

קהילה בני ישראל  
Congregation B'nai Israel

January  
2011

Kehila

Tevet/Shevat  
5771



Happy  
Tu B'shevat

Founded 1904 ~ Northampton ~ Massachusetts

# Contact Information

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

The next KEHILA is the February 2010 Issue  
**FIRM DEADLINE: JANUARY 14**

HELP US TO HELP YOU. 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

## A FEW WORDS FROM RABBI JUSTIN DAVID

On Rosh Hashanah, I gave a d'var torah in which I urged all of us to contact Prime Minister of Israel Benyamin Netanhahu so as to hold him to his promise of achieving a "historic compromise" with the Palestinian people. At the time, I expressed my hope that a peaceful two-state solution was within reach, and that a flood of e-mails to the Prime Minister could have an impact. I also expressed a healthy degree of skepticism that the prospects for a deal were fragile, and that the newly invigorated peace process could be derailed a thousand different ways. Unfortunately, as of now, it appears as if the process is stalled. There were plenty of experts who predicted that the talks would reach such an early impasse, but it doesn't make the reality any less frustrating or sad.

What to do, then, about hope, and the meaningfulness of our own action? Is it foolish to believe in our ability to have an impact at a time like this?

My own belief is that hope is a necessary component of our lives. We can choose, if we wish, to let it go, but only to our detriment. But living with hope and skepticism is not an either/or proposition. In fact, I believe that the fullest kind of hope we experience is that which we hold in tension with an unvarnished view of the world as it is.

Over the years, I have often looked to the Israeli writer and peace activist David Grossman. Without sentimentality or pretense, he shows us what it means to keep a kind of faith in the human spirit despite the violence we inflict upon each other. In his latest novel, To the End of the Land, a mother, Ora, decides to take a month-long hike while her young adult son participates in a military operation. She believes that by secluding herself in nature, she will protect her son, as she will be unreachable to the military notifiers who inform parents of their children's deaths. This kind of magical thinking is offset by Ora's decision to take along Avram, an estranged friend and lover who lives a life hollowed out by the trauma he experienced as a soldier. Their hike is one that unloads years of pain and sadness, both personal and collective. But it is one in which they draw closer to illuminating insights, deepen personal connections and grow in self understanding, all the while being both challenged and nurtured by the land over which they tread. They grope in darkness and find a bit of light, wrestle with sadness but also discover humor and new dimensions of their thoughts and being, all the while steering clear of trite optimism.

The book serves as an example of how many of us may live. While way may sometimes arrive at a fixed destination of hope or fear, we often oscillate between the two. With respect to Israel, I believe we should still act as if we have hope, whatever it is we feel or perceive. I say this not to fool ourselves into believing the impossible, but to live in a way that expresses our deepest prophetic yearnings, that each person should "live under their vine and fig tree, and none shall be afraid... that nation shall not lift up sword against nation, and none shall study war any longer (Micah 4:7-8)." And so, I encourage us all to continue to send emails to the Prime Minsiter's office. I have no idea of what, if anything, will change, now or in the distant future. But by holding our understanding of the world as it is with what we yearn for it to be, we help to realize the charge, from deep within our tradition, to "seek shalom and pursue it." Wishing everyone a season of ongoing health and wholeness,

Rabbi Justin David

<b>MAKE A HESED CALL To Rabbi Justin David</b>
<p>Do you or someone who know need to talk? Make a hesed (kindness) call to Rabbi David</p> <p>A hesed call lets our office and rabbi know to attend to your need immediately.</p> <p>Rabbi David can be reached for a hesed call either through the synagogue or on his cell phone (413)320-1355</p> <p><i>The world is built on hesed (kindness).</i></p>

## 4 WORDS From the Education Director

### “A community is too heavy for anyone to carry” Deuteronomy Rabbah 1:10

Last month I wrote about the act of giving to others. This month I want to bring the idea home. Occasionally I have a parent of a Bar or Bat Mitzvah candidate ask me about their Tikkun Olam project. We talk about possible activities, and often the conversation turns to the desire to do things that do not have to do with giving money, things that have to do with action and volunteering. Volunteering is not only a wonderful way to become involved in a non-profit, but it also teaches the volunteer that their hands can be tools that can shape the world.

Education Director

Rabbi Rachel Rembrandt

The Hebrew word for volunteer is mitnadeiv - literally one who offers a freewill gift of themselves. Volunteerism is a central concept of Judaism, found throughout Torah, the only way the Mishkan was able to be built, in fact. And for us, the synagogue is the central Jewish community, the main arena for Jewish volunteerism to flourish.

We are blessed at CBI to have so many dedicated members who offer their hearts and their talents to this congregation. Throughout this fall, our school and our congregational programs could not have been accomplished so successfully without the help of volunteers. From cooking for the 7th and 8th grade to cooking latkes, from cleaning up from Sukkot to moving chairs on Rosh Hashanah, from teaching dance on Chanukah to teaching teachers about special needs, from playing Israeli dance music to leading focus groups, from creating vision statements to bringing snack for our youngest students, our members have stepped up and offered their gifts. There are too many to name specifically, but I want to offer a gracious todah rabbah, a thanks to all of you who have helped us so far.

But as the rabbis have said, “the community is too heavy to carry alone.” We still need your gifts. We need more cooks for the 7th and 8th graders on Wednesday nights, we need your voice on the education committee, we have more programs coming up the rest of the year. If you are interested in volunteering for an hour, an afternoon, an on going basis, please let me know by calling me or emailing me. CBI can’t do it without your help. I thank you in advance for all that you can do to make our congregation vibrant with your talents.

L’shalom,

Rabbi Rachel Rembrandt

### CBI RELIGIOUS SCHOOL DATES OF NOTE

NO SCHOOL DATES  
January 2 & January 16

ZAYIN CLASS & PARENTS  
2<sup>nd</sup> in the series of family programming  
With Rabbi David  
*Sunday, January 9, 10:30-11:30 am*

All school & parents, Sunday, Jan. 23  
9:45 - 11:30 am

Celebrate Tu B’shevat together with  
art, poetry and drama

PLEASE NOTE:

In case of inclement weather,  
on Sundays, call 413-584-3593 ext 203  
to find out if Religious School is cancelled.

On weekdays, if Northampton Public Schools  
are closed, Religious School is cancelled.

Sustaining our Community: The Interplay of Professional and Volunteer Efforts

Dear Fellow Congregants:

Ron Ackerman recently recounted to me a conversation in which a congregant expressed amazement that Ron wasn't paid for his former position as gabbai, or indeed for all the roles that he currently shouldered to help the synagogue and services run smoothly. This same congregant was also unaware that Shlomo Barnoon has contributed his services as hazaan for about the past twenty years. We realized that many current CBI members may be unaware of the huge role of volunteerism in our synagogue life. How many of us know that Jim Sagalyn has been acting as our CBI Treasurer for about the last decade, a quite demanding endeavor. And many of our Committee Chairs: Carol Katz as Chair of Financial Oversight, David Cohen as Chair of Endowment, Jeff Caplan as Chair of Personnel, our other Committee Chairs and Board members and volunteers—devote time and effort month after month, year after year, to keep our organization running smoothly.

President

Ellen Kaufman

When I first joined CBI about 20 years ago, the paid staff of the synagogue consisted of the rabbi, the head of the religious school, a part time secretary, and a part time custodian. The kitchen was run by congregants on the Kitchen Committee, and all social functions were facilitated by volunteers. The Kehila was published monthly with input and editing by the rabbi, head of the religious school, and volunteers. We seemed to get along just fine with everyone pitching in.

