



Chai-lights

C O N G R E G A T I O N B E T H I S R A E L • B E R K E L E Y

FROM THE RABBI

Over Yom Kippur, a few members of our CBI Family responded to a *tzedakah* challenge with overwhelming generosity. The challenge was simple – will five CBI households step up and each make a \$1,000 commitment in support of Jewish education for our community’s children?

By the end of Yom Kippur, just moments prior to the uplifting and inspiring *Neilah* service, ten pledges were made. This \$10,000 collective gift came from diverse households. One person explained, “My own children are not yet in school so it is easier for me to help now.” A couple said to me, “Our children have graduated long ago, so now is very much the time for us to help others out.” Another person mentioned that they have relatives attending one of our local Day Schools and that “this feels very personal.” Still others expressed appreciation for the opportunity to help us strengthen the future of our people and indeed that of our own community.

In their own way, each one of these generous contributors captured a critical insight- we are one family, of the same people, concerned for and invested in our future and that of our children. Viewed through this lens, it becomes apparent that the heavy financial burden of providing our children with the best Jewish education cannot solely fall on families with children currently enrolled in our schools. We must all join the effort together.

For a moment, consider the costs of a quality Jewish education. Currently, tuition at a Jewish preschool is over \$10,000 a year. Jewish afternoon school programs cost several thousand dollars, Jewish Day Schools cost over \$20,000 a year, and tuition at a Jewish High School is above \$30,000 a year. Now imagine a family with one child, or two children, or three, or even more, and add to that the cost of living and the cost of supporting such a family. The challenge our families face becomes very clear, very quickly. There’s no doubt about it: Our families need our help and our support.

More importantly, for a moment consider the infinite value of this critical gift to our community. In just a few days we will gather to celebrate Chanukah, the festival of lights. Our tradition

recounts how the Hasmoneans removed and stored away the Altar stones which the Greeks had defiled with idolatry and replaced it with a new Altar. According to this explanation, the name Chanukah is related to this particular rededication (*chanukah*) of the Altar. The word *chanukah* (meaning dedication) however also shares its root with the word *chinuch*, or education. I believe that the loose connection between these two words sheds important light on a fundamental Jewish concept. The dedication of our Temple (or in our day, our synagogues or congregations) is deeply connected to our own dedication and commitment to Torah education. The external dedication of the Altar or Temple must always come with our own internal dedication to Torah study and education. From young to old, the fire of the Altar is continuously sparked and fed by the flames of our Torah study. In that vein, without Jewish education writ large or Jewish schools (be it afternoon schools or day schools), we risk the very vitality and future of our shul.

For this very reason, I turn to each of you. Together, we form a singular family. Together, let us commit to the notion that the vibrancy of our own shul relies heavily on the vibrancy and well being of our local Jewish schools.

I believe that a few more families and/or individuals can step forward to make additional \$1,000 contributions to this effort. I also believe that at least one hundred CBI households can

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contribute \$100 to this effort and that another one hundred households can make a contribution ranging between \$18 and \$72. Together, each and every one of us can make a difference. Indeed, we need each and every one of us to make this difference.

Please contact our office with a pledge and or send a check to the shul (in the memo indicate – “CBI Children Education Fund”).

This Chanukah I pray that the light of our community spills into our schools and into the lives of our children. May our contributions add together like the lights of Chanukah, revealing in their glory the depth of our commitment to the future of our people and that of our community.

With blessings and gratitude,
Rabbi Yonatan Cohen

BEING A PART OF THE *CHEVRA KADISHA*

By Juliet Stamperdahl

“These are things one is rewarded for in this life, but for which the principal reward is in the world to come: Honoring father and mother, acts of loving kindness, visiting the house of study morning and night, welcoming the stranger, visiting the sick, providing for a bride, escorting the dead, deep prayer, making peace between a man and his friend, and Torah study is equal to all of these.”

From the preliminary morning service based on Babylonian Talmud, Shabbat 127a

In the morning prayers, after we thank G-d for giving us the Torah, we recite three short Torah teachings, one from Chumash, one from Mishnah, and one from the Talmud. The Talmudic passage is from Bavli Shabbat 127a and is quoted above.

All of the *mitzvot* listed are investments in other people and in strengthening a community, so it makes sense that the dividends of these *mitzvot* extend beyond our lifetime. How we also benefit from these *mitzvot* in the here and now is more clear for some *mitzvot* than others. For the purposes of this article, I will focus on the here and now benefits of the *mitzvah* of *leviyat haMet*, escorting the dead.

Leviyat haMet can refer to many things, including: the preparation of the body for burial (*Tahara*), watching over the body before the funeral, the eulogy, the funeral procession, and the burial itself. *Leviyat haMet* is actually considered the *Chesed Shel Emet*, the truest act of kindness, or the ultimate *mitzvah*. This is because escorting the dead is considered to be a wholly unselfish act because the recipient can never acknowledge or repay the favor. And yet the Talmud above is very clear that there are benefits to those who do this work.

I have always been interested in life cycle rituals. I wanted to find out a little bit about the *Chevra Kadisha*, the burial society at Congregation Beth Israel. One interview led to two more, each of which led to two more. At this point, I have spoken with 10 people who were involved with Beth Israel *Taharat* (the ritual washing and dressing of the body in preparation for burial) at some point during the time period between February, 1978 and November, 2013. I will share a little of what I have learned about the work and its benefits.

Chevra Kadisha work has an intense quiet dignity to it. As Neska,

who coordinates the *Chevra Kadisha* of Beth Jacob and the East Bay put it, “It’s amazing – once people walk into the room, all ego leaves. It’s just beautiful and very rewarding.” One of the guiding principles of *Taharat* is *Kavod HaMet* (honoring the dead), and one of the ways you honor the dead is by not speaking about any particular *Tahara* with someone who was not there. As Rabbi Ferris said, “It is a private *mitzvah*, like *mikveh*.” This confidentiality about the work, especially in smaller communities, can translate into secrecy about who does the work. If there are only three people on the *Chevra Kadisha* chances are good all of them participated in the most recent *Tahara*.

In fact, several people I spoke with did not want me to use their names in this article. Those who were comfortable with my using their names were ok with it only because they want others to know that there are real people doing this work. Everyone I spoke with communicated a deep respect for the work. I heard over and over again “I feel honored and privileged to do this work”.

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Dorothy Rubin. *Chevra Kadisha*. 1986. Oil painting.

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Preston Grant remembers Gene LeVee, who ran the *Chevra Kadisha* from about 1978 to 1986, saying that when you do a *Tabara*, your life changes. For Preston, being a part of the *Chevra Kadisha* was a way to address his own mortality. “It makes me think of my own death and it is comforting to know that I will be there and the men of the *Chevra Kadisha* doing that last act of kindness will be the last people who will ever see me.”

Miriam Ferris spoke about how being a part of the *Chevra Kadisha* taught her that life is short and that you never know what is going to be. You do not want to find yourself doing a *Tabara* for someone who you have had a falling out with. “You want to make up with people before you go to bed at night because you do not know what the next day will bring.” She also spoke about the bond that develops between the people who do this work.

Jana Loeb does feel like her work in the *Chevra Kadisha* will be repaid because she knows that some day –may it be very long from now – women will take care of her in this way. For Jana, there is also an intimacy of participating in a *Tabara* that brings her into a much deeper, more resonate relationship with the dignity of all human beings. Other acts of Chesed do not always move her as much, but with a *Tabara* she has the privilege to participate in the last time that a person’s body engages with other people in this world. There is a sense of peace in being able to make sure that happens with dignity.

I have been doing this work for almost 4 years. Like Jana, I do it be-

cause it is something that I can do that needs to be done and I do it because it benefits me. Like Preston Grant and Miriam Ferris, it helps me remember that my life is finite, and that I have choices about how I use my time here. Like Neska, I feel something deeply rewarding about doing something with a group of people where the egos are checked at the door. There is also this feeling I have after a *Tabara*: The work might have been hard, there may have been surprises in the condition of the body, and I was as I always am, my completely imperfect self, and yet, as a team, I know we did our very best to do right by the deceased. We helped escort the body with dignity. There is something incredibly meaningful to me that even though we are deeply imperfect beings, we can show up, work together, do our best, and achieve something incredibly holy.

One of the most surprising things I learned when I was interviewing people about the CBI *Chevra Kadisha* occurred at the end of my interview with Preston Grant. Preston expressed surprise that I had only been doing this work for 4 years. When I asked why he was surprised, he said that he remembered that I had been interested in joining the *Chevra Kadisha* when I was a young teen. I had not remembered that. He asked me why I had not joined earlier. All I could think of was that I had never been asked before.

If any of you reading this are interested in doing this work, please consider yourself officially asked. You can talk to anyone quoted in this article or the rabbi. All of us would be more than happy to introduce you to this very special and rewarding *mitzvah*.

— SCRIP NEWS —

By Sara Schulman

CBI has had a successful scrip program for over 20 years thanks to the tireless efforts of Naomi Stamper and others. But most of the people regularly purchasing scrip are the long time members of the shul. To keep the program going, we need more participants, particularly the young families who are helping CBI grow.

Shopping with scrip is now easier than ever before. You can order your gift cards online and many merchants offer escrip, which can be sent to you within minutes of your order. We are asking all members who have never ordered scrip before to sign up for an account on shopwithscrip.com and try ordering one thing, whether it's a \$100 plastic Berkeley Bowl card or a \$5 Starbucks card that is emailed to your co-worker as a gift. Instructions for enrollment are available at <http://www.cbiberkeley.org/community/dafhashavuah/>

Frequently Asked Questions

What is scrip? Scrip is a program that enables non-profit organizations to skim a percentage off of their members' purchases at many retail stores. You buy gift cards, plastic or electronic, at their face value and then use them to do your regular shopping at stores such as Berkeley Bowl, Afikomen, Home Depot, Macy's, Starbucks, Peets and Amazon.com. CBI obtains these cards at a small discount and therefore makes a profit on each card sold.

The instructions for enrolling in the online program are a page long! Is this going to take hours of my time and not work? Is it really like Obamacare? No! The website does work. Indeed, about 25 CBI families have already enrolled.

