

The Bulletin



**CONGREGATION
B'NAI ISRAEL**

Congregation B'nai Israel, Elizabeth, NJ - Affiliated 1992

January 2019

**CONGREGATION
B'NAI ISRAEL**
Musical Shabbat
a cappella
January 11 - 12
**BRING
FAMILY
&
FRIENDS!**
featuring KASKESET
Jewish A Cappella Group of Binghamton University

January 11-12
Kaskeset Musical Shabbat
See page 6 for more information

CBI MEN'S CLUB SHABBAT DINNER & SERVICE

Friday, January 25th, 2019
Dinner at 6:45 p.m. / Service at 8:00 p.m.

Join your CBI friends for a communal Shabbat dinner prepared by the renowned Men's Club chefs! Adults and children of all ages are welcome! Shabbat Singing and Good Times!



January 25
Men's Club Shabbat Dinner
See page 14 for more Information

Join us for a day of learning and giving at
MLK MITZVAH DAY



Monday, January 21, 2019
2:00pm-4:00pm



**CONGREGATION
B'NAI ISRAEL**



**Come be inspired by more than
20 Charitable Groups and Organizations!**
Local - State - National - Israel

January 21
MLK Mitzvah Day
See page 13 for more Information

**BLOOD DRIVE
AT MLK MITZVAH DAY!**



**NATIONAL
Blood
Donor
MONTH**

**MAKE
LIFESAVING
A HABIT**

MONDAY, JANUARY 21st
1:00pm-7:00pm

COMMUNITY WALK-INS WELCOME!

January 21
MLK Mitzvah Day
See page 12 for more Information

January Shabbat Services

Kabbalat Shabbat 8:15 pm
Shabbat Services 9:00 am

Additional Shabbat Programs:

Friday/Saturday, January 4-5

8:15 pm – Kabbalat Shabbat Services
9:00 am – Shabbat Services
12:00 pm – Kiddush

Friday, January 11

7:30 pm – A Cappella Kabbalat Shabbat Service with Kaskeset

Saturday, January 12

9:00 am – Shabbat Service
10:30 am – Bim Bam Shabbat
10:30 am – Family Shabbat service
10:45 am – Shabbat Journeys Minyan
3:45 pm – Mincha/Havdala services - Bat Mitzvah of Sophie Minocha

Friday/Saturday, January 18/19

8:15 pm – Kabbalat Shabbat Services
9:00 am – Shabbat Services
12:00 pm – Kiddush

Friday, January 25

Mens Club Shabbat
8:15 pm – Kabbalat Service

Saturday, January 26

Mens Club Shabbat
9:00 am – Shabbat Services
11:00 am – Yaldeinu Services
12:00 pm – Kiddush and Cholent contest

Please check www.cbi-nj.org for any changes to schedule.

Candle Lighting

January 4	4:25 pm
January 11	4:32 pm
January 18	4:40 pm
January 25	4:48 pm

Mincha/Havdallah

January 5	4:32 pm / 5:34 pm
January 12	4:40 pm / 5:41 pm
January 19	4:47 pm / 5:49 pm
January 26	4:55 pm / 5:57 pm

Minyan Rotation

1/6- 1/12	Retik – Rubinstein
1/13 – 1/19	Sabin – Schneider
1/20 – 1/26	Schor – Shapiro
1/27 – 2/02	Shaykevich – Smith

This is a reminder that you are scheduled on the Minyan Rotation List for this month. **We urge you to make every effort to attend minyan, the times are listed below.**

Morning Minyan

7:10 am Mon. & Thurs.
7:15 am Tues., Wed. & Fri.
8:00 am Sun.

Evening Minyan

8:00 pm Sun.-Thur.

FROM THE RABBI'S DEN

By Rabbi Steven Bayar



INCLUSION OR EXCLUSION: DO WE REALLY REALLY WANT YOU?



There is an old Rabbinic tale of Hillel and Shammai, the rabbinic leaders of their generation. A would-be convert comes to Shammai and offers to “convert to Judaism if you can teach me the entire Torah while standing on one foot.” Shammai kicks him out of the room. The same person approaches Hillel with the same offer. Hillel’s answer is, “What is hateful to you do not do to others. All else is commentary. Go and learn.”?

On a larger stage, isn’t this the question we face as Jews in the United States? This paradigmatic story is used to illustrate the greatness of Hillel. In his generation Roman persecution reached new heights. Hillel included anyone who wanted to be a part of the community to better sustain it. Shammai is seen as a curmudgeon; excluding and thereby limiting community.

The irony of our reaction is that Shammai was right and Hillel was wrong. What kind of “Chutzpah” does it take for a person to offer conversion under those circumstances? The only rabbis I know of today who would take that offer charge thousands of dollars for a penny-ante conversion which isn’t worth the toner the certificate used in printing. Of what use would this person be?

In point of fact we want to be like Hillel – but we act like Shammai. We want to be inclusive but the majority of the Jewish community is more comfortable with Shammai. Change is challenging. New people coming into our community tend to come to services earlier and sit in our seats. They are not interested in the old feuds that sometimes dominate congregational interactions. They have new ideas and methods. Clergy and congregational leadership, used to their own intrinsic dynamic can be easily put off by this fresh air and mark their territory in uncomfortable ways.

The story is also a cautionary tale for those who practice inclusion. It’s not by accident that the convert offers a deal that is at heart disrespectful. He is mocking the tradition by suggesting it can be encapsulated in just a few seconds. If that’s all there is, why be Jewish? In similar circumstance would we be inclusive to someone equally mocking, equally obnoxious? Would we include a sincere Messianic Jew? Would we count a felon in a minyan? Would you allow a known wife beater to have an honor?

Shammai was Hillel’s contemporary. He too faced Roman persecution. His response was to restrict entrance into the community so that its values and practices remained constant. Can we say he was wrong?

