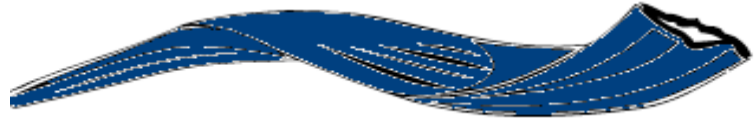


SHOFAR



Monthly Newsletter of the Monterey Peninsula Jewish Community

www.carmelbethisrael.org



Yom HaShoah Observance Wednesday, May 1

Once again we will invite Temple Beth El from Salinas to join us for our Holocaust Memorial observance. We will gather at 7:00 PM in our CBI Social Hall where we will begin with the 39 minute award winning documentary ***One Survivor Remembers***. In this 1995 documentary short film by Kary Antholis Holocaust survivor Gerda Weissmann Klein recounts her six-year ordeal as a victim of Nazi cruelty, including the loss of her parents, brother, friends, home, possessions, and community. Following the film we will honor the 6 Million with a candle lighting ceremony, El Mileh Rachamim and the Kaddish. The evening will end with an open discussion on our thoughts and reactions to the film. Members of both synagogue and guests and children over 10 are encouraged to attend this special evening program. Because of the graphic scenes of Nazi atrocities in the film, this evening is not appropriate for younger children.



Yom HaAtzma'ut Gathering Thursday, May 9, 7:00

Celebrate Israel Independence Day at CBI with Israeli food, songs and videos. Learn more about Rabbi and Susan's next group trip to Israel scheduled for October 2020. This will be a fun and informative event for adults and children. Join us on May 9 at 7:00 PM for this entertaining evening as we commemorate Israel's 71st birthday



High School Recognition Shabbat Friday, May 3, 7:30

Join us as we support and honor our high school students. During this special evening our high school seniors will receive recognition and a blessing as they prepare to leave our community. High school juniors who have maintained an active involvement in CBI will receive an award and Aleynu participants will be acknowledged. CBI College Scholarships will be announced. The secular world pulls hard on our youth, it is important that they receive our recognition when they choose to remain engaged with the Jewish community.

Visual T'filah Friday, May 10, 7:30

Put down your prayer books and look up. Our 7th grade students have been working all year on the meaning of the prayers in our Friday evening Shabbat service. They have added to the Visual T'filah with their own poetry and art work to express their understandings. We will project the prayers onto a screen with beautiful backgrounds that set the tone for each prayer.

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From the Rabbi's Desk...



Last month I enjoyed Carmel Middle School's production of *Fiddler on the Roof*. After the show when I visited with the play's director she shared with me how challenging it was to do this show. The majority of the students did not have any understanding whatsoever of what life might have been like for Jews living in a small town in Russia at the start of the 20th Century. Not only did the students learn the words and songs from the script, they also learned about persecution and living as a minority in harsh conditions. They learned about Jewish culture and traditions. These young actors' minds expanded as they studied and learned and then later shared this wonderful story.

For our older members, I want to underscore how important it is to share our life's stories with the younger generation. For our younger members, I want to encourage you to search for these stories and be open to listen and learn from those who have experienced so much in their lives. Few things have a greater impact than individual personal stories about real life experiences.

At the very beginning of this month we will observe Yom HaShoah, the day when we remember all the victims of the holocaust. I have always struggled trying to comprehend the meaning of 6 million souls lost. For me the number is too overwhelming to make sense of it. It is when I read the narrative of one individual; hear the stories from one of the survivors that I begin to understand what happened. For years we invited a survivor to share their personal experiences during the Holocaust. Sadly, most of the survivors have now died from old age or are no longer able to share their stories. That is why books like Elie Wiesel's *Night* are so important.

This year for our Yom HaShoah observance we will be showing the movie ***One Survivor Remembers***. In this 1995 documentary short film by Kary Antholis Holocaust survivor Gerda Weissmann Klein recounts her six-year ordeal as a victim of Nazi cruelty, including the loss of her parents, brother, friends,

home, possessions, and community. As you listen to each experience that she personally shares, you begin to appreciate the horrors she managed to survive. Only then can you begin to comprehend the real significance of the Holocaust to individuals, to families and to communities.

Sharing personal stories helps the next generation learn from our experiences. The stories can underscore both the mistakes of the past but also the joys from previous successes. When speaking with couples planning their weddings I always share some of the wonderful moments from wedding ceremonies I have performed over the years. It encourages and inspires these couples to consider adding new traditions to their ceremony like the bride and groom circling each other at the same time instead of just the bride circling the groom seven times.