But won't this make my shopping very complicated? No! Gift cards can be used like cash at retail stores; they are quick and easy to process. Using gift cards for online purchases can be a little more complicated, but Amazon makes it particularly easy: you receive a code that you can immediately enter into your Amazon account and that balance is applied to any subsequent purchases.

Do you have to be a member of CBI to participate? No! CBI accepts money from anyone. Please feel free to encourage your friends and relatives to sign up.

Which merchants participate in scrip? There are hundreds. Go to www.shopwithscrip.com to see the list.

CUBA AMERICA JEWISH MISSION

By June Safran

It has been many years since I wrote about Cuba for Beth Israel. At Rabbi Cohen's request, I am trying to bring our community up to date.

When I started in 1994, there was a small community that extended across the island but had little knowledge of Judaism and how to participate in community. People were slowly returning to their religious practices after being deserted by the Russians in 1989. By 1992, lack of food and medical care was so severe that very hungry people were returning to their religious practices for comfort in spite of the law that stated that anyone who was a Believer could not be a member of the Communist party. The significance of this was that Believers could not hold top jobs nor could their children go to the best schools or to the university. By 1993, the law was changed because no one was paying attention to it. Also, by 1993, Dr. Jose Miller Fredman, head of the Jewish community of Cuba, had invited the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee to come and help him restore the community. The JDC began a program of Sunday morning food for those who would attend classes for both adults and children. They started a small pharmacy for Jews and non-Jews with the approval of the government. After I arrived, I started Friday night chicken programs which, thankfully, the JDC took over and continues to this day.

Bob and I first arrived in 1994 to found a chapter of Hadassah. Lois and Gary Marcus were on this trip. It was not a happy time and some families talked about giving up their breakfast to their children; others talked about having enough food for half the month and surviving on sugar water the other half. A lot of long-term health problems, such as neuropathy, began at this time.

One year later, I went back with a group to visit the communities in the provinces. When we came to Santiago de Cuba, we met several people who were excited to be getting back their building after 30 years of it being used as a community center or dance studio. They first came together because an older lady wanted to say *kaddish* for her husband. Someone had a prayerbook with the *kaddish* in Spanish. The group decided to get together some Friday nights for a potluck. This encouraged Andres Novoa, who remembered sitting next to his grandfather in synagogue, to start reading in the *parasha* of the week, in Spanish. Thus, he became the religious leader. He was eager to learn Hebrew but he could not use the dictionary at all. I showed him how and when I came back a year later with my first group, he was able to lead services and understand some of what he was doing. The first experience with Santiago led me to ask Ljuba Davis to go to Cuba and teach high holiday liturgy. They didn't have any books. She also taught how to make challah and dance. Her sister organized the religious school and worked with the teachers. She said that they were like sponges, absorbing every thing they were taught.

Ljuba's experience encouraged me to take Rabbi Stuart Kelman and some members of Netivot Shalom to Cuba. We all taught in the synagogue under the direction of Rabbi Kelman. At that time,

we were invited to come back for the first *b'nai mitzvah* (two cousins) that was to happen seven months later. This was my second trip with Rabbi Kelman and Netivot Shalom members and it was very inspiring to watch the two boys whom Andres Novoa had trained in just 7 months. Rabbi Kelman was so inspired that he began to plan to bring Andres, the religious leader, and Eitan Behar, the youth group leader to Berkeley to attend the CAJE conference at Stanford and to study at both Netivot Shalom and Beth Israel.



In 1996, I was encouraged to form a non-profit to help with the work. We did that in 1997 and Eitan, the youth leader in Santiago de Cuba designed our website even though he could only communicate by email from his workplace at the bank. Since that time, Bob and I have been very active in supporting other communities across the island and establishing sister congregations to help individual communities. We have helped found a senior center in Havana at the Sephardic synagogue building, we have funded a special program for new babies and toddlers called "Bottoms Up", furnished a classroom for a pre-school in Havana, brought thousands of pounds of medicines and humanitarian aid, taken many groups to interact with the communities, sent youth to teach in communities (which the Cuban government will no longer allow us to do), and helped Cubans making *aliyah* to Israel.

Our sisters and brothers in Cuba are doing better than years before. Many have relatives out of the country who send help. These families are doing well. Others are struggling, like the average Cuban, to make ends meet. Often the ends don't meet.

Bob and I will be going to Cuba in December and can carry your unused portions of Rx meds as long as they are not outdated. We can also take over the counter non-Rx meds that are not outdated. If you would like to purchase new items, we would be delighted to carry them. We would also be super delighted to carry money for purchase of toiletries and canned food when we are there. Everything can be left at the synagogue office or better yet, brought to our home. You can reach us at 510-526-7173 or email junesafran@aol.com.

A PRESIDENT'S HOMECOMING

R. Asher Lopatin, President of Yeshivat Chovevei Torah

CBI SCHOLAR IN RESIDENCE,
SHABBAT TEZAVEH
— FEBRUARY 7 & 8 —



Earlier this year, Rabbi Asher Lopatin became the president of Yeshivat Chovevei Torah Rabbinical School, a leading modern and open Orthodox rabbinical school in America, with nearly 100 alumni and 40 current students in a full-time, four-year course of study.

YCT's connection to the CBI Family runs deep. Our shul's first rabbi, R. Saul Berman, was among the founders of the Rabbinical School and our immediate former rabbi, R. Yair Silverman, is an honorary alum of the yeshiva. As importantly, the yeshiva trained our very own R. Yonatan Cohen, alongside other rabbis and educators in our community, including R. Ari Leubitz, the Head of School of OHDS, R. David Kasher, Kevah's Director of Education, as well as R. Gabe Greenberg, UC Hillel's Sr. Rabbinic Educator. In addition, both R. Aaron Finkelstein and R. Haggai Resnikoff, who grew up in the CBI Family, have received their *smichah* (rabbinic ordination) from the school in recent years.

This bond however runs even deeper. R. Lopatin's parents were early members of CBI in the 60's and R. Asher Lopatin, who was born in the East Bay, spent his earliest shul days in the Beth Israel community. Indeed, on several occasions, R. Lopatin has remarked that CBI in general and R. Saul Berman in particular made a profound impact on his family's religious life in those early and formative years. We are truly blessed to count the Lopatins and Rav Asher as part of our CBI Family story.

For 18 years R. Lopatin served as the spiritual leader of Anshe Sholom B'nai Israel Congregation, a modern Orthodox synagogue in Chicago. He received his ordination from Rav Ahron Soloveichik and Yeshivas Brisk in Chicago, and from Yeshiva University in New York as a Wexner Graduate Fellow. Rabbi Lopatin holds an M. Phil. in Medieval Arabic Thought from Oxford University where he also did doctoral work on Islamic Fundamentalist attitudes toward Jews. He won both Rhodes and Truman Scholarships. He is the author of numerous scholarly and popular articles in several books and journals and has been the co-chair of the Muslim-Jewish Community Building Initiative of the Jewish Council on Urban Affairs.

Rabbi Lopatin is married to Rachel Tessler Lopatin, a Wexner Graduate Fellow herself, and together they have four children.

We look forward to welcoming R. Lopatin as our CBI Scholar in Residence on Shabbat Tezaveh, Feb. 7 & 8, for a president's homecoming.

NEW MEMBER PROFILE • LAUREN AND DEAN ROBINSON

By *Elissa Kittner*

Lauren and Dean Robinson are new CBI members who will be with our community during the three-year period of Dean's post-doctoral work at UC Berkeley. Lauren and Dean met while they were both studying at Cornell University and the two were married in 2009. Lauren has a master's degree in Operations Research (a combination of statistics, optimization and computer science). She currently works for Hertz Rent-A-Car analyzing data to help the company improve operations nationwide. Dean has a PhD in theoretical particle physics and currently works as a postdoctoral researcher for the UC Berkeley Department of Physics.



Lauren grew up in Maryland and attended the Melvin J. Berman Hebrew Academy in Rockville, MD for high school. Her positive high school experience brought her closer to Orthodox Judaism. Dean grew up in Sydney, Australia in a diverse Orthodox community. Lauren and Dean spent the last two years in Teaneck, NJ where Lauren was based for her work, while Dean commuted each week to upstate New York to complete his graduate studies.

About CBI, Lauren said, "I am really excited about joining the community. I love the diversity. Some communities have a real 'cookie cutter' feel and people tend to be more similar than different, so I'm excited to be in a community with a wide range of people. I also really enjoy the role of women in the CBI community." Dean and Lauren also commented that the community has been "incredibly welcoming."

Among other things, Lauren and Dean enjoy traveling and discovering new places. They are excited to explore the Bay Area and to travel throughout California during their time in Berkeley.

NEW MEMBER PROFILE • RABBI ZAC JOHNSON

By *Elissa Kittner*

Rabbi Zac is a California native who spent most of his youth growing up in Greensboro, NC in a culturally Jewish home. During his junior year of high school, he was selected to attend the Alexander Muss High School in Israel, and the experience profoundly changed his life. He said, "I found something powerful in Judaism that I hadn't known before. I was influenced by an amazing teacher and some powerful spiritual experiences." Upon his return, Zac became more involved with the Jewish community, and started wearing a kippah and observing Shabbat and kashrut.



Zac was very involved Jewishly during college. He attended University of Maryland – College Park, majoring in Jewish Studies, and was active in Hillel and served as a *gabbai* in a Conservative minyan. After college, he studied at the Conservative Yeshiva in Israel for three years, and then came to the Graduate Theological Union for a master's degree in Biblical Languages. He later taught at the Gann Academy in Boston and then returned to Israel, learning at the Shalom Hartman Institute for several years and then independently receiving his *smicha*. He was recruited by BBYO and moved back to the Bay Area to serve as the Director of Jewish Enrichment for the Western States.

Zac is a skilled musician who plays guitar and piano and sings. His Rosh Yeshiva at the Conservative Yeshiva noticed Zac's love of theater and was the first to reflect back to him how that training made him a strong *shaliach tzibur*. Zac collects *niggunim* and recently taught a course at CBI entitled "Niggunim as a Spiritual Practice." He has also been trained in *shechita*, or kosher slaughter, and is preparing to "process" his second kosher turkey for Thanksgiving (in a more involved way than many of us).

