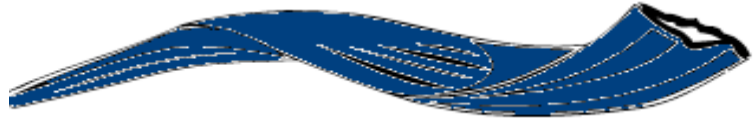


SHOFAR



Monthly Newsletter of the Monterey Peninsula Jewish Community

www.carmelbethisrael.org



Sunday, August 25 is the 32nd Jewish Food Festival

We are less than a month away from this year's Jewish Food Festival and preparations are well underway. I wonder if the founders knew what they were starting back in 1988. From what I hear the first Jewish Food Fair was 3 tables in the upper parking lot. Who would have thought it would evolve to an event that our patrons and members wait for all year.

Some updates for the 32nd Jewish Food Festival:

1. Our Latkes will be Gluten Free this year. Thanks to Megan Feltoven for the suggestion to use gluten free flour so she can finally try the latkes that she has been making all these years.
2. Coconut Macaroons will be available in the Bakery Booth. Thanks to a great group of volunteer bakers we have 240 macaroons in the freezer. Some are plain and some are chocolate chip. I know they will sell out fast.
3. We're bringing back the Israeli Salad. The most requested dish that we didn't have last year will be back this year. You can find it at the Appetizer Booth.
4. Gelt Key Chains. We found some of our old wooden gelt and Todd Hornik is making it into key chains. You can find these at the Membership Booth.
5. Hamantaschen is back. After taking a year off we will be baking Hamantaschen again. Diana Rosenthan has generously agreed to oversee the

making of the Hamantaschen. She will also be making the poppy seed and apricot fillings.

But we need your help. We still need sponsors and volunteers.

And we need home bakers. The Bakery Booth is consistently our number one selling booth. It seems that if we bake it they will buy it. So the more we have to offer the better this amazing fundraiser will be. If you are looking for something fun to make, might I suggest Hamantaschen. Here is the recipe we use with some filling suggestions. We will take any baked item you want to make. Items can be dropped off at CBI August 22-24.

Thank you to everyone who participates to make this event such an amazing day.

Malina Breaux

Hamantaschen

Dough:

2 large eggs 1.5 teaspoons baking powder
1/2 cup oil 1/4 teaspoon salt
3/4 cup sugar 2-3/4 cups flour
1 tsp vanilla 1 egg lightly beaten for coating

1. Preheat oven to 350
2. Beat 2 eggs, beat in oil, sugar and vanilla.
3. Mix flour with baking powder and salt. Gradually add dry ingredients to egg mixture.
4. Knead dough and roll into a ball. Cover with plastic wrap and refrigerate while rolling out a handful at a time.

(continued on pg. 9)



From the Rabbi's Desk...

Anyone who knows me is aware that I enjoy talking to anyone around me. Of course this was extremely embarrassing for my daughters who would cringe when I would randomly say hello to strangers. Walking down a mountain path I would tell those hiking up the hill that they just closed the mountain for cleaning. The hikers often would laugh while my daughters rolled their eyes and groaned. Over the years I worked at sharing little quips or comments that would make people smile. If someone sneezed I would always say "God bless you." When they thanked me I informed them that as a clergy member I was simply doing my job.

There were times when one of my daughters would offer, "Dad, you don't have to talk to everyone." What they didn't understand was, I truly believe that is my job. Judaism teaches me that we all have a purpose on the planet. We are born for a reason. God has implanted within each of us a unique gift to be cherished and used. That soul given to us at the time of our birth must be nurtured and used, not left dormant and ignored. My soul guides me to try and lift the spirits of every person I meet.

At times all it takes is a word or two for me to accomplish what I believe is my life's purpose, making people happier. "You're looking great." "I like your smile." "Nice shirt!" "Great to meet you." One of my favorites is what I ask kids at a pool, "Is the water wet today?"

When I visit people in the hospital who might be in pain or struggling with a health crisis I try to be as supportive as possible. When the world seems to be collapsing around them, I offer some positive things to help them refocus away from the negative. I point out they have caring nurses or getting decent food that they don't have to prepare, delivered to them. I try to help them recognize some of the blessings in their lives.

Walking on the street I smile at those around me. In a restaurant I play peek-a-boo with young kids for just a moment. I offer a quick

compliment to parents who are juggling one or two kids. I always get a smile from the server when I introduce myself after they have introduced themselves.

How might our community change if each of us tries to lift up the spirits of everyone we see? What might happen? Our community might become more pleasant. Maybe we will hear less horn honking or yelling. Maybe there will be fewer arguments or fights. Perhaps all our kindness will spread.

All this begins with our attitude. Ask yourself, can you be positive today. When someone approaches you upset or angry, can you deflect their emotions and share positive ones in return? In a film teaching about cults they showed cult leaders chanting, "Smash with love!" While I am anti-cult, I certainly am pro-love. Return a frown with a smile. Respond to anger with kindness. React to yelling with a soft spoken word. Take control of a difficult situation with compassion and warmth.

We all know people who we might label as being negative or depressed. Let's make sure we are not in that category. If you try to lift up the spirits of others, you will quickly discover that the very act of helping others helps yourself. While trying to help others count their blessings, you are forced to begin counting your own blessings. Rather than focus on the one stubbed toe, try and focus on the 9 toes that are perfectly healthy. On the golf course, that bad shot means you get more chances to hit the ball again. Mistakes become learning opportunities. Problems become moments to perform a mitzvah. Please join me in bringing smiles to those around us.





From our President *Cara Lieb, President Board of Trustees*

Our Jewish Stories . . . Sarita Chavez Silverman

One of the fun things about using "my" column to put the spotlight on specific members has been the excuse it has given me to get to know people I don't know well. This month, however, is different. This month, you get to hear from a dear friend who has been a sister-traveller on the mixed-background journey to a deeper, richer Jewish experience. She, like many of us, was led on by her children--the true providers of "l'dor v'dor" service!