I believe that the key to the story is Hillel’s message. “What is hateful to you, don’t do.” Inclusion and exclusion are byproducts of “ahavat Yisrael,” love of Israel. If you truly act out of love and compassion, you will know when to include and what lines must be drawn to keep the constantly ever-changing nature of the community. The highest purpose to which a rabbi can aspire is to be the guide in this endeavor.

Steven Bayar



To contact Rabbi Bayar,
email him at cbirabbi@cbi-nj.org



MUSICAL NOTES

By Cantor Lorna Wallach

STAY TUNED FOR ANOTHER A CAPPELLA MUSICAL SHABBAT ON JANUARY 11 – 12

Following the great success of CBI's A Cappella Musical Shabbat this past October, I'm very excited that we have been able to schedule another musical Shabbat on **January 11 and 12**, this time featuring Kaskeset, the Jewish A Cappella choir from Binghamton University. Established in 1996, Kaskeset is Binghamton University's only Jewish A Cappella group. A student-run organization, Kaskeset consists of members from diverse backgrounds, both Jewish and non-Jewish. Over the past 20 years, they have performed and toured in places all across the country, including Florida, California, New York, and Chicago. They have performed for the Israeli Ambassador's United Nations Hanukkah reception and the State Department in Washington D.C., and after the horrific massacre at Pittsburgh's Tree of Life Synagogue, Kaskeset participated in the community-wide vigil in Binghamton.

Kaskeset has produced six studio albums and are currently recording their seventh! Kaskeset has won recognition in many A Cappella competitions, including 3rd place at Kol Ha'olam in 2016 and Best Beatboxing at the ICCA in 2010, where they became the first Jewish group to ever advance to the semifinals. With a diverse repertoire consisting of Jewish music as well as Israeli and American pop, Kaskeset's continuing goal is to spread Jewish pride, culture, and music to communities, both locally and internationally.

This talented group of 13 students will perform after the service on Friday night (Please note earlier start time of 7:30pm!) and they will also share their voices on Shabbat morning, both in the family service and in the main sanctuary service and then stay for community singing at Kiddush! These events are open to the entire community and children are encouraged to attend! You are welcome to bring your neighbors/friends who are not members of CBI and I also hope to see the many Binghamton alumni who are at CBI and in our area to show your support and school spirit.

I always wished that I had had some type of outlet for singing Jewish music, especially with my peers, during my college years, but Jewish A Cappella groups had not yet become a presence on college campuses as they are at so many colleges today. Realizing the tremendous positive impact that singing Jewish music together can have in strengthening the Jewish identity of young adults in college, I feel it is critical for the future health and strength of the Jewish community to support the existence of such an extra curricular activity in colleges and to encourage students with an interest in music to get involved in these choirs.

I hope you will plan to join us at CBI on **Friday night January 11th** at a **7:30 PM** service and /or on **Saturday morning January 12th** to hear KASKESSET, and to enjoy a special musical Shabbat with your CBI community!



Lorna Wallach



To contact Cantor Wallach,
email her at cbicantor@cbi-nj.org

In The Community

Mazel Tov to:

Elayne Feig on the birth of her new granddaughter, Vivienne Harper

Roberta Balsam on the birth of her 1st granddaughter, Sadie Rae Burrick

The Taits family on their son, Rubin's Bar Mitzvah

Risa & Evan Wasserman on the marriage of their daughter, Alexa to Joshua Chase

The Schrage family on their daughter, Skyler's Bat Mitzvah

Karen & David Jacob on their daughter, Alexa's Bat Mitzvah

Polly Merdinger & Rich Yaverbaum on the engagement of their daughter, Julia to Jason Taub

Wendy & Hank Kaplowitz for being honored by Israel Bonds

Refuah Shleima to:

Meryl Hubscher, Frieda Ostrowsky, Emanuel Magid, Shirley Ehrich, Roberta Balsam, Deena Bernhaut and Beth Giladi

January 2019 Yahrzeit Donors

Daniel & Jennifer Baer	June Fastow
William Fern	Lenore May
Howard Greenwald	Jacqueline Gershmen
Hanna Keselman	Ellen Shulman
Sandra Nash	Susan Margulies
Risa Wasserman	Shirley Weiner
William L. Berg	Evelyn Schachtel
Terry Hofflich	Myron Feedman
David Klein	Neysa Friedland
Gloria Segel	Erika Maurer
Harry Deutsch	Beverly Orel
David Glasofer	Lisa Ringler Less
Richard Maslow	
Linda Sotnick	
William Glasofer	

President's Message

By Mariela Dybner, CBI President



As I write this bulletin article, I reflect on Hanukkah and our joyous celebrations at CBI. We kicked off the festivities on Tuesday, the second day of Hanukkah. Children at the Hedwig Gruenewald Early Childhood Center regaled their loved ones with songs of latkes frying in a pan and shared some goodies after the show. Thursday, the Adult Forum hosted Cantor Wallach and Cantor Erica Lippitz from Oheb Shalom who led communal singing

in a beautiful celebratory lunch. On the sixth night, the congregation came together to enjoy a festive Shir Shabbat followed by a Shabbat dinner generously underwritten by Betsy and Phil Darivoff, whom we thank for supporting us as we break bread as one kehilah, or holy community. Shabbat dinners are planned for every month, and there are opportunities for families, groups and arms of the synagogue to host. Sunday morning, on the seventh day of Hanukkah, our BBRS families and members of the community built the tallest LEGO menorah. It is incredible to see what we can accomplish when we each contribute our piece(s)! This was followed by our annual Men's Club Hanukkah Dinner Dance, which this year fell on the last night of Hanukkah and honored Dan Richter as Man of the Year. It was a wonderful night with delicious food provided by our Men's Club chefs and great music including the Millburn High School a cappella group, Soulfege, and we had the honor of toasting one of the hardest working members of CBI.

