

The Bulletin



CONGREGATION
B'NAI ISRAEL

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

January 2020

Congregation B'nai Israel presents... A conversation on inclusion in our synagogue neighborhood

MLK Day — Monday, January 20 — 3:00-4:30 p.m.

Congregation B'nai Israel 160 Millburn Ave., Millburn

Roundtable Discussion for Adults and Teens

Special MLK Day Program for School Age Kids (And, of course, snacks!)

Not required, but RSVPs help us with the set up (especially by Jan 15)

RSVP to the CBI office at (973) 379-3811 or email mainoffice@cbi-nj.org

"Won't you be my neighbor?" by Fred Rogers



Special
Needs

LGBTQ

YOU & ME

Jews of
Color



CONGREGATION
B'NAI ISRAEL

January Service Times, Candle Lighting, Minyan

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

Additional Shabbat Programs:

Friday, Jan. 3

8:15 pm – Kabbalat Shabbat

Saturday, Jan. 4

9:00 am – Shabbat Services
11:00 am – Bim Bam Shabbat
4:15 pm – Havdallah - Draznin Auf Ruf

Friday, Jan. 10

8:15 pm – Kabbalat Shabbat -
Welcome Rabbi Ari Isenberg

Saturday, Jan. 11

9:00 am – Shabbat Services
10:30 am – Family Shabbat Service
11:00 am – Yaldeinu Services

Friday, Jan. 17

8:15 pm – Kabbalat Shabbat

Saturday, Jan. 18

9:00 am – Shabbat Services / Bar Mitzvah of Zachary Glatt

Friday, Jan. 24

**6:00 pm – Shir Shabbat Services
6:45pm – Congregational Dinner

Saturday, Jan. 25

9:00 am – Shabbat Services

Friday, Jan. 31

8:15 pm – Kabbalat Shabbat

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

Candle Lighting

Jan. 3	4:24 PM
Jan. 10	4:31 PM
Jan. 17	4:38 PM
Jan. 24	4:47 PM
Jan. 31	4:55 PM

Mincha/Havdallah

Jan. 4	4:24/5:39 PM
Jan. 11	4:31/5:46 PM
Jan. 18	4:38/5:55 PM
Jan. 25	4:47/6:02 PM

Minyan Rotation

Jan. 5 – Jan. 9	Retik – Rubinstein
Jan. 12 – Jan. 16	Sabin – Schneider
Jan. 19 – Jan. 23	Schor – Shapiro
Jan. 25 – Jan. 30	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.

Rabbi's Musings

By Rabbi Paul Resnick



Connecting with the community - Torah Teen Time with the Rabbi and commemorating a Yahrzeit

Yahrzeit - the annual remembrance of a loved one. It is a day set aside for each of us to remember members of our family who have passed away. They could have died last year or they could have died 30 years ago. We are encouraged to set aside some time every year to remember our loved ones in a slightly formal way. This is yet another great Jewish tradition in our on-going

mourning process.

There are two parts to the commemoration of the yahrzeit. One is to light a candle the evening before the date of the yahrzeit. One can gather family members at the lighting of the candle and recall positive memories of the deceased. This is a nice way to involve the next generation in recalling the person. Another tradition is to come to synagogue on the day of the yahrzeit and say kaddish with the community at minyan.

We need ten adults to say kaddish, which “forces” us to connect with the community, and here at CBI, it is connecting with the minyan folks who are a very friendly people. And if you come to shul, you also get to help make the minyan! I encourage you to do so.

On Friday night at services, there is a tradition here at CBI of reciting the names of the folks who we are mourning in the upcoming week. This is another example of taking the personal and weaving it with the community. We are going to experiment with another tradition which I would like to incorporate into the CBI set of traditions. We are going to do this for the next four months and see if there is any positive impact on the community.

Before I recite the list of the yahrzeit people, I will ask anyone who is in shul that Friday night who has a relative on the list, to share 1-2 minutes of memory of the deceased. This way you can hear the name recited and share a memory with the assembled which will help folks to get to know your loved ones better.

Please let me know if this resonates with you and if you plan to come to shul on Friday night in the next few months to do so. Again, this is an experiment which I hope will add meaning to your ability to remember those who have passed who were important in your lives.

Torah Teen Time with the Rabbi

Starting on **Shabbat, January 4th at 11:00 AM**, I will hold our first session of TTT - Torah Teen Time with the Rabbi. We will gather teens in our shul for an hour of Torah study, experiential prayer and time for engagement. We will conclude with lunch.

We have a good USY program and we have a good *madrichim* program already in place. These programs engage with many of our teens, though of course not all of them and not on Shabbat! I want to bring our teens into our Shabbat community and to make them feel the amazingness of Shabbat. For me Shabbat is at the core of my Judaism. However, one observes their own Shabbat, I just want our

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Musical Notes

By Cantor Lorna Wallach



I'd like to believe that I'm in good company with others who also procrastinate! I tend to put off starting something such as an exercise regimen or a diet until what seems like a more logical (or convenient!) time to begin. I find myself saying that I'll make regular exercise one of my resolutions for the new year, or I'll start my diet the day after my birthday.

