

# קהילה בני ישראל Congregation B'nai Israel

January  
2012

## Kehila

Tevet/Shevat  
5772

### CBI Celebrates Diversity



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# Contact Information

## STAFF

Rabbi	Justin David cbirabbi@verizon.net
Executive Director	Ben Cuperman cbidirector@verizon.net
Office Manager	Nanci Martine bnai.israel@verizon.net
Education Director	Rabbi Charni Flame Selch cbieducation@verizon.net
Preschool Director	Wendy Stein director.gankshet@verizon.net
Building Manager CBI/LGA	Joe Niedzwiecki twobuildings@verizon.net
Kehila Editors/Designers	Brianna Maier bnaikehila@gmail.com Nanci Martine bnai.israel@verizon.net
Custodians CBI/LGA	Mike Woofenden John Duffy

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President	Ellen Kaufman ezkaufman@gmail.com
Vice President	Lauren Weinsier lthweinsier@yahoo.com
Treasurer	Jim Sagalyn jsagalyn@aol.com
Secretary	Gillian Kendall gkendall@smith.edu

Esther Bean	Neil Kudler
Peggy Besht	Dorothy Nemetz
David Cohen	Simona Pozzetto
Lou Davis	Henry Simkin
Hanneli de Vries	Jane Trigere
Lois Dubin	Amy Wolpin
Norbert I. Goldfield	Stephan Wurmbrand
Kevin Hale	
Gillian Kendall	

## COMMITTEE CHAIRS/COORDINATORS

<b>Aesthetics Committee</b> Katharine Weinstein kweinstein3@gmail.com	<b>Garden Fund</b> Randi Klein randi@crocker.com
<b>Adult Education</b> John Clayton jclayton@english.umass.edu	<b>Governance</b> Bill Jolly jollys2@verizon.net
<b>Bikkur Holim</b> Norbert Goldfield rin8312011@gmail.com	<b>Hevrei Mitzvot (Men's Club)</b> Ken Schoen schoen@schoenbooks.com
<b>Caring Communities</b> Carol Jolly jollys2@verizon.net Tamara Taitz-Fields columbusgang@verizon.net	<b>House &amp; Properties</b> Stephan Wurmbrand stephan.wurmbrand@tcsgp.com
<b>Cemetery</b> Edward Allen ejstonebrook@comcast.net	<b>Kitchen Committee</b> Shelley Steuer ss@noholaw.com
<b>Chevra Kadisha</b> Cleo Gorman 584-4497 Edward Allen 586-7844	<b>L'DOR V'DOR (Planned Giving)</b> Dorothy Nemetz djnemetz@aol.com
<b>Committee for Jewish Connections</b> Simona Pozzetto spozzetto@gmail.com	<b>Landscape</b> Mark Brumberg markbrumberg@comcast.net
<b>Domestic Violence Taskforce</b> Ruth Katzner rkatzner@hotmail.com	<b>Library</b> Adele Steinberg 527-6167 Nancy Felton 584-1299
<b>Dues &amp; Assessments</b> Ben Cuperman cbidirector@verizon.net	<b>Membership</b> Lisa Newman lisanewman4@hotmail.com Tami Fields columbusgang@verion.net
<b>Education</b> Amy Wolpin wolpin.amy@gmail.com Alan Singer alans@fccdc.org	<b>Nominating</b> Hanneli de Vries hg@childtrauma.com
<b>Endowment Management</b> Bruce Bromberg-Seltzer ravbruce@gmail.com	<b>Personnel</b> Larry Hott hott@florentinefilms.org
<b>Eretz Israel</b> Henry Rosenberg hwr5@comcast.net	<b>Ritual</b> Amelia Ender ameliaender@yahoo.com
<b>Financial Oversight</b> Carol Katz carolckatz@gmail.com	<b>Sisterhood</b> Joan Schaffer joanjrs@comcast.net
<b>Gan Keshet Governing Comm.</b> Leah Nestelbaum lslivko@hotmail.com	<b>Valley Jewish Seniors</b> Ken Schoen schoen@schoenbooks.com

The CBI newsletter is published 11 times per year, monthly except in July.

The next KEHILA is the FEBRUARY 2012 Issue  
**FIRM DEADLINE: JAN. 13, 2012**

**PLEASE MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO MEET THE DEADLINE.**

**Submit entries in person or via email.  
Pictures and ads should be submitted in .jpg format**

Congregation B'nai Israel  
253 Prospect Street, Northampton MA 01060  
413-584-3593 bnai.israel@verizon.net  
www.cbinorthampton.org

## From the Rabbi

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Judaism, at its core, thrives on difference rather than homogeneity. Just open a page of the Talmud, and you'll see that no sooner does a particular sage state an opinion than another sage raises an objection or offers an opposing opinion. In the midrash, the traditional running commentary on the Torah, there is a famous teaching that there are "70 faces to the Torah." Like a diamond, our tradition reflects deep truths, but we come to understand those truths in our own way.

Diversity challenges us as well, for, as a community, we need to find some kind of unifying force that gives us direction. Again, the Talmud, that great and noisy engine of spiritual and intellectual diversity, recognizes this challenge in a clever bit of textual interpretation. If, as the Talmud imagines (Tractate *Hagigah 3b*), we can legitimately arrive at polar opposite conclusions about what the Torah means and how we live, how are we going to learn anything? The answer comes from the *Book of Ecclesiastes*: "All was given by one shepherd," which is to say, our opinions and practices, as diverse as they may be, all derive their authenticity from their rootedness in Torah.

So how do we, in our communal practice as well as our individual lives, find that sense of rootedness, of oneness, amid our eclectic approach to Jewish life? This is perhaps one of the central questions facing not only our CBI community, but the entire Jewish world. Ultimate answers are elusive, but as a rabbi, I strive to bring a sense of that rootedness, that connection to an essential core, to the range of meaningful moments in the life of our community.

Consider a few things happening over the course of the next month. I am offering another **Torah reading class** this month. The sacred practice of chanting Torah on a Shabbat in front of the community allows each of us, with all our questions and doubts, to find an anchor in an ancient and awe-filled practice.

The **Bikkur Cholim** committee is making a visible and vocal effort to engage all of us in the **mitzvah of visiting those recovering in hospitals** or at home. The opportunity to give of ourselves in such a personal and heartfelt way speaks both to our individual yearnings to help the community as well as our universal longing for connection.

Finally, at the beginning of February, we are very happy to welcome **Rabbi David Seidenberg** as our **Shabbat scholar** to lead us in an exploration of thinking about God through the lens of environmentalism. I know this Shabbat of prayer and study will remind us all of how the urgency of this moment links us to timeless wisdom.

May we revel in the diversity of our community and in the freedom that Jewish tradition gives us to forge our own path in Torah. But may we also glimpse a bit of that which unites our experiences and sensibilities, so as to draw closer to the deepest kind of wisdom.

B'shalom,

Rabbi Justin David

# From the Executive Director

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## Title

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**Ben Cuperman**  
Exec. Director

The temperature dropped into the teens last night, and I am already envisioning snow – not to mention ice storms. The Torah portion this week was VaYishlach and I am following orders and heeding the command and am off to Florida. At the same time, as yet undaunted by New England weather, I am looking forward to returning to CBI and to this magical place called Northampton.

Our CBI community is unique. We have artists, professors, physicians, Rabbis and Am Israel, all contributing their expertise and skills. Perhaps not surprisingly, I have discovered that many opinions surround any one subject. But this is not a negative thing: this is what makes Congregation B'nai Israel the vibrant place it is.

I want all congregants to know that their skills, knowledge, personalities and opinions are most welcome. Your passions can help shape CBI; you can effect change; your ideas count. And if you are interested in education, ritual, finance or any of the numerous committees and activities we offer, I urge you to come forward and get involved.

As I finish this article, the parshah has changed to Vayeshev. *Yeshiva*, in translation, means “a meeting.” *Lashevet* means to “sit down”. I would like to invite you all to come get involved and sit down with us at a committee meeting, a program event, at services and/or at any number of CBI related activities.

As you read this month's Kehila, you will see that this place is a busy one. Come join us and become even more active. Finally, a warm thank you to all of you who responded to our annual year end campaign. Your donation makes a real difference.

Wishing you all a healthy and joyful new year.

Ben

### DRAFT OF A CBI CIVILITY POLICY

To be considered at the CBI Board Meeting January 16, 2012  
(thank you to Bill Jolly, Chair of Governance Committee)

Congregation B'nai Israel is proud of its commitment to being a welcoming, inclusive congregation, one active in support of social justice and non-discrimination. CBI depends on and values the time and talents of the many congregants who serve as Officers, At-large Board Directors, and as Chairs and members of committees, as well as of those congregants who may participate less frequently, depending on the particular issue of concern. In keeping with CBI and general societal values of respect and civility in discourse, the CBI Board adopts the following policy in furtherance of such civility and respectful decorum in all its various meetings.

