

קהילה בני ישראל Congregation B'nai Israel

November
2011

Kehila

Cheshvan/Kislev
5772



INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

WORDS	
Rabbi David	3
Executive Director	4
President	5
Gillian Kendall	6
Rabbi Nancy Flam	7
Education Director	8
Gan Keshet Notes	9
GAN KESHET OPEN HOUSE	10
COMMUNITY SCHOLARS SERIES	11
SAVE THE DATES	12
CALENDAR	14
SHABBAT FAMILY SERVICES	16
COMMITTEE NEWS	
Jewish Connections	20
MINUTES	21
YAHREZITS & DONATIONS	24

**A Garden of Plenty:
Celebrating Sukkot, Tzedakah & Community at CBI**

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.gankeshet@verizon.net
Building Manager CBI/LGA	Joe Niedzwiecki twobuildings@verizon.net
Kehila Editors/Designers	Brianna Maier maier.bri@gmail.com Nanci Martine bnai.israel@verizon.net
Kiddush Caterer	Sandy Maynard
Custodians CBI/LGA	Jeff Dejordy Mary Medina

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

Aesthetics Committee Katharine Weinstein kweinstein3@gmail.com	Governance Bill Jolly jollys2@verizon.net
Adult Education John Clayton jclayton@english.umass.edu	Hevrei Mitzvot (Men's Club) Ken Schoen schoen@schoenbooks.com
Bikkur Holim Norbert Goldfield nigoldfield@mmm.com	House & Properties Stephan Wurmbrand stephan.wurmbrand@tcsgrp.com
Caring Communities Carol Jolly jollys2@verizon.net Tamara Taitz-Fields columbusgang@verizon.net	Committee for Jewish Connections Simona Pozzetto spozzetto@gmail.com
Cemetery Edward Allen ejstonebrook@aol.com	Kitchen Committee Shelley Steuer ss@noholaw.com
Chevra Kadisha Cleo Gorman 584-4497 Edward Allen 586-7844	L'DOR V'DOR (Planned Giving) Dorothy Nemetz djnemetz@aol.com
Domestic Violence Taskforce Ruth Katzner rkatzner@hotmail.com	Landscape Mark Brumberg markbrumberg@comcast.net
Dues & Assessments Ben Cuperman cbidirector@verizon.net	Library Adele Steinberg 527-6167 Nancy Felton 584-1299
Education Amy Wolpin wolpin.amy@gmail.com Alan Singer alans@fccdc.org	Membership Lisa Newman lisanewman4@hotmail.com Tami Fields columbusgang@verion.net
Endowment Management Bruce Bromberg-Seltzer ravbruce@gmail.com	Nominating Hanneli de Vries hannali@childtrauma.com
Eretz Israel Michael Perlman mikep10550@aol.com Henry Rosenberg hwr5@comcast.net	Personnel Larry Hott hott@florentinefilms.org
Financial Oversight Carol Katz carolckatz@gmail.com	Ritual Amelia Ender ameliaender@yahoo.com
Gan Keshet Governing Comm. Leah Nestlebaum lslivko@hotmail.com	Sisterhood Joan Schaffer joanjrs@comcast.net
	Valley Jewish Seniors Ken Schoen schoen@schoenbooks.com

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

The next KEHILA is the DECEMBER 2011 Issue
FIRM DEADLINE: NOVEMBER 11

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

Rabbi Justin David



Rabbi Justin David

I envision the synagogue as a mishkan, the portable sacred space our ancestors carried on their wanderings in the desert, and with which they invited the Divine Presence to dwell among them. There are many parallels between synagogue and mishkan, but at the heart of the comparison is the importance of bringing forth our sacred gifts. If our ancestors wanted to draw close to their spiritual source, they had an obligation to contribute time and resources to the building of the mishkan. And the Torah also emphasizes how the particular donations of each individual had to be voluntary, calling on each person with a “willing heart” to step forward.

In my experience as a rabbi, the vitality and growth of a congregation depends, more than anything else, upon our willingness to contribute our sacred gifts to the community. A rabbi provides vision and knowledge; a Board and lay leadership offer practical guidance. It is, however, within each of us, in offering our talent, creativity and time, to give a community its soul and spark.

In her piece in this Kehila, Ellen Kaufman has enumerated some of the ways in which CBI members have helped in dramatic ways to shape our community. She has shown how projects as diverse as the CBI garden, our palette of worship experiences, social justice opportunities, Kiddush and honors on the bima all depend upon the passion and commitment of individuals. I would add that there are private ways, too, in which we shape the soul of community - through visiting elders, bringing meals to those recovering from illness, organizing shiva in someone’s home, doing outreach for a tikkun olam project, hosting a salon. Each of these sacred acts only happens when we both draw on our inner sense of imperative and carve out the time necessary for performing such acts.

Each of us, too, I believe, has an inner artist, a creative impulse to see the world around us and engage with it in a way so as to create some kind of welcome change. The scope of that change may be infinitesimal, but that does not diminish the importance of our contribution in any way. In our community, as in the world, we need each of us to spot that creative moment and act on it. We are all drawn to different things. Some of us have a passion for bringing order and organization to a diverse community. Some of us love to create materials and spaces that welcome us with their beauty. We all have the ability to connect, communicate and inspire each other.

In this new year, may we be inspired to share our sacred gifts with community. By doing so, we will bring out the soul of CBI, bring new vitality to our congregation and create rippling circles of connection.

B’shalom, Rabbi Justin David

Ben Cuperman, Executive Director



Ben Cuperman
Exec. Director

The surprising and pleasant aspect of living in a cold climate, I have recently found, is that people keep warm by staying busy. CBI is a very busy place, and offers a full menu of activities to the community: these will keep you out of the cold. As you read this Kehila, I hope you discover a new passion here at Congregation B'nai Israel. Maybe you would like to learn Hebrew, or study Torah or even join a committee. I'm hoping to hear from many of you about your re-energized involvement with CBI.

My first five months here have been very full. I have learned much and am sure that I have only scratched the surface of this diverse and warm community. You might think I would rather be picking up palm fronds in Florida than picking up leaves in Massachusetts, but I am happy to report that, as I write this, I am doing neither. Running the synagogue is infinitely rewarding and keeps me very busy (and away from both palm fronds and autumn leaves). I feel that much has been accomplished in the short time that I have been here.

I also feel that the atmosphere of CBI is one of hope. I sense optimism. There are always challenges, but good professional / lay teamwork can not only overcome the bumps but provide a solid foundation for real growth. This month we have eight new families that have joined CBI. Two of them were past CBI members and have decided to rejoin.

Much of my vision for CBI is forward-looking and involves fundraising as well as providing support for members as they become ever more active in the synagogue. What is your passion? I would be very pleased to hear from you if you want to get more involved, or if you want to share your ideas about fundraising — which is one of *my* passions.

Bianca and I feel welcome and look forward to calling Northampton our home. I already feel warmer thinking about all that CBI is doing for me and what I see for the future of this community. Meanwhile, I look forward to hearing from you. My hope is that many more in the community will join us as we bring our separate visions together in order to build an ever more dynamic Congregation B'nai Israel.

INTERESTED IN SPONSORING A KIDDUSH AT CBI?