Rather than waiting for a once a year opportunity, the Jewish "calendar" gives us the opportunity every month to renew ourselves and to start over, just as the moon renews itself each month. The Hebrew calendar has been based on the lunar year since Biblical times. Rosh Chodesh (the festival of the new moon) had much greater significance in Biblical times than it has today. Numbers 10:10 states that trumpets were sounded and special sacrifices were offered on Rosh Chodesh. There is Biblical proof of Rosh Chodesh being celebrated with a festive meal and refraining from all business transactions. In Talmudic times, the Rabbis allowed men to work, but Rosh Chodesh continued to be a semi-festival for women in recognition of the women in the wilderness of Sinai who, unlike the men, refused to contribute their jewelry for the building of the golden calf.

In anticipation of each Rosh Chodesh, we are even given the chance to plan ahead. On the Shabbat immediately preceding the first of the month (except for Rosh Chodesh Tishrei which is actually Rosh Hashanah!), a special prayer to announce the specific date of the upcoming new month is added to the liturgy towards the end of the Torah Service. This blessing, called "Birkat Hachodesh," begins with a paragraph attributed in the Talmud (Berachot 16a) to Rav, who used to recite it daily at the conclusion of the Amidah. Since it already contained a full gamut of people's spiritual and physical needs, including a moving plea for a life of peace, sustenance, health and abundance, and a life based on love of Torah and awe of God, a phrase was added later relating it to the new moon. The second paragraph of Birkat Hachodesh refers to God as a performer of miracles and calls for Jewish unity, reminding those of us in the diaspora to stay connected to Israel. From the time of the Middle Ages, community leaders wanted to be sure that everyone knew when Rosh Chodesh fell so that they could keep track of the calendar and be able to say the appropriate special prayers such as Hallel (in its shortened form). The announcement of the new month has always been said on Shabbat simply because that is when the greatest number of people are congregated.

If you missed the most recent announcement of a new month (Rosh Chodesh Tevet) followed a week later by the 2 day Rosh Chodesh celebration (on the 30th of Kislev and the first of Tevet), we will bless the new Jewish month of Shevat on Shabbat, January 25 (to be followed very soon after by the actual Rosh Chodesh!).

I pray that this new month will hold the blessings of health, goodness and peace for everyone. And may it be an opportunity in our lives for a renewal of wonder, love, justice, friendship, compassion and holiness.

Lorna Wallach



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

In The Community

Condolences to:

Polly Merdinger (Rick Yaverbaum) and David Merdinger (Joan Guzik)

on the passing of their mother, Ruth Merdinger (z"l).

Terry Hofflich on the passing of her beloved brother, David Levy (z"l), uncle of Stacey Hofflich Gitten & Lindsey Hofflich Quinn.

Andrew (Lainey) Fallek on the passing of his beloved father, Joseph Fallek.

Amy Stern (Phil) on the passing of her father, Howard Falk (z"l).

Refuah Shleima to:

Gerry Eisenberger, Meryl Hubscher, Frieda Ostrowsky, Shirley Ehrich, Celeste Johnson, Laurie Weinberg, Richard Maslow and Rabbi Akiba Lubow.

Mazel Tov to:

Tina Burk on the engagement of her daughter, Joelle to Andrew.

Renee and Kopel Burk on the engagement of their granddaughter, Joelle to Andrew.

Lisa and Corey Biller on Eliana becoming a Bat Mitzvah.

Lenore May and Uncle Daniel May on Rebecca becoming a Bat Mitzvah.

Judy and Jerry Weiss on Milo becoming a Bar Mitzvah.

Micole and Daniel Richter on Simon becoming a Bar Mitzvah.

Chaya and Ira Cohen on grandson Simon Richter becoming a Bar Mitzvah.

President's Message

By Mariela Markelis Dybner



Now that our bellies are full of *latkes*, *gelt*, and *sufganiot*, we welcome a new secular year at CBI. In December, Rabbi Resnick, Harvey Brenner and I attended Judaism 20/20, the bi-annual convention for the United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism. This year, for the first time, the conference was held jointly with the Rabbinic Assembly, an example of the increasing collaboration

between the two entities. It was a wonderful opportunity to learn with and from thought leaders in Conservative Jewry, as 1400 clergy and lay leaders from around North America (and a few from abroad) joined for three days of discussions, ranging from Embracing Interfaith Families to What Happens Twenty Years After a Bar or Bat Mitzvah? New data from the class of 5755 to Jewish Spirituality. Each night was capped off with a concert featuring beautiful and energizing Jewish music. Speaking with other lay leaders and clergy in between sessions and at meals provided food for thought and gave a much broader context to what I have experienced at CBI. I hope to bring what I've learned back to Millburn to improve on my leadership and enhance our amazing kehilla, our holy community.

This year, we are reimagining our celebration of MLK Day

Rabbi's Message

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congregants to all feel the specialness of the day.

This is not less true for our teens, your teens. I am pretty sure that most teens do not read the bulletin. I hope our adults do! I ask you therefore to share this with them. Invite them for January 4th for our inaugural time together. And please share with me any thoughts you have or any feedback from your own teen at rabbiresnick@cbi-nj.org

Again, the goal is straightforward - to share the simcha, the joy of Shabbat, with our teens. The feedback so far from the families with whom I have discussed this initiative is positive. Please help make this work!

