

# The Bulletin



CONGREGATION  
B'NAI ISRAEL

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

February 2019

## SISTERHOOD SHABBAT

March 1-2, 2019



**Come Rock With Us!**

Join us for a Rock 'n Roll themed weekend where the women of CBI take over services.

**Friday, March 1**

Shabbat dinner – 6:45 p.m.  
Services – 8:00 p.m.  
Oneg to follow services

**Saturday, March 2**

Services – 9:00 a.m.  
Kiddush to follow services

## February Shabbat Services

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

### Additional Shabbat Programs:

#### Friday/Saturday, February 1-2 MEET RABBI DARIO BIALER

7:00 pm – Kabbalat Shabbat Services *\*\* please note early Start Time\*\**  
9:00 am – Shabbat Services  
12:00 pm – Kiddush  
3:45 pm – Mincha  
4:45 pm – Seuda-Shlishit  
5:45 pm – Ma'ariv and Havdalah

#### Friday/Saturday, February 8-9 MEET RABBI SHARON LITWIN

7:00 pm – Kabbalat Shabbat Services *\*\* please note early Start Time\*\**  
9:00 am – Shabbat Services  
12:00 pm – Kiddush  
3:45 pm – Mincha  
4:45 pm – Seuda-Shlishit  
5:45 pm – Ma'ariv and Havdalah

#### Friday/Saturday, February 15-16

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

#### Friday/Saturday, February 22-23

8:15 pm – Kabbalat Shabbat Services  
9:00 am – Shabbat Services  
10:30 am – Bim Bam Shabbat Services  
10:30 am – Family Shabbat Service  
12:00 pm – Kiddush

Please check [www.cbi-nj.org](http://www.cbi-nj.org) for any changes to schedule.

## Candle Lighting

February 1 4:57 pm  
February 8 5:05 pm  
February 15 5:14 pm  
February 22 5:22 pm

## Mincha/Havdallah

February 2 3:45/6:15pm (Ma'ariv at 5:45pm)  
February 9 3:45/6:15pm (Ma'ariv at 5:45pm)  
February 16 5:21 pm/6:23 pm  
February 23 4:55 pm/6:31 pm

## Minyan Rotation

1/27 – 2/02 Shaykevich – Smith  
2/03 – 2/09 Solomon – Talts  
2/10 – 2/16 Talpins – Webman  
2/17 – 2/23 Weiner – Williams  
2/24 – 3/2 Wisenudal – Zucker

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



To the Bnai Israel community:

This will be my last bulletin article as the Rabbi at Congregation Bnai Israel in Millburn, New Jersey. I will be on leave until mid-March.

While I will be in residence at CBI from mid-March until June 2, I expect that my successor will have been identified before I return in March. By now you have already met several of the well-qualified candidates brought in to the congregation by the dedicated members of the search committee. You have had an opportunity to meet the Rabbi who will ascend to the Bimah this coming summer.

But your new Rabbi will not be able to ascend the Bimah because our Bimah is on the level of the congregation. We chant Torah, lead the prayers and hear sermon/dialogues all from the floor of the sanctuary. This was planned by design. We moved the Bimah down to the level of the congregation to better demystify the tradition and become more participatory. We also humanized the clergy by encouraging them to sit with the congregation and not above it.

Any Rabbi assuming the pulpit will bring change - it is inevitable and normal. Some will embrace this change and some will recoil from it. What is most important is that the congregation continues in its tradition of change and adaptation. I would hope that the ideals we created over the past thirty years will help guide the future conversation - not hinder it.

I leave you with words spoken by Rabbi Max Gruenewald, the Rabbi Emeritus of Bnai Israel until his passing in 1992. He told the congregation at my installation that while he and I could not have been more different if I, as his successor, could keep the name of Bnai Israel alive and vital then I would have fulfilled his greatest hope for the future. So it is with me.

Steven Bayar



To contact Rabbi Bayar,  
email him at [cbirabbi@cbi-nj.org](mailto:cbirabbi@cbi-nj.org)



## MUSICAL NOTES

By Cantor Lorna Wallach

### ALIYAH HONOR

When was the last time you had an *Aliyah*/Honor at CBI services?

There are many opportunities for an honor, and while we maintain the *Minhag* (long-standing custom) of reserving the first and second Torah Aliyah Blessings for a Kohain/Bat Kohain or a Levi/Bat Levi if they are present, our volunteer Gabbaim (Amy Dantus, Joe Tenenbaum and Susan Gordon) are always looking to give out honors to those who haven't had one in a while.

In every Jewish community all over the world, it is considered of great merit to receive an honor during any service (Shabbat, Holiday or weekday minyan). In addition to the honor of being called to the Torah to recite the *Aliyah* blessings, other honors can include leading *davenning*, reading Torah or Haftarah, opening the Ark, carrying the Torah, lifting or dressing the Torah, teaching words of Torah, or doing an English reading.

