passed around a brick of lucite. Inside was a very old document. It was one of several dozen handwritten copies of a letter from, and signed by, Rambam (also known as Maimonides), arguably the greatest authority on Jewish law in history. The letters were sent to Jewish communities throughout the 12th century Western world, asking Jews to send money which would be used to ransom the Jewish community of Jerusalem. They were being held captive by either the Crusaders or the Saracens – I cannot remember.



Pidyon Sh'vuyim – Redeeming Captives – is, according to the rabbis of the Talmud as well as Rambam, the greatest of *mitzvot* (commandments). It is even more important than clothing and feeding the poor. It is outrageous that in our celebrated modernity, redeeming captives is still something that is needed anywhere.

We are a week away from the beginning of Chanukah. It should be a time of celebration, lighting candles, spinning dreidels, and overeating things fried in oil like latkes and *sufganiyot* (jelly doughnuts).

And we will. It may feel strange to you, as it does to me, to plan a celebration while watching the news feed each day waiting for the next ten hostages to be released. I hope that by the time you read this, those releases are still happening.


The Jewish year continues to happen, no matter what else is going on in the world. Chanukah will begin on the 25th day of the month *Kislev* (the evening of December 7), like it does every year. Even in the darkest times of Roman persecution, the Inquisition, and even the Holocaust, our ancestors often found ways to mark the festivals and holy days. And many Israelis are making sure to celebrate important lifecycle moments, if they are able – even with the war going on.

So, I urge you to celebrate Chanukah. Keep the captives and the civilians in your hearts and minds. Even talk about them as you spin the dreidel, or after you sing *Ma'oz Tzur*, if that works in your home. There are resources for [talking about the situation with children here](#). Remember that one of the things we celebrate at Chanukah is Jewish autonomy and freedom. Let's celebrate on behalf of those who cannot. Let's gather in prayer and a festive meal on December 8 for Shabbat Chanukah (please make reservations TODAY if you have not yet done so – [click this link!](#)). Make donations to [Magen David Adom](#) or through the [Jewish Federation](#).

Our joy may be diminished, but Chanukah teaches that we must bring light into times and places that are dark. I hope to see you over the holiday!

L'shalom,

Ira Wise
Interim Director of Education

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
<div>  <div> <div>temple beth tikvah</div> <div>בית תקווה</div> </div> </div>					1 Mahjong 1PM Shabbat Service 6:30PM Oneg sponsored by Sharp Family	2 In-person (and Zoom) Mindfulness & Meditation 8AM In-person (and Zoom) Torah Study 9AM Jacob Sharp Bar Mitzvah 10AM
3 Religious School 9:30AM jChat 12PM	4 Kulanu Committee 2PM Kasher Cooking Class 6PM	5 Talmud Tuesday 1PM Design Team 7PM Executive Committee Meeting 7:30PM	6 Religious School 3:45PM Safety Committee Meeting 5:30PM	7 Hanukkah	8 Mahjong 1PM Shabbat Service 6:30PM Community Hanukkah Dinner 5:30PM	9 Torah Study 9AM Hanukkah
10 Religious School 9:30AM Kasher Questions Class 10AM Israel Class 11AM jChat 12PM Hanukkah	11 Hanukkah	12 Talmud Tuesday 1PM Hanukkah	13 Religious School 3:45PM HR Committee Meeting 7:30PM Hanukkah	14 Update from Israel with Rabbi Rich Kirschen on Zoom 2PM Education Committee 6:30PM Hanukkah	15 Mahjong 1PM Young Families Shabbat 5PM Shabbat Service 6:30PM Oneg sponsored by Calvert Family and friends Barbara Agranov, Anne Kahrmanis, & Francie Ketainck and Gadon Family	16 Minfulness & Meditation 8AM Torah Study 9AM Brett Maynard Bat Mitzvah 10AM
17 Religious School 9:30AM Haverim 9:30AM	18 Preschool Closed	19 Talmud Tuesday 1PM RAC Meeting 6PM Board Meeting 7:30PM	20 Religious School 3:45PM Family Movie Night 5:30PM	21 TBT Book Club 7:30PM	22 Office Closes Early Preschool Closes Early Shabbat Service 6:30PM	23 Torah Study 9AM
24 No Religious School Christmas Eve	25 Office Closed Christmas Movie Day at Madison Cinemas	26 Preschool Closed	27 No Religious School Preschool Closed	28 Preschool Closed	29 Office Closes Early Shabbat Service 6:30PM	30 Torah Study 9AM
31 No Religious School New Year's Eve	Preschool Closed	Preschool Closed	Preschool Closed	Preschool Closed	Preschool Closed	