Two initiatives. Two different threads within our tapestry of the CBI family. Both are designed to strengthen CBI, to bring the joy of being Jewish to our CBI families and to connect with one another.

I look forward to hearing from you as we begin the new year with new initiatives.

Rabbi Paul Resnick



To contact Rabbi Resnick,
email him at rabbiresnick@cbi-nj.org

on January 20th. Rather than highlighting the various *tikkun olam* (repairing the world) projects as we have past mitzvah days, we will engage in a dialogue focused on inclusion. This facilitated discussion is open to adults and teens, and there will be fun age-appropriate activities for children. We welcome anyone who wishes to talk about their experience as a Jew of Color, a member of the special-needs community, someone who identifies as LGBTQ+, interfaith families, singles, and any other underrepresented voice. The mitzvah day activities will be moved to a joint program between our Hebrew school and that of Temple Beth Am Yisrael in March. Be sure to join us for this very special afternoon.

I am very excited to announce the upcoming visit of Rabbi Ari Isenberg during the weekend of January 10-12. We welcome our entire community to come meet Rabbi Isenberg over a wonderful weekend full of activities and opportunities for dialogue, prayer and learning. Please come to as many of these events as you can -- it's better when we're together.

L'hitraot (See you real soon!),

Marielaw Markelis Dybner



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

January 2020 Yahrzeit Donors

Linda Glasofer	Susan Marquies
Ronnie Armuth	Wendy Rosenberg
Lenore May	Ann Eisenstodt
Dr. Sanford Kingsley	Ellen Garber
Marion & Murray	Scott & Sheryl
Mohl	Horowitz
Ellen Shulman	Irwin & Judith
Ira Kopito	Buncher
Fred & Randi Ostry	Helene Moehlman
Marvin Fish	Linda Sotnick
Gloria Gottlieb	Sandra Nash
Gloria Segel	Deena Bernhaut
William Glasofer	Sondra Sabin
Erika Mauer	William Fern
Allan Sloan	Neysa Friedland
Shirley Ehrich	Leslie McCafferty

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 *Kiddush* and Dinner 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.

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.

And don’t forget, if you are observing a *yahrzeit* or *simcha*, or will be attending our Friday morning minyan, you may wish to sponsor that morning’s breakfast in honor or in memory of your loved one.

These are all easy to do.... Just contact the synagogue office and speak with me about sponsoring a Shabbat evening dinner, morning *Kiddush* or Friday morning minyan breakfast. 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.

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

Again, Happy and Healthy 2020 to all!

Harvey M. Brenner, FSA, FTA



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



CBI Chanting Circle

Sephardic and Mizrahi Melody Jam

**Join us in the Chapel
Sunday, January 12th at 5PM
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.

Meet the Rabbi

January 10-12 – Rabbi Ari Isenberg



The Rabbinic Search committee has made great progress in our search for CBI's next spiritual leader and is pleased to announce the upcoming visit of Rabbi Ari Isenberg, currently with Temple Israel Center in White Plains, NY. Rabbi Isenberg will spend Shabbat at CBI where the congregation will have the opportunity to listen to the candidate deliver sermons, lead us in prayer, and teach. There will be a Q&A session on Sunday morning.

Please Join Us!

Check your email for additional information about Rabbi Isenberg as well as the complete schedule for his visit. Additional rabbinic candidate visits will be announced via email.

JOIN SISTERHOOD FOR DINNER AND A MOVIE ON TUESDAY, JANUARY 21ST



TIME 6:30 PM
COST \$18
VEGETARIAN AND
GLUTEN FREE
OPTIONS AVAILABLE
UPON REQUEST

R.S.V.P. BY FRIDAY, JANUARY 17TH TO
WENDY KAPLOWITZ AT 908-964-0127 OR
E-MAIL TO wendy.kaplowitz@verizon.net

PRIOR TO THE EVENT, PLEASE
MAIL YOUR CHECK TO THE
SYNAGOGUE. MAKE YOUR
CHECK OUT TO SISTER-
HOOD.

CBI GALA 2020

"THE ROARING TWENTIES"

SATURDAY, MARCH 7

7PM AT CBI

This year, CBI is honoring six dedicated members

Miriam Linver & Matt Askin

Roz & Jonathan Engel

Lori & Adam Katzman

Please join us for a wonderful night of food, cocktails, dancing and joy as we celebrate our community and these six people who exemplify what we are.

The evening will surely be a highlight event for our community.

We invite you to become a **GALA HOST** with a donation of \$360.

As a host you will be listed on the formal invitation as well as other marketing materials.

Your early support will pay tribute to our honorees and will play an important role in setting the tone for a successful and exciting celebration!