I am not sharing this message just to offer my own stories, but while you are reading let me share with you how grateful I am that you allow me to sneak away for mini vacations every now and then. Recently I found myself at Pyramid Lake in Nevada. Without going into too much detail, if you ask me I will be happy to show you pictures of the two largest trout I have ever caught in my life. Both these fish look more like salmon than like trout (each probably weighed over 10 pounds). I can share stories about the excitement when they hit, how quickly they took out line taking me into my backing, and the joy of finally bringing them to the net. After taking a picture or two, the fish swam away, hopefully to fight another day. That's just one of my stories I am happy to share.





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

Our Jewish Stories featuring: A Close up on Charles Stone

My Jewish story had a very interesting beginning growing up in the house with my mom as a Rabbi (Susan Berman Stone) and my father (John Stone) being a rather secular Jew. It was one of my mom's priorities to give me a rich Jewish upbringing, and my dad happily went along with it.

It was very easy embracing Judaism in Cleveland, Ohio with the relatively large Jewish population surrounding. When I was five I began studying Hebrew with an Israeli who lived down the block, and soon after I began attending Jewish summer camps for the better part of fifteen years.

Due to the multitude of Jewish friends I made at camp, I became involved in NFTY (National Federation of Temple Youth) and was even the president of my region my senior year of high school. In addition, I was an active participant in HaZamir, an international Jewish choir and even spent a semester of my junior year studying in Israel.

Through the twists and turns of my twenties, I have always maintained a strong connection to my Judaism, and after returning to Cleveland following my Sophomore year of college, I was offered my first opportunity to teach religious school at a local temple – and the following year, one temple became two temples, and even a part time job working for Hillel as well.

I feel so blessed to have found CBI and been given another opportunity to teach religious school while stationed at DLI to learn Chinese. You have really welcomed me with open arms, and allowed me to do what I love most – to share my passion and enthusiasm for Judaism with the next generation.

Though I only have a few months left here in Monterey, I will always cherish my time here and all the wonderful bonds I have made.

L'shalom! Charles Stone



CBI Book Club

May 14, 1:30 PM, home of Linda Sweet (646-0150).

Book: THE BRIDAL CHAIR by Gloria Goldreich

JUNE AND JULY: SUMMER VACATION

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



CBI Writers' Group

The group will meet in the CBI Library on **Thursday, May 16, at 10:30**. All are welcome



Lunch with the Rabbi

Join Rabbi Greenbaum this month on **Thursday, May 9 at noon** at Baja Cantina located about a mile east of CBI when he will lead a discussion on "Trying to Understand Israel's Elections." Why was Benjamin (Bibi) Netanyahu, who has

charges of corruption threatening him, recently re-elected for another term as Prime Minister? What is driving the Israelis to vote for the more hawkish right wing parties? How does Israel's coalition government really work? Who is part of the ruling coalition and what parties remain outside that coalition? Where do the Arab parties fit in within the government? Come prepared to RESPECTFULLY discuss, question and debate Israeli politics. Lunch costs only \$20. Call the CBI office at 624-2015 to RSVP.



Scholar-in-Residence Weekend May 17-18

We are excited to welcome to our congregation Gil Hoffman. Mr. Hoffman is the chief political correspondent and analyst for The Jerusalem Post. Well-connected to Israeli and Palestinian leaders, he has interviewed every major figure across the Israeli political spectrum,

has been interviewed by top media on six continents and is a regular analyst on CNN, Al-Jazeera and other news outlets. Called "The most optimistic man in Israel" by Israel Television, Hoffman provides a behind the scenes look at the intrigue and humor in the Israeli political arena. He was raised in Chicago, graduated Magna Cum Laude from Northwestern University's School of Journalism, and wrote for the Miami Herald and Arizona Republic before moving to Israel. A reserve soldier in the IDF Spokesman's Unit, he has lectured in every major English-speaking country in the world, more than half the Canadian provinces, and recently made history in Hawaii by becoming the first speaker to have lectured about Israel in all 50 US states. He lives with his family in Jerusalem.

Join us Friday evening when we will enjoy his first talk in place of the rabbi's sermon during our 7:30 services. His talk "Reasons for Optimism Concerning Israel's Future" should lift our spirits as we enter our Sabbath and Scholar in Residence weekend.

Join us on Saturday morning between 10:30 and noon when our guest will deliver his second talk in place of the regular Torah study. Titled "Challenges Facing Israel as its new Government takes Office," this talk will help us better understand what the modern Israeli was considering when they made their vote. Why are many younger Israelis supporting the more hawkish right leadership today? There will be ample time for questions and discussion. As always we will provide coffee and tea and bagels and cream cheese for those who come with an appetite for both food and information.

Saturday evening we will join in our social hall at 7:00 PM for a dessert buffet and Havdalah service followed by his final talk, "Red States, Blues States and the Jewish State: A Candid look at US-Israel Relations in a Challenging Time." Gil offers a unique perspective; having been raised in America but living and working in Israel and serving as a leading journalist for the Jerusalem Post. Together we will deepen our understanding of the Israeli perspective on our current events.

