



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

FROM OUR RABBI

The first time I met my mentor, Rabbi Avi Weiss, he asked me in a low soft voice: “Yonatan, tell me about your dreams.” In the years that followed, in yeshiva and then as rabbi of Beth Israel in Berkeley, I quickly learned that dreams form the bedrock of vibrant communities.

As we know, dreams play a critical role in the book of Genesis which we are about to complete. Surely, Abraham was the father of all dreamers. Only a dreamer would have responded to God’s call to go to an undiscovered land. Similarly, Jacob’s dream of the angels ascending and descending the heavenly ladder captures our longing to spiritually reach the divine.

But above all, Joseph is the Torah’s quintessential dreamer. Joseph “*baal hachlomet*”—“Joseph, the one who is possessed by dreams” as his brothers mocked him—initially paid a heavy price for his dreams. With time however, Joseph’s dreams also became a source of power and inner-strength. Joseph’s ability to interpret the ministers’ dreams in prison, and thereafter the meaning of Pharaoh’s dream in the royal palace, ultimately allowed him to become Egypt’s viceroy, a true man of power.

In this sense, Genesis is truly the book of dreamers. It teaches that every beginning requires a dreamer and that every great change is defined by a dream.

Jewish law also recognizes the power of dreams. Countless rabbinic passages discuss rules and customs related to dreaming. In fact, according to Jewish law a person is permitted, even encouraged to fast and pray after experiencing a bad dream. One should even afflict themselves as one does during a traditional fast day, lest the bad dream reflected a bad omen or came as a result of past transgressions.

In a similar vein, the Talmud records prayers composed by our early rabbis to be said upon experiencing a dream. One prayer

is particularly powerful: “Master of the world, I belong to You and my dreams belong to You. I have dreamt a dream and I do not know what it is. Whether I dreamt about myself or about others, or my companions dreamt about me, if they are good dreams, confirm them and reinforce them like the dreams of Joseph, and if they require a remedy, heal them, as Moses sweetened the waters of Marah.” (Tractate Brachot 55b)

In a moving teaching R. Yochanan notes three indications that a dream will be fulfilled: “Three types of dreams come true: a dream that occurs in the early morning hours, a dream dreamt by one person for another person, and a dream that is resolved within a dream.” (Ibid.)

I believe that Rabbi Yochanan’s enigmatic advice is not only a guide to predicting an unforeseen outcome; it must also be read as advice for proactively making our dreams come true.

The first type of dream is “A dream that occurs in the early morning hours.” It is a dream on the verge of wakefulness. Every dream must retain a certain level of connection to reality in order to see the light of day.

The second type of dream is “A dream dreamt by one person for another person.” It is a shared dream. Dreams can’t be

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FROM OUR PRESIDENT

Last week Rabbi Cohen offered Lois Marcus and me a real treat; a preview tour of the Gan Shalom rebuild. It was such a pleasure to experience the open spaces and the lively colors. As we were walking through the building I had a wave of nostalgia. It took me back to the days before Gan Shalom; to a time of Congregation Beth Israel Hebrew School, Beth Israel day camp and Bet Yeladim pre-school. Even then we considered that building a center for our youth.

Many families have happy memories of youth activities at 2230 Jefferson Street. When I returned from Israel in 1979 I was asked to start a weekly pre-school class. We met in the basement room on Sunday mornings for Jewish music, stories and art at the same time as the Hebrew School. The backyard was an especially popular place for all the kids in the community. It went through many stages of landscaping and climbing structures. Over several summers we organized a day camp that met at that building. Margie Stamper, Aaron Leibowitz and Rebecca Hendon were three of the counselors and I can still remember Joey Davis and Ethan Markowitz running around as campers.

This building also housed the first Jewish Montessori pre-school in Berkeley, Bet Yeladim. The idea was to combine Jewish values with Montessori values and materials. Robin Meldelson, one of our current Gan teachers was also a teacher at Bet Yeladim. Our Hebrew school, which began in the old shul building, moved to Jefferson Street and was directed by Rena Rosen. Kids met on Sundays, Tuesdays and Thursdays learning Torah, Hebrew and Tefilah.

High-Schoolers Shaya Lyon and Liat Resnikoff piloted an after-school youth program called Junior Schmoozers. They greeted 2nd-4th graders at their bus stop after school twice a week and brought them to 2230 Jefferson Street. There they organized activities, provided snack and supervised homework. When I spoke to Liat, about the building, she remembered making a time capsule and burying it in the backyard. I wonder if we could find it if we dug under one particular tree.

Many of us have memories of Chanukah parties, Purim parades and Shabbat circles at Hebrew school and at Gan. This is the first place our children experienced what it means to be part of a Jewish community. It is no accident that, even as they get older, children and teens love to hang out in this facility. The new, renovated space will continue to be a home for children of all ages. And we will have the privilege of watching the next generation grow into our CBI community.

The dream that Joan Sopher and Shoshana Greenberg had on that walk many years ago of a youth center in a cute house on Jefferson Street has come to fruition. May our community be strong and continue to build on our strengths.

Shana Tova
Irene Resnikoff



Gan Shalom yard before 1980 with young Dorit Resnikoff and R. Aaron Finkelstein

— continued from page 1; From our Rabbi

realized in a vacuum of apathy and lack of concern for the dreams of others. Dreams require communal support. For our dreams to come true, we need to be deeply invested in each other's lives to the point that we start dreaming each other's dreams.

The third type of dream is "A dream that is resolved within a dream." In this case, a person dreams two dreams, in which one dream offers a resolution or an explanation of the other. Perhaps this type of dream captures the notion that truly grand dreams must offer and create space, and ultimately allow for the resolution, of other smaller dreams. Indeed, I would argue that authentic communities must create sacred spaces in which personal dreams find spiritual support, religious guidance, and realization within the larger, collective dream.

This Chanukah as we celebrate the rededication of our holy Temple, and as we enter more deeply into the dreamscape of Joseph, our CBI Family will be on the verge of realizing our own dream. In but a few short months, we will gather to dedicate the newly rebuilt CBI Youth Center and Gan Shalom Preschool. In many ways, this dream could not have been realized without our community's ability to follow R. Yochanan's sage advice. We dreamt at night, but our dream always found clarity in the light of day. In the process, we listened to the dreams of our children, our parents, and our educators, and we also tuned in to the cares and concerns of our neighbors. We learnt to dream for each other, and in doing so, we sought to create a sacred space that has room for the dreams of every child and the dream and vision we hold for all our children as a collective.

At this time, I wanted to thank all of you for joining this dream. Your deep commitment, profound generosity, and ongoing faith have made it possible. As I mentioned above, many years ago Rabbi Avi Weiss asked me in a low soft voice: "Yonatan, tell me about your dreams. Had I known then, what I know now, I certainly would have said that this is one of them.

With gratitude,
R. Yonatan Cohen



*Master of the world,
I belong to You and
my dreams belong to You.
I have dreamt a dream and
I do not know what it is.
Whether I dreamt about myself
or about others, or my companions
dreamt about me, if they are good
dreams, confirm them and
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heal them, as Moses
sweetened the
waters of Marah."*

(Tractate Brachot 55b)



CONVERSATION ON MIKVAH AND CONVERSION

By Rabbi Cohen and Maharat Sutton

The recent events surrounding Rabbi Barry Freundel's arrest in Washington, D.C. have thrown open communal conversations around policies and standards on mikvah and conversion. While we can take some comfort in the swift response modeled by the executive leadership of Freundel's former synagogue, it has become clear that many issues related to this crisis are not simply local, but also systemic, touching upon the vulnerable status of converts, the position of women, and rabbinic use or misuse of power.

At this time we wanted to highlight a number of important developments taking place nationally and locally to address these sensitive and important issues:

1. The Rabbinical Council of America (RCA) has formed a review committee to assess its current Geirus Protocol and Standards (GPS) conversion process, identify changes that will ensure a more effective and appropriate conversion process and suggest safeguards against possible abuses. Members of this review committee include halakhic advisors such as rabbis and *yotzot*, mental health professionals, and women who have converted with the RCA. The committee will begin its deliberations immediately, will report its findings to the RCA Executive Committee by January 31, 2015, and will make its recommendations public thereafter. Rabbi Mark Dratch, Executive Vice President of the RCA, commented "The Torah repeatedly commands us to love the convert. Individuals who choose to join the Jewish community are to be admired and treated with the utmost respect. The RCA will not rest until we fulfill that commandment to its fullest extent."

2. The Beit Din of America has brought in Dr. Michelle Friedman to join its board of directors. Dr. Friedman is the founder and chair of the department of pastoral counseling at Yeshivat Chovevei Torah. She is one of several women asked to join the board following the Freundel arrest. Dr. Friedman and Dr. Seth Aronson, have also been invited as Pastoral Professionals in Residence to advise the IRF (International Rabbinic Fellowship), of which Rabbi Cohen and Maharat Sutton are members.

3. A number of halakhic authorities have proposed halakhic guidelines to ensure that ritual immersion for female converts are performed with modesty and dignity, in Israel and worldwide. Among those are Rabbanit Dr. Michal Tikochinsky,

Director of Beit Morasha's Beit Midrash for Women's Leadership, Rav Amsalem of the Sefardi Am Shalem social and political movement in Israel, Rabbi Jeffrey Fox, Rosh Yeshiva of Yeshivat Maharat, Rabbi Yoscher Katz, Talmud chair at Yeshivat Chovevei Torah. At CBI, we are working with our Beit Din on these guidelines.

4. Maharat Victoria Sutton has been working closely with conversion candidates at CBI, and joins with Rabbi Cohen and the Beit Din in meetings and communication with individuals throughout the conversion process, and is present at ritual immersion in the mikvah for female converts. The local Beit Din invites converts to bring a friend or advocate to attend all Beit Din meetings. We are assessing our mikvah protocols for conversions with the head of our Beit Din. In addition, both R. Cohen and Maharat Sutton will be offering classes on the theme of conversion, from a hashkafic and halakhic perspective, with the goal of raising awareness in our community and deepening our commitment and obligation to sensitively welcome and integrate converts into the community.

5. The Berkeley Mikvah is a women's only mikvah. We are in conversation with the Leeds family in the hopes of assessing and formulating best practices for the mikvah. A screening device is available upon request for any woman using the mikvah. In addition, we are looking into the possibility of having random screenings for cameras in the mikvah as well.

6. Dr. Frayda Gonshor Cohen and Maharat Victoria Sutton are trained and experienced in answering questions of Halakha pertaining to the observance of *Hilkhot Niddah* and mikvah. Please feel comfortable to approach either of one of them with any halakhic questions, concerns or issues.