A hearty thanks to all in our congregation who have made pledges to our High Holiday Appeal for 2018! This year, because of a generous match

opportunity, we have benefitted from some year-end increases and donations. As we all know, our membership fees cover only sixty percent of annual expenses, so it is only because of these efforts that we are able to provide the programming that we all enjoy and the education that our community values. Kol haKavod!

For the first time in many years, we have publicized and made available discounted cemetery plots for our members. This endeavor, spearheaded by Nan Greenwald and Steven Finkler, has benefitted the congregation by bringing in needed funds and helped our individual families to plan in an economical way and avoid dealing with added stress at a difficult time. Over three dozen plots have been purchased at this time. We owe a debt of gratitude to Nan and Steve for bringing this project to fruition.

Exciting things are coming our way in January and February as we prepare to welcome our rabbinic candidates to CBI. We have invited four applicants to share Shabbat and a full weekend with us. We have many opportunities over the course of each weekend to get to know the candidates and for them to experience all the wonderful qualities of our congregation. Each candidate will join us for services on Friday night and Saturday morning and will participate in discussions and answer questions from members--please watch your mail for a more detailed letter from the Rabbinic Search committee.

Enjoy the snow from the warmth of your cozy homes!

B'Shalom,

Mariela Markelis Dybner



To contact Mariela Dybner, email her at president@cbi-nj.org

CBI Sisterhood Presents Mah Jongg Nights



Play your game or join a new one
Refresh your skills or perfect them

Learners Table Available

Most of All - Have Fun!

RSVP: Helene Moehlman, shmoehlman@yahoo.com or Call 201-341-2059
Let me know if you would like to play at the Learners Table
Free for Sisterhood members, \$5.00 for non-members

Plan Ahead, All Wednesday's at 7:30pm:

January 16
February 13
March 13
April 10
May 15



CBI Chanting Circle

Join us in the Chapel on **Sunday, January 20th, at 5 PM** for our inspirational Hebrew chant and song circle with musical accompaniment.

In general, traditional Judaism has been skittish about making too much of Mother Nature, fearing a slippery slope toward pagan worship. In the 16th century the Kabbalists of Safed, having no such fear, created the TuB'shvat seder and ever since we are more comfortable sacralizing nature, especially on the coming holiday (January 21st!) of TuB'shvat. Accordingly, this month's theme centers on the magnificence of the natural world as reflected in our liturgy and in the Hebrew Bible.

The intention of chanting is to awaken the divine in our hearts. It can soothe the mind and at the very least is simply fun to do! No prior knowledge of Hebrew or singing ability necessary . . . only a willingness to join in spiritual community.

For further information, contact lenhausman@msn.com

Beineynu

By Harvey Brenner, Executive Director

Happy New Year!

Since this column is entitled “*Beineynu..... Just Between Us.....*” I’m taking the liberty of changing it a bit this month. I thought that a little conversation (and a commercial of sorts) about Congregational Dinner and *Kiddush* sponsorships might be in order.



Congregation Bnai Israel is unique among the congregations I’ve served as about one Friday evening a month, we host a ‘family dinner’ that has recently been underwritten by some very generous benefactors. Additionally, on Shabbat mornings, we offer a *Kiddush* light lunch each and every week. Whether sponsored, hosted or not, we have pretty substantial offerings, and nobody walks away hungry from the meals.

For many, it the largest meal of the day and for others, some challah, a cookie and wine are “*genug*” (just enough). Whichever is your preference, we offer a warm and wonderful communal setting where we eat, chat, laugh, schmooze and in general, catch up with one another, once a month or 52 weeks a year.

There is no cost to partake. We consider it an important thread woven into the fabric of our community and an integral piece in the building blocks of our *Kehillah Kedosha* (our Holy Community). We want to be able to sustain it for years to come; so now, here comes the commercial for and about sponsorships.

Sisterhood is available any week to assist you in sponsoring the *kiddush*. Jane Brauer, *Kiddush* Chairperson, (brauer1000@yahoo.com), can help you select a menu that fits both your personal style and budget. Celebrate a simcha with us by hosting the congregational *kiddush* and share the special lifecycle occasion with your CBI friends and extended family.

Want to sponsor a Friday night, Shabbat Dinner? You can do that by contacting either Henry Bloom, dinner committee chairperson extraordinaire or the CBI office and we’ll work with you to select a date and menu that will reflect your tastes and wishes.

Did you know that you could sponsor just a part of the dinner or kiddush if you wanted to? That’s right! You could gather a friend or two together and collectively underwrite the cost of the weekly *kiddush* or the monthly dinner, thereby spreading the costs out among a few families. It’s a great way to celebrate birthdays or anniversaries in a given month or commemorate other life milestone events.

Additionally, it’s a wonderful way to help sustain this important part of our mission; something unique that separates CBI from most other congregations large and small.

It’s easy to do.... Just contact the synagogue office and speak with me about sponsoring an evening dinner or morning *kiddush*. We’ll take care of the details for you. Whether you sponsor in whole or in part, your generosity will be greatly appreciated and it will help sustain these noteworthy mitzvot and programs. Of course, appropriate recognition will be given in CBI announcements, handouts and the Bulletin.

Thanks in advance for your generous and continued support and see you at dinner or a *kiddush*!

Again, Happy and Healthy 2019 to you all!

Harvey M. Brenner, FSA, FTA



To contact Harvey Brenner,
email him at hbrenner@cbi-nj.org

LET’S HAVE DINNER TOGETHER!

This year we are planning monthly Shabbat dinners to bring the CBI Community together and we’re looking for additional sponsors.