I came into the world with a mixed heritage: Hispanic Presbyterians from New Mexico on my mother's side and Russian Jews on my father's. However, since my parents had agreed that neither of them would impose their religion on the family, we occasionally attended the Unitarian Church, observed Passover seders at the home of Jewish friends, and opened presents under the Christmas tree at home.

Although he did not attend synagogue regularly during the years when I was growing up in Santa Cruz, by the time I was a teenager, my father would be invited to chant the Kol Nidre each year at Temple Beth El. My father had been trained by his grandfather to chant Torah and Hebrew prayers and had a beautiful tenor voice. When I attended Yom Kippur services with him, I found the Hebrew so mysterious; I was intrigued by the way everyone knew all the prayers and songs, chanting them together. I felt that I was somehow connected to these traditions, yet at the same time I was on the outside: I had no understanding of the service or prayers.

I became interested in learning more about my Jewish heritage and intended to go to Israel and live on a kibbutz and learn Hebrew after graduating from high school. But the Yom Kippur war broke out and my parents would not allow me to go. So I went to college and ended up on a path that took me to Latin America on most of my subsequent travels. I identified the social justice work I was involved in during the 80s as aligned with Jewish beliefs, but I had no Jewish education or practice. It wasn't until I was a young mother in my 30s living in San Francisco that I met

Nelly. She was also a young mother, a Mexican woman married to an American Jew, and she had converted. I was fascinated to meet someone who was also Latina and Jewish. She invited our family to Shabbat dinner and explained the ritual to us. We had observed Shabbat only a few times after that when I received the job offer that brought me and my family from San Francisco to the Monterey Peninsula.

I wanted my firstborn, Nico, to know that he had Hispanic heritage and therefore spoke only Spanish to him. I wanted him to know he was also Jewish, but I didn't know how to transmit that, since I had no experience with Jewish practice. Although my (former) husband was Jewish, he didn't feel the urgency to give our son a Jewish education. But I did, so we joined CBI in 1992 and enrolled Nico in the preschool. He came home one Sunday and chanted the Sh'ma for us. I had no idea that it was the most important of all Jewish prayers—but when I found out, I thought to myself, "I cannot let my 3-year old outstrip me in Jewish learning." I joined Rabbi Greenbaum's Introduction to Judaism and Beginning Hebrew Reading classes, and the next thing I knew, I had been assigned a Torah portion for an adult b'nai mitzvah.

The process leading to my adult bat mitzvah was truly transformative for me. I gained a new understanding of myself and my roots, and of the traditions of my ancestors. I also went through a formal conversion, sitting before a beit din and immersing in the Carmel River behind the synagogue for my mikvah. When I emerged from the water, I saw a tiny green frog on the bank; I took this as a symbol of transformation.

My Jewish journey has continued since then. My son Nico and daughter Lilia were both raised in CBI and became bar and bat mitzvah under the guidance of Rabbi Bruce and Alisa. Two years ago, I finally made it to Israel for the first time. I continue to observe Jewish



traditions in my home, at CBI, and with Kavanat Ha Lev, a local Jewish Renewal circle. I know there are still many ways I can deepen my Judaism, and am glad that CBI is here to support me in that.



Havdalah on the Beach August 3

Do you enjoy singing folk songs with Alisa Fineman? Is anything better than sitting around a campfire, enjoying s'mores as you watch the sun setting into the ocean? If this sounds like a great way to end your Sabbath then join us on the first Saturday evening in August. Look for Rabbi Greenbaum on the beach below 13th who will bring a propane fire pit and fixings for s'mores for a relaxing Havdalah on Carmel Beach. We begin at **7:00 p.m.** but you can come early and enjoy a picnic dinner before our Havdalah service. Bring warm clothes, beach toys, a blanket or beach chairs, and musical instruments. This is a great event for the entire family and even the family dog!



Lunch with the Rabbi

Join Rabbi Greenbaum this month on **Thursday, August 8 at noon** at Baja Cantina located about a mile east of CBI when he leads a discussion titled "Praying with our Feet." Many Reform Jews today find their spirituality not in the

sanctuary but through their social action. It is not a coincidence that Jews have often led the call for social justice. They have been the leaders in marches and assisted in strikes demanding equality. Many would rather work in a soup kitchen than sit in a sanctuary. How might you demonstrate praying with your feet? Come prepared to discuss and debate social justice causes. Call the CBI office at 624-2015 to RSVP. Lunch costs \$20.



Thank You Men's Poker Group

Your Rabbi joins a small group of men about twice a month for a friendly poker game. Each time

the group plays, they set aside some of the winnings for CBI. Over the past year this group has donated over \$300 to the Rabbi's Discretionary Fund. What a fun way to raise funds to support worthwhile causes in our community. and for Jewish organizations that are making a difference. Thank you, poker players!



As the Jewish Food Festival Quickly Approaches.....

Outdoor Service and Special Oneg

Save **Friday, August 23**, for a wonderful Shabbat evening. We will gather outside (so dress warmly) at 6:00 PM for a special evening service. Join Rabbi Greenbaum and Cantor Alisa Fineman as they lead us surrounded by the Jewish Food Festival Village. The Rabbi promises the shortest sermon ever! Following the service we will hold a delicious oneg honoring all our food festival volunteers. All you need to do is show up and enjoy the evening. Feel free to bring something to share at the oneg! Remember, no meat products at the oneg. It is your choice whether to have an early Shabbat dinner, or enjoy a leisurely Sabbath meal following the oneg. We hope all our JFF volunteers and all our CBI members will join us for this Outdoor Sabbath celebration.