Since that time our membership has more than doubled and our professional staff increased about three-fold. There are benefits and pitfalls that have accompanied the increased professionalization of our functions. Paid staff can be held accountable to certain tasks and a certain level of performance that cannot be 'imposed' on a volunteer staff. However there are clearly disadvantages as well, besides the obvious financial ones. I fear that we run the risk of not seeing the ongoing functioning of our community as a communal task and responsibility of membership—that we lose a certain 'ownership' of CBI as 'our' community when we pay others to take on functions that we as members used to perform. I'm also concerned that we lose some of the sense of community that many of us seek when we join CBI—that sense of working together with other like-minded congregants to accomplish a worthwhile goal.

These six months of being without a CBI Director gives us an unanticipated opportunity to re-devote ourselves to volunteerism. For better or for worse, our list of ad hoc committees has been growing rapidly! I've ask Nanci to publish our committee list which our new Chair of Membership, Lauren Weinsier, put together to present to new members. I realized that ALL members should have the opportunity to look it over, see if there are any areas that excite you, to which you would like to contribute time and effort, (see pages 20 & 21). The wondrous physics of contributing to a community such as ours is that you'll likely discover that you get back at least as much as you put in. By forming new friendships, deepening existing ones, participating in conversations with really smart people, dancing and cooking in the kitchen, you may find a deeper sense of connection with our wonderful synagogue family. I look forward to participating with you!

B'shalom,

Ellen

Welcome New Members

Diane Weiser, Benjamin, Molly and Jed

Andrea Fox & Zachary

Elizabeth Pryor & Jerry Stordeur, Lilli and Henry

# Gan Keshet Notes



Pretending to be a Candle!

## Gan Keshet Celebrates Hanukkah!!

Wishing you a happy, healthy New Year! ~The GK Staff



Spinning like a dreidel!



Making Latkes!



Reading *The Chanukkah Guest*.



Menorahs we made!



"Lighting" the Hanukkah!



Singing 5 Little Candles at the GK Hannukah Party.



Lauren (Chamaniot teacher) enjoys her first Hanukkah Party.



Rabbi David wearing his Hanukkah Scarf the GK children made for him.



# 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

**Now Accepting Applications  
for the 2011-2012 School Year**

Come visit, meet our experienced staff and  
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 from \$500-\$1000 towards your child's tuition.

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

# 8 CALENDAR

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## Join us for these monthly Shabbat Services

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### TOT SHABBAT

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

THIS MONTH ON JANUARY 8, 11:00 - 11:45 AM  
UPCOMING DATE: FEBRUARY 5

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### SHABBAT FAMILY MINYAN

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

THIS MONTH ON JANUARY 15, 11:00-12:00 noon  
UPCOMING DATE: FEBRUARY 12

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### 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 ON JANUARY 22, 11:00-12:00 noon

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### JUNIOR CONGREGATION SESSION

An opportunity for children to celebrate Shabbat through prayer, songs, stories in an age-appropriate context with other friends. (For Grades K-2 and 3-6)

THIS MONTH ON JANUARY 29, 11:00-12:00 noon

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### 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 29, 9:45- 12:00 noon  
UPCOMING DATE: FEBRUARY 26

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## 9 CALENDAR

## Save the Date

### SHIRA CHADASHA KABBALAT SHABBAT

Join us for a very special, monthly Kabbalat Shabbat Service.

All are welcome!

Held in the CBI Library.

FRIDAY  
JANUARY 14  
6:00 pm

Led by Rabbi Justin David with David Weidenfeld on guitar!

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



### 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.

Held in the CBI Library.

Led by Rabbi Bruce Bromberg Seltzer

We look forward to seeing you there!

SATURDAY  
JANUARY 8  
9:30-11:00 am

In what we hope will be the first of a series, the Limud Minyan is designed for people of all levels, and particularly for those just gaining familiarity with Jewish prayer.

## CBI SCRIP Program

### FEED YOUR FAMILY AND FUND CBI AT THE SAME TIME!

If all 392 member families bought \$50.00 dollars worth of scrip each week, CBI would receive.....\$50,960 a year. CBI receives 5% of scrip purchases. You pay no additional charges and receive all of your usual store discounts. SCRIP - gift cards from merchants around town - has been an invaluable source of funding for CBI. If there was ever a win-win, this is it!

We've got: Stop & Shop Gift Cards (\$300, \$100), River Valley Market (\$100), Big Y (\$100), Serio's (\$10), the Northampton Gift Card (\$50)

### THERE ARE SEVERAL WAYS TO BUY SCRIP

- ▶ Buy it in person at the CBI office
- ▶ Mail in a check
- ▶ Schedule online payments from your bank
- ▶ Set up an automatic debit from your checking account

If you mail in a check or schedule payments, you will receive your SCRIP in the mail. Please let us know the denominations and names of the SCRIP cards you want. Include your name, address, phone and email. If you have any questions about payments or about the SCRIP program, please call the CBI office at 584-3593.

# January Salon

**Tuesday, January 18 @ 7:30**

**Study Torah, deepen connections!!**



## **RADICAL JEWISH TEACHINGS INSPIRED BY TU B'SHEVAT**

As we greet Tu B'Shevat, join us to explore the inherent connection we share with all creation, a connection amplified by Kabbalah and the thoughts of Hasidic masters. As always, this CBI Salon will be open to all, and promises a meaningful and lively conversation in an intimate setting. Led by Rabbi Justin David!

All are welcome!!

At the home of Julie Robbins & Joel Nisson  
Address: 16 Pomeroy Terrace  
Phone: (413) 584-2144  
Email: jrn40@yahoo.com

### **Host A Salon!!**

Host a salon at your home!! Choose a day that works for you and the Rabbi

This is an exciting opportunity to study Torah with Rabbi Justin David in the comfort of a CBI member's home, deepening connections through meaningful learning and conversation. If you would like to schedule a CBI SALON in your home, please be in touch with Rabbi David at [cbirabbi@verizon.net](mailto:cbirabbi@verizon.net) or call (413)584-3593, ext. 208.

We look forward to seeing you!!

**CBI Personnel Committee**  
We welcome your input about CBI staff.  
Contact Chair Jeff Caplan at  
[caplanjeff@comcast.net](mailto:caplanjeff@comcast.net)

# Sisterhood Shabbat

Join us for a fabulous Shabbat event!!

In loving memory of our sisters,  
Judy Blaustein & Bernice Alberts

Come together for our special celebration of Shabbat, led by  
the women of the congregation and celebrated by all!!  
And of course, a fabulous Kiddush to follow!

Come help prepare the Kiddush on  
Thursday, January 20 from 6-9 pm!!

Enjoy the company of your "sisters" in the kitchen, cooking, dancing,  
singing, drinking and schmoozing! Call Michelle Kaskey at (413) 586-6128  
if you want to help!

Date: Jan. 22, 2011

Time: 9:30 am



# Tu B'shevat At CBI

**SUNDAY, JANUARY 23, 9:45-11:30**



Join us as we celebrate  
Tu B'shevat together!!  
for children, adults and families

We'll explore the holiday  
and how it is connected with  
the environment using  
music, stories, drama & text study

Led by Cara Michelle Silverberg.

Funded in part by the Harold Grinspoon Foundation

For more information, contact Rabbi Rachel Rembrant at  
[cbieducation@verizon.net](mailto:cbieducation@verizon.net).