All times and dates are subject to change. Please check your inboxes and the TBT Website for up-to-date information.

SHABBAT

All services are Friday evenings at 6:30 p.m., unless otherwise noted.

Services in the Sanctuary are streamed live Youtube. The link can be found in your inbox and below.
youtube.com/@templebethtikvah5835

Friday, Dec. 1: Shabbat Service, 6:30 p.m.; Oneg sponsored by the Sharp Family to follow
Saturday, Dec. 2: Shabbat morning service, 10:00 a.m.; Celebrate Shabbat as Jacob Sharp is called to the bimah as a Bar Mitzvah.

Friday, Dec. 8: Community Hanukkah Dinner, 5:30 p.m.; Shabbat Service, 6:30 p.m.

Friday, Dec. 15: Young Families Shabbat, 5:00 p.m.; Shabbat Service, 6:30 p.m.; Oneg sponsored by Calvert Family and friends Barbara Agranov, Anne Kahrimanis, & Francie Ketainck and Gadon Family to follow.
Saturday, Dec. 16: Shabbat morning service, 10:00 a.m.; Celebrate Shabbat as Brett Maynard is called to the bimah as a Bat Mitzvah.

Friday, Dec. 22: Shabbat Service, 6:30 p.m.

Friday, Dec. 29: Shabbat Service, 6:30 p.m.

TORAH STUDY

Coming back in person, on occasion, and live on Zoom every Saturday at 9:00 a.m.
(check your inbox for Zoom link)

You can find the text and *d'var Torah* at <https://reformjudaism.org/learning/torah-study>

Dec. 2: [*Vayishlach* - Genesis 32:4–36:43](#) (in-person at TBT and on Zoom)

Dec. 9: [*Vayeishev* - Genesis 37:1–40:23](#)

Dec. 16: [*Mikeitz* - Genesis 41:1–44:17](#)

Dec. 23: [*Vayigash* - Genesis 44:18–47:27](#)

Dec. 30: [*Vayechi* - Genesis 47:28–50:26](#)

MINDFULNESS & MEDITATION

We meet on the 1st and 3rd Saturday of each month at 8:00 a.m. on Zoom, and also returning to in-person on occasion.

This month, Mindfulness and Meditation will meet in person on December 2nd (as well as Zoom) and via Zoom on December 16th. All are welcome.



DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Happiest of birthdays to our kids celebrating this month!

Madeline Gold, Jacob Sharp, Presley Naarden, Doug DiCenzo, William Zanchetti, Dylan Miller, Lexi Handelman, Adelaide Wax.



JACOB SHARP - BAR MITZVAH



JACOB SHARP, son of Lizzie and Rob Sharp, and grandson of the late Ed and Rose Gleich, will be called to the Torah as a Bar Mitzvah on December 2nd. His family is very proud of his hard work, both in his b'nai mitzvah preparation and at school. Jacob loves music and books, as well as math and history. He also plays on various soccer and basketball teams. Rob, Hannah, Sophie, and I would like to wish him a heartfelt “mazel tov” on this Jewish rite of passage. We love you, Jacob!