We would like all community members to feel safe around mikvah use. To that end, we are working to promote best practices and are open and available to discuss individual concerns.

We pray that our Jewish community will emerge stronger from this national crisis.

Rabbi Yonatan Cohen
Maharat Victoria Sutton

A DREAM (ALMOST) REALIZED • OPPORTUNITY TO PARTICIPATE IN FINAL SIYYUM CLOSING ROUND OF FUNDRAISING

Before our very eyes, a long-treasured dream of CBI is being realized – the completion of a beautiful, new, state-of-the-art Gan Shalom Preschool and CBI Youth Center. The building is on schedule to be completed in early spring 2015/5775. We have come together as a community every step of the way on this project, and gratitude is due to each and every member who has given of time, resources, patience and perseverance.

PROJECT UPDATE

The following is update on where we are with the project from a budget and fundraising perspective.

- **Project Cost: \$950,000.** The project costs are on target and on budget. This figure is all-inclusive, covering the costs of plans, permits, architect fees, building materials, construction, and an amount for contingencies.
- **Fundraising to Date: \$700,000.** CBI members and other individual donors: We are enormously thankful to all who have contributed an amazing total of \$434,000 to this project to date. This includes donors in the original fundraising campaign in 2009 as well as donors who have given more recently.
- **Major grants:** We are proud and grateful to announce that we have been awarded three major grants: \$150,000 from the Schultz Family Foundation for Gan Shalom's work on Jewish continuity, \$50,000 from the Alameda County Child Care Center Facilities Fund in support of childcare facilities' building upgrades, and \$66,000 from California Governor's Office of Emergency Services in support of state-of-the art security improvements.

FINAL FUNDARISING PUSH –

SIYYUM CLOSING ROUND: \$250,000 GOAL

We need to raise a final \$250,000 to fully fund the project. In the coming weeks, we will engage in additional outreach to CBI community members to help us reach this final goal.

Special Challenge: We are excited that a generous donor has stepped forward with a \$75,000 challenge grant that will match new gifts dollar for dollar. With this match, pledges that make up the first \$75,000 of the Siyyum Closing Round will be doubled through this grant.

- **Gifts of \$18 - \$999.** We are deeply grateful for all gifts –whether small or large.
- **Gifts of \$1,000 to \$100,000.** Donors who give \$1,000 or more will have their names listed on a plaque in the new building, similar to the one in CBI. Additional opportunities are available to name rooms, doors and windows in honor of a beloved family member.

If you are interested in donating to the Youth Center and Gan Shalom Rebuild, please contact Joelle in the front office or Rabbi Cohen or visit the CBI website:

<https://www.cbiberkeley.org/connect/giving/youth-center-and-gan-shalom-rebuild/>

B'Shalom,
Rabbi Cohen
Paul Albert
Elissa Kittner
Stanley Wulf



GAN SHALOM UPDATE

By *Laura Lipman*



What's so special about Gan Shalom? Play! Because of the unrelenting advertising that surrounds us this time of year, I think of toys, toys, and more toys, most of which do not get to the core of what I mean when I think of children's play. What does play mean for parents and educators of young children? Children's play used to be (long ago when I was young) more open ended and less adult-managed. I like to think of children playing as artists engaged in refining their technique and exploring the possibilities inherent in their materials. These materials can be anything from play-doh to real dough for children to make challah for Shabbat, building the Tower of Babel or Pharaoh's palace using found objects or blocks. Some also liken children's play to scientists trying to understand a problem. Here are some definitions of play that point not to what children do when playing, but a 'state of mind' that is cultivated:

- Play is voluntary
- It has no obvious survival value or is apparently purposeless
- It is pleasurable or fun
- It helps create a sense of timelessness where self-consciousness is diminished

- It has an improvisational, spontaneous quality

Animals and humans learn by playing. There are many studies showing that animals deprived of play do not develop into normal adults. Studies have shown rats and dogs will grow up to be more aggressive and do not develop good social skills. Dr. Stuart Brown who wrote a popular book on play, studied prison inmates and found a high percentage of these people demonstrated very limited experiences with play, as children and as adults. Another point in studying animals at play, is that animals play most when they are young when learning is most intense. Animals need to learn to hunt, or to learn social skills to survive in their pack and attract mates, or they will not survive. This is true for our species also—we are wired for play and we play to learn and we are doing it most intensely when we are young.

An environment that is conducive to voluntary play (free choice time at Gan!) is calm and stress free. This leads to play that is open ended, process-oriented rather than product-oriented, with time to explore and imagine. Fun, novel experiences are also more conducive to a good learning environment. It leads to mistakes, which we learn from. Learning without a specific goal in mind is what play is about. This kind of indirect, unpredictable way of learning is exactly what makes play a powerful learning process. Dur-



ing play, the brain is open to new, creative pathways, rather than being stuck in a habitual way of doing something. If that sounds too open ended and scary to some of us, we as teachers never forget that there are firm boundaries and expectations around play. Engaging in this kind of play gives children important information about just how far they can go in— how much paint can they put on the paper, how hard can they push during wrestling, all within the context of rules and boundaries that are maintained by the classroom teacher. The art of teaching is creating an environment that fosters creative and spontaneous play within the bounds of safety and what is developmentally appropriate.

And here is my opportunity to thank all of you who have worked so hard and given so much in terms of time, money,

work and enthusiasm in bringing Gan Shalom and all the children of Beth Israel this soon-to-be-completed, beautiful new building.

We are now accepting applications for the next school year 2015-16. Please e mail me at gsberkeley@gmail.com or call 848-3298 for information or an application. If you have a girl who turns 3 in the next few months, we also have 2 spots open right now for 3-year-old girls.

May we all grow in creativity and joy as we share this beautiful new space together.

Laura Lipman
Gan Shalom Director



NCSY SUKKAH BUILDING

By Rabbi Akiva Naiman, NCSY Teen Director



NCSY Norcal Goes Sukkah Building!

On Sunday, October 5, more than 20 members of the Norcal chapter of NCSY traveled around our community building sukkot for people. We were excited to make it possible for people to have their own sukkah at home and to be able to celebrate in that special way.

The people we helped, made donations to NCSY in appreciation for our work, so we were also able to donate that money to *tzedakah*. It went to fund scholarships for public school teens to go to Israel for the summer. In the process of enabling people to celebrate *chagim* we also gave *tzedakah* — two very productive things for our community.

When I was building the sukkah I felt like I was part of something bigger than just myself. I know that sounds like a cliché, but making it possible for other people to cele-

brate *chagim* is as important as celebrating them yourself, and being given an opportunity to help others to experience and appreciate what I experience and appreciate was an amazing gift.

Something that struck me about this project is that the people were very grateful. Even though they had made contributions in return for our work, they were thankful that we were dedicating our time and energy to this. They came out and helped and wanted to be involved rather than just letting us work by ourselves. Even though they needed our help to put up their sukkot they still wanted to be involved in the process of getting ready for the *chag*.

We built a total of 15 sukkot that day, and next year we hope to double the numbers and help twice as many people!

Avi London Wynne
NCSY Board Member, Chessed

Akiva Naiman
NCSY Teen Director



NCSY: TEEN ADVOCACY PROGRAM (T.A.P.)

The Teen Advocacy Program is a 6 week evening program that takes place every Tuesday night from 7:30-8:45. Featuring presentations by leading Jewish advocates, rabbis, and politicians, hands-on lobbying modules, and informative sessions; T.A.P. offers 20 high schoolers the opportunity to gain critical organization, presentation, and leadership skills for political advocacy.

They will become well versed in the state government and the legislative process through participation in interactive sessions, focusing on issues of concern to the Jewish community. T.A.P. will close with a lobbying session with politicians in Sacramento, a gala dinner with officials, and a Certification of Completion from the OU.

All meetings will be at 2121 Allston Way, Suite 200, Berkeley, CA 94704 except for the last one.

Good for JCHS community service hours!

All applications must be in by January 2nd. • You will be notified if you are accepted by January 11.

TAP Curriculum

- 1) January 20th: Dan Cohen - Introduction to Politics, Terminology, and Mock Trials
- 2) January 27th: Don Gilbert - Advocacy and Lobbying Strategies
- 3) February 3rd: Presentations from JPac and JCRC
- 4) February 10th: Rabbi Akiva Naiman - Choose Bills to Lobby for and Advocacy in Judaism
- 5) February 17th: NO T.A.P. THIS WEEK
- 6) February 24 Content Expert on bill and Role play with Alan Engel and Michael Sosebee
- 7) March 3rd:

9:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. - Meet at 3778 Park Blvd Oakland - Final Review Points

10:30 a.m. Depart for Sacramento • 1:00 p.m. - 5:00pm - Lobbying • 5:00 p.m. Depart • 8:00 p.m. Gala Dinner!

This program is made possible in part with a grant from the East Bay Jewish Federation.

HERE'S TO AN EVERLASTING COVENANT!

On Sunday, November 23, Jeff and Jodie Morgan, proprietors of Covenant Winery, opened the doors of their new Berkeley winery exclusively to the CBI Family. The Morgans, together with associate winemaker Jonathan Hajdu, and Eli Silins (cellar master and also a CBI member), showed profound *Hachmassat Orchim* (gracious hospitality) to the community with an exquisite lineup of their wines.

Covenant is well known for its high-end non-*mevushal* wines. In fact, Anshel Pfeffer of *Haaretz* recently described the winery as “America’s best kosher wine.” The winery’s recent move to Berkeley will enable the company to increase annual production over the next five years to 10,000 cases from 5,000.

Covenant is now also on track to set a new standard for *mevushal* wines as well with the recent introduction of The Tribe and Mensch. The Morgans explain that they did not make *mevushal* wine at Covenant for “our first 10 years.” But in 2013, a new technique for heating grapes—and not the wine—inspired them to try their hand at making this category. The technique is called flash-détente. It involves quickly heating the grapes right after they are picked at harvest; then cooling them instantly in a vacuum. The red wines take on

the color of the grapes immediately. They then rack and press the juice off the skins as is normally done and ferment the grape juice in barrels. The result is quite spectacular as well... you’ll have to try!

The Morgans proudly share that CBI is their first shul and are deeply excited about the many growth opportunities our community provides. Shortly after their first visit to CBI, Jeff remarked, “I knew it was the right place.” In addition, the Morgans very much see Covenant’s arrival to Berkeley as part and parcel of the ever-increasing growth in Jewish infrastructure in the East Bay. Indeed, Jeff has remarked that “it is no surprise” that CBI, our newly rebuilt Youth Center and Gan Shalom Preschool, as well as Covenant Winery itself, all share Michael Feiner as contractor. Ultimately, we are all doing sacred work, aimed at strengthening and building our community.

