



# Chai-lights

C O N G R E G A T I O N B E T H I S R A E L • B E R K E L E Y

## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

By Lois Marcus

From "Living Inspired," Akiva Tatz.

*A talmid of the Chofetz Chaim relates this story of his parting from his Rebbe.*

*As a young man, when he left the yeshiva in Radun, he went in to the Chofetz Chaim to say farewell and to request a bracha. As he entered the Chofetz Chaim's presence, before he could say anything, the Chofetz Chaim said to him:*

*"I am a Kohen." The talmid was frozen-what was the Chofetz Chaim telling him?*

*Continued the Chofetz Chaim "And you are not. Do you know what that means? I shall tell you. When the mashiach arrives and the Beis Hamikdash is rebuilt, we shall all be running towards it. When you reach the gates they will say to you 'You cannot enter, you are not a Kohen, but I shall be allowed to enter. Do you know why? Because thousands of years ago, in the Sinai desert, a great sin was committed and Hashem's honor had to be avenged. And Moshe stood and called 'Mi la'shem eilai- Who is for Hashem: to me!'*

*The people of Levi, my ancestors, responded immediately and ran to his side. Yours did not, and therefore I am descended from Kohanim and you are not; that is the result and that is the difference between us."*

*And ... after a pause, his final words to his speechless talmid:*

*"Sometime, somewhere, in your life out there in the world, you will hear a call- 'Mi la'Shem eilai - Who is for Hashem: to me!'*

*When you hear that call - run!"*

Now, I grant you, the call I am about to put out there, may not be THAT call, and I don't expect a stampede, but I think I can assure you that answering this call will be quite rewarding, because this call involves several ways you can help the shul, help your friends, help the community...

### Sponsor a kiddush

When you sponsor a kiddush, you help build the CBI community. Rona Teitelman (ronateitelman@gmail.com) will help you find a date and co-sponsors if you like, and will guide you through the process.

— continued on page 2

## MESSAGE FROM THE RABBI

In the past few months our community experienced tremendous growth. On several occasions, we gathered to celebrate the birth of new life at a daughter's baby naming or a son's *brit milah*. At the same time, our community was also blessed to welcome several new members who have recently moved to Berkeley or decided to officially join the Beth Israel family.

Our growth is both a blessing and an invitation for each of us to continue to stretch and expand our sense of hospitality.

On the most basic level, let us never leave Kiddush without greeting and meeting a new and unfamiliar face. Let us continue to open our hearts and open our homes, knowing that together, we will be able to reach new heights and greater depths.

— continued on page 3

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**Volunteer at the CBI Monthly Meal at the Homeless Shelter**  
When you volunteer at the Homeless Shelter you help support the larger community in which we live. Marvin Yudenfreund (windowworld@comcast.net) will plug you in and show you the ropes.

**Participate in the *Shifra Puah* meals  
(meals to families with newborns)**

When you bring a *shifra puah* meal to a family, you participate in our future. Frayda Gonshor Cohen (frayda@gmail.com) will help you sign up. There are several ways to get involved in this program.

- You can bring a meal from your home (if your kitchen meets CBI *kashrut*).
- You can purchase a meal from Amba, Oakland Kosher or Grand Bakery. Just ask them for the *Shifra Puah* menu that we set up with these establishments (see page 28).
- Come and cook with us in the CBI kitchen every six weeks or so to stockpile and freeze delicious meals.
- Send a contribution to CBI so we can upgrade our kitchen equipment (pots, pans, utensils) to make the cooking experience easier.

**Host guests for Shabbat Lunch with our  
Hachnassat Orchim program**

Shira Wakschlag (shiratw@gmail.com) will place you on the schedule at a convenient time for you. This is a wonderful way to share CBI hospitality with the community.

**Start or join an interest group with other CBI members**  
JoEllen Zeitlin (joellenp@gmail.com) will help you get started. Want to go to the theater, bake, bike ride, hike in the park? Find like-minded folk from CBI who would love to participate in these activities with you.

So, if you haven't already taken advantage of these opportunities to strengthen our CBI family, please, get in "the running" and do so now—even if you are from the tribe of Levi!



— SCRIP NEWS —

By Naomi Stamper

**REMEMBER THE GAME,  
TWENTY QUESTIONS?**

1. **What is scrip?**  
*Paper or plastic used in place of money.*
2. **Why use scrip?**  
*CBI makes thousands of dollars each year from members shopping with scrip.*
3. **What does it cost to use scrip?**  
*Nothing. You pay the face value of the scrip you buy. For example: a 25 dollar Peets scrip card costs \$25.*
4. **How can one get scrip?**  
*You can get it from Naomi nstamper@sbcglobal.net or Ruth rhwitt72@aol.com*
5. **Is there scrip for Afikomen and Oakland Kosher Foods?**  
*Yes. Afikomen scrip earns the shul a generous 10% and we make 5% from Oakland Kosher*
6. **Which scrip is the most popular?**  
*Berkeley Bowl for sure as we sell \$5,000 worth of scrip each month.*
7. **Which retail stores net us the highest percent for profit?**  
*See's Candy, LL Bean and Lands End*
8. **Can one use scrip when ordering on-line?**  
*Yes!*
9. **How many stores participate in the scrip program?**  
*Hundreds.*  
*Go to [www.glscrip.com](http://www.glscrip.com) and see the retailers list for yourself.*
10. **Do scrip gift card make good presents?**  
*You bet they do.*

*Questions 11-20 are for you to ask!*

*Naomi Stamper, 525-8259*

*Ruth Wittman, 525-9530 will be happy to answer.*

Beyond simple hospitality, our community's continued growth must also be reflected in our growing sense of shared ownership, collective responsibility, and stewardship. Ultimately, in our community, no one is a guest and every person must become a host.



With this model in mind, it is incumbent upon each of us to share our unique talents and gifts with the rest of our CBI family. Let each of us step forward and lead our community in ways that only he or she can. Simultaneously, as a community we must continuously strive, as we have done so thoughtfully in the past, to create a sacred culture that is open to new voices and innovation.

As importantly, our numerical growth must never be confused with inner growth.

Each of us individually and all of us as a whole is called to add more light and greater depth to our inner spiritual life and our shared religious communal life. R. Mark Dratch offered a crit-

ical insight in the name of Rav Moshe Avigdor Amiel, z"l, on why we add a light on each night of Chanukah. R. Dratch explained, "In matters of sanctity there are only two options, we either go up or down. If we are not intensifying and increasing sanctity, it is being diminished and lost. Sanctity cannot remain stagnant; it never just maintains its position."

As we approach the days of Chanukah, a time of gratitude and thanksgiving, I wanted to thank each of you for making Beth Israel a Sacred Family. Our community's vibrancy is a reflection of each of your commitments, your engagement, and your participation. Each of us is a sacred link that makes us, as a collective, possible.

With blessings for more light and greater sanctity,  
R. Yonatan Cohen

—DR. MENACHEM KALLUS —  
'MAKE IT NEW': LITURGY  
WEDNESDAY, DEC. 12 • 8:00 PM

A special learning opportunity on overcoming the dichotomy between the obligation-to-text and the license [indeed, the Talmudic obligation] to innovate - in the teachings of the Baal Shem Tov and his Circle - a collection of texts to study and discuss.

Dr. Menachem Kallus was born into a Hasidic family that emigrated to Brooklyn after WWII. He received his PhD from the Hebrew University for a dissertation on the contemplative practices of Lurianic Kabbalah. His recent publication *"Pillar of Prayer: Guidance in Contemplative Prayer, Sacred Study, and the Spiritual Life, from the Baal Shem Tov and His Circle"* is a translation of and commentary on the contemplative teachings of the circle of the Baal Shem Tov.



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## GAN SHALOM UPDATE

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By Laura Lipman

Dear Families:

*Bereshit* (Beginnings) – Here at Gan Shalom, we’ve had many important beginnings; we began school the last week of August, then came Rosh HaShana, another beginning, and now after the *chagim* it feels as if we had yet another beginning. Children are making new beginnings all the time—one of the things they learn in preschool is how to make transitions from one activity to beginning another one.

The month of Tishrei was wonderful, spirited and creative and provided many moments of learning for our children. We made *shofarot* and Rosh HaShana cards, tasted apples and honey, learned about bees and how they make honey, did *tashlich* in our wading pool in the front yard of the Gan, decorated our sukkah and made flags for Simchat Torah. One of our projects was making rain sticks, and we danced and prayed for *Geshem*, and then... it started raining! All that water led us to think about why certain things float or sink, how certain things dissolve in water and others don’t—why seeds and plants need water – there is so much to do and see and learn about in our precious world!

We have also begun our weekly Torah stories (we don’t keep up with the Parsha HaShavua) that we hear during our Shabbat circle on Friday. Here are some responses to our first three Torah stories; *Bereshit*, Adam and Chava in Gan Eden, and Adam Gives Names to All the Animals:

Evyatar: In the beginning HaShem He *bara* all the things of the world.

Leif: In my picture, after G-d created us, we created shoes.

Aholiyav: A Torah is a magic story with letters. In the Torah, the beginning was the sky.

Akiva J: HaShem made fire and the whole world. And the beach. People made the beach ball.

Raizel: Well, the snake said to eat the fruit but HaShem said they shouldn’t. Not to, because it wasn’t ripe. They ate it and felt a little funny. HaShem said they had to go out of Gan Eden.

Halel: Chava had to say sorry. She ate the fruit. HaShem said, “No.”

Hoshaya: The snake said, “You should eat the fruit.” HaShem said, “CAN’T DO IT!”

Seanai: Adam and Chava gave names to the horses. He also named Kitty Cat.

To end, I want to share a quote with you that appeared in an article in the “j” from October 5, 2012 about the benefits of preschool, an important beginning in the life of a young child:



“During these years (0-5 years of age), it’s ... extremely important to have positive relationships because children’s brains develop in context with healthy, loving, supportive adults.”

In other words, if I may expand on this idea, young children are born into families, that are supported by the (CBI) community, that supports the preschools, day schools, high schools, and youth groups as their community expands. These communities provide the meaningful Jewish context for the next generation to thrive. I am continually blessed to be a part of this web of connections that make our community strong and vibrant and am thankful to have a Rabbi and community that supports the efforts of our preschool to be a part of that healthy, loving supportive community, a community that supports the *Bereshit*—the beginnings of its newest and youngest members.



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## GAN SHALOM REBUILD UPDATE

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*By Stan Wulf*

After a year in mediation with our neighbors, followed by many months fulfilling all the requirements of the City of Berkeley Planning Department, our revised application for a building permit has been accepted as complete by the Planning Department. The next step is a second hearing in front of the Berkeley Zoning Adjustments Board (ZAB), which will take place on Thursday, January 10, 2013.

As was approved by the congregation, this revised application calls for the rebuilding of 2230 Jefferson Street to accommodate a modern, state-of-the-art gan (preschool) that will enhance the educational experience and physical growth of our children, while retaining the homey environment in which Gan Shalom supports our children's emotional transition from home to school. In addition, there will be a dedicated space for our Shabbat and Holiday Religious Programs, as well as for occasional teenage religious youth group meetings.

While we wish the time between the two ZAB hearings had been much shorter, we believe it was essential that we took the time to be as responsive as possible to our neighbors' input while balancing the needs of Gan Shalom and the children of our community.

We will update you before the ZAB meeting.

Your Gan Shalom Rebuild Team

— SAVE THE DATE! —  
SUNDAY • JANUARY 13, 2013

Get ready for the  
**Annual CBI Phone-a-thon Fundraiser!**

Donors in each category  
will be recognized for  
their generous donations.

There are more details  
in the pledge form which  
is on the way to you.

Remember, there are two ways to  
**DOUBLE YOUR MITZVAH**  
of generosity:

Be prompt and save us calling you  
by mailing or even phoning  
your donation  
to CBI before Friday, January 4,  
OR be courteous to the  
volunteer who calls you.

## Mikvah Tour for Women

with Miriam Ferris & Frayda Gonshor Cohen

co-sponsored by Afikomen Judaica, Congregation Beth Israel, Hadassah and Chabad of the East Bay

Sunday, December 2 at 5:00 pm  
2520 Warring Street,  
Berkeley, CA 94704



Tour followed by Q & A and light refreshments

RSVP at 510.540.5824 ChabadBerkeley@gmail.com  
[www.chabadberkeley.org](http://www.chabadberkeley.org)

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## BERKELEY MIDRASHA UPDATE

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By Diane Bernbaum

Although most months it is up to me what I would like to share with you in my Midrasha newsletter column, some months a synagogue will send a prompt and this month I was very grateful that Temple Beth Abraham asked me to write about “gratitude.” Because there is rarely a day that goes by when I don’t feel grateful to be working in my job or to have a teen, a teacher or a parent express to me the gratitude they feel towards Midrasha. It’s unusual. Most of us that work in the non-profit world don’t get enough pats on the back, but I do.