BRETT MAYNARD - BAT MITZVAH



BRETT MAYNARD will become a Bat Mitzvah at Shabbat morning services at TBT on December 16, 2023 at 10:00am. Brett has been working with her tutor (and grandmother!) Anne Calvert and Ira Wise in preparation for her big day. For her Mitzvah project, Brett ran a book drive to support Read to Grow to promote National Family Literacy Month (November). There will be a bin for collection at her service for anyone who would like to donate new or gently used children's books. The entire congregation is welcome to attend. We hope to see you there!

TBT BOOK CLUB



Book Club will meet on **Thursday, December 21st at 7:30 p.m.** on [Zoom](#).

This month's book club read is *The Thread Collectors* by Shaunna Edwards and Alison Richmond.

Set during the 1860s is the story of Stella, a young Black woman living in New Orleans who embroiders maps to help enslaved men flee the south in order to join the Union Army, and Lily, a Jewish woman, whose husband is in Louisiana with the Union Army.

HAVERIM

Haverim will meet on **Sunday, December 17, 2023 at 9:30 a.m.** If you have any questions, please contact [Ken Rosenberg](#) or [Steven Stoll](#).

RAISE THE ROOF

The Raise the Roof Gala / Dancing for a Cause

Congratulations to Temple member Sophie Mervine-Schiff, and dance partner Trip Rizzo, who danced for a cause at the Raise the Roof Gala! Not only did they dance with heart, but they raised the most funds towards building future Habitat for Humanity homes! They took 2nd place in the overall dance competition! Over 20 years, our Temple volunteers have had the honor of being part of this worthy cause of building homes, working with families, strengthening communities, and improving lives.



RAISE THE ROOF

The photo to the right is the Wahidi family at their groundbreaking ceremony in late summer 2023. So much build progress has been made, with help from TBT volunteers, that the family should be in their home in the near future.

Our next opportunity to volunteer will be announced soon.

Please visit www.raisetherooft.org or contact [Linda Brody](#) for more information.



Temple Beth Tikvah
Preschool

We had a wonderful November celebrating Thanksgiving with our students and families in person with our Thanksgiving program and our *Todah* Brunch with our students.

This month, we are busy preparing for our Hannukah celebrations. Our students are looking forward to making latkes, visits with Rabbi Moss and Ira Wise and engaging in many more activities.

Enrollment for the 2024-2025 school year is now open to all temple members! TBT Preschool hours of operation are from 8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. for all 3- & 4-year-olds. We will also offer a drop off program for 2-year-olds from 9:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m..

If you are interested in enrolling for the 2024-2025 school year, please contact our director Jennifer Casillo at 203-245-8039 or NSDDirector@tbtshoreline.org. Space is limited so please reach out soon!

Follow us on Facebook, [@tbtpreschool](#) to see what we are up to.



Building Community

Campaign for Temple Beth Tikvah

Our building has been renovated, and we are enjoying the beautiful new spaces. Phase II of our Capital Campaign, **Strengthening Community**, is underway to finish paying for all the work that was done and to pay off the debt incurred in the process. When we raise the necessary funds, the Temple will be debt-free and on firm financial footing for the future.

We will need your help! You will be hearing more from our Committee as we work to strengthen our vibrant Jewish community!

SPECIAL OFFER FROM RJ JULIA

When I visit the graves of my beloved parents at the TBT Cemetery, like all of you, I bring a stone: a gesture of remembrance, of respect, a physical gesture of the bond that is forever.

An exquisite book has been published this fall - *Remembered as a Blessing* (\$65). The book touched my heart and reflects, in haunting photography and with poignant essays by Daniel Mendelsohn and Rabbi Morris J. Allen, our tradition.

We have donated a copy to TBT and would like to offer it to our congregants with 25% of the proceeds going to TBT.

If you would like one, please call RJ Julia (203.245.3959) to order and let them know you are with Temple Beth Tikvah.

Wishing you and your family a Happy Hanukkah!