Jeff and Jody are pleased to announce the publication of “The Covenant Kitchen: Food and Wine for the New Jewish Table” which will be released March 3, 2015.

We look forward to many more *L’Chayims* with the Morgans – Here’s to an everlasting covenant!



NEW MEMBER PROFILE — ALLEN MAYER

By Elissa Kittner

Allen joined Congregation Beth Israel earlier this year after moving back to the area from New York in March. He and his wife Cecilia live in Kensington. They returned to the San Francisco Bay Area when Allen decided to retire earlier this year after 30 years working as a doctor. Allen started his career as a PhD research virologist; he later went back to medical school at the University of Miami Miller School of Medicine and worked as a pathologist and pediatrician in the San Francisco Bay Area and New York. Cecilia continues to work as a research microbiologist in HIV and commutes part-time to New York.

Allen grew up in a semi-observant Conservative kosher home in the Bronx and attended Hebrew School. He has spent time in Israel at different points in his life and has a continuing interest in Israel. He is an avid reader and enjoys classical music. He is also a passionate student of Talmud and very much enjoys Rabbi Cohen's weekly Friday morning Talmud classes. Of CBI he said, "The community has great spirit and the people are wonderful, welcoming and down to earth. It's a special place."



NEW MEMBER PROFILE — THE SOLOMON FAMILY

By Elissa Kittner

Idit and Steven Solomon and their two preschool aged twin daughters Nili and Orly recently moved to Berkeley from Columbus, OH when Steve took a tenured professorship at UC Berkeley Law School. Steven's research focuses on corporate law. He writes a weekly column as the "Deal Professor" on corporate issues for The New York Times (every Wednesday in print), and has published various articles and a book on modern day deal making. Earlier in his career he was a corporate lawyer in New York and London and also co-founded a chain of conveyor belt sushi restaurants (there is one in Pleasanton). Idit is a rabbi who received ordination and a Master's of Jewish Education from HUC-JIR in Los Angeles. She started her career as a business systems analyst and in her Jewish professional career has worked in congregations, schools, camps, Hillel, and elder care facilities. She most recently served as the Vice President of Jewish Education and Identity at the Jewish Federation of Columbus.



They met through JDate and married in 2008. After struggling with infertility for years and eventually getting pregnant, they founded Hasidah (which means "stork" in Hebrew), a non-profit focused on Jewish infertility issues (www.hasidah.org). They decided to start Hasidah as "a statement of faith that the pregnancy would be successful, a promise to help others who were in similar situations, and a gift of thanks". Idit now works full time furthering Hasidah's mission.

The family first visited CBI last summer when they were planning their move to Berkeley. And although they left behind a very close knit community and special minyan they helped start in Columbus, they love CBI. "We feel so welcomed by the community. We are never alone on Shabbat and have been invited for many wonderful meals. We feel like we are getting one big embrace from the community. CBI is just a very comfortable place to be. It lacks pretense, and the people are just really nice, friendly and smart'. If you haven't met their two preschool age girls with blond hair running around, you are in for a treat – they are full of life and personality.

NEW MEMBER PROFILE — ELAN WEINSTOCK AND SARAH SILVERMAN

By Elissa Kittner

Mazal tov to newlyweds Elan (25) and Sarah (22) who moved to Berkeley from Montreal over the summer and joined our CBI community. They met in the winter of 2011 through the student synagogue, known as the Ghetto Shul at McGill University (which our very own Frayda Gonschor Cohen helped found when she was a student there). Ice-skating figured prominently in their courtship, and they are looking forward to skating together when the winter ice rink opens on the waterfront in San Francisco this winter.

Sarah is currently a graduate student in entomology (the scientific study of insects) at UC Davis, which has a top notch program given the school's agriculture focus. She has a special interest in bees and insect demography and how they change over time. Sarah grew up in Connecticut and is the oldest of three siblings.

Elan grew up in Riverdale, New York where he attended SAR Academy and Ramaz High School. Elan also spent a year post-high school studying in Israel at Yeshivat Maale Gilboa. He is currently an Account Executive at Breadcrumb, a Groupon subsidiary focused on the restaurant industry.

They both enjoy water sports, hiking and vegetarian cooking. They also enjoy parenting their beloved cat Odette who is a rare breed called a Nebelung with blue grey hair and yellow eyes. Sarah also likes all sorts of individual sports - walking, running, biking and yoga, and is an accomplished swimmer and flutist. Elan enjoys trying to keep up.

When Sarah was accepted into UC Davis program they spent time exploring where to live in the Bay Area and decided that Berkeley was "the best place for us Jewishly". Their first contact with CBI members was through Irene and Joel Resnikoff, but they have come to realize that they know many people who are friends of friends and members of CBI. They said, "The CBI community has been an important part of our transition here. It feels very familiar to us in lots of positive ways. We are very grateful for the community that the shul has provided us with already, and are looking forward to being active members in shul life." They have already immersed themselves in our community - Sarah has a regular *chevruta* through the Open Beit Midrash and Elan enjoys leading services.



PHOTOS FROM CHANUKAH GAME NIGHT



INFERTILITY LESSONS FROM PUMBEDITA

By Na'ama Levitz Applbaum

In recent years our CBI community has been blessed by a wave of births. This overwhelming joy and source of simcha, has also unfortunately deepened a sense of alienation among dear and beloved members of the CBI Family, among them individuals who are currently trying to have a child, people who are no longer trying, and hopeful grandparents-to-be whose children are struggling with infertility. We address the topic at prime-times throughout the year, especially during the High Holidays, but there is always more work to be done. As a community we know how to pray publicly or maybe even articulate our cares publicly, but as Na'ama's piece describes, I know that we also often fail privately - what we say at kiddush or during one on one conversations, the normative expectations our words tend to set, the blessings we take for granted. The piece below offers was originally published as a blog in Times of Israel. We received permission from the author to republish in Chai-lights, in the hopes of raising greater awareness in our own community. May we merit to create sacred spaces and connections in our midst modeled on Naama's poignant message.

*Sincerely,
R. Yonatan Cohen*



Na'ama Levitz Applbaum is currently serving as the Director of Neshama, a semester-long program in Israel. She is completing her MA in Talmud in addition to studying in the Kollel at The Pardes Institute. She acts as the Mashgicha Ruchanit for Yeshivat Talpiot, and is a lay-leader at Minyan Sod Siach. Na'ama lives in Jerusalem with her husband, Ari, and twin boys.

Growing up as the eldest of seven children, it never crossed my mind that getting pregnant could be an issue. It was always assumed that when you get married and decide to, you start a family. After all, sexual education in the religious sector focuses on abstinence and making sure you don't get pregnant, which leads to the assumption that pregnancy happens at the snap of a finger.

After our first year of fertility woes, I found myself answering those who questioned (mostly the nosy women in shul) that we were trying our best and if they can please stop scanning my mid-section that would be nice.

Ten years later, as we are trying again, I look back and realize that I have spent over seven years in fertility treatments. Those years included miscarriages, ectopic pregnancies and one successful birth to my incredible five-and-half-year-old twin boys.

As I contemplate on this journey I realize that the **one constant is the lack of support and visibility that women and couples have throughout this process.** Things have changed

since a decade ago, but not enough.

At my weekly shiur on the laws of Nidah, questions of ideal family size and the ideal sex life come into play. The tension between reality and Halakhah come up again and again throughout the various topics. On the one hand we have Halakhah, which tries to codify and create standards that can apply to a larger population. On the other hand we have the Rabbis dealing with the fact that life cannot be controlled or planned (surprise surprise).

In Tractate Nidah 66A we find a story of a woman from Pumbedita who, after having intimate marital issues, is encouraged by her spouse to “come out” to her friends about the situation in hope that they will pray for her. This example of coming out to the community with a very personal and intimate problem is both refreshing and empowering. The Talmud is telling us that there is value in going public or coming out to our community with even our most intimate problems. In turn, the community doesn't offer a solution to the issue, but is just there to support and hear us out.

But *do* they hear us?!

In religious communities that put modesty at the forefront of their value system and main cause of concern (some might say bordering on obsession) women are often left to deal with the struggle of infertility alone. This is especially difficult in a society that values large families as an ideal way of life.

On the other end of the spectrum, we are witness to a culture where everything is brutally exposed; where fertility becomes
— continued on next page

— continued from previous page

a national hit reality TV show (see Israel's "Baby Boom" and the like), and the discourse about the struggles of couples to conceive in is dumbed down to sensationalism.

These two extremes leave us hanging in a reality that doesn't offer the opportunity for a real conversation or helpful support. It is either kept under wraps or broadcasted for the world to see. Neither option allows for real interaction.

Difficult issues must be spoken about in the larger community (not on TV), both for the benefit of the person facing the challenge and for the community that is now aware of the situation.

My husband and I find that the more we talk about the challenges, successes and failures, the less isolated and alone we feel. We should strive to be public about our experiences, as difficult as it may be, both for our own sake and for our communities' sake.

My request is simple, but not easy. Talk about infertility. Help generate an open and honest conversation. Like the story in Nidah, the conversation will allow our community to support us, and in turn we will serve the community by creating a safe space for others.



RABBI IDIT SOLOMON

WILL BE SPEAKING ON SHABBAT MORNING AT CBI ON JANUARY 31, 2015.

A new CBI member, she is the founder Hasidah (Hebrew word for stork) www.hasidah.org. Hasidah's mission is to be the voice of hope and compassion that raises awareness of infertility, connects people to support, and reduces financial barriers to treatment in the Jewish community.

Idit and Steven started Hasidah after experiencing years of infertility and recognizing that no organization existed that met all of these needs for all Jews.

Idit will be presenting various Jewish perspectives and responses to infertility.

Enclosed is "Infertility Lessons from Pumbedita" by Na'ama Levitz Applbaum



A GUIDE FOR PURIM

“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, Wednesday, March 4 at 6:20 p.m. and on Purim day, Thursday morning, March 5; shacharit starts at 8:00 a.m. and we will read the Megilah at 8:30 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.
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.

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 Wednesday morning, March 4 at 5:04 a.m. and ends at 6:37 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 —

Hebrew Reading Crash Course

Always wanted to learn to read Hebrew? CBI is excited to offer NJOP's Hebrew Reading Crash Course.