# 13 Calendar

# Save the Date

## CBI YOUTH GROUP IRON CHEF

SUNDAY  
JANUARY 23  
3:00-5:00 pm

6th - 9th Graders CBI Youth Group Presents: Iron Chef!!

On Sunday, Jan. 23rd, teens are invited to meet at the synagogue from 3-5 pm to find out what your secret ingredient is and break into teams to create your own dishes.

To RSVP and for more information contact Aaron Kagan, your youth group advisor, at aaronwkagan@gmail.com or call (617) 447-0504.

## HEVREI MITZVOT MEN'S CLUB

SUNDAY  
JANUARY 23  
9:45 am

The next meeting of the Men's Club will be Jan. 23rd at LGA

Aryeh Wineman will share a parable and delicacies of conversation and food will be shared and blessed. Acts of gemillut chassadim will be explored.

ALL ARE WELCOME!!!

New members welcome.

For more information, contact Yekutiel Kaufmann Schoen at (413) 665 0548.

## VALLEY JEWISH SENIORS LUNCHEON

WEDNESDAY  
JANUARY 19  
12:00 pm

The next meeting of the Valley Jewish Seniors will be January 19!!

We are hosting Ralph Levy, who will be discussing the life of his grandfather, the prominent 19th century Rabbi Morris Jacob Raphall. Come and celebrate and make new friends.

Singing begins at 12:00 noon with a wonderful performance by students

from LGA.

Luncheon begins at 12:30 pm.

New members welcome. If you need a ride, please contact the CBI office at (413) 584-3593

UPCOMING DATE:  
Wednesday,  
February 16, 2011



## SISTERHOOD BOOK CLUB

MONDAY  
JANUARY 24  
7:30 pm

JANUARY BOOK:  
Yocheved by Maggie Anton  
Date/Time: Mon., Jan. 24, 7:30 pm  
At the home of Adele Steinberg  
59 Mulberry Lane, Easthampton

FEBRUARY BOOK:  
Let the Great World Spin  
By Colum McCann  
Date/Time:  
At the home of  
Address

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

The other titles for the year are:  
Mar.: Little Bee by Chris Cleave;  
April: The Help by Kathryn Stockett;  
May: City of Thieves  
by David Benioff

\*\* CONTACT NANCY FELTON FOR FEB INFORMATION BY DEC 6 \*\*\*\*



# 14 CALENDAR

# Month of January

SATURDAY	January 1	9:30 am	SHABBAT MORNING SERVICE <i>Parachat Va-era</i>
		5:09 pm	SHABBAT ENDS
MONDAY	January 3	7:00 pm	SISTERHOOD BOARD
TUESDAY	January 4	12:15 pm	TUESDAY TEXT STUDY WITH RABBI JUSTIN DAVID
		7:15 pm	EDUCATION COMMITTEE MEETING
THURSDAY	January 6	8:00 am	LECHA DUMIYAH TEHILLA Led by Rabbi Nancy Flam & Rabbi Sheila Peltz Weinberg
		7:30 pm	CBI BOARD MEETING
FRIDAY	January 7	4:16 pm	SHABBAT CANDLE LIGHTING
		6:00 pm	KABBALAT SHABBAT EVENING SERVICE
SATURDAY	January 8	9:30 am	SHABBAT MORNING SERVICE <i>Parachat Bo</i>
		9:30 am	LIMUD MINYAN Led by Rabbi Bruce Bromberg Seltzer (see page 9 for more information)
		11:00 am	TOT SHABBAT - Led by Peggy Walker
		5:16 pm	SHABBAT ENDS
SUNDAY	January 9	10:30 am	ZAYIN CLASS & PARENTS PROGRAM with Rabbi Justin David (see page 4 for more information)
MONDAY	January 10	7:30 pm	FINANCIAL OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE
TUESDAY	January 11	12:15 pm	TUESDAY TEXT STUDY WITH RABBI JUSTIN DAVID
THURSDAY	January 13	8:00 am	LECHA DUMIYAH TEHILLA Led by Rabbi Nancy Flam & Rabbi Sheila Peltz Weinberg
FRIDAY	January 14	4:23 pm	SHABBAT CANDLE LIGHTING
		6:00 pm	SHIRA CHADASHA KABBALAT SHABBAT SERVICE Led by Rabbi Justin David and David Weidenfeld (see page 9 for more information)
SATURDAY	January 15	9:30 am	SHABBAT MORNING SERVICE <i>Parachat B'shallah</i>
		11:00 am	SHABBAT FAMILY MINYAN (see page 8 for more information)
		5:23 pm	SHABBAT ENDS
TUESDAY	January 18	12:15 pm	TUESDAY TEXT STUDY WITH RABBI JUSTIN DAVID

		7:30 pm	SHALON WITH RABBI JUSTIN DAVID (see page 10 for more information)
WEDNESDAY	January 19	2:00 pm	VALLEY JEWISH SENIORS LUNCHEON (see page 13 for more information)
THURSDAY	January 20	8:00 am	LECHA DUMIYAH TEHILLA Led by Rabbi Nancy Flam & Rabbi Sheila Peltz Weinberg
FRIDAY	January 21	4:32 pm	SHABBAT CANDLE LIGHTING
		6:00 pm	KABBALAT SHABBAT EVENING SERVICE
SATURDAY	January 22	9:30 am	SISTERHOOD SHABBAT SPECIAL CELEBRATION Led by the women of CBI - <i>Parashat Yitro</i> (see page 11 for more information)
		11:00 am	SHABBAT SING (see page 8 for more information)
		5:32 pm	SHABBAT ENDS
SUNDAY	January 23	9:30 am	HEVREI MITZVOT MEN'S CLUB - (LGA) (see page 13 for more information)
		9:45 am	TU B'SHEVAT FAMILY PROGRAM (see page 12 for more information)
		3:00 pm	CBI YOUTH GROUP IRON CHEF (see page 13 for more information)
TUESDAY	January 25	12:15 pm	TUESDAY TEXT STUDY WITH RABBI JUSTIN DAVID
THURSDAY	January 27	8:00 am	LECHA DUMIYAH TECHILLA Led by Rabbi Nancy Flam & Rabbi Sheila Peltz Weinberg
FRIDAY	January 28	4:41 pm	SHABBAT CANDLE LIGHTING
		7:00 pm	KABBALAT SHABBAT EVENING EXTENDED SERVICE MAK'HELA, Led by Kayla Werlin (see page 19 for more information)
		8:00 pm	ONAG
SATURDAY	January 29	9:30 am	SHABBAT MORNING SERVICE <i>Parashat Mishpatim</i>
		9:45 am	LEV CHADASH (NEW HEART) MINYAN Led by Rabbi Nancy Flam (see page 8 for more information)
		11:00 am	JUNIOR CONGREGATION (see page 8 for more information)
		5:41 pm	SHABBAT ENDS

Thank You!!

Special thanks to  
Emmett Leader  
for repairing our  
outdoor menorah  
in time for Hanukkah!!

Todah Rabah!!

A big THANK YOU to Joan Weigle for donating such an awesome boombox and children's tapes. The Chamaniot class has been enjoying listening and dancing to the music!