The best feedback often comes at Midrasha graduation. Students are asked to write out what they feel about Midrasha. Do any of you remember that Leo Lionni children’s book “Frederick’s Fables” where all the other mice are busy storing food for the winter but Frederick stores up the sun’s rays to bring joy to his fellow mice in the cold times? Well, that’s how I feel about graduation. You can actually go to the Midrasha website, [www.Midrasha.org](http://www.Midrasha.org) and download a PDF of the booklet with the graduates’ speeches and pictures. This is a short read and it will give you faith in the next generation, plus gratitude that we have such a place for our Jewish teens. But since I know most of you won’t click through to the website, here are just a few snippets:

“I love this community – the inspiring teachers, the intense conversations about ethics and culture and the wonderful friends I have made.” (Rebecca Herman)

“What I’m taking away from Midrasha is a means of figuring out what my relationship to Judaism will be after I leave home....Midrasha has shown me that I can be Jewish in my own way.” (Elisheva Anisman)

“There is so much more to Judaism than puzzling out words in Hebrew and memorizing the names of the months. At Midrasha I was finally able to take classes that I like, classes that I was interested in and classes that pushed me, both intellectually and emotionally... I will never forget the experiences that volunteering at the homeless shelter has given me, and the responsibility that stimulated my growth as a leader is irreplaceable.” (Dina Blanter)

“What I found at Midrasha was a mixture of tradition and originality, an intellectual and social alternative to my secular high school experience... My Midrasha teacher created an environment in which we all felt comfortable shedding our insecurities to have real discussions. His openness and generosity as a teacher allowed for one of the more unique educational experiences of my life thus far.” (Ben Dandridge-Lemco)

“Retreats are an amazing experience because they allow younger and older students to connect without the social pressures that come with school and other extra-curriculars... Midrasha is such an important part of my life and my Jewish identity as it has affected and molded it in many positive ways. Midrasha has always been a safe space for me to go to during times of need.” (Victoria Miller)

“Not only did Midrasha give me an opportunity to make new friends, it also gave me powerful techniques to cope with my stress and anxiety during hectic times.” (Sam Stone)



So, the students are grateful and I am grateful to them. I am grateful that we live in an area where it is easy to attract knowledgeable and charismatic staff that loves working with teens. I am grateful that Desmid Lyon has worked side by side with me for so many years, handling all the parts of this job, the finances, insurance and legal details that are so much not what I am good at. I am grateful that Jenni Mangel

has stepped up this year to enable Midrasha in Berkeley to create retreats for the entire Midrasha community and to do so in such a caring, professional and meaningful way. I am grateful for the three other Midrasha directors in Oakland, Contra Costa and Pleasanton, Kendra, Devra and Day, who make working collaboratively such an easy task. I am grateful for Chair Yossi Fendel and the rest of the Midrasha Board who work tirelessly and passionately to make Midrasha thrive. I am grateful to the staff of Beth El who makes my weekly office life so pleasant and are so welcoming to host Midrasha on their site.

I could go on and on. Mostly I am grateful to YOU, members of the East Bay Jewish community, who have supported this institution for the last 43 years.

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## IN THOSE DAYS.... AND IN OUR TIME

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*This is a new feature in Chailights. We hope you will enjoy these snippets of CBI's history, as the past continues to enrich and enliven the unfolding vision of our community today.*

### BETH ISRAEL IN THE LATE 1960S AND EARLY 1970S – WHAT'S THE SAME AND WHAT'S DIFFERENT By Bobby Budnitz

Barbara and I have been members of Beth Israel since 1968, when we were a young couple with an infant son (who is now 45). This note, responding to a request from Lois Marcus, is an attempt to describe briefly my personal view about how our beloved Beth Israel is similar today to the Shul of the late 1960s and early 1970s, and in what ways it differs.

The most important similarity is easy to describe. As today, the Shul was then a lively place where an eclectic mix of members found a Jewish “home” and the community and friendships that came with it. The modern-orthodox services and spirit, under young and dynamic rabbinic leadership (first Rabbi Saul Berman and then Rabbi Joseph Leibowitz), were a magnet with a wide reputation. As today, most of the children were between ages zero and ten. The Shul's centerpiece, then as now, was a Shabbat morning service that was attended every week by a broad swath of the membership – “almost everyone” came every week, we used to say, as is true now.



*Photo courtesy of Yvette Hoffer*

So what was different? First, we were smaller – a little more than half as large as today. Second, we were of course in an old one-room building. (We bought the Gan Shalom house in 1978.) Our building was old then, and always in need of repairs and amenities – and every year at Simchat Torah there were jokes about the heavy dancing arousing the anger of our resident termites.

Third, the single most important function of the Shul besides the religious services function was running an effective after-school Hebrew school for all of our children ages 5 to 14 or so. (That school, which was squeezed into our little one-room place by breaking the main room down into smaller spaces during the week, is now gone, of course, replaced by the availability of Jewish day schools that did not then exist.) Trying to run that school well, to assure a strong Jewish education for our kids, effectively consumed such huge amounts of energy from almost everyone involved in the Shul's governance that there was insufficient energy remaining for other programming. While a dynamic sisterhood held monthly programs, there was rather little of what is the second most important feature of today's Beth Israel, namely opportunities for adult study. I chaired the adult education activity in the early 1970s, and it mostly consisted of a monthly lecture by a prominent scholar-speaker and a weekly class by the rabbi. Contrast that to today, when each week's calendar shows a half-dozen or so regular weekly opportunities for adult “learning” – the study of our sacred texts and literature and history.

But most importantly, what's the same? What's the same is that in all of our lives, separate from jobs and school, Beth Israel is the one special venue where people can gather and create a close and meaningful Jewish life through friendships with people of different ages and experiences. What's the same is the wonderful spirit of being “one Shul family” with dynamic rabbinic leadership, which was true then and is still very much true. I, for one, am thankful for that spirit. Indeed, it's why the Shul is at the center of my life, now as then.

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## NEW MEMBER PROFILE • FENTON FAMILY

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*By Elissa Kittner*

The Fenton family relocated to Berkeley from San Jose over the summer and are happy, new members at CBI. Claire is an attorney and practices healthcare law at Physicians' Advocates in Berkeley. Josh is the Associate Director of Jewish LearningWorks (formerly the Bureau of Jewish Education). He received his rabbinic ordination from the Ziegler School of Rabbinical Studies. Claire and Josh met at UC Santa Cruz where they both received their undergraduate degrees.

About their CBI experience so far, Claire said, "We have belonged to lots of Jewish communities over the years, but CBI feels like home. It's a very welcoming and warm community, and we look forward to getting to know more people in the shul."

The Fentons have three young children. Yaakov and Fanya are six and in first grade at Oakland Hebrew Day School. Simi (not pictured) is four and attends preschool at Netivot Shalom.

The family loves to spend time in the mountains snowboarding and skiing. They are also hikers and bicyclists, and are enjoying getting to know Berkeley by foot and bike.



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## NEW MEMBER PROFILE • WIENER-DOW FAMILY

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*By Elissa Kittner*

The Wiener Dow's – a lovely family of seven – arrived here from Jerusalem in August excited to have the opportunity to spend a sabbatical year here in Berkeley. They have found the CBI community "incredibly welcoming" and they "enjoy the passionate davening and intellectual ferment of the shul."

Leon is a post-doctoral lecturer and fellow in Jewish Law at the Berkeley Institute for Jewish Law and Israeli Law, Economy and Society. He is spending time teaching a course on Modern Jewish Thought, and working on a book articulating an approach to halacha rooted in existential philosophy. A native of Houston, Texas, Leon made aliyah in 1992 after graduating from Princeton. He completed his PhD and received rabbinic ordination in Israel.



Bruria is a lawyer turned mediator turned movement/body therapist. In Jerusalem, she is in private practice, and is enjoying spending her time in Berkeley studying with master teachers in her field. Their five children have integrated well into three different Jewish schools. Oldest daughter Yael is in 9th grade at Jewish Community High School, and the middle three daughters are all at Oakland Hebrew Day School: Shiraz (8th Grade), Yifat (5th Grade) and Yiska (2nd Grade). Youngest son Evyatar is at Gan Shalom.

Before they arrived in Berkeley, the family had heard what an "amazing shul" CBI is and they have only had that reinforced in many, many ways.



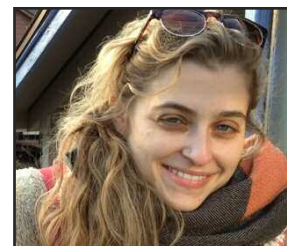
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## NEW MEMBER PROFILE • JANA LOEB

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By *Elissa Kittner*

Jana Loeb is a new CBI member who recently moved to Berkeley to attend Boalt School of Law at UC Berkeley. Jana graduated from Brown University in 2008, where she majored in biomedical ethics. She spent the next four years working as an Admissions Officer at Brown University, studying at Pardes and Yeshivat Hadar, and serving as a Fellow at the Tikvah Fund.



Originally from Milwaukee, WI, Jana said she grew up with a “mosaic Jewish background,” attending a pluralistic community day school and Congregation Agudas Achim Chabad in her hometown. At Brown, she frequently led *chavurah* services on campus and remained involved with Chabad.

Jana came to visit Berkeley and CBI last spring when she was comparing different law schools and communities. “When I visited CBI, everyone was so welcoming and encouraging. When I called my mother after the visit, she kept asking me about the law school, but I said – ‘The law school is great, but it’s CBI that’s really amazing.’”

Jana said, “What I love about CBI is that it’s a synagogue that operates on a communal, rather than consumer model. Learning is taken really seriously here, and everyone is involved in making this community what it is. CBI is a really special place - unlike any other shul I’ve been to. It’s a real example of a community of people who support each other in their yiddishkeit.”

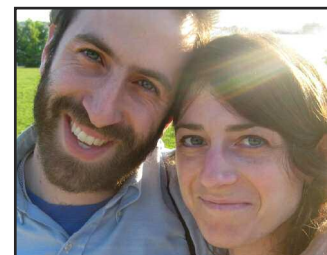
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## NEW MEMBER PROFILE • ABBY STREUSAND & GABE GREENBERG

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By *Aliza Elias*

Abby Streusand and Gabe Greenberg came to Berkeley from Maryland, where Gabe led a summer learning program at Kayam Farm and Abby was working full-time as farm manager. Their relationship blossomed amidst great adventures like hiking, berry picking, tanning goat hides, learning Yiddish in the greenhouse, mini-golf, and music-making. They were married in the farm-fields of rural Maryland with snow under their feet and a blue sky above in October 2011.



Gabe grew up in Newton, Mass, oldest of three children, while Abby hails from Houston, Texas, and was the middle of three children. Gabe went to Wesleyan as a history major and Abby to Tulane with Jewish Studies as her focus; both graduated in 2004. Gabe moved on to expand his Jewish learning in Israel and then ultimately received *smicha* from Yeshivat Chovevei Torah in June of this year. Abby spent time exploring her Yiddish roots in Lithuania, then lived in Japan for over a year, before settling down to tend to roots in the farmlands of the northeast.

Gabe currently works as Senior Jewish Educator at Berkeley Hillel; Abby works part-time at Netivot Shalom and part-time for Grow and Behold, a pasture-raised kosher meat company. Both enjoy biking, growing veggies in the yard, and will fit right in here in Berkeley when they one day get some chickens. Abby likes to make various pickled items and bake challah and is always down for handstand contests (when not pregnant). Gabe likes a good Settlers of Catan match, chess game, and can be found Sunday mornings learning Talmud with some of the CBI crew.

They came to Berkeley after Gabe was offered a job at Hillel. He was drawn to Berkeley as well from his experiences as a CBI rabbinic intern. So far, they have found Berkeley to be a very enjoyable, sunny, active, and vibrant city. Although they are far from their families, they feel Berkeley is a great place to be during this first stage of their marriage. They are excited to explore the natural wonders of the Pacific Coast and welcome recommendations for things to see and do. Abby said, “CBI has been incredibly welcoming and homey since our arrival. We chose to live just three blocks away! Gabe interned here a couple years ago and instantly connected to the community. We feel very good on both sides of the *mechitza* and definitely enjoy kiddush every week.”

