



Congregation B'nai Israel קהילת בני ישראל

Vol. XXII, No. 2
Tevet~Nisan
January~March 2015

Official Newsletter of Congregation B'nai Israel

SHOFAR

e-mail: cbi18@cbi18.org
website: <http://www.cbi18.org>
RELIGIOUS SCHOOL CALENDAR
& SYNAGOGUE EVENTS LISTED

Shabbaton with Dr. Hartley Lachter

Friday, January 9 at 6:00 PM
Shabbat Service, Dinner and Lecture:
*Medieval Charitable Organizations
and the Creation of Judaism
as We Know It*

**Saturday, January 10
at 9:30 AM**

Shabbat Service, Lunch
and Lecture:

Was Maimonides a Radical?

\$30/Adult, \$15/Child (3-12 yrs)

for all meals and lectures

\$5 discount/person for reservations
received by January 5th



SAVE THE DATE

CBI's
annual gala
honoring

President BETH ELSTER

Sunday, March 29, 2015
5 o'clock in the evening

Sponsorships:

Gold	\$5400 (8 seats + full page ad)
Silver	\$3600 (6 seats + 1/2 page ad)
Bronze	\$1800 (4 seats + 1/2 page ad)
Copper	\$1000 (2 seats + 1/2 page ad)

Tribute Journal:

Full Page	\$1300	Half Page	\$800
Quarter Page	\$500	Business Card	\$360
Two Line	\$180	One Line	\$54
\$154 Dinner Reservation received by March 6			
\$180 Dinner Reservation received after March 6			

Do you think the 80's were a Rock and Roll shanda? Think Again!

Join us for "SHLOCK OF AGES - Purim Unleashed!"

Bring your cowbell and big hair for a rockin' celebration!

Wednesday, March 4:

7:00 AM: Fast of Esther: Shaharit service in the Bet Midrash
(in lieu of Wednesday minyan)

5:30 PM: Young Family Program and costume parade
with Dale Schatz

6:15 PM: Shushan Feast: 10\$/Adult, \$5/child age 2-12,
children under 2 FREE

7:00 PM: Ma'ariv, Megillah reading, and Shpiel with the
Out-of-Control CBI Players

9:00 PM: Dessert, Open Bar and Live Entertainment
with Dale Schatz and Friends

Thursday, March 5:

8:00 AM: Special Shaharit service celebrating
the bar mitzvah of Ron Horn and
Sy Lampert's 95th birthday!

Sunday, March 8:

12 Noon: Purim Carnival Extravaganza sponsored by
our award-winning USY



Congregation B'nai Israel Child Development Center

presents the

Sixteenth Annual Fundraiser

Shalom Y'All

A Musical Rodeo

starring our Children

Sunday, February 8, 2015

3:30pm-5:30pm

Silent
Auction

Chuck
Wagon
Grub



Congregation B'nai Israel
CDC Ranch
2111 Bryan Avenue
Tustin 92782
714.730.0860
cdc18@cbi18.org

Rabbi's Message

Rabbi Elie Spitz



Lessons from the Zohar: "Let it shine."

A parable from the Zohar: "There was a man who lived in the mountains. He knew nothing about those who lived in the city. He sowed wheat and ate the kernels raw. One day he entered the city. They brought him good bread. He said, 'What is this for?' They said, 'Bread, to eat.' He ate, and it tasted very good. He said, 'What is it made of?' They said, 'Wheat.' Later they brought him cakes kneaded in oil. He tasted them and said, 'And what are these made of?' They said, 'Wheat.' Finally they brought him royal pastry made with honey and oil. He said, 'And what are these made of?' They said, 'Wheat.' He said, I am the master of all of these, for I eat the essence of all of these: wheat!"

The Zohar then comments, "Because of that view, he knew nothing of the delights of the world; they were lost to him. So it is with one who grasps the principle and does not know all those delectable delights deriving, diverging from that principle."

Immediately upon completing my journey through the Talmud, I began to move through the Zohar using the translation and commentary by Professor Daniel Matt. The goal of the Talmud is to discern

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Call the B'nai Israel In-The-Family Hotline (714) 730-9693 - whenever there's a major event in your life.

Jewish law with the Torah as the constitution. Its approach is analytic and based on debate. The Zohar is a mystical commentary on the Talmud that begins with a symbol system (a spiritual DNA) for how God is manifest in the world and then reads the Torah imaginatively to uncover a deeper meaning of the narrative. The format of the Zohar is often a travel story with a stranger offering insight into a hidden aspect of the sacred text, which is greeted with great excitement by the learned rabbinic leaders. Both the Talmud and Zohar are our rich inheritance as Jews. It will take me at the rate of a page a day five years to complete the Zohar, which I intend to do. In the meantime, I look to learn with you some of what I am reading.