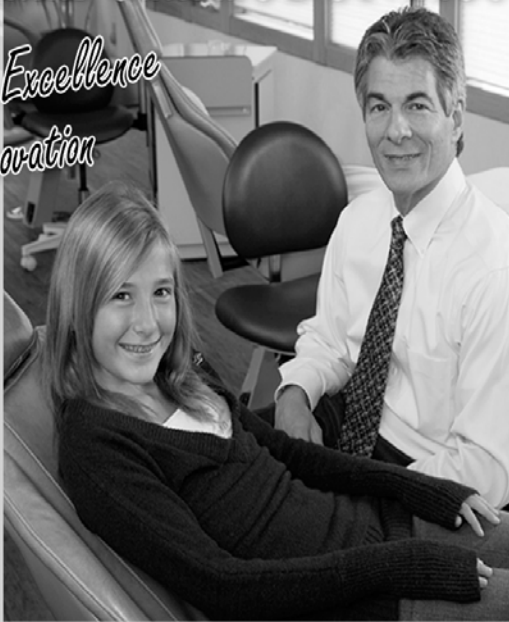
We also wish to THANK the French Family for donating a lap-top computer to the preschool. We now can input planning sheets and then print them out directly from the computer! It is very helpful and timesaving for us.

**HELP, WE COULD STILL USE ONE MORE BOOM-BOX (CD/TAPE PLAYER) FOR THE PARPARIM CLASSROOM.** Please contact Wendy Stein at 584-3593 ext. 204, or email us at [director.gankeshet@verizon.net](mailto:director.gankeshet@verizon.net) and/or just drop one by.

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(978) 544-2197

[www.schwartzorthodontics.com](http://www.schwartzorthodontics.com)

3154953

TEEN SCENE

CBI teens now have a way to stay connected on-line and find out about CBI teen events: their very own Facebook page.

Tell your teen to search for "CBI Northampton Teens" the next time they're on facebook and to click "like" when they do.

They should be able to upload their own photos there as well, and we'll use the page as a way of getting the word out about teen events. And parents and other adults can "like" it too!



**CHALLAH  
COVERS &  
BEESWAX  
CANDLES FOR  
SHABBAT:  
A WORKSHOP  
FOR FAMILIES**

Challah Covers and Beeswax Candles for Shabbat - A Workshop for parents and their children! *with Lindsay Fogg-Willits and Amy Meltzer!!*

Come explore your creativity in this fun workshop designed for parents and their children (ages 5+) to learn about Jewish themes while making art together!

Sunday, January 23; 1-3pm; \$25 for a parent and child pair, and \$10 for any additional family member. Pre-registration is required by Wednesday, January 19th. Held at Art Always, 221 Pine Street Studio #314, Florence, MA. For more info, call (413) 584-3050 or visit [www.art-always.com](http://www.art-always.com)

*Supported in part by a grant from the Harold Grinspoon Foundation.*

**JCC MACCABI  
GAMES FOR  
TEENS!!**

Attention Teens! We've Got Game! And you need to Get IN the Game! Register now at the Springfield JCC to participate in the JCC Maccabi Games hosted here in Springfield August 14 - 19. Team Springfield seeks all interested Jewish teens ages 12-16 as of July 31, 2011. Team sports for ages 13-16 will have tryouts for boys' basketball and soccer and girls' basketball, soccer and volleyball. Individual sport choices for ages 12-16 are: Tennis, Table Tennis, Golf, Bowling, Swimming, Track and Field or, a special for the host community, Star Reporter where you can be a roving reporter keeping people around the world up to date on the Games! This is a once in a lifetime chance to be a host community participant. JCC Maccabi Games at a glance: Olympic-style Opening Ceremonies at the MA Mutual Civic Center, daily competition, hang time activities, meaningful community service projects and meeting over 850 Jewish teens from around the US and the world. Get Game and Contact Amy Kimball (Team Springfield Delegation Head) for more info at [akimball@springfieldjcc.org](mailto:akimball@springfieldjcc.org) or at (413) 739-4715 ext 322. And, tell your parents to sign up as a Host Family or a Volunteer!

**FUN FOR PRESCHOOLERS & THEIR FAMILIES!**

The PJ Library invites preschoolers (2-4 years) and their parents/caregivers to join friends for monthly fun with Jewish-themed stories, music, movement, puppetry, and art. The 2010-2011 schedule is Fridays, 1-2pm, January 7, and February 4.

Friends are welcome to come early and bring a vegetarian brown bag lunch. They can eat together before the program and stay after for Kabbalat Shabbat with LGA students.

The program is free and takes place at Lander-Grinspoon Academy, 257 Prospect Street, N'ton. For info about the program call Marla at 584-6622, x117.

The PJ Library ([www.pjlibrary.org](http://www.pjlibrary.org)) is a program of the Harold Grinspoon Foundation in partnership with the Jewish Federation of Western Massachusetts.



## FROM THE CBI BOARD:

Our Online  
Congregational Survey  
is almost ready!!  
We want to hear  
from you!!

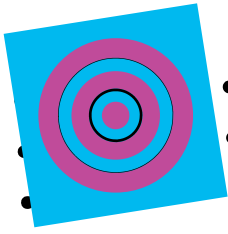
*Our online congregational survey will be emailed to each CBI family in the next few weeks. We want to know what you think!*

- *How are things going for you at CBI?*
- *What works for you currently at CBI?*
- *How does CBI need to change for you to become a more active participant in our community?*

*Please take 15 minutes or so to fill out the survey.  
Let your voice be heard.*

*Thank you in advance from the Board of Directors!*

Announcement



Mak'hela The Jewish Chorus  
of Western Massachusetts  
מקהלה

## Mak'hela at CBI

JOIN US FOR A FRIDAY EVENING SHABBAT SERVICE EXPANDED BY  
THE MUSICAL EXPLORATIONS OF MAK'HELA, LED BY KAYLA WERLIN.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 28, 2011 SERVICE @ 7:00 PM  
ONEG AT 8:00 PM

THIS SERVICE WILL COMBINE THE SINGING AND MEDITATIONS OF  
KABBALAT SHABBAT WITH THE REPERTOIRE OF MAK'HELA THAT SPANS  
THE JEWISH WORLD FROM EASTERN EUROPE, TO ISRAEL, TO AFRICA.

### PART OF THE JUDAISM AND THE CREATIVE MIND SERIES

MAK'HELA whose name means "chorus" in Hebrew, is a Jewish choral group dedicated to performing works from all facets of the Jewish world. Founded in 2003, the 50-voice chorus has performed in many New England venues. The chorus plays an educational role in promoting Jewish music of all types and eras, as well as Jewish values, building sacred bridges to understanding and respect, using the most universal of languages: music. Director Kayla Werlin is an accomplished conductor and soloist, and choral music teacher at Longmeadow High School. Mak'hela is accompanied by Jamie Goodnow.



**Bikkur Cholim** is the Jewish tradition of providing comfort and support to people who are ill, homebound, isolated and/or otherwise in distress. Opportunities available to make short monthly visits to Jewish patients at Cooley Dickinson Hospital or to CBI Seniors who would welcome a short visit.

Please contact: Nisa Zalta, nzalta@gmail.com (413) 584-3842

Our **Caring Communities Committee** is an effort to share our gifts of support, comfort and celebration with each other. The mission of this committee is to oversee and provide support for the committees which attend to synagogue members in times of need. These include but are not limited to Bikkur Holim, Mitzvot for Moms, Meals, Domestic Violence Task Force, and ad hoc support groups. The Co-Chairs of this Committee are Carol Jolly, jollys2@verizon.net (413) 296-4254 and Tamar Fields, columbusgang@verizon.net (413) 584-3084.