Consider sponsoring a Kiddush to honor a simcha, a yahrzeit or "just because!"

Contact Ben Cuperman, Executive Director for more information on how to sponsor a Kiddush
At (413) 584-3592 or email
bnai.israel@verizon.net

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

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

The entire CBI community
welcomes you.

Justin Cammy and Rachel Rubinstein
Stephen and Shirley Colodny
Evie Glickman
Herb and Janet Hodos
Greta Kessler
Zita Lazzarini and Denice Hallstein
Zamir Nestelbaum and Leah Slivko-Nestelbaum
Roberta Pato
Mallory Probert
Joel and Virginia Schulman
Carl Sesar
Julie Steiner

Ellen Kaufman, President

A Season of Harvest: Sharing our Abundance with the Community



Ellen Kaufman
President

Dear Fellow Congregants:

In reviewing some survey results at our first of four Community Meetings last evening, it became clear that we are a diverse community in many ways—what brought us to CBI, how we identify as Jews, our ages and family situations. The common thread, of course, is that we all want to connect with our Jewishness in some way—that’s what makes CBI different from the YMCA or the neighborhood book club. In the words of Steven Cohen, a professor at Hebrew Union College, we come here to “do Jewish.”

It’s clear that, given our diversity, we’re interested in different kinds of experiences in different settings. Those with young children may be drawn to family programming, those without children or with grown children may want more adult programming. Some of us are drawn to Shabbat services and Kiddush. For some of us, just coming to the Kiddush to eat and interact with the community is what we want or need; and that certainly qualifies as ‘doing Jewish.’ All of that is great, but for many of us it’s not enough. We want more from the community.

Oddly, one way to get more from the community is to bring more to the community. What is your passion? What would you like to share with us at CBI? In this issue, we have examples of two congregants, Nancy Flam and Emmett Leader, who have chosen to share their energies and talents with the larger community. Nancy leads a meditation group on Thursday mornings at which she weaves together the weekly parashaht with guidance about how to relate skillfully to thoughts and feelings. Emmett and his family have brought their vision and labor to create a bountiful garden in which we can celebrate and literally bring forth a harvest to share with both the CBI and the wider communities. Debra and David Bromberg Seltzer and their family created a beautiful Kiddush for our community. Ron and Cleo Ackerman are always tending to those of us at CBI in need. There are many more examples, and all describe how gratifying it is for them personally to bring these offerings.

Mahatma Gandhi’s famous exhortation, “Be the change you want to see in the world” has power and wisdom. It’s so easy to say “they should...” But by bringing our own vision, enthusiasm and effort to bear, we can create what we want to see happen. And by sharing our gifts with the community, we strengthen our affection for and connection with the community: a happy paradox.

No one needs to do it alone. If you have an idea of an activity you would like to share, please contact Ben Cuperman. Ben will then direct you to a committee chair or, if that person doesn’t exist, will work with you and the leadership to try to bring your vision to life. Be persistent, bring your friends and family, create your vision and share it with us. Then we can reap the harvest of our own hearts and imaginations, and what a rich harvest that can be!

B’shalom,

Ellen

SHARING YOUR THOUGHTS

*Any questions about the activities or policies of the CBI Board may be addressed to:
cbiboard@verizon.net*

This is a reminder that the personnel committee will always receive input from congregants. Do you have praise? concerns? E-mail Larry Hott at hott@florentinefilms.org.

Bringing A Vision Alive: CBI's Garden

**Gillian Kendall
Board Secretary**

A question: when is a garden more than a garden? An answer: always. The image of the garden of Bereishit, Eden, has dominated Western Civilization for thousands of years. In Eden came the injunction to tend and till nature, and every garden since can serve to remind of our obligations to the natural world. The CBI garden, situated as it is, profoundly speaks to this and other long traditions of Jewish gardening – gardening which, within a few verses of the Torah, quickly morphs into farming practice. Rachel and Amaliah Leader make this connection with the garden's mission statement: "through this community effort we can begin to explore the deeply rooted connection between Judaism and agriculture by working the land in our own back yard." Their mission statement (on the CBI Community Garden Facebook page in full) has guided the production of this garden "intended to be a place of work and a place of rest."

When I spoke with Emmett Leader, he pointed out the deep resonances the CBI garden has with Jewish culture and history: he notes that this garden has invaluable lessons to tell about our Jewish heritage; it can serve as a classroom outside of a classroom -- a place for experiential learning, a place of shared cross-generational experience. Alan Singer sent me a note that expands on this theme of gardening and Judaic practices. He writes that "For me, having a communal garden at CBI opens up the potential for a whole new avenue of connecting to the Jewish Annual Holiday Cycle here at CBI. The shalosh regalim (Pesach, Shavout and Sukkot) were originally agrarian-based holidays and many of the symbols for these holidays involve both elements of nature and the natural cycle." Many of our holidays are not linear – many of them participate in this kind of cyclical time, which helps lift us away from our day-to-day modern lives. Lulav. Etrog. Counting the Omer. Our agrarian roots permeate our culture, even if we, perhaps, don't always remember why.

In the Torah, people (famously) glean. It is a commandment to allow them to do so. In that sense, gardening and farming are deeply tied to acts of Tzedakah, which is actively practiced at CBI, where the garden has given over 200 pounds of food to the Survival Center (that's a lot of garden burgers). As Emmett Leader puts it, the act of growing food and donating it is an experience different from the typical way in which food gets to the needy. Or to those of us who are not needy. We tend to buy food fresh off the shelf. We make reservations.

When I visited Rabbi Justin David to ask his for his thoughts about the garden, he immediately, and enthusiastically, pointed to ways in which CBI's garden performs work critical to spiritual well-being for both the individual and the community. He notes that "the garden is important because of the times we live in, and the awareness people have of the fragility of the earth. The garden acts as a symbol of the renewal we need to work for. And the garden is also a personal, spiritual, moral statement. In a world where we do harm, the garden acts as a potent reminder that we can also heal." As Randi Klein notes, creating the garden creates "that repair [that] is of the earth itself as we reclaim former DPW land and turn it into an organic garden – and the garden also heals the world in its ability to create new bonds between community members of all generations, to provide beautiful, meditative space that reconnects us to nature and our ancient Jewish agrarian roots."

Finally (although there remains much more that could be said), Rabbi David notes that "it's important to pay attention to the energy that surrounds the garden and the community. We thrive when people come together in creative ways and, with that energy, renew the community."

And there are many in the community to thank, many who brought passion and vision to the garden project. In particular, special thanks go to Emmett, Rachel and Amaliah Leader for their inspiration and motivation. Along with those three, Becky Schachter, Jonah Klein-Barton, Randi Klein and Scott Barton were a core group of gardeners (these two families brought the garden to life). Thanks, too, to Pamela Schwartz, Joel Feldman and Alan Singer, who helped bring the garden to life. There is a long list of those who have been involved: families, teenagers, Hebrew School children, high school graduates, individuals dropping by to help, Board members, those who donated money, the many who have helped with words of gratitude and encouragement, Rabbi Nancy Flam, Rabbi Justin David -- it goes on and on. And on. With the support of the community, the garden can become part of the cycle of life at CBI.