1. When one wishes, to speak, s/he should address the presiding officer and be recognized. No recognized speaker should be interrupted; one should await recognition to speak in turn.
2. No one should use indecent language nor question the integrity or motives of any other member, but should only debate the merits of the issue in question before the group.
3. One should address one's questions to the presiding officer, rather than to any other member present in order to de-personalize the discourse and keep the focus on the issue or question itself. Therefore, one should avoid use of the “second person” in address, which will help achieve group objectives.
4. The presiding officer is authorized to request that a person repeatedly disregarding these guidelines excuse him/herself from the meeting.

# From the President

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## Supporting Diversity through Civil Speech

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**Ellen Kaufman**  
President

Dear friends,

The diversity of our congregational community is a quality that inspires pride in many of us. At CBI we have diversity of age, race, sexual identity, political persuasion, views of Judaism, culinary tastes and musical preferences. The list goes on. Along with this diversity comes an array of differing views. Of course, each one of us holds a wide range of opinions, and we can carry on lively internal debates – but when we get together and all those views multiply exponentially – ovey! So how do we govern ourselves honoring all those views and ensuring that the deliberations are both inclusive and respectful?

We at CBI haven't always been so good at this. Many of us can recall Community Meetings that were contentious, where hard, emotional language was used, and after which many members left feeling worse than when they came. Some of our CBI committee meetings continue to be rancorous, which discourages participation and leaves members feeling wounded.

The Talmud instructs us in correct speech: "Do not oppress your neighbor with verbal oppression." Verbal attacks are seen as diminishing the very life of the one who is attacked—an injury that cannot be restored in the way that property can be restored.

It has been a goal of mine to make the CBI governance processes more transparent and inclusive, but to achieve that end, I believe we need guidelines for civil discourse. I have scheduled four Community Meetings this year, and the second is coming up on **January 22 from 9:30-11:30am**. Our topics this month (from the survey) are Education and Ritual. We hope to have time for two more topics, and are accepting suggestions from congregants that can be emailed to Lauren Weinsier at [cbiboard@verizon.net](mailto:cbiboard@verizon.net). These meetings are conducted with careful guidelines for discussion: speakers are called upon by the Chair, and speakers address themselves to the Chair rather than to one another. Finally, if speech is disrespectful, the Chair may interrupt a speaker. Using these guidelines, our first Community Meeting in October went well, even as we discussed a very emotional topic. I hope that future meetings (**April 22, June 28**) will go as smoothly.

To bring these principles of respectful speech to ALL meetings at CBI, I have asked Bill Jolly, the Chair of the Governance Committee, to draft a CBI Civility Policy, which was presented to the Board last week and which is reproduced below. This will be voted upon at our January meeting. I am hopeful that this policy, or something close to it, will guide all CBI official gatherings so that, with all our rich diversity, we can work together productively, and we can reach agreements as to how to move forward as a community.

B'shalom,

Ellen

# From the Education Director

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Rabbi Charni Flame Selch  
Interim Education Director

January is a relatively quiet time in a synagogue school — until students and Staff return from the long Winter break refreshed and reenergized. Already, however, there is much to write about.

December was a very full month. We had a wonderfully successful Friday night program with Felicia Sloin as part of our family education programming sponsored by the Grinspoon Foundation. One hundred people of all ages sang and danced and ate together. Felicia encouraged the little ones to dance in the aisles, and everyone enjoyed the kid-friendly dinner.

We had several Hanukkah celebrations in the classrooms, and together we lit the CBI Hanukkiah outside on the third night of Hanukkah. We sang, we shivered a little, and we celebrated together. Many of our families joined the synagogue community at the Hanukkah party. There were latkes and dancing and we all lit Hanukkiot with friends and family. And our seventh and eighth grade students joined an informal gathering to mark the solstice and 2nd night of Hanukkah at the CBI garden. We made the best of the eight day holiday.

January is quieter. We continue with school. For some of our classes there will be new topics for discussion, and for others there will be a more in-depth discovery of the topics begun before the break.

The parents of our third grade students will be meeting with Rabbi David to talk about the Siddur celebration which happens later this year.

Shakespeare's Ophelia said that we know what we are, but know not what we may be. We learn who we can be by asking questions, by listening to others and dreaming to be better than we are. There are committees and subcommittees looking at our program and how to better it for next year. If you have comments or questions, please let Amy Wolpin and Alan Singer know. They would love some input. And of course, I am always available to talk.

The Jewish people base our calendar on the cycles of the moon. There is a wonderful midrash which enhances this approach. The midrash says that many other nations have a relationship with God only during the sunny times in life. As soon as there is a little darkness in their lives, however, they question their relationship with God. Like the moonlight, which can shine or reflect even through the darkest nights, the Jewish people can shine and trust in our relationship with God both in the sunny times and the dark times.

May this year bring an abundance of sunshine and clear moonlight for all of us.  
Rabbi Selch

## Religious School Dates of Note

No School on  
the following  
Dates:

January 15  
MLK Weekend

February 5  
Tu B'Shvat  
Celebration

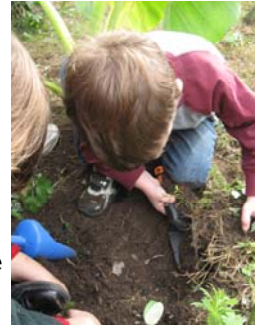
February 11  
Gimel Siddur  
Celebration



# Connecting with Nature in a Beautiful Space: Enhancing our Outdoor Play Area

Dear GK, CBI & LGA FAMILIES,

This school year, Gan Keshet Jewish Community Preschool of the Pioneer Valley lay leaders and staff have been gathering ideas and thinking together about ways to continue to enhance our community. We recognize that we have been very fortunate, via our successful collaboration, to now be part of a larger, supportive community.



Visions for an outdoor educational playscape, a community gathering area for the preschool and the community at-large, have been part of an ongoing discussion. In addition to giving our families a place to swing and climb, we are looking to create a beautiful space where we can all connect with nature.

Please consider helping to create an irresistible, pleasing outdoor educational playscape for our community. As we speak, we are working on developing a plan for shaping a permanent arrangement. In the interim, an Ad Hoc Committee working closely with the Governing Committee, PTA and the GK Staff, will be deconstructing/modifying one of the existing structures and adding in a temporary installation *for everyone's enjoyment*.

Our vision is a work in progress and together we can begin to create a more inspiring place for us all to enjoy. Here are some ways in which you can directly help (aside from fundraising opportunities) in the coming months:

\*Donate materials (we are working on gathering hay bales, tree stumps, wooden benches, pebbles, boulders, plants and trees, etc.)

\*Volunteer your services (we could use artists, landscapers, carpenters)

\*Make a financial contribution (checks can be made payable to the GK Preschool Fund- memo line: Playscape/ Outdoor Education Fund). Checks can be mailed to the CBI Office or submitted to our Preschool Director, Wendy Stein. Feel free to dedicate your contribution: it will appear in CBI's Kehila.

In closing, we invite you all to take a property walk. Look around, find a comfortable spot, think about your childhood and the joys the natural world continues to provide for you.

We look forward to hearing how you wish to contribute. Please contact Patsy Kauffman Barber at [patsykbarber@aol.com](mailto:patsykbarber@aol.com)

GAN KESHET JEWISH COMMUNITY PRESCHOOL PTA  
Patsy Kauffman Barber                      Alison Berman  
Erica Kates                                      Dara Fishman  
Anne Schlereth



\*\*\*GAN KESHET IS PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE IT IS SPONSORING A PARENT WORKSHOP ON:

## WHAT ABOUT SLEEP?

It's More Important Than You Think!

An Evening Presentation by Beth Grams Haxby Ed.M

Thursday, January 12, 2012, 7:00- 9:00 P.M.



Beth's presentation offers a look into the world of sleep science and the research that has clear implications for families. She gives parents the opportunity to share common struggles and to hear concrete strategies to help children get better sleep. Beth has presented widely to parents, educators, medical professionals and students.

Please join her and us on **January 12, 2012.**

Mark your calendars now.



# GAN KESHET

Rainbow Garden

*Jewish Community Preschool  
of the Pioneer Valley*

- Play-Based
- Discovery Oriented
- Part & Full Day Options
- Extended Day Available Until 5:15 pm
- Summer Program

**ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR  
THE 2012-2013 SCHOOL YEAR**

Come visit. Meet our experienced staff.  
Explore our classrooms with your child.