Zac is close to Jen Franco, his "special lady friend," and they enjoy learning Torah, going to the beach, walking around Berkeley Bowl, and making tacos.

Of his experience at CBI, Rabbi Zac says, "I have been in so many different kinds of shuls, but CBI really suits me. When I came back from Israel after the Hartman Institute, I knew I wanted to return to Rabbi Cohen's Torah and *derech erez*. I wanted to be with a rabbi I adored and trusted who had a vision of the special type of Jewish community that can be created."

NEW MEMBER PROFILE • NEUMEIER FAMILY

By Elissa Kittner

Tamara Beliak and Zeev Neumeier and their four children, Dror (8), Menachem Tuvia (6), Yakir (3) and Kochavah (7 months) recently moved to Berkeley from Riverdale, New York and are new CBI members.

Before deciding definitively to move to Berkeley, Zeev came to the area and spent time at CBI and in the neighborhood, making sure it would be a good fit for his family. Happily for the CBI community, the Neumeier's decided it was a "great place" for them.



Zeev and Tamara met at a party on the Upper Westside, and reconnected a few months later at Simchat Torah. They were married in 2002 and share a love of Jewish learning, teaching and family.

Zeev is a technology expert and serial entrepreneur who currently leads a start-up company called Cognitive Networks. At age ten, Zeev came to the U.S. from Israel so his father could complete doctoral studies at Georgia Technical University. The family ultimately decided to stay in the U.S. Zeev went to Jewish Day Schools, attended Yeshiva University and received his MBA from New York University.

Tamara is a Judaic Studies teacher at Oakland Hebrew Day School. Tamara grew up in Southern California where her father was Chaplain and the Hillel Rabbi for The Claremont Colleges. She attended Brandeis and Drisha Institute for Jewish Education, and completed her PhD at Yeshiva University.

Zeev likes to take his kids hiking on Sundays and study Mishnah with Dror. One of Tamara's favorite pastimes is reading books in Hebrew to her children.

Tamara commented that, "Everyone at CBI is very friendly, and that it's been a nice and easy transition from Riverdale."

NEW MEMBER PROFILE • MARILYN NERIL

By Elissa Kittner

Marilyn recently joined CBI having heard about the CBI community for many years from several members who are good friends of hers. After doing a bit of "shul shopping" she said she found CBI to be a "great fit" for her. Marilyn joined as an individual member, but is married to Morton Neril who is a physician. She and Morton moved to California forty years ago raising four children (three sons and a daughter) here, all of whom are now adults. She and Morton are also blessed with two grandchildren. Marilyn grew up in Chicago in a Conservative family, and over the years has gravitated from a Reform congregation, to a Conservative one, and now to CBI. Marilyn's career began with teaching English as a second language, and since 1995 has centered on college admissions. She currently works seasonally for UC Berkeley reviewing applications. In her spare time, she volunteers tutoring and working at the UC Berkeley Botanical Gardens.



Her mother, Myrtle Nieder, z"l passed away last June, and was an enormous positive influence on Marilyn and her grandchildren, and "deserves credit for transmitting to them a love of Judaism and a zest for life". Myrtle was active in the Contra Costa JCC, was a life member of Hadassah, a leader of Erev Shabbat services at Rossmoor Congregation B'nai Israel, and a long-time member and Haftarah reader at Congregation B'nai Shalom.

All four of Marilyn's children have strong connections to Judaism and Israel. Two sons have made *aliyah*, and a third son lives in the Bay Area and works in finance. One son in Israel founded and now directs the Interfaith Center for Sustainable Development. Her daughter is a fourth year medical student in Israel and will be coming back to the U.S. to work.

Of CBI, Marilyn says, "I love the *ruach, koach*, the Rabbi and multi-generational diversity of the community. I love coming to the CBI building as well, which I find very serene, beautiful and full of light."

GAN SHALOM UPDATE

By Laura Lipman

Dear CBI Family,

Gan Shalom is now firmly planted in the heart of our CBI community. You can see the evidence of our play and our work – please take a look at our Torah wall, outside the kitchen, showcasing our artwork and our Torah commentary.

As Gan's presence at CBI has become more prominent, I wanted to introduce our teachers who are the precious soul of our preschool.

Robin Mendelson: When Robin opened her eyes, she knew she was supposed to teach young children. It is her passion and blessing. Her other passions include her cats, the Beatles, hula hoops, dancing, pomegranates and studying Torah. We are blessed to have had Robin as a teacher at Gan Shalom for the past 20 years. Two years ago, she won the Diller Award, a prestigious award for excellence in Jewish education in the Bay Area. We at Gan Shalom have especially learned a lot from Carabella, Robin's cat, who is very unhappy when we are not our best selves.

Shani Rosenbaum: This is Shani's second year as a teacher at Gan Shalom. She was born in Israel on Kibbutz Yassur in northern Israel. She spent 2 years in the army in Intelligence and was stationed at the Lebanese border in 1999 monitor-

ing radar scans. After the army she traveled in North and South America, then returned to her kibbutz where she worked with children and decided on her life's work. She got her degree in early childhood education at San Francisco Community College and worked at the SF Chabad Preschool for 7 years before coming to teach at Gan Shalom. Shani has two children who attend Tehiyah Day School. She loves biking, camping and walking her dog with her family. She loves reading books on her Kindle in English because there is no Hebrew translator yet for Kindle.

Miriam Schwartz: Miriam joined our teaching staff this year; she is passionate and dedicated to Jewish Education, and has worked in the field for nearly ten years. In 2012, Miriam completed her California teaching certification as a recipient of a Delet fellowship. She worked as the assistant song-leader and Jewish programmer at Camp Tawonga in Yosemite for two summers and also as a classroom teacher at Contra Costa Day School. In her free time, Miriam enjoys hiking around the Berkeley hills, doing yoga, cooking, and nature exploration with children. She is also currently recording her own musical CD of Jewish music called the "Light of Creation."

Thank you for welcoming us into the CBI community; come by and visit us if you are here during the week.



Shani Rosenbaum



Robin Mendelson



Miriam Schwartz



BERKELEY MIDRASHA UPDATE

By Diane Bernbaum

Midrasha's year has started off with a bang. Our teachers are creative, charismatic and a pleasure to work with. Our teens are really happy with their classes. (I can always tell because teens that don't like their classes come to me to switch into new ones and this year everyone is really happy with their original choices!)

So what has happened so far and what's next on the horizon?

- Our backpacking trip in October sent a group of adventurous teens to Castle Rock State Park. (It's a good thing we chose a state and not a national facility since the federal government was closed down the weekend of our trip.) Trip members strung an eruv, celebrated Shabbat in the wild, had perfect weather and can't wait to go again next year. In fact, some of this year's participants were repeaters from last year.
- By the time you read this, we will have had our first retreat with over 100 teens from all four Midrasha campuses together at Walker Creek Ranch under the leadership director of Isaak Brown, our new Director of Experimental Education. Isaak took the retreat staff away to Camp Newman for a weekend in early October so that staff could plan the upcoming year of retreats, the first time we've had an out-of town overnight staff training in years.
- Our 8th graders spent a morning at Midrasha with our annual Ability Awareness Workshop; our 10th graders have had a workshop on Yitzhak Rabin and democracy in Israel by guests Uriel Levy and Sivan Bamberger from Israel; our seniors all have letters of recommendation from Midrasha to include in their college applications; and break-time has found us with a

few "Surprise Sundays," an excuse to just have fun at our mid-morning break.

- On the horizon: The Midrasha Brunch is Sunday, November 24 from 9:30-12:30. This event is open to everyone, whether you have a teen, are a teen, have ever been involved with Midrasha or not. This is for teens and for adults. We first eat brunch and then our faculty teach classes ranging from Hebrew, Talmud, Tanach and Martin Buber to communal art projects, blogging, Judaism and fairy tales, Israeli dance and a camp song sing-a-long. There's a perfect class for everyone. Please join us.
- Do you know Midrasha has a job bank of teens willing to work for you? When they register, Midrasha students are asked if they want to make their names available to people looking for teens to babysit, help with computers or office work, do housework, moving or lifting, work in the garden, tutor younger children, pet-sit or help at parties. If you would like a copy of the list, e-mail us at: diane@midrasha.org or call the Midrasha office, 510-843-4667.

And remember, teens register all year long at Midrasha, so if your teen or any teen you know is not at Midrasha, this is a good time to enroll. And start saving the date right now: March 23, 2014 is our annual Midra-Shabang and I know you won't want to miss it this year.

For retreat information, <http://midrasharetreats.weebly.com/>

To sign up to participate in the Homeless Meal, go to: <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040A45ACA72EA13-beth>

CBI MORASHA (LEGACY) SOCIETY

Our commitment to our beloved community is evident in everything we do. Now each of us can extend our commitment into the future.

We are profoundly grateful to the inaugural members of the CBI MORASHA (LEGACY) SOCIETY

Anonymous, Fran Alexander, Noah & Hope Alper, Ron and Bella Barany, Judith Bloom, Benjamin & Sara Darmoni, Nimrod and Aliza Elias, Alan Finkelstein & Leslie Valas, Sam Ginsburg, David & Diane Gould, Ezra & Toby Hendon, Gary & Ilene Katz, Seymour Kessler, Alan & Elissa Kittner, Gary & Lois Marcus, Ed & Phyllis Miller, Joel & Irene Resnikoff, Ben Rose & Rebecca Landes Mordy & Rena Rosen, Steve Silberblatt & Rita Kohl, Bob & Naomi Stamper, Linda and Stanley Wulf

For more information or to join the Society please contact Noah Alper at noahalper@gmail.com or Rena Rosen at t.rosenfamilly@comcast.net.



Afikomen Judaica

3042 Claremont Ave Berkeley CA 94705
510-655-1977 www.afikomen.com



LIVE.
SHOP.
SHMOOZE.