JFF Village Building Party



Each year we create our own little village in the lot below the synagogue for the Jewish Food Festival. While we hire some

young strong men to do the heavy lifting, we are always looking for more volunteers who will help create the JFF Village. This year we will be doing much of the work on **Thursday, August 22**. Please consider joining us at **10:00 AM**. Together we will assemble the various booths, cover them with netting for shade, and paper their walls. We will roll out extension cords, put plastic flooring in the food booths, set up tents for the play area and more prep work. If you are free that Thursday and can assist us, please join us! If possible call Rabbi Greenbaum at 624-2015 by Tuesday, August 20 to let him know if you will join him in this effort.



Jews on the Move: How Can We Travel More Lightly?

Jews have been traveling since Adam and Eve packed up and left the Garden of Eden. In Exodus we spent a long time trying to find our way home. Nowadays no one is driving us out, but instead we like to leave our homes, visit with family and friends and explore the world. How can we travel in the spirit of Tikkun Olam, making our journeys heal our planet?

Climate Change

Your choice of transportation determines your environmental impact. Whether you fly, drive, ride, or float to your destination, you will contribute greenhouse gases and have an effect on climate change. You can use an online calculator to estimate your impact on the atmosphere. Although you could donate money to an offset project (for example, planting trees or building better ovens in the developing world), these projects are not as effective as choosing a more efficient mode of transportation in the first place. For example, an electric or hybrid car at full occupancy is much more climate friendly than a jet airplane. If you have the time to travel by surface, you can minimize your effect on our planet.

Resource Use and Disposal

Travelers generate waste when they use single use plastics. Just like when you are at home, you can reduce your contribution to the enormous buildup of plastic worldwide by carrying your own cup, utensils, straw, and even napkin. Don't forget your reusable shopping bags when you visit those fabulous craft bazaars--or pick up one from the place you are visiting. You are setting an example for other travelers and for the people whose hometowns you are visiting. You can also adopt the Take Three strategy when you visit a beach or any natural setting: pick up three pieces of trash (or whatever

you are motivated to carry) and dispose of them responsibly. Not only are you leaving that place better than you found it, you are also leading the way for both locals and other tourists. (P.S. you can do that here at home, too!) You might also pick up some new ideas about how to protect the environment here--keep your eyes open to other communities' strategies we could put to use right here.

Places that are Loved to Death

We are fortunate to live in one of the most spectacular places on earth, but we have all despaired at the news of people using Highway 1 as an open-air toilet, of golf balls clogging the kelp beds off of Pebble Beach, and of fumes rising above gridlocked holiday traffic in our home towns. When we travel, we need to take care to be good guests. Choose destinations and activities to avoid overcrowding beautiful locations. Give back to the places you visit by making them better than they were when you arrived. Think about visiting someplace farther from the tourist trail to distribute both adverse impacts and economic benefits.

Above all, be mindful of the privilege of travel. We are all sharing one world, as hosts and travelers, so please let's heal it together. The choices we make when we travel are complex and sometimes the "right" answer is unclear. It's a good thing we as Jews are accustomed to wrestling with complex ideas--but by being mindful of our environmental impact, we can do our best to travel lightly in a complicated world.

CBI Book Club



August 13, 1:30 PM, home of Karen Wiskoff (649-5110). Book: THE WOMEN IN THE CASTLE by Jessica Shattuck

September 10, 1:30 PM, location to be determined.
Book: ETERNAL LIFE by Dara Horn

OCTOBER: EREV YOM KIPPUR, NO BOOK CLUB

November 12, 1:30 PM, location to be determined.
Book: AN ODYSSEY: A FATHER, A SON, AND AN EPIC by Daniel Mendelsohn

December 10, 1:30 PM, location to be determined.
Book: THE LOST GIRLS OF PARIS by Pam Jenoff

BEST YEARS

Best Years Pre-JFF Volunteer Day

Most Best Years gatherings have the rabbi preparing food or introducing a speaker or catering to the Best Year Participants. This month we are asking Best Years members to volunteer to do some preparation work of their own. Join us on Saturday afternoon, **August 24 at 1:00** to help fill little containers with coleslaw or applesauce or sour cream as we do our final prep work for the Food Festival! All Best Years volunteers will be rewarded with a variety of delicious snack foods and desserts and maybe even a bagel sandwich! Join the throngs of people who make our Jewish Food Festival a huge success. To RSVP to join our JFF Saturday afternoon volunteer group, call the CBI office at 624-2015. Also, let us know if you need a ride to and from the synagogue.



Rabbi Leah Novick: *Celebrating the New Moon of Elul*

Join Rabbi Leah on **Wednesday, August 28th at 7 PM** as she leads a wonderful session on "Celebrating the New Moon of Elul." The month of Elul traditionally launches the focus on forgiveness; leading up to the Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur holidays. We will learn about Rosh Chodesh (New Moon) customs among diverse Jewish communities followed by a guided meditation on the theme of Teshuvah (returning to our higher selves). This event is for all genders, and teens are welcome.



Pasta with the Pastors

CBI is one of many local religious communities that house and support

the I-HELP program that welcomes and feeds homeless men. Join hundreds of community supporters as together we raise funds to assisting the Interfaith Homeless Emergency Lodging

Program. This annual dinner is so named because many of our clergy leaders (our rabbi included) help serve attendees the delicious spaghetti meal.

This year's dinner will be held Thursday, **August 29 from 4:30-6:30 PM** at the San Carlos Cathedral Hall located at 500 Church Street in Monterey. Suggested donations for this all-you-can-eat pasta dinner is \$20 per adult, \$10 for children under Bar/Bat Mitzvah age. Reserve your tickets by calling Rabbi Greenbaum at the CBI office, 624-2015. Of course, walk-ins are also welcome. Who knows, Rabbi Greenbaum just might be your server that evening!