Learn to read Hebrew in only five 1-1/2 hour weekly sessions.

The Hebrew Reading Crash Course concentrates on teaching the Hebrew alphabet and reading skills.

Free of charge. To register, go to our website <http://www.cbiberkeley.org/learn/adult-education>.

Please email maharatvictoria@gmail.com with any questions.

Maharat Victoria Sutton • Sundays, December 7, 14, 21, January 4, 11 • 9:00-10:30 am

— MONDAY —

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 Mondays • 8:00 pm

— TUESDAY —

Identity in Judaism

We will explore the approaches that the Jewish legal tradition has taken on key areas of Jewish identity: matrilineal vs. patrilineal descent, conversion, and apostasy. These questions of identity continue to shape our understanding of who is a Jew, and what it means to define oneself as Jewish.

Maharat Victoria Sutton • Tuesdays, Jan. 6, 13, 20 • 8-9:15 pm

— WEDNESDAY —

Yirmiyahu: Yirmiyahu's prophetic career spanned over thirty years and succession of several kings, through the Babylonian's conquest of Israel and ultimate destruction of the First Temple.

Yirmiyahu risks his life to bring truth to Jerusalem and provide guidance to leaders and the nation.

At times despondent, the book beautifully depicts the inner life of Yirmiyahu in his mission.

Maharat Victoria Sutton • Wednesdays, 12:00 pm

Midrasha's Tanach and Talmud (for Teens)

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

David Henkin • Wednesday • 4:15 - 5:45 p.m.

Jewish Writings of Emmanuel Levinas: The Levinas Study Group

Meets at 8 pm 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 at his home.

Muni Schweig • 1st, 2nd and 4th Wednesdays 8:00 p.m.

— THURSDAY —

Open Sources: A Beit Midrash sponsored by Congregation Beth Israel and Kevah

Learn independently with a *hevruta* (study partner) or join in a *shiur* on the weekly *parsha* with Maharat Victoria Sutton. If you are interested in finding a *hevruta*, please email Maharatvictoria@gmail.com.

Thursdays • 8:00 – 10:00 p.m.

— FRIDAY —

Talmudic Wisdom

Join us for a weekly class that explores key *sugyot* (talmudic units) that discuss major Jewish questions of practice and thought.

R. Yonatan Cohen • Friday • 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 Time*

Week of	DECEMBER				JANUARY					FEBRUARY			
	6	13	20	27	3	10	17	24	31	7	14	21	28
Alot Ha'Shachar Dawn	5:59 am	6:04 am	6:09 am	6:12 am	6:13 am	6:13 am	6:11 am	6:07 am	6:0 2 am	5:56 am	5:4 8 am	5:40 am	5:30 am
Neitz Sunrise	7:11 am	7:16 am	7:12 1 am	7:24 am	7:25 am	7:25 am	7:23 am	7:19 am	7:1 4 am	7:08 am	7:0 0 am	6:52 am	6:42 am
Latest ideal time for the morning Sh'ma	9:35 am	9:40 am	9:44 am	9:47 am	9:49 am	9:51 am	9:51 am	9:50 am	9:4 8 am	9:46 am	9:4 2 am	9:37 am	9:32 am
Tefilah Latest time for prayer	10:2 4 am	10:2 8 am	10:3 1 am	10:3 5 am	10:3 7 am	10:3 9 am	10:4 1 am	10:4 1 am	10: 40 am	10:3 8 am	10: 36 am	10:3 3 am	10:2 9 am
Mincha Gedolah Earliest time for Mincha	12:2 4 pm	12:2 7 pm	12:3 1 pm	12:3 4 pm	12:3 8 pm	12:4 1 pm	12:4 4 pm	12:4 7 pm	12: 48 pm	12:5 0 pm	12: 50 pm	12:5 1 pm	12:5 0 pm
Sh'kia Sunset	4:50 pm	4:50 pm	4:53 pm	4:57 pm	5:02 pm	5:09 pm	5:16 pm	5:23 pm	5:3 1 pm	5:39 pm	5:4 7 pm	5:54 pm	6:02 pm
Tzeit Ha'kochavim Nightfall	5:32 pm	5:32 pm	5:35 pm	5:39 pm	5:44 pm	5:51 pm	5:58 pm	6:05 pm	6:1 3 pm	6:21 pm	6:2 9 pm	6:36 pm	6:44 pm

CALENDAR

ROSH CHODESH TEVET

Sunday night, Mon. & Tue., December 21st – 23rd

Shacharit6:30 am

SHABBAT PARSHAT VAYIGASH

Friday and Saturday, December 26th – 27th

Candle Lighting4:39 pm

Mincha & Kabbalat Shabbat4:45 pm

Morning Service9:15 am

Educational program11:00 am

Shabbat Mincha12:34 pm

Seudah Shlishit4:40 pm

Ma'ariv, Havdalah & Shabbat ends5:41 pm

OFFICE CLOSED

December 25th-January 2nd

FAST OF TEVET

Thursday, January 1st

Fast begins5:46 am

Shacharit6:30 am

Mincha @CBI4:35 pm

Fast ends5:35 pm

SHABBAT PARSHAT VAYECHI

GUEST SPEAKER R. DOV LEREA

(see details on page 21)

Friday and Saturday, January 2nd – 3rd

Candle Lighting4:44 pm

Mincha & Kabbalat Shabbat4:50 pm

Morning Service9:15 am

Educational program11:00 am

Shabbat Mincha12:37 pm

Seudah Shlishit4:45 pm

Ma'ariv, Havdalah & Shabbat ends5:46 pm

SHIR APPEAL CONCERT7:45 pm

(for tickets and details, see page 20)

SHABBAT PARSHAT SHEMOT

BAT MITZVAH OF BATYAH JASPER

Friday and Saturday, January 9th – 10th

Candle Lighting4:50 pm

Mincha & Kabbalat Shabbat4:55 pm

Morning Service9:15 am

Educational program11:00 am

Shabbat Mincha1:30 pm

Seudah Shlishit4:50 pm

Ma'ariv, Havdalah & Shabbat ends5:52 pm

SHABBAT MEVARCHIM PARSHAT VAIERAH

Friday and Saturday, January 16th – 17th

Candle Lighting4:57 pm

Mincha & Kabbalat Shabbat5:00 pm

Morning Service9:15 am

Educational program11:00 am

Shabbat Mincha12:43 pm

Seudah Shlishit4:55 pm

Ma'ariv, Havdalah & Shabbat ends5:58 pm

DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. DAY

Monday, January 19th

Office Closed

Shacharit8:00 am

ROSH CHODESH SHEVAT

Tues. night & Wed., January 20th – 21st

Shacharit6:30 am

SHABBAT PARSHAT BO

Friday and Saturday, January 23rd & 24th

Candle Lighting5:04 pm

Mincha & Kabbalat Shabbat5:10 pm

Morning Service9:15 am

Educational program11:00 am

Shabbat Mincha12:46 pm

Seudah Shlishit5:00 pm

Ma'ariv, Havdalah & Shabbat ends6:05 pm

TELETHON

Sunday, January 24th

SPECIAL LECTURE BY DR. SUSANNAH HESCHEL

Tuesday, January 27th

Moral Grandeur & Spiritual Audacity: The Life and

Thought of R. Abraham Joshua Heschel7:00 pm

(See details on page 23)

RABBI SHOLOM BRODT

Thursday, January 29th at 8:00 PM

Open Sources: A Beit Midrash sponsored by CBI and

Kevah Welcomes R. Sholom Brodt8:00 pm

(See details on page 24)

CALENDAR

SHABBAT SHIRAH PARSHAT BESHALACH

Friday and Saturday, January 30th – 31st

Candle Lighting	5:12 pm
Mincha & Kabbalat Shabbat	5:15 pm
Communal Dinner	6:15 pm
<i>(see details on page 24)</i>	
Morning Service	9:15 am
R. Idit Solomon: <i>Infertility – Community Awareness</i>	
Educational program	11:00 am
Shabbat Mincha	12:48 pm
Seudah Shlishit	5:10 pm
Ma'ariv, Havdalah & Shabbat ends	6:12 pm

TU B'SHEVAT

Tuesday night & Wednesday, February 3rd – 4th

Tu B'Shevat Seder, Tuesday	7:30 pm
<i>(see details on page 25)</i>	

SHABBAT PARSHAT YITRO

BAT MITZVAH OF HANNAH ROSE KABELLA

Friday and Saturday, February 6th – 7th

Candle Lighting	5:20 pm
Mincha & Kabbalat Shabbat	5:25 pm
Morning Service	9:15 am
Educational program	11:00 am
Women's Shabbat Mincha led by Hannah Kabella	1:15 pm
Men's Shabbat Mincha	1:15 pm
Seudah Shlishit	5:15 pm
Ma'ariv, Havdalah & Shabbat ends	6:20 pm

SHABBAT MEVARCHIM SHEKALIM PARSHAT MISHPATIM

Friday and Saturday, February 13th – 14th

Candle Lighting	5:28 pm
Mincha & Kabbalat Shabbat	5:35 pm
Morning Service	9:15 am
Educational program	11:00 am
Shabbat Mincha	12:49 pm
Seudah Shlishit	5:20 pm
Ma'ariv, Havdalah & Shabbat ends	6:27 pm

ROSH CHODESH ADAR

Wed. night, Th. & Fri., February 18th – 20th

Shacharit on Friday	6:30 am
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SHABBAT PARSHAT TERUMAH

BAR MITZVAH OF ASA KITTNER

Friday and Saturday, February 20th – 21st

Candle Lighting	5:35 pm
Mincha & Kabbalat Shabbat	5:40 pm
Morning Service	9:15 am
Educational program	11:00 am
Shabbat Mincha	1:30 pm
Seudah Shlishit	5:25 pm
Ma'ariv, Havdalah & Shabbat ends	6:34 pm

SHABBAT ZACHOR PARSHAT TETZAVEH

BAR MITZVAH OF MEIR MILLER

Friday and Saturday, February 27th – 28th

Candle Lighting	5:43 pm
Mincha & Kabbalat Shabbat	5:45 pm
Morning Service	9:15 am
Educational program	11:00 am
Shabbat Mincha	12:50 pm
Seudah Shlishit	5:30 pm
Ma'ariv, Havdalah & Shabbat ends after	6:41 pm

FAST OF ESTHER – TA'ANIT ESTHER

Wednesday, March 4th

Fast begins	5:04 pm
Fast day Mincha	5:30 pm
Ma'ariv followed by Megillah reading	6:20 pm
Fast ends	6:37 pm

PURIM

Wed. night & Thurs., March 5th

Shacharit	8:00 am
Megillah reading	8:30 am
Women's only Megillah Reading	12:00 pm
Mincha and Ma'ariv	5:40 pm

SHABBAT PARSHAT KI TISA

SHUSHAN PURIM

Friday and Saturday, March 6th – 7th

Candle Lighting	5:49 pm
Mincha & Kabbalat Shabbat	5:55 pm
Morning Service	9:15 am
Educational program	11:00 am
Shabbat Mincha	12:50 pm
Seudah Shlishit	5:45 pm
Ma'ariv, Havdalah & Shabbat ends after	6:47 pm

CALENDAR

DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME

Sunday, March 8th

Move your clocks one hour forward on Saturday night.