Abby and Gabe are looking forward to raising a family here with the CBI community.

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## SEEKING WHOLENESS IN ILLNESS & HEALING

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*By Iris Greenbaum*

It is already afternoon on this day, Erev Yom Kippur. My husband is driving me home from a visit to the doctor about my recent episode of arrhythmia causing me to fall and lose consciousness at the park with our dog.

As I lay flat, wired to monitor my heartbeat, time no longer existed. The steady pulse reverberated in the moment, enlivening my mind with the mystery, uncertainty and awe of being alive. Humbled and grateful, I felt suspended, holding onto life by a gossamer thread.

Safely returning home before sundown, my husband and I lit candles for Yom Kippur, together yet apart from our new community at Beth Israel.

I, who embrace the fullness of life in both its joys and sorrows, felt a hollowing of all that was familiar and meaningful in my life. Unmoored by illness, I felt broken and vulnerable. I yearned to be part of the community in the prayers and rituals, which bind us as a people, to a history and a legacy transcending all of time and place.

I opened my machzor to read the ancient prayer, *unataneh tokef*, giving voice to our innermost human sense of vulnerability and uncertainty: “Who shall die by fire and who by water? Who by illness and disease? Who by suffering?”

I asked myself, “I who am broken, how may I find wholeness, meaning and purpose when all seems so uncertain to me right now?”

As the sun began to set drawing us to the closing prayers of *Neila*, I felt strong enough to join the community at Beth Israel. *Hinenei*, one voice amongst many, the timelessness of this moment, as our prayers rise to the heavens above, journeying with our entire people over thousands of years, finding their way in the midst of darkness, guided by the ancient light which beacons us home.

I write these words hoping that somehow, I can reach out to others and feel more vibrantly present as part of the Beth Israel community, which has always welcomed me with genuine loving kindness.

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## SUPPORT OUR ERUV

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*By Leora Lawton*

The Eruv in Berkeley is one of the great resources of our community and clearly is one of the reasons behind CBI's flourishing. It has been up and running every Shabbat since its inception, going on 7 years. With so many new members to CBI, it is likely that some families are unaware of the specifics of the Eruv here, even if it influenced their decision to move to our community. You can learn about the Eruv from the website, [www.berkeleyeruv.org](http://www.berkeleyeruv.org), where you can download a map of the boundaries.

We also have a listserv for the weekly status announcement: visit the eruv website to sign up: (<http://berkeleyeruv.org/listserv.html>). The only use of the listserv is for timely postings regarding the status of the Eruv for the upcoming Shabbat.

The Eruv doesn't happen on its own: Every week inspectors make the entire round of the Eruv – about 8 miles – to make sure it's completely intact. Avraham Burrell is the organizer who ensures that there are inspectors each week. Some recruits do not do the actual inspection, but serve as drivers so

the inspector can peer out the car window. Our current team of inspectors consists of (please forgive me if I leave someone out): Sarah Bamberger, Avraham Burrell, Rabbi Gabriel Greenberg, Sam Ginsburg, Boaz Haberman, Michael Mrejen, Maayan Rabinovich, Zvi Rosen, Arye Rosenstein, and Muni Schweig. Avraham and Sam Ginsburg often make emergency repairs. Lately the BART track retrofit has required an additional weekly inspection. And of course, Rabbi Yonatan Cohen is the local decision-maker about all things halachic about the Eruv, with Rabbi Love the Rav Hamachshir (certifying authority).

Most importantly of all, it is through your support that the Eruv is up and running. It costs about \$5,000 each year in operating costs, mostly to pay our inspectors. We are about to hold our annual fund drive, so take note of the email request, but donations are accepted any time. Visit our website to donate online, [www.berkeleyeruv.org](http://www.berkeleyeruv.org) or send a check made payable to the Eastbayshore Eruv, to Leora Lawton, 2371 West Street, Berkeley, CA 94702.

— IMPORTANT NCSY SR./JR. DATES —

SR NCSY: Dec 20th Winter Regionals Shabbaton  
SR & JR NCSY, and greater community: Dec 1st Shabbat Shebang –  
Friday night meal, Seudat Shlishit, and Rock climbing  
SR & JR NCSY: Dec 16th Craaaazy Chanuka Party  
*Winter Regionals - Sign up at [www.eastbay.ncsy.org](http://www.eastbay.ncsy.org)*

Twice a year NCSY has a large convention where all of the high school NCSYers from all over the West Coast get together for an inspiring and unforgettable Shabbaton. There are only 300 spots; and those get taken in about 5 DAYS time, so please sign up fast!

THE DATES THIS YEAR ARE DEC 20TH-DEC 23  
Sign-up! <http://westcoast.ncsy.org/2012/winter-regional-2012/>

**SHABBAT SHABANG**  
**EAST BAY // DEC 1**

**JOIN YOUR NCSY ADVISORS  
FOR AN ENTIRE SHABBATON INCLUDING A:**

- **FRIDAY NIGHT ONEG**
- **FAMOUS NCSY-STYLE HAVDALAH**
- **OAKLAND IRON WORKS SAT NIGHT!**
- **MUCH MORE!**

**OCTOBER 12-14:** HIGH SCHOOL LEADERSHIP SHABBATON WITH RABBI NACHUM ZAK, DIRECTOR OF NCSY JOLT  
**NOVEMBER 9-11:** MIDDLE SCHOOL CHESED SHABBATON  
**DECEMBER 1-2:** COMMUNITY SHABBATON

**DECEMBER 16:** CHANUKAH CARNIVAL  
**FEBRUARY 15-18:** HIGH SCHOOL TAHOE SKIBATON  
**MARCH 8-10:** MIDDLE SCHOOL SHABBATON  
**MAY 14:** SHAVUATON  
**APRIL 12-14:** HIGH SCHOOL SHABBATON WITH PORTLAND CHAPTER

**SAVE THE DATES**

**FOR MORE INFO AND TO REGISTER:  
CONTACT RABBI AKIVA NAIMAN AT [NAIMANA@NCSY.ORG](mailto:NAIMANA@NCSY.ORG)**

**NCSY**  
Inspiring the Jewish Future

**DECEMBER 20-23 2012**  
**WEST COAST WINTER REGIONAL**  
WEST COAST NCSY  
[WWW.WESTCOAST.NCSY.ORG](http://WWW.WESTCOAST.NCSY.ORG)

— SHABBAT SHEBANG —  
Sign up and more details at  
[www.eastbay.ncsy.org](http://www.eastbay.ncsy.org)

NCSY's Shabbat Shebang consists of 3 parts:

- 1) Friday Night Lights. This is a Friday night meal for 9th-12th graders. There will be home hospitality.
- 2) Community Seudat Shlisht (Saturday Dinner). This is for anyone and everyone, ages 0-120. All are invited! Come eat some good food, here about NCSY and what we do, and enjoy a relaxing evening with the community. Absolutely no charge
- 3) Saturday night rock climbing, for 9th -12th graders.
- 4) Prices: \$15 for just Friday night meal, \$30 for just rock climbing, \$30 for those participating in both.

**CHANUKA PARTY! DECEMBER 16**

The Craaaaziest Chanuka Party you have ever been to! Including Bouncy houses, obstacle courses, latke making, donut designing and more (wait, really more? Yes more!) Sign up will be going live within the next few weeks.

Cost: \$20

# ISRAEL ADVOCACY SCHOLARS SEMINAR

Become an Israel Advocacy Scholar  
at the **StandWithUs** Seminar.

StandWithUs is an Israel education and advocacy  
organization. Learn about Israel's history, advocacy  
techniques, and Israel on campus.

Attend all three seminars and **receive a  
certificate of scholarly achievement!**



**StandWithUs**

## Dates and Times

**3-class series**

**November 27<sup>th</sup>** 7.15pm - 8.30pm

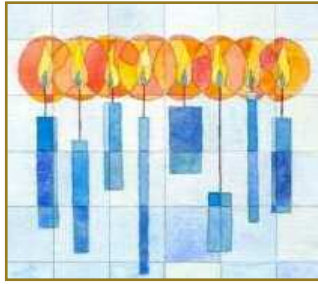
**December 4<sup>th</sup>** 7.15pm - 8.30pm

**December 12<sup>th</sup>** 7.15pm - 8.30pm

## Where?

255 King Street, Piedmont CA, 95610  
(The Levin's house)

**Food will be  
provided!**



## REVIEW OF LAWS OF CHANUKAH & LIGHTING YOUR CHANUKIA

### General Guidelines

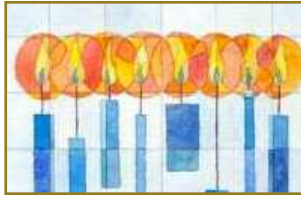
- Chanukah begins on the evening of the 25 of Kislev this year, Saturday night, Dec. 8 and continues for eight days.
- For the entire eight days of Chanukah it is forbidden to fast or to eulogize.
- During morning prayers, *Shacharit*, one should recite the full *Hallel* every day.
- “*Al hanissim*” the special paragraph of prayers for Chanukah is added in the silent prayers, *Shmoneh Esreh* and also in Grace after meals. If one forgot to say this addition, one should not repeat either *Shmoneh Esreh* or Grace.

### Preparing the *Chanukia*

- If a number of people are lighting in one household they should make a slight separation between their *Chanukias* so that there is no confusion to the observer as to the number of candles.
- Ideally, the *Chanukia* should be placed outside the house to the left of the entrance. Since anti-Semitism was so common throughout Jewish history it became customary among many communities to place the *Chanukia* inside the house, near the entrance or on the table. In many families it is the custom to place the *Chanukia* in a window facing the public, especially where many people share one entrance (e.g., apartment building).
- The *Chanukia* should be no lower than three *tfachim* from the floor (approx. 10.5 inches) and should be no higher than 20 *amot* from ground level (35.5 ft). Ideally, it should be about 10 *tfachim* high (40 inches).
- The *Chanukia* should have all the candles or wicks on the same level, none higher or lower than the others.
- It is customary to have an additional candle (the *shamash*) with which to light the other candles and in order to use its light. The *shamash* should be placed in a way that shows that it is not one of the Chanukah candles.
- It is preferable to have the candles in a straight line, and not in a semi-circle, however it is permitted to have them in a semi-circle providing each candle is clearly separated from the others.
- It is prohibited to light the *shamash* from the Chanukah candles.
- It is obligatory to light candles, and one should even borrow money to fulfill this mitzvah. If a poor person needs money for Chanukah candles the community is obligated to provide for him.
- The minimum obligation is that every household should have one candle burning every night. It is customary to be scrupulous regarding this *mitzvah*: to have one candle on the first night and an additional candle every night (1-8), and for everyone in the house as well.
- Any type of oil is acceptable for use in the *Chanukia*, however, it is best to use olive oil.
- Wax candles are also acceptable, providing they have a single wick.
- Place first candle on the extreme right of the *Chanukia*. On the second night add a candle on the left. Light the newest candle first and proceed to the right.
- There are different customs regarding the placement of the candles, some follow the right and left of the observer from outside, some follow the right and left of the person lighting inside.

### Order of Blessings and Songs

- On the first night three *brachot*, blessings are recited. “*Lehadlik ner shel Chanukah*”, “*Sheasa nissim*” and “*She-hecheyanu*.” Page 709 in the Birnbaum Siddur, page 782 in the Artscroll Siddur, or page 897 in the Koren Siddur.
- On the other nights only the first two blessings are said.



- All the blessings should be recited before actually lighting the candles. First light the *Shamash* before the blessings to avoid delay. It is forbidden to speak between the recitation of the blessings and the completion of candle lighting.
- “*Haneiros Halalu*” is recited either during or after the lighting of the additional candles.
- “*Maoz tsur yeshuaty*” is then sung.

#### Now That It's Lit...

- The *Chanukia* should not be moved after it has been lit.
- If the *Chanukia* was lit in accordance with the requirements of Jewish law and it was extinguished, one is not obligated to relight it, but one may relight it without reciting a blessing.
- If the *Chanukia* was not lit properly in the first place, or was lit in a windy place and blew out then one is obligated to relight if it went out within 1/2 hour after nightfall.
- It is permitted to work; however it is customary for women not to do any work for the entire time that the candles are burning.
- It is forbidden to derive benefit from the light of the *Chanukia* just as it was forbidden to derive benefit from the *Menorah* in the Temple, and also in order to show that the purpose of the *Chanukia* is for a *Mitzvah*, and not for illumination.