To become a sponsor:

Contact Harvey Brenner (hbrenner@cbi-nj.org) in the CBI office for more information.



featuring

K ASKESET

Jewish A Cappella Group of Binghamton University



Kabbalat Shabbat

Friday, January 11 at 7:30 p.m.

A special Shabbat appropriate performance of Jewish, Israeli and popular American songs!

Festive Oneg to Follow

Shabbat Morning

Saturday, January 12

Kaskeset will sing in the sanctuary and at Family Service in MPR and will join us for communal singing at the Kiddush!

NEW JERSEY'S #1 PARTY SHOWCASE

Planning a Bar/Bat Mitzvah, Wedding, Sweet 16 or Party?

DJ's • Photographers • Videographers • Party & Photo Favors • Entertainers
Balloon Specialists • Invitations • Photo Booths • Variety Entertainment • Kosher Caterers

Meet over
25
Exciting
Vendors!

GOURMET FOOD
SERVED

BRING YOUR
FRIENDS!



Photo by Sweet Dreams Studio

Sun. January 6, 2019
11:00-2:00 PM

Congregation B'nai Israel
160 Millburn Ave, Millburn, NJ

**REGISTER
ONLINE**

partyshowcases.com
908-665-4165

**REGISTER
ONLINE**

Hedwig Gruenewald Early Childhood Center (HGECC)

By Rochelle Baron, Director

Happy 2019!

It's good to be back in school after a long winter break. Teachers will be welcoming parents for conferences this month. A nurse from the Health Department will be here on January 9 with a hands-on workshop for the kids about good dental hygiene. HGECC will be at CBI's annual MLK Mitzvathon on January 21 and hope you will stop by to see us. All of this along with new activities, loose parts creations, and classroom happenings--both indoors and outdoors--will make for a great month!

As part of our staff's annual in-service continuing education requirement (as outlined by the State of New Jersey) the teachers have been attending workshops sponsored by the Jewish Federation of MetroWest over



the past three months to study and learn about new ways to enhance our program. The first session, held at CBI in October, dealt with analyzing the role of the teacher and open-ended learning. November's topic challenged us to create increased opportunities for children to explore their environment and create their own curriculum. December's theme was enhancing our documentation and observation techniques and using the information gathered therein to help create meaningful experiences for our students. We were all very motivated by what we learned and look forward to implementing these ideas in our daily routines.

Enjoy the brisk days ahead—stay warm!

Rochelle



To contact Rochelle Baron,
email her at HGECC@cbi-nj.org

Blanche Bayar Religious School (BBRS)

By Rabbi Sharon Litwin, Director of Congregational Learning

As we finish up our first semester at BBRS for the year, I am reflecting on the wonderful learning and teaching that has taken place so far this year.

We have had a very full house for all of our Shir Shabbat services and dinners. It is wonderful for our community to come together each month. The students who join Cantor Wallach and me on the Bimah to help lead Kabbalat Shabbat and Maariv services bring joy to our entire community and pride to their parents and teachers. If you haven't been to a Shir Shabbat service and joined us for dinner, I hope you will. These services are uplifting and warm and we love to have multigenerational participation.

Our Family Shabbat Morning service is also a wonderful space for students and families to pray, lead, discuss, act out the Torah service and read from the Torah. . Yashar Koach to Evan Abraham, Maya Abraham, Elyse Benjamin, Michaelah Benjamin, Eliana Biller, Sara Dybner Keala Goldberg, Simon Richter, and Milo Weiss, for their incredible Torah reading.

In October, our Kitah Dalet and Kitah Hey students joined their peers from the Summit JCC at South Mountain Reservation for a camp style program to learn about the trails of Israel. We all loved singing with Pizmon, the A Capella Group from Columbia, Barnard and JTS. And we are grateful to our parents who helped



to support the annual BBRS PA Book Fair.

A highlight of the fall has also been a new program called "Shabbat Table" once a month on Tuesdays with our Kitah Gimel, Kitah Dalet and Kitah Hey students. We have a mock "Shabbat Dinner," with candle lighting, Kiddush, hand washing, Challah, songs and Birkat HaMazon, the blessing after the meal. The students love getting Challah and grape juice and are becoming more familiar with the rituals associated with the celebration of Shabbat in the home.

I have always hoped that within BBRS and the whole CBI community we would strive to create a sense of community around prayer and Shabbat amongst our families. It is wonderful to see everyone at our special services. As the famous Jewish philosopher Ahad HaAm taught: "More than the Jewish people have kept Shabbat, Shabbat has kept the Jewish people."

By joining together on Shabbat and creating a sense of community, we sustain a vibrant, passionate, committed Judaism for the next generation of Jews. I hope our students will continue to love to participate in Shabbat services and will carry their enthusiasm with them as they continue to grow as Jews.

Rabbi Sharon Litwin



To contact Rabbi Sharon Litwin,
email her at slitwin@cbi-nj.org

Sisterhood's Message

By Laurie Kavowras and Ruth Novick



Laurie Kavowras



Ruth Novick

In 1958, Martin Luther King, Jr. spoke at the American Jewish Congress convention. He said: "My people were brought to America in chains. Your people were driven here to escape the chains fashioned for them in Europe. Our unity is born of our common struggle for centuries, not only to rid ourselves of bondage, but to make oppression of any people by others an impossibility." King and the Jewish community were allies in the fight for civil rights and against anti-semitism. King also was a staunch supporter of a secure Israel. It is fitting, therefore, that CBI honors the legacy of Dr. King with a day of service on January 21.