Because of the Ted Orliss Scholar-in-Residence fund, CBI is able to welcome scholars like Gil Hoffman to our community. This will be a special weekend for all those who participate. Please share this information with your neighbors and friends. The three talks should be enriching, enlightening and uplifting.



Scholar-in-Residence Community Shabbat Dinner -Join us on Friday, May 17

Join with us at 6:30 for a special community Shabbat dinner, with Scholar in Residence Gil Hoffman, prepared by Malina Breau and her entourage of assistants. Savor a sense of community and food worthy of celebration. Gather as we offer blessings for the bread and wine and sing traditional music to begin our gatherings.

Children are welcome. Evening services follow at 7:30.

Call the CBI office for reservations. Members \$13.00, non-members \$23, Children \$5



Liturgy Classes Final Sessions

This month Rabbi Greenbaum and Rabbi Schulman will offer the final two liturgy classes, completing this year's adult education study program. Join the rabbis at 7:30, on **May 16** as we explore some of the significant liturgy and themes found within our High Holy Day season. Then all who have attended at least one of these Liturgy classes during the school year are encouraged to join the final session on **May 23** when together we will learn a little about our Sabbath practices and traditions as we conclude with a Havdalah ceremony and singing Kaddish d'Rabbanan, praising all of us who have spent this time in study together. Anyone wishing to bring food to share for the last class will be warmly praised!



Garden Dreaming

Behind the synagogue is a wide open space you might never have noticed, unless you were eating a latke at the Jewish Food Festival or parking your car for High Holy Days. But if you wander out there on a quieter day, you might notice the gentle conversation of the river, or feel the breeze among tall pines, or enjoy the sunshine filtering down among the coastal oaks. At the riverbank you'd discover olive trees along the Biblical path; you'd find the micro-orchard of figs and pomegranates near the back of the building. Our landscape includes some features of a garden--but we could have more!

Rabbi Bruce has been encouraging us all to pitch in and create a garden, and this party is a chance to start that process deliciously and creatively. Rabbi Leah has some inspiring ideas about how to braid

spirituality into our designs, and Cantor Alisa has already sung a garden into our hearts at her "Back to the Garden" recital. What will you contribute to this dream?

You're invited!

On Sunday, June 9 at 10:30, the Green Team is hosting "Love Letters to the Garden." Please join us in imagining what a garden could be like at our CBI home. What could we grow?

A garden reflects its gardener, and if we are all the gardeners of CBI, we could grow anything! How about a pickle garden with cucumbers, dill and garlic? Or biblical herbs, fruit trees, and even grains. We could plant for holidays: potatoes for Chanukah, horseradish and parsley for Pesach (and a gefilte fish pond?)--and then we could celebrate the holidays in a space created for contemplation and joy. A water feature might connect us with the river; fragrant and lovely flowers might connect us with Creation. And a healthy composting system would remind us that we all come from and return to the earth. What's your vision?

What kind of party is this?

We want to assure you that this is NOT a meeting. It is not a work party. It is not a committee. It will not be boring, and we will not ask you for money (except for the \$18 At Home With CBI price).

Instead, we will invite you to sing, draw, write, schmooze, nosh, and share your thoughts. We will serve a Shavuot picnic of blintz casserole, fresh fruit, and beverages. We'll provide everything you need so you can express your garden dreams any way you want. We will sing (or hum), draw, write, scribble, chat, and listen. We promise it will be fun! So please contact the CBI office to make a reservation at 624-2015 or shalomcbi@aol.com.





BEST YEARS

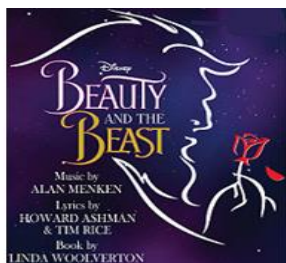
Best Years Lunch Gathering!

This month our Best Years group will meet on **Thursday, May 23** which is also Lag Ba'Omer, a time of celebration on our Jewish calendar. Let's join together at noon at the Baja Cantina for a delicious lunch. Meet us at Baja at 7166 Carmel Valley Road or call the synagogue to car pool with the rabbi. Enjoy a tasty meal and maybe even sip a margarita as we visit with each other. We will let the Senior Endowment Fund pay for all the expenses. Please **RSVP** by Wednesday May 22 for this free lunch by calling the CBI office at 624-2015.



CBI Goes to the Theatre 2019/20

Be on the lookout for more information about our upcoming theater season!



At Home with CBI MAY

Congregation Beth Israel of Carmel warmly invites you to our seventh *At Home with CBI*, a series of captivating gatherings, fabulous soirée, and friendly get-togethers.

There are eight outstanding events in April, May and June to choose from. As you review the "menu of possibilities" think about friends outside our CBI family that would enjoy attending with you. What a great way to connect with friends, meet new people and have a great time while supporting our congregation!