"Aliyah", which means "ascent," refers to the spiritual elevation which comes with the privilege of receiving an honor. The Zohar tells us, "G-d looked in the Torah and created the world; when humans act for the sake of G-d and the Torah, we sustain the world." There are no restrictions for a Jew to receive an honor – one does not have to be learned or observant of Mitzvot, and you don't even have to know how to read Hebrew! According to *Minhag* (long-standing custom), there are specific occasions when preference for an honor should be given, such as to a Groom (or Bride in an egalitarian setting!) before or right after their wedding, to someone who is commemorating a Yahrzeit, to a parent of a newborn, and to a child on the week immediately after his/her Bar/Bat Mitzvah! But you certainly don't need to be marking a special occasion to receive an honor!

Anyone who has escaped from disaster or danger (such as a car accident or surgery) or has recovered from a serious illness, would also be given priority to have an Aliyah to the Torah so that after the Aliyah blessing, they could recite a special blessing of gratitude called *Birkat Hagomel*. During the days of the Temple, it was obligatory to bring a thanksgiving offering before God when one survived a life-threatening situation. In the absence of the Temple, *Birkat Hagomel*, which first appears in the Talmud, is said in place of making a sacrifice as a proclamation of gratitude. This blessing serves as a powerful way to give glory and thanks to God for God's protection.

If you want to learn or review how to chant an Aliyah to the Torah, or any other synagogue skill, and/or if you've had an experience for which you'd want to say the short "Gomel" blessing, I am happy to make myself available to help you (and I also have recordings that you can listen to!). So, if it's been a while since you've had a service honor, please let us know, or just come and elevate your soul by accepting an honor in any of our services!



Lorna Wallach



To contact Cantor Wallach, email her at [cbicantor@cbi-nj.org](mailto:cbicantor@cbi-nj.org)

## In The Community

### Mazel Tov to:

Nan & Howard Greenwald on the birth of their granddaughter, Miriam Rose!

Jane & Bob Brauer on the birth of their granddaughter, Maya Adele!

Leila & Melvin Schott on the birth of their great-grandson's birth, Sampson Felix!

Roz & Jonathan Engel on Ezra's engagement to Zoe!

### Condolences to:

Ross Silver on the passing of his mother, Dolly Silver

Elayne Feig on the passing of her mother, Rose Kaplan

Mary Lou Allen on the passing of her husband, Rabbi Daniel Allen

Dr. Genna Klein (Elon) on the passing of her father, Cantor Harvey Waldman

### Refuah Shleima to:

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

## February 2019 Yahrzeit Donors

Barbara Ismail	Ronnie Armuth
Leila & Melvin Schott	Robert Fulop
Sondra Sabin	Lenore May
Helanie Ettinger	Shirley Malamut-Judd
Ross Silver	Marion & Murray Mohl
Jeryl & Ken Rempell	Evelyn Schachtel
Ellen Berkowitz & family	Allan Reiss
Rachel Helman	Sally Shotkin
Frances Licht	Howard Kessler
Roberta Rabin	Helene & Steven Moehlman
Treasure Cohen	Harriet Farber Klein
Sydell Weiner	Donald & Linda Lakin
Isadore Kaplan	E. Maurer
Howard Greenwald	Sharon Richman
Joan Guzik	Deena Bernhaut

## President's Message

By Mariela Dybner, CBI President



February finds us fully immersed in our transition from Rabbi Bayar, our beloved rabbi of almost three decades, to a new rabbinic leader. At this point, our CBI community has welcomed Rabbi Joshua Rabin and Rabbi Marc Israel for full weekends of prayer, study and discussion. In the first two weekends of February, we will be hosting Rabbi Dario Bialer (weekend of Feb 2) and Rabbi Sharon Litwin (weekend of Feb 9), our current Director of

Congregation Learning. Please continue to join us for the various scheduled events for these weekends as it is imperative that our congregation has an opportunity to get to know the candidates and that the candidates get to know as many of us as possible.

You have a voice in the selection of our next rabbi! The rabbinical search committee is soliciting your feedback regarding each of the candidates. Please email you insights, reactions and opinions to the search committee at rabbisearchCBI@gmail.com. All of your comments will be kept anonymous. If you do not have access to email, please leave your comments with Sarah or Denise in the front office, either in person or by phone; they will leave them for me in my President's mailbox, and I will forward them to the rabbinical search committee.

As you write your comments, please use the following questions as guidelines:

- Did you find the candidate personable and approachable?

- Did you feel that the candidate had the intellectual heft and level of learning requisite to being our community's teacher?
- Did you feel that the candidate could inspire you to more fully embrace and express your Judaism?
- Do you think that the candidate has the capacity to make CBI an energized and Judaically vital community?
- Would you look forward to having the candidate as your rabbi?

Please let the committee know which events you attended over the rabbinic visits where you had the opportunity to observe or meet the candidates.