Lunch and Learn ~ Zohar: Starting in January, please join me for lunch (synagogue-made gourmet pizza) and Zohar studies on Wednesdays 12:15-1:30 PM: January 14, 21; February 11, 18; March 11, 18; April 15, 29.

Jewish Meditation: Some scholars say that the Zohar emerges from the mind state of meditation, the art of focused attention eliciting inner insights. Meditation is part of the Jewish tradition. The Mishnah (Berachot 5:1) records that the early pious ones would meditate for one hour before praying the silent *amidah* and the Code of Jewish Law (the *Shulchan Arukh*) then adds, and pray the *amidah* prayer for one hour- a rate of one word each seven seconds. I have meditated on a regular basis for close to twenty-five years. Please join me on the select Shabbat mornings from 9:30-10:15 AM in our Bet Midrash to still the mind and open intuitively to the Divine: February 21, March 21, April 18, May 16, June 20.

Ask the Rabbi. If you just like to ask those questions about religion that have puzzled you, please come on Sunday mornings at 11:30 AM for an hour of open conversation: January 4; February 8; March 15; April 12; May 3.

As in the parable with which I began, delight exists in exploring the subtleties and creativity of our communal wisdom. I look forward in 2015 to spending time and learning with you.

Let me wish you and your family a New Year of health, growth, and delight. ☆

Cantor's Notes

Cantor Marcia Tilchin



The noble work of American Jewish World Service (AJWS)

Last spring I was accepted to the 2014-2015 Rabbinic and Graduate Student Global Justice Fellow program of AJWS, the leading Jewish human rights and development organization working to realize human rights and end poverty in the developing world. Working closely with non-governmental organizations (NGOs) in Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Caribbean, AJWS provides grants to these grassroots organizations, service opportunities to volunteers, advocacy efforts on behalf of communities, and education programs to the American Jewish community. Broadly, AJWS focuses its efforts on health and human rights for women, girls, and LGBT people; recovery from conflicts; opposing injustice; and supporting the protection of land, water, and natural resources. They accomplish their goals through the mobilization of American Jews and allies to advocate for policies that will benefit people in the developing world. They also provide direct funding for agencies dealing with immediate needs and emergencies. For example, AJWS has been a key responder to the Ebola crisis in Liberia by supporting medical teams providing direct service to ailing citizens and their families.

The current campaign, **We Believe**, was launched in December of 2013 to call on the U.S. government to address the untenable situation of abuse of women worldwide, child marriage for young girls and the illegality of homosexuality. **We Believe** is promoting human rights in the developing world in three areas: 1) Ending of violence against

cont. on next page



The President's Corner

Beth Elster



Dear Friends,

It was an honor to serve as CBI President over the last two years. There are many facets of CBI that set us apart from other congregations and make us a special community. I'd like to share a few of the things that the board, clergy and staff have identified recently.

Progression and continuity of education and social activities for our children and their families:

Our Child Development Center is the only synagogue-based program in the county that takes infants as young as 3 months. As the children in the CDC reach kindergarten age many attend our Camp B'nai Ruach and begin Religious School. In addition, our youth group is open to children beginning in Kindergarten. The B'nai Mitzvah program engages our children during that exciting time for them, and the kids hang out with their peers studying prayers and Torah/Haftorah chanting. We have a high rate of continuity for our Hebrew High Religious School program that begins in 8th grade and goes through the end of High School, along with our USY program. Over the last year the CBI clergy and staff have focused on making our spectrum of programs more consistent and the transitions more comfortable.

Many opportunities for adults and children to build strong relationships within the CBI family:

With multiple services, adult education classes and speakers, havurot, Sisterhood and Men's Club events, weekly Kiddush lunch together, and an emphasis on volunteering, we have opportunities to spend time together in a variety of settings. It is

also beautiful to see the teens interacting with our younger children at day camp, as Madrichim in the Religious School classrooms, and helping with Machar and Kadima youth group activities.

Whether one is interested in spirituality, learning or just socializing, there is something for everyone at CBI.

A culture of empowering congregants to take on leadership roles:

Starting with our teens, we provide opportunities to become involved with programming for our USY group, to aid the Hebrew teachers in our Religious School as Madrichim, and to work their way through Camp B'nai Ruach as counselors-in-training to become head counselors. They also have the opportunity, along with our adults, to lead and read Torah at any of our services. Our members are all empowered to take on volunteer roles at CBI and in the community through our Social Action programs. I am still amazed at the number of congregants who give of their time and talents. We have very strong lay-leaders davening portions of our services every week, reading Torah and Haftorah, and it is not unusual to say a Shehecheyanu when someone leads for the first time. It is not surprising that we have so many members who are also leaders in the greater Orange County community.