Complimentary Tea & Children's Play Space



Nosh & Knowledge

Our CBI family, together with Berkeley Hadassah, successfully launched a new initiative called Nosh and Knowledge, a bimonthly lunch-and-learn opportunity to meet community leaders, quality teachers, and to get reintroduced to Jewish institutions. During our first session on November 4, we were blessed to get a behind-the-scenes tour with CBI member Francesco Spagnolo, curator of the Magnes Museum, which houses one of the largest collections in the United States. It was extremely informative. Members of our group were particularly taken by the organizational methods of the Magnes in categorizing the various items collected. In fact, many in the group asked Francesco if his

house was this organized! If you want the answer to that question, ask Francesco when you see him next time in shul or at the Magnes!

On November 18th, we were inspired by Sarah Lefton, the talented founder of G-dcast (www.g-dcast.com). G-dcast is an experiment which tells the story of the whole Torah through cartoon parshas, with dozens of animated short films and mobile apps for adults and kids. During her visit, Sarah gave us previews of some of her current work. We also did a guided pictorial *midrash* based on the opening chapter of the Book of Samuel.

**Our next gathering:
MONDAY, DECEMBER 2**
R. Dorothy Richman, ‘Shedding More Lights on Chanukah.’
For more information and to RSVP, contact Lois Marcus loismarcus@comcast.net.





REVIEW OF LAWS OF CHANUKAH & LIGHTING YOUR CHANUKIA

GENERAL GUIDELINES

CHANUKAH BEGINS ON THE EVENING OF THE 25TH OF KISLEV THIS YEAR,
WEDNESDAY NIGHT, NOV. 27TH AND CONTINUES FOR EIGHT DAYS.

For the entire eight days of Chanukah it is forbidden to fast or to eulogize.

During morning prayers, Shacharit, one should recite the full Hallel every day.

“Al hanissim” the special paragraph of prayers for Chanukah is added in the silent prayers, Shmoneh Esreh and also in Grace after meals. If one forgot to say this addition, one should not repeat either Shmoneh Esreh or Grace.

PREPARING THE CHANUKIA

If a number of people are lighting in one household they should make a slight separation between their Chanukias so that there is no confusion to the observer as to the number of candles.

Ideally, the Chanukia should be placed outside the house to the left of the entrance. Since anti-Semitism was so common throughout Jewish history it became customary among many communities to place the Chanukia inside the house, near the entrance or on the table. In many families it is the custom to place the Chanukia in a window facing the public, especially where many people share one entrance (e.g., apartment building).

The Chanukia should be no lower than three tfachim from the floor (approx. 10.5 inches) and should be no higher than 20 amot from ground level (35.5 ft). Ideally, it should be about 10 tfachim high (40 inches).

The Chanukia should have all the candles or wicks on the same level, none higher or lower than the others.

It is customary to have an additional candle (the shamash) with which to light the other candles and in order to use its light. The shamash should be placed in a way that shows that it is not one of the Chanukah candles.

It is preferable to have the candles in a straight line, and not in a semi-circle, however it is permitted to have them in a semi-circle providing each candle is clearly separated from the others.

It is prohibited to light the shamash from the Chanukah candles.

It is obligatory to light candles, and one should even borrow money to fulfill this mitzvah. If a poor person needs money for Chanukah candles the community is obligated to provide for him.

The minimum obligation is that every household should have one candle burning every night. It is customary to be scrupulous regarding this mitzvah: to have one candle on the first night and an additional candle every night (1-8), and for everyone in the house as well.

Any type of oil is acceptable for use in the Chanukia, however, it is best to use olive oil.

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Wax candles are also acceptable, providing they have a single wick.

Place first candle on the extreme right of the Chanukia. On the second night add a candle on the left. Light the newest candle first and proceed to the right.

There are different customs regarding the placement of the candles, some follow the right and left of the observer from outside, some follow the right and left of the person lighting inside.

ORDER OF BLESSINGS AND SONGS

On the first night three brachot, blessings are recited. "Lehadlik ner shel Chanukah", "Sheasa nissim" and "She-hecheyanu." Page 709 in the Birnbaum Siddur, page 782 in the Artscroll Siddur, or page 897 in the Koren Siddur.

On the other nights only the first two blessings are said.

All the blessings should be recited before actually lighting the candles. First light the Shamash before the blessings to avoid delay. It is forbidden to speak between the recitation of the blessings and the completion of candle lighting.

"Haneirot Halalu" is recited either during or after the lighting of the additional candles.

"Maoz tsur yeshuaty" is then sung.

NOW THAT IT'S LIT...

The Chanukia should not be moved after it has been lit.

If the Chanukia was lit in accordance with the requirements of Jewish law and it was extinguished, one is not obligated to relight it, but one may relight it without reciting a blessing.

If the Chanukia was not lit properly in the first place, or was lit in a windy place and blew out then one is obligated to relight if it went out within 1/2 hour after nightfall.

It is permitted to work; however it is customary for women not to do any work for the entire time that the candles are burning.

It is forbidden to derive benefit from the light of the Chanukia just as it was forbidden to derive benefit from the Menorah in the Temple, and also in order to show that the purpose of the Chanukia is for a Mitzvah, and not for illumination.

WHEN TO LIGHT

There are different customs as to the lighting of the Chanukia. Some light at sunset. Some light about ten minutes after sunset and some at nightfall. Here in Berkeley one should try to light as soon as possible after 5:25 p.m. (except for Shabbat, see below).

It is obligatory to put in enough oil, or a long enough candle to burn for at least 1/2 hour after nightfall (i.e. the ap-



continued from page 12

pearance of three medium size stars).

In exceptional circumstances one may light one and a quarter hours before sunset with a blessing. However one should be careful to put in more oil or to use longer candles. If possible it is better to appoint an agent to light candles at the correct time, than to light early.

If one forgot or was not able to light at the correct time, one may light as long as people are still awake in the house in which one is lighting.

It is best to light in the presence of many people in order to publicize the miracle.

If one is a guest at someone's house (and staying there), one should give the owner a small amount of money to buy a portion in their candles and one may fulfill the obligation through the owner. Alternatively the guest may light his own Chanukia.

If one is eating out then one should light the Chanukia at their place of residence.

CHANUKAH & SHABBAT

On Friday afternoon, the Chanukah candles should be lit before the Shabbat candle-lighting time (if one accepted Shabbat early, it is forbidden to light Chanukah candles). Mincha should be said before lighting, if possible.

Remember to put in more oil or bigger candles on Friday, so that they burn 1/2 hour after nightfall. Try to light just before the Shabbat candles, (without of course delaying the lighting of the Shabbat candles)

After Shabbat one should first recite Havdalah at home and only then light the Chanukah candles. One may not use the Chanukia as the candle for Havdalah.

Warm brachot for a joyous and safe Chanukah!

Adapted from the laws of Chanukah by Rabbi Mordechai Beche





CBI CLASS SCHEDULE



— SUNDAY —

Sunday Morning Talmud Class

A class structured to appeal to Talmud students of all levels, from beginners to more experienced.

We will continue our studies of Masechet Shabbes; come check it out for a morning, no commitment necessary.

R. Gabriel Greenberg - Sunday, 9:00-10:00 a.m.

— MONDAY —

Nosh and Knowledge — The ultimate smorgasbord has arrived!

A bissel nosh, a bissel kibbitz (kvetch or kvell), a shtikle learning for your yiddisher kop. Join your chevreh for our bimonthly gatherings.

Monday, December 2: Dorothy Richman, 'Shedding More Lights on Chanukah'

This shtick kindly brought to you by Berkeley Hadassah and Congregation Beth Israel. RSVP Lois Marcus loismarcus@comcast.net

Midrasha's Tanach and Talmud (for Teens)

This course is an informal but intensive study group focusing on close thematic readings of the Tanach and Talmud in translation.

David Henkin – Mondays, 4:15 - 5:45 p.m.

NCSY LNL – Latte & Learning (for Teens; Grades 9-12)

Latte & Learning brings Judaism to local coffee shops and serves up Torah in a relaxed and fun setting.

LNL is the place for teens to ask questions, voice their feelings, and connect with each other.

R. Akiva Naiman - Mondays, 7:30-8:30 p.m. • Starbucks, 2128 Oxford St, Berkeley

Women's Dance Nights at CBI!

Come dance to a blend of world music, jazz, klezmer, hip hop and more.

No moves to remember, no cost either. Just a chance to let loose and get some good exercise in a fun way!

2nd & 4th Mondays @ 8:00 pm

— TUESDAY —

Week Night Learning with Rabbi Cohen

Join R. Cohen for a series addressing issues of Jewish thought, biblical interpretation and or law.

R. Yonatan Cohen – Tuesdays, 7:30 p.m.

Please consult our weekly bulletin, Daf HaShavuah, for exact topics and dates.

— WEDNESDAY —

Jewish Writings of Emmanuel Levinas: The Levinas Study Group

meets at 8 pm at the Schweig home to discuss various essays of the Jewish philosopher Emmanuel Levinas.

No background necessary. The class is facilitated by our resident scholar, Muni Schweig.

Muni Schweig - 1st, 2nd and 4th Wednesdays 8:00 p.m.

— THURSDAY —

Mishmar – Learners' Night

Join a Beit Misrash atmosphere for a weekly night of learning at CBI. We will do our best to match you up with a chevrotah (study partner) or chavurah (a group of learners) for some free wheelin', meaningful and personal text seeking and learning.

Thursdays, 8:00 – 10:00 p.m.

— FRIDAY —

Talmudic Wisdom: Between the Land of Israel and the Diaspora - Priorities, Polemics, and Power Struggles: In-depth Study of Ketubot

110a-112b. Is there a biblical or rabbinic imperative to settle the Land of Israel? What insights can the Babylonian Talmud,

the crown jewel of a Diasporic community, offer to this question? Join us for a weekly class that explores

key sugyot (talmudic units) that discuss major Jewish questions of practice and thought.

R. Yonatan Cohen - Fridays, 9:00 a.m.

CALENDAR

CHANUKAH

*Wednesday night, November 27 through Thursday (daytime),
December 5*

Throughout the week, candles should be lit after 5:25 pm except for Friday and Motzei Shabbat. See below for more details.