David Touger Ruth Novick
Gala Co-Chairs

_____ Yes! I would like to be a **2020 Gala Host**. Enclosed is my check for \$360.

Name (as you wish it to appear) _____

Phone Number _____ Email _____

Please return by January 6, 2020

Congregation B'nai Israel
Attn: Gala Co-chairs
160 Millburn Ave.
Millburn, N.J. 07041

If easier, contact David Touger at dtouger@aol.com



Hedwig Gruenewald Early Childhood Center (HGECC)

By Rochelle Baron, Director

Happy 2020! We enjoyed a very long winter break and are now ready to get back to the business of playing, discovering and having fun in preschool. Along with the many enrichment activities that fill our days we'll be learning about and celebrating Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s birthday and the important values he believed in. January is also the month for parent and teacher conferences where everyone will have the opportunity to share information about each child's growth and development.



The children continue to learn about "Tikkun Olam" and how their actions impact others and the world in which we all live. Ms. Wendi, our friend from The Cora Hartshorn Arboretum who visits with us each month, has extended this to teaching children about birds and wildlife in our community. To this end we have erected three bird-feeders in our playground and

filled them with birdseed. On the wall leading out to this area are photos of nine different species of winter birds who are usually foraging for food at this time of year and who we hope will find our stash for them. The kids are keeping track of which birds show up, how often they come, and which bird feeders are the most popular. The learning and lessons it imparts to the children is beyond measure and we are so proud of our youngsters for taking part in this good deed.



Enjoy the wintry days ahead—try to feed the birds in your backyard too!

Rochelle



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

DCL Drash

By Rabbi Julie Schwarzwald, Director of Congregational Learning

Accessibility is being able to get in the building. Diversity is getting invited to the table. Inclusion is having a voice at the table. Belonging is having your voice heard at the table.

An important goal for BBRS this year is to ensure that Jewish education is readily available to every child, regardless of their individual learning strengths and challenges. We are all familiar with the five senses. But there are actually two additional senses. These sixth and seventh senses control body awareness (proprioception) and balance and spatial orientation (the vestibular sense). Students with sensory processing issues have difficulty sitting in a classroom and focusing on traditional school tasks. We are making changes to help all of our students have the tools they need to be effective learners.



Every classroom now has a basket of "fidget tools." While these look like "toys" that children are "playing with" during class, they are very effective self-regulation tools, used for calming, promoting focusing and attention, and increasing tactile awareness of fingers/hands. The tools are required to remain out of sight and to be silent. They are used only by those students who need them, when they need them.

Room 203 is being converted into a sensory space. This therapeutic space has a walking path with a variety of activities that helps children calm and focus themselves so they can be better prepared for learning and interacting with others. This safe, quiet room helps students work on their proprioceptive and vestibular systems. It is designed for all ages and will be used both by CBI Preschool and BBRS.

Each classroom will have a "cozy corner" of rugs and comfortable furniture, so students have choices of where to work. **We are currently seeking donations of sturdy, comfortable furniture in good shape from pet-free and smoke-free homes.** If you have bean bag or pouf chairs, ottomans, area rugs, family room/living room chairs, coffee tables, large pillows, and similar items that you can donate, please contact Rabbi Julie.

Belonging is learning in an environment that meets all of your needs.

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Temple Beth Ahm Yisrael, Springfield, were wonderful hosts to BBRS students on December 15 as we celebrated Hanukkah together. We have two more dates scheduled for

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Sisterhood's Message

By Jennifer Glick and Sharon Richman, Sisterhood Co-Presidents



Jennifer Glick & Sharon Richman

As we write this month's Sisterhood article, we have games on our minds. Our monthly Mah Jongg night is so successful! Last month, we had eight tables - an all-time record. Eight tables means that thirty-two women were sharing an evening of camaraderie and fun. We had both beginners and seasoned players participating. Come join us to learn or play with new or old friends. In light of the success of Mah Jongg, we are beginning our Canasta lessons in January. Classes will be held on January 8, 15, 29, February 5 and 26th. Please note that you must sign up in advance for these lessons and there is a charge. For more information, please contact [Jennifer at glickcorwin@msn.com](mailto:Jennifer@glickcorwin@msn.com). We are planning, however, to add Canasta to our monthly free programs as soon as the lessons are completed, and all canasta-playing Sisterhood members will be welcome to these sessions.

We also had a fun Bingo night. Thanks to Susan Stern for organizing the event and to our very own experienced caller - Roberta Rabin. There was pizza for all and prizes for the lucky Bingo winners.

On December 8th, we joined Marion Mohl at the Garden State Region Brunch and Torah Fund Awards. CBI Sisterhood was one of twenty-one Sisterhoods that were honored for meeting our fundraising goals. Kudos to Sandy Panzer and Linda Silver for all of their work in achieving this honor. We also learned of some fabulous programming ideas. We are considering an outing to JTS for a tour, learning session and lunch.

Martin Luther King Day is coming up soon. Dr. King was a uniquely important ally in the fight against anti-Semitism and in establishing a secure Israel. It is with great honor that Sisterhood hosts a table in support of Dr. King's very important legacy during CBI's Mitzvah Day. Last year, Sisterhood hosted a table in coordination with

The Rachel Coalition. That organization provides support to victims of domestic violence as they navigate the family court system. Many of the victims are accompanied by their children in court. Once again, Sisterhood will be preparing bags containing snacks and games to entertain these children who spend many long hours waiting for their matters to be addressed. Please bring your children and come to our table to help decorate the bags. We will also collect monetary donations which will be used to purchase gift cards for domestic violence victims.