SHABBAT MEVARCHIM PARAH PARSHAT VAYAKHEL- PEKUDEI

Friday and Saturday, March 13th – 14th

Candlelighting6:56 pm
 Mincha & Kabbalat Shabbat7:00 pm
 Morning Service9:15 am
 Educational program11:00 am
 Shabbat Mincha6:40 pm
 Seudah Shlishit7:00 pm
 Ma'ariv, Havdalah & Shabbat ends after7:54 pm

ROSH CHODESH NISSAN

Fri. night & Saturday, March 20th-21st

SHABBAT HACHODESH PARSHAT VAYIKRA BAR MITZVAH OF ARI LIBENSON

Friday and Saturday, March 20th – 21st

Mincha & Kabbalat Shabbat7:00 pm
 Candlelighting7:03 pm

Morning Service9:15 am
 Educational program11:00 am
 Shabbat Mincha6:45 pm
 Seudah Shlishit7:00 pm
 Ma'ariv, Havdalah & Shabbat ends after8:01 pm

SHABBAT HAGADOL PARSHAT TZAV SHABBAT SHALEM – R. DOV LINZER

Friday and Saturday, March 27th – 28th

Mincha & Kabbalat Shabbat7:00 pm
 Candlelighting7:09 pm
 Communal Dinner8:00 pm
(see details on page 26)

Morning Service9:15 am
 Educational program11:00 am
 Pre-Pesach Drasha in memory of Eli Resnikoff, z"l delivered
 by Rav Dov Linzer after services11:30 p.m.
 Shabbat Mincha6:55 pm
 Seudah Shlishit7:15 pm
 Ma'ariv, Havdalah & Shabbat ends after8:07 pm



A Beit Midrash is a welcoming space for adults and teens to gather for Jewish learning guided by rabbis and master teachers.

- Learn independently, with a hevruta (study partner) or Study the weekly Torah portion with Maharat Victoria Sutton, and guest lecturers from Kevah's outstanding Bay Area educators
- Learners of all levels welcome, no Hebrew required
- Members and non-members welcome

When: Thursdays, 8:00-10:00 pm

Where: Congregation Beth Israel, 1630 Bancroft Way, Berkeley

Interested? Contact: Maharat Victoria Sutton at maharatvictoria@gmail.com or just show up!

Spread the word about this unique opportunity to explore classical Jewish texts in your own backyard. Bring your friends and family.

Snacks will be provided.

BRINGING HOME A BAKER'S DOZEN OF FRIENDS HOME FROM COLLEGE

By Linda Press Wulf

When Ami, a college senior, asked us if he could bring some boys and girls home with him for the winter break, he didn't mean one or two fellow students, but a baker's dozen. We didn't mind, though, because all thirteen young people would be singing for their supper. Ami Wulf is president of Shir Appeal, the Jewish a cappella group at Tufts University in Boston, and the group is coming to the Bay Area for their winter tour.

"Each year, one member of the group invites everyone home - to the Bay Area, or to Chicago, or one year to Florida, another to Washington DC. Then that person is responsible for setting up enough gigs at schools, synagogues, and community centers to pay for our expenses," said Ami. "We sing our hearts out for ten days, and then we rush back to college just in time to start the new semester. It's not easy - no winter break in Cancun, but it's an adrenalin rush and we absolutely love it."

Ami didn't do much singing at the Jewish Community High School of the Bay or Tehiyah Day School, but he found the close and supportive friendship within an a cappella group, a perfect bridge into college life. There were a number of possibilities to try out for. Astonishingly, Tufts has nine a cappella groups, and there are similar numbers at Yale, Harvard, Boston U. and other East Coast colleges. Although the West Coast colleges also have a number of groups, the renewed interest in a cappella over the past thirty years is particularly noticeable in the Northeast. Competition is fierce during the auditions, and so is the camaraderie and dedication once you're accepted.

"When you sign up, you are committing to practices that take up at least 7 hours a week, to weeks of summer spent recording CDs, and to frequent performances," says Ami. "I don't think I spend 7 hours during the week on any one of my academic classes, but I choose not to stress that point to my parents."

Puns are ubiquitous in the names of college a cappella groups and their recordings, and Shir Appeal means "song of the ele-

phant" in Hebrew, the elephant being Tufts University's mascot. The group has a repertoire ranging from the songs of modern Israeli musicians, such as "Habanot Nechama", to English music with Jewish themes, such as "Unity" by Matisyahu, and music in Ladino, as well as intricate reworkings of liturgical and traditional pieces like "Yerushalayim Shel Zahav". Usually about a third of the group are not Jewish but join because they like the music and the people involved.

"It's a social group that works hard at something we love," says Ami.

The group's hard work has paid off over the years - Shir Appeal has been featured four times on the acclaimed "Best of Collegiate A Cappella" (BOCA) albums and appeared on the most recent "Voices Only" compilation album, the only Jewish group ever to appear on either series. The group hopes to find similar success with "Linguistics", the album they released in November.

We are gearing up to borrow mattresses and blankets from members of our synagogue and prepare enough food to fuel all those singing bodies. I'm exacting payment though, I want a private concert of their version of Leonard Cohen's "Hallelujah" - it's the one that makes me cry every time.

There will be other performances at shuls, Jewish day schools, churches, and retirement homes around the Bay Area. Shir Appeal's website address is <http://www.shirappeal.com>.

SATURDAY JANUARY 3 • 7:30-9:00 PM

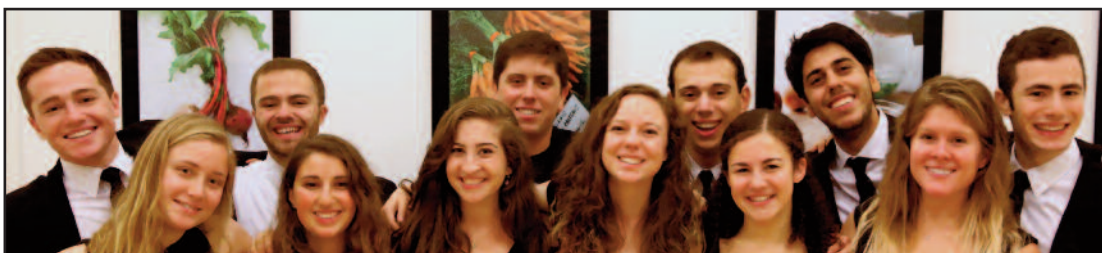
CONGREGATION BETH ISRAEL

Suggested donation

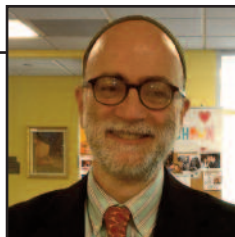
\$10 adults • \$5 children • \$30 for families

Co-sponsored by

R. Kassman, Purveyor of Fine Pianos & the Wulf Family



CBI SPECIAL PROGRAMMING • WINTER 2014-2015



SHABBAT WITH R. DOV LEREA SATURDAY, JANUARY 3

Rabbi Dov Lerea serves as the dean and *mashgiach ruchani* at Yeshivat Chovevei Torah. Rav Dov has been a professional educator for the past 35 years. Most notably, he served for many years as the Dean of Judaic Studies of the Abraham Joshua Heschel School in New York, and as the Director of Education at Camp Yavneh in Northwood, New Hampshire.

Rabbi Dov has also served as the Director of Secondary Education at Boston Hebrew College, a faculty member at the Drisha Institute for Jewish Education, and a faculty member for the Wexner Heritage Foundation. Most recently, Rabbi Dov was the Director of KIVU-NIM, an innovative gap-year program located in Jerusalem.

In addition to his role at YCT, he is on the faculty of SAR high school.

R. Dov will be visiting CBI together with his family and will be sharing words of Torah throughout Shabbat.

HAPPENINGS AROUND CBI

Author Jesse Kellerman



Class with R. Singer

An Evening with Yair Harel



The East Bay JCRC and Jewish Federation of the East Bay, together with the Israeli Consulate, invite you to

AN INTERVIEW WITH **DR. ANDY DAVID**

Consul General of Israel to the Pacific Northwest

The Consul General will be interviewed by
East Bay JCRC Chair Lenny Kristal on
**Israel's Domestic
and Regional
Geo-Political Landscape**

**Thursday, January 8, 2015
7:00-9:00 p.m.**

**The Magnes
2121 Allston Way
Berkeley**

Free of charge.
RSVP REQUIRED by January 6, 2015
to jessica@jfed.org

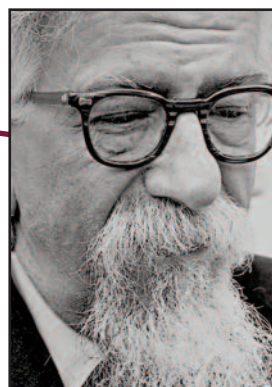


Consulate General
of Israel
San Francisco



The Jewish Federation
The Jewish Community Foundation
OF THE EAST BAY

Co-Sponsors: Berkeley Hadassah, Berkeley Hillel, Beth Chaim Congregation, Beth Jacob Congregation, Congregation Beth El, Congregation Beth Emek, Congregation Beth Israel, Congregation B'nai Shalom, Congregation B'nai Tikvah, Congregation Netivot Shalom, Diablo Valley Hadassah, JCC East Bay, Oakland Ruach Hadassah, The Reutlinger Community for Jewish Living, Temple Beth Abraham, Temple Beth Hillel, Temple Beth Shalom, Temple Beth Torah, Temple Isaiah, Temple Israel



**MORAL GRANDEUR
AND SPIRITUAL AUDACITY**

**THE LIFE AND THOUGHT OF
R. ABRAHAM JOSHUA HESCHEL**

A special lecture honoring
the participants of CBI's
Chavurah on Heschel's Heavenly Torah

Daughter of the preeminent
Rabbi Abraham Joshua Heschel
and award-winning author,
DR. SUSANNAH HESCHEL
is celebrated for shedding light on
important issues within the Jewish community and
motivating future Jewish leaders.