The **Chevra Kadisha**, or holy burial society, prepares deceased members for burial according to the ancient customs of Jewish tradition. Following the teaching of the Talmud (Tractate Shabbat 127a), the work of the Chevra Kadisha is considered among the greatest acts of kindness, as it is done only out of kavod (respect) for the deceased. The Chevra Kadisha is ready to respond at a moment's notice, and will travel to any of the funeral homes in our area. Please contact: Co-chairs Cleo Gorman, (413) 584-4497 or Edward Allen, ejstonebrook@aol.com, (413) 575-2868.

The **Darfur Action Group** works to educate both ourselves and others about the continuing and tragic events in Darfur and the need for response and assistance. Efforts include fundraising, weekly vigils, community education campaigns, and lobbying for divestment. Please contact: Henry Rosenberg, hwr5@comcast.net

The **Domestic Violence Taskforce** meets monthly to collaborate on ways to inform and educate about domestic violence within the Jewish Community. Efforts have included arranging DV training for CBI Teaching Staff, speaking to the congregation on Shabbat, providing information about the signs of domestic violence and where to find support, and maintaining the DV shelves in the CBI Library.

Please contact: Ruth Katzner, (413) 549-5410 rkatzner@gmail.com

The **Education Committee** works closely with the Rabbi and the Education Director to facilitate excellent educational programming for children and families, including Shabbat and Holiday programs, Family Education, and the Religious School. The committee meets monthly; new members welcome!

Please contact: Shelley Schieffelin, shschief@comcast.net or Lisa Barondes, lbarondes@yahoo.com

The **Endowment and Legacy Committee** is responsible for investing the CBI Endowment, apportioning the Endowment into sub-funds as necessary, and maintaining relevant documentation and records for review as directed by the CBI Board. Please contact: David Cohen, davidc1@fastmail.fm

The **Eretz Yisrael Committee** was set up to seek ways to support Israel at the time of the Second Intifada. It has evolved into a forum for members of the congregation who define their passionate support of Israel in vastly different ways. In the committee we strive to be able to disagree without being disagreeable. We read, we discuss, we sponsor speakers, and we seek to play an educational role for ourselves and the congregation.

Please contact: Michael Perlman, mikep10550@aol.com or Henry Rosenberg, hwr5@comcast.net

The **Financial Oversight Committee** (FOC) develops CBI's annual operating budgets for review and approval by the Board, and oversees the financial health of the synagogue. FOC also reviews and monitors CBI's financial statements to ensure that revenue and expenses are on track; makes budget and operations adjustments during the year as needed; establishes dues and tuition fees; monitors CBI's various funds; allocates funds for capital expenditures; develops policies and recommendations toward sound financial and business practices. We welcome members who have a basic understanding of financial statements and who understand that a non-profit organization like CBI must still be run like a business. If we don't stay on sound financial footing, we cannot pay our staff, maintain our building, provide religious services, or maintain the high quality of our programs. FOC meets monthly, except during the summer.

Please contact: Carol Katz, (413) 727-8707 b\_c\_katz@comcast.net

The **Fundraising Committee** is responsible for raising money to balance the CBI budget. CBI Members may contribute throughout the year in various ways including the High Holiday Appeal, the Annual Fund of unrestricted gifts, scrip, auctions, recognition dinners, special appeals, and more. We have a very large and important fundraising event this spring that includes a tribute & ad journal and a social gathering. We need all sorts of help! Please contact: Jane Trigere (413) 665-0548 jane@trigere.com

The **Governance Committee** reviews the CBI By-Laws and recommends desirable changes, maintains a record of Congregation 'policies and procedures', and develops any transition procedures which might be necessary with respect to numbers and terms of Officers and at-Large Directors.

Please contact: Hanneli Greenwald, hg@childtrauma.com

The **Hevrei Mitzvot** is the CBI Men's Club that meets monthly to daven, share breakfast and conversation, hear speakers and work on acts of gemillut chasadim in the community. Please contact: Ken Schoen (413) 665-0548

The **Committee for Jewish Living** plans FUN activities for holiday observance as well as Shabbat dinners and evening cocktail parties, and other ways in which congregants can get together and enjoy each other's company.

Please contact: Susan Mosler, moslers@comcast.net

Members of the **Kiddush Committee** meet monthly on a Thursday evening to prepare Kiddush for the next Saturday. We enjoy good food, good music, and very good cheer as we put together our community Shabbos meal. Please contact: Kiddush Queen Veronica Darmon, (413) 586-8737

The **Landscape Committee** works to improve the aesthetics of the congregation's grounds, oversees our organic landcare program, and raises funds for planting new trees, shrubs, flowers, and for the design and building of new hardscape. The next stage of our work, pending funding from the community, is the implementation of a long-delayed landscape design plan that would significantly improve the look and feel of our backyard - the play area between CBI and Lander-Grinspoon Academy. Volunteers are needed to help design and run fundraising projects that will involve broad segments of the community, including pre-school and religious school students, their parents and grandparents. Please contact:

Mark Brumberg, markbrumberg@comcast.net

The **L'Dor V'Dor Legacy Committee** promotes planned giving to CBI to ensure a healthy synagogue for generations to come. The Committee encourages and works with CBI members to make CBI a beneficiary in their wills, IRA's, 401k's, life insurance policies or other instruments.

Please contact: Dorothy Nemetz, djnemetz@aol.com

The **CBI Library Committee** is happy to welcome any volunteers who love books and want to help maintain and improve the Library. Please contact: Nancy Felton (413) 584-1299

The **Membership Committee** focuses on warmly welcoming and encouraging new synagogue members. We help to connect new members with volunteer opportunities and activities that interest them as well as hold events geared toward outreach and enveloping new members into the community.

Please contact: Lauren Weinsier, (413) 341-3233

The **Northampton Cot Shelter** group is committed to preparing and serving dinner to guests at the Northampton Cot Shelter on the fourth Wednesday of each month from November through April.

Please contact: Peggy Besht, pbesht@comcast.net

The **Personnel Committee** is charged with creating and implementing policies with respect to our employees. In addition to conducting regular reviews of staff performance the committee is a conduit between the staff and the community.

Please contact: Jeff Caplan, caplanjeff@comcast.net

The **Ritual Committee** ensures, along with the Rabbi, that services, rituals, and other CBI activities are conducted in conformance with established Conservative Jewish traditions.

Please contact: Amelia Ender, ameliaender@yahoo.com

**Sisterhood** is a vibrant and diverse group of group of Jewish women of all ages who treasure community. Sisterhood activities offer opportunities for personal growth, social networking and community service including brunches, evening programs, spiritual renewal days, and our annual Sisterhood Shabbat.

Please contact: Joan Schaffer, joanjrs@comcast.net

CBI's **Valley Jewish Seniors** group meets the third Wednesday of the month at 12:30 in the CBI library to share a wonderful meal together and good conversation and hear an interesting speaker.

Please contact: Ken Schoen (413) 665-0548

# 22 MINUTES

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## CBI Board Meeting Minutes, November 18, 2010

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Minutes of Board Meeting 11/18/2010

Attendance: Hanneli Greenwald, Gillian Kendall, Lois Dubin, Henry Simkin, Jeff Caplan, Amy Wolpin, Lou davis, Jane Trigere, Bruce Finke, Janet Chevan, Lauren Weinsier, Barry Federman, Ellen Kaufman

Guests: Rabbi Rachel Rembrandt. Deng Skei, Rabbi Justin David

The Board sends its condolences to Dorothy Nemetz and her family for the recent loss of her mother.

Call to order 7:40

Jane Trigere gave an impromptu d'var torah.