In the coming months, we will have the opportunity to celebrate and enjoy time with Rabbi Bayar as he returns from his scheduled time away. We can also look forward to receiving our beautiful new Torah Covers as we kick off the Torah Cover fundraiser. A letter with details about this exciting initiative will be coming soon. This spring, we will be hosting a Volunteer Appreciation event to thank the many, many people who generously give of their time, energy and efforts to make CBI the wonderful, dynamic community we love.

B'Shalom,

Mariela Markelis Dybner



To contact Mariela Dybner, email her at [president@cbi-nj.org](mailto: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](mailto: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:

February 13  
March 13  
April 10  
May 15



### CBI Chanting Circle Sephardic and Mizרחי Melody Jam

Join us in the Chapel on **Sunday, February 17th, at 5 PM** for our inspirational Hebrew chant and song circle with musical accompaniment.

This special edition of the chanting circle is going south of the border – the Ashkenazi border, that is! We will be learning centuries-old melodies from Spain, Portugal and the Sephardic Diaspora along with melodies from Iraq, Persia, Yemen, and India. Some are done in a traditional call-and-response style, while others will be done as a nigun, or put to words you may know.

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](mailto:lenhausman@msn.com)

## Beineynu

By Harvey Brenner, Executive Director

As you read this column, we are experiencing a typically frigid stretch of sub-freezing temperatures yet our energy and enthusiasm at CBI is bubbling over. Why, you may ask?

Our kehillah has been given a rare opportunity to seek out, explore, interview and eventually hire our next spiritual leader. If we're good at it, (and there's every reason to believe that we will be successful in finding our next "right rabbi") he or she may be on our bima for the next 30 or so years. Sounds daunting, but truthfully, it isn't. How do I know? Well, as my namesake "Paul Harvey" of radio fame used to say, "here's the rest of the story".

This is my 8th senior rabbi search (4 as a lay leader of my own congregation in Aberdeen, NJ and 4 as an executive director and senior staff member). I have been involved in every facet of the process; from meeting with the Rabbinical Assembly executives and placement people, to consulting with our then USCJ regional/district field workers (they're now called KRMs, Kehillah Relationship Managers) for their expertise, to developing the Job Posting Questionnaire that candidates see and to which they reply, to receiving and screening candidate resumes and submissions, to long distance telephone and video conference interviews, to having more focused "face to face" interviews as the field is narrowed, to bringing in viable candidates for a trial weekend amongst the congregation, to selecting the final candidate, to getting board and congregational approval, to negotiating the contract, to helping the candidate move into the community, to assisting both the congregation and new rabbi in transitioning from one rabbinate to another and finally, to arranging for the installation of the new leader with an appropriate community-wide celebration.

I've experienced 'open' pulpits (when there is no rabbi on staff), to interim rabbis (when someone is engaged to bridge the 'interim period' between one permanent rabbi and another) and even temporary High Holy Day/Holiday clergy who are hired specifically for the "Days of Awe" or the "Shalosh Regalim".

Trust me; it seems like an impossible task, but "if we could do it, so can you!"

The three pieces of advice I give, if asked are:

**1) Trust the process.** If the process is sound and you follow it for all applicants and candidates, the outcome



will be a good one as whoever is hired will be "the right rabbi" for the shul.

**2) Be patient.** This is an arduous task with (as you see from my description above) has many complicated and time-consuming steps to it. The people leading the search are most likely congregants, just like you. They have day jobs, family obligations and fit this search into their already active life. It takes the better part of a year from start to finish, and in some cases even longer.

**3) Keep the optics transparent.** In other words, "how will what we do and how we act appear to each candidate, our congregation at-large, and the outside Jewish Community" so that we conduct ourselves with the highest degree of integrity and in keeping with established core Jewish values.

I know, having now worked among you for a year and a half that you have the time, talents and dedication needed to be successful in this search (even if you might think you don't). There was nothing congregationally unique about each of my prior 7 searches, save for the differences in minhag, location or theology. Each one ended successfully with the kehillah being served by that chosen rabbi at least through two or more contracts, and some, even until today (a decade or so later).

So, trust the process, be patient and keep the optics in mind.

*M'chayil P'chayil!* (May you move from 'strength to strength!)

Harvey M. Brenner, FSA, FTA



To contact Harvey Brenner,  
email him at [hbrenner@cbi-nj.org](mailto: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](mailto:hbrenner@cbi-nj.org)) in the CBI office for more information.

# INVEST IN ISRAEL BONDS FOR YOUR IRA

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## 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! We have a wide variety of items from Israel as well as local vendors. Check out our supply of tallit, wine cups, wedding items (including ketubahs), candlesticks, organic soaps, and decorative pieces just to name a few!

*Many of our items make great hostess gifts too!*

Open Sunday,  
February 3<sup>rd</sup>  
10AM – 12:30PM

Please email Ilisa at [IlisaPerلمان@verizon.net](mailto:IlisaPerلمان@verizon.net) to meet at your convenience when the Gift Shop is closed.