So visit the garden. Give time. Give money. Plant. Weed. Harvest.



A Special Message from Rabbi Nancy Flam



Rabbi Nancy
Flam

Many people wonder how we might better create truly meaningful Jewish community for ourselves. The answer is hidden in the question. We create it!

The single hardest part is learning how to turn our assumptional kaleidoscope a few degrees so the pieces make a new pattern.

Do you remember Ellen Kaufman's words on *Kol Nidrei* when she spoke about the problem of regarding the synagogue from a consumer perspective? When we do so, ask ourselves about the "goods" we are receiving, whether or not the dues are "worth it" in terms of what we are getting for our money, whether our investment provides enough "pay back," etc. This attitude will not lead to the building of a vital, empowered, engaged spiritual community because this attitude is flawed from the outset. So I suggest we shift the kaleido-

scope a few degrees to make a new picture. When we join a synagogue, we need to ask ourselves what our greatest gifts are to bring to the community and how our deepest passions can contribute to building the web of human connections and activities we know as "synagogue."

The Torah provides us with a model. When the Israelites are about to build the *Mishkan* (portable sanctuary) in the desert, God says to Moses, "Tell the Israelite people to bring Me gifts; you shall accept gifts for Me from every person whose heart so moves him" (Exodus 25: 1 - 3). The metals, fabrics, stones, spices and oils that are needed are then named, at which point God says, "And let them make me a sanctuary that I may dwell among them." The people are to see what their hearts move them to bring; and this is the stuff out of which the *Mishkan* gets built.

In many successful Christian communities in America, new church members are asked to identify their own "ministry" to bring to the church. We in the Jewish community don't speak in the language of ministry, but the Torah does speak of inviting our hearts to move us to build the structures where sacred meeting can occur. Where does our own heart move us to bring our person, talents, passions and gifts? My sense is that, although many people are already giving their gifts through board and committee work and other voluntary offerings, *there is much, much more that we can bring.*

Let me provide you with a few examples. As you know, it was because of the Leader family's passion for gardening and sustainability that the new community garden was created, providing a sacred meeting place for meals, gatherings and celebrations. Because I am a devoted practitioner and teacher of silent meditation and prayer, some years ago I (along with Rabbi Sheila Weinberg) decided to offer a regular, weekly gathering for silent worship, inspired by the parashah or season of the Jewish year. I dare say that this offering, too, creates a space for sacred meeting - with ourselves, with God, and with each other. I heard about a woman in another congregation who wasn't particularly into Jewish prayer or study, but loved knitting. She invited any congregant interested in knitting to join her one night a week at the synagogue. They donate their mittens, hats and gloves to the local shelters to keep people warm in the winter. I suggest that she had created another place for sacred meeting.

And so I ask: What is your passion? What do you love? How do you like to connect with people? What are your gifts? Think outside the box. And then consider some way you can bring your passion and gift to the synagogue and invite other people to join you. It's the best way I know of to make a place for sacred meeting.

I am certain that if we all do so, we'll have the "good *tsuras*" of collecting, just as the Israelites did when Moses asked them to give and create from their hearts, an abundance even greater than we can at first figure out to use. *Ken yehiratzon!*

From the Education Director

Honey and very sweet food enlighten the eyes of man. (Yoma 83b)



Rabbi Charni Flame Selch
Interim Education Director

I have become the lollipop lady.

For the past few years, I have been giving caramel apple lollipops to kids on the first day of school. Besides the idea that all learning, especially Jewish learning, should start with sweetness, the caramel apple flavor seemed to fit right in with the holiday flavors. We eat apples and honey, why not apples and caramel?

And then I learned of the wonderful CBI tradition on Simchat Torah of giving lollipops to the students starting their Jewish education. We had a whole gaggle of kiddles on the bimah, covered by a large talit, being blessed by Rabbi David as they formally began their lifelong learning. And yet I realized that, for many of the CBI community, the only contact they have had with me is through a lollipop.

Once the Simchat Torah dancing and the hakafot began, I was approached by child after child to request a lollipop. And, while I apologized to several parents who (I hope) jokingly said they would send their dental bills to the synagogue, I was able to meet and talk with all the children in the room. I had the opportunity to meet younger siblings of our current school children and to meet many of the LGA and the Gan Keshet students.

I even made some friends. One little girl gave me her half eaten apple to hold while she danced. She came back to nibble whenever she wanted (of course, she wouldn't give me her lollipop to hold; she hung on tightly to that). One little boy sat next to me for a long while and generously gave me his sticker for my sweater. One older boy was curious about the stickers, and three older girls wanted all their stickers to match. Obviously, the lollipops served as a sweet entry point to conversation.

Besides Shabbat, there are no more Jewish holidays for almost two months. We have started our year with this amazing assortment of holy days. Rosh Hashanah which jump-starts the spiritual journey, Yom Kippur in which we dig deep inside ourselves to find a way to better connect our lives to God, and Sukkot, which reminds us of the fragility of life, are all followed by Simchat Torah which seems to incorporate all the swirling emotions of the past few weeks.

As we continue the school year, the students are excitedly settling into the regular schedule of learning. The new self-paced Hebrew program is working well and each of the classes has an art projects and musical enrichment under way.

I had one more wonderful conversation at Simchat Torah because of the lollipops. One girl wanted to look at several of them to find the "prettiest swirls." She looked for the colors and for the patterns and finally chose a beautiful one. I think we can all learn from her approach.

The lollipops lasted through the evening. The memory of the sweetness will last longer.

The holidays are over but their sweetness will last for awhile.

Gan Keshet Notes

IMAGINE



Wendy Stein
Preschool Director,
Gan Keshet

The other day I overheard a conversation a parent had with her daughter at pick up. When she arrived her daughter enthusiastically announced that today they had eaten in the sukkah. Her mom asked, "What is a sukkah?" And the girl replied, "A sukkah is like a tent, and you can sleep outside in it with your sleeping bags and pillow, and you can EAT MARSHMELLOWS IN IT!"

Her quote reminded me of one I recently read. *One of the virtues of being young is you don't let the facts get in the way of your imagination.* Sam Levenson

And Gan Keshet is engaging in an imaginative process of visualizing what a new playground/outdoor education center would look like. As we do with our classrooms, we find ourselves asking the question, how do we set up the environment to support growth?

Last year we met with Ginny Sullivan who you may remember is a designer and early childhood educator. She is a co-founder of "Learning by the Yard", a design firm that engages children and adults in site analysis, design and environmental education.

This year on Sunday, October 16th, the staff and I attended a professional development workshop at the Eric Carle Museum. The topic was "Bridging Art with Nature." As part of this workshop we heard quotes from the book, *Last Child in the Woods: Saving Our Children From Nature-Deficit Disorder* by Richard Louv. Louv states that it has been found that, on average, children spend 6 hours/day viewing electronic devices. They also found that children (because of access to information) can tell us a lot about other habitats i.e., what it is like in a jungle – but they know very little about their own back yards.