Roxanne Coady

P.S. If you would like to see the book first, please visit TBT or RJ Julia.



TEMPLE BETH TIKVAH

In this time of adversity, we think it important for our community to commemorate a Jewish triumph over another adversity and the timeless nature of the Jewish spirit!

HANUKKAH BRISKET & LATKE SHABBAT DINNER



DECEMBER 8 AT 5:30 P.M.

Dinner (with vegan option) will be at 5:30 p.m., followed by Shabbat Services at 6:30 p.m. Bring your own Hanukiah to light with us!

\$18 per Adult • \$6 for children 5-13 • Kids under 5 are free

[CLICK HERE TO RSVP OR CALL TBT - \(203\) 245-7028 - BY DEC. 1](#)

meal will be Kosher-style

UPCOMING EVENTS



temple beth tikvah
בית תקווה

**ISRAEL
READING
GROUP**

Learn about
the homeland

Educate yourself and discuss the issues as a
way to process the overwhelming events
that we all feel so deeply.

**Sunday, December 10th
11:00AM @ TBT**

Email office@tbtshoreline.org to register

For Sunday, December 10th, Rabbi Moss asks you to please read [*Israel: A Simple Guide to the Most Misunderstood Country on Earth* by Noa Tishby](#) in advance.



KOL AMI'S

Hanukkah Give Away Ceremony

A Native American tradition, the purpose of a give-away ceremony is sharing. The lessons connected to this ceremony teach us how to release possessions and to let go the ideas of importance connected with those belongings.

Everyone needs to bring one item that they own that they are ready to give to someone else. Each person will get to choose an item, explain why they chose it, and the giver will explain why they brought it.

Take the next couple weeks to walk around your house and find an item that is meaningful.

This will also be a celebration of Rosh Chodesh and a potluck, so everyone please bring an appetizer or a dessert.

December 10 | 3:30 PM
Temple Beth Tikvah

To RSVP, please email [Loren Sterman](#) by Dec. 6.

UPCOMING EVENTS



temple beth tikvah
בית תקווה

Update on Israel

Rabbi Rich Kirschen

2PM, Thursday, December 14, 2023
On Zoom


Young Families Shabbat

Friday, December 15, 2023
5:00 p.m.

We will share Shabbat Blessings,
have a visit from the dinosaur, and
more!!

For children 5 and under, and their
families.

All are Welcome.



Please RSVP to Kim, admin@tbtshoreline.org.

If you will be staying for Pizza dinner after the family service, please also click [HERE](#) to send in your contribution of \$8.00 per person.

A green-themed poster for a family movie night. At the top, there's a film reel on the left, a red popcorn bucket in the center with the text 'temple beth tikvah' and 'בית תקווה' on it, and a clapperboard on the right. A film strip winds around the popcorn bucket. Below these, the title 'FAMILY MOVIE' is written in large, bold, yellow letters with black outlines, and 'Night' is written in a blue cursive script below it. The date and time 'December 20th @ 5:30 PM' are in yellow. Below that, the text 'CALLING ALL TBT FAMILIES - HOW ABOUT PIZZA AND A MOVIE?!' is in yellow. Then, 'PLEASE JOIN US FOR A SCREENING OF "AN AMERICAN TAIL: FIEVEL GOES WEST"' is in yellow. Next, 'ALL ARE WELCOME! PIZZA & BEVERAGES WILL BE PROVIDED DURING THE SHOW. IT'S JUST OVER AN HOUR, SO YOU'LL STILL BE HOME FOR BEDTIME!' is in yellow. Then, 'PLEASE RSVP TO OFFICE@TBTSHORELINE.ORG' is in yellow. Finally, 'CLICK HERE TO CONTRIBUTE SUGGESTED DONATION (\$8/PERSON - KIDS UNDER 12 FREE)' is in yellow. There are also illustrations of a bowl of potato chips on the left and a red cup with a straw on the right.