We value diversity & welcome all families in the community.

Ask about the HGF Right Start Grant.  
Your family could be eligible to receive \$500-\$1000 towards your child's tuition.

**253 Prospect St., Northampton  
(413) 584-3593, ext. 204  
director.gankeshet@verizon.net**

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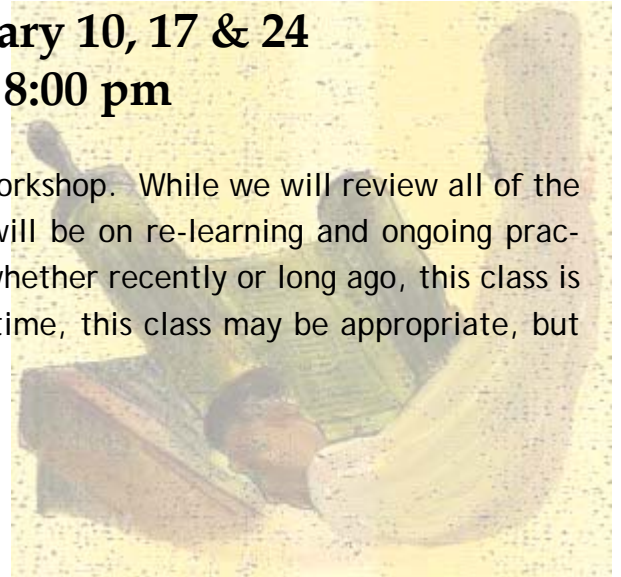
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# Torah Chanting: Building Skills

A 3-Session Class with Rabbi Justin David

Tuesday evenings - January 10, 17 & 24  
Join us from 7:00 - 8:00 pm

Please join us as we refresh our skills in this 3-session workshop. While we will review all of the tropes over three sessions, the emphasis in this class will be on re-learning and ongoing practice. If you have already learned how to chant Torah, whether recently or long ago, this class is for you. If you are learning how to chant for the first time, this class may be appropriate, but please speak with the Rabbi first.



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## SHIRA CHADASHA KABBALAT SHABBAT

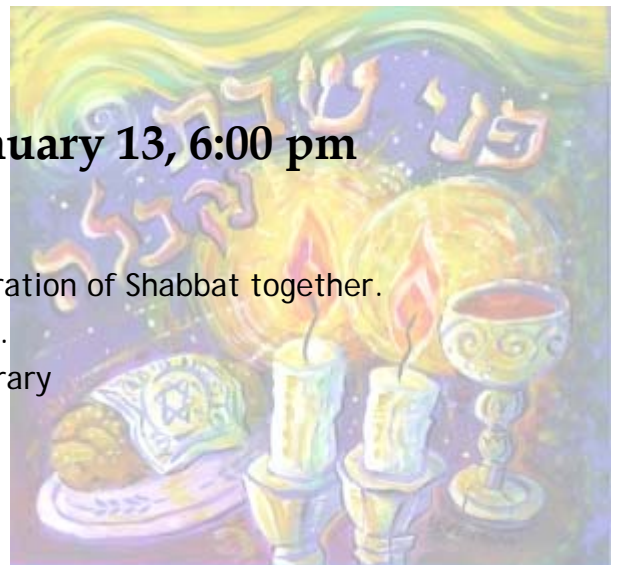
Join us for a very special, monthly Kabbalat Shabbat Service led by Rabbi Justin David with David Weidenfeld on guitar.

THIS MONTH: Friday, January 13, 6:00 pm

We'll enjoy a beautiful and spirited celebration of Shabbat together.

All are welcome.

Held in the CBI Library



# CALENDAR

## Kol Shabbat: A Shabbat of Voices

*With  
Felicia Sloin &  
her ensemble of inspiring singers*

Friday evenings at 6:00 pm  
January 27, March 30 & June 8  
in the CBI Library



Please join us as we weave new musical offerings with traditional prayers and Psalms for a unique Shabbat experience. Felicia Sloin invites us to join together in stirring and soulful melodies. These services will be designed to engage those of us who are new to Jewish prayer and Hebrew, as well as those of us for whom Jewish prayer is a familiar practice.

**ALL ARE WELCOME**

## The World of Zohar

## Led by Rabbi David

CONTINUE THE JOURNEY THIS FEBRUARY

Join us as we continue to pursue our journey with the Zohar, the classic work of medieval Jewish mysticism. In many ways, the Zohar has shaped Jewish tradition, and its explorations mirror many of our contemporary spiritual and ethical questions. Our initial introduction generated much enthusiasm, and we can look forward to participating in a series of lively and engaging study sessions.

No background is required. Each session will feature a seder (preparation) and shiur (lesson) in which participants will have time to wrestle with the text and formulate interpretations and questions before reviewing it as a group. Each session, we will provide written commentary, background materials and guiding questions to illuminate the connections to Jewish sources as well as our own spiritual questions. We will use the extraordinary new translation of the Zohar by Daniel Matt.

We look forward to seeing you there.

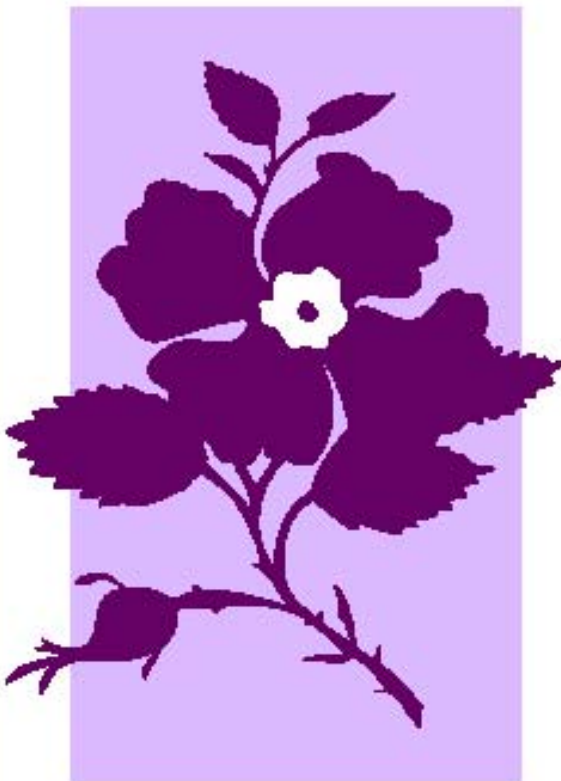
**4 Sessions: Two Thursdays and Two Tuesdays**  
**February 2, 9, 14 & 21**  
**7:00 pm at CBI. All are Welcome.**



# SISTERHOOD SHABBAT



JANUARY 21, 2012



The women of Congregation B'nai Israel have shared their voices with each other and the CBI congregation at the annual Sisterhood Shabbat for more than 30 years. Each year, more than sixty women participate in the joyful and moving morning services, followed by a scrumptious Kiddush prepared by the women of Sisterhood. Come and share your voices again this year!

## **PLEASE TAKE NOTE:**

**COMMUNITY MEETING #2 IS APPROACHING,  
AND WE NEED YOUR INPUT**

**Sunday, January 22  
9:30-11:30am in the CBI Social Hall  
PLEASE NOTE THE TIME CHANGE**

We'll tackle **FOUR TOPICS:**

1. *Survey Results on CBI Ritual*
2. *Survey Results on CBI Education*
3. *Up for Grabs! Please email Lauren Weinsier at [cbiboard@verizon.net](mailto:cbiboard@verizon.net) with your suggested topic.*
4. *Up for Grabs! Please email Lauren Weinsier at [cbiboard@verizon.net](mailto:cbiboard@verizon.net) with your suggested topic.*

*Future Community Meeting Dates:*

- Sunday, April 22, 2012, Time TBA*
- Thursday, June 28, 2012*
- CBI Annual Meeting, 7:00-9:30 PM*

## *Come Celebrate the Tu B'Shvat*

With the CBI Religious School  
Sunday, February 5 10:30- noon

The Program is open to everyone

Join us for activities, games  
and holiday munchies

For more information call  
Rabbi Selch extension 203 or  
[cbieducation@verizon.net](mailto:cbieducation@verizon.net)



## **WINTER 2012 HEBREW COURSES**

### **BEGINNING PRAYERBOOK HEBREW**

This course is appropriate for students who can sound out Hebrew words but do not know what they mean. We will study frequently used vocabulary and basic Hebrew grammar to gain understanding of the language and ideas in our prayers.

Text: Prayerbook Hebrew, the Easy Way by Joseph Anderson

Time: Tuesdays 5:30-6:30 p.m.