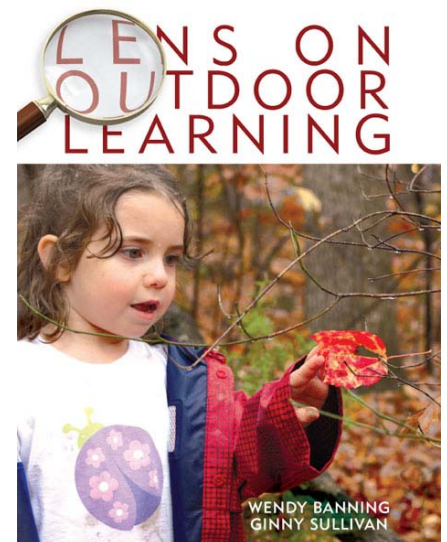
In an age when a complex web of circumstances/pressures seems to be keeping our children indoors, more than ever we believe that it is important as educators to provide our children with structured and unstructured outdoor learning opportunities.

If you are inspired (and we hope you are) and are interested in assisting with the design/development of a playscape/education center for our community, PLEASE SHARE YOUR ENTHUSIASM WITH US. Know, too, that there are some wonderful examples of others doing the same – so get your imagination and creative juices flowing and contact us at:

director.gankeshet@verizon.net

L'hitrahot,

Wendy & Staff





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

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

Come visit and meet our experienced staff.
Explore our classrooms with your child.

**Open House for Prospective Families:
Sunday, December 11, 2:00-3:30 pm
(Snow Date: Sunday, December 18th)**

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**



CBI Community Scholars Series



Thinking About God- Radical Frontiers

~An Invitation from Rabbi David~

I am tremendously excited about our 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 approach through this series are radical in two senses: that they unearth our assumptions of what Judaism teaches and believes about God, and 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, NOVEMBER 18

**FOLLOWING KABBALAT SHABBAT SERVICE AND ONEG AT 7:00 PM
AARON LANSKY**

**Religion, Secularism and Other Extreme Forms of
Modern Jewish Identity**

Ever since the Enlightenment, Jews have been trying to figure out how to live as Jews in a modern world. Some in America took what had been a vast, multifaceted civilization and recast it as a religious denomination, divorced from culture. Others did the opposite: they rejected religion and tried to fashion a secular identity rooted in culture alone. This talk will look at the limitations and sometimes comical excesses of both approaches, and ask whether it might finally be possible to split the difference and create a more holistic modern Jewish identity.

Aaron Lansky is the founder and president of the Yiddish Book Center and the author of *Outwitting History: The Adventures of a Man Who Rescued a Million Yiddish Books*. He lectures widely and is the recipient of numerous awards and recognitions, including a "genius grant" from the MacArthur Foundation.

FOR RESERVATIONS AND MORE INFORMATION:

Please contact the CBI office at bnai.israel@verizon.net or call (413) 584-3593.

Hevrei Mitzvot

Men's Club

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

**SUNDAY NOVEMBER 20
AT 9:45AM AT LGA**
(preceded by intense davening at CBI beginning at 9:15 am)

As usual, we will enjoy a superb breakfast and a discussion about further chesed activity and about what prayer means to us. This is an opportunity to make new friends, discuss tzedakah activities and build our community.

Shalom,
Kaufmann Schoen,
mocher sefarim



Valley Jewish Seniors

The next meeting of Valley Jewish Seniors will be

**WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 16TH
AT 12:30PM AT THE CBI LIBRARY**

A wonderful lunch will be prepared by Diane Todrin and her superb crew.

Henia Lewin will be our speaker. Henia is a national award winning Jewish Educator and an instructor of Yiddish and Hebrew. She will share "Body and Soul: Yiddish Proverbs."

Bring a friend.
Look forward to seeing you.

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



Sisterhood Book Club

NOVEMBER MEETING

Book: *The Imperfectionists* by Tom Rachman
Date: Monday, Nov. 21, 7:30pm
Location: Home of Shirley Cohen
11 Acrebrook Drive, Florence
(413) 584-3054

DECEMBER MEETING

Book: *Half Broke Horses* by Jeannette Walls
Date: Monday, December 19, 7:30 pm

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

UPCOMING TITLES:

January 23: *All Other Nights* by Dara Horn
February 27: *Birds without Wings* By Louis de Bernieres



Sisterhood Hanukkah Sale

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 11 & 18
9:00 AM TO NOON**

Time to get ready for Hannukah!
Don't miss the Sisterhood Judaica Shop
Hannukah Sale.

We'll have a wide assortment of Menorahs, dreidels, Hannukah gelt, gifts, toys, beautiful jewelry from Israel, ritual items and more.

As always there will be lots of bargains.
We welcome special orders.

Remember, the Judaica Shop is the Sisterhood's major fundraising activity.



CALENDAR



The World of Zohar

Led by Rabbi David

The Zohar, or Book of Splendor, is a work that both mystifies and entices us. While it can initially appear to be only for the initiated, it speaks to our most basic yearnings and spiritual questions. A brilliant new translation by Zohar scholar Daniel Matt conveys the luminous creativity of the Zohar while rendering it accessible to the first-time reader.

Join us for this four-session introduction in which we will encounter the Zohar so as to build a foundation for future study. The topics we will address include the ongoing creation of the world, the role of human beings in affecting the cosmos, the interaction of divine and human creativity and the dynamic, evolving nature of the divine "self."

Each session will be structured around time for preparation ("seder") alone or with a study partner ("hevruta"), as well as presentation and explication ("shiur") from Rabbi David. In addition to engaging with the text of the Zohar, we will also trace the evolution of the text through the Torah, Talmud and Midrash.

4 Sessions: Three Tuesdays and One Thursday
7:00 pm at CBI ~ All are Welcome

Tuesday, November 15 • Tuesday, November 22 •
Tuesday, November 29 • Thursday, December 8

Kol Shabbat: A Shabbat of Voices

With
*Felicia Sloin &
her ensemble of inspiring singers*

Friday evenings at 6:00 pm 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.

December 9
January 27
March 30
June 8

ALL ARE WELCOME

Month of November

<u>SUNDAY</u>	<u>MONDAY</u>	<u>TUESDAY</u>	<u>WEDNESDAY</u>
		1 12:15 PM: TUESDAY TEXT STUDY With Rabbi David at CBI	2
6 DAYLIGHT SAVINGS: FALL BACK ONE HOUR	7	8 12:15 PM: TUESDAY TEXT STUDY With Rabbi David at CBI	9 7:30 PM: CBI SALON WITH RABBI DAVID AND RABBI FLAM See page 23 for more info
13	14	15 12:15 PM: TUESDAY TEXT STUDY With Rabbi David at CBI 7:00 PM: THE WORLD OF ZOHAR: ADULT ED See page 13 for more info GAN KESHET FUNDRAISER ENDS AT BROADSIDE	16 12:30 PM: VALLEY JEW- ISH SENIORS LUNCHEON See page 12 for more info
20 9:45 AM: HEVREI MITZVOT MEN'S CLUB BREAKFAST MEET- ING See page 12 for more info 2:00 PM: LITERARY CAFÉ See page 19 for more info	21	22 12:15 PM: TUESDAY TEXT STUDY With Rabbi David at CBI 7:00 PM: THE WORLD OF ZOHAR: ADULT ED See page 13 for more info	23
27	28	29 12:15 PM: TUESDAY TEXT STUDY With Rabbi David at CBI 7:00 PM: THE WORLD OF ZOHAR: ADULT ED See page 13 for more info	30