Community Garden Becoming a Reality

Since announcing his desire to create a community garden during last year's High Holy days, the Rabbi has been working on making this dream come to fruition. Because of a generous donor, money has been raised for this project. If it has not already been signed, a lease agreement should be in place early in August with our neighbors, the Fettis family. One of our members is already exploring the option of reconnecting a well that could provide the water we need.

Now we need you! Who can join our garden committee? We have to turn the open space next to our playground into a field of vegetables, fruit trees and ... People who want to help us design our garden are needed. We need people who can help us remove the extra fence between the garden and CBI property and add a gate or two to the remaining fence. We will need those who are prepared to trim trees and clear the land. Maybe we can rent a small tractor to assist us with the initial land clearing. Maybe we'll create planting boxes or terrace the small sloped hill section. Who wants to join our growing garden committee? Call the CBI office and add your name to our list of volunteer gardeners or members of our garden





JOIN US FOR THE CBI ANNUAL MEETING

Followed by Cocktails & Hors d'oeuvres

Sunday, August 18 at 5:00 PM

REMINDER:

Please send in your 2019/2020 Pledge
Forms as only members in good
standing are eligible to vote at the
Annual Meeting





Security Update

Over the past several months there has been a quiet (and sometimes not so quiet) buzz around our beloved Congregation Beth

Israel on the topic of security. The questions generally fall into the, 'what are we doing to improve security,' 'how do we maintain a welcoming environment while taking those steps,' 'how much will all this cost,' and 'do we really need to do these things?' Incorporating the values of openness, inclusiveness and what the URJ calls 'audacious hospitality' is a difficult task. And as many of you know, so is committee work.

Recently, Donna and I had a chance to attend Friday night services in Chile. The Congregation – Israelita Circle of Santiago - was warm, welcoming and beautiful. It was also inside a walled compound with a steel gateway entrance. We were verbally screened before entry despite having made arrangements weeks in advance. Could we, at CBI, build a compound wall surrounding the property and employ armed guards to man the driveway entry point? Sure, we could. Does anyone want to do that? I'm reasonably certain that the answer to that question is no.

What we are doing is making security awareness part of our daily conversations at CBI. We are making incremental adjustments and improvements to our security hardware and software, updating cameras, and improving real-time access to surveillance around the building. The Board of Trustees and the Safety and Security sub-committee are working to improve emergency procedures, disseminating best practices and creating opportunities for the Congregants, the Religious School and the community to learn from security experts. Without going into a laundry list of big and small projects that are in the works, please be assured that this is an area that the entire Board and CBI Administration takes very seriously. We are open to discussions and

are interested in your comments, advice and opinions. If you are interested in joining this committee, please reach out to me at ToddH@CarmelBethIsrael.org or Ilana Bofford Entin at IlanaE@CarmelBethIsrael.org.

Yes, some of these efforts cost money. And we should all be aware of that fact and be prepared to meet our obligations here at CBI just as we would at our own homes and businesses. That is a sad fact, but it is the reality nonetheless.

As we move forward, we continue to balance our awareness for security in the world we live in with the need to be an open and inviting community of Jews. To our friends, families and visitors in the Monterey area, we want to let you all know that we continue to strive to do the best to address the need to be secure and safe in our precious House of Worship and community. I hope that you will join us in this effort. Be aware of your surroundings, mention areas of concern, but most importantly - be here and be part of this vibrant congregation. Add your voice to the choruses across the nation calling for safe, secure places to express our faith. I look forward to seeing you at CBI. *Todd Hornik*



**Celebrate Shabbat by honoring
a loved one or a special occasion
with a leaf on our Tree of Life**
Each leaf is \$180 - Contact the CBI office for details



Thank You to Our Oneg Hosts

We are grateful to the following people who will help make the July & August Oneg's a beautiful experience:

July 12: Abra Teitler In loving memory of her father Albert Teitler

July 19: Alex & Galena Bordetsky – In Memory of Alex's beloved mother Frida Lieb Bordetsky and the Cherenapov Family.

July 26: Sam & Gabriella Lipsky – In Honor of they're children.

August 2: Susan Simon – In loving memory of Joel Aronowitz.

August 9: Bev & Dan Nussbaum – In Loving memory of Bev's mother Rose Levine Davis.

August 16: **This date still available. Please call the CBI office if you would like to host.**

August 23: The Jewish Food Festival Committee – In Honor of the JFF volunteers.

August 30: **This date still available. Please call the CBI office if you would like to host**

If you have not hosted an Oneg recently please help us fill our Oneg dates for the months of July, August, and September.

Keeping this tradition alive is a simple yet meaningful way to honor someone you love or celebrate a special life cycle event.

"I believe if people have the wherewithal they should contribute more because others can't... It's nothing magical."

Bob Fenton

WE ASKED: WHY DO YOU PLEDGE?

Hamantaschen (continued)

5. Roll out on slightly floured surface to $\frac{1}{4}$ " thickness. Rolling between 2 sheets of waxed paper seems to work well. Cut circles with a 3" lid or cookie cutter.
6. Place a small dollop of filling in the center of each circle. Lift up round and pinch into 3 corners. Place an inch apart on a well-greased or parchment paper covered cookie sheet.
7. When the cookie sheet is full, brush all of the pastries with egg wash for a great shine.
8. Bake 30 minutes. Remove and allow cooling.