#### When to Light

- There are different customs as to the lighting of the *Chanukia*. Some light at sunset. Some light about ten minutes after sunset and some at nightfall. Here in Berkeley one should try to light as soon as possible after 5:24 p.m. (except for Shabbat, see below).
- It is obligatory to put in enough oil, or a long enough candle to burn for at least 1/2 hour after nightfall (i.e. the appearance of three medium size stars).
- In exceptional circumstances one may light one and a quarter hours before sunset with a blessing. However one should be careful to put in more oil or to use longer candles. If possible it is better to appoint an agent to light candles at the correct time, than to light early.
- If one forgot or was not able to light at the correct time, one may light as long as people are still awake in the house in which one is lighting.
- It is best to light in the presence of many people in order to publicize the miracle.
- If one is a guest at someone's house (and **staying** there), one should give the owner a small amount of money to buy a portion in their candles and one may fulfill the obligation through the owner. Alternatively the guest may light his own *Chanukia*.
- If one is eating out then one should light the *Chanukia* at their place of residence.

#### Chanukah & Shabbat

- On Friday afternoon, the Chanukah candles should be lit **before** the Shabbat candle-lighting time (if one accepted Shabbat early, it is forbidden to light Chanukah candles). *Mincha* should be said **before** lighting, if possible.
- Remember to put in more oil or bigger candles on Friday, so that they burn 1/2 hour after nightfall. Try to light **just** before the Shabbat candles, (without of course delaying the lighting of the Shabbat candles)
- After Shabbat one should first recite *Havdalah* at home and only then light the Chanukah candles. One may not use the *Chanukia* as the candle for *Havdalah*.

**Warm *brachot* for a joyous and safe Chanukah!**

*Adapted from the laws of Chanukah by Rabbi Mordechai Beche*



## A GUIDE FOR PURIM • RABBI COHEN

“There is one nation scattered and separated among the nations whose customs and actions are different, and they are not worthy of your tolerance.”

—*Megilat Esther 3:8*

Haman tries to convince Achashverosh, the King of Persia, that this *different* nation should not be tolerated.

Haman succeeds in winning over the heart of the king and were it not for the change of events, his plan would have been actualized. Our sages teach us that within each of us there resides an aspect of Haman, of evil, which whispers to us that the one who is different should not be tolerated. The *mitzvot* of Purim are aimed at deconstructing these perceived differences and silencing that whisper.

Both men and women are obligated to observe four unique *Mitzvot* on Purim.

### 1. *Megilah*

Hearing the reading of the Megilah enables us to re-live the story and to recount and recall its messages. One is obligated to hear the Megilah twice; once at night and once during the day. One must hear every word of the Megilah read from a “kosher” parchment. We will read the Megilah on Purim night, Saturday, February 23<sup>rd</sup> at 7:30 p.m. and on Purim day, Sunday morning, February 24; shacharit starts at 9:00 a.m. and we will read the Megilah at 9:30 a.m.; there will be a women’s-only Megilah reading at 12:00 p.m.

### 2. *Matanot L’Evyonim*

Gifts to the poor remind us that *our* possessions are in truth not fully ours. One has a responsibility to find two poor people and provide each, at the minimum, enough money for a meal. In addition to this *halakha*, on Purim one should give to anyone who asks for a donation. The total giving should ideally be equivalent to or surpass the amount that one spends on his/her own Purim Meal. I will be collecting money, which will be distributed on Purim day to both needy here in the East Bay as well as to poor in Jerusalem. If you choose to enable me as your mes-

senger, please give in your donation by 10 a.m. Sunday, Purim day, to ensure that the distribution happens on Purim.

### 3. *Mishloach Manot*

Gifts of food to one another allow us to reach out to share our celebration of the day and to increase love and friendship with others in the community. There is a custom to send *Mishloach Manot* to those who one has had particularly strained relations with over the past year. One is obligated to send two kinds of ready-to-eat foods to a fellow Jew to enhance their Purim meal. We do not send *Mishloach Manot* to those who are in mourning

### 4. *Seudat Purim*

Celebratory Purim Meal. From a minimalist perspective, one is obligated to have a meal with bread; however ideally the meal should be a joyous festive meal with meat (for those who eat it) and wine (for those who drink it responsibly) in an effort to help us blur distinctions that we often hold fast to. We will celebrate with a BBQ *Seudah* on Sunday, February 24, at 3:00 p.m.

— With the exception of Megilah, which is read also at night, all of the mitzvot should be performed during the day of Purim.—

Note: In the *birchat ha-mazon* as well as in the *shmoneh esrei*, one should include the *Al Hanisim* insertion for Purim, if forgotten one does not repeat the prayer.

In addition, the Fast of Esther begins Thursday morning, February 21 at 5:18 a.m. and ends at 6:26 p.m. The only restriction of the fast is eating and drinking. One may bathe, shave and enjoy live entertainment as usual. However, as with all fasts, it should be used as an opportunity for introspection and personal growth. Our sages have taught that only one who experiences the fast of Esther can truly celebrate on Purim.



# CBI CLASS SCHEDULE



— SUNDAY —

## Sunday Morning Talmud Class

A class structured to appeal to Talmud students of all levels, from beginners to more experienced. We are studying the 3rd chapter of Tractate Bava Kamma; come check it out for a morning, no commitment necessary.

*R. Gabriel Greenberg, 9-10 a.m.*

— MONDAY —

## Midrasha's Tanach and Talmud (for Teens)

This course is an informal but intensive study group focusing on close thematic readings of the Tanach and Talmud in translation.

*David Henkin, 4:15-5:45 pm*

## Women's Dance Nights at CBI!

Come dance to a blend of world music, jazz, klezmer, hip hop and more. No moves to remember, no cost either... Just a chance to let loose and get some good exercise in a fun way!

*2nd, 4th and 5th Mondays • 8:00 pm*

— TUESDAY —

## Week Night Learning with Rabbi Cohen

Join R. Cohen for a series addressing issues of Jewish thought, biblical interpretation and or law.

First Series: Jan. 8 & 15 • Second Series: Feb. 19 & 26

*R. Yonatan Cohen, 7:30 pm*

## The birth of Jewish Philosophy(?): Philo of Alexandria on the Torah, Jewish Law and Greek Philosophy

Philo of Alexandria was a Greek-speaking Jew who lived during the 1st century in what was the cultural capital of his day.

He was well immersed in Greek Philosophy and literature but also wrote extensively on various Jewish issues.

In this series we will get a taste of how Philo negotiated between his Jewish identity and his internalization of Greek culture and ideas, a thousand years before medieval Jewish Philosophy tried to do the same.

*Yedidya Etzion • Jan. 22, 29, Feb 5, & 12 • 7:30 pm*

— WEDNESDAY —

## Jewish Writings of Emmanuel Levinas

The Levinas Study Group meets at 8 pm every Wednesday at the Schweig home to discuss various essays of the Jewish philosopher Emmanuel Levinas. No background necessary. The class is facilitated by our resident scholar, Muni Schweig.

*Muni Schweig • Wednesdays • 8:00 p.m.*

— THURSDAY —

## Heavenly Torah Through The Generations

The world of rabbinic thought can be divided into two major schools of thought: Rabbi Akiva and Rabbi Ishmael.

The historic disputes between these two schools are based on fundamental differences over the nature of revelation and religion. Join Rabbi Cohen for an in-depth study, based on Rabbi A. J. Heschel's Heavenly Torah.

*R. Yonatan Cohen - Thursdays • 12:15 p.m.*

— FRIDAY —

## Talmudic Wisdom

Join us on Fridays at 9:00 a.m., for a weekly class that explores key *sugyot* (Talmudic units) that discuss major Jewish questions of practice and thought.

*R. Yonatan Cohen - Fridays • 9:00 a.m.*





— WEEKDAY SERVICES —

— SHACHARIT —

Monday-Friday, 6:30 am  
 Sunday & Legal Holidays • 8:00 am

— MINCHA/MA'ARIV —

Five minutes after candlelighting

— SHABBAT SERVICES —

Mincha & Kabbalat Shabbat • Five minutes after candlelighting • Morning Service • 9:15 am

— TIMES FOR ACTION —

*Many commandments need to be performed during particular times of the day; here is a list of those times  
 All times are for Berkeley, Pacific Standard Times*

Week of	Dec. 1	Dec. 8	Dec. 15	Dec. 22	Dec. 29	Jan. 5	Jan. 12
<b>Alot Ha'Shachar Dawn</b>	5:55 AM	6:01 AM	6:06 AM	6:10 AM	6:12 AM	6:13 AM	6:12 AM
<b>Neitz-Sunrise</b>	7:07 AM	7:13 AM	7:18 AM	7:22 AM	7:24 AM	7:25 AM	7:24 AM
<b>Latest ideal time for the morning Sh'ma</b>	9:32 AM	9:37 AM	9:41 AM	9:45 AM	9:48 AM	9:50 AM	9:51 AM
<b>Latest time for prayer Tefilah</b>	10:21 AM	10:25 AM	10:29 AM	10:33 AM	10:36 AM	10:38 AM	10:40 AM
<b>Mincha Gedolah Earliest time for Mincha</b>	12:23 PM	12:25 PM	12:28 PM	12:32 PM	12:35 PM	12:39 PM	12:42 PM
<b>Sh'kia Sunset</b>	4:50 PM	4:50 PM	4:51 PM	4:54 PM	4:59 PM	5:05 PM	5:11 PM
<b>Tzeit Ha'kochavim Nightfall</b>	5:32 PM	5:32 PM	5:33 PM	5:36 PM	5:41 PM	5:47 PM	5:53 PM

Week of	Jan. 19	Jan. 26	Feb. 2	Feb. 9	Feb. 16	Feb. 23	March 2
<b>Alot Ha'Shachar Dawn</b>	6:10 AM	6:06 AM	6:00 AM	5:53 AM	5:45 AM	5:36 AM	5:27 AM
<b>Neitz-Sunrise</b>	7:22 AM	7:18 AM	7:12 AM	7:05 AM	6:57 AM	6:48 AM	6:39 AM
<b>Latest ideal time for the morning Sh'ma</b>	9:51 AM	9:50 AM	9:48 AM	9:44 AM	9:40 AM	9:36 AM	9:30 AM
<b>Latest time for prayer Tefilah</b>	10:41 AM	10:41 AM	10:39 AM	10:37 AM	10:35 AM	10:31 AM	10:27 AM
<b>Mincha Gedolah Earliest time for Mincha</b>	12:45 PM	12:47 PM	12:49 PM	12:50 PM	12:51 PM	12:50 PM	12:50 PM
<b>Sh'kia - Sunset</b>	5:19 PM	5:26 PM	5:34 PM	5:42 PM	5:49 PM	5:57 PM	6:04 PM
<b>Tzeit Ha'kochavim Nightfall</b>	6:01 PM	6:08 PM	6:16 PM	6:24 PM	6:31 PM	6:39 AM	6:46 PM

# CALENDAR

## SHABBAT PARSHAT VA'YISHLACH

*Friday and Saturday, November 30th & December 1st*

Candle Lighting	4:32 p.m.
Mincha & Kabbalat Shabbat	4:35 p.m.
Morning Service	9:15 a.m.
Educational Childcare	10:30 a.m.
Shabbat Mincha	12:45 p.m.
Seudah Shlishit	4:30 p.m.
Ma'ariv, Havdalah & Shabbat ends	5:33 p.m.

## SHABBAT MEVARCHIM PARSHAT VAYEISHEV

*Friday and Saturday, December 7th & 8th*

Candle Lighting	4:32 p.m.
Mincha & Kabbalat Shabbat	4:35 p.m.
Morning Service	9:15 a.m.
Educational Childcare	10:30 a.m.
Shabbat Mincha	12:45 p.m.
Seudah Shlishit	4:35 p.m.
Ma'ariv, Havdalah & Shabbat ends	5:33 p.m.*

\* After Shabbat one should first recite Havdalah at home and only then light the Chanukah candles. One may not use the Chanukia as the candle for Havdalah. On the first night of Chanukah we add the blessing of Shebechyanu.

## CHANUKAH

*25 Kislev-Tevet 2*

*December 9th – 16th*

CBI Chanukah Party, December 9 .....7:00-9:00 p.m.  
*Throughout the week, candles should be lit after 5:24 pm except for Friday and Motzei Shabbat. See above and below for more details.*

## ROSH CHODESH TEVET

*Thursday night & Friday, December 13th & 14th*

Shacharit .....6:30 a.m.