Month of November

<u>THURSDAY</u>	<u>FRIDAY</u>	<u>SATURDAY</u>
<p>3 8:00 AM: LECHA DUMIYAH TEHILLA MEDITATION</p>	<p>4 5:23 PM: SHABBAT CANDLE LIGHTING 6:00 PM: KABBALAT SHABBAT EVENING SERVICES</p>	<p>5 9:30 AM: SHABBAT MORNING SERVICES IN THE SANCTUARY <i>Parashat Lech-Lecha</i> 11:00 AM: TOT SHABBAT WITH PEGGY WALKER 6:23 PM: SHABBAT ENDS</p>
<p>10 8:00 AM: LECHA DUMIYAH TEHILLA MEDITATION</p> <p>GAN KESHET FALL FUNDRAISER BEGINS AT BROADSIDE BOOKS (For more info, see page 18)</p>	<p>11 4:15 PM: SHABBAT CANDLE LIGHTING 6:00 PM: SHIRA CHADASHA KABBALAT SHABBAT EVENING SERVICES LED BY RABBI DAVID WITH DAVID WEIDENFELD</p>	<p>12 9:00 AM: SHABBAT MORNING SERVICES IN THE SANCTUARY <i>Parashat Vayeira</i> 11:00 AM: SHABBAT FAMILY MINYAN 5:16 PM: SHABBAT ENDS</p>
<p>17 8:00 AM: LECHA DUMIYAH TEHILLA MEDITATION 7:30 PM: CBI BOARD MEETING</p>	<p>18 4:09 PM: SHABBAT CANDLE LIGHTING 6:00 PM: KABBALAT SHABBAT EVENING SERVICES 7:00 PM COMMUNITY SCHOLARS SERIES: AARON LANSKY JOINS US (For more info, see page 11)</p>	<p>19 9:30 AM: SHABBAT MORNING SERVICES IN THE SANCTUARY <i>Parashat Chayei Sarah</i> 9:45 AM: LEV CHADASH (NEW HEART MINYAN) 5:11PM: SHABBAT ENDS</p>
<p>24 CBI & GAN KESHET CLOSED FOR THANKSGIVING DAY</p> <p>NO MEDITATION GROUP</p>	<p>25 CBI & GAN KESHET CLOSED 4:04 PM: SHABBAT CANDLE LIGHTING 6:00 PM: KABBALAT SHABBAT EVENING SERVICES</p>	<p>26 9:30 AM: SHABBAT MORNING SERVICES IN THE SANCTUARY <i>Parashat Toldot</i> 11:00 AM: SHABBAT SING 5:07 PM: SHABBAT ENDS</p>
<p>DECEMBER 1 8:00 AM: LECHA DUMIYAH TEHILLA MEDITATION</p>	<p>DECEMBER 2 4:01 PM: SHABBAT CANDLE LIGHTING 6:00 PM: KABBALAT SHABBAT EVENING SERVICES 6:00 PM: CONNECTING WITH SHABBAT & FAMILY SEE PAGE 18 FOR MORE INFO</p>	<p>DECEMBER 3 9:30 AM: SHABBAT MORNING SERVICES IN THE SANCTUARY <i>Parashat Va-yetzei</i> 11:00 AM: TOT SHABBAT 5:01 PM: SHABBAT ENDS</p>



About our monthly Shabbat Services

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, NOVEMBER 5 AT 11:00 AM
NEXT MONTH: DECEMBER 3

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, NOVEMBER 12 AT 11:00 AM
NEXT MONTH: DECEMBER 10

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, NOVEMBER 26 11:00 AM
NEXT MONTH: DECEMBER 24

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)

NO JUNIOR CONGREGATION IN NOVEMBER
NEXT MONTH: DECEMBER 17 at 11:00 AM

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 HELD ON: SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 19 AT 9:45 AM

CALENDAR

Hanukkah & Christmas: Navigating the Holiday Season A Parenting Conversation Featuring Author, Anita Diamant & Rabbi Devorah Jacobson

Sunday, December 4, 2011
3:30 pm at CBI

The arrival of Hanukkah and Christmas can be an exciting and stressful time in a family's life. Parents (and in-laws) may have different memories, experiences and expectations about what these holidays mean for them. This event is an opportunity to reflect about what is important to you and what values you want to pass along to your children.

Anita Diamant is the acclaimed author of 11 books, including the bestseller and award-winning novel, *The Red Tent*. She has written six books on contemporary Jewish life, including *How to Raise a Jewish Child* and *Living a Jewish Life*. Her most recent novel is *Day After Night*. Rabbi Devorah Jacobson is the Director of Pastoral Care at Jewish Geriatric Services.

Refreshments will be served.
Babysitting will be provided.

Cost: FREE
Pre-registration is required by December 1.

Contact Debbie Peskin at the Federation at (413) 737-4313 x121
or dpeskin@jewishwesternmass.org to register or for more information.

The event is sponsored by: The Upper Valley Synagogue Collaborative, a program of Congregation Ahavas Achim, Congregation Beit Ahavah, Congregation B'nai Israel, Congregation Rodphey Shalom, Congregation Sons of Zion, Jewish Community of Amherst, Temple Israel, and the Jewish Federation of Western Massachusetts with a grant from the Harold Grinspoon Foundation.

SAVE THE DATE OF NOVEMBER 11 FOR:

SHIRA CHADASHA KABBALAT SHABBAT WITH RABBI JUSTIN DAVID AND DAVID WEIDENFELD

G'MILUT CHASADIM~ACTS OF LOVINGKINDNESS COT SHELTER BEGINS NOVEMBER 23, 2011

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, serve the dinner, visit with the guests and clean up.

WHEN: Fourth Wednesday of each month, November—April

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 or Nanci Martine in the CBI Office 413 584-3593 or email bnai.israel@verizon.net

CALENDAR

SUPPORT JEWISH EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

Gan Keshet Jewish Community
Preschool's
Fall Fundraiser

THURSDAY
NOVEMBER 10th
TUESDAY
NOVEMBER 15th

At Broadside Books
Northampton

Please join Gan Keshet Jewish Community Preschool of the Pioneer Valley this year and

SUPPORT JEWISH EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION BY PURCHASING BOOKS AT BROADSIDE BOOKS IN NORTHAMPTON.

Simply shop at BROADSIDE BOOKS between Nov. 10th and Nov. 15th and mention that you wish to support GAN KESHET.

You can even call in your orders, mention GAN KESHET, and pick the books up later.

15% of your purchases will be donated to the Alberts Scholarship Fund, which helps support families who choose Jewish Early Childhood Education at Gan Keshet.

When shopping, consider purchasing a book from the teachers' wish lists (which will be posted at the store).

Broadside Books is located at 247 Main St., Northampton.
Phone number: (413) 586-4235
Store hours are:
Thurs-Sat: 9:30am-9:00pm
Sun: 11:00am-6:00pm,
Mon-Wed: 9:30am-6:00pm

We appreciate your support!



CONNECTING WITH SHABBAT & FAMILY

FRIDAY
DECEMBER 2
6:00 pm

Join us at CBI on Friday, December 2 as the fabulously fun Felicia Sloin and Rabbi Justin David welcome Shabbat with song and spirit.