Fillings:

Chocolate Filling – Combine the following ingredients in a bowl and blend thoroughly:
 $\frac{1}{2}$ cup cocoa powder, $\frac{1}{3}$ cup sugar, $\frac{1}{4}$ cup milk, cream or coffee, 1 cup chopped nuts

Apricot Filling – Combine the following ingredients in a food processor and blend thoroughly:
18 oz jar of Apricot preserves, 1 cup dried apricots, 1 cup walnuts

Date Filling – Combine the following ingredients in a food processor and blend thoroughly:
1 pound pitted dates, 18 oz jar of plum jam, $\frac{1}{2}$ cup coconut, 1 cup walnuts

Cherry Berry Filling – Combine the following ingredients in a food processor and blend thoroughly:
1 cup dried cranberries, 1 cup dried sour cherries, 18 oz jar of raspberry jam, 1 cup walnuts



THERE'S STILL TIME!

JEWISH FOOD FESTIVAL SPONSORSHIP OPTIONS



Sponsor Benefits	Gourmet	Connoisseur	Foodie	Epicure	Chef	Sous Chef
	\$5000 +	\$2500 +	\$1000 +	\$500 +	\$300 +	\$150 +
Gelt Reward to be used at the festival	\$250	\$125	\$50	\$25		
Personalized Sponsor Banner at Festival	*					
Logo with Link on CBI Home Web Page	*	*				
Premium Logo w/Link on JFF Web Page	*	*				
Recognition on Festival Facebook Page	*	*				
Booth Sponsorship	*	*	*			
Logo on Sponsor Poster	*	*	*			
Small Logo with Link on JFF Web Page			*	*		
Recognition on Sponsor Poster	*	*	*	*	*	*
Recognition on Festival Program	*	*	*	*	*	*
Jewish Food Festival Memorabilia	*	*	*	*	*	*

I wish to become a sponsor of the 2019 Jewish Food Festival at the level indicated below:

- ☐ Gourmet - \$5,000
☐ Connoisseur - \$2,500
☐ Foodie- \$1,000
☐ Business or Organization website _____
- ☐ Epicure- \$500
☐ Chef - \$300
☐ Sous Chef - \$150

Print Name (Individual or Company)

Signature

Please make your check payable to: Congregation Beth Israel and return with this completed form to Congregation Beth Israel, 5716 Carmel Valley Road, Carmel, CA 93923.

Alternatively, please feel free to **call the temple office (831-624-2015)** if you wish to pay by credit card.

NOTE: Congregation Beth Israel is a 501.c.3. Your sponsorship may be deductible for tax purposes. Check with your accountant.



32nd JEWISH FOOD FESTIVAL CARMEL VOLUNTEER FORM

This year's Jewish Food Festival will be held Sunday, August 25th, 2019. We can't put on this large community event and important temple fundraiser without volunteer help! Please review the form below, select an area in which you want to help, and return the form to the CBI office in person, or by email, or mail. If needed, we will assign you elsewhere. The week before the event, you will receive your assignment by email via SignUpGenius.

Thank you so much for your generous offer of time and assistance!

Name(s) _____ Phone _____

Mailing Address _____ City _____ Zip _____

E-mail Address _____

Additional information:

Gary Simon - GarySimonMonterey@gmail.com or Malina Breau - foodfestival.cbi@gmail.com

	I will bake at home and bring it to CBI			
	I will help anywhere you need - Call me!			
	August 4th	Sunday	9:30am	Rugelah #2
	August 11th	Sunday	9:30am	Strudel Baking
	August 18th	Sunday	9:30am	Baking the Rugelah
	August 22nd	Thursday	10am	Kugel
	August 22nd	Thursday	10am	Unload the shed & Set up the Village
	August 23rd	Friday	10am	Set up Village
	August 23rd	Friday	10am	Packaging
	August 23rd	Friday	10am	Kitchen Help, Matzah Balls, Chicken Soup, Humus, Tahini, etc.
	August 24th	Saturday	1pm	Village Set Up
	August 24th	Saturday	1pm	Chopped Liver
	August 24th	Saturday	1pm	Dolloping & Packaging
	August 25 th	Sunday	9am - 1:30pm	Morning Shift – may include help with set up
				Circle one: Runner, Green Team, Booth _____
				I will work any where needed.
	August 25 th	Sunday	1pm - 5:30pm	Afternoon Shift – may include help with clean up
				Circle one: Runner, Green Team, Booth _____
				I will work any where needed.
	August 25 th	Sunday	4pm - 7pm	Clean Up & Village Breakdown
	August 26th	Monday	10am – 2pm	Load Shed, finish clean up

Here's a link to additional information:

Click [here](https://www.dropbox.com/s/8kcnceazwkwuuis/OpenSignup2019JULY10.docx?dl=0) (<https://www.dropbox.com/s/8kcnceazwkwuuis/OpenSignup2019JULY10.docx?dl=0>) for a list of positions that we need to fill! This list will be updated every couple of days.



UJC Donations

David Sabih & Anna Swartley in honor of Dr. Michael Gerber

General Endowment

Rabbi Bruce & Susan Greenbaum
Susan Schwartz in memory of long time members,
Norman Plotkin, Mickey Kapp & Esther Stern

Building & Grounds

Susan Schwartz for the playground, in loving memory of Esther Schwartz, mother, grandmother, aunt and long-time kindergarten teacher

Cantorial Fund

Jim & Natalie Sammet in memory of Mickey Kapp
Wendy & Andrew Schmidt in honor of Ethan's Bar Mitzvah
Mitchel & Deborah Winick in memory of Amanda Freedman's mother, Jeanne Sharp

Orliss Scholar in Residence Fund

Andrew Sisolak in memory of Norman Plotkin

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

Hugo N. & Lorraine Gerstl in profound gratitude
Barbara & Edward Gilbert
Barry R. Harrow
Steven J. & Ann B. Packer
Wendy & Andrew Schmidt towards sanctuary lighting, in honor of Ethan's Bar Mitzvah