SHABBAT MEVARCHIM CHANUKAH PARSHAT MIKETZ

Friday and Saturday, November 29th & 30th

Chanukah Candle Lighting before*	4:33 pm
Shabbat Candle Lighting	4:33 pm
Mincha & Kabbalat Shabbat	4:35 pm
Morning Service	9:15 am
Educational Childcare	10:30 am
Shabbat Mincha	12:45 pm
Seudah Shlishit	4:30 pm
Ma'ariv, Havdalah & Shabbat ends	5:35 pm
Chanukah Candle Lighting after**	5:33 pm

** Remember to put in more oil or use bigger candles on Friday, so that they burn 1/2 hour after nightfall. Try to light just before the Shabbat candles (without of course delaying the lighting of the Shabbat candles).*

*** After Shabbat one should first recite Havdalah at home, then light the Chanukah candles. One may not use the Chanukia as the candle for Havdalah.*

CBI CHANUKAH GAME PARTY

Sunday, December 1st..... 7-10 pm

CBI TEEN CHANUKAH PARTY

Monday, December 2.....6:30-9:00pm
@ Rabinovich home, 1548 Channing Way

GAN SHALOM CHANUKAH PARTY

Monday, December 2nd5:00 -7:00 pm

ROSH CHODESH TEVET

Mon. night, Tues. & Wed., December 2nd- 4th

Shacharit.....6:30 am

SHABBAT PARSHAT VAYIGASH

Friday and Saturday, December 6th & 7th

Candle Lighting	4:32 pm
Mincha & Kabbalat Shabbat	4:35 pm
Morning Service	9:15 am
Educational program	10:30 am
Shabbat Mincha	12:45 pm
Seudah Shlishit	4:30 pm
Ma'ariv, Havdalah & Shabbat ends	5:33 pm

FAST OF TEVET

Friday, December 13th

Fast begins	5:37 am
Shacharit	6:30 am
Candle Lighting	4:33 pm
Mincha @CBI	4:35 pm
Fast ends	5:25 pm

TOT KABBALAT SHABAT

Friday, December 13th..... 4:30 pm

*Followed by shabat dinner, \$10/child, \$15/adult, \$50 max/family
RSVP by December 10th*

SHABBAT PARSHAT VAYECHI

Friday and Saturday, December 13th & 14th

Candle Lighting	4:33 pm
Mincha & Kabbalat Shabbat	4:35 pm
Morning Service	9:15 am

Educational program	10:30 am
Shabbat Mincha	12:45 pm
Seudah Shlishit	4:30 pm
Ma'ariv, Havdalah & Shabbat ends	5:34 pm

MOVIE NIGHT @ CBI: FOOTNOTE

Saturday, December 14..... 7:30 pm

SHABBAT PARSHAT SHEMOT

Friday and Saturday, December 20th & 21st

Candle Lighting	4:35 pm
Mincha & Kabbalat Shabbat	4:40 pm
Morning Service	9:15 am
Educational program	10:30 am
Shabbat Mincha	12:45 pm
Seudah Shlishit	4:35 pm
Ma'ariv, Havdalah & Shabbat ends	5:37 pm

CHINESE BANQUET AT CBI & MOVIE NIGHT

Wednesday, December 25..... 5 pm
\$15/person, \$10 child, \$40 max/family, RSVP by Dec. 20

SHABBAT MEVARCHIM PARSHAT VAIERAH

Friday and Saturday, December 27th & 28th

Candle Lighting	4:39 pm
Mincha & Kabbalat Shabbat	4:45 pm
Morning Service	9:15 am
Educational program	10:30 am
Shabbat Mincha	12:45 pm
Seudah Shlishit	4:40 pm
Ma'ariv, Havdalah & Shabbat ends	5:41 pm

ROSH CHODESH SHEVAT

Wed. night & Th., January 1st & 2nd

Shacharit.....6:30 am

SHABBAT PARSHAT BO

BAT MITZVAH OF ORLI HELLERSTEIN

Friday and Saturday, January 3rd & 4th

Candle Lighting	4:45 pm
Mincha & Kabbalat Shabbat	4:50 pm
Morning Service	9:15 am
Educational program	10:30 am
Shabbat Mincha	1:30 pm
Seudah Shlishit	4:45 pm
Ma'ariv, Havdalah & Shabbat ends	5:47 pm

SHABBAT SHIRAH PARSHAT BESHALACH

BAT MITZVAH OF GABY SANDEL

Friday and Saturday, January 10th & 11th

Candle Lighting	4:51 pm
Mincha & Kabbalat Shabbat	4:55 pm
Morning Service	9:15 am
Educational program	10:30 am
Shabbat Mincha	1:30 pm
Seudah Shlishit	4:50 pm
Ma'ariv, Havdalah & Shabbat ends	5:53 pm

TU B'SHEVAT

Wed. night & Thurs., January 15th & 16th

SHABBAT PARSHAT YITRO

Friday and Saturday, January 17th & 18th

Candle Lighting	4:58 pm
Mincha & Kabbalat Shabbat	5:00 pm
Morning Service	9:15 am

CALENDAR

Educational program10:30 am
 Shabbat Mincha12:45 pm
 Seudah Shlishit4:55 pm
 Ma'ariv, Havdalah & Shabbat ends 5:59 pm

MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. DAY

Monday, January 20th

Shacharit8:00 am

SHABBAT MEVARCHIM PARSHAT MISHPATIM

Friday and Saturday, January 24th & 25th

Candle Lighting 5:06 pm
 Mincha & Kabbalat Shabbat5:10 pm
 Morning Service..... 9:15 am
 Educational program10:30 am
 Shabbat Mincha12:50 pm
 Seudah Shlishit5:00 pm
 Ma'ariv, Havdalah & Shabbat ends 6:06 pm

ROSH CHODESH ADAR I

Thursday night, Friday & Saturday, January 30th – February 1st

Shacharit on Friday6:30 am

SHABBAT ROSH CHODESH ADAR I

PARSHAT TERUMAH

Friday and Saturday, January 31st – February 1st

Candle Lighting 5:14 pm
 Mincha & Kabbalat Shabbat5:20 pm
 Morning Service..... 9:15 am
 Educational program10:30 am
 Shabbat Mincha12:50 pm
 Seudah Shlishit5:10 pm
 Ma'ariv, Havdalah & Shabbat ends 6:14 pm

SHABBAT PARSHAT TETZAVEH

SHABBAT SHALEM WITH R. ASHER LOPATIN

Friday and Saturday, February 7th & 8th

Candle Lighting 5:22 pm
 Mincha & Kabbalat Shabbat5:25 pm
 Morning Service..... 9:15 am
 Educational program10:30 am
 Shabbat Mincha12:50 pm
 Seudah Shlishit5:15 pm
 Ma'ariv, Havdalah & Shabbat ends 6:21 pm

SHABBAT PARSHAT KI TISA

SHUSHAN PURIM KATAN

Friday and Saturday, February 14th & 15th

Candle Lighting 5:29 pm
 Mincha & Kabbalat Shabbat5:35 pm
 Morning Service..... 9:15 am
 Educational program10:30 am
 Shabbat Mincha12:50 pm
 Seudah Shlishit5:20 pm
 Ma'ariv, Havdalah & Shabbat ends 6:28 pm

SHABBAT PARSHAT VAYAKHEL

Friday and Saturday, February 21st & 22nd

Candle Lighting 5:37 pm
 Mincha & Kabbalat Shabbat5:40 pm
 Morning Service..... 9:15 am
 Educational program10:30 am
 Shabbat Mincha12:50 pm
 Seudah Shlishit5:25 pm
 Ma'ariv, Havdalah & Shabbat ends 6:35 pm

NCSY

NCSY High School (9th-12th grade)

Every Monday night • 7:30-8:30

Latte N' Learn

2128 Oxford St, Berkeley

— DECEMBER 15 —

Gap Year/Summer Programs Fair

1:30pm at JCHS

— DECEMBER 16 —

Bring your parent to LNL day

— DECEMBER 19-22 —

San Diego Regionals Shabbaton

— DECEMBER 24-29 —

Yarchei Kallah in New York

— JANUARY 5 EVENT —

NCSY/JSU 9th -12th grade

— JANUARY 7 —

Teen Advocacy Program

Begins, every Tuesday evening



Sunday, December 1st, 7-10 pm
@ Congregation Beth Israel

3rd Annual

Chanukah Game Party

dreidels, games, food & more

7:10 Festive candle lighting

7:20 - 9:00 Games

9:00 - 10:00 Team-trivia contest (with prizes!)

For helping out and being a game captain please
contact Ma'ayan Rabinovich maayanbd@gmail.com

*See you there,
Cause Chanukah parties
aren't just for kids!*



All Gan Shalom and CBI families are warmly invited to the

Annual Gan Shalom

CHANUKAH

Party!

MONDAY, DECEMBER 2, 2013
5 TO 7 PM

5 pm: Gatherings, snacks, candle making and activities for kids
* Child-created Chanukah cards for sale
* Photo Booth: Get your family portrait taken!
(Fundraiser for Gan Shalom Preschool)

5:30 pm: Chanukah lighting and dinner
6:30 pm: Puppet show and singing!
7:00 pm: Group Clean Up!

Please RSVP at 848-3298

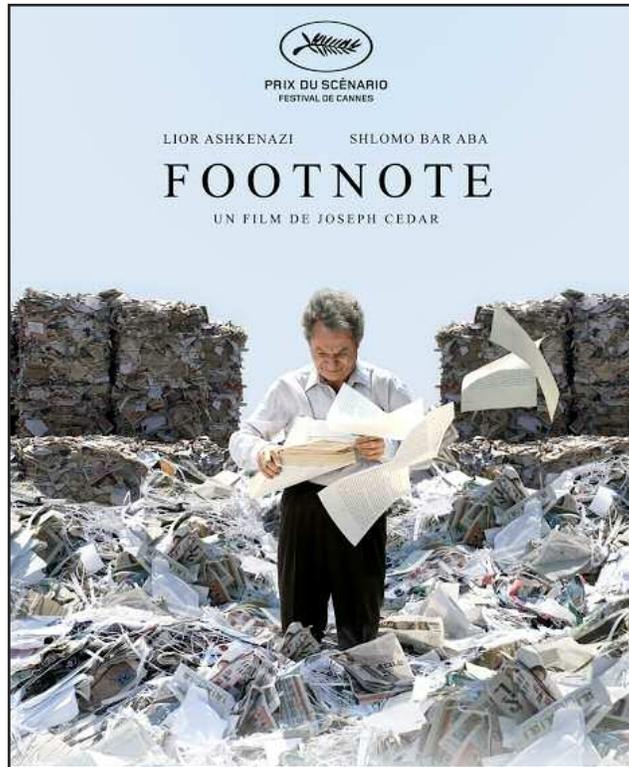


* Please RSVP
at 848-3298



MISHLOAH MANOT
GAN SHALOM ORGANIC
FAIR TRADE MISHLOAH MANOT!
ORDERING STARTS FEBRUARY 2





Award Winning Israeli Movie

FOOTNOTE

Showing at CBI

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 14 • 7:30 PM

Popcorn and drinks on the house.