Sisterhood will host a table at the MLK day of service to benefit victims of domestic violence. Among its many services, the Rachel Coalition assists these victims as they navigate through the court system. Many of the victims have no choice but to bring their children with them to court as they do not have access to child care. Sisterhood will be preparing bags containing snacks and entertainment to give to these children. Please come to the table to help us decorate the bags and to send cheery messages to the recipients. We will also collect monetary donations which will be used to purchase gift cards for domestic violence victims who are trying to live independently of their abusers. We hope you will join us in supporting this very meaningful charity.

Two of our regular programs, Mah Jongg and Knit and Knosh continue this month on Wednesday, January 16 and Tuesday, January 29, respectively. The number of women attending these programs has increased by leaps and bounds. New faces are always welcome. Don't worry if you don't yet know how to play mah jongg or how to knit. We will teach you. Come! The more the merrier!

Sisterhood Shabbat is scheduled for March 1 and 2, 2019. There is still time to sign up to participate. We have something for everyone – speaking or non-speaking parts, Hebrew or English parts, Friday night or Saturday morning parts. Not ready to participate in the services? Help in the kitchen! Let Michelle Daniel at michelledaniel@gmail.com or Chaya Cohen at chayacohen@gmail.com know what you'd like to do.

Wishing you all a wonderful new year!

Upcoming Events:

<i>Mah Jongg</i>	Wednesday, January 16
<i>MLK Mitzvah Day</i>	Monday, January 21
<i>Knit and Knosh</i>	Tuesday, January 29

Laurie Kavowras and Ruth Novick



Sisterhood Gift Shop (your Judaica Depot)



The Gift Shop is open for all of your shopping needs for **newborns, b'nai mitzvah's, weddings, and other celebrations!** Check out our magnificent selection of **tallit, wine cups, wedding items (including ketubahs), candlesticks, yads, music boxes** and decorative pieces just to name a few. All from Israel and local vendors!

Many of our items make great hostess gifts too!

Open the following days in January:

Sunday, January 6th (during the Party Showcase)	10:30am - 1:30pm
Monday, January 21st (MLK Mitzvah Day)	2:00pm - 4:00pm

BLOWOUT INVENTORY SALE

**A minimum of 50% off all items on our
Sale Table on 1/6 & 1/21**

Please email Ilisa Perlman at IlisaPerlman@verizon.net to meet at your convenience when the Gift Shop is closed.



BAT MITZVAH



Sophie Minocha January 12 2019 (PM)

Sophie is in 7th grade at Millburn Middle School. She enjoys horseback riding, baking performing in the school play and spending time with friends. For her Mitzvah Project, Sophie bakes and delivers treats for the Caregiver Center at Overlook Hospital. This is a retreat inside the hospital where family and friends of patients can go to take a break from hospital rooms and relax. Many families do not live locally and a homemade snack is a luxury during their difficult time.

Sophie is excited to celebrate her bat mitzvah with her parents, Wendy and Nik Minocha, brother Andrew, grandparents Sara-Ann and Robert Sanders and Renu and Surender Minocha, as well as all of her family and friends that have come from near and far. Sophie thanks everyone that helped her prepare for this special day, most especially Rabbi Litwin, Paula Touger, Cantor Wallach and Rabbi Bayar.



Free Preschool Playtime

Drop-In Open Play at Congregation B'nai Israel

Open to the Community

Who: Toddlers 15 months to 2 years old (accompanied by an adult)

When: Wednesday mornings from 9:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

Dates: January 2, 9, 16, 23, 30



Activity Centers

Music

Use of indoor/outdoor playgrounds



For more information or to RSVP, please contact
Rochelle Baron at 973-379-4040 or hgecc@cbi-nj.org

160 Millburn Avenue, Millburn, NJ 07041



Calling All Knitters, Crocheters or Wannabees

Please join us for the

Sisterhood Knit & Knosh (and needlecraft) Group

2018-19 Schedule

Tuesday Evenings at 7:30 p.m. in Youth Lounge

February 26	March 19	January 29
May 28	June 25	April 23

Bring your own supplies. Any kind of needlecraft is great.
Want to learn - we'll have yarn. You bring needles.
Work on your project or stitch for a cause.
An opportunity to share patterns and provide support

RSVP: Marion Mohl marionmohl@aol.com 908-273-8157
Ann Spector annspector@msn.com 973-868-0329

Want to learn, are experienced, or just want to schmooze, come to our
monthly informal gathering. Light refreshments.



MEN'S CLUB MINUTE

By Jonathan Schor & Alex Marcus,
Men's Club Co-Presidents

Happy 2019 CBI! Men's Club's 2018 went out with a party and a trophy!

Congratulations again to our 2018 Man of the Year Dan Richter. No one was more deserving of the honor. It was an evening to remember. Thank you to all those who made the evening such a success. A special shout out to David Touger, Nachum Burstein, Howard Kessler, Hank Kaplowitz, and David Ehrlich for cooking, food procurement and prep. Thanks to Mike Slifer for the ad journal. Thanks to Michael Jurist for coordinating the and chairing the event. Yasher Koach to everyone involved.

The Men's Club Bowling team continued our Kiddush Kup dominance over Oheb Shalom. We retained the trophy with an average score of 162 with Danny Kamen leading the way with an amazing 191!

Looking forward to 2019----

Men's Club Shabbat and Cholent contest—January 25–26—it is a highlight of the CBI calendar. Friday night services are followed by a special Shabbat meal prepared by David Touger. Shabbat services are followed by a special kiddush and cholent contest. Alex Marcus prepares to defend his "chili"



Jonathan Schor



Alex Marcus

against real cholent challengers for a chance to get their name inscribed on the Kiddush Kup! Please RSVP for dinner at <https://tinyurl.com/MCShabbat2019>

Good parts are still available for the service. We are hoping to get as many people involved in the services as possible. Please contact Dan Richter at cbimensclubmillburn@gmail.com if you want to sign up.