Carmel Jewish Film Festival

Rabbi Bruce & Susan Greenbaum
David Sabih & Anna Swartley

Jewish Food Festival

Dr. David Awerbuck & Dr. Astrid Holberg
Robert & Jenifer Block
Malina Breaux
Rabbi Bruce & Susan Greenbaum
Marsha Kelly
Rosemary Lande
Laela Leavy
Daniel & Beverly Nussbaum
Donald & Marcia Pompan
Wendy & Andrew Schmidt
Matthew Schuss & Charlene Webber-Schuss
Susan Schwartz
George & Lily Waissbluth
Dan & Ellen Weiner

Social Action

David Sabih & Anna Swartley

General Donations

Ellyn Gelson in memory of Mickey Kapp
Ellyn Gelson in honor of July birthdays and anniversaries
Selina Glater & Cheryl Crose in honor of Rabbi Bruce
Drew Goodman & Myra Rubin
Rabbi Bruce & Susan Greenbaum
Victor & Sylvia Krimsley in loving memory of Sylvia's father, Sam Weiner, Jr.
Lewis A. & Sandra Leader
Mary Munsterman-Sher
Matthew Schuss & Charlene Webber-Schuss in honor of Madelon Zimmer's birthday

Religious School Scholarship Fund

Bari Tolliver



Happy Birthday

Jaime Shoemaker	1	Yvonne Ascher	15
Sandra Kohn Friday	2	Richard Klein	17
Victor Feuerstein	3	Jill Sleeper	17
Gordon Freedman	3	Galena Bordetsky	18
Astrid Holberg	3	Selina Glater	19
Bruce Neben	5	Ben Kaatz	21
Herbert Stern	7	Stephen L. Ryter	21
Alfred Schaeffer	8	Charlotte Redstone	22
Bari Tolliver	8	Barbara Lipman	23
Miriam Lyons	9	Sylvia Krimsley	26
Aaron Rosenblatt	9	Grant Rosen	26
Stanley Weiss	9	Ze'ev Davis	27
Lisa Kohn	10	Ryan Dicus	28
Mindy Western	10	Scott Klein	28
Quinn Kennedy	13	Robert Kohn	29
Leonid Modorsky	13	Marlene Maier	30
Victor Krimsley	14		

Happy Anniversary

Gordon & Amanda Freedman	1
Andrea & Noel Carr	4
Rabbi Bruce & Susan Greenbaum	4
Ronald & Darcie Kroll	4
Alan & Barbara Bienenfeld	5
David & Laurie Benjamin	6
Jaime & Jon Shoemaker	6
Robert & Raya Hoskinson	7
Ilana & Ari Entin	8
Larry Solow & Sharon Neumann-Solow	
Michael & Debora Waxer	11
Nick & Aline Harris	15
Michael & Lori Addison	26
Marsha & Brian Kelly	27
Jim Gumberg & Nina Patane	31

Family News

Vic and Sylvia Krimsley are proud to announce that daughter Debbie Krimsley has received her Dr. of Veterinary Medicine from Michigan State University.

Condolences to the family of Joel Aronowitz. May his memory be a blessing to us all.

Join us as we celebrate the life of Norman Plotkin on Sunday, August 18 at 2:00 pm.

Our congregation strives to offer love and support to fellow congregants in times of joy and celebration as well as in times of sorrow. One of the ways we do that is to let the congregation know your news. Please let us know if there is a simcha you wish to share (or know someone else's that they are willing to share), or a wish of encouragement or condolence that can be shared. You can send this information to shalomCBI@aol.com to be included in the Shofar each month.



I-HELP Outreach

CBI Sponsored. . . I-HELP:
Interfaith Homeless
Emergency Lodging Program

I-HELP Program Update

Silent auction items are needed for the I-HELP Pasta with the Pastors fundraiser. If you can contribute any items such as wine, restaurant meals, car repairs, haircuts, tax preparation, accounting, dentistry, house cleaning, or any other services you use. Or, think of things you might want like vacation rentals, cooking classes, gourmet meals in someone's home, etc. Please contact I-HELP board member, Rosemarie Axton at 831-646-8196 or rosemarieaxton@gmail.com.

CBI July 2019 – Que Syrah Havurah – Thank you to the Que Syrah Havurah, coordinated by Jennifer Stone, who sponsored the July meal. We had a full house with 25 men who feasted on a wonderful joint Independence Day-themed dinner. The Havurah received food donations from three Pacific Grove markets also committed to helping those less fortunate in our community. We want to thank Trader Joe's, Andronicos and Lucky for their support of those in need.

The BBQ was fired up out back on the basketball court with burgers, hot dogs and all the condiments served. The meal also included French fries, green, potato and fruit salads. For dessert, two lovely cakes with gallons of ice cream and cookies. It was a delicious evening, lively with a lot of socializing and laughter.

As noted in the program overview above, the I-HELP program is having great success helping men finding work and getting into permanent housing. The full house and the number of new faces at our dinner is a very positive indicator of the success.

Thank you, CBI, for your continued commitment and mitzvah.

August 2019 – Carmel Valley Rotary

The August I-HELP meal is being sponsored by the Carmel Valley Rotary of which Rabbi Greenbaum is a member. For the last many years, this Rotary club has provided meals during the summer months and we're grateful for their continued participation. Thank you Rabbi and the CV Rotary Club.

September 2019 – Ethan Schmidt Bar Mitzvah Mitzvah Project

The August I-HELP meal is being sponsored by Ethan Schmidt, son of Wendy and Andrew Schmidt, as his mitzvah project. The Schmidts have been actively involved in supporting I-HELP for many years and the succession to Ethan is wonderful blessing for all involved. Congratulations Ethan, and we thank you deeply for your mitzvah.

If you have any questions about I-HELP, please respond to Charlene and Matthew Schuss; call 831-250-7170 or email cnmne3@comcast.net. Thank you very much!

Women's IHELP:

New Developments in Women's IHELP

The Women's IHELP Program continues to expand and improve. Per the IHELP Board, average attendance is 12 women each night. This compares with average attendance last year of about 7 or 8 women per night. At some venues, attendance this year has been up to 20 per night!