Thank you all for being a part of our wonderful and unique community. May we continue to go from strength to strength. ☆

Three Learning Opportunities with Rabbi Spitz!

Lunch and Learn: Zohar

Every Other Wednesday

**Jan. 14 & 21, Feb. 11 & 18,
March 11 & 18**

12:15–1:30 PM in the Social Hall
\$10/session includes pizza lunch
\$40 preregistration

Jewish Meditation

Saturdays, Feb. 21 & March 21
9:30–10:15 AM in the Bet Midrash

Ask the Rabbi

**Sundays, January 4, February 8
& March 15**

11:30 AM–12:30 PM in the Bet Midrash

CANTOR, *cont. from page 2*

women and girls; 2) Stopping hate crimes against LGBT people; and 3) Empowering girls to end child marriage. A key goal of the campaign is the passage of the International Violence Against Women Act (IVAWA) by Congress. It seeks congressional funding for efforts that empower women and girls in developing countries, and calls on the US to assume a leadership role in ending hate crimes against LGBT people.

AJWS determines its *Tikun Olam* agendas years in advance by learning what issues their partner organizations working on the ground feel are the most pressing. Their previous advocacy campaign, **Reverse Hunger**, was aimed at reforming U.S. foreign food aid policies. Even now, in-house strategists are working years ahead with global partners to determine the focus of the next campaign.

AJWS is investing in Global Justice Fellows as leaders to educate their communities about injustices across the oceans that remain largely hidden. To prepare for this role, fellows will travel this spring to meet AJWS's partnering NGOs and witness their work on the ground in countries such as India, Nicaragua, and El Salvador. In May of 2015, AJWS fellows and supporters will convene in Washington D.C. for the second annual AJWS Policy Summit to advocate for the passage of IVAWA.

Upon my return from Central America, I look forward to sharing what I have learned and next steps with members of our congregation and the greater Orange County Jewish community, so please stay tuned for details. In the meanwhile, I urge you to learn more about **IVAWA**, **We Believe** and **AJWS** by logging on to webelieve.ajws.org. AJWS's lofty goals may seem beyond our reach, but enduring change happens one person at a time. Rabbi Tarfon said it best at the end of chapter 2 in Pirkei Avot (The Ethics of the Sages): *"The day is short, the task is great, the workers indolent, the reward bountiful, and the Master insistent! You are not obliged to finish the task, neither are you free to neglect it."* Never before in history have Jewish people been in a position to influence and drive global agendas in the way we are today. May the power we wield as highly educated men and women living in a free society be realized for good *bim'heirah v'yameinu* - speedily in our days. ☆



Child Development

Lisa Heller - Director
Samantha Feld and
Michael Jarzyna, VPs



This year's CDC Sixteenth Annual Fundraiser is "Shalom Y' All"

A musical rodeo starring all the children in the preschool will take place on Sunday, February 8, 2015 from 3:30-5:30 pm. In addition:

- We have an amazing silent auction planned!
- Kosher Chuck Wagon Grub will be served!
- The famous Lucky Dip for all the children!

The funds collected for this event will go towards the preschool operating budget, in addition to special programming.

- General admission is \$30 or please consider coming or making a donation.
- Reserved seating available from \$150 for 2 seats to \$1,000 for 10 reserved seats.
- Children under 12 free.
- Please RSVP to: cdc18@cbi18.org.

Look for your postcard coming in January ~ the afternoon will be a rootin', tootin', great time for all! ☆

Yiddish Club

meets Every Other Sunday at 11:00 AM:

January 4 & 18
February 1 & 15 and March 1 & 15

Until then, **zei gezunt** (be well)!

Hal'lu Musical Shabbat Service with

**Amy Robinson,
Carl Cedar
and Leeav Sofer
and the
CBI Davening Team**

**February 28
at 9:30 AM
in the
Family Life Center**

Introduction to Judaism

**Sundays, through
May 3, 2015
1:00 – 4:00 PM
\$360/single attendee
\$540/couple
\$250/ CBI member
\$20/class**

Men's Club Meetings

**Sundays,
January 25, February 22
and March 22
at 10:15 AM in the Social Hall**

*Then join us later for:
Poker Night at 7:00 PM
in a private home!*

It's Breakfast for the Homeless and a Mitzvah of the Heart

CBI along with Saddleback Church and the Lighthouse Outreach Ministry will serve Breakfast Sunday, January 25 9:45 - 11:00 AM

RSVP to Muriel or Jean by January 15 at FriendsOfTheLighthouse@gmail.com
15- 20 Volunteers needed

Hebrew for Beginners & Advanced Beginners!