On January 21st, we will enjoy a Rosh Chodesh program. We will be viewing "Hummus the Movie." Try and guess what will be on the menu? Please contact Wendy Kaplowitz at wendy.kaplowitz@verizon.net for further information.

Finally, in order to give people as much time as possible to prepare, we are filling the spots for participation in Sisterhood Shabbat, which will be on March 13 and 14, 2019. In addition to participating in the service, there are many behind the scenes spots - such as working in the kitchen - where you are very much needed. It is so easy to sign up to participate; just go to our sign up link at https://cbi-nj.org/sisterhood/sisterhood_shabbat.html. You may also directly contact Michelle Daniel at michelledaniel@gmail.com or Chaya Cohen at chayacohen@gmail.com - to let them know that you would like to participate. Don't miss out on one of the most meaningful and enjoyable Sisterhood events of the year. There is something for everyone!

Upcoming Events:

Canasta	January 8, 15, 29, February 5 and 26th
Mah Jongg	January 15th
MLK Mitzvah	Day January 20th
Rosh Chodesh	January 21st
Knit and Knosh	January 28th

Jennifer Glick and Sharon Richman
Sisterhood Co-Presidents

B'NAI MITZVAH



Zachary Glatt January 18, 2020

Zachary is a 7th grader at The Flex School of Berkeley Heights. Zach has been a member of CBI since birth. He attended preschool at HGECC and has continued his Jewish education at BBRS. Zach has a deep devotion to the State of Israel, having visited several times and looks forward to continuing his Bar Mitzvah celebration in Israel in April.

Zach's passions mainly revolve around the ocean, most notably his love of surfing. Zach also enjoys playing tennis, rock climbing, riding his bike and all board games, especially Monopoly.

It is his love of the ocean and surfing that lead him to choose Clean Ocean Action, as his Bar Mitzvah Project. Zach has volunteered and raised money for COA throughout the years. He has participated in many Beach Clean ups and surf related fundraising events.

Zach is excited to share his simcha with all of his family and friends. He is grateful for everyone who has helped him prepare for this special day, especially Paula Touger, Cantor Wallach, Rabbi Resnick, and his dad.

Men's Club presents: Axe Throwing @ Bury The Hatchet in Bloomfield NJ

672 Bloomfield Ave Bloomfield, NJ 07003

Thursday January 30th 7PM – 9PM

\$25 / person (members)

\$40 / person (non-members)

Age limit: 14 – 1,000

Disclaimer: Children under the age of 14 are not allowed in the facility



Soft drinks, wine, beer and pizza will be provided by men's club

FYI: For those that may be alarmed by the idea of throwing axes in an enclosed space with alcohol, this establishment has staff keeping a constant eye on the clientele and will pull anyone they deem unsafe!!

Please RSVP with payment by Thursday, January 23rd in order for us to reserve as many private lanes as possible
Payment can be submitted in cash/check, via paypal (tihoenig@gmail.com) or venmo (tomert-hoenig)

For questions contact Tomer Hoenig at tihoenig@gmail.com or call me at 908-208-4442

DCL Drash

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joint programming in the spring.

Kitah Vav families will participate in a B'nai Mitzvah Workshop on Sunday, January 12, including making beautiful silver yads to use for Torah reading.

We wish everyone a happy 2020!

Rabbi Julie Schwarzwald



To contact Rabbi Schwarzwald,
email her at rabbijulie@cbi-nj.org

LET'S HAVE DINNER TOGETHER!

Our monthly Congregational dinners are popular and fun!

Thank you to several generous congregants for sponsoring the Congregational Shabbat Dinners for the enjoyment of our community.

If you are interested in sponsoring a future Shabbat Dinner – on your own to commemorate a special occasion, with friends, your neighborhood, BBRS class, etc. – please contact Harvey Brenner in the synagogue office or Henry Bloom at hdbloom@hotmail.com



MLK Day @ CBI – January 20, 2020



We are delighted to welcome the following new and returning members who have joined our CBI family:

Nancy & Michael Weinstein



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 9th **Screen Judy** starring Renée Zellweger in a dazzling portrayal of Judy Garland at the end of her life. She doesn't deliver an impersonation of Judy Garland as much as an interpretation, adjusting her own vocal register but never to the point of mimicry. Zellweger not only captures Garland's power, but her nervous energy and darting physical tics. The result is a slice-of-life biopic that has Oscar buzz for Zellweger. Please join us for to watch this powerful film.

Thursday, January 23rd **Hirschhorn presenter Lloyd Kishinsky** will talk about the famed musical team of Block & Harnick, best known for *Fiddler on the Roof*. We will learn their backgrounds; how the songs were written; see sketches, clips and Zero Mostel singing *If I Were a Rich Man*. This promises to be an afternoon of learning and smiles.