FAMILY MOVIE
Night

December 20th @ 5:30 PM

**CALLING ALL TBT FAMILIES -
HOW ABOUT PIZZA AND A MOVIE?!**

**PLEASE JOIN US FOR A SCREENING OF
"AN AMERICAN TAIL: FIEVEL GOES WEST"**

**ALL ARE WELCOME! PIZZA & BEVERAGES WILL BE
PROVIDED DURING THE SHOW. IT'S JUST OVER AN
HOUR, SO YOU'LL STILL BE HOME FOR BEDTIME!**

PLEASE RSVP TO OFFICE@TBTSHORELINE.ORG

**CLICK HERE TO CONTRIBUTE SUGGESTED DONATION
(\$8/PERSON - KIDS UNDER 12 FREE)**



DAY AT THE MOVIES

PLEASE JOIN TOGETHER FOR 'JEWISH CHRISTMAS,'
WATCHING "GOLDA" AT MADISON CINEMAS ON
DECEMBER 25 AT 2:15 PM, WITH A PRE-SHOWING
RECEPTION (DRINKS AND NOSHES PURCHASED
FROM THE CONCESSION STAND) FROM 1:30 PM.
IT WILL BE A SHORELINE JEWISH HAPPENING!



DEC
25

FREE^{*}
ENTRY

2:15

*MADISON CINEMAS HAVE KINDLY OFFERED THE EXPERIENCE FOR FREE ON A FIRST COME, FIRST SERVED BASIS. FLYERS SUGGESTING DONATIONS TO DOCTORS WITHOUT BORDERS AND/OR MOGEN DAVID ADOM WILL ALSO BE HANDED OUT.

TBT wants You!

A temple is both a spiritual home and a community, in times of need and to share fun.

To really feel a part of TBT, you'll want to know your fellow congregants and join in --- whatever your interests.

You don't need a buddy or a friend to join. New friends are waiting for you! Just call the office or contact us - and we'll put you in touch with the right person.

HERE ARE SOME ONGOING ACTIVITIES:

- KOL AMI - WOMEN'S CLUB
- HAVERIM - MEN'S CLUB
- KESHER - CONNECTION GROUPS
WWW.TBTSHORELINE.ORG/KESHER-GROUPS
 - CARE FOR CAREGIVERS
 - COOKING CLUB
 - GOD, I HAVE QUESTIONS
 - LET'S SING
 - MOUNTAIN BIKING AND SKIING
 - SHABBAT DINNER CLUB
 - ZOOM WITH NEW FRIENDS
- BOOK CLUB
- FILM CLUB
- HIKING GROUP
- CHOIR
- SOCIAL JUSTICE COMMITTEE
- PROGRAM COMMITTEE
- FINANCE COMMITTEE
- TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE
- RELIGIOUS ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE
- YOUTH ACTIVITIES
- ADULT EDUCATION AND TORAH STUDY
- EDUCATION COMMITTEE

We are a community reaching out to you - reach back!

Membership Co-Chairs

Susan Lustig: sflustig@hotmail.com 203-453-1014

Tobie Meisel: tobiemeisel@gmail.com 201-337-9166



CREATE A JEWISH LEGACY FOR TEMPLE BETH TIKVAH

Maintaining the vibrancy and strength of our Jewish community is of the utmost importance to many of us. How do we ensure that our synagogue continues to exist for future generations and remains financially stable to meet current and future needs?

Endowments are an essential element of every Jewish organization's financial stability strategy. Legacy giving can transform TBT by assuring that we build an endowment that can ensure our future.



By partnering with the LIFE & LEGACY™ program of the Harold Grinspoon Foundation and with the Jewish Foundation of Greater New Haven, TBT has joined hundreds of Jewish organizations across the United States in creating a program to secure legacy commitments that will help us secure a thriving Jewish future. Our "Create a Jewish Legacy" committee, chaired by Sabrina Maurer, is striving to integrate legacy giving into our philanthropic culture, and to provide you - our generous and forward-thinking members - with the opportunity to express your commitment to sustaining a strong future for TBT.