## GAN SHALOM CHANUKAH PARTY

Thursday, December 13th @ CBI .....5-7 p.m.

## SHABBAT CHANUKAH PARSHAT MIKETZ

*Friday and Saturday, December 14th & 15th*

Chanukah Candle Lighting before*	4:33 p.m.
Shabbat Candle Lighting	4:33 p.m.
Mincha & Kabbalat Shabbat	4:35 p.m.
Morning Service	9:15 a.m.
Educational Childcare	10:30 a.m.
Shabbat Mincha	12:45 p.m.
Seudah Shlishit	4:30 p.m.
Ma'ariv, Havdalah & Shabbat ends	5:35 p.m.
Chanukah Candle Lighting after**	5:35 p.m.

\* Remember to put in more oil or bigger candles on Friday, so that they burn 1/2 hour after nightfall. Try to light just before the Shabbat candles (without of course delaying the lighting of the Shabbat candles).

\*\* After Shabbat one should first recite Havdalah at home, then light the Chanukah candles. One may not use the Chanukia as the candle for Havdalah.

## SHABBAT PARSHAT VAYIGASH

*Friday and Saturday, December 21st & 22nd*

Shabbat Candle Lighting .....4:36 p.m.

Mincha & Kabbalat Shabbat	4:40 p.m.
Morning Service	9:15 a.m.
Educational Childcare	10:15 a.m.
Shabbat Mincha	12:45 p.m.
Seudah Shlishit	4:30 p.m.
Ma'ariv, Havdalah & Shabbat ends	5:38 p.m.

## FAST OF TEVET

*Sunday, December 23rd*

Fast begins	5:43 a.m.
Shacharit	6:30 a.m.
Mincha @Chabad	4:30 p.m.
Fast ends	5:29 p.m.

## SHABBAT PARSHAT VAYECHI

*Friday and Saturday, December 28th & 29th*

Candle Lighting	4:40 p.m.
Mincha & Kabbalat Shabbat	4:45 p.m.
Morning Service	9:15 a.m.
Educational Childcare	10:15 a.m.
Shabbat Mincha	12:45 p.m.
Seudah Shlishit	4:40 p.m.
Ma'ariv, Havdalah & Shabbat ends	5:42 p.m.

## SHABBAT MEVARCHIM PARSHAT SHEMOT

*Friday and Saturday, January 4th & 5th*

Candle Lighting	4:46 p.m.
Mincha & Kabbalat Shabbat	4:50 p.m.
Morning Service	9:15 a.m.
Educational Childcare	10:15 a.m.
Shabbat Mincha	12:45 p.m.
Seudah Shlishit	4:45 p.m.
Ma'ariv, Havdalah & Shabbat ends after	5:48 p.m.

## SHABBAT ROSH CHODESH SHEVAT PARSHAT VAIERAH

*Friday and Saturday, January 11th & 12th*

Candle Lighting	4:52 p.m.
Mincha & Kabbalat Shabbat	5:00 p.m.
Morning Service	9:15 a.m.
Educational Childcare	10:15 a.m.
Shabbat Mincha	12:45 p.m.
Seudah Shlishit	4:55 p.m.
Ma'ariv, Havdalah & Shabbat ends after	5:54 p.m.

## SHABBAT SHALEM, SHABBAT PARSHAT BO

**SCHLOR-IN-RESIDENCE, R. DR. PINCHAS HAYMAN**

*Friday and Saturday, January 18th & 19th*

Candle Lighting	5:00 p.m.
Mincha & Kabbalat Shabbat	5:05 p.m.
Text Study with R. Dr. Pinchas Hayman	6:00 p.m.
Morning Service	9:15 a.m.
Early Childcare	9:30 a.m.
Text Study with R. Dr. Pinchas Hayman	11:30 a.m.
Parent Child Text Study with R. Hayman	4:00 p.m.
Shabbat Mincha	12:45 p.m.
Seudah Shlishit	5:00 p.m.
Followed by Text Study with R. Hayman	
Ma'ariv, Havdalah & Shabbat ends after	6:01 p.m.

# CALENDAR

## MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. DAY

*Monday, January 21st*

Shacharit .....8:00 a.m.

## TU B'SHEVAT

*Friday night & Shabbat, January 25th & 26th*

## SHABBAT SHIRAH PARSHAT BESHALACH BAT MITZVAH OF MIRA KITTNER

*Friday and Saturday, January 25th & 26th*

Candle Lighting .....5:07 p.m.  
Mincha & Kabbalat Shabbat .....5:10 p.m.  
Morning Service .....9:15 a.m.  
Educational Childcare .....10:15 a.m.  
Shabbat Mincha .....1:30 p.m.  
Seudah Shlishit .....5:10 p.m.  
Ma'ariv, Havdalah & Shabbat ends after .....6:08 p.m.

## SHABBAT PARSHAT YITRO

*Friday and Saturday, February 1st & 2nd*

Candle Lighting .....5:15 p.m.  
Mincha & Kabbalat Shabbat .....5:20 p.m.  
Morning Service .....9:15 a.m.  
Educational Childcare .....10:15 a.m.  
Shabbat Mincha .....12:50 pm  
Seudah Shlishit .....5:15 p.m.  
Ma'ariv, Havdalah & Shabbat ends after .....6:15 p.m.

## SHABBAT MEVARCHIM MISHPATIM PARSHAT SHEKALIM

*Friday and Saturday, February 8th & 9th*

Candle Lighting .....5:23 p.m.  
Mincha & Kabbalat Shabbat .....5:30 p.m.  
Morning Service .....9:15 a.m.  
Educational Childcare .....10:15 a.m.  
Shabbat Mincha .....12:50 p.m.  
Seudah Shlishit .....5:25 p.m.  
Ma'ariv, Havdalah & Shabbat ends after .....6:22 p.m.

## ROSH CHODESH ADAR

*Saturday night, Sunday & Mon, Feb. 9th-11th*

Shacharit Sunday 8:00 a.m.

Shacharit Monday 6:30 a.m.

## SHABBAT PARSHAT TERUMAH

*Friday and Saturday, February 15th & 16th*

Candle Lighting .....5:31 p.m.  
Mincha & Kabbalat Shabbat .....5:35 p.m.  
Morning Service .....9:15 a.m.  
Educational Childcare .....10:15 a.m.  
Shabbat Mincha .....12:50 p.m.  
Seudah Shlishit .....5:30 p.m.  
Ma'ariv, Havdalah & Shabbat ends after .....6:29 p.m.

## FAST OF ESTHER

*Thursday, February 21st*

Fast begins .....5:18 a.m.

Shacharit .....6:30 a.m.

Mincha @Chabad .....5:25 p.m.  
Fast ends .....6:26 p.m.

## SHABBAT PARSHAT TETZAVEH

*Friday and Saturday, February 22nd & 23rd*

Candle Lighting .....5:38 p.m.  
Mincha & Kabbalat Shabbat .....5:45 p.m.  
Morning Service .....9:15 a.m.  
Educational Childcare .....10:15 a.m.  
Shabbat Mincha .....12:50 p.m.  
Seudah Shlishit .....5:40 p.m.  
Ma'ariv, Havdalah & Shabbat ends after .....6:36 p.m.

## PURIM

*Motzei Shabbat & Sunday, February 23rd & 24th*

Shabbat ends 6:36 p.m.

Megillah Reading 7:30 p.m.

Followed by Purim Celebration

## PURIM DAY

*Sunday, February 24th*

Shacharit .....9:00 a.m.

Megillah reading .....9:30 a.m.

Women's only Megillah reading .....12:00 pm

Festive Purim Meal @ CBI .....3:00 pm

Followed by Mincha and Ma'ariv



With great gratitude and joy to HaShem  
We invite the CBI community to join us as  
our daughter

**MIRA BEA CHAYA FRIEDA**

Celebrates her Bat Mitzvah

Shabbat Beshalach

January 26, 2013/15th Shevat 5773

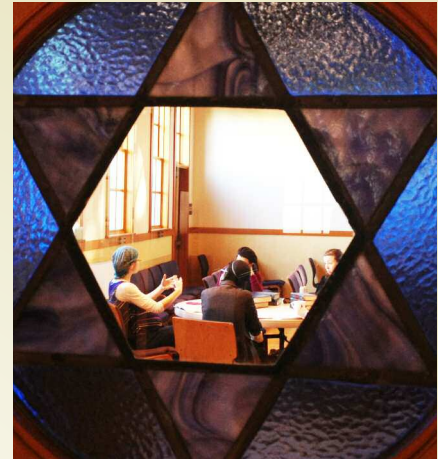
9:15 a.m.

Congregation Beth Israel

The Kittner Family

Festive Kiddush Luncheon to Follow

— GOINGS ON AROUND CBI —





## **SHABBATEENS!**

**Teen Minyan (grades 6-12) followed by Teens' Lunch (grades 9-12 grade)**

**SHABBAT, DEC. 8TH**

**All teens are invited to join our monthly teen Minyan:  
a Minyan which is led by, and intended only for, teens.**

**Where? CBI Library**

**When? Shabbat, Dec 8th, at 10 am**

**Why? Because Shul can be led by you!!**

**After Kiddush, a Shabbat lunch will be held for  
High school kids at the home of Elishav and Ma'ayan (1548 Channing way)**

## *The Beth Israel Sisterhood*

Sisterhood warmly invites women to celebrate the first night of Chanukah with a vocal performance by Shaina Ettel.



**Come light a menorah, nosh a little, and listen to the pure and powerful sounds of Torah inspired niggunim.**

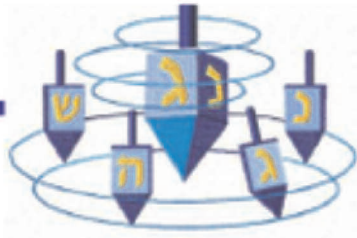


**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 8 • 7:45-9:00 PM  
HOME OF LJUBA DAVIS • 2746 COLLEGE AVE @ STUART ST**

Shaina Ettel, is a lifelong performer and classically trained vocalist from New Paltz NY, who recently released her CD titled, "Yaale." She is also the founder and director of Healing Hair Wigs, which assists women who have experienced hair loss from cancer. Shaina also founded a Chabad campus organization, "JewPaltz," and Malchus, Center of Chassidic learning. Her passions are reaching out to women everywhere and bringing healing through singing, the Torah, and making/designing wigs for women, with a special emphasis on helping women diagnosed with cancer.

You can learn more about her at her website <http://www.shainaettel.com>

**Question? Please contact Sabrina Kabella, Beth Israel Sisterhood • 510/849.4409**



**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 9**

**7:00-10:00 PM**

At Congregation Beth Israel

**THE SECOND ANNUAL**  
**CHANUKAH GAME PARTY**

Dreidels, Games, Food and More!

See you there!

Cause Chanukah parties aren't just for kids!

Come to a community games evening, with board games,  
a ping-pong table, food, and a special team-trivia contest (with prizes!)  
Spend quality time with your friends (and meet new ones)  
in a pleasant and festive atmosphere.

Specially designed for ages 12-120.

7:10 - Festive candle lighting

7:20-9:00 Games

9:00-10:00 team-trivia contest (with prizes!)





# Gan Shalom's Annual Chanukah Party!

Melita & her Band **Octopretzel**

THURSDAY, DEC. 13, 2012 • 5:00-7:00 PM

At Congregation Beth Israel

Lighting Chanukiah • 5:15

Dinner • 5:30-6:15

Puppet show and music by former Gan Shalom teacher

Melita and her band Octopretzel • 6:15-6:45

All Gan Shalom families and friends, all Beth Israel families and friends, alums of Gan Shalom and their families and friends are warmly invited!

\$8/ADULTS • \$5 FOR KIDS • MAXIMUM \$20/FAMILY  
LIGHT DINNER INCLUDED

RSVP • [gsberkeley@gmail.com](mailto:gsberkeley@gmail.com) • Or call 510.848.3298

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TORAH INSTITUTE

## TALMUD PROGRAM WITH MA'AYAN RABINOVICH

### ABOVE AND BEYOND: TRACTATE BRACHOT - BLESSINGS

We'll explore the struggle how to balance abstract concepts and formulaic prayer, what happens when heart-felt prayer is juxtaposed with a fixed framework.

We will discuss how structure can create meaning – through the wisdom of the Talmud.

We'll see how these timeless challenges were addressed long ago and how they fit into today's life styles.