FOOTNOTE is the tale of a great rivalry between a father and son. Eliezer and Uriel Shkolnik are both eccentric professors, who have dedicated their lives to their work in Talmudic Studies. The father, Eliezer, is a stubborn purist who fears the establishment and has never been recognized for his work. Meanwhile his son, Uriel, is an up-and-coming star in the field, who appears to feed on accolades, endlessly seeking recognition.

Then one day, the tables turn. When Eliezer learns that he is to be awarded the Israel Prize, the most valuable honor for scholarship in the country, his vanity and desperate need for validation are exposed. His son, Uriel, is thrilled to see his father's achievements finally recognized but, in a darkly funny twist, is forced to choose between the advancement of his own career and his father's. Will he sabotage his father's glory?

FOOTNOTE is the story of insane academic competition, the dichotomy between admiration and envy for a role model, and the very complicated relationship between a father and son.



CHINESE BANQUET — AT CBI —

Join us for a Chinese Feast!
Catered by Epic Bites

December 25, Of Course!
5:00 pm

Movies Following Feast
For Kids & Adults

\$15/Person
\$10/Child \$40 Max/Family

RSVP Required by Dec. 20
office@cbiberkeley.org



PHONEATHON

The Phoneathon date is Sunday morning, January 26
Consider making an early donation (to avoid being called)

Please make your donations by January 17

Thank You!

— YOUTH PROGRAMS —

tot shabbat
sing together in a shabbat mood for 1-2 year olds & younger ones too.

shabbat **December 21st**
11am @ the CBI library
the new Gan Shalom

We will be having a
tot shabbat every
3rd shabbat of the month.
Save the date!
Upcoming tot shabbat
dates will meet on January 18th
February 15th & March 15th.

Looking forward to seeing you!



On Friday night, December 13th,
all tots and children are invited to join in a

**TOT KABBALAT SHABBAT
FOLLOWED BY
SHABBAT DINNER,**
for children and their families.

Friday, Dec. 13 • 4:30 pm • CBI

RSVP for Shabbat Dinner by Tuesday, December 10th.
at maayanbd@gmail.com

\$10 per child, \$15 per adult, \$50 maximum per family



CBI's Bar-Bat Mitzvah Program

UPCOMING EVENTS

Tuesday, December 10

Community service project • Details to come

Sunday, January 12

Between me and Hashem: *Hitbodedut* session

Wednesday, February 26

Volunteering at the Men's homeless shelter

Tuesday, March 25

Getting together with parents

Monday, May 12

Connecting to Israel: Visiting the Israeli consulate in San-Francisco

We'll also get together, Bar-Bat mitzvah's and parents, every second Shabbat of the month,
at CBI @9:15 for prayer with the community and an activity (without parents) during the *drash*.
The dates are: December 14, January 11, February 8, March 8, May 10.

— YOUTH PROGRAMS —



You are invited to a
**Chanukah Party
for CBI TEENS**

Monday, December 2nd
6:30-9:00pm @ Rabinovich Family
1548 Channing Way

Games & Food & Fun & Surprises

Can't wait to see you!
Elishav, Maayan, Or-ly & Renana



— Teens Shabbat —
Every first Shabbat of the month

UPCOMING DATES:

December 14 • Teens minyan followed by Lunch • For High Schoolers
January 4 • Shabbat dinner followed by a sleepover • For Middle Schoolers
March 1 • Teens minyan followed by Lunch • For High Schoolers

*Looking forward to seeing you,
Elishav and Ma'ayan*





YOUTH NEWS

By Ma'ayan Rabinovich

We've had lots of events this year, and hope to have many more as the year goes on.

Before Sukkot we built a teens Sukkah, in which we had a great evening with a dinner, a movie and a sleepover during Sukkot. *Yasher-koach* to all the builders! We also had the annual Sukkah-decorating festival, in which, besides preparing individual decorations, the children painted a joint piece of art depicting the 7 species, to decorate the CBI Sukkah.

After the *Chagim* we got together for a Teen Top Chef evening, organized by our *B'not-Sherut* Orly and Renana. We cooked yummy food and the judges, Frayda Gonshor Cohen and Jane Turbiner, gave out points to the winning team before we sat down to enjoy the meal. It was a great evening of team work, creativity and fun.

ONGOING PROGRAMS

Shabbat groups: Children ages 2-8 enjoy a combination of unstructured playtime and group time according to age groups, with *Tefila*, *Parsha*, songs and stories. This takes place every Shabbat morning, from 10-12, at the OLD Gan Shalom building. Thanks to the teens who help with babysitting and leading groups: Hodi Miller, Nava Schweig, Gavi Klein, Hannah Lyon, Roni Greenberg, Mira Kittner, Hannah Feiner, and to the parents who led groups: Nell Magehl-Friedman, Zeev Neumeier, Lou Schubert, Tania Schweig and Elishav Rabinovich. If you want to help lead a group, please contact me.

Shul-Club: for 3-5 graders, a new club room with age appropriate games, bean bags and an activity every shabbat at 11 am. This is an opportunity to thank Ory Leiman and Ranana Vilian, the *B'not-Sherut*, for leading the activities in the Shul club.

Tot Shabbat: Once a month get together for tots, with Shabbat songs, stories and more. Peek in and get uplifted by the spirit! Thanks to Ellen Winnick and Frayda Gonshor Cohen for leading the group! See ad for upcoming dates.

Bar-Bat Mitzvah Program: The group gets together twice a month, once on Shabbat and once during the week, for activities, discussion and learning as part of becoming B'nai Mitzvah.

Teen Shabbat: Once a month, teens get together for a Shabbat meal, (rotating between high-school and middle-school), a sleepover and a teen minyan in the morning. During the meals there is singing, games, and discussions, and group bonding in a Shabbat atmosphere. After Shabbat the teens all get back together for a movie night, and we experience great attendance for these events.



OPEN BEIT MIDRASH

Jerusalem is here...or at least echoes of its many houses of study are here. Walk into CBI on any given Thursday night, during our Open Beit Midrash program, and you'll immediately get a sense of what we mean.

In early October, our community launched the CBI Open Beit Midrash program in partnership with Kevah. As initially conceived by our Israeli *shaliach*, Elishav Rabinovich, the program brings together over 35 individuals (and these numbers are steadily growing from week to week) for an evening of unstructured, independent, *chevrutah* (pair) or *chavurah* (group) learning at CBI. The evening also provides an opportunity to join an informal discussion about major themes in the weekly Parshah led by R. David Kasher, Kevah's Director of Education, as well as a discussion of Mishnaic texts led by Elishav Rabinovich.

CBI member Jana Loeb notes, "I love hearing the buzz of Torah learning, seeing new faces, and eating great cholent!"

Jack Cohen, another regular at the Beit Midrash captured the evening's atmosphere, "What strikes me is how natural and obvious it seems. I have this sense of -- of course we'll go learn at CBI. What else would we want to be doing on a Thursday night?" In addition, Jack remarked, "The structure has facilitated my doing the learning I have been wanting to do on my own but haven't been making time for, and doing it in *chevrutah* adds a level of rigor I couldn't approach by myself."

Eleven-year old Batyah, who attends the evening of learning together with her father Lev, explained, "I like learning with all the grownups and I like the food -- especially when they serve meat cholent. Ma'ayan makes learning fun."

For his part, Lev reflected that "the Beit Midrash night captures some of the chaos and energy of a yeshiva experience. My *chevrutah* and I meet up each Thursday night at Beth Israel with our Netivot Shalom texts. We grab a Tanach, a Hebrew-English dictionary, a book of *rosh ha-teivot*, a bowl of cholent and cup of coffee, and delve into a difficult piece of learning with the buzz of dozens of *chevrutahs* all around us. And I look across the room to see my daughter Batyah studying her Bat Mitzvah portion with a smile and a glow on her face. It's like a little taste of Israel each week."

Noa Silver also agrees: "The space provides a unique opportunity to participate in a community of learners, and there's a particular buzz that exists in a room filled with people studying and learning; a buzz I haven't really felt since pulling all-nighters in my college dining hall. I love that each person or *chevrutah* is learning something different, working at different paces, beginning at different levels, and yet all agreeing that there's a certain magic to us all doing it in one place and at one time."

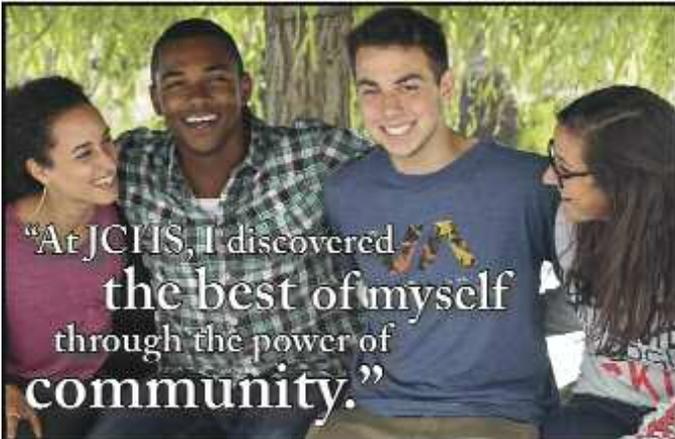
Jonathan Purcell, our newest member, has been inspired to write this poem:

all ages and backgrounds
in twos and threes
some larger groups encircle tables
heaped with fruit and cholent,
Chumashim and Siddurim,
Mishnah and Midrash.

above the food and books
a thick exchange of words... and
ideas, life stories, opinions, interpretations,
asides and non-sequiturs,
a spiritual stew
of intermingled flavors,
a cholent made of
Torah

Come and enjoy the buzz! We look forward to seeing you in shul on Thursdays.