MLK B'Shevat – January 21st – Men's Club will be participating in CBI's Mitzvah Day. Please join us, and the whole community, as there will be Mitzvah opportunities for all tastes. And don't forget it is also Tu B'Shvat. First we had Thanksgivingakkah and now we have MLK b'Shevat!

Paper Mill Playhouse – March 2nd – Please join CBI at the Theater! We have a block of tickets for "My Very Own British Invasion." It promises to be a fun evening for all. Tickets are limited so please RSVP by January 20th at <https://tinyurl.com/papermill2019>

Also, on the Men's Club schedule is weekly basketball, Monday & Wednesday, at Hartshorn School.

Looking forward to an exciting 2019!

For more information on any Men's Club Events contact us at cbimensclubmillburn@gmail.com

Jonathan Schor & Alex Marcus



Cantor Wallach & Rabbi Sharon
standing before the
World's Tallest Lego Menorah



Lilah Biller, Eloise & Adam Goldberg



Michael & Oliver Gordon

BLOOD DRIVE AT MLK MITZVAH DAY!



NATIONAL
**Blood
Donor**
MONTH

MAKE
LIFESAVING
A HABIT

MONDAY, JANUARY 21st
1:00pm-7:00pm

COMMUNITY WALK-INS WELCOME!



**CONGREGATION
B'NAI ISRAEL**
160 MILLBURN AVE.

All donors will receive a \$5
Dunkin Donuts Gift Card as
a gift for donating blood!



\$5 GIFT CARD

YOUR BLOOD DONATION CAN HELP SAVE 3 PATIENTS!

16-year olds require a NJBS Parental Consent Form to donate.

Please bring ID & eat before donating blood!

 **New Jersey** *Blood Services*
A Division of New York Blood Center

Additional questions, please contact: Amy Alpert at: gidamy@comcast.net

Join us for a day of learning and giving at **MLK MITZVAH DAY**



**Monday, January 21, 2019
2:00pm-4:00pm**



**CONGREGATION
B'NAI ISRAEL**



**Come be inspired by more than
20 Charitable Groups and Organizations!**

Local – State – National – Israel

Mitzvot Raffle- Do a good deed or mitzvah before 1/21? Write down what you did, what you learned and how it made you feel... bring it to Mitzvah Day! Enter yours into a raffle- 3 submissions will be randomly selected to win a \$25 gift card! Enter as many good deeds as you wish!



Blood drive with the New York Blood Center from 1:00pm-7:00pm in the Multi-Purpose Room. Those age 16 (with a consent form) and up can donate! Thank you, Amy Alpert, for organizing!

Mitzvah Day is a wonderful opportunity to learn about and support various charitable groups and organizations in our community and Israel.

This community-wide event is open to ALL!

There will be hands-on mitzvot for everyone!

**Please be aware that there is NO pre-registration nor entrance fee.
Some tables may ask for nominal donations.**

**Organized by Hearts and Hands Committee and our
Director of Congregational Learning, Rabbi Sharon Litwin.**

CBI MEN'S CLUB SHABBAT



DINNER & SERVICE

Friday, January 25th, 2019

Dinner at 6:45 p.m. / Service at 8:00 p.m.

Join your CBI friends for a communal Shabbat dinner prepared by the renowned Men's Club chefs!

Adults and children of all ages are welcome!

Shabbat Singing and Good Times!