If nothing fits your interests or schedule, consider making a donation in honor of one of our generous sponsors.

All the events have a limited number of spaces. Please contact the CBI office to make your reservations.
831.624.2015 or
shalomcbi@aol.com

Sunday, May 5

2 pm - House Concert
Sponsored by Astrid & David Awerbuck and Alisa Fineman & Kimball Hurd

Get ready for a magical afternoon of music as Alisa and Kimball entertain you with sweetly paired voices and compelling lyrics.

David and Astrid will provide a beautiful venue for this private concert.

With wine and food, what better way to spend a Sunday afternoon? \$90

MAY & JUNE EVENTS AT A GLANCE

Sunday, May 5

2 pm - House Concert

Saturday, June 8

5 pm - 7 pm - A Private Tour of David Hockney's Yosemite

Sunday, June 9

10:30 am - Love Letters to the Garden

Saturday, June 15

6pm - Dinner & Wine Pairing

Mazel Tov Claire and Shayna



#BlattMitzvah2019

Claire Madeline Blatt and **Shayna Michele Blatt**, daughters of Marshal and Angelica Blatt and sisters to Natalie Kocekian, will be called to the Torah as a B'not Mitzvot on Saturday, May 25, 2019.

Claire and Shayna are seventh-grade students at Santa Catalina School. They are excellent students, enjoy school, love their friends, volleyball, science, math and much more. They have a lot in common, and yet they are their own selves, and are the owners of wonderful distinctive personas.

Claire and Shayna have been members of Congregation Beth Israel since their birth and were frequent attenders at Tot Shabbat! They enjoyed being regaled with our Rabbi's stories of Moshe the Monkey, and finally with intent interest and pleasure, found the very hard to find Shabbat Challah bread!

After Tot Shabbat they attended Congregation Beth Israel Religious School, and then also Congregation Beth Israel Hebrew School. Before attending official Hebrew School, they also received Hebrew Language instruction from the wonderful Ms. Ann Packard, their Hebrew-teacher-in-training father, Marshal Blatt, and from the wonderful Ms. Ellen Saxby.

For Claire and Shayna's Bat Mitzvah Project, they organized a Beach Cleanup which was successfully completed at Monterey Beach on March 30th, 2019. Together, they also spent time teaching their fellow students to have more awareness to take care of our environment, especially with regards to plastics and the ocean. They are hoping that in reading this announcement, you will rethink your use of plastic straws when dining out, and more!

Thank You to Our Oneg Hosts

We are grateful to the following people who helped make our April and May Onegs a beautiful experience:

April 12: Herb Stern- In Loving Memory of Esther Stern.

April 26: Xochitl Kolinsky – In honor of David and Francesca's Birthdays.

May 3: Families and Friends of Religious School Students – In Honor of our High School Students.

May 10: Ellen Saxby – In loving memory of Donald Saxby.

May 17: Lester & Wendy Tockerman – In memory of Vicki Levitan

May 24: Family and friends of Claire & Shayna Blatt – In honor of their becoming Bat Mitzvah.

May 31: Bee Epstein-Shepherd – In loving memory of Paul Singer.

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

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



College Scholarship Fund

Rosemary Lande in honor of Julie & Abby's film festival efforts

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

Marshal & Angelica Blatt in honor of Claire and Shanya B'not Mitzvah

Barry R. Harrow

Rosemary Lande in honor of Rabbi's extraordinary support of the Carmel Jewish Film Festival

Carmel Jewish Film Festival Sponsors

Arts Council - Monterey County

Alexander Lujbimow & Maryn

Jewish Food Festival Sponsorships

Lester & Wendy Tockerman

General Donations

Alden & Deanna Adolph in memory of Dee's sister Loralie Stephens Chain

Anita Artstein-Dunsay in loving memory of Isabel Artstein

Marc & Shelagh Baseman in memory of Esther Stern Marshal & Angelica Blatt to the Cantor Alisa office

fund in honor of Claire and Shanya B'not Mitzvah

William & Myrna Brandwein in loving memory of Lillian Kessler

Maureen Chodosh

Ellyn Gelson in honor of April birthdays and anniversaries

Thomas & Ellen G. Krause in loving memory of Tom's mother Claire Krause

Victor & Sylvia Krimsley in loving memory of Malcolm Krimsley, Victor's father

Clark Miller & Cara Lieb in honor of Ellyn Gelsons birthday

Herbert Stern in loving memory of Rachael Berro

Herbert Stern in memory of Sam Stern

Wall of Remembrance

Ellen Saxby for Abraham Pikarsky

Religious School Donation

Rabbi Bruce & Susan Greenbaum



Happy Birthday

Lew Bauman	1
Glen Grossman	1
Ralph Senensky	1
Hersh Davis	2
Ellyn Gelson	2
Eric Lang	3
Andrea Carr	4
Laurel Mello	4
Harlan Grogin	7
Michael Waxer	7
Norman Carr	8
Julienne Geisler	9
Shelley Kroopf	9
Sandra Leader	9
Martin Wolf	9
Seth Goldstein	10
Irene Krasner	11
Estella Leavy	11
Mackenzie Thomas	14
Stephen Thomas	14
Lawrence Rosen	16
Robert Hoskinson	17
Naomi Pollack	18
Marvin Silverman	18
Holden Pereles	19