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community.”

Jewish Community High School of the Bay

OPEN HOUSE

December 8 • 11am - 1:30pm

RSVP at 415.345.9777 x112 or www.jchsofthebay.org

The Open House program is not only intended to introduce individuals to JCHS, but is also to guide both students and parents through the very important process of choosing a high school. Each Open House begins with a brief introduction in our Performing Arts Theater before participating in three classroom experiences including Physics, English and Jewish Studies.



Oakland Hebrew Day School wishes the Beth Israel community a Chag Sameach and a warm, happy Hannukah!

We invite all families with preschoolers to join us for:

Kindergarten Information Night
Wednesday, January 8th
7:00pm

Interested in a personal tour of our Kindergarten class and campus? Please contact Philippa Lichterman at plichterman@ohds.org or (510) 531-8600 ext. 12.

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— BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES —

BIRTHDAYS

Ofra Daniel-Alperin, December 4
 Ayala Felson, December 4, 4th birthday
 Jeremy Smith, December 4
 Iris Greenbaum, December 5
 Fanya Fenton, December 6, 8th birthday
 Koby Fenton, December 6, 8th birthday
 Dean Robinson, December 6
 Molly Kinstle, December 7, 10th birthday
 Ory Sandel, December 7
 Liberty Schubert, December 7, 15th birthday
 Ezra Studley, December 7, 3rd birthday
 Racheli Perl, December 8
 Muni Schweig, December 10
 Tali Albietz, December 12
 Derek Krantz, December 12
 Karen Horowitz Weiner, December 14
 Avi Zinn, December 14
 Daniel Simon, December 17, 4th birthday
 Noah Alper, December 18
 Batyah Jasper, December 18, 11th birthday
 Gaby Sandel, December 19, 12th birthday
 Shai Steinman, December 22, 9th birthday
 Maureen Krantz, December 24
 Jana Loeb, December 24
 Yael Allen, December 25
 Gabriel Greenberg, December 25
 Jonathan Lyon, December 25
 Louis Schubert, December 26
 Gary Boland, December 27
 Yaron Greenwald, December 28
 Ethan Seder, December 30, 15th birthday
 Fran Alexander, December 31
 Joan Ominsky, December 31
 Noemi Yoselevitz, December 31
 Steven Ominsky, January 1
 Sarah Jasper, January 2
 Samuel Tandler, January 3, 3rd birthday
 Danielle Diamond, January 4

Elisha Tandler, January 4, 1st birthday
 Orli Hellerstein, January 5, 12th birthday
 Caedyn Nelson, January 6, 7th birthday
 Margaret Stone, January 7, 5th birthday
 Jane Turbiner, January 9
 Talia Bamberger, January 10, 1st birthday
 Hannah Kabella, January 10, 12th birthday
 Jeff Shannon, January 10
 Gary Katz, January 13
 Harel Rabinovich, January 14, 4th birthday
 Henry Sibony, January 15
 Marvin Yudenfreund, January 17
 Mira Kittner, January 18, 14th birthday
 Aviel Mrejen, January 18, 3rd birthday
 Hodayah Miller, January 20, 14th birthday
 Gideon Zeitlin, January 20, 1st birthday
 Rebecca Landes, January 27
 Michael Alperin, January 31, 6th birthday
 Iris Greenberg-Smith, February 2
 Rena Harari, February 2
 Linda Levy, February 2
 Janice Mac Millan, February 5
 Hiram Simon, February 7
 Phyllis Miller, February 8
 Amira Kipnis, February 12
 Isaac Kenin, February 14, 15th birthday
 Asa Kittner, February 14, 12th birthday
 Meka Greenwald, February 15, 16th birthday
 Terence Gordon, February 16
 Nell Mahgel-Friedman, February 16
 Olga Gordon, February 18
 Meir Miller, February 18, 12th birthday
 Sam Ginsburg, February 19
 Dahlia Hellerstein, February 22, 9th birthday
 Issy Kipnis, February 22
 Gefen Rosenstein, February 22, 4th birthday
 Matan Rosenstein, February 22, 4th birthday
 Joshua Fenton, February 23
 Jonah Markowitz, February 23

Joel Resnikoff, February 23
 Eliyahu Quastler, February 25, 15th birthday
 Anshel Astmann, February 28, 1st birthday

ANNIVERSARIES

Aaron Marcus & Leslie Becker, December 15,
 28th anniversary
 Muni & Tania Schweig, December 22,
 16th anniversary
 Mark & Susan Schickman, December 25,
 34th anniversary
 Stephen Knaster & Iris Greenbaum, December
 26, 37th anniversary
 Kenny & Aliza Weiss, January 5,
 9th anniversary
 Harry & Dorothy Rubin, January 14,
 62nd anniversary
 Roger Studley & Chai Levy, January 14,
 7th anniversary
 David & Bat Sheva Miller, January 22,
 23rd anniversary
 Chaim & Nell Mahgel-Friedman, February 2,
 11th anniversary



— MAZAL TOV! —

To **Simchah & Marge Green** on the birth of their 4th great grandchild, a baby girl, to their grandchildren Eliana and Boaz Meyersdorf of Teaneck, NJ.

To **Guy (Avi) and Melissa (Bracha Gefen) Harel** on their wedding.

To **Ashira Bloom** on her bat mitzvah

To grandparents **Ruth & Fried Wittman** on the birth of a baby girl,

Elodie, to Ariel Wittman and Karim Koné and big brother Isaiah

To new parents **Rachel & Jacob Heitler** and grandparents **Leslie Valas & Alan Finkelstein** on the birth of a baby girl, Orly.

To **Saul Tobin & Samantha (Simcha) De Leve** on their recent engagement.

To **Ory & Tamar Sandel** and to big sisters Talya & Gaby on the birth of a baby boy, Eitan.

To grandparents **Mordy and Rena Rosen** and new parents **Rafi and Jeanette Rosen** on the birth of a baby boy, Allen.

To **Wendy and Aaron Kenin** and big brothers and sisters, Isaac, Millea, David, and Chanah, on the birth of a baby girl.

May their lives be filled with the insights of Torah, the warm and supportive love of family and community, and the blessing of good deeds.

— BARUCH DAYAN EMET/CONDOLENCES —

It is with great sadness that we share the news of the passing of **Jan Haber**, beloved wife of Sam Haber, mother of Sara, Kate, and Ruth, grandmother of Celia Haber & Molly Kinstle.

We regret to inform you of the passing of **Monica Riley**, mother of Kayla Garelick, mother-in-law of Morey Garelick, and grandmother (“Nana Nicky”) of Sarah and Avi Garelick.

We regret to inform you of the passing of **Carmela Landes**, beloved sister of Rebecca Landes.

May the Holy One comfort them among
all the mourners of Zion and Jerusalem.

HaMakom Yenacheim Etchem Betoch Shear Aveilei Tziyon VeYerushalayim

— HACHNASSAT ORCHIM —

Shabbat Lunch Hospitality

Sara & Benni Darmoni • Miriam Grant

R. Zac Johnson & Jen Franco • Maureen & Derek Kranz

Yael Krieger & R. Joshua Ladon • Laura Lipman

BatSheva & David Miller • Cynthia Scheinberg & R. Eliahu Klein

Tania & Muni Schweig • Juliet & Birger Stamperdahl • Doreet & Jeff Stein



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beloved deceased, you will receive
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of the date of the yahrzeit
and the date the yahrzeit
will be observed
by the recitation of Kaddish.

— The cost of a memorial plaque is \$360 —

To find out how to purchase one,
contact John Pilkington at jpilk@aol.com
or the CBI office at (510) 843-5246,
office@cbiberkeley.org



— KIDDUSH SPONSORS —

August 31: The Sandel Family on the occasion of Tamar Sandel's birthday; Avraham Burrell, Sam Ginsburg, and Leora Lawton in honor of 8 years of our *eruv* being in existence (with no shabbatot without an *eruv*) and in honor of all the inspectors who check week in and week out.

September 5, 1st Day Rosh Hashana: Judith Bloom; Bobby & Barbara Budnitz; Sara & Marv Engel; The Haber family; Ezra & Toby Hendon; Sabrina Kabella; Lois & Gary Marcus; Ed & Phyllis Miller; Janice MacMillan & Ron Reissberg; Joan Sopher; Justin & Sheba Sweet; Marvin & Maxine Winer; Ruth & Fried Wittman; Sheila & Marvin Yudenfreund; Shelley & Marti Zedeck

September 6: Shana Tova to CBI from Danielle, Hannah, Mya and Seth Elkins; David & Hanna Hindawi; Jonah Markowitz; Roz & Bernie Steinberg; Shimon & Chanie Schneelbag

September 7: Alan Finkelstein, Leslie Valas and Ari Finkelstein and Jacob and Rachel Heitler joyfully celebrate the engagement of Aaron Finkelstein and Julie Sugar; Toby & Ezra Hendon in honor of Shabbat Shuva and their 55th anniversary

September 14, Break Fast Sponsors: Jory and Lisa Gessow; Chaim and Nell Mahgel-Friedman; Dorothy and Harry Rubin; Joan Sopher; Bob and Naomi Stamper; The Stein Family; The Wulf Family

September 19, 1st Day Sukkot: The young folks of CBI are sponsoring this kiddush in gratitude for all the community has done and continues to do for us.

September 20, 2nd Day Sukkot: Nae Golomb in memory of her mother, Faye Feldman Golomb; Isaac Kaplan in memory of his father, Avraham ben Moshe

September 21: Rona Rothenberg in honor of reading Kohelet; Judy Massarano, Aron Menda, Paul Albert, Malcolm Feeley & Riva Amado, Miriam & Robi Cohen, R. Yonatan and Frayda, R. Shalom Bochner

September 26, Shemini Atzeret: Mordy & Rena Rosen, in memory of Rena's mother, Roslyn Goldberg Brickman z"l.