### 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, March 16 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 March 2019 bulletin is February 1. 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
1-Feb	MARCH
4-Mar	APRIL
29-Mar	MAY
29-Apr	JUNE
31-May	JULY



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

Heidi & Barry Allen	Eli & Mona Jacobs
Miriam Linver & Matt Askin	Stacy Thompson & David Kanarek
Helaine Ettinger & Henry Bloom	<b>Wendy &amp; Hank Kaplowitz</b>
Jane & Robert Brauer	<b>Lori &amp; Adam Katzman</b>
Barbara & Steve Brown	<b>Hanna Keselman</b>
Andrew Cohen	Harriet & Paul Klein
Elizabeth & Gerald Cohen	Carol & Robert Marcus
Heidi & Brett Cohen	Debbie & Alex Marcus
Alia Covell	Stacy & Scott Merkel
Betsy & Phil Darivoff	Lori & Larry Pitkowsky
Mariela & Ariel Dybner	<b>Kathy &amp; Jamey Potechin</b>
Roz & Jonathan Engel	Alia Ramer & Daniel Ramer
<b>Jacqueline Printz &amp; Robert Finkel</b>	Micole & Daniel Richter
Lilli & Steve Finkler	<b>Michelle Neier &amp; Jonathan Schor</b>
Marvin Fish	Lenette & Larry Talpins
Andrea & David Good	Nancy & Joseph Tenenbaum
Susan & Larry Gordon	Paula & David Touger
Naomi & Howard Greenwald	<b>Harold Wiener</b>
Andrea & David Hirschfeld	Anonymous
Meryl Griff Hubscher & Dan Hubscher	

**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.

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

[michelledaniel@gmail.com](mailto:michelledaniel@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!**

## Hedwig Gruenewald Early Childhood Center (HGECC)

By Rochelle Baron, Director

Winter has arrived in earnest and we are enjoying it! When we are able to get outdoors we are focusing on the changes we see in nature and how things look different at this time of year. One of our favorite activities is feeding the birds and keeping track of the types that frequent the bird feeders in our playground. Ms. Wendi, our enrichment teacher from the Cora Hartshorn Arboretum, helped us identify which birds like our choice of birdseed and we are busy documenting their feeding habits. We particularly enjoy watching the squirrels who are growing fatter and fatter eating the seeds that drop to the ground—lots and lots of learning for sure!

We are continuing to enhance our early childhood curriculum by developing different learning opportunities for the children. Our latest addition is our 'loose parts classroom' in which the kids can create, imagine, design, invent and document using all kinds of stuff! The shelves are filled with



egg cartons, wooden sticks, bottle caps, lids, clean food containers, tape, fabric, corks, shells, twigs—basically all kinds of things that can be used in any way the children see fit. The kids use trays as a 'base' and are free to create whatever they choose. This activity is based on the Reggio Emilia philosophy and we are very excited to make it part of the HGECC program.

So here's where we can use your help! Although we already have lots of 'stuff' to use we can always use more. Please consider dropping off and leaving outside of the HGECC school office washed bottle caps, paper towel/toilet paper tubes, bubble wrap, etc.—basically anything that can be used creatively. Thanks in advance for helping—stay tuned for photos of our creations!

Rochelle



To contact Rochelle Baron,  
email her at [HGECC@cbi-nj.org](mailto:HGECC@cbi-nj.org)

## Blanche Bayar Religious School (BBS)

By Rabbi Sharon Litwin, Director of Congregational Learning

Please join BBS on Saturday March 9 when we swap spaces for our family service.

The Family service will be in the Sanctuary on Shabbat morning, March 9 and we would love to invite everyone in the CBI community to join us, even if you don't have children in the religious school. Bring your grandchildren, bring your friends, your spouses and come pray with our children. This abbreviated service is interactive, lively and a great way to 'shep naches' (have pride in our kids!). We will start with a light breakfast in the Motherwell Lobby at 10:15 followed by services in the Sanctuary from 10:30-12:00. A traditional service will be held at 9:00 in the Chapel. At 11:30 the traditional service will join the Family service for a Torah Skit and concluding prayers. Everyone is invited for Kiddush in the Social Hall, sponsored by the BBS PA and the Sisterhood.

BBS PA INVITES YOU TO CELEBRATE PURIM WITH:



I am very excited to welcome Joanie Leeds and the NightLights, as our entertainment at our annual Purim Carnival on March 17. Joanie is a favorite performer of the under 10

set, and their older siblings, parents and grandparents are sure to enjoy her high energy style, her quirky lyrics and her fantastic band!

The songs that Joanie Leeds performs reflect the sense that life is a



joyful adventure. Entertaining at birthday parties and pre-schools soon progressed into concert performances nationwide and generated material for seven full length CDs: City Kid, Challah, Challah, I'm A Rock Star, What A Zoo, Bandwagon, Good Egg, Meshugana and Brooklyn Baby! Joanie has also released 2 full length DVDs, City Kid Live and Joanie Leeds & The Nightlights- Live from Madison Square Park. Joanie is currently touring the country performing at concerts and leading songwriter workshops while maintaining a busy teaching schedule, song commission work and of course her favorite job is mama to her 3 year old daughter.