Early Bird Special! RSVP by Jan. 18th -- \$5 per person / \$25 per family max

(RSVPs Jan. 19th – Jan. 23rd -- \$10 per person / \$40 per family max.) No RSVPs after Jan 23rd.

~~~~~

**WE HOPE YOU CAN JOIN US! Last date to RSVP: Wednesday, Jan 23<sup>rd</sup>**

**Sign up online at** <http://tinyurl.com/MCShabbat2019>

**Or, follow instructions below:**

RSVP to Dan Richter by email at [cbimensclubmillburn@gmail.com](mailto:cbimensclubmillburn@gmail.com) or by phone at (732) 261-5138.

Then send your check with below form to: CBI, 160 Millburn Ave, Millburn, NJ 07041, Attn: Men's Club Shabbat. Please make check payable to "CBI Men's Club" with memo "Shabbat Dinner."

### CBI Men's Club Shabbat Dinner Signup Form

Adult Names \_\_\_\_\_

Kids Under 18 Names and Ages \_\_\_\_\_

Total # of People \_\_\_\_\_ Total Owed \_\_\_\_\_

Notes \_\_\_\_\_



**Adult Forum "Lunch & Learn"**  
Congregation B'nai Israel  
160 Millburn Avenue, Millburn, NJ 07041  
Our programs are open to all- bring friends!

#### JANUARY EVENTS

Lunch begins at 12:30 p.m. The program begins at 1:00 p.m.

**Thursday, January 3 at CBI Thursday,** Join us to screen the hit movie *Crazy Rich Asians*. *Crazy Rich Asians* is a book-based romantic comedy that centers on Rachel Chu (**Constance Wu**), a smart, independent Chinese American economics professor who's in love with Nick Young (Henry Golding), who turns out to be from an insanely wealthy Singapore family. The world of materialism, obscene wealth, and status, that Rachel encounters there is totally over the top.

**Thursday, January 17 at CBI** Hirschhorn speaker Dr. Mark Grebenau will discuss Artificial Intelligence. The concept of Artificial Intelligence, originally in the realm of science fiction, has been around for almost 70 years. It is now rapidly becoming a reality. Dr. Grebenau will talk about the development of this concept over the decades, and what may be looming in the future. Come, listen and learn what the future holds!

Sandwich choices are: Turkey, Corned Beef, Roast Beef, Pastrami, Tuna Fish, or Egg Salad. **YOU MAY PAY AT THE DOOR. CONTACT LOIS at 973-533-1809 to place your lunch order by the Wednesday afternoon preceding the program.** The cost is \$10 for Adult Forum members & partners and \$12 for non-members. If you are coming for the program only, there is no charge, but please call to let me know that you will be attending.

**IN CASE OF INCLEMENT WEATHER, Please call the temple 973-379-3811**

**Wishing you all a Happy Secular New Year**

## Sisterhood Shabbat **And You** Perfect Together

### Friday, March 1, & Saturday, March 2, 2019

#### Call/E-mail us To Volunteer

For an English or Hebrew, Singing or Reading Prayer

Michelle Daniel – 973-258-1245 Chaya Cohen - 908-654-8580

[michellefdaniel@gmail.com](mailto:michellefdaniel@gmail.com) [chayacohen@gmail.com](mailto:chayacohen@gmail.com)

Feel the warmth of joining with your lady Friends

Leading Friday evening, Shabbat morning Prayers

**Mothers, Daughters, Grandmothers, Granddaughters, Sisters, Aunts, Cousins**

**You** Will Make **Sisterhood Shabbat** So Special!

# ISRAEL AFFAIRS

By Joe Tenenbaum



## Israel News – 2019

Many news organizations publish forecasts for the coming year, putting on paper their expectations for the year. I am doing half of that. I will list important questions about next year that you and I can think about, monitor during the year, and then look

back 12 months from now and review what happened.

Will Israel have an election in 2019? Will it be early or late? Do you expect that post election there will be a new prime minister? For 25 extra points, if you answered yes, who will be the new Prime Minister?

Will there be meetings between the President of the United States and the Prime Minister of Israel? How many meetings?

2019 should be the year in which the Trump administration tries its hand at proposing a Peace Plan for Israel and the Palestinians. Will either party reject the plan immediately? Will it bring about negotiations between the Israelis and the Palestinian Authority? Will the plan still be under consideration by the end of 2019?

Will Israel have increased or decreased military activity in 2019? Will the enemies of Israel be more aggressive in 2019 than during 2018? This is a four part question – in Gaza, in Syria, at the Lebanon border, or in the West Bank?

Will Israel have any (public) diplomatic breakthrough with one of the nearby Arab states? With any other Muslim or non-aligned state?

Will new legislation be passed increasing the participation of the Haredi in the IDF or in other National Service organizations?

Will the status of non-Orthodox groups at the Kotel change during 2019? Will the previous agreement with the government be revived and approved?

Will there be any change in the power of the Rabinut in Israel or in the rules covering marriage and or conversion?

Who will be the top musical acts to perform in Israel in 2019?

Will there be a top musical act scheduled to perform who decides under pressure not to perform?

Will the US Congress pass anti-BDS legislation to prevent US companies from participating in a boycott of Israeli products?

What is the importance of these questions? My hope is that as you review the questions, you care about the answers. There are people in the United States, and even people who identify as Jews who express little connection or concern about Israel. The goal of CBI's Israel Affairs Committee consistent with the goals of our community is to deepen the connection of our entire community with Israel.

## CBI Israel Affairs Committee

If you would like to work on a committee which will actively plan and assist all arms of the Congregation to support Israel, please contact me at TenenbaumJ@AOL.com. For those of you who prefer telephones, please call me at 973 768 7440. The Israel Bond Brunch was a great start to the year. The appearance by Amit Stern to discuss religious pluralism in Israel was very interesting. We are looking for more ways to encourage our community to learn about Israel's accomplishments and challenges, to support a strong US Israel relationship. Please volunteer.

## 2019 AIPAC Policy Conference March 24-26, 2019

You should plan on attending the 2019 Policy Conference. The experience is priceless, so putting this on your calendar now for you (and the students in your family) to attend will be a life altering experience. Next year we will again have a supply of discounted registrations, so if you wish to save on your experience, please let me know. However, I guarantee you that going, even at full price, is worth the expense. I look forward to working with congregants who have experienced the wonder and excitement of the Policy Conference to help share the event with more of you.

We are encouraging everyone to attend, but we have in effect two tracks. We are encouraging high school students and their parents to attend, and we are encouraging our entire community to attend.