Rabbi Jeffrey Schulman	19
Debra Gevertz-Licolli	20
Marc Lieberman	21
Mark Kriger	22
Myrna Brandwein	23
Deborah Winick	23
Sharon Hoffman	24
William Brandwein	25
Ava Martin	25
Sara Martin	25
Lori Silver	25
Claire Blatt	26
Shayna Blatt	26
Jenifer Block	26
Carol Ader	27
Ann Jory	27
Jim Sleeper	27
Li Isack	28
Mona Zander	28
Marc Baseman	29
Ida Holber	29
Daniel Riddell-Kaufman	29
Andrew Schmidt	29
Paul Fenwick	30
Ruth Rosen	30
David Cohen	31
Elan Hornik	31
Todd Hornik	31



Happy Anniversary

Bruce Neben & Susan Krome Neben	3
Rabbi Jeffrey Schulman & Susan Alnes	8
Alden & Deanna Adolph	9
Steven J. & Ann B. Packer	11
Joel Aronowitz & Susan Simon	18
William & Myrna Brandwein	18
Clark Miller & Cara Lieb	23
Adina Abeles & Brian Granbery	24
Samuel & Gabriela Lipsky	30

Family News

Mazel Tov! Laura Arnow and Matthew Englund are engaged to be married.

Beverly Schneiderman passed away on April 7, surrounded by her loving family. A celebration of her life will be held on May 18, from 1-4, at the Elk Lodge. May her memory be a blessing to us all.

The Stern family would like to voice their appreciation to everyone who sent a card, letter, phone call or tribute to recognize the recent passing of Esther Stern, wife, mother, grandmother and great grandmother. Your condolences and well wishes eased our hardship.



Jewish Food Festival Sponsorship Request Letter 2019

Sunday AUGUST 25, 2019 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Location: Congregation Beth Israel, Carmel CA

The Jewish Food Festival is a major fundraiser that is crucial to maintaining the financial health of our synagogue. In Judaism there is a tradition in Hebrew "*Asher yidvenu libo.*" This translates to "*how your heart so guides you.*" And as my Jewish Grandma always said "The way to a person's heart is through their stomach." The Jewish Food Festival will feed your stomach and fill your heart.

We're inviting you to participate in the 32nd Annual Jewish Food Festival, the signature event for Congregation Beth Israel in Carmel, California by becoming a sponsor.

The festival introduces delicious and culturally unique Jewish foods, distinctive arts & crafts, live Hebrew music and a re-enactment of a Jewish wedding to the community on the Monterey Peninsula. It attracts over 3,000 people each year from all over Northern California. The success of this event depends on the hard work of many of our volunteers and the financial support of our sponsors.

Publicity for the event will reach the entire Monterey County through radio, TV, print and social media. Signage and promotional banners and fliers will be placed in strategic locations throughout the community and surrounding areas. Banners, website placement and booth sponsors are also available. See the benefits of sponsoring on page 2.

We hope your business, organization, and/or you as an individual, will be interested in sponsoring the festival this year. Please make your commitment today by filling out the form below and indicating at what level you wish to support the Jewish Food Festival.

Thank you in advance for your interest and support of this important event that brings together and celebrates our greater community. Please contact me with your questions by calling 831.601.5791 or via email at foodfestival.cbi@gmail.com

Sincerely,

Malina

Malina Breaux
Fundraising Trustee & Jewish Food Festival Chair
Board of Trustees
Congregation Beth Israel
Carmel, CA



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.



I-HELP Outreach

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

I-HELP for Men

April 2019 – Fourth/Fifth Grade Class – The April I-HELP meal was sponsored by the fourth and fifth grade religious school class. Coordinated by Shel and Scott Lyons, then men enjoyed soy glazed chicken, chicken and rice, lasagna, pasta Alfredo with vegetables, green salad and fabulous desserts. For breakfast, there was a wonderful assortment of fresh fruit, energy bars, PB&J, cereal and milk, bagels with cream cheese, and more.

Earlier during class, the students' teacher Charles and our I-HELP coordinator presented a lesson on helping the homeless in the context of Passover. We discussed the history of Jewish homelessness in common with our guests' current plight; the feelings, emotions and hardship. The students created colorful dinner placemats sharing messages of welcome, community and hope. These heart-warming messages were truly appreciated by our guests and even shared among each other.