CBI is honored to host this renowned
Dartmouth College scholar of Jewish-Christian and
Jewish Muslim relations, the history of anti-Semitism, and
the American Jewish experience, for an
inspiring lecture honoring the
life and thought of her father.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 27 • 7:00 PM



— SHABBAT SHIRAH DINNER —

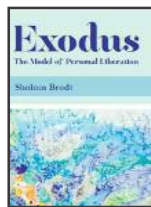
Join the CBI Family
for a song-filled Shabbat dinner
in honor of Shabbat Shirah.

We will fill our mouths with the tastes,
melodies, and traditional poems
that greet and welcome Shabbat.

RSVP BY JAN. 27

\$10 per child, student & young professional
\$18 per adult
\$45 maximum per family

5:15 p.m. Mincha & Kabbalat Shabbat
6:15 p.m. Shabbat dinner at CBI • Friday, Jan. 30th



*Open Sources: A Beit Midrash sponsored by
Congregation Beth Israel and Kevah Welcomes*

RABBI SHOLOM BRODT

Sholom Brodt is a Judaic studies teacher and storyteller. Sholom was educated at the Chabad yeshiva in Montreal, and at other yeshivot in Toronto and Jerusalem. Sholom has been working in formal and informal Jewish education for thirty years. He is committed to working for the unity of the Jewish people by providing high quality Jewish education. Believing that it is vital that we interact and study Torah together, that we share and celebrate together, and that we truly learn how to live together as one people, Sholom visits and teaches across North America in communities of all denominations. Rabbi will be discussing his new book “Exodus: The model of Personal Liberation”.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 29TH AT 8:00 PM



— TU B'SHEVAT SEDER —

Enjoy a traditional Tu B'Shevav Seder,
as we take in the tastes and sounds of Israel.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 3RD • 7:30 PM

Honoring our CBI Morasha Members
— 4th Annual —
Shabbat Kiddush Luncheon • March 14

Anonymous (2); Paul Albert; Fran Alexander; Noah & Hope Alper;
Ron & Bella Barany; Judith Bloom; Benjamin & Sara Darmoni; Nimrod & Aliza Elias;
Jane Falk; Malcolm Feeley & Rivka Amado; Alan Finkelstein & Leslie Valas;
Sam Ginsburg; David & Diane Gould; Ezra & Toby Hendon; Gary & Ilene Katz;
Jesse & Gabriella Kellerman; Seymour Kessler; Alan & Elissa Kittner;
Gary & Lois Marcus; Ed & Phyllis Miller; Joel & Irene Resnikoff;
Ben Rose & Rebecca Landes; Mordy & Rena Rosen; Harry & Dorothy Rubin;
Bob & June Safran; Carol Shivel; Steve Silberblatt & Rita Kohl;
Bob & Naomi Stamper; Linda & Stanley Wulf

Noah Alper, Leslie Valas, & Rena Rosen
noahalper@gmail.com • vffam5@gmail.com • t.rosenfamily@comcast.net





SHABBAT SHALEM

*A complete Shabbat experience including communal learning and meal, activities for children, and joyful Shabbat celebration together is made possible through the generous support of
R. Kassman, Purveyor of Fine Pianos.*



SCHOLAR-IN-RESIDENCE

R. DOV LINZER

FRIDAY & SATURDAY • MARCH 27 & 28

Rabbi Dov Linzer is the Rosh HaYeshiva of Yeshivat Chovevei Torah Rabbinical School. He has published Halakha and machshava articles in Torah journals and lectures widely at synagogues and conferences on topics relating to Halakha, Orthodoxy, and modernity. Rabbi Linzer writes a weekly parasha sheet, and teaches a Daf Yomi shiur which is widely watched and listened to on YouTube and iTunes. He is most recently the awardee of the prestigious Avi Chai Fellowship and was the convener of the 2012 Modern Orthodox Siyyum HaShas.

Friday, March 27

7:00 p.m. Mincha & Kabbalat Shabbat

8:00 p.m. Shabbat dinner at CBI

RSVP by March 24

\$10 per child, student, & young professional

\$18 per adult

\$45 maximum per family

Saturday Morning, March 28

8:30 a.m. Pre-Prayer text study with visiting scholar, R. Dov Linzer

11:30 a.m. Pre-Prayer text study with visiting scholar

Saturday Evening, March 28

6:55 p.m. Mincha, followed by Seudah Shlishit

8:07 p.m. Maariv and Havdalah

SCRIP WITH CBI

I usually write articles in “Chai-Lights” to encourage our membership to support the shul by buying scrip to use for their retail shopping. This article will be different. It features one of our local stores that participates in the scrip program.

Recently I got a call from Berkeley Bowl saying that scrip card with a balance of \$34 was found during their office clean up. They were able to trace the card back as one sold to CBI in 2011.

(We purchase about \$5,000 worth of scrip each month which earns us \$200.) They returned the card to us. I was amazed that they would go to this trouble as it would be like a store finding some cash on the floor and searching for its owner. It was even more special that it happened three years after the card was issued.

So if you shop at Berkeley Bowl, feel good. If you shop there with scrip, feel extra good! Any questions about scrip, contact Naomi Stamper or Ruth Wittman.

Naomi



— UPCOMING — B'NAI MITZVOT

SHABBAT PARSHAT SHEMOT
BAT MITZVAH OF
BATYAH JASPER
Friday and Saturday, January 9th – 10th

SHABBAT PARSHAT YITRO
BAT MITZVAH OF
HANNAH ROSE KABELLA
Friday and Saturday, February 6th – 7th

SHABBAT PARSHAT TERUMAH
BAR MITZVAH OF
ASA KITTNER
Friday and Saturday, February 20th – 21st

SHABBAT ZACHOR PARSHAT TETZAVEH
BAR MITZVAH OF
MEIR MILLER
Friday and Saturday, February 27th – 28th

SHABBAT HACHODESH PARSHAT VAYIKRA
BAR MITZVAH OF
ARI LIBENSON
Friday and Saturday, March 20th – 21st





— KIDDUSH SPONSORS —

September 20: A CBI record! Over 65 co sponsoring families are joining together to celebrate the 70th birthday of Alan Finkelstein to show him how we appreciate the uncountable times he has fed all of us with his culinary talent and his unending, quiet generosity to the community. Happy Birthday, Alan!

1st Day Rosh Hashana: Bob and Judy Albietz; Noah and Hope Alper; Ron and Bella Barany; Judith Bloom; Joan Brunswick; Barbara and Bob Budnitz; Sanne DeWitt; Marvin and Sara Engel; Malcolm Feeley and Rivka Amado; Alan Finkelstein and Leslie Valas; Preston and Anya Grant; Rabbi Simcha and Marge Green; Ezra and Toby Hendon; Phil and Gladys Leider; Laura Lipman; Aaron Marcus and Leslie Becker; Gary and Lois Marcus; Ed and Phyllis Miller; Marilyn Neril; Paul and Annabelle Panish; Joel and Irene Resnikoff; SerachBracha Richards; Mordy and Rena Rosen; Bob and June Safran; Shira Shivel; Henry and Violette Sibony; Steve Silberblatt and Rita Kohl; Joan Sopher; Bernie and Roz Steinberg; David and Rikki Sudikoff; Justin and Sheba Sweet; Marvin and Maxine Winer; Ellen Winnick; Fried and Ruth Wittman; Sheldon and Marti Zedeck

2nd Day Rosh Hashana: Rhoda Agin; Bob and Judy Albietz, Jane Falk, Jory and Lisa Gessow, Dan and Robinn Magid; Irene Unterberger; the CBI Sisterhood

September 27: Katrin Arefy, Joseph Friedman on the first yearzeit of his sister Roxanne Spring, Anonymous

Yom Kippur Break Fast: Fran Alexander, Jory and Lisa Gessow, Nell and Chaim Maghel-Friedman, Harry and Dorothy Rubin, Joan Sopher, Naomi and Bob Stamper, Doreet and Jeff Stein, Wulf Family

1st Day Sukkot: Carol and Jim Cunradi for Clara's 19th birthday; The Kittner Family; Satya Levine; Dan Lewis; R. SaraLeya Schley; Sheba and Justin Sweet

2nd Day Sukkot: Nae Golomb in memory of her mother, Faye Feldman Golomb, and Isaac Kaplan in memory of his father Arthur Kaplan; Gladys & Phil Leider

October 11: Anonymous; Paul Albert; Rebecca Angel in honor of Marie Angel's birthday; Rona Rothenberg; Ezra & Toby Hendon

Shemini Atzeret: Joel and Joan Brodsky, Pnina Zoharah

Simchat Torah Yom Tov Meal: Klein-Scheinberg family in honor of Eliahu's birthday and Simchat Torah!, Schweig family, Miller family, Leora Lawton, Debbie Pearl, Schubert family

Simchat Torah Day: Ron and Bella Barany in honor of Bella's birthday, The Albietz family in honor of Yehoshua Albietz's 6th birthday, Miriam and Robi Cohen in honor of the community, The Krantz family in gratitude to Hashem for our children's health and support of the CBI community, Bob and June Safran in memory of their parents, Noemi Yoselevitz & Sergio Andermann

October 18: Terry & Olga Gordon in appreciation for the warmth and hospitality we have received from the CBI community over the past 14 months making the transition from Houston to the East Bay so easy and rewarding.

October 25: Jacob and Rachel Heitler in honor of Orly's birthday; Josh Ladon and Yael Krieger in honor of Elisheva and Josh's birthdays; Sara and Kenny Bamberger in honor of Ezra, Isaiah and Sara's birthdays; Ron Reissberg and Janice Mac Millan in honor of Avrumy's 21st birthday

October 31: Malcolm Feeley and Rivka Amado in honor of Amir Amado Feeley, Miriam Feeley Jaffe, and Jacob Feeley, all of whom had birthdays in October and all of whom shared Parsha Lech Lecha for the b'nai mitzvot; Jonathan Purcell in memory of the 12th Yearzeit of his beloved Father, Steven Purcell (Simcha Ben Yaakov Leib haLevi); Matan and Nadav Gilbert in honor of their spouse and mother Evageline, on the occasion of her birthday.