**Sunday March 17**

9:30-10:00am Purim Shpiel and Costume Parade

10:00am-11:am - Purim Carnival Games and Prizes

11:00am-12:00pm - Joanie Leeds Concert

12:00-12:30 - LUNCH!! Pizza, Ice Cream, Hamantaschen for sale

All are welcome! Come in costumes, win prizes, bring your friends!

Tickets for children 12 and under \$10 for both the carnival and the concert! Children 13+ and Adults are free.

Rabbi Sharon Litwin



To contact Rabbi Sharon Litwin,  
email her at [slitwin@cbi-nj.org](mailto:slitwin@cbi-nj.org)

## Sisterhood's Message

By Laurie Kavowras and Ruth Novick



Laurie Kavowras



Ruth Novick

Hooray! Yippee! Woo hoo!

We are excited and you will be too when you find out what's coming. What is it, you ask? We won't keep you in suspense. It's SISTERHOOD SHABBAT!!! Sisterhood Shabbat is one of our favorite events of the year and it is coming on March 1 and 2. To get you even more excited about it, here are some frequently asked questions to let you know what Sisterhood Shabbat is all about:

**What is Sisterhood Shabbat?** Great question! Sisterhood Shabbat is an annual event where the women of CBI Sisterhood take over Friday night and Shabbat morning services from beginning to end. That's right, the women of CBI will read Torah; lead services; open and close the ark; lift, carry and dress the Torah; and give the d'var torah.

**Who can participate?** Another great question. Any Sisterhood member is encouraged to participate. So here's a plug to join Sisterhood if you aren't already a member. Sisterhood is an organization comprised of the women of CBI who are dedicated to serving our synagogue, supporting our Jewish community and building friendships. We accomplish these goals through educational and social programming, fundraising and community service. Most notably, we raise money for CBI and sponsor onegs/kiddushes when there is no member sponsor, but we also provide educational and social programs as well. So, who wouldn't want to join Sisterhood??? OK, enough of the plug. Back to the FAQs.

**I'm not already signed up to participate. Is it too late?** It is not too late, although spots are filling up and the sooner you speak up, the more likely it is you'll get to do what you'd like. And if you'd prefer to help behind the scenes, we could use help in the kitchen and setting up. Let Michelle Daniel at michelledaniel@gmail.com or Chaya Cohen at chayacohen@gmail.com know what you'd like to do. Still not convinced that you want to participate? That's ok too. Just come. Support your friends and see what Sisterhood Shabbat is all about. Maybe you'll be inspired to jump in next year.

**Do you have to be able to read Hebrew to participate?** You are

full of great questions! You do not need to read Hebrew in order to participate. In fact, there are Hebrew and English parts, and even non-speaking parts - something for everyone.

**Is there a theme this year?** We introduced a theme to last year's Sisterhood Shabbat (remember the sea of purple and a guest appearance by Prince ... Wondering if Prince will visit again this year. Hmmmm.). We got so much positive feedback that we will have another theme this year. We are happy to announce that this year's theme is "Rock 'n Roll." Whether you like classic rock, punk rock, southern rock, pop, rockabilly, glam rock, psychedelic rock or new wave, dress the part and join the fun.

**It's a Sisterhood event. May men attend?** Of course!

**What about children?** Yes, yes, yes! We love to have children in the sanctuary. And think about the wonderful example that you set for them by participating. Our kids love to see us try new things and it encourages them to do the same. We know that services may be long for children so we have some antics up our sleeves that we hope will entertain everyone.

**Will there be food?** OK, you are entitled to one bad question. Of course there will be food! What Sisterhood event doesn't involve food? And for the first time, to kick off the weekend, we will be offering a Friday night dinner generously sponsored by Miriam Linver and Matt Askin. Stay tuned for more information on that.

We hope these FAQ's inspire you to participate and/or attend.

Sisterhood Shabbat certainly is not the only upcoming event. Please join us on Wednesday, February 6 at 6:30 p.m. for our next Rosh Chodesh program. We will watch the movie "In Search of Israeli Cuisine," a portrait of the Israeli people told through food. Dinner is included (as noted above, what Sisterhood event doesn't involve food?) and there will be vegetarian and gluten free options available upon request. Please RSVP to Wendy Kaplowitz at 908-964-0127 or wendy.kaplowitz@verizon.net.

And, of course, monthly mah jongg and knit and knosh continue this month on the 13th and 26, respectively.