The men's program is staying strong with a great number finding work and housing. The program has averaged 17+ men a night with 8 new entries and 4 finding permanent housing.

Thank you to all the parents, teachers and madrichim for all your support. Your generosity is genuinely appreciated.

May 2019 – Aleynu / Madrichem – The May meal is sponsored by the Aleynu youth group and the religious school Madrichem under the direction of school Director of Education, Louise Riddell-Kaufman. Both groups are teen leadership programs teaching participants about, and exposing them to, social responsibility and the importance of social action. Thank you to all our congregation youth.

PLEASE HELP! Summer Meal Sponsors Needed –

During the next few months we need meal sponsors! If you are a member of a civic or social group, want to perform a family mitzvah, have an important event

you would like to commemorate with social action, or just want to help those in need. CBI needs you and the homeless need you!

June 2 – Need a meal sponsor

July 7 – Need a meal sponsor

Aug 4 – Need a meal sponsor

Sept 6 – Need a meal sponsor

Please respond to Charlene and Matthew Schuss; call 831-250-7170 or email cnmne3@comcast.net. We cannot continue to shelter and feed the homeless without CBI member support. Thank you very much!

Thinking about honoring a
loved one or a special occasion?

Consider a plaque at CBI

A leaf on the Tree of Life \$180

A Yahrzeit Plaque in our sanctuary \$360



Start making a difference for
your synagogue

Sign up at

<https://secure.escrip.com/signup/index.jsp>

All your purchases at select stores will
donate a percentage of your purchases to
CBI



Congregation Beth Israel

May 2019

Nisan ~ Iyyar 5779

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 4:00 PM B'nai Mitzvah 4:30 PM Hebrew School 7:00 PM Yom HaShoah Observance	2 Yom HaShoah	3  7:30 PM Erev Shabbat Services Celebrating our High School Students & special Birthday blessings	4 9:00 AM Morning Shabbat Service 10:30 AM Mazel Tots – Yom Ha'atzmaut 10:45 AM Shabbat Study
5 9:30 AM Religious School Grades K/7 th 12:00 PM Final Faculty Mtg. 12:00 PM Katanim AT HOME WITH CBI 2:00 PM House Concert with Alisa Fineman & Kimball Hurd @ Awerbuck home 5:00 PM – I-Help @ CBI	6	7	8 4:00 PM B'nai Mitzvah 4:30 PM Hebrew School 6:00 PM Aleynu	9 Yom HaAtzma'ut 12:00 PM Lunch with Rabbi  7:00PM Yom HaAtzma'ut Gathering	10 7:30 PM Erev Shabbat 7:30 PM 7 th Grade Visual T'filah Presentation	11 10:30 AM Torah Study
12 Mothers Day No Religious School 	13	14 1:30 PM CBI Book Club	15 4:00 PM B'nai Mitzvah 4:30 PM Last Day of Hebrew School	16 10:30 AM CBI Writers' Group 7:30 PM Adult Liturgy Class	17  6:30 PM Community Shabbat Dinner 7:30 PM Erev Shabbat Services S.I.R. Gill Hoffman speaks	18 10:30 AM Torah Study with Scholar in Residence Gill Hoffman 7:00 PM S.I.R. Gill Hoffman speaks
19 9:30 AM Last Day of Religious School 10:00 Family Breakfast & student presentations 12:30 PM Toro Park Picnic & Teen hike	20	21 6:30 PM Executive Committee Meeting	22 5:30 PM B'nai Mitzvah Parent's Meeting	23  12:00 PM Best Year's Lunch Out at Baja Cantina 7:30 PM Adult Liturgy Class	24 7:30 PM Erev Shabbat Services	25 10:30 AM Shabbat Service when Claire & Shayna Blatt become B'Not Mitzvah 
26	27 Memorial Day CBI Offices Closed 	28 7:15 PM Board of Trustees Meeting	29		7:30 PM Erev Shabbat Services	1 June 9:00 AM Morning Shabbat Services 10:45 AM Torah Study

CBI Religious School

CBI Youth Calendar for May 2019
Our Youth Calendar for the entire year is now
in a Google Calendar Format.

View and download at
Carmelbethisrael.org/learning



Celebrate Yom Ha'atzmaut (Israeli Independence Day) Saturday, May 4, 10:30 - 12:00

Children ages 2 1/2 - 5, with a parent, are invited to celebrate Israel's Birthday with Early Childhood Educator, Chinanit Kershner. Children will make a craft, listen to a PJ Library story and have fun playing. Parents - make new friends yourself when you bring your child to this special program.

Pre- registration is very helpful for the purchasing of materials. The fee \$5 with preregistration, or \$10 at the door.