— KIDDUSH SPONSORS CONTINUED —

November 8: Rebecca Landes and Ben Rose, in memory of Rebecca's sister Carmela, on her first yearzeit

November 15: In honor of Joan Sopher's 80th birthday, for nearly half a century of outstanding service and generosity - to the shul and to us: Rhoda Agin; Fran Alexander; Noah & Hope Alper; Rivka Amado & Malcolm Feeley; Ron & Bella Barany; Bernice Bradley; Joan Brunswick; Barbara & Bob Budnitz; Robi & Miriam Cohen; R. Yonatan Cohen & Frayda Gonshor Cohen; Ljuba Davis; Sanne DeWitt; Linda & Danielle Diamond; Jane Falk; Michael Feiner & Jennifer Shy; Norm & Beverly Feldman; Steve & Marion Fredman; Rose & Sam Ginsburg; Nae Golomb; Aron & Anna Gonshor; Seth & Lauren Greenberg; Sam Haber; Yakov & Rena Harari; Ezra & Toby Hendon; Hanna Hindawi; Sabrina Kabella; Susan & Harvey Kayman; Seymour Kessler; Elissa & Alan Kittner; Rita Kohl & Steve Silberblatt; Lenny Kristal & Denise Resnikoff; Rebecca Landes & Ben Rose; Gladly & Phil Leider; Debbie & Michael Lesser; Desmid Lyon; Jonathan Lyon; Janice Mac Millan & Ron Reissberg; Lois & Gary Marcus; Sondra Markowitz & Jonah Markowitz; Faith Meltzer; Phyllis & Ed Miller; Miriam Petruck; Varda Rabin; Irene & Joel Resnikoff; Rena & Mordy Rosen; Dorothy & Harry Rubin; Carol Shivel; Henry & Violette Sibony; Bob & Naomi Stamper; Roz & Bernie Steinberg; Jennie Stone; Rikki & David Sudikoff; Sheba & Justin Sweet; Leslie Valas & Alan Finkelstein; Mimi Weisel & Paul Hamburg; Maxine & Marv Winer; Norman Winer; Ruth & Fried Wittman; The Wulf Family; Sheila & Marvin Yudenfreund; Marti & Sheldon Zedeck

Shabbat Shalem November 22: Shabbat Shalem is made possible through the generous support of R. Kassman, Purveyor of Fine Pianos; Avram & Tamar Davis

November 29: The Davis, Kabella & Larsen families

December 6: Fran Alexander in memory of Ernie Alexander z"l

December 13: OHDS in honor of the CBI community

December 20: R. Pam Frydman in honor of Judah Ariel Harel and his parents Guy and Melissa Harel and in honor Rabbi Simcha and Rebbetzin Green; Itay and Ayelet Hashay for Uriel's 3rd birthday; Congregation Beth Israel in honor of Chanukah

December 27: Chana-Tzofia Bangura (Arabella) in honor of Rabbi Cohen, Joelle Yzquierdo, and my CBI family/community. I am very grateful to you all for all your loving-kindness, generosity, patience, and acceptance - much love!; Bella & Ron Barany in memory of the yearzeit of her father Hendrik Wilhelm Kreima, her brother Jan Kreima and Captain Cor Straatman; in memory of Ron's parents Dennis & Gussie Barany, his aunt Juliana Friedman and his sister Evelyn Kahn Barany; and their granddaughter Merav Barany; Laura Lipman; SaraLeya Schley in gratitude to the Daily Minyan for making it possible for me to say kaddish; Bob and June Safran in honor of their daughter Sarah's birthday; Carol Shivel in honor of her mother Ruth and her sister Jean

SPONSOR OR CO-SPONSOR A KIDDUSH!

Here is all you need to do! Email or call one our wonderful Kiddush Co-ordinators:

Rona Teitelman • ronateitelman@gmail.com
Avraham Burrell • 510.845.7744

They will let you know the available dates and will help you with all details (what to buy, where to shop, how the setup works, anything that might concern you)

Sponsoring a kiddush is a wonderful way to participate in the life of the shul.

Kiddush is where community happens.

Sponsoring a kiddush helps us build and sustain community.



— HACHNASSAT ORCHIM —
Shabbat Lunch Hospitality

- Sara & Benni Darmoni
- Benjamin Epstein
- Avram & Tamar Davis
- Cory Isaacson & Avi Zinn
- Jen & Zac Kamenetz
- Doni Katz & Shephanie Shelan Katz
- Jana Loeb
- BatSheva & David Miller
- Zvi Rosen
- Tania & Muni Schweig
- Maharat Victoria Sutton & Adam Brelow

— MAZAL TOV! —

To grandparents **Aaron Marcus and Leslie Becker** on the birth of a new granddaughter, Frieda Grace Schafer Orli Margalit, to Elisheva Marcus and Henning Schafer, Berlin, Germany on August 20.

To grandparents **Susan & Harvey Kayman and Deborah & Michael Lesser** on the birth of a new granddaughter, Samara Anne Kayman, to Joshua Kayman and Rebecca Lesser and big sister Lilah on September 18.

To grandparents **Maxine and Marvin Winer** on the birth of their first granddaughter Elinor Devorah to Jeremy Winer, Aery Pang and big brothers Charlie & Rafi.

To **Ayelet & Itay Hashay and big sister and brothers Tzofya, Yonatan and Uriel** on the birth of a baby boy, Aaron on October 12.

To great-grandmother **Fran Alexander**, grandparents **Irene and Joel Resnikoff**, and aunt **Dorit Resnikoff** on the birth of a baby girl, Sara Yocheved (Lenora Sadie), to Maya and Haggay Resnikoff; and on the birth of a baby girl to Liat & Moshe Matsa.

To **Efrat & Ehud Tsivion and big brothers Yotam & Dvir** on the birth of a baby boy, Ayiya on November 11.

To new parents **Melissa & Guy Harel** on the birth of a baby boy, Judah Ariel on December 1.

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 inform you of the passing of **Paulette Ellen Reagan**, the beloved mother of Joelle Yzquierdo, our community's administrator.

We regret to inform you of the passing of Carol Shivel's beloved sister, **Jean Dolbee** in Michigan. She is survived by her two sons, John & Tim.

May the Holy One bring them comfort, love, and consolation.

We regret to inform you of the passing on October 29, of **Edward Raoul Lewis**, beloved father of Dan Lewis.

We regret to inform you of the passing of **Velma Galblum** ("Fruma") in Bethesda, MD, beloved mother of Lisa Gessow, mother in law of Jory Gessow and grandmother of Sam Gessow.

*May the Holy One comfort the family among all the mourners of Zion & Jerusalem.
HaMakom Yenacheim Etchem Betoach Shear Aveilei Tziyon VeYerushalayim*



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 PURCHASE CONTACT
JORY OR CBI OFFICE

JORY GESSOW
510.528.7202 • jgessow@gmail.com

CBI OFFICE
510.843.5246 • office@cbiberkeley.org

— BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES —

BIRTHDAYS

Noa Silver, December 3
 Ofra Daniel-Alperin, December 4
 Ayala Pearl Felson, December 4, 5th birthday
 Jeremy Smith, December 4
 Iris Greenbaum, December 5
 Fanya Fenton, December 6, 9th birthday
 Yaakov Koby Fenton, December 6, 9th birthday
 Dean Robinson, December 6
 Molly Kinstle, December 7, 11th birthday
 Ory Sandel, December 7
 Liberty Schubert, December 7, 16th birthday
 Ezra Studley, December 7, 4th birthday
 Racheli Perl, December 8
 Muni Schweig, December 10
 Tali Albietz, December 12
 Abram Greene, December 12, 1st birthday
 Alexis Hazbun, December 12
 Derek Krantz, December 12
 Avi Zinn, December 14
 Daniel Simon, December 17, 5th birthday
 Noah Alper, December 18
 Uriel Hashay, December 18, 3rd birthday
 Batyah Jasper, December 18, 12th birthday
 Yael Mrejen, December 19, 1st birthday
 Gaby Sandel, December 19, 13th birthday
 Shai Steinman, December 22, 10th birthday
 Maureen Krantz, December 24
 Jana Loeb, December 24
 Jonathan Lyon, December 25
 Louis Schubert, December 26
 Gary Boland, December 27
 Yaron Greenwald, December 28
 Ethan Seder, December 30, 16th birthday
 Fran Alexander, December 31
 Joan Ominsky, December 31
 Noemi Yoselevitz, December 31
 Steven Ominsky, January 1
 Sarah Jasper, January 2
 Irene Smith, January 3
 Samuel Tendler, January 3, 4th birthday
 Elisha Tendler, January 4, 2nd birthday
 Orli Hellerstein, January 5, 13th birthday
 Caedyn Nelson, January 6, 8th birthday
 Margaret Stone, January 7, 6th birthday
 Jane Turbiner, January 9
 Talia Bamberger, January 10, 2nd birthday

Hannah Rose Kabella, January 10, 13th birthday
 Jeff Shannon, January 10
 Gary Katz, January 13
 Henry Sibony, January 15
 Marvin Yudenfreund, January 17
 Mira Kittner, January 18, 15th birthday
 Aviel Mrejen, January 18, 4th birthday
 Stav Shor, January 18, 3rd birthday
 Hodayah Miller, January 20, 15th birthday
 Gideon Zeitlin, January 20, 2nd birthday
 Rebecca Landes, January 27
 Allen Mayer, January 27
 Michael Alperin, January 31, 7th birthday
 Leah Kahn, January 31
 Iris Greenberg-Smith, February 2
 Rena Harari, February 2
 Linda Levy, February 2
 Matan Gilbert, February 3
 Janice Mac Millan, February 5
 Hiram Simon, February 7
 Phyllis Miller, February 8
 Darrell Cohn, February 11
 Jonathan Purcell, February 12
 Isaac Kenin, February 14, 16th birthday
 Asa Kittner, February 14, 13th birthday
 Meka Greenwald, February 15, 17th birthday
 Shannon Shapiro, February 15
 Terence Gordon, February 16
 Nell Mahgel-Friedman, February 16
 Steven Solomon, February 17
 Olga Gordon, February 18
 Meir Miller, February 18, 13th birthday
 Sam Ginsburg, February 19
 Dahlia Hellerstein, February 22, 10th birthday
 Issy Kipnis, February 22
 Gefen Rosenstein, February 22, 5th birthday
 Matan Rosenstein, February 22, 5th birthday
 Joshua Fenton, February 23
 Jonah Markowitz, February 23
 Joel Resnikoff, February 23
 Sarah Silverman, February 24
 Katya Gerwein, February 25
 Eliyahu Quastler, February 25, 16th birthday
 Anshel Astmann, February 28, 2nd birthday