### **ADVANCED BEGINNING MODERN HEBREW**

This course is taught mostly ivrit b'lvrit. It is intended for people who know some Hebrew, and who want to increase their vocabulary. This will be an opportunity to practice speaking the language.

Text: Ivrit min Ha'hatchalah (Hebrew From Scratch)

Time: Tuesdays 6:45-7:45 p.m.

### **HEBREW LITERACY**

In this introductory course, students will learn to recognize and decipher the Hebrew Alphabet and vowels, to sound out words, as well as to acquire some basic vocabulary of Jewish life and ritual.

Text: Learn Hebrew Today; Alef-Bet for Adults by Paul Michael Yedwab

Time: Tuesdays 8:00-9:00 p.m.

Dates: 10 sessions, beginning January 24 and ending April 3  
(No session on February 7)

Fee: \$100 per course plus the cost of the text

The instructor for these classes is Henia Lewin. For more information, or to sign up, please contact Henia at 253-8836 or [hennylewin@yahoo.com](mailto:hennylewin@yahoo.com)



# CBI Community Scholars Series



Thinking  
About  
God-  
  
Radical  
Frontiers

~An Invitation from Rabbi David~

Become part of our exciting 5772 scholar series, "Thinking about God: Radical Frontiers." With this series, we open up a communal conversation about the core of our mission as Jews in the realms of thought, spirit and action. We live at a time that demands we ask bold questions of our tradition and of ourselves. But as we will see through this series, our tradition has always insisted on digging as deep as we can. And so we hope the frontiers we reach through this series are radical in two senses: that they unearth our assumptions about what Judaism teaches and believes about God; that they connect us more strongly to the deepest and most profound roots of ineffable mystery. Please join us - we look forward to hearing your thoughts and questions.

B'shalom,  
Rabbi Justin David



**FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 3**  
**AFTER EVENING SERVICES AND DINNER AT 6:00 PM;**  
**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 4 AFTER KIDDUSH**  
**DAVID SEIDENBERG**

Tu B'shevat: God and the Earth

Rabbi David Seidenberg will join us on Shabbat Shirah--the Sabbath of song which precedes Tu Bish'vat--when he will be sharing with us a spirited Prayground Minyan Kabbalat Shabbat service, and teaching from his ground-breaking research on Torah of the Earth, and on the Kabbalah of Tu Bish'vat, both Friday night and Saturday.

Rabbi David Seidenberg is a theologian, dancer, activist, an advocate for embodied Judaism, and one of the foremost scholars working on Judaism and ecology today. He teaches eco-Torah and nigunim (Hasidic singing) around the world and through his website, [neohasid.org](http://neohasid.org). He also created and leads the Hasidic-egalitarian Prayground Minyan in Northampton. Rabbi Seidenberg was ordained both by the Jewish Theological Seminary and Reb Zalman Schachter-Shalomi, and he received a doctorate for work on ecology and Kabbalah.

**FOR RESERVATIONS AND MORE INFORMATION:**  
Please contact the CBI office at [bnai.israel@verizon.net](mailto:bnai.israel@verizon.net) or call (413) 584-3593. Participants may come to evening discussion without joining us for dinner.

# Month of January

<u>SUNDAY</u>	<u>MONDAY</u>	<u>TUESDAY</u>	<u>WEDNESDAY</u>
<b>1</b> NEW YEAR'S DAY  NO HEBREW SCHOOL	<b>2</b> CBI OFFICE & GAN KESHET CLOSED	<b>3</b> 12:30 PM: TUESDAY TEXT STUDY With Rabbi David at CBI	<b>4</b>
<b>8</b>	<b>9</b> 7:00 PM SISTERHOOD MEETING	<b>10</b> 12:30 PM: TUESDAY TEXT STUDY With Rabbi David at CBI  7:00 PM: TORAH CHANTING Building Skills, Adult Ed See page 9 for more info.	<b>11</b>
<b>15</b> NO RELIGIOUS SCHOOL	<b>16</b> CBI OFFICE & GAN KESHET CLOSED FOR MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. DAY	<b>17</b> 12:30 PM: TUESDAY TEXT STUDY With Rabbi David at CBI  7:00 PM: TORAH CHANTING Building Skills, Adult Ed See page 9 for more info.	<b>18</b> 12:30 PM: Valley Jewish Seniors Luncheon See page 16 for more info.
<b>22</b> 9:30 AM: COMMUNITY MEETING #2 (See page 12 for more info.)	<b>23</b> 7:30 PM: SISTERHOOD BOOK CLUB See page 16 for more info.	<b>24</b> 12:30 PM: TUESDAY TEXT STUDY With Rabbi David at CBI 5:45 PM HEBREW WINTER CLASSES BEGIN (see page 12 for more info) 7:00 PM: TORAH CHANTING Building skills, Adult Ed See page 9 for more info.	<b>25</b>
<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b> 12:30 PM: TUESDAY TEXT STUDY With Rabbi David at CBI 5:45 PM HEBREW WINTER CLASSES (see page 12)	

# Month of January

<u>THURSDAY</u>	<u>FRIDAY</u>	<u>SATURDAY</u>
<p><b>5</b> 8:00 AM: LECHA DUMIYAH TEHILLA MEDITATION</p>	<p><b>6</b> 4:15 PM: SHABBAT CANDLE LIGHTING</p> <p>6:00 PM: KABBALAT SHABBAT EVENING SERVICES</p>	<p><b>7</b> 9:30 AM: SHABBAT MORNING SERVICES IN THE SANCTUARY <i>Parashat Vayechi</i></p> <p>11:00 AM: SHABBAT FAMILY MINYAN WITH ANNA SOBEL 5:20 PM: SHABBAT ENDS</p>
<p><b>12</b> 8:00 AM: LECHA DUMIYAH TEHILLA MEDITATION</p>	<p><b>13</b> 4:22 PM: SHABBAT CANDLE LIGHTING</p> <p>6:00 PM: SHIRA CHADASHA KABBALAT SHABBAT SERVICE See page 9 for more info.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>KEHILA SUBMISSION DEADLINE</b></p>	<p><b>14</b> 9:30 AM: SHABBAT MORNING SERVICES IN THE SANCTUARY <i>Parashat Shemot</i></p> <p>9:30 AM LIMUD MINYAN 11:00 AM: SHABBAT SING WITH PAMELA SCHWARTZ &amp; JEOL FELDMAN 5:27 PM: SHABBAT ENDS</p>
<p><b>19</b> 8:00 AM: LECHA DUMIYAH TEHILLA MEDITATION 5:00 PM SISTERHOOD COOKING PARTY (see page 25 for more info) 7:30 PM: CBI BOARD MEETING</p>	<p><b>20</b> 4:31 PM: SHABBAT CANDLE LIGHTING</p> <p>6:00 PM: KABBALAT SHABBAT EVENING SERVICES</p>	<p><b>21</b>  <b>SISTERHOOD SHABBAT</b></p> <p>9:30 AM: SHABBAT MORNING SERVICES IN THE SANCTUARY <i>Parshat Va'eira</i> Kiddush specially prepared by the CBI Sisterhood. See page 11 for more info.</p> <p>11:00 AM: TOT SHABBAT WITH PEGGY WALKER 5:35 PM: SHABBAT ENDS</p>
<p><b>26</b> 8:00 AM: LECHA DUMIYAH TEHILLA MEDITATION</p>	<p><b>27</b> 4:40 PM: SHABBAT CANDLE LIGHTING</p> <p>6:00 PM: KOL SHABBAT WITH FELICIA SLOIN See page 10 for more info.</p>	<p><b>28</b> 9:30 AM: SHABBAT MORNING SERVICES IN THE SANCTUARY <i>Parashat Bo</i></p> <p>9:45 AM: LEV CHADASH NEW HEART MINYAN LED BY RABBI NANCY FLAM 5:43 PM: SHABBAT ENDS</p>

**Hevrei Mitzvot**

**Men's Club**

The next meeting of the Men's Club, the Hevrei Mitzvot, will be

**SUNDAY JANUARY 15  
AT 9:45 AM AT LGA**

The usual superb ethnic breakfast will be served. We will be discussing turning points & opportunities in our lives.

Explorers Welcome  
New honorable menschen welcome

For further details contact Ken Schoen at [413 665 0066](tel:4136650066)



**Valley Jewish Seniors**

The next meeting of Valley Jewish Seniors will be

**WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 18TH  
AT 12:30 PM AT THE CBI LIBRARY**

Max Page who teaches architecture at UMass will be discussing his trip to Buenos Aires and showing slides. It will be a most stimulating talk.