Announcements:

03. Changes in Board Officers: Ellen Kaufman announced that Erin Cooper has resigned as Secretary of the Board so that she can devote more time to issues related to the building. She will remain a member of the Board of Directors. The Executive Committee has spoken with Daniel Mason about the position and he has expressed his willingness to serve. Jeff Caplan made the motion that the Board select Dan Mason as Secretary to replace the vacancy in the Board officer position. Lois Dubin seconded the motion; and the motion passed by a show of hands.

04 Review of minutes:

corrections: Janet Chevan was not at the meeting. Barry Federman was in attendance. p.3 item 3.12 **David Cohen** made the motion to postpone the One Israel Fund speaker, not Jeff Kaplan. The minutes were accepted with revisions.

The Board expressed its appreciation to Erin Cooper for her service as Board Secretary and for introducing a new format for the minutes.

05. Executive Director's Report:

New members applications for Diane Weiser, Benjamin, Molly and Jed (Single parent family), Andrea Fox and Zachary (Single parent family) and Elizabeth Pryor & Jerry Stordeur, Lilli and Henry (Family) were approved by a show of hands

Resignations of David Marks, Elaine & Dick Parmet and David Maisey were announced. The Membership Committee will do exit interviews of families who are resigning.

The names of new and resigned members are included in the Director's Report and will be included in the minutes of the December 2010 Board Meeting.

06. Education Director's Report:

Rabbi Rachel Rembrandt presented a report. The enrollment continues to increase with 56 students which is one more than last year. In the 8th Grad (Chet) here are 10 enrollees, which is also higher than last year. She reports that the staff is "wonderful". There have been many positive reports from parents. A focus group with parents was held to review the religious school's vision for the future. Perennial challenges that remain: - inadequate volunteers to help support programs

-are there too many programs? The teachers want fewer. She's concerned about burning out the parents. If there are too many special programs, are they still special?

07. Old Business

Gan Keshet MOU Amendments:

David Cohen presented two amendments to the governance documents. The first motion was in two parts.

Motion 1a: To change the Memorandum of Understanding to read

The voting members of the Governing Committee shall be: the Rabbi of CBI or his/her designee (ex officio), the Head of School of LGA or his/her designee (ex officio), four parents of children in the Preschool, and five members at large who are not parents of children in the Preschool.

# 23 MINUTES

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On behalf of the Joint Preschool Committee, David Cohen made the motion to accept the amendment and it was unanimously approved by a show of hands.

Motion 1b: (as per motions) A motion to allow the preschool director to make hiring and firing decisions without the Governing committee's approval. On behalf of the Joint Preschool Committee, David Cohen made the motion to accept the amendment and it was unanimously approved by a show of hands.

Motion 2: On behalf of the Joint Preschool Committee, David Cohen moved that Wendy Stein be hired as the Gan Keshet Director for the 2011-2011 school year. The motion was approved by a show of hands (unanimous with one abstention)

## 08 Ad Hoc Committees, Appointments, and Vacancies

The House and Properties Committee still does not have a Chair. A suggestion was made that Stephen Wurmbrand be approached. (After the meeting, Barry Federman agreed to assume the position of Chair of House and Properties).

Nominating Committee: Hannali Greenwald has been appointed Chair. A co-chair will also be sought.

Dues and Assessment Committee: new Chair is Jane Kaufman

### Ad Hoc Committees:

President Ellen Kaufman has created an ad hoc **Caring Communities Committee** to actualize the rabbi's vision of a chesed community. The mission of this committee shall be *to oversee and provide support for the committees which attend to synagogue members in times of need. These include but are not limited to Bikkur Holim, Mitzvot for Moms, Meals, Domestic Violence Task Force, and ad hoc support groups.* The Co-Chairs of this Committee are Carol Jolly and Tamar Fields. Bruce Finke has agreed to serve in an advisory capacity.

The Aesthetics Committee has been renamed the **Building and Aesthetics Committee** and Sheron Rupp has been appointed Chair.

Other Old Business: The Congregation survey is done! Lou Davis will be emailing it shortly to Board Members for review, then to the congregation.

### New Business:

#### 09 Synagogue Interim Planning

Nanci Martine, our former administrative assistant, has been promoted to Acting Synagogue Administrator. The Personnel Committee has been charged with making an appropriate increase in her compensation.

Julie Robbins, who has acted as a temporary administrative assistant, will be given more hours to fill that role. Some functions previously performed by the CBI director will be taken on by volunteers. These include:  
-membership applications and approvals (by the Membership Committee-Lauren Weinsier Chair, and the Rabbi)  
-guidance with funerals by the Chevra Kedisha Committee-Cleo Gorman and Edward Allen co-chairs  
-abatements by the Dues and Assessment Committee (Jane Kaufman Chair)  
-guidance for b'nai mitzvah families by a newly formed B'nai Mitzvah Mentors Committee (since the Board meeting, Amy Mitrani agreed to be Chair)

#### Director Search

Ellen Kaufman has appointed an Ad Hoc Director Search Committee consisting of Larry Hott, Chair, John Todd, Rabbi David, Lauren Weinsier, Ellen Kaufman. David Cohen requested that the Search Committee report back to the Board what their search strategy will be. Jane Trigere suggested that another member (Since the Board meeting, Susan Sprung was added to the Search Committee).

#### Abatement Policy

-The Abatement Policy that was revised in 2008 requires immediate revision as it calls for the Synagogue Director to play a central role in granting abatements. A motion was made by Jeff Caplan to change all references to *CBI Director* in the policy to *Chair of Dues and Assessments*. David Cohen seconded the motion.

This passed by a show of hands.

-The Abatement Policy as revised in 2008 has not been followed in the following two respects:

1. The Dues and Assessment committee has not been granting final approval and
2. No form guiding the abatement process was developed.

President Ellen Kaufman appointed an ad hoc Abatement Policy Review Committee consisting of Jane Kaufman, Barry Federman, David Cooper, Beth Goldstein, and Stan Shapiro to revisit the abatement policy and make recommendations including developing a form to guide the process.

FOC Report by Janet Chevan

44% of dues have been received. 31% of the budget has been spent. Income is down from scrip revenue and down from the Yom Kippur appeal.

33 households owe \$19,000 from the last fiscal year; 18% of households have received abatements; 126 households have paid dues in full; 115 households have made no dues payments.

A motion was made by Janet Chevan that the Chair of Dues and Assessments should contact those members in arrears requesting payment. There was discussion including the reluctance of volunteers to make such calls, the fact that making collections is not part of the charge of the Dues and Assessment Committee in the Bylaws, that in the past Jan Levy made such phone calls. There was no second, and no vote was taken.

Fundraising Committee Report by Jane Trigere

Other members of the fundraising committee are Maxine Stein, Julie Robbins, Randi Klein, Norbert Goldfield, Jeff Caplan, and Bruce Bromberg Seltzer.

The group had a very positive first meeting.

**Executive Session** 8:40-9:00

At 9:00 the meeting was adjourned.

## BECOME INVOLVED: NORTHAMPTON COT SHELTER

Social Action is an important and integral cornerstone upon which Judaism stands. There are homeless families and individuals in Northampton and surrounding communities. Each year, from November through April, CBI is responsible for one meal a month at the local homeless shelter— The Cot Shelter.

WE NEED VOLUNTEERS to cook part of a meal for 25 guests of The Cot Shelter.

We also need to help set up, serve and clean-up for each meal.