CBI usually has lower numbers than some of the other venues. The IHELP coordinator will attempt to keep us apprised of the expected numbers for the night we host. Because of the increased numbers, we may need additional food donations. Items should be fully prepared with nothing more than brief reheating or plating needed at CBI. Please stay in touch with Susan Schwartz (schwartzs@redshift.com) and/or Arlene Krebs (arlenekrebs123@mail.com) to coordinate what food items are requested for that night. We continue to thank Arlene for working with The Lambourne Institute for Life Mastery to host our CBI Women's IHELP nights.

On the IHELP staffing side, Women's IHELP now has a social worker and intern who work with our guests and attend some evenings. There is also growing coordination between IHELP and Gathering for Women. CBI member Lorraine Gerstl is making a valuable contribution to both programs and the ladies are delighted to see her (and hear Hugo's music) when they appear at CBI Women's IHELP nights. If you are able to help that evening, contact arlenekrebs123@gmail.com. Please do check in with Arlene before arriving or bringing additional helpers, as Arlene will try to keep a manageable number of hostesses and guests.



Congregation Beth Israel

August 2019

Tammuz ~ Av 5779

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2  7:30 PM Erev Shabbat Services with special Birthday Blessings	3 9:00 AM Morning Shabbat Service 10:45 AM Shabbat Torah Study 7:00 PM Havdalah at Carmel Beach
4 5:00 PM – I-Help @ Sponsored by the Carmel Valley Rotary	5	6	7	8 12:00 PM Lunch with Rabbi 	9  7:30 PM Erev Shabbat Services	10 10:30 AM Shabbat Torah Study
11	12 Religious School late fees begin	13 1:30 PM CBI Book Club 6:30 PM Executive Committee Meeting	14 7:00 PM Jewish Food Festival Planning Mtg.	15 Potrero School Open House	16 7:30 PM Erev Shabbat Services	17 10:30 AM Shabbat Torah Study
18 2:00 PM Norm Plotkin Celebration of Life 5:00 PM CBI Annual Meeting	19	20	21	22 10:00 AM JFF Village Set Up	23 6:00 PM Erev Shabbat Services Outdoors	24 10:30 AM Shabbat Torah Study 1:00 PM Best Years Dolloping for the JFF
25  10:00 AM to 4:00 PM 32 nd Annual Jewish Food Festival	26	27 7:15 PM Board of Trustees Meeting	28 4:00 PM Worship Committee Meeting 7:00 PM Adult Education Rabbi Leah Novick	29  4:30 to 6:30 PM Pasta with the Pastors Dinner Fundraiser	30 7:30 PM Erev Shabbat Services Anniversary Blessings	31 10:30 AM Shabbat Torah Study

CBI Religious School

Mark Your Calendar! Upcoming Religious School Dates

Religious School Registration is now live!

Go to

[http://www.carmelbethisrael.org/learning/school/
for_registration_forms.](http://www.carmelbethisrael.org/learning/school/for_registration_forms)

Mark your calendars:

- August 15** Late Fees for Registration begin
September 8 Faculty Orientation – Required for all Teachers and Madrichim, 12:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.
September 15 First day of Religious School for all grades with Parent Gathering, 9:30 - 12:00
September 18 First day of Hebrew School, 4:30 - 6:00 & Aleynu, 6:00 - 8:00
September 27 Last Day to submit Religious School Scholarship Applications

The Religious School operates on a budget that is primarily funded through tuition, but over 20% of the cost of running the school is subsidized by the general fund. Because CBI's general funds underwrites this significant amount of the cost of our Religious School, we maintain a sharp distinction between the tuition rates assessed for members vs. non-members. All non-members are charged an additional fee for their child's education.

Note: We will not mail out ANY forms –all information, forms and registration fees MUST be initially set up online. Your children will not be registered until this process is completed.

If you have a question, please contact Louise Riddell-Kaufman (directorlouise@aol.com) or the CBI office at 624-2015.



Job Openings at CBI

Co-teacher needed for Religious School on Sunday mornings (shared position). 9:30 - 12:00.

Hebrew Teacher needed on

Wednesday afternoons from 4:30 - 6:00.

Interested? Want to know more about our Project Based Learning curriculum? Do you know someone who would be great working with Jewish kids?

Contact Louise Riddell-Kaufman at

DirectorLouise@aol.com.

PJ Library Table at the Jewish Food Festival

On Sunday, August 25 in the Children's Area (where there will lots of other fun activities for children) Chinanit Kershner will have a craft activity for the kids while she shares information about all our preschool activities with the parents. There will be a special PJ Library Storytime in the middle of the day.



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- Every purchase you make sends dollars to CBI



Aleynu (It is upon us)

Program for teens
in grades 8 - 12

- Wednesday evenings

(approximately every other week), 6:00 - 8:00

- 5 session trimester scheduled topics based on teen input
- First Trimester (September 18 - November 20):
 - Limmud/ Core discussion: *AP Kindness/ Mussar for Teens* with Bari Tolliver
 - Chug/ Cultural Experiential classes: *Let's Make Music* with Cantor Alisa Fineman
- Special Trips
 - Washington DC for students in grades 10 - 12 with L'Taken organized by the Religious Action Committee, <https://rac.org/what-ltaken>. February 21-24, 2020.
 - Big Sur for all teens, a return trip to Hill of the Hawk on April 25, 2020.

Register on-line through our website:
Carmelbethisrael.org/learning.

Questions? Contact DirectorLouise@aol.com

**This year,
I upped my pledge**



Up yours?!