September 26, Simchat Torah: The Klein Scheinbergs in honor of Eliahu's birthday; Leora Lawton, the Schuberts, the Schweigs, Rona Teitelman, Debbie Pearl, The Miller Family

September 27: Paul Albert, Maureen & Derek Krantz, Irene Unterberger in honor of her wonderful month in Berkeley; Violette & Henry Sibony, Miriam & Robi Cohen, R. Yonatan Cohen & Frayda Gonshor Cohen, Aliza & Nimrod Elias with love and gratitude for Nava and Maya and

for Nimrod's birthday; Tzvi Marx, Marilyn Neril, Beverly & Norm Feldman in memory of Aryeh Leib ben Shimon hacohen, Beverly's father, R. Shalom Bochner, The Zarrouk Family

September 28: Alan & Elissa Kittner in honor of our 15th anniversary, thankfulness for our two wonderful children, and gratitude for the love and support of the CBI community

October 5: Guy & Melissa Biton-Harel in celebration of our wedding and in celebration of the love and community of our CBI family.

October 12: The Bloom Family in honor of Ashira's Bat Mitzvah

October 19: Sara & Benjamin Darmoni in honor of Yishai's first birthday

October 26: The Menda family & Deborah Pearl in memory of Susanna Richman (Shoshana bat Binyamin v'Dvora), daughter of Deborah Pearl; Jonah Markowitz on the 42nd yearzeit of his great-grandmother Fanny Saiewitz (Feiga Liba bat Leah v' Chaim Hillel)

November 2: The Kiddush is sponsored by Congregation Beth Israel in honor of all those who have joined the shul in the past twelve months, and by the following people in honor of newcomers to the Beth Israel community, no matter how long they stay for: Paul Albert, Joan Sopher, Noah & Hope Alper, Michael & Debby Lesser, Yvette Hoffer, Serach Bracha Richards, Bob & Barbara Budnitz, Malcolm Feeley & Rivka Amado, Ezra & Toby Hendon, Phil & Gladys Leider, Steve Silberblatt & Rita Kohl, Justin & Sheba Sweet, Harvey & Susan Kayman, Sam & Rose Ginsburg, Jane Falk, Alan Finkelstein & Leslie Valas, Preston & Anya Grant, Yaakov & Rena Harari, Issy & Patricia Kipnis, Bob & June Safran, Ron & Bella Barany, Linda Diamond, Marv & Sara Engel, Sam Haber, Michael & Jessica Klass, Denise Resnikoff & Lenny Kristal, Marv & Maxine Winer, Fried & Ruth Wittman, Shelly & Marty Zedeck

November 9: Fran Alexander, Irene Resnikoff and Robin Alexander, in loving memory of Ernie Alexander, z"l

November 16: Desmid Lyon in memory of her mother Selina Weinbaum Bendix; Ron & Bella Barany in memory of Ron's parents Gussie & Deshir, his aunt Juliana Hirsch Friedman, his sister Evelyn Barany Kahn, and Ron & Bella's granddaughter Merav Rina Barany; Carol Shivel in memory of her mother, Ruth; The Lipman Clark families in memory of Laura and Ken's father, Yitzhak ben Moshe

— DONATIONS —

BUILDING FOR GENERATIONS

Norm & Beverly Feldman: in honor of the bat mitzvahs of Anya Shannon and Nava Schweig, and in honor of the naming of Viola Sofia Katz

Desmid Lyon: *refuah shleimah* to Joel Resnikoff & Liat Resnikoff Matsa

Miriam Petruck: upon completion of Masekhet Brachot
R. Mimi Weisel: upon completion of Masekhet Brachot

GAN SHALOM SCHOLARSHIP FUND

The Jewish Community Federation of the East Bay
In honor of Naomi & Bob Stamper's anniversary:
Gary & Ilene Katz
Sharon & Ronald Klein

GAN SHALOM PRESCHOOL

Joel & Joan Brodsky: in honor of everyone who helped prepare for and conduct *chag* services
Wagenlis Foundation

GENERAL FUND

Rhoda Agin: in memory of her sister Jean Simone (Yusefa Simla) Campion; her mother Diana (Sheina Dina) Agin; her father Irving (Yitschak ben Yoseph) Agin; in honor of Barbara and Bob Budnitz; of Beverly and Norman Feldman; of Lauren and Seth Greenberg; and of June and Bob Safran; in memory of Morris Cohen, loving husband, father, grandfather, uncle and cousin

Fran Alexander: thanking Rabbi Cohen for a special Yom Kippur; in loving memory of Ernie Alexander

Noah & Hope Alper: in honor of the hospitality of Joan Sopher, Leslie Valas and Alan Finkelstein, and in honor of the engagement of Aaron Finkelstein and Julie Sugar

Bernice Bradley: in honor of all the people who offered me their warm support

Joel & Joan Brodsky: in honor of the Rabbi and Frayda and all they do for the community

Jim & Carol Cunradi: in honor of Bob Safran's 80th birthday

Marvin & Sara Engel: in honor of the wedding of Orion Hindawi and Jackie Pohl

Jane Falk: in honor of Ashira Bloom's bat mitzvah; of the marriage of Betsy Brunswick to Eli Rowe; of the birth of Isla, daughter of David Wittman and Becky Champion, and of the birth of Élodie Océane Koné, daughter of Ariel Wittman and Karim Koné, granddaughters of Ruth and Fried Wittman; in memory of Carmela Landes; in memory

of Jan Haber; in gratitude for Jonathan Lyon's heavenly shofar blowing on Rosh Hashanah

Dov Feldstern: thank you for the warm welcome on Shabbat!

Alan Finkelstein & Leslie Valas: in honor of Aaron Finkelstein & Julie Sugar's engagement; in memory of Carmi Landes; in memory of Jan Haber; in honor of our new granddaughter Orly

Joel & Debra Garbow

Lillian Gendler: in memory of Jan Haber

N. R. Golomb: for yizkor

Terence & Olga Gordon: in memory of Olga's father, Jack Berelowitz; of Terry's father, Victor Gordon

Eve Gordon-Ramek: in loving memory of Carmela Landes from her aunt

Simcha & Marge Green

Stephanie Green: for yizkor

David & Hanna Hindawi: for the Youth Program Fund in honor of Elishav Rabinovich for being a witness at the wedding of Orion and Jackie; in memory of Kalman Rettig; and of of Meir Hed Hindawi

Yvette Hoffer: in memory of Bert Bradley

Gary & Ilene Katz: in honor of Lois Marcus

Murray & Elizabeth Katz: for aliyah

Seymour Kessler: in honor of the Alpers & Kaplans and their friendship; in memory of Murray Krelstein

Eliana Kissner: thanking the community for an awesome Simchat Torah!

Izyaslav & Raisa Kreymmer: in memory of our parents

Nachman Lichtenstein

Laura Lipman: in memory of Irving Lipman

Jeff & Daniela Malmuth

Glenn & Judith Massarano: in gratitude for the women of Simchat Torah

Edward & Phyllis Miller: in memory of Jan Haber

Milton & Ahrona Ohring: thank you for the community's hospitality

Karen Chana Quastler: in honor of Doreet and Jeff Stein and family, with gratitude

Carol Shivel: in loving memory of Ruth Shivel

Susan Heller Somerville: in honor of the marriages of Ellen Winnick's son, Danny Winnick to Stav; Lois & Joe Wolf's grandson's Moshe Vecht; to Na'ama; BatSheva and David Miller's son Netzach wedding to Hannah Sosebee; Michael & Debbie Lesser's daughter Sara to Yochai

Robert & Naomi Stamper: in memory of Barbara Budnitz's cousin Joan Gardiner; and of Jan Haber

- DONATIONS CONTINUED -

Wagenlis Foundation

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Friedner & Ruth Wittman: in memory of Jan Haber

Marc & Victoria Zissman

RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

Bernice Bradley: in honor of R. Cohen

Jim & Carol Cunradi: in honor of Frayda Gonshor Cohen & R. Cohen; with gratitude for Carol's recovery and R. Cohen's support.

Alan & Rachel Engel: in honor of Ashira Bloom becoming a bat mitzvah. Mazel Tov!

Malcolm Feeley & Rivka Amado: in honor of R. Cohen for his kind words and deeds; in honor of Sam Ginsburg & Leora Lawton; in honor of Toby & Ezra Hendon; to thank R. Cohen for the support and spiritual help he provides

Sam & Rose Ginsburg: thanks to Ha'Shem for me not waking up dead

Aron & Anna Gonshor

Van & Shiloh Greenfield

Haber Family: in honor of R. Cohen & R. Dan Millner

Jacob & Rena Harari: in honor of Andrea Brott; of the

Greenwald Bach Family; of Joan Sopher; and of the Mas-saranos

David & Hanna Hindawi: thank you to R. Cohen for administering a wonderful and meaningful wedding to Orion Hindawi and Jackie Pohl

EllenSue Jacobson

Rabbi Stuart & Victoria Kelman: in honor of R. Cohen, Bob & Naomi Stamper, Fran Alexander, and Joel & Irene Resnikoff

Daniel Lewis

Edward & Phyllis Miller: in honor of the birth of a granddaughter to Ruth & Fried Wittman; in honor of the birth of a daughter to Rachel & Jacob Heitler; in memory of Carmela Landes, sister of Rebecca Landes

Mark & Susan Schickman: in memory of David Valas

Muni & Tania Schweig

Henry & Violette Sibony

Irene Unterberger: to further the CBI community

Robert & Ruth White: in appreciation for R. Cohen's and the community's hospitality

Marvin & Sheila Yudenfreund: offering condolences to R. Landes on the loss of her beloved sister; in memory of Jan Haber; refuah shleimah to Ed Miller; in honor of Danielle Diamond; mazal tov to Leslie Valas, Alan Finkelstein, Rachel & Jacob Heitler on the birth of Orly; refuah shleimah to Lenny Kristal

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