**Wednesday Evenings
in the Bet Midrash**

Session 1:
Through
February 4

Session 2:
February 11 –
April 29

Beginners:
6:30 – 7:15 PM
**Advanced
Beginners:**
7:15 – 8:00 PM

When you hear of a lifecycle event in our CBI community (whether simcha, illness or a death), or if you have something which you wish the clergy to be aware of, please notify the CBI office.

Call (714) 730-9693 or
e-mail cbi18@cbi18.org.

CBI Coastal Schedule of Services

**Fridays, January 16
and March 20 at 6:00 PM
with Rabbi Adam Greenwald
at Port Westbourne
Community Clubhouse:
1854 Port Westbourne Place
Newport Beach, CA 92660**

**Saturdays, January 3,
February 14 and March 7
at 9:30 AM
with Rabbi Adam Greenwald
University Park:
1 Beech Tree Lane
Irvine, CA 92612**

Please RSVP to cbicoastal@gmail.com to confirm your participation in post-service meals



Religious School

Rabbi Robin Hoffman,
Education Director
Meredith Stewart
and Robin Steinmetz, VPs



Be Happy ~ It's Adar!

As I write this in the beginning of winter, I am already looking forward to our spring holidays. Purim, a joyous celebration of the Jews overcoming bigotry and anti-Semitism, takes on a deeper meaning for us during these historic times. When you are discussing this holiday with your children, remind them of how special it is to be Jewish and they can take pride in our Jewish heroes, such as Esther and Mordechai. Talk with them about how they can be heroes at home and at school. Teach them about *menschlecheit* – being the best people they can be and always trying to choose the best way to behave.

We will be celebrating Purim with our CBI community on Wednesday evening March 4. After Hebrew school, please plan to join us for dinner and to hear the Megillah. It will be a great time!

Please also support our Mishloach Manot fund raiser. Each year we raise money for our school programs by giving Mishloach Manot – gifts to our friends and loved ones. Our USY will also be hosting their annual Carnival to raise funds for their programs. Please be generous so that we can continue to provide our youth with quality programming both in our religious school and our youth groups.

Hag Purim Sameach! ☆

And Remember . . .
**A Family that Prays
Together...**

**Join Rabbi Robin Hoffman
and Carl Cedar
the 2nd and 3rd Saturday
of each month**

**10:30 – 11:45 AM
in the Family Life Center
for a Shabbat Service
especially for
Children ages 7-11**



**Musical and Interactive,
this service emphasizes
key prayers and
Torah discussion!**



It's Easy to be a Hero!

**CBI Blood Drive
Monday, March 9**

1:00 – 7:00 PM~CBI Social Hall

Sign up online at:
redcrossblood.org;
sponsor code bnai

It's a Cosmic Havdalah!

**Make bidding farewell to Shabbat
a cosmic community event
with the stunning backdrop
of a mobile planetarium.
Seek insight about the stars
and join USY
as they lead us
in an inspiring Havdalah Service!**



Saturday, February 21 at 6:30 PM



Jewish Federation
& Family Services
ORANGE COUNTY

Supported from an Impact Grant from
Jewish Federation and Family Services,
Orange County

Three Opportunities to Learn & Celebrate Shabbat with Cantor Tilchin!

Passion in Prayer

Sundays in the Bet Midrash, 10:45 AM – 12 Noon

January 25: Commentary on the Amidah

February 1: Personal Prayer and the Amidah

March 22: Pre-Passover Workshop

Synagogue Skills

Sundays in the Bet Midrash

January 31 ~ 9:30 – 10:15 AM

March 14 ~ 9:30 – 10:15 AM

Monthly Mincha

Sundays at Cantor's Home

January 24 at 4:00 PM

February 28 at 4:30 PM

March 28 at 4:30 PM



Youth News

Barbara Sherman - Youth Director
Beth Adler and Marc Goldin, VPs



Purim Carnival

Sunday, March 8

from 12 Noon – 2:00 PM
Games, Rides, Prizes!

Support our Youth Department
by sponsoring a Booth!
\$100 for full sponsorship

USY Regional Kinnus comes to CBI!

January 16 – 18

Host Homes

Purim is coming!