This is THE perfect family Shabbat event.

Dinner to follow.

Look for more detailed information in the December Kehila!



This program is sponsored, in part, by The Harold Grinspoon Foundation

Around the Valley...For Families!

BE A PJ PAL

Preschoolers, 2-4 years old,
Join us, along with your parent or caregivers, for these monthly Jewish themed activities.

Friday, November 11, 10-11 am
Come for a silly puppet program with Anna Sobel of Talking Hands Theater, to be followed by a PJ Library story. Stay for a bit after the program and enjoy a snack and schmooze with friends.

Saturday, December 10, 5:30-7:30 pm
Amy Meltzer and Felicia Sloin's book and CD release party & Havdalah. Stories, music and refreshments.

Friday, January 20, 1-2:30 pm
Help your community with a special guest, story and/or craft! Bring a canned good and

make a unique bag you can use to deliver your food donation to the Northampton Survival Center. Then stay after for a special Kabbalat Shabbat with the LGA Kindergarten teachers and students.

Friday, February 10, 1-2 pm
"Beetles" Tu B'Shevat with Felicia Sloin. Come for a rockin' good time with Felicia and your PJ Pals buddies. Get ready for a special musical presentation.

Held at the Lander-Grinspoon Academy, 257 Prospect St., Northampton, MA

L'Dor V'Dor & More

As the new year begins, the L'Dor V'Dor Legacy Committee,
on behalf of Congregation B'nai Israel
and the generations to come, extends a warm thank you to
the following people who have made planned gifts to CBI:

Anonymous (5)	Barry Federman	Rose Lander	Abraham Todd
Tom Arnold	Richard Fein	Yechiael Lander	Eli Todd
Alan Berkenwald	Joel Feldman	Joanne Levin	Hannah Todd
Mark Brumberg	Diane Garey	Donna Lilborn	John Todd
Marcia Burick	Mickey Glazer	Jack Missry	Jane Trigere
Justin Cammy	Penina Glazer	Susan Mosler	Amy Wolpin
Jeffrey Caplan	Norbert Goldfield	Dorothy Nemetz	
David Cohen	Harold Grinspoon	Julie Robbins	
Doris Cohen	Katya Hott	Eleanor Rothman	
Erin Nunes Cooper	Lawrence Hott	Rachel Rubinstein	
Rabbi Justin David	John Joelson	Joan Schaffer	
Rob Dorit	Carol Katz	John Schieffelin	
Lois Dubin	Ellen Kaufman	Shelley Schieffelin	
John Eckstein	Gillian Kendall	Pamela Schwartz	
Phyllis Eckstein	Jeffrey Korff	Shelley Steuer	

For information on making a planned gift,
please contact Dorothy Nemetz at djnemetz@aol.com or 586-2733

Save the Date: HADASSAH LITERARY CAFE

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 2011, 2:00 p.m.
Congregation B'nai Israel
253 Prospect Street, Northampton

You are cordially invited to a
LITERARY CAFÉ

The following members of CBI will be reading
their original Stories and Poems:
John Clayton, Adel Oppenheim, Joanne Kobin,
Henny Lewin & Stephanie Schamess

Sponsored by Northampton-Amherst Hadassah.
Admissions free. Donations are encouraged for
the benefit of Youth Aliyah-children at risk.

Co-Chairs: Henny Lewin 413 253-8836 and
Stephanie Schamess 413 584-2184

BOOKS AVAILABLE FROM THE CBI LIBRARY

Audio Books and VHS Tapes are available on the CBI library desk. They are free for the taking. Leftovers will be disposed of.

Titles are as follows:

- The Goldbergs
- Zamir-Jewish Voices Return to Poland
- Catskills - on Broadway
- "The Price of Freedom." Union Council for Soviet Jews
- Another Mitzvah - Public TV
- A taste of Passover
- Prepetshik Sing Yiddish
- Cantors - PBS

Audio Books:

- The Magician of Lublin—I.B. Singer
- The Assistant - Bernard Malamed
- Envy or Yiddish in America - Cynthia Ozick
- The Pagan Rabbi

Committee Notes:

A Message from the Committee for Jewish Connections: Making a Jewish Connection

It all started with a cup of tea.

Few months ago, a woman I had known since our days up in Greenfield, Hanneli De Vries, contacted me and asked if I would meet with her to chat about the possibility of joining a CBI committee. We met over a cup of tea, and what was supposed to be a quick chat became an intense conversation that lasted far more than an hour. We shared our desire for openness and transparency, and we talked about what the Committee for Jewish Living - then chaired by Susan Mosler - was trying to achieve. That conversation had a far more important impact than I would have imagined. In fact, a few months later, I became a member of the Board of Directors and the new chair of the Committee for Jewish Living.

This past September our committee met for the first time. We planned some events and then shared our vision for the year to come. We realized that, mostly, what we had been asked to provide was food and organization for events around Jewish Holidays and Celebrations. We all do love food, and would like to share a cup of coffee and a nice piece of cake, but, as a committee, we realized that what we were truly trying to accomplish was a moment for people to connect.

We decided that we wanted to expand our commitment outside of food-related sponsorships, Jewish Holidays and religious observance. We now envision our role as the committee that tries to bring together members of the Jewish community in meaningful ways.

It is for this reason that we feel that the name of the committee does not reflect our role and identity anymore, and we would like to change our name to "Committee for Jewish Connections."

And, in this spirit, I invite all CBI members to connect with me and share any ideas they might have to bring Jewish people in our community together. If you are thinking of a way for young professionals, seniors, young families, retirees, singles, couples, etc. to meet and connect, please let me know: I do want to hear from you!

Thank you so much,

Simona Pozzetto

Ritual Committee Requests Feedback

The Ritual Committee invites your input about our High Holy Day services.

What worked for you? What didn't?

Please respond to Amelia Ender, Chair of the Ritual Committee at ameliaender@yahoo.com

Requests for confidentiality will be honored.



Minutes

.....
CONGREGATION B'NAI ISRAEL MINUTES: SEPTEMBER, 2011

The meeting began at 7:35 pm.

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

Rabbi David had no D'var Torah except to say that we should look at the garden - "a visionary space."

The minutes were approved as amended.

Executive Director Report (Ben Cuperman):

Flooring in the Sanctuary: the asbestos abatement process is finished. The State Inspector declared the Sanctuary safe and said the original problem was minimal. We'll be late with the completion of the flooring, but it will be finished before the High Holy Days.

Four people applied for membership: Sara and Forest Reid; Ekaterina and Jack Missry. There was a motion to accept them and the motion was seconded. **THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Our current total of families is 365.

Comparisons of this year's budget with last year's:

August 31, 2011:		August 31, 2010:
Bank Balance	\$267,252	\$257,344
Current dues receivable	\$307,231	\$370,973
Accts. receivable	\$ 31,000	\$ 39,781

from previous years

Twenty-nine families still owe 2010 / 2011 dues.

Yahrzeit notices are being mailed with a pledge form and a return envelope.