Jewish Family Ideas August 2019

- ❖ Make donations a family matter. Take some of the amount you would regularly donate and divide it among your children to set aside for donations to their own causes. Talk about the work of particular agencies that might interest your children and, at regular intervals, have them donate their money to the organizations of their choice.
- ❖ Book Suggestions:
 - *How Dalia Put a Big Yellow Comforter Inside a Tiny Blue Box* by Linda Heller. As Dalia explores tzedakah with her friends, she creates a tzedakah box where she can keep the money she's saving to help those in need. In the process Dalia, her friends and her little brother Yossi learn about the power and joy of giving to others. Ages 3 -7
 - *What Zeesie Saw on Delancey Street* by Elsa Okon Rael. In the early 1900's on the Lower East Side, a seven-year-old girl learns lessons of community, generosity, and courage from the Jewish immigrant population. Ages 5 – 8.
 - *The Hungry Clothes and Other Jewish Folktales* by Peninnah Schram. Here are 22 Jewish tales: tall tales, riddle stories, parables, trickster tales, mystical tales, and more, retold in a direct, informal style. Some are told with humor and all are sure to inspire conversation. Each story contains a message that resonates with Jewish values. Ages 9 – 12.
- ❖ All of the children's suggestions above are selections from the PJ Library or PJOurWay. To sign up your child for FREE books delivered to your home each month, go to PJlibrary.org or PJourway.org.



Torah Connections:

Vol. 136 August 2019, 5779

Michael Waxer

Theurgy

“And God said, Let us make Man in Our image, after our likeness, that they shall rule over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the sky, and over the animal, over the whole earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth.” (Beresheet [Genesis] 1:26).

Although many interpret this verse literally, another way to interpret this verse is that humans, and humans alone, were designed with both an animal soul and a spiritual soul, and this spiritual soul that we each possess makes us unique from all of the other creations, as none of the other creations share this aspect of God (HaShem).

Judaism generally says that each human has 5 levels of soul. The first two, nefesh and ruach, are shared with animals. However, starting with our Neshama, this level of soul is unique to humans and has a footing in the Spiritual Universe, as do the next two levels, Chayah and Yechidah. Having the ability to be part of both universes is a huge thing, as we are designed to be the conduit that connects the physical with the spiritual.

When HaShem tells us to ‘be a light unto the nations’, one way to interpret this is to say that we are to help in sharing this spiritual light, energy, or goodness, by harnessing this from the Spiritual universe and bringing it down to the Physical world, here on earth.

In the book ‘The Way of God’, or ‘Derech HaShem’, by Rabbi Moshe Chaim Luzzatto (1707-1747 CE), there is a name for this concept, of transferring spiritual energy to the earthly plane. It is called ‘**theurgy**’. In this idea the normal laws of nature can be suspended and altered. God gave humans the ability to manipulate creation in this **theurgic** manner, in addition to the power to do so in the natural fashion, as we see in the verse cited above. The concept of ‘rule over’, or having dominion over the earth, can be interpreted as meaning that we will learn to manipulate nature according to the natural laws.

However, when there is a **theurgic transfer**, we might call these occurrences ‘miracles’, as they seem to violate the laws of nature as we understand them. Of course, it could be that the occurrence simply transcends our current understanding of the underlying science and the miracle might turn out to be a predictable part of the laws of nature. However, it could be that many **miracles are manifestations of this transference of spiritual energy into the physical plane.**

Another Torah reference that hints that HaShem has given humans this power of creating miracles, is found just after the Israelites leave their enslavement from Egypt. After the 10 plagues they are encamped by the water and then the powerful Egyptian army races in to slaughter them, and this happens:

“And Pharaoh approached and the children of Israel raised their eyes and there was Egypt coming after them, and they were fearful to the extreme, and the children of Israel cried out to HaShem.....And HaShem said to Moses, ‘Why do you cry out to Me?’” (Shemot [Exodus] 14:10 and 14:15) [emphasis added].

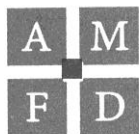
One interpretation of this odd response by HaShem is that when we need a miracle, it is us, humans, who already have that ability. After all, if HaShem were the only one who could perform miracles, then God’s response makes no sense, as of course the people would need to cry out to him. Kabbalists have referenced this verse as being a clear message that God gave us this ability as part of how we were created, because of our unique combination of animal and spirit.

Let’s use this theurgic energy to help ourselves, each other, and this earth, as we become more aware of our spiritual soul, our ‘neshama’. HaShem blessed us with many gifts, the least we can do is to learn to be aware of them, and to use them to spread goodness and light.

This Torah Connection article is the sole expression of the author and specifically does NOT necessarily reflect those of the Board of Trustees of CBI, CBI, its membership, Reform Judaism, or Judaism. If you have any comments regarding ‘Torah Connections’, please e-mail a note to:

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Chartered in 1954 as the Jewish Community of the Monterey Peninsula, Congregation Beth Israel today serves the spiritual, educational, and social needs of Jews on the Peninsula. We derive programming and administrative strength from our affiliation with the Union for Reform Judaism and offer traditional programming to meet the needs of most Jews on the Monterey Peninsula. The Congregation sponsors weekly worship services on Shabbat evening and Shabbat morning; observances of all holidays and festivals; and formal educational programs from toddler through adult. We operate our own school on weekend mornings and midweek afternoons, and we also maintain a Judaic library.

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Parshiot

August 3, Matot-Masei

T: Numbers 30:2-36:13

H: Jeremiah 1:1-2:2

August 10, Devarim

T: Deuteronomy 1:1-3:22

H: Isaiah 1:1-27

August 17, Va'etchanan

T: Deuteronomy 3:23-7:11

H: Isaiah 40:1-26

August 24, Ekev

T: Deuteronomy 7:12-11:25

H: Isaiah 49:14-51:3

August 30, Re'eh

T: Deuteronomy 11:26-16:17

H: Isaiah 54:11-55:5