*Tuesday, 9:30-12:30, January 8th – March 19th • Tuition: \$250*

### PROPHETS PROGRAM WITH MA'AYAN RABINOVICH

#### From Anarchy to Monarchy: The Book of Samuel

What is the Torah's approach to kingship?

We will learn from the book of Samuel, examine the story of Saul and raise questions about the challenges of leadership, human nature and will power.

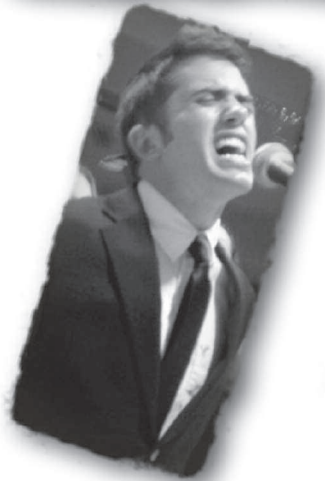
*Wednesday, 10:00-12:30, January 9 - January 30 • Tuition: \$90*

*The classes will include chevruta (partner study), discussion and lecture. All levels welcome.*

*No need for previous background or Hebrew. Women Only.*

*For signing up and more information • [merkavahberkeley@gmail.com](mailto:merkavahberkeley@gmail.com) • 510-219-0275*





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AN EVENING OF VOCAL MUSIC**

# **WITH SHIR APPEAL**

**TUFTS UNIVERSITY COED JEWISH A CAPPELLA GROUP  
SUNDAY, JANUARY 6**

**7 PM**

**CO-SPONSORED BY  
NETIVOT SHALOM & CONGREGATION BETH ISRAEL**

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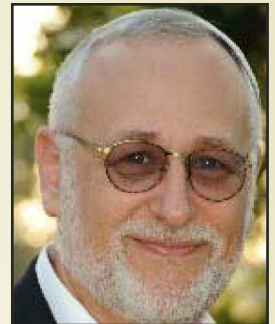
# SHABBAT SHALEM

Friday & Saturday, January 18 - 19

*A complete Shabbat experience including communal learning and meal, activities for children, and joyful Shabbat celebration together.*

— SCHOLAR-IN-RESIDENCE RABBI DR. PINCHAS HAYMAN —

*Rabbi Dr. Pinchas Hayman received rabbinical ordination and his Doctorate at Yeshiva University (RIETS). He Lectured in the Department of Talmud at Bar Ilan serving as the University's Dean of Students, and as Director of the Joseph H. Lookstein Center for Jewish Education in the Diaspora. Rabbi Dr. Hayman is the CEO and visionary of Bonayich, an educational company engaged in the production of curricula, teaching and learning materials for the teaching of Mishnah and Talmud in primary, secondary and post-secondary schools. Bonayich's curriculum is used at OHDS, our local Orthodox Jewish Day School.*



— FRIDAY, JANUARY 18TH —

5:00 p.m. Candle Lighting

5:05 p.m. Mincha & Kabbalat Shabbat

6:00 p.m. Shabbat dinner at CBI

7:00 p.m. Text study with visiting scholar, R. Hayman

TOPIC: EXODUS FROM EGYPT – ENTRANCE TO WHAT?

*This presentation will focus on the long-range goals and objectives of the Exodus according to the Midrash Aggadah. Was Egypt really so bad? Was the life in the wilderness better? What was the Divine interest in the Exodus?*

— SATURDAY, JANUARY 19TH —

9:30 a.m. Early Childcare

11:30 a.m. Text study with visiting scholar, R. Hayman (30 minutes)

TOPIC: THE FIRST MITZVAH AND ITS SIGNIFICANCE

*This presentation will focus on the role of the calendar in the identity development of the People of Israel around the time of the Exodus from Egypt. Why was calendar the first mitzvah? What is the significance of calendar science in the life of a nation? What is the inherent symbolism of the Jewish calendar?*

12:45 p.m. Mincha

4:00 p.m. Parent-Child Text study with visiting scholar, R. Hyaman

TOPIC: NISAN AND TISHRE, WHICH END IS UP?

*This presentation will focus on the dispute between Rabbi Y'hoshu'a and Rabbi Eliezer about the relative status of Nisan and Tishre in the calendar, and the significance of the dispute. What difference does it make when we begin the year?*

5:00 p.m. Seudah Shlishit followed by Text study with visiting scholar, R. Hayman

TOPIC: ARE WE HEADING FOR ANOTHER EXODUS?

*What is the relevance of the Exodus experience for the People of Israel today, and specifically for the Jews of North America? Is another Exodus in the offing?*

6:01 p.m. Maariv and Havdalah

1630 Bancroft Way, Berkeley, CA 94703 | (510) 843-5246 | [contact@cbiberkeley.org](mailto:contact@cbiberkeley.org)

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## SIYYUM THOUGHTS

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By Jonathan Lyon

On November 10, 2012, Jonathan Lyon marked the *siyyum* (completion) of Tractate Brachot. To mark the occasion, we held a special *seudah shlishit*. Thank you to Jane Turbiner and Jonathan Lyon for hosting the community at this event. Following are a selection of some of the remarks Jonathan shared during this momentous occasion.

### IN THE BEGINNING EVERYTHING IS DIFFICULT

Last Sukkoth I picked up my trumpet for the first time in six or seven years. I wasn't sure what would come out: the sounds of music or a dying cow.

When I was a child with trumpet lessons, I gave my trumpet to my teacher to play. He played beautiful music with my trumpet and then gave it back and I tried it. Out came the same croaky sound. And yet, that awful croaky sound moved my teacher and parents to smile and urge me on to do more. Many years later after much practice and 26 years of performance, I find that even after a six or seven year hiatus I can pick up a trumpet and play beautiful music! And my fingers and lips still know what to do and I can still improvise!

So it is the same experience here studying Talmud, except I again find myself the child who does not even know how to ask, who brings my new "instrument" to my teacher and out comes beautiful music. My teacher hands the "instrument" back and what comes out of my mouth is halting and dissonant, fragmented and shamefully displeasing to my ears. Yet, that croaky sound results in my teachers' and rabbi's excited smiles as they urge me to push forward.

I am painfully aware that it will take years of practice to become versed in Talmud and for the sounds that come out of my mouth when talking about it to sound as beautiful as music.

Yet, when frustrated, I always reminded myself of these *pesukim* in the Torah,

### *Deuteronomy Chapter 30*

"11) For this commandment which I command you this day, it is not too hard for you, neither is it far off. 12) It is not in heaven, that you should say: 'Who shall go up for us to heaven, and bring it unto us, and make us hear it, that we may do it?' 13) Neither is it beyond the sea, that you should say: 'Who shall go over the sea for us, and bring it unto us, and make us hear it, that we may do it?' 14) But the word is

very close to you, in your mouth, and in your heart, that you may do it."

But please let me digress to talk about my journey toward learning Talmud:

As you know I'm the shofar blower. As the Shofar blower, it is a tradition to take on a new commitment every year. Starting several years ago I started to take on several key commitments:

- 1) Keep my *Davening* fresh every single time – never to let it be rote prayer.
  - 2) Study each parasha in some way throughout the year to learn something new about it and share what I have learned with others.
  - 3) Join or establish a study group.
- Recently I decided to try DAF Yomi.

### LEARNING THE TEXT INSTEAD OF LEARNING TEXTS ABOUT THE TEXT

The reason for this was that until Daf Yomi, my Talmud study had been like trying to learn to swim by learning the strokes outside the pool on the cement or grass.

I needed to jump in - feel the sensation of the water pressure against my hands and body and feel the buoyancy of the water, sense the waves and music, experience the language, vocabulary, grammar and put myself in the Talmud scholars' worlds. I needed to "break my teeth" as my nephew Daniel, who is in the Gemara-learning world says. I found quotes similar to his in Berachot 63B:

"Grind yourself down over words of Torah." This means to exert yourself to the equipment in order to acquire them. The Daf goes on to say:

Words of Torah are not retained except by one who "kills" himself over it.

### ENTHUSIASM BUTTS HEADS WITH REALITY

I soon found my early enthusiasm butting heads with reality. I was like a naïve child at a lake with a raft who sees an island in the middle of the lake and says, "I want to go there" and pushes his raft off the shore without any idea of how difficult the task might be. He does it because no one says he can't. That doesn't mean he can!

With DAF Yomi Berachot, sometimes I had little understanding of what I was reading and more often than not had little understanding of the underlying currents. Yet I had to push on to keep up! I had chosen breadth over depth.

---

Nevertheless, I feel that this study has paid dividends. There is a time to drive through a National Park and experience the park from the road.

### THE NEED TO CHANGE PERSPECTIVES

Yet, one thing was certain: I needed to expand my very essence in the pursuit of understanding Talmud.

Most of you know that I am a Speech and Language Pathologist. All my work is with children that have communication disorders. Among the most intriguing of my children are those with Autism or Asperger's syndrome. The hallmark of these children's syndrome is the non-awareness or inability or impaired ability to take another's perspective. These children actually lack the awareness that others think different thoughts from them. The treatment for these kids is to ignite or increase that awareness. The more I worked with those children, the more I realized that in order to understand the kernels of what the rabbis were referencing 1000 or 2000 years ago, I needed to discover their assumptions and take their perspectives by shedding my 20th and 21st century perspectives and assumptions.

### BETRAYED BY MY UPBRINGING

I kept up with DAF in Shabbat until page 6B and then hit a wall. That page deals with the different types of space. Public, Private, and "No-Space", - and to make things more complicated, another new term for me called a *Karmelit*. It made no sense for me to go on in Masechet Shabbat until I understood these concepts. I was thoroughly confused and upset with myself that I could go through life for so long and for some many years, experiencing Shabbat so many times and not understand these terms! Chalk it up to my great Jewish education in a Secular Jewish Day school. Why didn't they teach me this? I ended up spending six days on this page until I felt confident that I understood the concepts before going on.

### MISHAPS CAN LEAD TO SURPRISE DISCOVERIES

So, I have decided to give up my attempt at catching up with the DAF Yomi sprinters, except for my learning with Tzvi on Shabbat morning, as this has become a source of great joy for me (and I hope he knows it!). I have resorted to asking the best questions I can to the scholars I know at CBI: Na'aman, Elishav, Eliyahu, Muni, Rav Yonatan, Rabbi Green: I love you folks for allowing me to ask and for nourishment from your passion and enthusiasm. The answers I get are often different from my questions, owing to the poor quality of my questions. Yet, the answers often lead to surprising new discoveries! Just last week, I learned how to reference Maimonides and the Shulchan Orech! I had never opened up the Shulchan Orech before - It was so exciting! I said a "*Shehehiyanu*."

So to any of you who are waiting to start studying in earnest: I adjure you: Don't Wait! Jump In! I promise you won't drown! What is wrong is not in asking the wrong question, it is in asking NO questions! Berachot 63B says: Whoever willingly shames himself over words of Torah by questioning his teacher concerning all that he does not understand, is and will be to be uplifted for you will gain great knowledge. But the one who muzzles himself and refuses to ask - he will later be ignorant in Torah. Therefore a willingness to risk embarrassment for Torah's sake is the key to achieving greatness in Torah.

### NEW DIRECTIONS

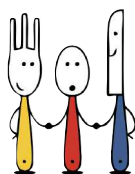
I am now in Masechet Shabbat, and going much more slowly. Concepts and vocabulary here are frequently new to me and often involve an array of *halachic* and cultural assumptions and knowledge, each of which requires probing and ferreting out until understood, so absorption takes longer. Having driven through the National Park of Berachot, I have promised myself that one day I will return in more depth to certain places that piqued my interest. Hopefully by that time, I will have learned to ask better questions, understand methodology, language, abbreviations, numerology, and the Talmud's general styles. At that point in time, I will have a better sense of the Talmud's ecosystem.

With respect to my Jewish studies, my new directions now are to find study partners and a regular time to study daily or at least three times a week besides Shabbat. Jori and I have started learning together. Michael Mrejen and others who suddenly appeared out of the woodwork have expressed their desire for us to study together.

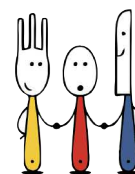
And yet, if I come up to you Talmud scholars here at our third meal, please forgive my croaky notes as I ask you questions about studying this or that section. I am still as one who does not know how to ask. *P'tach Li!*



## MENUS FOR ORDERING SHIFRAH PUAH FROM LOCAL KOSHER EATERIES



Wanting to provide a kosher meal, but don't keep a kosher kitchen?  
Short on time, but still wanting to provide new parents a meal?  
Live far away, but want to provide a meal to a friend or relative?