A wonderful lunch will be prepared by Diana Todrin, Esta Busi and Danny Goldlust along with their marvelous associates.

If you need a ride, please call the CBI Office at (413) 584-3593.

Happy New Year



**Sisterhood Book Club**

**JANUARY MEETING**

**Book:** *All Other Nights* by Dara Horn;  
**Date:** Monday, January 23, 7:30 pm  
**Location:** Home of Lois Siegel  
55 Roe Avenue, Northampton  
(413) 584-0094



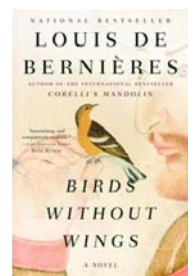
**FEBRUARY TITLE:**

**Book:** *Birds Without Wings* by Louis de Bernieres  
**Date:** Monday, February 27

All CBI women are welcome to join us for one meeting or many. Please call if you need directions or a ride.

**UPCOMING TITLES:**

March 19: *Major Pettigrew's Last Stand* by Helen Simonson  
April 23: *Tender is the Night* by F. Scott Fitzgerald  
May 21: *The Paris Wife* by Paula McLain



# CALENDAR

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## About our monthly Shabbat Services

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### TOT SHABBAT

Come join us for a lively Saturday morning program celebrating the beautiful aspects of Shabbat through songs, stories, dance and creative movement. (For 3 to 5 year olds and their families)

THIS MONTH HELD ON: SATURDAY, JANUARY 21, 11:00 am (special date)  
NEXT MONTH: FEBRUARY 4

### SHABBAT FAMILY MINYAN

A creative interactive service featuring prayers, songs and stories. (For school-aged children, their parents and the community)

THIS MONTH HELD ON: SATURDAY, JANUARY 7, 11:00 am—Noon (special date)  
NEXT MONTH: FEBRUARY 11

### SHABBAT SING

A celebration of Shabbat through song. All are welcome to join in singing a wide array of Jewish songs, from child-friendly melodies to complicated rounds. (For children and adults)

THIS MONTH HELD ON: SATURDAY, JANUARY 14, 11:00 am—Noon (special date)  
NEXT MONTH: FEBRUARY 18

### LIMUD MINYAN

Please join us for this time of prayer and learning designed to gain a deeper knowledge of and appreciation for the Shabbat morning service. The Limud Minyan is designed for people of all levels, and particularly for those just gaining familiarity with Jewish prayer. Led by Rabbi Bruce Bromberg Seltzer

THIS MONTH HELD ON: SATURDAY, JANUARY 14, 9:30-11:00 am  
NEXT MONTH: FEBRUARY 18

### LEV CHADASH (NEW HEART) MINYAN

Join us for a monthly, alternative Shabbat service that will follow the deep structure of the Siddur, inviting us - through song and silence, conversation and meditation - to cultivate awareness and expression of gratitude, praise, yearning, truth, and connection to our rich, Jewish tradition. We will experience the entire flow of a morning Shabbat service (including Torah reading and teaching/discussion), but with scaled-down liturgy. Come with the hope of renewing your heart and your connection to the Source of Life.

THIS MONTH ON JANUARY 28, 9:45- 12:00 noon  
FUTURE DATES: MARCH 31, MAY 26

### SHABBAT CHILDCARE

Free drop-in childcare is available from **9:45 am to the end of each Shabbat morning service** for children ages 1 - 8. We are looking for donations of new or gently used books, games, puzzles, and preschool toys. If you have any questions please contact Amy Wolpin at [wolpin.amy@gmail.com](mailto:wolpin.amy@gmail.com).



# Minutes

## CBI BOARD MEETING MINUTES - NOVEMBER, 2011

Present were Ellen Kaufman (President), Lauren Weinsier, Simona Pozzetto, Gillian Kendall, Lois Dubin, Peggy Besht, Esther Bean, Hanneli de Vries, Kevin Hale, Amy Wolpin, David Cohen, Norbert Goldfield, Henry Simkin, Jane Trigere, Stephen Wurmbrand. Guests: Executive Director, Ben Cuperman; Rabbi Justin David; Ken Schoen.

The meeting began at 7:40pm.

Ben Cuperman, **Executive Director**, gave his report: The total number of households at CBI is 367. Two new members, Diane Kahan and Dan Goitein, were welcomed unanimously. There has been one resignation.

<b>BANK BALANCE:</b>	<b>Oct. 31, 2011</b> <b>\$255,392</b>	<b>Oct. 29, 2010</b> <b>\$295,504</b>
<b>CURRENT DUES</b> (uncollected):	<b>\$212,251</b>	<b>\$270,878</b>
<b>PAST DUES</b> (uncollected):	<b>\$ 27,062</b>	<b>\$ 26,156</b>

For Ben Cuperman's complete and comprehensive report, please see the document in the office or attached to these minutes on the web site.

Board members were encouraged to make their annual gift. Next year there will be a CBI calendar available for sale.

Ellen Kaufman announced that although we do not yet have a chair of fundraising, we have budgeted \$20,000 to come from fundraising efforts. In order to raise the funds, we will have a big event in honor of Rabbi David's ten year anniversary at CBI. The Committee on Jewish Connections will organize a dinner dance and turn the social hall into a BEAUTIFUL venue that will encourage members to hold their bar and bat mitzvahs there.

The event date is Saturday, March 24<sup>th</sup>; the back-up date is March 31.

The dinner dance, with music, will break even. The goal is to raise funds with a directory/book to honor Rabbi David. It was noted that it would be nice to raise forty to fifty thousand dollars. Categories of donors would be listed in the book. **Linda Minoff will chair this fundraising effort. Each board member will be responsible for getting 1,000 dollars in contributions.**

Jane Trigere voiced concern over the early date for the dinner dance.

Discussion ensued.

**Ellen Kaufman took a sense of the group regarding the suggestion that we have the dinner dance on a Sunday in May. The Board responded positively to the idea of having the dinner dance on a Sunday in May.**

Ellen Kaufman noted that the Community Meetings should have follow up. **She asked for a sense of the Board as to whether or not they approve the minutes of the Community Meeting.** Ellen Kaufman also raised the question of potential responses to the concerns raised at the Community Meeting (and where these responses would be aired – Kehila, weekly update, website, etc.).

It was noted that there were few young people at the Community Meeting.  
It was suggested that Board members present at community meetings be listed.  
It was suggested that the Community Meetings be on Sunday in the morning.

Ellen Kaufman stated that Board meetings should be announced in the Friday letter the week before they occur, and that all Board meeting should be announced in the Kehila. Ellen Kaufman also suggested that the Executive Committee could, perhaps, vet the minutes so that the minutes could make it into the Kehila in a timely fashion. This suggestion was met with a negative response.

Ben Cuperman noted that the minutes are on the website.

Stephen Wurmbrand suggested we mention in the Friday email that the minutes are on the website.  
Lou Davis announced that the survey results are now on the home page. Community Meeting minutes can go there, too. The new cemetery rules are there.

Ellen Kaufman noted that there had been a lot of objections to the new minimum donation rules (as regarding donations made to the various synagogue funds) at the Community Meeting.

Neil Kudler responded to such objections as being disrespectful of the hard work done in the office (it can cost more to process a donation than the donation itself).

# Minutes

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One member's personal feeling was that the discussion of donations was not worth a page and a half of Community Meeting time.

Discussion ensued.

Ellen Kaufman said she would sculpt a response to the community. She also noted we could put the Board agenda on the website.

Esther Bean stated that the Personnel Committee should be alerted that previous problems had come about because the head of the Personnel Committee had not responded to input from the community (even to acknowledge that input).

In a move back to the Agenda, Ellen Kaufman advised members to be careful of CCing people when sending an email. Emails critical of others have been CC'd to the persons involved. This is not good email etiquette.

Amy Wolpin noted that everyone should be careful not to forward emails without permission to do so.

Lou Davis, with regard to the question of messages sent to the Personnel Committee, suggested that it be stated that all messages to Personnel will be acknowledged and kept confidential.

Ellen Kaufman announced that **the Board retreat will be on November 20 at LGA.**

It was announced that we have a new chair of the education director search committee: Pamela Schwartz. Other members of the committee are Amy Wolpin, Eve Weinbaum, John Eckstein, Rabbi Justin David and Ellen Kaufman.

## OLD BUSINESS

Peggy Besht reported for the **Personnel Committee** that

The Personnel Committee is starting the process of the Rabbi's biennial review. The Committee has divided up assignments. The Board will be asked for feedback.

The Committee is starting a preliminary review of Ben Cuperman's progress as Executive Director.

The Personnel Committee will meet with CBI members individually, if they request it, on **December 5.**

The next Personnel meeting is **December 12** to review progress on the evaluations of Rabbi David.