Ellen Kaufman proposed that we should consider re-instituting the policy of someone from lay leadership making a phone call to members in arrears before retiring their membership. This will be discussed with FOC and a recommendation brought at the next meeting of the Board. For clarification, after a member resigns, it is our policy that someone from Membership calls for an exit interview.

Ellen Kaufman stated that Mark Brumberg and Alan Sewald had done a tremendous job of dealing with the asbestos problem.

OLD BUSINESS

An update on the "Try a Synagogue Federation Initiative: the goal of the initiative is to get unaffiliated Jews to join a synagogue. Last year we agreed to go forward (with JCA, Beit Ahavah, Temple Israel and Sons of Zion), but JCA, Beit Ahavah and Sons of Zion did not agree to the dues structure. The Try a Synagogue Group will be focusing instead on collaborating on joint events among the shuls in the Upper Valley: the **Havdalah Hootinanny** will take place at the Center of the Arts, November 12, 7pm. **Anita Daimant** is speaking on December 4 at 3:30 at CBI.

NEW BUSINESS

There was a multifaceted discussion about ways to energize the community, and, when asked, Rabbi David noted that we had a Facebook page.

The Board Retreat will be Sunday, October 30, 1-5pm. Neil Kudler will moderate.

Minutes

Ellen Kaufman suggest a monthly Kehila article about unsung heroes of CBI - the people who do a lot of work to support CBI and the community and aren't always recognized for their efforts.

Lauren Weinsier discussed the CBI website. Work had been done to update the website, and the possibility exists of paying a company to create a new logo for the website. There was some discussion about whether the payment was for a logo (yes) or for work on the website (no).

Some dates:

A **Community Meeting** will take place on October 23, 7-9pm, in the CBI Social Hall.

A **Community Meeting** will take place on January 22, 7-9pm, in the CBI Social Hall.

A **Community Meeting** will take place April 22, 7-9pm, in the CBI Social Hall.

The **Annual Meeting** will be held June 28, 7-9pm, in the CBI Social Hall.

The meeting on October 23 will review two topics from the CBI Survey results: Demographics and Governance. There will also be questions/topics suggested by the community.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Amy Wolpin for the Education Committee:

The Education Committee met twice in August to support Rabbi Selch's transition. Rabbi Selch hired 4 new teachers. There are 52 children enrolled Kindergarten-grade 9. The Opening Day of the Religious School will be delayed a week until September 18 due to the sanctuary renovations. Rabbi Selch ordered new student materials and designed curriculum for the combined classes: K/1, 3/4. and 5/6. Child care is being coordinated by Amy Wolpin for the High Holidays and Shabbat. New babysitters have been hired and the child care closet will now be locked during the week. The teacher storage cabinets also have new locks. With Ben's assistance, we can now complete CORI background checks for all staff who work with children.

Ellen Kaufman noted that Amy Wolpin has done an incredible job of helping Rabbi Selch and the religious school. Rabbi David echoed Ellen and mentioned Amy's consciousness of all the details that are so important for everything to work well.

A Report Was Given for Dorothy Nemetz on the Sanctuary fundraising effort: We have received \$54,835 in pledges from sixty families. \$46,605 has been received. We are expecting another \$2,500 in pledges.

At 9pm (really) the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Gillian Kendall

Announcements

Jane Trigère: Women of the Balcony

Honoring the Women of Congregation Ohav Sholaum

at the Derfner Judaica Museum



Jane Trigère, *Women of the Balcony 4*, 2007-2008, wood, parachute "silk," display heads, salvaged textiles of natural and synthetic fibers, vintage hats, earrings, papier-mâché, three sides, each 48 inches high. Courtesy of the artist.

On view October 30, 2011 – February 5, 2012

Derfner Judaica Museum
The Hebrew Home at Riverdale
5901 Palisade Avenue
Bronx, NY 10471

Museum hours: Sun.-Thurs. 10:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.
Closed Saturdays and major Jewish holidays

CBI SALON

SPONSORED BY BIKKUR HOLIM COMMITTEE

Finding Our Way to Chesed (Kindness)

A Salon hosted by:

Maxine Stein and Henry Simkin

With Rabbi Justin David and Rabbi Nancy Flam

Please join us for this evening of study and discuss the challenges we encounter in bringing our compassion to those who need it most. Our tradition confronts the obstacles as well as celebrates the possibilities for each of us to bring a bit of healing to those who suffer.

On November 9 at 7:30 pm

At the home of:

Maxine Stein and Henry Simkin

15 Fifth Avenue

Northampton, MA 01060

SUKKOT SPECIAL THANKS!!

TO OUR SUKKAH BUILDERS

Art Hyman	Kevin Hale
Henry Simkin	Dan Zeller
Alan Singer	Ron Ackerman
Jim Katz	Bruce Bromberg-Seltzer
Scott Barton	

AND A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO:

Stephan and Allison Wurmbrand
for storing our Sukkah, shlepping it
to and from the storage and building it.

THANK YOU FOR OUR SUKKAH DECORATIONS:

Lander-Grinspoon Academy
Gan Keshet Jewish Community Preschool &
Batya Perman

THANK YOU TO OUR CREW WHO TOOK
THE SUKKAH DOWN:

Stephan Wurmbrand
Allison Wurmbrand
Bill Jolly
Ron Ackerman
Zev Bromberg-Seltzer
George Zimmerman
Carl Sesar
Art Hyman
Nick Fleisher



En-WRAP-ture yourself in a mitzvah!

Always wanted to wear tefillin and daven in the morning?

Ken Schoen is offering free instruction at the Old Firehouse in the center of South Deerfield. If you commit to the practice he will also give you (while the supply lasts) a pair of tefillin and a tallis at no cost .

Call [413-665-0066](tel:413-665-0066) and arrange to rewind and rebind with our tradition

November Yahrzeits

November 2 / Heshvan 5 Loren Smith George Steinberg*	November 11 / Heshvan 14 Irving Kessler Edward Yoss	November 21 / Heshvan 24 Sally Kirsner Balin*	November 28 / Kislev 2 Max Fraidstern*
November 3 / Heshvan 6 Herbert Werth	November 12 / Heshvan 15 Ruth Levin Grace Shulman Levine	November 22 / Heshvan 25 Anne Ruth Feldman* Lawrence Fink Bella Steiner	November 29 / Heshvan 3 Caroline Elinsky*
November 5 / Heshvan 8 Esther Fannie Allen* Abraham Isaac Kramer* Doris Cynthia Jaffe Rothenberg	November 14 / Heshvan 17 Sydna Budnick Joseph Grife* Joseph Sol Marcus*	November 24 / Heshvan 27 Rose August* Philip Goodman Lillian B. Miller	* Denotes plaque on Yahrzeit Board
November 7 / Heshvan 10 Daniel Meltzer	November 15 / Heshvan 18 Louis Budgar* Joseph Haskell	November 25 / Heshvan 28 Minnie August* Bessie Olim Herman* Ruth Krosnow Harry Michelson Sara Miller	
November 8 / Heshvan 11 Elias Alberts* Samuel Budgar* Tessie Cohen	November 17 / Heshvan 20 Anne Gilbert Carla Klein* Rita Lieberman*	November 26 / Heshvan 29 Hal Felton Daniel Stephen Goldstein*	
November 9 / Heshvan 12 Ida Black* Rose Tarshus*	November 19 / Heshvan 22 Sadie Aronson* Samuel Bloch* Gertrude Duby Saulbert Gottesman	November 27 / Kislev 1 Pauline Schwartz	
November 10 / Heshvan 13 Abraham Aaron Aronson* Aaron Milgrim*			

Rekindle Shabbat: For the REST of your week. Sign Up Now

Make it easy to bring the Shabbat tradition into your home – sign up for Rekindle Shabbat. The program offers 2 kosher catered dinners to share with others (Jan 20 and Mar 2), a Shabbat toolkit (candles, candlesticks, wine cup) for first year participants, and an e-newsletter with program updates, event announcements, and resources. The goal of Rekindle Shabbat is to help connect Jewish families and individuals in the local Jewish community while deepening one's understanding and enjoyment of the Shabbat experience.