For more information or to preregister, email directorlouise@aol.com.



A PJ Library Program

Thank you to the Harold Grinspoon Foundation and the Hornik Family Foundation for subsidizing this program.



Date	Special Events and Activities
Wednesday May 1	B'nai Mitzvah Class (4:00 - 6:00) Hebrew School (4:30 - 6:00)
Friday, May 3	High School Appreciation Shabbat (7:30)
Saturday May 4	Mazel Tots - Yom Ha'atzmaut (10:30 - 12:00)
Sunday May 5	Religious School Grades K - 7 (9:30 - 12:00) Final Faculty Meeting - Teachers & Madrichim (12:00 - 2:00) Katanim Game Day (12:00 - 1:30)
Wednesday May 8	B'nai Mitzvah Class (4:00 - 6:00) Hebrew School (4:30 - 6:00) Final Aleynu (6:00 - 8:00)
Friday May 10	7 th Grade Visual T'filah Presentation (7:30)
Sunday May 12	No Religious School - Mother's Day
Wednesday May 15	Last Day of Hebrew School B'nai Mitzvah Class (4:00 - 6:00) Hebrew School (4:30 - 6:00)
Sunday May 19	Last Day of Religious School (9:30 - 12:00) Family Breakfast & Student Presentations (10:00 - 12:00) Toro Park Picnic (12:30) & Teen hike (until 2:30)
Wednesday May 22	B'nai Mitzvah Parent's Meeting (5:30 - 6:30)



B'nai Mitzvah Parent's Meeting

Parents of students who will become a Bar or Bat Mitzvah within the next 2 years are requested to join us Wednesday, May 22 at 5:30 PM for a special meeting. It is now time to begin the preparation process. If you attended last year's meeting, your perspective and questions this year will be different as the date draws closer. This important 1-hour meeting will review CBI policies regarding preparation and celebration for Bar and Bat Mitzvah families. This is an important meeting for all of us, not to be missed.

For those who have not yet scheduled your weekend, please email Rabbi Greenbaum and Cantor Fineman the date your child turns 13 and your first 3 choices of dates you would like for this special event. We will compare your preferences alongside of various other calendars and try to meet everyone's needs.

Each family will receive a B'nai Mitzvah parent manual and the book "For Kids - Putting God on Your Guest List". We will try and answer questions you have and share with you our expectations for the students and their families.

If you have any questions prior to the meeting, please give us a call.



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Jewish Family Ideas May 2019

◆ Thursday, May 9 is
Yom Ha-Atzmaut – Israeli

Independence Day. Celebrate with your children the joy of having a Jewish homeland by making a meal of falafel or other Israeli foods.

- ◆ *Ahavat Yisrael* means "love of Israel", but what and who is Israel? Israel is a country, the historic homeland of the Jewish People. "Israel" is also all Jews, *Klal Yisrael*, the people of Israel. So love of Israel means a connection to both the land and the people. *Ahavat Yisrael* is loving both.

- ◆ Book Suggestions: ***And Shira Imagined*** by Giora Carmi. Shira visits Israel with her parents who tell her a little about each place, trying to convey and share a sense of awe and accomplishment. Included in each description is the phrase, "Can you imagine that, Shira?"; the concluding sentence is, "And Shira imagined." Shira imagines each scene quite literally, "peopled" by strange creatures engaged in some amusing but relevant activity. Ages 4 – 8.

First Rain by Charlotte Herman. When Abby moves with her family to Israel, she misses her grandmother. As they exchange letters and emails, Abby tells about her new life-learning Hebrew, eating falafel, and floating in the Dead Sea. Ages 4 – 8.

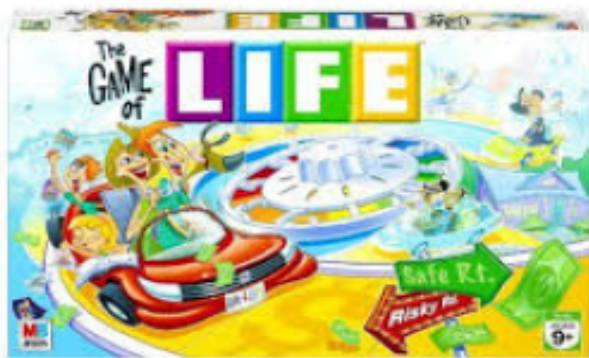
Yuvi's Candy Tree by Lesley Simpson. Plucky Yuvi, a little Jewish girl living in Ethiopia, dreams of a place where candy grows on trees. Based on a true story, this book tells of Yuvi's extraordinary journey to Israel with her grandmother -- a passage from famine and fear to oranges and freedom. Ages 6 – 9.

Note: All of the above book suggestions are also PJ Library selections. To sign your children, ages 6 months – 8 years, up for a FREE Jewish book of the month club go to: PJLibrary.org. For students ages 9 - 11, PJ Our Way is a new program offering the child monthly choices of chapter books.