WHEN: Fourth Wednesday of each month, November-April

WHERE: The Cot Shelter, 40 Center Street, Northampton

TIME: 5:45-7:15 pm

Food needed for each meal: (You can pick one or more)

Cheese & Crackers	Whole wheat bread (2 loaves)
Juice (2 gallons)	Milk (1 gallon)
Vegetable dishes (2)	Main Dish of chicken or meat
Salad	Potatoes
Fruit	Dessert

To volunteer your time or help with a food donation, please contact Peggy Besht at [pbsht@comcast.net](mailto:pbsht@comcast.net).  
Thank You!!

**ANNUAL FUND**

James Katz & Geri Kleinman  
Sangita Patel  
Virginia Schulman

In honor of Toni Schachter's  
birthday from R Ida Schachter

In honor and in memory of my  
great uncles, Earl, Carl & Ray-  
mond Lawton, farmers of Wil-  
liamsburg and Mr. Isreal August  
(Izzy), cattle dealer. From  
Amanada Emerson

To Al Chevan, Happy Birthday.  
From Barry & Julie Federman

**BIKKUR HOLM FUND**

In memory of Tara Michelle  
Katzner. From Ruth and Don  
Katzner

**DECEMBER APPEAL**

Henry Simkin & Maxine Stein  
Leslie Fraidstern  
Ronald Ackerman & Cleo Gor-  
man  
Joel Feldman & Pamela  
Schwartz  
Alan Berkenwald, MD  
Monroe & Joan Rabin  
Henry Hasenbush & Corrie  
Trattner  
Stephen Sewell Dashef, MD &  
Carolyn Dashef  
Jan Kackman  
Bruce Goldstein, MD  
Sue Kurian Flute Repair & Srvs.  
Marilyn & Michael Levine  
Ricky & Hanneli Greenwald  
Edward & Barbara Levine  
Louis & Hilda Greenbaum  
Nancy August  
William Newman  
David Kaufman  
Ralph Levy, Jr.  
Ellen Kaufman  
Julie Robbins

Jeff & Ann Caplan  
Mark Brumberg & Donna Lilborn  
Joseph Goldstein

**EDUCATION FUND**

To Barbara & David Rothenberg,  
our condolences on the loss of  
your mother. From James  
Sagalyn & Jane Herzenberg

**THE ISRAEL FUND**

In loving memory of my mother,  
Gita Wisgardisky. From Henia  
Lewin

With gratitude to Jan Levy.  
From Henia Lewin

**KOL NIDRE APPEAL**

Alan Vogel & Beth Fischer  
David & Iris Berkman  
Maxine Stein & Henry Simkin

**KURIAN KIDDUSH FUND**

Geri Kleinman & James Katz  
Robert Shycon & Linda Dell  
Serene Rubin  
Lawrence Wineman

To Dorothy Nemetz, our  
condolences on the loss of your  
mother. From James Sagalyn &  
Jane Herzenberg.

To Dorothy Nemetz, in memory  
of your mom. With love from  
Maxine Stein & Henry Simkin.

To Iris Berkman in memory of  
your dear sister-in-law. From  
Maxine Stein

To John Joelson with apprecia-  
tion for your compassion and  
wisdom. From Maxine Stein

To Hanneli de Vries & Ricky  
Greenwald, Happy Birthday  
from your fan club. From  
Maxine Stein & Henry Simkin

To Katie Hicks with condolences  
on the loss of your mother.  
With love from Ellen Kaufman

**LEONARD & BERNICE ALBERTS  
PRESCHOOL SCHOLARSHIP  
FUND**

In honor of the teaching staff of  
Gan Keshet. From Ilse Stern

**PULPIT FUND**

Thank you for the Aliyah. From  
Gerald & Roberta Goldman

To Ira Bryck, our condolences  
on the loss of your father. From  
Jim Sagalyn & Jane Herzenberg

**RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND**

Lois Dubin & Ben Braude

To Rabbi & Mrs. Justin David in  
honor of Lior's Bar Mitzvah.  
From Esther Budgar

To Ellen Alberts, in memory of  
your dear mother. From Esther  
Budgar

Thank you all at CBI for opening  
up your space to Minyan Lev Ha-  
dash & for all you do to make  
Judaism accessible. From Judi  
Wisch

**SHABBAT CHILD CARE FUND**

In memory of Dr. Burke, a close  
family friend. From Elise &  
Robert Holtzman

**TIKKUM OLAM FUND**

Happy Birthday Tori Schachter!  
From Sarah Peck and John  
Beagan

**VALLEY JEWISH SENIORS**

Geri Kleinman & James Katz

Yahrzeit (Memorial) Plaque

For Arthur Bloomberg from Sanford & Louise Bloomberg

For Carol Florin from Lory Wallfisch

\*\*\*\*\*

*Domestic*

*It*

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 1-413-582-6790 (local resources, referrals, & advocacy at

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*Some signs of partner abuse can involve:*

- controlling behavior
- belittling and degrading

**TUESDAY TEXT STUDY  
With Rabbi Justin David**

Join us weekly, or as often as you can, for informal study of Jewish texts and lively discussion.

Held in the library at CBI every Tuesday. Registration is not required and there is no charge.

Contact Rabbi Justin David for more information at [cbirabbi@verizon.net](mailto:cbirabbi@verizon.net) or call 584-3593 ext. 208

**Thank you to those who helped at the Cot Shelter!**

On November 24<sup>th</sup> CBI's meal at the Cot Shelter was extremely successful. The food was delicious, and the turnout for the volunteer help was the highest in years. I want to apologize to all the people who were turned away.

Starting this year I have initiated a new format for volunteers at the Cot Shelter. It consists of three separate groups. One group will organize incoming food and serve, one group to clean up and the third to interact with the guests at the Cot Shelter. This system provides the opportunity for more people to become involved in social action.

Please volunteer again at the Cot Shelter as there is always a great need for your assistance. For the Thanksgiving meal this year the following people volunteered their time, energy and compassion:

- |                |                    |                     |              |
|----------------|--------------------|---------------------|--------------|
| JoAnne Levin   | Ellen Hirschberg   | Jeff & Judy Stoloff | Amy Meltzer  |
| Bobbie Kaman   | Jane Fleishman     | Anne Kornblatt      | Alison Morse |
| Ann Kornblatt  | Maxine Stein       | Shelley Schieffelin | Bobbie Kamen |
| Blzanbar Black | Alan Berkenwald    | Stephanie Silverman | Randi Klein  |
| Lisa Newman    | Janet & Herb Hodos | Sara Weinberger     | Marta Lev    |
| Sharon Rupp    | Doris Cohen        |                     |              |

**JANUARY 1 / TEVET 25**

Samuel Kudish  
Steven Tabor\*

**JANUARY 2 / TEVET 26**

Louis Freed  
Melvin Steinberg

**JANUARY 3 / TEVET 27**

Leonard Brown  
Helen Jendrzejewski  
Minni Kramer  
Esther Shapiro

**JANUARY 4 / TEVET 28**

Sadie August\*  
Rose Gottesman

**JANUARY 6 / SHEVAT 1**

Charlotte Cohen\*

**JANUARY 7 / SHEVAT 2**

Rabbi Eugene Lipman  
Earl Leo Smargonsky\*

**JANUARY 8 / SHEVAT 3**

Jacob M. Dinnes  
Esther Smargonsky Haberman\*  
Laurence Katz  
Dorothy Raymond\*

**JANUARY 9 / SHEVAT 4**

Lenore Burick  
George I. Cohen  
Fannie Moran\*  
Emma Kaplan Zimmerman

**JANUARY 10 / SHEVAT 5**

Morris Greenbaum  
Mollie Greenberg\*  
Annette Joseph  
Krena Kantrowitz  
Joseph Price