Who can participate? Jewish and interfaith households living in the Pioneer Valley region with school-aged children ; couples & singles as space allows. No previous Jewish knowledge necessary. Two ways to join: Join with one or more households you already know OR ask us to match you with a buddy household in your area. Sign up at www.RekindleShabbat.org by November 15th and tell your friends. Free for first year participants and \$36 for returning households. Participation limited to 3 years. Those returning for a 2nd or 3rd year are asked to join with a household NEW to the program.

Rekindle Shabbat is in partnership with the Harold Grinspoon Foundation and the Jewish Federation of Western Massachusetts, with the generous support of William and Lynn Fogle.



Donations

ANNUAL FUND:

For the celebration of Rosh Hashanah.
From Charles Simpson

To Edward Allen, with gratitude to
Eddie, Scott, Bill, Ken and the whole
cemetery committee for
your caring work at Ruth Cohen's
funeral. From the family of Ruth
Cohen, Bob, Susan, Marcy and
Carol Katz

To CBI, in honor of my daughter,
Barbara Levine, thank you and bless all
responsible for her
welfare and to her friends who were
always there. From Anita Neuman

EDUCATION FUND

To Robert Cohen, in loving memory of
your dear wife, Ruth, who brought so
much laughter in all of
our lives. From Adele Oppenheim

ENDOWMENT FUND

In memory of Ruth Cohen, in honor of
the birth of Zackery Topal Kieroac.
From Samuel Topal

To Bob Cohen and Carol, Susan &
Marcy, in memory of Ruth, a loving and
beloved friend. From
Sally & Hy Edelstein

In Loving memory our darling friend,
Ruth Cohen. From Margo & Bill Cooley

In memory of my dear and beloved
friend, Ruth Cohen. From Linda Butler

In memory of Ruth Cohen. From
Dutchie August

In memory of Ruth Cohen. From friends
and co-workers of Carol Katz

In memory of Ruth Cohen. From Susan
Moore

In honor of the B'nai Mitzvah of my
grandchildren Claire & Benjamin Siegel.
From James S. Sagner

GARDEN FUND

Batya Perman
Anonymous donation
Ruth Ever
Geri Kleinman

To Bella Jaeger, Yasher Koach on
becoming a Bat Mitzvah! May you
flourish like the gardens you've
helped do the same. Love, from Randi,
Scott & Jonah Klein-Barton

To Randi Klein, for all your loving
efforts to give the CBI Community such
a beautiful and bountiful
garden. From Sara Weinberger, Mordi
and Rachel Kamel

KOL NIDRE APPEAL FUND

Barry & Julie Federman
James Katz & Geri Kleinman
Anonymous

Scott Barton & Randi Klein
Michael Lesy
Sally Jane Heit

KURIAN KIDDUSH FUND

For the yahrzeit of beloved Uncle
Lawrence Price. From Barry & Julie
Federman

In honor of Lory Wallfisch. From
Sterling & Margaret Hopkins

In honor of Ben Cuperman. From Henny
Lewin

In memory of Lory Wallfisch. From
Henny Lewin

In memory of Ruth Cohen. From Henny
Lewin

In memory of Lory Wallfisch. From
Henry Rosenberg & Katie Hicks

In honor of Lory Wallfisch. From Louis
& Hilda Greenbaum

In honor of Jeff Korff and wonderful
Mensch. From Ken Schoen

To Ron and Cleo, with gratitude for all
that you do for our congregation.
From Ellen Kaufman

To Carol Katz, with condolences on the
loss of your mother Ruth. May her
memory be for a blessing. From Ellen
Kaufman

To Jim Sagalyn & Jane Herzenberg,
Mazal Tov on Jesse's wedding. From
Ellen Kaufman

PULPIT FUND

To Ron Ackerman, in grateful
appreciation for the shiva services you
conducted for Ruth Cohen.
From the family of Ruth Cohen, Bob
Carol, Susan, Marcy

RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

In appreciation of Rabbi Perlmutter's
services. From Robert J. Cohen

SAM & MILDRED WOLFE BAR/BAT MITZVAH FUND

Leah Finch

SHABBAT CHILD CARE FUND

To Ben Cuperman, you are a real
mensch, and I wish you much joy,
success and peace. From
Andrea Fox & family

TZEDAKAH FUND

In memory of Paul Bloomberg. From
Sanford & Louise Bloomberg

YAHARZEIT (MEMORIAL) PLAQUE

In loving memory of Hyman Bloomberg.
From Sanford & Louise Bloomberg

In loving memory of Anne Bloomberg.
From Sanford & Louise Bloomberg

SANCTUARY RENOVATION Thank you for your Donation

Joel Federman & Pamela Schwartz
Ellen Hirshberg & Mark Grysa
Neil Kudler & Nancy Flam
Greta Kessler
Irene & Irving Rothberg
Henry Simkin & Maxine Stein
Edward & Merle Feld
Steven & Laura Weinsier

Jim Sagalyn & Jane Herzenberg: to
Carol Katz in honor of your mother. To
the Bick family, in
fond memory of Malcolm

All the above donations are as of
October, 17, 2011

James A. Hardy
 Registered Representative
 jhardy@ae.cadaretgrant.com
 PO Box 1690
 Northampton, MA 01061-1690
 Tel. 413-575-4831



Securities offered through Cadaret, Grant & Co., Inc.
 member FINRA/SIPC.
 One Lincoln Center, Syracuse, NY 13202
 Tel. 315-471-2191



We can help you move life along

- Do you need to organize your life?
- Get paperwork under control?
- Clear some space?
- Plan a move?

Rethinking Moving Since 1996
www.movingmentor.com
 413-549-1039

HANDYMAN SERVICES
I like to fix things



Leon Chaban (413) 695-6530

This could be your ad

Contact the CBI Office for more information

bnai.israel@verizon.net

Domestic
 Violence

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 1-413-582-6790
 (local resources, referrals, & advocacy at Jewish Family Services)

Some signs of partner abuse can involve:

- controlling behavior
- belittling and degrading
- extreme jealousy and possessiveness

CBI Funds

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.*

BENJAMIN GOLDSMITH FUND

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.*

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.*

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 PROGRAM

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 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.*

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 \$5.00. 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 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.*

YAHREIT (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

NON-PROFIT ORG
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
Northampton, MA 01060
Permit No. 414

OR CURRENT RESIDENT

Dated Material- Do Not Delay