Sandwich choices are: turkey, roast beef, corned beef, pastrami, tuna, egg salad. PAY AT THE DOOR. CONTACT LOIS at 973-533-1809 to place your lunch order by the Wednesday afternoon before 3 p.m. The cost is \$10 for Adult Forum members and friends, and \$12 for community participants. If you are coming for the program only and not joining us for lunch, then there is no charge, but PLEASE CALL ME to let me know you will be attending.

MEN'S CLUB MINUTE

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

Welcome to the first installment of the 2020 edition of Men's Club Minute. Before we say hello to 2020 we need a little recap of the great things that happened over the past year. It's what I like to call the "2019 Top Ten Moments for Men's Club." Here we go...



Alex Marcus



Jonathan Schor

1. Chanukah Party 2019 – Congratulations once again to MOY and Softball Wizard, David Touger. It was an amazing evening filled with music, dancing, and great food. Thanks again to David for smoking and cooking at his own party. Thanks to everyone who helped plan, shop, clean, etc. We couldn't have done it without your help. Thanks to Michael Jurist and Craig Rothman for chairing the event. Special thank you to: Dan, Dan, Howard, Michael S., Hank, Nachum, for all of your help.
2. Comedy/Scotch in the Sukkah – Who knew that Alex Marcus has portrait toast?
3. Ushering at High Holidays – Thanks Danny for helping us keep the High Holidays a meaningful experience
4. Israel Day Parade – Once again a great showing by Men's club and CBI
5. Basketball – The CBI pick up game at the Hartshorn School. Monday and Wednesday evenings. All are welcome!
6. Softball – Our team is continually improving and looking for ringers. Contact Craig Rothman at craig231rothman@gmail.com If you are interested in joining the team.
7. Passover Wine Sale – The sale was a rousing success. We helped make sure that everyone had their 4 cups (or more of wine). Thanks again to Michael Jurist

for coordinating

8. Paid Up Breakfast – We had a wonderful speaker this year. A local basketball talent who played professionally in Israel. An interesting insight into pro basketball abroad!
9. Bowling – Once again we were successful in retaining the coveted Kiddush Cup over Oheb Shalom.
10. Men's Club Shabbat – Speaking of retaining the Kiddush Kup... Our annual Men's Club Shabbat was another rousing success. An oldie but goodie Parshat Yitro. Another great comedy sketch and musical number by Dan R. Once again, The Doctor of Cholent, Alex Marcus, retained his title as "King of the Crock Pot." Look for another edition coming your way on 3/20-21.

Honorable Mentions: World Wide Wrap, Rock Climbing, AAA program, Men's Club Goes to the Theatre, CBI BBQ, Yellow Candle, Bar/Bat Mitzvah Gifts, Siddurim for Hebrew School, the list goes on...

Thanks to all of the Men's Club Board, Members, and volunteers for making such a wonderful 2019 for CBI Men's Club. We are looking forward to an amazing 2020 year!

LOOKING AHEAD

1. Axe Throwing – January 30, 2020. Please join CBI Men's Club for a night of Axe Throwing and Drinking... visit www.tinyurl.com/axethrowing2020 for more information.
2. Men's Club Shabbat – March 20-21 – Stay Tuned for more information

Alex Marcus & Jonathan Schor
Co-Presidents

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DAUGHTERS,
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AUNTS, &
COUSINS...

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Your participation will make *Sisterhood Shabbat* so special!

Friday, March 13 & Saturday, March 14, 2020

Please follow the link below to choose from our many ways to participate:

https://cbi-nj.org/sisterhood/sisterhood_shabbat.html

OR call/email our co-chairwomen

Michelle Daniel 973-258-1245
michelledaniel@gmail.com

Chaya Cohen 908-654-8580
chayacohen@gmail.com

Please join us by choosing from the following parts:
• a reading (in *English or Hebrew*) • singing • silent role • behind-the-scenes work

CBI Gala Celebration

SAVE THE DATE!

Saturday Evening

March 7, 2020

at

Congregation B'nai Israel

Details to Come Soon!



Gala Committee Co-Chairs
Ruth Novick and David Touger

Guests of Honor

Miriam Linver and Matt Askin
Roz and Jonathan Engel
Lori and Adam Katzman

Please contact ruthkirshner@yahoo.com if you are interested in being a part of the planning committee!

OUR SENSORY ROOM IS ALWAYS OPEN!

Our sensory space is ready! Walk, jump, trace, press - and reset your vestibular and proprioceptive systems.

Room 203 is designed for all ages and is always open. Use it whenever you are in the building and your children - or you - need a break.



ISRAEL AFFAIRS

By Joe Tenenbaum



Israel "Current" Events

Once again, I am unable to report the results of an election in Israel. All I can report is that there will be **another** election, in late February or early March.

Helping Our Young Adults Learn About Israel

Learning about Israel is more than just being given a few facts and preparing responses to well known complaints about Israel. Visiting Israel and learning about the country and its people is essential. (See last month's letter from Israel written by Zach Marcus). Becoming part of a community of people who care about Israel is also important. We are lucky in New Jersey to have the Jewish Federation of Greater MetroWest. I have information today about two programs which our Federation is offering to help our young people build a strong connection with Israel.