Ellen Kaufman made an impromptu report for the **Baby Welcoming Committee**, and we welcomed our newest, and smallest, attendee at Board meetings. Congratulations were proffered to Hanneli de Vries.

Ben Cuperman, for **House and Properties**, updated the Board about the on-going attempts to get restitution for the asbestos episode (detailed in previous minutes). We have retained Alan Seewald. It has taken a long time, but we have received a response from the contractor "Earth First" – they maintain that we are at fault in the matter. We have a number of options open to us in response to this and will, with Alan Seewald's help, determine what path to pursue.

Amy Wolpin, for the **Education Committee**, announced that the committee had engaged in a productive meeting with Gan Keshet. Gan Keshet will expand next year. Rabbi Charni has stated that we will come in under budget this year, and that we'd like five computers for the five classes. If anyone has a computer, please contact Amy Wolpin. As of now, we have 52 students and 15 Madrichim. **Amy Wolpin moved, for the Education Committee, that the Board approve the Education Committee's mission statement.**

Light modification was made to the wording of the statement.

**Gillian Kendall called the question.**

**The motion passed with one abstention.**

The Education Committee's mission statement will be available in the office and on the website.

Hanneli de Vries, for the **Nominating Committee**, stated that the committee is working hard as it looks for a President and Vice President for the coming year.

Ellen Kaufman stated that the mission of the **Nominating Committee** is to find three new Board members by January. Ellen Kaufman can appoint two. The Board needs to elect one. Ellen Kaufman also noted that those who step up to be officers in July ideally would have been Board members for six months.

The meeting adjourned at 8:55.

Respectfully submitted,

Gillian Kendall

# Around the Valley

## Have A Little Pre-Purim Fun and celebrate with Music & Food!

### Music:

Mak'hela, Jewish Chorus of W. Massachusetts  
Kayla Werlin, director, & Cantor Elise Barber, soloist

Felicia Sloin, Cantorial Soloist, Singer/Songwriter

Old Time Country Music Band: Rabbi Ben Weiner, John Loeb, Susan Mosler, Bob Solosko & others

### Food:

An *a la carte* feast of Middle Eastern Specialties & desserts (moderately priced) by Chef Karen Loeb & her team

### When & Where:

Sunday, February 26 at 4:30pm, Jewish Community of Amherst

Concert Tickets: \$10 general admission, \$5 students/children--at the door

A Benefit Event for Project Rehovot, which has helped immigrant & other needy children in Rehovot, Israel since 1991.



## G'MILUT CHASADIM~ACTS OF LOVINGKINDNESS COT SHELTER DINNER

This month CBI will host the Cot Shelter Dinner on January 25, 2012

WE NEED VOLUNTEERS to cook part of a meal for 25 guests, serve the dinner, visit with the guests and clean up.

WHEN: Wednesday, January 25

WHERE: The Cot Shelter, 40 Center Street in Northampton

TIME: 5:45-7:15 pm

FOOD NEEDED FOR EACH MEAL: Cheese & Crackers • Juice (2 gal.) • Vegetable dishes (2) • Salad • Fruit • Whole Wheat Bread • Milk (1 gal.) • Main Dish of chicken or meat • Potatoes • Dessert

To volunteer your time or a food donation please contact Peggy Besht at [pjbhepburn@comcast.net](mailto:pjbhepburn@comcast.net) or Nanci in the CBI Front Office at 413 584-3593 or [bnai.israel@verizon.net](mailto:bnai.israel@verizon.net)

Thank you to the following people who contributed food and/or served at the November 23, 2011 dinner:

Randi Klein  
LGA Staff  
Diane Garey  
Noah Korff

Tilli Friedrich  
Alison & Joe Morse  
Nanci Martine

Carol Jolly  
Doris Cohen  
Theresa Williams

Marcia Burick  
Shelley Schiffelin  
Molly & Dave Watkins

# CONGREGATION B'NAI ISRAEL INTERFAITH CEMETERY RULES

Revised September 7, 2011  
Adopted by the CBI Board of Directors on October 27, 2011

1. A member in good standing is entitled to plots in the cemetery based on their membership category as defined in CBI By-Laws. The number of plots is based on the number of adults in the family per category and for children deceased prior to the age of 18. The plots are at NO cost after 5 years of membership, but said plots shall be designated by the Cemetery Committee as in-line, and courtesy to be extended for the remaining spouse, if any, to reserve the adjoining plot at NO "reservation" charge.
2. A member in good standing is considered to be one who is not more than 60 days (per By-Laws) in arrears in his/her payment of membership dues per By-Laws.
3. In the event that the location of a plot(s) is selected by a member prior to his/her death or by his/her family after his/her death, the charge for reserving the plot(s) shall be \$500.00 per plot.
4. In the event that plot(s) assigned in-line, or plot(s) selected by a member shall be required prior to his/her having been a member for five (5) years, then a credit of \$500.00 per year shall be applied toward the plot cost of \$2,500.00.
5. The cost for a plot for a non-member shall be determined by the Cemetery Committee as reflected in the attached Fee and Cost Schedule.
- 6a. The following form of a receipt should be used in the sale of a lot:  

Received of: Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Amount \_\_\_\_\_ as payment in full for the reservation of cemetery plot(s).  
Plot #(s) \_\_\_\_\_ subject to the following restrictions:
- 6b. The rights to these plot(s) are not transferable. The above price is based on the condition that M/M \_\_\_\_\_ shall remain a member in good standing. Should M/M \_\_\_\_\_ move outside of a 75 mile radius of Northampton, MA (per By-Laws), he/she shall maintain either a Full Membership or an Out-of-Town Membership to retain the plot reservation(s).
- 6c. If one holding rights to a plot has been interred elsewhere, the rights to said plot shall revert back to the Synagogue with NO REFUND to be made.
- 6d. Receipts will be signed by the Chairperson of the Cemetery Committee or his/her designee.
7. There shall be levied an additional one time charge for "maintenance" to members and non-members at the time of reservation or the assignment of in-line plot(s) and shall be paid in advance at the time of reservation of plot(s), or within ninety (90) days of burial. [See attached fee and cost schedule.]
8. Burial is available to Jewish members of Congregation B'nai Israel, non-Jewish spouses of said members, non-Jewish partners of members by marriage or commitment, and to such others as the Cemetery Committee may, due to special circumstances, allow.
9. No cremated remains will be allowed for burial.
10. Current site opening/closing charges will be incurred at time of use. [See attached fee and cost schedule.]
11. No disinterments will be allowed except for civil/legal, religious or incorrect use of a site reasons.
12. All graves must have a monument or a permanent marker within one (1) year of burial.
13. No vaults or metal caskets unless superseded by law.
14. Flowers and other plantings are not encouraged. However, if a family does decide to place plantings, it is its responsibility to maintain and care for such, and if not, they will be removed.

15. No Shabbat (Saturday) burials.

16. Religious symbols engraved on the stone (not extending from the stone) and inscriptions in any language, from any text subject to common sense and good taste, must be placed on the North-facing side of the stones only, with family name and dates on the other side if desired.

17. Monument size and other specifications:

Single plot: 30" - 42" base 36" height maximum

Double plot: 60" base maximum 36" height maximum

Head of deceased buried to the South with the monument at the head.

The shapes of the monuments are to conform to those present at the C.B.I. Jewish Cemetery with nothing extending from the stone.

18. Location of a memorial service: For a Jewish member, use of our sanctuary is permissible. For a non-Jew, use of the sanctuary is not available.

19. Any question(s) regarding deceased's religion should be referred to the CBI Rabbi or designee.

20. It is the family's decision as to who officiates at a Non-Jewish burial.

## CONGREGATION B'NAI ISRAEL JEWISH CEMETERY RULES

Adopted July 6, 1972, Reviewed April 7, 1976  
Revised December 26, 1991, April 1, 1995 and August 24, 2011;  
Adopted by the CBI Board of Directors on October 27, 2011

1. A member in good standing is entitled to plots in the cemetery based on membership category as defined in CBI By-Laws. The number of plots is based on the number of Jewish adults in the family per category and for Jewish children deceased prior to the age of 18. The plots are at NO cost after five (5) years of membership, but said plots shall be designated by the Cemetery Committee as in-line [next available plot, as rows are committed), and courtesy to be extended for the surviving Jewish spouse, if any, to reserve the adjoining plot at NO "reservation" charge.

2. A member in good standing is considered to be one who is not more than 60 days in arrears in his/her payment of membership dues per By-Laws.

3. In the event that the location of a plot(s) is selected by a member prior to his/her death or by his/her family after his/her death, the charge for reserving the plot(s) shall be \$500.00 per plot.