KATANIM!

Who: 3rd-5th Graders

What: Board Game Party!
(Please bring board games that you want to play)



Time: 12 - 1:30 p.m.

Where: CBI

When: Sunday, May. 5

How much: \$5

Please RSVP including food allergies to Rachael Carroll: rachaelscarroll@gmail.com

Sunday May 19th

Last Day of Religious School!



Please join us for a morning of *fun* and *celebration* as we complete this school year!

The morning will consist of:

9:30-10:00 Coffee and breakfast set-up by parents while children meet with their teachers.

10:00-11:30 A delicious breakfast for all PLUS:

Class presentations of long-term projects by your children!

Teacher Appreciation: an opportunity to public recognize all our teachers give to our children.

11:30-12:00 We'll end together as a community with for a short service and lots of song.





Torah Connections:

vol. 133 May 2019, 5779

Michael Waxer

The big sin we are all committing

Regardless of how each of you may feel politically, or on the issues of the day, you likely view the 'other side' as being wrong, stupid, or even dangerous. This sharp polarization, that is now commonplace, has created a situation where people are judged very quickly by their political persuasion, and are often vilified if they have an opposing viewpoint.

Baseless hatred, **sinat chinam**, has been described as one of the greatest failings of the Jewish people. The Talmud credits it as being the primary reason the Temple in Jerusalem was destroyed, or, why HaShem allowed it to be destroyed.

This groundless hatred is a human condition, but for now we will explore it as being between Jews, and that is certainly a good place to start to resolve it. How many distinctions are there amongst just Jewish groups, such as Ashkenazi and Sephardic, Religious and Non-Religious, very religious vs. moderately religious, etc., etc...?

Since the Jewish people are commanded to be 'a light unto the nations', if the Jewish people can overcome this type of hatred, then this 'cure' can help all the other nations. Just perhaps this is why there is diversity amongst the Jewish peoples, so we can overcome this serious weakness in human nature.

One tool we have to address this problem, is by understanding the five levels of soul we each have. These five levels are: **Nefesh, Ruach, Neshamah, Chayah, and Yechidah.**

The lowest level, the 'animal' soul, is the **Nefesh**, and it is most closely associated with 'Action'. The second level, **Ruach**, is associated with 'Speech' (remember, ruach means 'wind'). The next level, **Neshamah**, is associated with 'Thought', and this third level is the first one that touches the Spiritual, or Moral, Universe. It is, after all, our mind, our center of being, which has the ability to transcend the physical, and to comprehend the spiritual. The **Neshamah** allows us to be aware that we are more than just flesh and cells, that we are a 'soul', an aspect of ourselves which is not bound to our body.

The fourth level, **Chayah**, is the level that we will employ here, as a possible 'cure' to **sinat chinam**, hatred that is out of proportion and therefore baseless. At the **Chayah** level of our soul, **we have the ability to connect in some way with every other soul.** This feeling of connectedness can help us put water on the fire of out of control anger, as we understand that even though we are distinct from each other, **we are also all one.** This connects back to the famous Torah verse, the Sh'ma, Devarim (Deuteronomy) 6:4:

'Hear Israel, HaShem is our God, HaShem is one.'

This feeling of connectedness is sometimes felt by Jews on Yom Kippur, as the community has prayed together all day, without food or drink, and have recited prayers that specifically ask for *communal* forgiveness. Since we are praying as a community, we start to feel connected to each other. It is also easier to feel this connectedness on Shabbat, as we realize this wonderful gift from HaShem unites all of us in a way that is transformative.

So, one tool to solve this serious problem of **groundless hatred** is to think about this **connectedness** we share, whether it be via the weekly Shabbat, celebrating Holidays, or just remembering that we are, literally, all related to each other. We have the ability, using our mind, our **Neshamah** soul, to control our animalistic hatred, so we do not escalate this negative emotion. We can then transcend to our **Chayah** soul and feel how we are connected with other souls, all of us part of God's creation.

This article includes inspiration from many sources, but 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: mlwaxer@sbcglobal.net.

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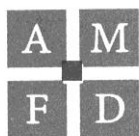


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Chartered in 1954 as the Jewish Community of the Monterey Peninsula, Congregation Beth Israel today serves the spiritual, educational, and social needs of Jews on the Peninsula. We derive programming and administrative strength from our affiliation 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

May 4, Achrei Mot

T: Leviticus 16:1-18:30

H: Ezekiel 22:1-19

May 11, Kedoshim

T: Leviticus 19:1-20:27

H: Amos 9:7-15

May 18, Emor

T: Leviticus 21:1-24:23

H: Ezekiel 44:15-31

May 25, Behar

T: Leviticus 25:1-26:2

H: Jeremiah 32:6-27