— Here's what to do. —

1. Choose a meal from the menus below from Oakland Kosher, Grand Bakery and Amba.
2. Just call them up, reference the menus for Congregation Beth Israel. Place your order.
3. Arrange for pick-up and delivery of the meal. Delivery is available for added fee.

### OAKLAND KOSHER - (ASK FOR GINA OR YUVAL)

3419 Lakeshore Ave Oakland (510) 839-0177

#### MENU I • MEAL FOR 2 • PRICE: \$24.99 + TAX (FOR TWO)

Chicken Soup w/matzo balls Roast Chicken (1/2 chicken) • Vegetables in season • Herb Rice  
Challah Rolls (2 each) • Chocolate or Cinnamon Bobka

#### MENU II • MEAL FOR 4 • PRICE: \$49.99 + TAX (FOR FOUR)

Chicken Soup w/matzo balls • Roast Chicken (whole cut into 1/10th)  
Vegetables in season • Herb Rice • Challah • Chocolate or Cinnamon Bobka

#### MENU III • SALMON FOR 2 • PRICE: \$38.99 + TAX (FOR TWO)

Green Salad w/dressing on side Moroccan Salmon Vegetables in season Herb Rice  
Challah Rolls Chocolate or Cinnamon Bobka

#### MENU IV • DELI SANDWICHES FOR 2 • PRICE: \$21.99 + TAX (FOR TWO )

Choose two sandwiches: (Corn Beef; Pastrami; Turkey; Smoked Turkey; Salami; Tuna; Egg Salad)  
Cole Slaw Potato • Salad Pickles • Olives Cookies

### GRAND BAKERY (ASK FOR BOB)

3264 Grand Ave Oakland, CA 94610 (510) 465-1110

#### MENU I • BOUREKAS AND SOUP • PRICE \$15.00

2 bourekas or 2 samosas • 2 soups • 2 full size cookies of your choice

#### MENU II • Soup and Sandwiches • PRICE \$18.00

2 Sandwiches (chopped egg or tuna salad) • 2 soups • 2 full size cookies

#### MENU III • DAIRY OPTION • PRICE \$10.00

2 dairy bourekas • 2 bran muffins • 2 danish

#### MENU IV • SALATIM, SOUP AND BREAD • PRICE \$18.00

1 loaf of bread of your choice (rye, pumpernickel, marble, challah or whole wheat)  
2 salads (eggplant, babaganoush, egg, tuna) • 2 soups • 2 cookies

#### MENU V • PIZZA • PRICE \$18.00

Pizza (1/2 sheet – serves 12-15 needs day in advance)

### AMBA FALAFEL (ASK FOR ASHLEY) • MENU T.B.A

6464 Moraga Avenue Oakland (510) 339-8000

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Our commitment to our beloved community is evident in everything we do.  
Now each of us can extend our commitment into the future.

We are profoundly grateful to the inaugural members of the  
CBI MORASHA (LEGACY) SOCIETY

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Sam Ginsburg • Diane and David Gould • Toby and Ezra Hendon  
Ilene and Gary Katz • Seymour Kessler • Elissa and Alan Kittner  
Rita Kohl and Steve Silberblatt • Rebecca Landes and Ben Rose  
Lois and Gary Marcus • Irene and Joel Resnikoff  
Rena and Mordy Rosen • Leslie Valas and Alan Finkelstein  
Linda and Stanley Wulf

*For more information or to join the Society please contact Noah Alper at [noah-alper@gmail.com](mailto:noah-alper@gmail.com) or Rena Rosen at [t.rosenfamil@comcast.net](mailto:t.rosenfamil@comcast.net).*



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**CHAI-LIGHTS**  
WINTER 2012-2013

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think were impossible."

-Zohar, Class of 2013

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**OPEN HOUSE** November 4 & December 2 • 11 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.  
RSVP at [www.jchsofthebay.org/openhouse](http://www.jchsofthebay.org/openhouse) or 415.345.9777 x124

— BIRTHDAYS —



Adira Tharan, December 3, 13th birthday  
 Ayala Felson, December 4, 3rd birthday  
 Jeremy Smith, December 4  
 Ofra Daniel-Alperin, December 4  
 Iris Greenbaum, December 5  
 Fanya Fenton, December 6, 7th birthday  
 Yaakov Fenton, December 6, 7th birthday  
 Molly Kinstle, December 7, 9th birthday  
 Ory Sandel, December 7  
 Liberty Schubert, December 7, 14th birthday  
 Racheli Perl, December 8  
 Muni Schweig, December 10  
 Tali Albietz, December 12  
 Derek Krantz, December 12  
 Karen Horowitz Weiner, December 14  
 Avi Zinn, December 14  
 Daniel Simon, December 17, 3rd birthday  
 Noah Alper, December 18  
 Batyah Jasper, December 18, 10th birthday  
 Gaby Sandel, December 19, 11th birthday  
 Shai Steinman, December 22, 8th birthday  
 Maureen Krantz, December 24  
 Jana Loeb, December 24  
 Gabriel Greenberg, December 25  
 Jonathan Lyon, December 25  
 Louis Schubert, December 26  
 Gary Boland, December 27  
 Yaron Greenwald, December 28, 18th birthday  
 Ethan Seder, December 30, 14th birthday  
 Fran Alexander, December 31  
 Joan Ominsky, December 31  
 Naomi Yoselevitz, December 31  
 Steven Ominsky, January 1  
 Sarah Jasper, January 2  
 Samuel Tendler, January 3, 2nd birthday  
 Danielle Diamond, January 4  
 Orli Hellerstein, January 5, 11th birthday  
 Margaret Stone, January 7, 4th birthday  
 Jane Turbiner, January 9  
 Hannah Rose Kabella, January 10, 11th birthday  
 Jeff Shannon, January 10  
 Isaac Pollack, January 12, 6th birthday  
 Gary Katz, January 13  
 Haleb Rabinovich, January 14, 3rd birthday  
 Bernice Bradley, January 15  
 Henry Sibony, January 15  
 Marvin Yudenfreund, January 17  
 Mira Kittner, January 18, 13th birthday  
 Aviel Mrejen, January 18, 2nd birthday  
 Hodayah Tal Miller, January 20, 13th birthday  
 Brinah Krelstein, January 27  
 Rebecca Landes, January 27

Iris Greenberg-Smith, February 2  
 Rena Harari, February 2  
 Linda Levy, February 2  
 Janice Mac Millan, February 5  
 Hiram Simon, February 7  
 Phyllis Miller, February 8  
 Amira Kipnis, February 12  
 Asa Kittner, February 14, 11th birthday  
 Meka Greenwald, February 15, 15th birthday  
 Nell Mahgel-Friedman, February 16  
 Meir Shlomo Yedidiah Miller, February 18, 11th birthday  
 Sam Ginsburg, February 19  
 Dahlia Hellerstein, February 22, 8th birthday  
 Issy Kipnis, February 22  
 Gefen Rosenstein, February 22, 3rd birthday  
 Matan Rosenstein, February 22, 3rd birthday  
 Joshua Fenton, February 23  
 Jonah Markowitz, February 23  
 Joel Resnikoff, February 23  
 Eliyahu Quastler, February 25, 14th birthday

— ANNIVERSARIES —

**Aaron Marcus & Leslie Becker,**  
 12/15/2012, 27th anniversary  
**Muni & Tania Schweig,**  
 12/22/2012, 15th anniversary  
**Mark & Susan Schickman,**  
 12/25/2012, 33rd anniversary  
**Stephen Knaster & Iris Greenbaum,**  
 12/26/2012, 36th anniversary  
**Kenny & Aliza Weiss,**  
 1/5/2013, 8th anniversary  
**Harry & Dorothy Rubin,**  
 1/14/2013, 61st anniversary  
**Roger Studley & R. Chai Levy,**  
 1/14/2013, 6th anniversary  
**David & Bat Sheva Miller,**  
 1/22/2013, 22nd anniversary  
**R. Chaim & Nell Mahgel-Friedman,**  
 2/2/2013, 10th anniversary

— MAZAL TOV! —

To **Ory and Tamar Sandel** on their recent wedding.

To new parents **Yoel & Sara Clark** on the birth of a baby boy, Yitzchok Tuvia and to new grandparents Laura Lipman and George Clark.

To our dear teachers and friends, **R. Yair Silverman and Ilana Fodiman-Silverman**, and big sisters and brother Hadar, Adin, and Ashira on the birth of a baby boy, Amitai.

To parents **Elishav & Ma'ayan Rabinovich** on the birth of a baby girl, Raz Tzion.

To new parents **Sara & Benjamin Darmoni** on the birth of a baby boy, Yishai Samuel.

To new parents **Josh Ladon and Yael Krieger** on the birth of a baby girl, Elisheva Maayan.

To new parents **Marni & Jonny Davis**, grandparents Leo Davis, z"l & Ljuba Davis, Ben Glovinsky & Barbara Steinberg, on the birth of a baby boy, Leo Mayer

To grandparents **Paul Hamburg & Mimi Weisel** on the birth of a grandson to parents Gaby and Jacques Fima on November 8, and a granddaughter to parents Yuval Hamburg and Sigalit Carmely-Hamburg on September 27.

To new parents, **Meechal & Na'aman Kam**, on the birth of a new baby boy, Evyatar Shalem.

*May their lives be filled with the insights of Torah, the warm and supportive love of family and community, and the blessing of good deeds.*

— BARUCH DAYAN EMET/CONDOLENCES —

We regret to announce the passing of **Barbara Schubert's father**, Harold S. Johnston, beloved husband of Mary Ella Johnston and father of Barbara, Shirley Linda, David; father-in-law of Lou Schubert; grandfather of Sarah, Laura, Joseph, Aaron, Liberty, Gaby, Simone, Miranda, Evan and Bryce; and great-grandfather of Micah and Isaiah.

We regret to inform you of the passing of **Sara Engel's youngest brother** Benny (Binyamin Ben Rachamim and Shoshona), who passed away in Jerusalem on Friday, 2 Kislev, at the age of 73. He was the beloved father of 5 children.

*May the Holy One comfort the family, together with all those who mourn for Zion and Jerusalem.*

*HaMakom Yenacheim Etchem Betoach Shear Aveilei Tziyon VeYerushalayim.*

— HACHNASSAT ORCHIM —

*Shabbat Lunch Hospitality*

The Gessow Family  
Paul Hamburg & Mimi Weisel  
The Lipman/Clark Family  
Judy & Glenn Massarano  
Rachel Schorr and David Spieler  
Tania & Muni Schweig



MEMORIAL  
PLAQUES

To memorialize your loved one, you may wish to purchase a memorial plaque to be placed on the memorial board in the sanctuary.

Besides ensuring that Kaddish will be recited perpetually in the name of your beloved deceased, you will receive a notice annually of the date of the yahrzeit and the date the yahrzeit will be observed by the recitation of Kaddish.