AIPAC Policy Conference Parent/Teen Cohort

Be part of the Jewish Federation delegation to the AIPAC Policy Conference. Join a special cohort of Greater MetroWest parents and teens at the largest gathering of the pro-Israel movement in the United States.

(Application Deadline: January 10, 2020)

- Federation will subsidize the cost of student's registration fee, offering grants of up to \$499
- **Mandatory pre-policy meeting on Sunday, January 12.** Details to follow
- Meet Israel and American policy makers and thought leaders in Washington, D.C.
- Lobby on Capitol Hill in support of a strong U.S.-Israel relationship
- Join 18,000 pro-Israel attendees at the conference, including 3,500 college students from 630 campuses across the country

Limited spots available. Registration is on a first come, first served basis

A minimum pledge of \$180 per adult to the 2020 UJA

Annual Campaign is requested. Pledge is payable by December 31, 2020.

For additional information, or to register, contact Linda Scherzer, CRC Director at lscherzer@jfedgmw.org or (973) 929-3087.

Israel Engagement Fellowship

The Greater MetroWest Israel Engagement Fellowship, available to students in grades 11 and 12, is a five-part program that explores the centrality of Israel in Jewish history and the diversity of Israel today. The program includes a deep dive into the history and contemporary issues of the Arab-Israeli conflict, and prepares participants for conversations about Israel, especially as they enter the challenges on college campuses. During the program, Fellows gain the knowledge, experience, confidence and leadership to engage with Israel in their own unique and meaningful way.

There are two fellowship options –

- Wednesdays 6:30 -9:00 from Feb 26 through March 25 at JCC Central in Scotch Plains
- Thursdays 6:30 – 9:00 from Feb 27 through March 26 at Aidekman JCC in Whippany

Both options culminate with an overnight trip to Washington, DC on June 3 and 4.

COST: \$250

(Application Deadline: January 8, 2020)

All applicants will need to schedule an interview at the Aidekman Jewish Community Campus in Whippany.

For additional information, or to register, contact Scott Kalmikoff, at skalmikoff@jfedgmw.org or (973) 929-2712.

2020 AIPAC Policy Conference March 1-3, 2020

While we are encouraging our young adults to attend AIPAC, we still are planning on all members of our community to take part in this year's conference. The Policy Conference will be held Sunday March 1 – Tuesday, March 3, and once again there will be a Shabbaton the weekend before. I hope that you noticed the poster inviting congregants to join Rabbi

Resnick as part of the CBI AIPAC delegation this year. It is so important that we continue to attend in greater numbers, both from CBI, and from other congregations. Consider attending not only with your children (high school and older) but maybe with your parents, your siblings, or your good friends. (Note the opportunity for teens to get a MetroWest scholarship described above).

Anyone paying attention to our national conversation must notice that the tenor of the discussion has deteriorated, making it difficult for people with different points of view to meet and have meaningful discussions. AIPAC is not just a celebration of the US Israel relationship but also a celebration of pro-Israel Democrats, Republicans and Unaffiliated. If you want to be part of an organization going against the grain of divisive and mean-spirited rhetoric, join you CBI friends at AIPAC.

5780 and 2020 Israel Bond Appeal

You can still purchase bonds directly from the Israel Bond Office by calling David Brown at (973) 712-1404. Be sure to mention that you are a member of CBI Millburn.

Think of purchasing bonds as gifts, particularly in honor of

Bar and Mitzvah celebrations. A mitzvah bond will mature in five years from the date it is purchased, which can be perfect time for use either for a gap year in Israel, or the beginning of college in the United States. The message of an Israel Bonds is as valuable as the financial value – nothing says support for the State of Israel like lending money to the State to help it thrive. And a five year bond purchased now will still be helping Israel when she reaches her 75th Anniversary (coming up in 2023).

Missing Soldiers and non-combatants

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

Guy Hever Yehuda Katz Zvi 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



**CONGREGATION
B'NAI ISRAEL**

160 Millburn Avenue
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YALDEINU
for families with special needs

Yaldeinu ("Our Children") is the name of our congregation's outreach to families with children or young adults with special needs. We have prepared liturgy and an experience designed to be participatory, joyous, and relaxed!

The service is approximately 45 minutes long and led by a special needs educator. The attendees are encouraged not only to participate but to lead as well as they can. The service is held in the Chapel and there is a Torah service. Youth over the age of 13 have the experience of being called up for an aliyah. It is a warm, nurturing, supportive environment for the youth and their families. Synagogue membership is not required for attendance, and all programs are held at CBI.

Saturday, January 11	11:00-11:45 am	Shabbat morning
Saturday, February 8	11:00-11:45 am	Shabbat morning
Saturday, March 14	7:15-8:15 pm	Havdalah service
Saturday, April 18	11:00-11:45 am	Shabbat morning
Saturday, May 9	11:00-11:45 am	Shabbat morning
Saturday, June 6	11:00-11:45 am	Shabbat morning

Any questions? Please contact Beth Giladi at bethhg@gmail.com or Rabbi Julie Schwarzwald, Director of Congregational Learning, at rabbijulie@cbi-nj.org or 973-379-1134.

**DON'T MISS
THE DEADLINE!**

Please note, the deadline for the FEBRUARY 2020 bulletin is JANUARY 10. 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.