Our legacy donors are congregants, just like you, who understand TBT is the future our founders imagined and want to ensure that we continue to be the supportive and vibrant community we are today. Please join us!

DUES VARIANCES

Our Temple has a continuously rising number of congregants on dues variances. We never turn anyone away for financial reasons. If you are able, please [click here](#) to support your fellow TBT members with a contribution.

Thank you.



Fridays 1:00 p.m. in the TBT Library

Come for the games,
stay for the friendships.



LOOKING
FOR A WAY
TO...

Celebrate a milestone?

Honor a loved one?

CONSIDER
SPONSORING

A Shabbat Oneg



It's fun to do with friends and the Religious Activities Committee will help with details. If you're interested in sponsoring, please contact [Lydia](#) in the TBT office.



JOIN THE TBT CHOIR

No previous experience required. Bring your enthusiasm and excitement and we will provide the rest!

Choir will meet on Tuesdays at 6:15 p.m. in the Sanctuary.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO TBT FUNDS

RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

Patti Biller in loving memory of Jon Fausty
Holly and Al Berkon in loving memory of Helene Freedman, Seymour Freedman & Morris Berkon
Franklin and Joan Shapiro Green in loving memory of Phyllis Shapiro
Roxanne Siskind in loving memory of Rose Sobel
Emily and Richard Scholnick in loving memory of Marilyn Greene
Taylor Family in honor of Miriam Taylor's Bat Mitzvah
Nancy & David Rosen in loving memory of Gerald Rosen & Morris Greenburg
Holly and Al Berkon in loving memory of

THE ENDOWMENT FUND

David and Suzanne Sack in loving memory of Rose Freedman Schwartz
Steward and Natalie Rosenberg in honor of our homeland during these difficult times

THE GENERAL FUND

Linda Waldman & Hesch Sommer in loving memory of Herbert Waldman

THE BUILDING FUND

Alaine Lane in loving memory of Louis Lashenick
Shaun & Kevin Glazier in loving memory of Marcia Thompson
Rabbi Sandy Bogin in loving memory of Marie Frisch
Josh and Alison Broder in loving memory of Marie Frisch
Deborah L. Friedman in loving memory of Marie Frisch
Ed and Laury Walker in loving memory of Marvin Goldberg
Lisa Stanger & Gregory Colodner in loving memory of Marie Frisch
Eli & Ann Sherer in loving memory of Marvin Goldberg
Andrea SanMarco in loving memory of Marvin Goldberg
Loren Sterman in loving memory of Marvin Goldberg
Cheryl Hershatter in loving memory of Marvin Goldberg
Mike & Tobie Meisel in loving memory of Marvin Goldberg
Myra Josephson

GLEICH GARDEN

Sandra & Paul Beckman
Helen Winokur
ProHealth Physicians, Shoreline Pediatrics

THE HELEN KATZ GOODKIND BEAUTIFICATION FUND

Sandra and Paul Beckman in loving memory of Sue Hutensky

LAURENCE B. & ELAINE J. SOMMER MEMORIAL FUND FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE

Hesch Sommer & Linda Waldman in loving memory of Elaine Sommer
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LIBRARY FUND

Robert & Lois Kessler & Joshua Kessler, MD in loving memory of Frederick Kessler, MD

PRESCHOOL FUND

Dr. Margo Merin in loving memory of Stephen Barr

THE YOUTH SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Hallie Aronson in loving memory of Larry Kabinoff

LIBRARY FUND

Robert & Lois Kessler & Joshua Kessler, MD in loving memory of Frederick Kessler, MD

PRESCHOOL FUND

Dr. Margo Merin in loving memory of Stephen Barr

TEMPLE BETH TIKVAH SHOFAR

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December 2023

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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