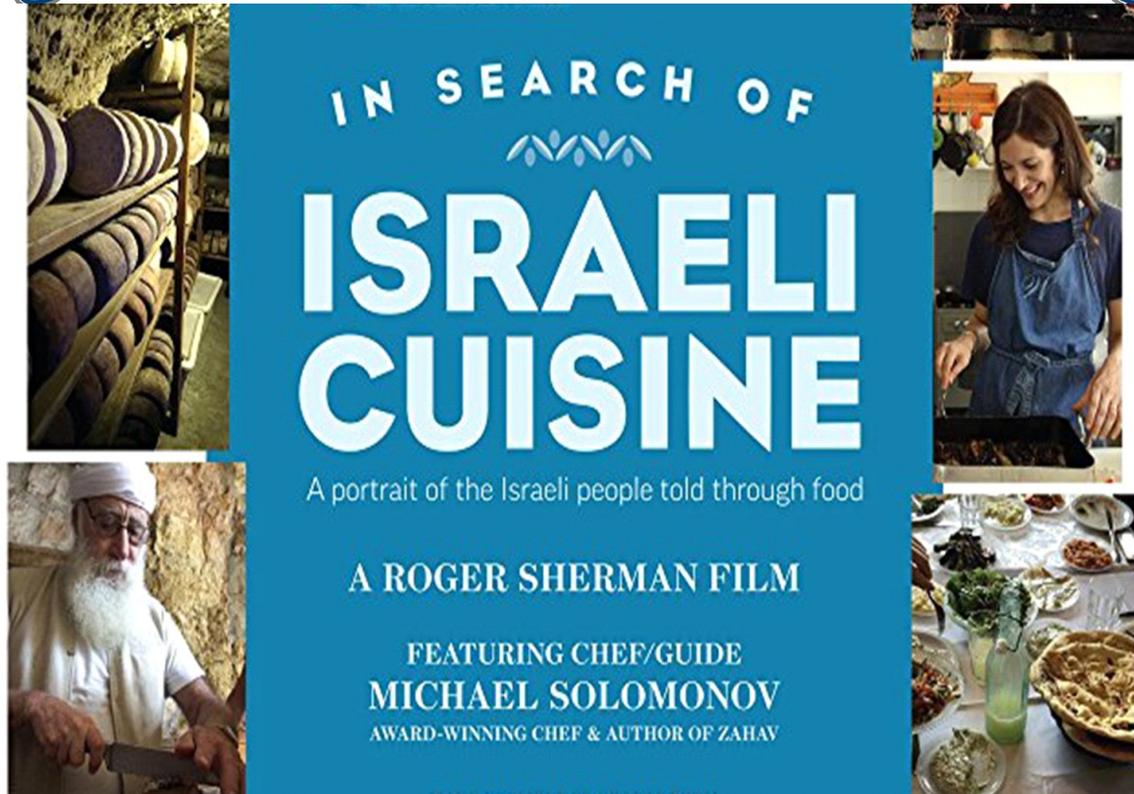
There's a lot going on. Hope to see you all!

### Upcoming Events:

<i>"In Search of Israeli Cuisine"</i>	Wed., Feb. 6
<i>Mah Jongg</i>	Wed., Feb. 13
<i>Knit and Knosh</i>	Tue., Feb. 26
<i>Sisterhood Shabbat</i>	Fri., Mar. 1 & Sat., Mar. 2

Laurie Kavowras and Ruth Novick

# Come Join Us To See



SISTERHOOD ROSH CHODESH ADAR 1 EVENT  
AN EVENING OF ISRAELI FOOD AND A MOVIE  
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 6TH, 2019

6:30 PM

COST \$18

Vegetarian and Gluten Free options available on request

PLEASE RSVP BY MONDAY, FEBRUARY 2ND

To Wendy Kaplowitz at

908-964-0127 or [wendy.kaplowitz@verizon.net](mailto:wendy.kaplowitz@verizon.net)

Send Reservation Checks made out to Sisterhood to the  
Synagogue Office

## MEN'S CLUB MINUTE

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

I'm supposed to start off this article for the February bulletin with some great thoughts about the success of another ruach filled Men's Club Shabbat. Then I'm supposed to congratulate this year's Kiddush Kup recipient and cholent contest winner.



Jonathan Schor



Alex Marcus

Then I'm eager to thank all those who participated...but those things haven't happened at the time of writing. Hopefully this will reach you before and it will be an encouragement to come and enjoy a really fun event.

The weekend kicks off on Friday night with Shabbat dinner and Z'mirot at CBI starting at 6:15. (Please RSVP at [www.tinyurl.com/MCshabbat2019](http://www.tinyurl.com/MCshabbat2019)). The dinner will once again be prepped by David Touger, who I'm told has a few new culinary tricks in his sleeves. This will be followed by Kabbalat Shabbat lead by members of the Men's Club. Shabbat services will start at 9am on Saturday morning. The entire service will be lead and chanted by participants from Men's Club. During the service there will be a visit from the "Men's Club Parshah Players." The parshah is Yitro...an "Oldie but goodie."

After services there will be a great Kiddush lunch and the famed cholent contest where the winner will be awarded the prestigious "Kiddush Kup." It will sure to be a fun time.

Of course, if it happened already then...I will like to thank everyone who participated and helped in the planning, setup, clean up, cooking, etc. It's an enormous task that can't happen without everyone's help. I also want to give a special thank you to Dan Richter for planning duties and to David Touger for cooking. Yasher Koach to both.