On January 6, we will be hosting Max Jaffe from AIPAC to meet with High School students and parents to find out about the Conference. We will also be discussing the MetroWest program which offers scholarships to students who attend with their parents. Come at noon on January 6 to discover the possibilities. Lobbying with your children is an amazing experience – it demonstrates in a unique way how important you believe it is to participate in our Democracy.

We will also be reaching out to the rest of the community and encouraging you to take part this year. This is a very special year because almost 25% of the US Congress is new. We plan

to schedule a meeting to help bring AIPAC to you if you need more information to decide to attend. Let me know if you are interested.

AIPAC works very hard to support the US Israel Relationship in a bi-partisan manner, building relationships with all members of Congress, Democrats and Republicans to make sure that they all understand the value of this relationship to the United States. With the election of new Congressional Representatives in New Jersey, it is very important that we show these new members how important the US Israel relationship is to our community. The best way to demonstrate that is to have a very strong delegation attend the Policy Conference and particularly to attend the Tuesday afternoon lobbying sessions on Capitol Hill. You all know the importance of first impressions. We need to make a great first impression on the new Representatives by having a large delegation of

local constituents meet with them on Tuesday afternoon during the conference.

### Missing Soldiers and non-combatants

We must continue to pray for the remaining soldiers to return home:

**Guy Hever Zachary Baumel Avi Feldman**

There are also two non-combatant Israelis being held by Hamas in Gaza:

**Avera Mangistu Hisham al Sayed**

**Joe Tenenbaum**

To contact Joe Tenenbaum,  
email him at [TenenbaumJ@AOL.com](mailto:TenenbaumJ@AOL.com)



*Preparing for the big build*

*Sam Gordon*



### Shabbat Journeymen's Minyan If it's not a "minyan," what is it?

Among the wonderful programs that we have at CBI, one of our hidden gems is our Shabbat Journeymen's Minyan (SJM). Once a month, SJM is an opportunity for congregants to get together on Shabbat morning to discuss and explore a topic related to Jewish life. Since the discussions are lay-led, the choice of topic is up to the person leading the discussion. It can be something that relates to the weekly Torah portion, the liturgy, religious holidays or whatever topic the leader chooses.

Our next SJM will be on

**Saturday, January 12 at 10:45 a.m.**

Please join us in Room 205 (upstairs in the school wing) for a stimulating hour of learning and discussion.

**All are welcome!**

**DON'T MISS  
THE DEADLINE!**

Please note, the deadline for the February 2019 bulletin is January 4. Information contained in the bulletin each month is time sensitive. We appreciate your cooperation in order to ensure that the Bulletin reaches everyone by the beginning of each month.

Space permitting, we will do our best to include your item(s), and we reserve the right to edit your submission. Please submit all material to [CBIbulletin@cbi-nj.org](mailto:CBIbulletin@cbi-nj.org).

| Deadline | Edition  |
|----------|----------|
| 4-Jan    | FEBRUARY |
| 1-Feb    | MARCH    |
| 4-Mar    | APRIL    |
| 29-Mar   | MAY      |
| 29-Apr   | JUNE     |
| 31-May   | JULY     |

## DONATIONS

If you wish to send a tribute please call the main office at 973-379-3811 ext.111 or email: [dcoscia@cbi-nj.org](mailto:dcoscia@cbi-nj.org).

### Synagogue Fund

Karen Tucker - Mazel Tov on 50 years as CBI member

❖ Miriam Linver & Matt Askin

Jane & Bob Brauer - Mazel Tov on the birth of your granddaughter, Maya Adele

❖ Miriam Linver & Matt Askin

Risa & Evan Wasserman - Mazel Tov on the auf ruf & upcoming marriage of your daughter Alexa to Josh

❖ Miriam Linver & Matt Askin

Nan & Howard Greenwald - Mazel Tov on the birth of your granddaughter, Miriam Rose

❖ Miriam Linver & Matt Askin

Ruth & Bruce Novick - Mazel Tov on Josh beginning his pilot training

❖ Miriam Linver & Matt Askin

Nan & Howard Greenwald - Mazel Tov on the birth of your granddaughter, Miriam Rose

❖ Steven & Helene Moehlma

Risa & Evan Wasserman - Mazel Tov on the marriage of your daughter, Alexa

❖ Elizabeth & Allan Rauch

Jane & Bob Brauer - Mazel Tov on the birth of your granddaughter, Maya Adele

❖ Elizabeth & Allan Rauch

### Rabbi's Fund

Katherine Feld - Mazel Tov on this steep in your life!

❖ Roberta Balsam

The Cook Family - Sincerest Condolences

❖ Roberta Balsam

### Cantor's Fund

Bob & Jane Brauer - Mazel Tov on the birth of your granddaughter, Maya

❖ Leslie McCafferty

Cantor Wallach - Mazel Tov on a great A Cappella weekend with Pizmon. Thank you for your hard work to bring this joyful musical event to the CBI Community

❖ Miriam Linver & Matt Askin

Karen Tucker - In honor of the celebration of your milestone membership anniversary & for all that you do for our shul!

❖ Henry & Wendy Kaplowitz

### Burk-Mendlovitz Youth Fund

Naomi & Gerry Eisenberg - Mazel Tov on the Bar Mitzvah of your grandson, Ilan

❖ Paul & Harriet Klein

Kopel Burk - Mazel Tov on your milestone birthday!

❖ Miriam Linver & Matt Askin



Proudly welcomes our newest members  
As of December 31, 2018 (in bold)

Heidi & Barry Allen  
Miriam Linver & Matt Askin  
Helaine Ettinger & Henry Bloom  
Jane & Robert Brauer  
Barbara & Steve Brown  
Andrew Cohen  
Elizabeth & Gerald Cohen  
Heidi & Brett Cohen  
Alia Covell  
Betsy & Phil Darivoff  
Marcela & Ariel Dybner  
Roz & Jonathan Engel  
**Jacqueline Printz & Robert Finkel**  
Lilli & Steve Finkler  
Marvin Fish  
Andrea & David Good  
Susan & Larry Gordon  
Naomi & Howard Greenwald  
Andrea & David Hirschfeld  
Meryl Griff Hubscher & Dan Hubscher

Eli & Mona Jacobs  
Stacy Thompson & David Kanarek  
**Wendy & Hank Kaplowitz**  
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Nancy & Joseph Tenenbaum  
Paula & David Touger  
**Harold Wiener**  
Anonymous

**Is CBI already in YOUR estate plan?**

We need to know so we can honor you as part of our Legacy Circle.  
Contact Elizabeth Cohen or Harvey Brenner  
[LegacyCircle@cbi-nj.org](mailto:LegacyCircle@cbi-nj.org)

**You are never too young – or too old – to make a planned gift.**



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Contact **Harvey Brenner** at (973) 379-3811 x 118 or [hbrenner@cbi-nj.org](mailto:hbrenner@cbi-nj.org) for more information about advertising in **The Bulletin**.



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Reaching in to its members and reaching out to the community, Congregation B'nai Israel is a traditional, inclusive, egalitarian, multigenerational community. Characterized by a unique blend of high energy in a low key, warm and welcoming environment, CBI is a place where congregants come together to pursue religious fulfillment, diversified programming and social and community leadership.

#### **Congregation B'nai Israel (973) 379-3811**

Steven Bayar, Rabbi  
Lorna Wallach, Cantor  
Harvey M. Brenner, FSA, FTA, Executive Director

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