4. In the event that plot(s) assigned in-line, or plot(s) pre-selected by a member shall be required prior to his/her having been a member for at least five (5) years, then a credit of \$500.00 per membership year shall be applied toward the plot cost of \$2,500.00.

5. The cost for a plot for a non-member shall be determined by the Cemetery Committee, as reflected in attached Fee and Cost Schedule.

6a. The following form of receipt should be used in the sale of right-to-burial in a plot:

Received of: Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Amount \_\_\_\_\_ as payment in full for the reservation of cemetery plot(s).  
Plot #(s) \_\_\_\_\_ subject to the following restrictions:

6b . The rights to these plot(s) are not transferable. The above price is based on the condition that M/M \_\_\_\_\_ shall remain a member in good standing. Should M/M \_\_\_\_\_ move outside of a 75 mile radius of Northampton, MA (per By-Laws) , he/she shall maintain either a Full Membership or an Out-of-Town Membership to retain the plot reservation.

6c. If one holding rights to a plot(s) has been interred elsewhere, the rights to said plot(s) shall revert back to the Synagogue with NO REFUND to be made.

6d. Receipts will be signed by the Chairperson of the Cemetery Committee or his/her designee.

7. There shall be levied an additional one-time charge for "maintenance" to members and non-members at the time of reservation or other assignment of in-line plot(s) and shall be paid in advance at the time of reservation of plot(s), or within ninety (90) days of burial. [See attached fee and cost schedule.]

8. Interment in the Congregation B’Nai Israel Jewish Cemetery is limited, under any and all conditions whether or not detailed above, to persons of the Jewish Faith, whose bodies were prepared according to Halakha.

9. No cremated remains will be allowed for burial.

10. Site opening/closing charges will be incurred at time of use. [See attached fee and cost schedule.]

11. No disinterments will be allowed except for civil/legal, religious or incorrect use of a site reasons.

12. All graves must have a monument or a permanent marker installed within one (1) year of burial.

13. No vaults or metal caskets allowed unless required by civil law.

14. Flowers and other plantings are not encouraged. However, if a family does decide to place plantings, it is the family’s responsibility to maintain and care for such, and if not, they will be removed.

15. Monument size:

Single Plot:	30"—42" base	36" height maximum
Double Plot:	60" base maximum	36" height maximum

## FEE AND COST SCHEDULE CONGREGATION B’NAI ISRAEL JEWISH AND INTERFAITH CEMETERIES

[as of October 27, 2011]

PLOT	Member in Good Standing	Relative of Member in Good Standing	Non-Member	Former Member
	\$2500* PLUS	\$4000 PLUS	\$10,000 PLUS	\$2500** PLUS
RESERV. FEE	\$500***	\$500***	\$500***	\$500***
OPENING/ CLOSING OF GRAVE	Actual Cost	Actual Cost	Actual Cost	Actual Cost
MAINT. ****	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500

\*But Members are credited with 1/5 value per successive year of membership, thus gaining full right to burial without plot cost after five (5) years.

\*\* Former members in good standing who were Members for at least ten (10) years before resigning may purchase plot rights at this rate.

\*\*\* Applies to reservation of a plot "out-of-line/out of geographic sequence", except that a spouse of an interred individual may be accorded reservation of the adjacent plot at the time of interment of the first deceased spouse without such a fee.

\*\*\*\* One-time fee assessed at time of reservation, other assignment of plot rights, or interment.

# Donations

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**AESTHETICS FUND**

To Phyllis & John Eckstein, with gratitude for your many kindnesses to us before and after the passing of our beloved Adelekeh. From Judy Polan & Michael Schonbach

**ANNUAL FUND**

In honor of Rabbi Justin David for his leadership. From Joel & Bonnie Gordon

**BIKKUR HOLIM FUND**

Joel & Bonnie Gordon

**EDUCATION FUND**

Anonymous

**GAN KESHET PRESCHOOL FUND**

We are so excited about our growing campus. From Becky & Dave Serlin

**GARDEN FUND**

Geri Kleinman  
Serene Rubin  
Emmett Leader

In memory of Lillian Plotkin Gould. From Morris Gould

**KURIAN KIDDUSH FUND**

Barry Federman  
Roslyn Nitkin  
Jane Kaufman

To Cleo Gorman. May you have a complete and smooth recovery and be dancing again with us soon. From Ellen Kaufman

In Honor of the Kiddush Corps. Anonymous donation

To Ellen Kaufman. Thank you for meeting with me. From Andrea Fox

To Lauren Weinsier. Thank you for meeting with me. From Andrea Fox

To Cleo Gorman. Best wishes for a complete recovery. From Roslyn Nitkin

In loving memory of Lillian Plotkin Gould. From Morris Gould

**KOL NIDRE**

The Fishman Family  
Joel Federman & Pamela Schwartz  
Leslie & Carole May  
Dan Levy  
David Berkman  
Paul & Elizabeth Koss

**RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND**

Louis & Jennifer Davis

To Mary Cohen, in memory of Ruth Cohen. From Nancy Katz & Paul Hanover

To Rabbi Justin David, in honor of your informative, animated & inspiring Trope Class. From Beth Lev.

**TIKKUN OLAM FUND**

Bonnie & Joel Gordon  
Ernest Charron

To Janet Sheppard & Bob Brick, our wonderful friends & neighbors. Thank you so much for opening your home & hearth to us during the storm for a "traveling shiva" for my mom. From Judy Polan & Michael Schonbach

In loving memory of Lillian Plotkin Gould. From Morris Gould

**TZEDAKAH FUND**

Judy & Stephan Wurmbrand  
Sanford Bloomberg  
Jonathan Kahane  
Cleo Gorman  
Roberta Pato  
Peggy Fiddler  
Bonnie & Joel Gordon

**VALLEY JEWISH SENIORS**

To Diane Todrin. Thank you for your generosity in preparing meals for our seniors all these years. From Ellen Kaufman

In memory of Lillian Plotkin Gould. From Morris Gould

**YAHRZEIT (MEMORIAL) PLAQUE**

In loving memory of Hyman Sokoloff. From Shoshana Sokoloff

**SANCTUARY RENOVATION  
THANK YOU!**

Rabbi Justin David & Judy Wolf  
Henry & Adele Oppenheim  
Penny Burke

<b>SCHOEN BOOKS PRESENTS MICHAEL HOBERMAN</b>
<p>Michael Hoberman will be discussing his newly released book <i>New Israel/New England: Jews and Puritans in Early America</i> on <b>Sunday January 22nd at 2pm</b> at Schoen Books at the Old Firehouse in South Deerfield at 7 Sugarloaf Street.</p> <p>Hoberman shows that the Puritans thought and wrote about Jews in order to resolve their own theological and cultural dilemmas. Come for a most stimulating afternoon.</p>

**Sisterhood Shabbat Food Prep Party  
For Sisterhood Shabbat Kiddush**



Join us for an evening of laughter, wine and joyous work in the CBI kitchen.  
Bring your apron.  
Thursday, January 19th 6:00—8:30 pm

**CELEBRATE YOUR BIRTHDAY  
BY SPONSORING A KIDDUSH**

Consider sponsoring a Kiddush to celebrate your birthday or co-sponsor with others born in the same month.

Contact Ben Cuperman, Executive Director for more information on how to sponsor a Kiddush at (413) 584-3593 or email [cbidirector@verizon.net](mailto:cbidirector@verizon.net)

Thank you for helping support the special time we spend together enjoying the sweetness of Shabbat.