Other events coming soon include:

**CBI Rock Climbing – March 3rd** - Join CBI for an afternoon of rock climbing and lunch at the Gravity Vault. The event is open to the entire CBI community. Kids over age 5 are welcome to participate and climb as well. Contact Andy Cohen at [cbimensclubmillburn@gmail.com](mailto:cbimensclubmillburn@gmail.com) for more information.

**World Wide Wrap – \*\*Date Change 2/24\*\*** Learn to wrap Tefillin with volunteers from Men's Club.

**Men's Club Paid Up breakfast** – Stay tuned for more information....

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

Jonathan Schor & Alex Marcus



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



### FEBRUARY EVENTS

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

**Thursday, February 7 at CBI Thursday,** Join us to screen the hit documentary about Ruth Gruber, *Ahead of Time: The Extraordinary Journey of Ruth Gruber*. Now in her late 90's, Brooklyn-born Ruth still has that same sharp intellect and moxie that propelled her to become the world's youngest PhD at age 20. At age 24, she became a New York Herald Tribune reporter and photographer, and the same year was the first journalist to enter the Soviet Arctic. A trusted member of the Roosevelt Administration during WWII, she was given a dangerous secret mission. A feminist before feminism, Ruth was never just an observer, she was a participant in the making of history. Ruth covered the turbulent Middle East throughout the 1940's, and the film combines verité footage of Ruth traveling back to Israel, with interviews and archival material. Please join us to learn about this remarkable woman.

**Thursday, February 21 at CBI** Come learn from Hirschhorn speaker Joe Rapaport as he discusses *How the Kidnapping of Edgardo Mortara Led to the fall of the Papal State*. The treatment of a young Jewish boy, forcibly raised as a Christian in 19<sup>th</sup> century Italy creates a furor that pits the Papacy itself against forces of democracy and Italian unification. Hear about the ramifications of this true story!

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**

# ISRAEL AFFAIRS

By Joe Tenenbaum



## Israel News – 2019 – The Daily Alert

I have told you many times about the value of DAILY ALERT, a newsletter published every weekday by the Jerusalem Center for Public Affairs (and distributed by the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations) which highlights important news items about Israel and the Mideast. I reviewed a few days' worth of Alerts from the first week in 2019, and learned some very important things:

Tourism to Israel in 2018 totaled 4 million visitors, up 13% from 2017 and up 38% from 2016. The largest number of tourists were from the United States (813K) with France, Russia, Germany and Britain rounding out the top five. China also had around 100K tourists to Israel.

Almost 30,000 Jews moved to Israel in 2018, an increase of about 5% from 2017. The top two countries for immigration to Israel were Russia (10,500) and Ukraine (6,500). Aliyah from North America totaled 3,250, from France 2,600 and from the UK 500. Among all these countries, only Russia increased from the prior year (45%)

Recent issues have also highlighted some of the amazing innovations being developed in Israel:

An Israeli smartphone app has been developed to help translate speech in text to make it easier for people with limited hearing to interact with hearing people in situations like doctor's visits or business transactions.

A system developed by Coral Drowning Detection Systems uses underwater video cameras, computer vision, and artificial intelligence to monitor swimming pools for potential drowning accidents. When a problem is detected, the systems sounds an "ear-piercing alarm, and sends smartphone alerts to household members.

ElliQ is a robot sidekick developed by Intuition Robotics in Tel Aviv which uses AI (artificial intelligence) to help older adults "stay active engaged and connected to friends." ElliQ might, for instance suggest a walk outside if the weather is nice.

An Israeli Startup, NoTraffic has created a traffic management system which uses AI to track vehicle movements and to adjust traffic lights to lower congestion.

The website for The Daily Alert is [www.dailyalert.org](http://www.dailyalert.org).

## Do you believe in Miracles?

I have discovered another way besides reading websites to stay informed about Israel. One which I want to highlight this month is RejuveNation, a weekly podcast moderated by Eve Harow, an experienced tour guide and a former councilwoman in Efrat.

I want to specifically recommend that you listen to a recent podcast

<https://soundcloud.com/thelandofisrael/rejuvenation-keep-jerusalem-weep-for-her-children>

In this podcast, which was released on December 23, 2018, Eve interviews Chaim Silberstein, the founder of Keep Jerusalem, an organization which focuses on the complicated issues facing Jerusalem. For the first half of the hour long podcast, Eve and Chaim discuss various issues related to Jerusalem – lack of affordable housing, employment issues, demographics and related issues. The organization supports development of a master plan to encourage the State to invest more in Jerusalem to keep it as a vital, majority Jewish city.