EDITION	DUE DATE FOR MATERIALS
FEB	10-Jan
MAR	14-Feb
APR	13-Mar
MAY	13-Apr
JUN	8-May

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.

Synagogue Fund

Judah Marcus & Family - Mazel Tov on your Bar Mitzvah!

❖ The Gelbands

Polly Merdinger & Family - We're sorry for your loss

❖ Steve & Gayle Chizzik

David Merdiner & Family - We're sorry for your loss

❖ Steve & Gayle Chizzik

Carol & Bob Marcus - Mazel Tov on Judah's Bar Mitzvah!

❖ Helen Hader

Sara Dybner & Family - Mazel Tov on your Bat Mitzvah!

❖ Deena Bernhaut

Lisa & Corey Biller - Mazel Tov on Eliana's Bat Mitzvah!

❖ Dan & Ruth Dovdavyan & Family

Mariela Markelis & Ari Dynber - Mazel Tov on Sara's Bar Mitzvah!

❖ Dan & Ruth Dovdavyan & Family

Terry Hofflich - In memory of your brother

❖ Steven & Helene Moehlman

The Dybner Family - In honor of Sara's Bat Mitzvah!

❖ Sydra & Miller Grant

The Marcus Family - In honor of Judah's Bar Mitzvah!

❖ Sydra & Miller Grant

Terry Hofflich - In memory of David Levy.

❖ Henry Bloom & Rabbi Helaine Ettinger

Terry Hofflich - In memory of your brother

❖ Carol & Bob Marcus

Cantor's Music Fund

Cantor Wallach - Thank you for your help!

❖ Lenore May

Debbie & Alex Marcus - Mazel Tov on Judah's Bar Mitzvah!

❖ Wendy & Hank Kaplowitz

Len Hausman - Mazel Tov on your milestone birthday!

❖ Wendy & Hank Kaplowitz

Carol & Bob Marcus - Mazel Tov on your grandson's Bar Mitzvah!

❖ Flo Ellen & Richard Maslow

Debbie & Alex Marcus - Mazel Tov on Judah's Bar Mitzvah!

❖ Flo Ellen & Richard Maslow

Len Hausman - Mazel Tov on your milestone birthday!

❖ Meryl Stone & Michael Cohen & Family

Terry Hofflich - In memory of David Levy

❖ Hedda & Edward Maleh

Terry Hofflich - In memory of David Levy

❖ Beth Giladi & Family

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

Rabbi Resnick - Thank you for your help!

❖ Lenore May

Rabbi Resnick - Thank you for a wonderful weekend!

❖ Roberta Wallach

Roberta Rabin - All our thoughts are with you.

❖ Sharon & Mark Richman

Burk-Mendlovitz Youth Fund

Carol & Bob Marcus - Mazel Tov on Judah's Bar Mitzvah!

❖ Renee & Kopel Burk

Dr. Max Gruenewald Adult Education Fund

Rabbi Sharon Litwin - Thank you for all your help!

❖ Lenore May

Max Alper Prayer Book Fund

The Dybner Family - In honor of Sara's Bat Mitzvah

❖ Henry Bloom & Rabbi Helaine Ettinger

Alex & Debbie Marcus - In honor of Judah's Bar Mitzvah

❖ Henry Bloom & Rabbi Helaine Ettinger

The Richter Family - In honor of Simon's Bar Mitzvah

❖ Henry Bloom & Rabbi Helaine Ettinger

The Linver-Askin Family - In honor of Joey's Bar Mitzvah

❖ Henry Bloom & Rabbi Helaine Ettinger

Gray- Ramah Scholarship Fund

Debbie & Alex Marcus - Mazel Tov on Judah's Bar Mitzvah

❖ Dan & Ruth Dovdavyan & Family

Take advantage of year end tax benefits by making full or substantial payments of your CBI obligations.

CBI now accepts checks, ACH transfers, appreciated stock donations and credit card payments.



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MISSION STATEMENT

Congregation B'nai Israel is a center of Jewish life where we come together in a warm and welcoming environment.

We are...

- Rooted in Conservative traditional Jewish values, Torah, our connections to each other, our community, spirituality and Israel • Committed to creating a place where everyone feels comfortable and engaged, and is encouraged to participate • An inclusive, family-friendly, multi-generational, egalitarian congregation that pursues lifelong fulfillment through education, observance and social action • Present and supportive of one another whether celebrating life's joys or sharing its sorrows • Distinguished by passionate professional and lay leadership.

Congregation B'nai Israel is dedicated to inspiring current and future generations to experience rich Jewish lives.

Congregation B'nai Israel (973) 379-3811

Paul Resnick, Interim Rabbi
Lorna Wallach, Cantor
Steven Bayar, Rabbi Emeritus
Harvey M. Brenner, FSA, FTA, Executive Director

Education

Rochelle Baron, Director, Early Childhood Center
Rabbi Julie Schwarzwald, Director of Congregational Learning

Youth and Adult Programming

USY & Kadima - Aly Greenstein
Chaverim - Michael Greenstein
Adult Forum - Lois Dyer

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