ANNIVERSARIES

Aaron Marcus & Leslie Becker, December 15, 29th anniversary
 Muni & Tania Schweig, December 22, 17th anniversary
 Mark & Susan Schickman, December 25, 35th anniversary
 Stephen Knaster & Iris Greenbaum, December 26, 38th anniversary
 Kenny & Aliza Weiss, January 5, 10th anniversary
 Jeff & Jodie Morgan, January 9, 27th anniversary
 Harry & Dorothy Rubin, January 14, 63rd anniversary
 Roger Studley & Chai Levy, January 14, 8th anniversary
 David & Bat Sheva Miller, January 22, 24th anniversary
 Chaim & Nell Mahgel-Friedman, February 2, 12th anniversary



— DONATIONS —

GENERAL FUND

Scott & Turi Adams & the kids: Happy Chanukah! We miss you all

Alper Family Philanthropic Fund of the Jewish Community Foundation of the East Bay

Colin Berkley & Tamara Litwin: thank you to the CBI community for opening your shul, homes

Aaron & Rita Berman

Edwin & Diane Bernbaum: in memory of Paulette Ellen Reagan

Aaron Blumenfeld: for yiskor

Gary Boland & Jill Hoffknecht: in memory of Gulliver Boland

Robert Bonem

Raphael Dante

Marvin & Sara Engel: in memory of Sadye Engel

Ed & Sandra Epstein: on the yahrzeit of Ed's mother

Jane Falk: in honor of Maxine and Marv Winer on the birth of a granddaughter, Elinor Devorah Winer; in honor of the Lesser and Kayman families on the birth of their granddaughter Samara Anne; in memory of Dan Lewis's father; of Joelle Yzquierdo's mother, Paulette Reagan; of Lisa Gessow's mother, Velma Galblum; in honor of Ljuba Davis's birthday; in memory of Carol Shivel's sister, Jean Dolbee

Malcolm Feeley & Rivka Amado: in honor of Nae Golomb

David D. Feldman

Miriam Feuer

Jory & Lisa Gessow: in memory of Elaine & Alfred Gessow

Terence & Olga Gordon: in memory of Olga Gordon's father, Jack Berelowitz; of Terry Gordon's father Victor Gordon; of Paulette Ellen Reagan

Paul Hamburg & Mimi Weisel: in honor of Judith Bloom, Hiram Simon, Jo-Ellen Zeitlin

Jacob & Rachel Heitler: in memory of Dorothy Heitler; in honor of Josh Ladon & Yael Krieger

Ezra & Toby Hendon: in memory of Dubbe Hendon, Ezra's mother

David & Hanna Hindawi: in memory of Kalman Rettig

Estie Hudes: in honor of Rita Kohl

Jay & Ellen Israel: in honor of Joan Sopher's 80th birthday

Isaac Kaplan & Sandy Kaplan Schwarcz: in memory of Barbara Markowitz, David Sudikoff's sister

Russell Kassman

Gary & Ilene Katz: in memory of Joelle Yzquierdo's mother; Mazal tov to Frayda on her Ph.D.

Seymour Kessler: in honor of the Magid Family on the bar mitzvah of Nathan; in memory of Barbara Markowitz
Naomi Kinder: thank you for welcoming us to your community.

Alan & Elissa Kittner: in memory of Bernard Kittner; in honor of Nae Golomb and all she does to make Shabbat service go smoothly on the women's side

Izyaslav & Raisa Kreymer: in the memory of our parents
Lorelei Kude

Ilene Lee: in memory of Rea Pregler and of Robert Pregler
Steven Leeds

Philip & Gladys Leider: in memory of Margaret & Jack Weiss

Nehama Libman: with gratitude and appreciation for a wonderful, hospitable welcome to Berkeley on Shabbat this past summer

Jakob & Tamar Loewenberg

Gary & Lois Marcus

C. Tzvi. Marx

Allen Mayer: in memory of Ethel Skurmann

Edward & Phyllis Miller: in honor of Irene & Joel

Resnikoff on the birth of Sara Yocheved; in honor of the Kayman and Lesser new granddaughter; in honor of Maxine and Marv Winer's new granddaughter; mazal tov to the extended Resnikoff Family on Ari's wedding; in memory of Paulette Ellen Reagan

John Pilkington & Linda Levy: in honor of Nae Golomb with gratitude for her creativity, sewing skills, and her generous heart; in honor of Gary Marcus with gratitude for his assistance and for his always being willing to be helpful

Richard & Susan Rabens: in memory of David Rabens

Karen Roekard: with gratitude for Reb Yonatan's generosity of spirit and presence and teaching that touch me in each of the four worlds.

— DONATIONS —

Ben Rose & Rebecca Landes: in memory of Joelle Yzquierdo's mother, Paulette Reagan
Abigail Rudnick
Ory & Tamar Sandel: wishing a happy and healthy 5775 for all CBI families
Joe & Laura Schickman
7 Seeds
Henry & Violette Sibony: for yiskor
The Sisterhood Stitch group: for family activity fund
Harry Stein
Jeff & Doreet Stein: in honor of morning minyanaires
Leslie, Elly & Claudia Valas: in honor of Racheli Perl Wagenlis Foundation
Kenneth & Beatrice Werden: in honor of the aufruf of Richard Werden
Marvin & Maxine Winer: in memory of Betty Apple
Ellen Winnick: in memory of Paulette Ellen Reagan
Joelle Yzquierdo: in honor of Marvin Engel
Sheldon & Marti Zedeck

RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

Robert Bonem
Ljuba Davis
Max & Dalia & Revaya Davis: in honor of the all of the incredible people at CBI and the wonderful Goshor Cohen family! Gmar Chatima Tova.
Matthew Gershuny: Thank you for opening your shul to me on my Berkeley visits!
Sandra Gilford
Aron & Anna Gonshor: in memory of Paulette Reagan
Alan & Elissa Kittner: in memory of Paulette Ellen Reagan
Brinah Krelstein: in honor of R. Cohen
Leora Lawton
Kennard & Annetta Lipman: thank you for your help celebrating Naomi's bat mitzvah
Desmid Lyon: in honor of the birth of Irene & Joel Resnikoff's granddaughter; of the Magid Family on the occasion of Nathan's bar mitzvah; in honor of the birth and brit of Baby Hashay
Shirley Maccabee: in honor of Joan Sopher's special day
Edward & Phyllis Miller: with gratitude to Nae Golomb

for all that she does; mazal tov to Aaronn Finkelstein & Julie Sugar; Frayda Gonshor on the completion of her Ph.D.; mazal tov to Haggai Resnikoff on ordination
Edward & Phyllis Miller: thank you to everyone who made the chaggim special; for the Day School fund
Michael & Sarah Mrejen
Marilyn Neril: in honor of Olga & Terry Gordon; in memory of Paulette Reagan
Barbara Schick
Linda Segal: in loving memory of Barbara Markowitz, David Sudikoff's sister
Robert & Naomi Stamper: in honor of R. Cohen
Marvin & Sheila Yudenfreund: in memory of Joelle's mother, Paulette Reagan; in memory of Lisa Gessow's mother; wishing a happy birthday to Joan Sopher
Hilah Zohar: thanking R. Cohen for his support

RABBI'S SUSTAINABILITY FUND

Laszlo N. Tauber, Charitable Foundation

YOUTH CENTER & GAN SHALOM REBUILD FUND

Paul Albert
Fran Alexander: honoring the yahrzeits of Ernie Alexander & Yocheved Resnikoff
Noah & Hope Alper
Robert Alper
The Amado-Feeley Family
Sergio Andermann & Noemi Yoselevitz
David Anderson & Erica Klarreich
Ezra Barany
Micah Barany
Adam Berman & Deena Aranoff
R. Cohen & Frayda Gonshor Cohen
Hoshaya & Gavriel Cohen: Thank you Gan Shalom teachers!
Robi & Miriam Cohen
Jim & Carol Cunradi
Benjamin & Sara Darmoni
Sanne DeWitt
Linda Diamond

— DONATIONS —

Marvin & Sara Engel
Yedidya Etzion & Michal Rivlin
Norman & Beverly Feldman
Alan Finkelstein & Leslie Valas
Joel & Katya Gerwein
Jory & Lisa Gessow
Sam & Rose Ginsburg
Aron & Anna Gonshor: in honor of Fran Alexander, Joel & Irene Resnikoff and Haggai & Maya on the birth of a new baby girl; in honor of the upcoming wedding of Joan Sopher's grandson; in honor of Fran Alexander, Irene and Joel Resnikoff, on the birth of a new daughter to Liat & Moshe Matsa
Terry & Olga Gordon
Seth & Lauren Greenberg
Yakov & Rena Harari
Itay & Ayelet Hashay
Ezra & Toby Hendon
Sam & Bathea James
Ronna Kabatznick
Zac & Jen Kamenetz
Doni Katz & Stephanie Shelan Katz
Alan & Elissa Kittner: in honor of Rena Harari and her closet clean-out project; in honor of Lois Marcus
R. Eliahu Klein & Cynthia Scheinberg
Lenny Kristal & Denise Resnikoff
Joshua Ladon & Yael Krieger
Rachel Landes
Leora Lawton
Philip & Gladys Leider
Boaz & Lia Levanda
Allison Levy Stamper
Jane Loeb
Desmid Lyon
Dan & Robinn Magid
Gary & Lois Marcus
Ed & Phyllis Miller
Jeff & Jodie Morgan
Jonathan Purcell
Joel and Irene Resnikoff
Mordy & Rena Rosen
Arye Rosenstein & Rachel Toaff-Rosenstein
Susan Rosner: in honor of the second birthday of Yaffa Jelen, with love from Bubbie
Bob & June Safran
Barbara Schick
Mark & Susan Schickman
Leonard & Sara Schulman
Muni & Tania Schweig
Eric & Rachel Seder
The Seeley Family Foundation
Aliza Shapiro
Scott & Shannon Shapiro
Deborah Shaw
Edmund & Diana Sheridan: in honor of Elissa Kittner's birthday
Asaf Shor & Hilla Abel
The Sills Family
David Spieler
Birger & Juliet Stamperdahl
Bernie & Roz Steinberg
Abe & Laila Stone
Roger Studley & R. Chai Levy, whose son Ezra just LOVES Gan Shalom!
David & Rikki Sudikoff
Rona Teitelman
Irene Unterberger
Marvin & Maxine Winer
Ellen Winnick
Stanley Wulf & Linda Press Wulf
Marvin & Sheila Yudenfreund
Sheldon & Marti Zedeck
Ben & Jo-Ellen Zeitlin

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