**HELP NEEDED FOR  
SHABBAT CHILDCARE**

Experience Preferred  
Contact Amy Wolpin,  
Education Committee Co-Chair  
[Wolpin.amy@gmail.com](mailto:Wolpin.amy@gmail.com)



**January Yahrzeits**

**January 1 / Tevet 6**

Frances Allen\*  
Harris Cohen\*  
Jay Isgur\*

**January 2 / Tevet 7**

Rachel Burick  
Jerome Hyman\*

**January 3 / Tevet 8**

Julius August\*  
Louis M. Cohen\*  
Simon Cohen\*

**January 5 / Tevet 10**

Ben Gottesman  
Abraham Katoff  
Lillian Tunkel  
Gita Wisgardisky

**January 6 / Tevet 11**

Mary Haskell  
Fanny Toby Smargonsky\*

**January 8 / Tevet 13**

Sol Schulman  
Jacob Steinberg\*

**January 9 / Tevet 14**

Herman A. Cohen\*  
Samuel Gaev

Bessie Jolles

**January 11 / Tevet 16**

Frances Coblentz  
Robert Smith  
Hyman Ziff\*

**January 12 / Tevet 17**

Dr. Robert Kahan  
Rebecca Migdal

**January 13 / Tevet 18**

Henry A. Adelson\*  
Joseph Prentky\*  
Rose zager

**January 14 / Tevet 19**

Zelda Barondes Figman  
Sophie Besserman  
Sarah Budgar  
Lillian Gould\*

**January 16 / Tevet 21**

Joseph Adelson\*  
Gussie Allen\*  
Lena Elinsky\*  
David Menn  
Mariana Schneider

**January 17 / Tevet 22**

Frances Alport

Saul Brooker

George Eisenstock\*  
Benjamin Price

**January 18 / Tevet 23**

Harry Brumberg  
Robert Cooley\*

**January 19 / Tevet 24**

Hyman August\*  
Max Nitkin  
Morton Pader

**January 20 / Tevet 25**

Steven Tabor\*

**January 21 / Tevet 26**

Louis Freed  
Melvin Steinberg

**January 22 / Tevet 27**

Leonard Brown  
Minnie Kramer

**January 23 / Tevet 28**

Sadie August\*  
Rose Gottesman

**January 25 / Shevat 1**

Charlotte Cohen\*

J

**January 26 / Shevat 2**

Rabbi Eugene Lipman  
Earl Leo Smargonsky\*

**January 27 / Shevat 3**

Esther Smargonsky Haberman\*  
Dorothy Raymond\*

**January 28 / Shevat 4**

Lenore Burick  
Fannie Moran\*

**January 29 / Shevat 5**

Morris Greenbaum  
Mollie Greenberg\*  
Annette Joseph

**January 30 / Shevat 6**

Roy Friedman  
Louis A. Levin\*  
Charlotte Mednicoff

**January 31 / Shevat 7**

Theodore Kates\*  
Morris Schneider

**James A. Hardy**  
*Registered Representative*  
jhardy@ae.cadaretgrant.com  
PO Box 1690  
Northampton, MA 01061-1690  
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**[bnai.israel@verizon.net](mailto:bnai.israel@verizon.net)**



*Domestic Abuse  
It hurts!*

If you, or someone you know, is experiencing physical, emotional, or other forms of abuse, please contact:

Safe Passage **1-888-345-5282** (24-hr hotline)  
or for Jewish support:  
Shalom Taskforce **1-888-883-2323** (crisis)  
Jewish Safety Net **1-413-737-2601**  
(local resources, referrals, & advocacy at Jewish Family Services)

Some signs of partner abuse can involve:

- controlling behavior
- belittling and degrading
- extreme jealousy and possessiveness
- isolating partner from family and friends

*Sponsored by the CBI Jewish Domestic Task Force*

# CBI Funds

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## **AESTHETICS FUND**

Funds will be used to beautify the synagogue. *Please send donations to CBI.*

## **ANNUAL FUND**

Funds will be used for the synagogue's most pressing needs. Enhanced dues are a part of this fund. *Please send donations to CBI.*

## **BIKKUR HOLIM FUND**

Donations for this fund are used for gifts from the whole congregation for members of the congregation who are fighting illness. *Checks may be made payable to CBI with Bikkur Holim in the memo line.*

## **CEMETERY FUND**

## **CHEVREI MITZVOT FUND**

Funds used towards gemilut hasadim, to honor Bar and Bat Mitzvot, and fund worthy endeavors. *Please send donations to CBI.*

## **COMMITTEE FOR JEWISH CONNECTIONS**

Fund provides for programming to celebrate and promote the practice of Judaism. *Please send donations to CBI.*

## **DANIEL & SHIRLEY LEVIN**

## **EDUCATION FUND**

Money will assist qualified families with Religious School Tuition. *Checks made payable to Levin Education Fund should be mailed to CBI.*

## **DIVINE FUND**

An endowment used to attract and retain outstanding religious school educators for our Religious School. *Please send donations to CBI.*

## **DOMESTIC VIOLENCE TASK FORCE**

Donations will be used to support the work of the CBI Task Force. *Please send contributions to CBI with Domestic Violence in the memo line*

## **EDUCATION FUND**

Donations help support all educational activities and programs for children and adults at CBI. *Please send donations to CBI.*

## **ENDOWMENT FUND**

Minimum Contribution is \$10.00. A \$600 contribution or more is necessary for a plaque to be affixed in the main lobby. Principle stays intact; interest earned is used to defray general operations of the synagogue. *Please send donations to CBI.*

## **ERETZ ISRAEL FUND**

Donations go to sponsor programs that support Israel. Currently exploring ways to become a sister city with the Masorti community.

## **GARDEN FUND**

Sustains the CBI communal garden for multi-generational learning & Tikkum

Olam, CBI events, food for Survival Center. Funds also used for purchase of materials for the garden, to pursue matching grants, engage expert support & allow for future growth.

## **HEVREI MITZOT FUND**

## **THE ISRAEL FUND**

Funds used to support CBI sponsored trips to Israel, Yom Ha'atzmaut events and other activities in celebration of Israel. *Please send donations to CBI.*

## **KITCHEN FUND**

Donations for this fund will be used for purchases and maintenance of CBI's Kosher Kitchen. *Please send donations to CBI.*

## **LANDSCAPE FUND**

Fund used to beautify and maintain synagogue grounds. *Please send donations to CBI.*

## **LEONARD AND BERNICE ALBERTS PRESCHOOL SCHOLARSHIP FUND**

\$10.00 minimum contribution. Fund assists qualified families with Preschool tuition. *Please send donations to CBI with Albert's Fund in the memo line.*

## **LIBRARY FUND**

Money in this fund will go towards the purchase of CBI library books. *Please send donations to CBI.*

## **PRESCHOOL EDUCATION FUND**

Money from this fund will go to the preschool for equipment and teaching materials. *Make checks payable to CBI with Preschool Fund in the memo line.*

## **PULPIT FUND**

Funds used to procure necessary items that are not covered by the operating budget. These funds will be used to enhance our services. *Please send donations to CBI.*

## **RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND**

*Please send donations to CBI.*

## **SANDRA GOLDSMITH ENDOWMENT FUND**

Donations are used to endow activities for Tikkun Olam. *Please send donations to CBI.*

## **SAM & MILDRED WOLFE BAR/BAT MITZVAH FUND**

All students studying for Bar/Bat Mitzvah require a private tutor. This fund offsets tutoring costs for families. We encourage all families, friends, and relatives to contribute. *Minimum contribution is \$10.00. Make checks payable to CBI with Wolfe Fund in the memo line.*

## **SHABBAT CHILD CARE FUND**

Money from this fund will go towards providing quality child care to all who need it (at no charge) during Shabbat services. *Please send donations to CBI.*

## **SISTERHOOD ALL OCCASION FUND**

Minimum contribution is \$5.00. Money is used for specific synagogue needs voted upon by the Sisterhood membership. Mail checks made payable to CBI Sisterhood to *Michelle Kaskey, 130 Prospect Avenue, Northampton, MA 01060 (586-6128)*. A card will be mailed for any occasion.

## **SUE KURIAN KIDDUSH FUND**

Donations will be used to enhance our Shabbat services with festive Kiddushes. *Please send donations to CBI.*

## **TIKKUN OLAM FUND**

Funds are used to benefit programs that help people in need, in the Northampton Amherst area, in Israel, and occasionally when catastrophes strike in other parts of the world. *Please send donations to CBI.*

## **TORAH CHAI FUND**

Donations to this fund assist the restoration and repair of Congregation B'nai Israel's existing Torah scrolls, and have made possible the purchase of a new Torah. *Please send donations to CBI.*

## **TZEDAKAH FUND**

Fund for engaging in acts of tzedakah (charity and generosity) for the benefit of CBI members. *Please send donations to CBI.*

## **VALLEY JEWISH SENIORS**

Fund to help support seniors' activities through CBI. *Please send donations to CBI.*

## **WOMEN'S FUND**

The CBI Women's Fund is for the purpose of helping CBI Women Members who are in dire financial need. To make a donation to the CBI Women's Fund, make your check out to B'nai Israel Sisterhood and indicate that it is for the Women's Fund. Mail the check to Harriet Weinroth, 100 Bassett Brook Dr. Apt 102 Easthampton, MA 01027 (527-3613). *Minimum donation of \$5.00.*

## **YOUTH FUND**

Donations will be used to help fund activities for our youth programs. *Please send donations to CBI.*

## **YAHREZIT (MEMORIAL) PLAQUE**

\$200 donation for each name. *Please make checks payable to CBI Cemetery Fund and mail to CBI.*

קהילה בני ישראל  
Congregation B'nai Israel

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