— The cost of a memorial plaque is \$360 —

To find out how to purchase one, contact John Pilkington at [jpilk@aol.com](mailto:jpilk@aol.com) or the CBI office at (510) 843-5246, [office@cbiberkeley.org](mailto:office@cbiberkeley.org)





## — KIDDUSH SPONSORS —

**September 8:** The Stein Family in honor of Ami's bar mitzvah this past summer in Israel, and the 2nd anniversary of Coby's bar mitzvah

**September 15:** The Klein/Scheinberg Family in honor of Rachel Gavriella's Bat Mitzvah

**September 17:** The Beth Israel Sisterhood; Sabrina Kabella and family; Lois and Gary Marcus in honor of the High Holy Days

**September 18th:** Denise Resnikoff and Lenny Kristal in memory of Lenny's mother, Zena Kristal and Denise's father, Irving Lip-ton, on their 35th yahrzeits; Joel & Irene Resnikoff and Family; Rona Rothenberg and Yehuda Ben Israel and Family; Phyllis Miller and Family; The Valas-Finklestein Family; The Stamper Family; Sheila and Marvin Yudenfreund and Family; ice cream from Jonah Markowitz in honor of Rosh Hashanah; the baked goods were donated by Semifreddi's Bakery, Alameda

**September 22:** Aaron Menda: May HaShem bring happiness, prosperity and peace to the world and the CBI community at the new year 5773; the Sweet family in honor of the 70th anniversary of Justin's bar mitzvah

**September 26 Break Fast:** Gessow Family, Mahgel-Friedman Family, Harry and Dorothy Rubin, Joan Sopher, Bob and Naomi Stamper, Stein Family, Wulf Family

**September 29:** Sam and Rose Ginsburg on the occasion of Sam's father, David Ben Shimon's 21st yahrzeit; Congregation Beth Israel in honor of our new members (Yaakov & Tali Albietz, Roni & Ofra Alperin, Guy Biton-Harel, James & Lauren Brandt, Jim & Carol Cunradi, Avram & Laura Davis, Jonathan & Marni Davis, Daniel Feld, Joshua & Claire Fenton, Aaron & Julia Frank, Gabriel Greenberg & Abby Streusand, Zev & Talya Ilovitz, Zac Johnson, Doni Katz & Stephanie Shelan Katz, Stephen Knaster & Iris Greenbaum, Chen Koppelman, Philip & Gladys Leider, Linda Levine, Josh Ladon & Yael Krieger, Jana Loeb, Dan Mainemer, Aron Erol & Rejin Menda, Adam & Elana Naftalin-Kelman, Steven & Joan Ominsky, Fran Quittel, Raphael & Jeanette Rosen, Bernard & Roz Steinberg, Avital Steinitz, Michael Steinman & Dorothy Richman,

Kenny & Aliza Weiss, Leon & Bruria Wiener Dow, Yaacov & Ester Yadgar, Jonathan & Jennifer Zilberstein, Joseph Zissman

**Monday, October 1st:** Aliza and Kenny Weiss, in honor of our son Matthew Jacob - Yaakov Mordechai and in celebration of the new year with our new community at CBI. May it be a year full of blessings and joy for us all; Stephanie and Donny Katz: In appreciation of the CBI community's warm welcome and generosity; Maureen and Derek Krantz: in gratitude to HaShem for Shai's recovery.

**October 2nd:** The Rosen Family in honor of their 36th anniversary as part of CBI! Nae Golomb in memory of her mother, Faye Feldman Golomb

**October 8 Shemini Atzeret:** The Barany, DeWitt, Engel, Ginsburg, Harari, Hendon, Safran, and Sweet Families, in honor of everyone born between the 1934-1936

**October 8:** Simchat Torah light dinner: Captain Leora Lawton; co-sponsors David & BatSheva Miller, Eliahu Klein & Cynthia Scheinberg, Muni & Tania Schweig, Rona Teitelman, Jodi Tharan

**October 9 Simchat Torah:** Ron & Bella Barany; Alan & Elissa Kitzner; Satya Levine, Sam & Jan Haber, Ben & Jo-Ellen Zeitlin; Ellen Winnick

**October 13:** Congregation Beth Israel in honor of the Rabinovich Family on the birth of Raz Tzion

**October 20:** Violette and Henry Sibony in honor of their grandson; Jonah Haim and Debbie and Charles Koppelman in honor of their son

**October 27:** Shabbat Shalem: Paul Albert, Ken & Sara Bamberger, R. Yonatan Cohen & Frayda Gonshor Cohen, Preston & Anya Grant, Aaron Katler & Deb Fink, Derek & Maureen Krantz, Lenny Kristal & Denise Resnikoff, Gary & Lois Marcus, Joel & Irene Resnikoff, Ben Rose & Rebecca Landes, Mordy & Rena Rosen, Muni & Tania Schweig, Eric & Rachel Seder

**November 3:** Laura & R. Avram Davis; Aron Menda; Anonymous

**November 10:** Yael Krieger & R. Josh Ladon in honor of their new baby, Elisheva Maayan

## — DONATIONS —

### GAN SHALOM BUILDING FUND

Paul Albert  
Norman & Beverly Feldman: in honor of the bar mitzvah of Rami Landes; in honor of the simchat bat for Maerav Lila, daughter of Eli Rosenblatt and Shira Wakschlag  
SerachBracha Richards: in honor of Sukkot  
Ben Rose & Rebecca Landes: in honor of the entire CBI community and in particular of the following individuals who made Rami's bar mitzvah so sweet: Arabella Bangura, Benjamin Epstein, Boaz Haberman, Denise Resnikoff & Lenny Kristal, Ethan Seder, Irene and Joel Resnikoff; Janice MacMillan & her staff; Joan Sopher; Judy & Glenn Massarano; Marcia Brooks; Mark Schickman; Nae Golomb, R. Yonatan Cohen & Frayda Gonschor Cohen; Rachel & Jacob Heitler; Yonim Schweig; Zvi Rosen  
Sara Sandel  
Brian & Lisa Schachter-Brooks  
Steven Zolno & Carol Delton: in honor of Ami Stein

### GENERAL FUND

Sol & Dina Adelsky: in gratitude for the gracious hospitality shown to me by Jacob and Rachel Heitler as well as the entire community during my visit this past Shabbat.  
Paul Albert: in memory of George Albert, z"l  
Fran Alexander: in honor of Ernie Alexander; in honor of June and Bob Safran's 56th anniversary; thank you to Dr. Gary Marcus  
Noah & Hope Alper: in memory of David Alper  
Anonymous  
Anonymous: for my happy, wonderful memories of the bar mitzvah of Rami Landes  
Ronald & Bella Barany: in memory of Bella's aunt, Julia Hirsch Friedman; in memory of our granddaughter Merav Rina Barany  
Yehuda Ben-Israel & Rona Rothenberg: in memory of R. Moshe Rubinstein  
Judith Bloom: in memory of Ross Meltzer and R. Moshe Rubinstein  
Michael Davis: in honor of Yonim Eliezer Schweig  
Susanne DeWitt: in memory of Ross Meltzer  
Glenn & Danielle Elkins: in honor of Michael & Sara Mrejen for their help with our daughter's *chesed* project  
Jane Falk: in honor of the Israel bar mitzvah of Ami Stein; in honor of the bar mitzvah of Rami Landes; in memory of Ross Meltzer; in memory of Judy Massarano's father R. Moshe Rubinstein; in honor of the birth of Raz Tzion Rabinovich  
Norman & Beverly Feldman: to the Adult

Education Fund  
N. R. Golomb: for yizkor  
Avi Hoffer  
Jon & Pamela Kalish: thank you for welcoming us to your wonderful shul!  
Isaac Kaplan & Sandy Kaplan Schwarcz: for yizkor  
Alan & Dinah Katler: for aliya  
Chanan & Eve Kessler: with gratitude for your hospitality and comfort  
Alan & Elissa Kittner: in memory of Al Kittner, beloved grandfather; Bernard Kittner, beloved father; and Harold Burkhardt, beloved grandfather  
Izyaslav & Raisa Kreymer: in memory of our parents  
Haim Levi: in memory of the yahrzeit of Tricia Collins-Levi  
Laura Lipman: on her father's yahrzeit; in honor of the b'nai mitzvahs of Rami Landes, Ami Stein, Gavriella Klein  
Zeev Marco  
C. Tzvi Marx  
Larry & Eleanor Meltzer: in memory of our son, Ross Meltzer, with thanks for the warmth and caring Faith, Josh, Sara and Alyssa received  
Edward & Phyllis Miller: for yizkor; to thank everyone who helped make the High Holidays so meaningful; in honor of R. Mimi Weisel and Paul Hamburg on the birth of their grandchildren; in honor of Desmid Lyon and Jonathan Lyon on the birth of a new grandson to Miriam & Michael Snoyman; in honor of Lenny Kristal & Denise Resnikoff on the birth of a grandson to Alex and Lior Kristal; in honor of Ma'ayan and Elishav Rabinovich, Uri & Halel on the birth of Raz Tzion; in honor of the entire Davis family on the birth of Leo Mayer; in honor of Sara & Benni Darmoni on the birth of their son Yishai; mazal tov to Jesse Buckner-Alper & Maya Raviv & their families on their marriage; and to the Koppelman/Sibony families for Jonah's bar mitzvah  
Moshe & Julie Mitrani: in honor of the Gessow family for their hospitality  
Alan & Magda Nemlich: thank you for the community's support of our granddaughter Ma'ayan Rabinovich and our newest great-granddaughter  
Ben Rose & Rebecca Landes: in memory of Rav Moshe Eliezer Rubinstein  
Mordecai & Rena Rosen: in loving memory of Rena's mother, Roslyn Goldberg Brickman z"l  
Selma Rothenberg: in honor of Rona Rothenberg & Yehuda Ben Israel  
Lori Rubens

## — DONATIONS CONTINUED —

SaraLeya Schley: in memory of Judy Massarano's father  
Eric & Rachel Seder: in honor of the bar mitzvah of Jonah Koppelman

David & Susan Seeley

Henry & Violette Sibony: for yizkor

David Spieler & Rachel Schorr: in honor of the b'nai mitzvahs of Hannah Lyon, Yonim Schweig, Rami Landes, Gavi Klein, Ami Stein; mazal tov to Noah and Hope Alper on the marriage of Jessie Buchner Alper and Maya Raviv

Robert & Naomi Stamper: in memory of Bob's father, Maurice Stamper, and Naomi's parents, Irving & Lillian Belson

Harry & Clara Stein: wishing for a *gmar chatima tova*

Jeff & Doreet Stein: in honor of b'nai mitzvahs of Yonim Schweig, Rami Landes & Gavi Klein; in memory of R. Moshe Rubinstein; in honor of Judy & Glenn Massarano and all they do for the community

Elie Vidal

Kenny & Aliza Weiss: In honor of the birth of our son: Yaakov Mordechai (Matthew)

Marvin & Maxine Winer: in memory of Betty Apple & Rachmiel Goodstein

Ellen Winnick: in memory of Ross Meltzer from Ellen, Dan & Ari

Stanley Wulf & Linda Press Wulf: in honor of Anna & Aron Ghoshor

Marvin & Sheila Yudenfreund: in honor of all the new babies at CBI this summer; in honor of Bathea James's Blue Ribbon Award; in honor of Denise & Lenny's new grandchild; in memory of Judy Massarano's father; in honor of Rami Landes' bar mitzvah

### RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

Ronald & Bella Barany: with gratitude to R. Cohen

Glenn & Danielle Elkins: in honor of R. Cohen

Norman & Beverly Feldman: wishing Paul Hamburg *refuah shleima*

Howard Felson & Efrat Campagnano: in honor of the Beth Israel community and Frayda Gonshor and Rabbi Cohen; in honor of Joel and Irene Resnikoff for their generosity and warm hospitality; in honor of Ezra and Toby Hendon for their generosity and warm hospitality

Pamela Frydman

Beth Fusco: in gratitude for your welcome at Kol Nidre services

Stephanie Green

Edythe Heda

Sam & Bathea James: in memory of Diane James

Aaron Katler & Deborah Fink: for yizkor

Asa Kittner: "I want to give my tzedakah to Rabbi Cohen"

Mira Kittner: Thank you for teaching me, Rabbi Cohen.

Harvey Kugelman & Karen Rubin-Kugelman: in memory of Susanna Richman

Avi Langer

C. Tzvi Marx

Glenn & Judith Massarano

Deborah Pearl: in memory of Susanna Richman

Rita Pearl: with gratitude to Rabbi Cohen and members of the congregation for conducting Susanna Richman's funeral, as well as Rabbi Aaron Finkelstein for his part in the gravesite service; in memory of Susanna Richman

Allan & Barbara Peskin: in loving memory of Susanna Richman

Mildred Rubinstein: in memory of Rabbi Moshe Rubinstein

Jeremy Smith & Iris Greenberg-Smith: in honor of Aron & Anna Gonshor

Renee Smith: in memory of Susanna Richman

David & Rikki Sudikoff: in memory of Ross Meltzer, R. Moshe Rubinstein, and Susanna Richman

Scott & Beth Wachter: in memory of Susanna Richman

### RABBI'S SUSTAINABILITY FUND

Paul Albert

Alan & Elissa Kittner

Laszlo N. Tauber, Charitable Foundation

### TZEDAKAH FUND

David Branco

Avraham Burrell

Daniel Gordon & Beth Marcus for minyan supplies

Jonah Markowitz

John Pilkington & Linda Levy

### SHABBAT SHALEM

Paul Albert, Ken & Sara Bamberger, R. Yonatan Cohen & Frayda Gonshor Cohen, Preston & Anya Grant,

Aaron Katler & Deb Fink, Derek & Maureen Krantz, Lenny Kristal & Denise Resnikoff, Gary & Lois Marcus,

Joel & Irene Resnikoff, Ben Rose & Rebecca Landes, Mordy & Rena Rosen, Muni & Tania Schweig,

Eric & Rachel Seder



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