The second half of the program is much more powerful, and Chaim Silberstein is also the father of Shira Ish-Ran, the pregnant woman shot several times in the abdomen in terrorist drive-by shooting as she and her husband were standing near a road in Ofra, a town near Jerusalem. In the interview he describes the circumstances under which he learned of the attack on his daughter and son-in-law. He expresses gratitude for the short life of his first grandson, Amiad Yisrael, and describes the supreme efforts required to keep his daughter alive. To me, the most dramatic portion of the interview is when he time after time expresses gratitude to G0d for the miracle of the way in which the medical treatment was delivered. While Shira had lost almost half of her blood in the short time after the shooting, her medical transport used their knowledge of the back roads to get her to Sha'are Tzedek Hospital in about 20 minutes, for a trip which usually would take more than an hour. The father's gratitude and lack of vengeance is the most powerful message in this podcast.

If you do not know how to listen to a podcast and would like to learn, we can meet sometime at CBI and I will try to show you how (I have an iPhone). If you just want to hear this heartfelt and inspiring interview, we can meet at CBI some evening before minyan, and listen to it.

## 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. 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. 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.

The Federation of Greater MetroWest is offering scholarships to a limited number of High School students who attend Policy Conference with a parent. In order to qualify for the scholarship, the student must attend a program on February 3, and another event on March 3, and recruit two other students for the March 3 event. While the deadline for this program is nearly at hand, if you are interested in participating in the program, and I encourage you to contact Linda Scherzer, director of the CRC of Greater MetroWest at lscherzer@jfedgmw.org or (973) 929-3087

As of this writing, we still have some of the discounted registrations for \$399 which may be used by congregants, or their friends and family who wish to be part of our delegation. To take advantage of this program contact me by e-mail at TenenbaumJ@AOL.com or call me at (973) 768-7440.

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 in attending this meeting.

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



## 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

- Debby Pianin Sininis - We were sorry to hear about the loss of your mother  
 ❖ Rachel & Eric Mann
- Nan & Howard Greenwald - Mazel Tov on the birth of your granddaughter, Miriam Rose  
 ❖ Carol & Bob Marcus
- Mrs. Penny Alkon - I'm sorry to hear of your beloved father's passing, Marty  
 ❖ Mrs. Sylvia Brenner
- Marion & Murray Mohl - Mazel Tov on your granddaughter, Shail's Bat Mitzvah  
 ❖ Lillian & Steve Finkler
- Howard & Nan Greenwald - Mazel Tov on the birth of your granddaughter, Miriam Rose  
 ❖ Dantus Family
- Mary Lou Allen - In memory of Rabbi Daniel Allen  
 ❖ Andy Fair & Ellen Weisbord
- Bob & Jane Brauer - Mazel Tov on the birth of your grandchild  
 ❖ David Kanarek & Stacy Thompson
- Jesse Moehlman - Congratulations on received your Master's Degree  
 ❖ Allan & Nancy Sloan
- Mary Lou Allen - In memory of Rabbi Daniel Allen  
 ❖ Allan & Nancy Sloan
- Mary Lou Allen & Family - In memory of your loving husband. So sorry for your loss, he was a lovely man & will be missed  
 ❖ Carol & Bob Marcus
- Barbara & Steve Colin - In honor of your grandsons birth, Samson Felix  
 ❖ Leila & Melvin Schott
- Ross Silver - so sorry for the loss of your mother  
 ❖ Carol & Bob Marcus
- Selma Radin - In memory of my father, Sherwin Radin  
 ❖ Mitchell Radin
- Shira Radin - Congratulations on your wonderful Bat Mitzvah. We love you, Mom, Dad, Molly & Jared  
 ❖ Radin Family

### Rabbi's Fund

- Debby Pianin-Sinins & Family - we are sorry to hear about the loss of your mother Our thoughts & prayers are with you during this very difficult time.  
 Love Lisa, Josh, Zach & Jen  
 ❖ Lisa & Josh Jacobs & Family
- David & Katie Colin - In honor of the birth of our great-grandson, Samson Felix  
 ❖ Leila & Melvin Schott

### Cantor's Music Fund

- Debby Pianin Sininis - In memory of your mother, Betty  
 ❖ Henry Bloom & Helaine Ettinger
- Mrs. Penny Alkon - May the name of Marty Kershner (3'L) be remembered for a blessing  
 ❖ Faith & Harvey Brenner
- Debby Pianin Sininis - We are sorry for your loss. May her memory be for a blessing  
 ❖ Debbie & Alex Marcus
- Cantor Wallach - Thank you for your generous & gracious support, which has helped our family navigate this difficult time  
 ❖ Lisa, Jordan, & Maren Less

### Hedwig Gruenewald Early Childhood Center Fund

- Nan & Howard Greenwald - Mazel Tov to the new grandparents!  
 ❖ Henry Bloom & Helaine Ettinger

### Gray-Ramah Scholarship Fund

- Debby Pianin-Sinins - So sorry for your loss. May her memory be for a blessing  
 ❖ Debbie & Alex Marcus



### Calling All Knitters, Crocheters or Wannabees

Please join us for the  
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#### 2018-19 Schedule

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

February 26	March 19	April 23
May 28	June 25	

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