**JANUARY 11 / SHEVAT 6**

Roy Friedman  
Louis A. Levin\*  
Charlotte Mednicoff

**JANUARY 12 / SHEVAT 7**

Laura Elsdon  
Theodore Kates  
Eugene Maisey

Morris Schneider

**JANUARY 13 / SHEVAT 8**

Sidney Harris  
Beatrice Lichtenstein  
Frieda Rettenmund

**JANUARY 14 / SHEVAT 9**

Leo Blau  
Nathan Gutmann  
Harry Koss  
Herman Miller\*

**JANUARY 15 / SHEVAT 10**

Jennie Carlson\*  
Harriett Goldstone  
Fannie Miriam Saklan\*

**JANUARY 16 / SHEVAT 11**

Maurice Bond\*  
Ruth Burke  
Barker Jaffe  
Dr. Julius Kaplan\*

**JANUARY 17 / SHEVAT 12**

Willow Winterfire

**JANUARY 18 / SHEVAT 13**

Mary Donovan  
Aaron Steinberg

**JANUARY 19 / SHEVAT 14**

Bertha J. Grife\*  
Joan Ruth Sadof  
Louis B. Ziff\*

**JANUARY 21 / SHEVAT 16**

Ruth Brumberg  
Nathan Glasser

**JANUARY 22 / SHEVAT 17**

Leo Dembinsky\*  
Beatrice Schwartz

**JANUARY 23 / SHEVAT 18**

Yehoshua Meir Applestein  
Harry S. Gordon  
Carl Schiffman  
Stewart Shapiro

**JANUARY 24 / SHEVAT 19**

Rosalie Wetzler

**JANUARY 25 / SHEVAT 20**

Fred Bernstein  
Mal Gogel  
Melvin Mednicoff

**JANUARY 26 / SHEVAT 21**

Betty Pitchel Koch Cook  
Isidor Weisman\*

**JANUARY 27 / SHEVAT 22**

Maxwell L. Coulter  
Ronda Koss  
Gilad Schamess  
Rose Selesnick  
Joseph Shabman

**JANUARY 28 / SHEVAT 23**

Abe Bauman  
William Fierstein  
Mollie Gold  
Flora Stein

**JANUARY 29 / SHEVAT 24**

Charles Cohen  
Charles Gumpert

**JANUARY 30 / SHEVAT 25**

Milton J. Alberts\*  
Nathan M. Bodner\*  
Rebecca Gordon

**JANUARY 31 / SHEVAT 26**

Edward I. Goldner  
Henry H. Herman\*  
Bertram Horowitz  
Saundra Katz Feinberg\*  
Elsie (Fox) Rubin  
Lenore Stonberg

\* Denotes plaque on Yahrzeit Board

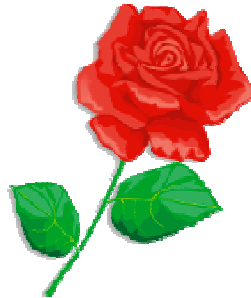
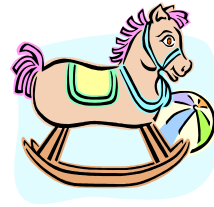
MAZAL TOV!!  
BRI AND MARC MAIER

\*\*\*\*\*

WELCOME!!  
ELLERY (Ella) Kelilah Maier

\*\*\*\*\*

Born Sunday, December 12, 2010 at 7:06 am  
Weighing 6lbs and 15.3oz and 21 inches long!



# Camp Ramah in New England

## Elevate Your Summer!!

Camp Ramah in New England offers an outstanding overnight camp in a dynamic Jewish environment. The rich and varied programs offer campers the opportunity to grow, learn, and develop life-long friendships as they connect to Judaism in a unique way. All of this happens on the beautiful campus of more than 75 acres of prime lakefront land in western Massachusetts. Camp Ramah offers two-week sessions for children currently in grades 2-3 and four or eight week sessions for children in grades 3-10. Ramah New England draws campers from Connecticut, Massachusetts, Maine, New Hampshire, parts of New York, Rhode Island, Vermont, as well as Maryland, Virginia and Washington, DC.

Grants and financial aid: A \$1,000 incentive grant is available to all new campers attending our 4 or 8 week sessions. We are committed to helping find financial aid for all families; please do not allow finances to stop you from thinking about the experience of a lifetime for your child. To learn more, please contact Davey Rosen, Assistant Director, at 781-702-5290 x232, or [DaveyR@CampRamahNE.org](mailto:DaveyR@CampRamahNE.org).



## Center for New Americans

A Community-Based Education and Resource Center for Immigrants and Refugees in Western Massachusetts

### VOLUNTEER TUTORS WANTED

Immigrants in the Pioneer Valley face numerous challenges adjusting to life in the United States. Center for New Americans (CNA) is looking for volunteer tutors to work with adult immigrants who are learning English. Volunteers are needed two hours a week. A six-month commitment and participation in training sessions are required. No experience or foreign language skills is necessary! CNA is a community-based, non-profit, adult basic education program serving immigrants, refugees, and migrants in Amherst, Greenfield and Northampton.

For more information or to register for the next orientation, contact CNA Volunteer Coordinator Peg Thibbitts at 587-0084, [volunteer@cnam.org](mailto:volunteer@cnam.org), or CAN Board Chair Ed Weisman at [ed\\_wiseman@yahoo.com](mailto:ed_wiseman@yahoo.com), 341-3472. Learn more at [www.cnam.org](http://www.cnam.org).



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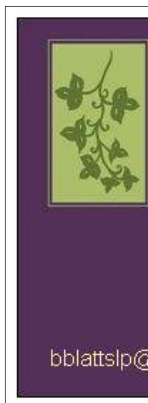
Judi Haskell [cluttersquad@gmail.com](mailto:cluttersquad@gmail.com)  
413.320.8175 [www.cluttersquad.com](http://www.cluttersquad.com)



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Additional info on creative specs & rates are available.

Contact [cbidirector@verizon.net](mailto:cbidirector@verizon.net) or call (413) 584-3593 for more information.

**AESTHETICS FUND**

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

**ANNUAL FUND**

Funds will be used for Synagogue operating, building and programming needs. This fund accepts donations as well as enhanced dues. *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.*

**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 \$5.00. 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.*

**HEVREI MITZVOT FUND**

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

**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.*

**JEWISH LIVING FUND**

Fund provides for programming to celebrate and promote the practice of Judaism. *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**

\$5.00 minimum contribution. Fund assists qualified families with Preschool tuition. *Please send donations to CBI with Alberts 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.*

**MAHZOR LEV SHALEM FUND**

Funds will be used to purchase the new High Holiday Mahzor from the Rabbinical Assembly. Contributions of \$25 for each Mahzor. *Please send donations to CBI with "New Mahzor" in the memo line.*

**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 \$3.00. 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 *Harriet Weinroth, 100 Bassett Brook Dr. Apt 102 Easthampton, MA 01027 (527-3613)*. A card will be mailed for any occasion.

**SUE KURIAN KIDDUSH FUND**

Donations will be used to enhance our Shabbat services with festive Kiddushim. *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.*

**YAHZEIT (MEMORIAL) PLAQUE**

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

קהילת בני ישראל  
Congregation B'nai Israel

253 Prospect St.  
Northampton, MA 01060

**Dated Material- Do Not Delay**