Celebrate it with Mishloah Manot
Giving the gift of food to friends

Order your Mishloah Manot by
Thursday, February 20

Order forms available at CBI in
Synagogue kiosks and
throughout the Hebrew School

**Mishloah Manot
bags can be picked
up Erev Purim and
Sunday, March 7**



**JOIN THE SUNDAY MINYAN
ANY SUNDAY AT 9:10 AM
IN THE BET MIDRASH**

USY Chapter Retreat!

February 27 – March 1

at The Irvine Outdoor
Educational Center

Eat, Pray, Laugh!

Loved Ones not here for the Holidays? Send them a Shabbat Package!

Each package
is filled with
goodies,
festive items
and a
note from
Rabbi Spitz!

*Bake: Sunday,
February 22
at 9:30 AM
Ship: Monday,
February 23
Arrive by Shabbat,
February 27

Price \$25

*Order Forms due February 9
email: CBICollegePackage@gmail.com
or send order form to CBI office

**When you hear of a lifecycle event
in our CBI community (whether
simcha, illness or a death), or if
you have something which you
wish the clergy to be aware of,
please notify the CBI office.**

**Call (714) 730-9693 or
e-mail cbi18@cbi18.org.**

Thank You CBI FAMILY

We deeply appreciate your
support of the Anti-Defamation League
and honoring us at the
2014 Annual Brunch.

We are blessed to be a part
of this amazing community.

With love and esteem,
Heather & Stuart Katz

CAMP MOUNTAIN CHAI
BIG BEAR, CA

Experience the Magic in the Mountains!

**EVERY 1ST TIME CAMPER
IS ELIGIBLE FOR A \$700 CAMP GRANT!**

**REGISTRATION FOR 2015 IS WELL UNDER WAY!
CONTACT US TODAY FOR AVAILABILITY**

- 2, 3, 5 & 7 WEEK SESSIONS AVAILABLE
- JUNE 21 – AUGUST 12
- FULLY KOSHER
- ONLINE REGISTRATION
- SCHOLARSHIP & GRANTS AVAILABLE

✉ INFO@CAMPMOUNTAINCHAI.COM
☎ 858-499-1330
🌐 WWW.CAMPMOUNTAINCHAI.COM

ACCREDITED

HAPPENINGS AND POINTS OF INTEREST@CBI

ONGOING WEEKLY OR BI-WEEKLY:

CONTINUE TO LEARN ON SHABBAT MORNINGS: Parashat Hashavuah~ Study the week's Torah portion from 8:30 – 9:20 AM every Saturday before services.

HOW TO READ HEBREW SCRIPTURE WITH A MODERN LENS: 1:15 – 2:15 PM every Saturday afternoon in the Bet Midrash.

DON'T FORGET SUNDAY MORNING MINYAN: 9:10 – 10:00 AM in the Bet Midrash.

COME JOIN US FOR WEDNESDAY MINYAN: 7:30 AM at a private home in Newport Beach.

JUNIOR CONGREGATION IS ALWAYS A HIT AT CBI: Every 2nd and 3rd Saturday from 10:30 – 11:45 AM in the Family Life Center. Led by CBI's Director of Education, Robin Hoffman, Scott Spitzer and Carl Cedar. This musical, interactive service is specifically designed for children ages 7 – 11.

TOT SHABBAT FOR OUR LITTLEST CONGREGANTS: Every Shabbat morning at 11:50 AM. Singing, dancing, and so much more! Let your little ones share the beauty of Shabbat within the warm embrace of community! Come join us in the Family Life Center! We are also joined by the PJ Library on the second Shabbat of every month: January 10, February 14, and March 14.

SISTERHOOD'S ONGOING MAH JONGG is every Wednesday night at 7:00 PM in a private home. A \$5 donation is optional and payable to Sisterhood. Please bring your own mah-jongg set. RSVP to the CBI office or Roslyn Baron at normbaron@sbcglobal.net so we know how many to set up for.

TORAH IN ITS OWN VOICE: STUDY SESSIONS WITH RABBI ROBIN HOFFMAN: Every Tuesday from 12:00 Noon to 1:45 PM in a private home.

INTRODUCTION TO JUDAISM: Sundays through May 3, 1:00 – 4:00 PM.

HEBREW FOR BEGINNERS: Wednesdays through April 29, 6:30 – 7:15 PM in the Bet Midrash.

HEBREW FOR ADVANCED BEGINNERS: Wednesdays through April 29, 7:15 – 8:00 PM in the Bet Midrash.

YIDDISH CLUB MEETS: January 4 & 18, February 1 & 15, and March 1 & 15 at 11:00 AM in the Family Life Center.

LUNCH & LEARN: ZOHAR WITH RABBI SPITZ: Wednesdays, January 14 & 21, February 11 & 18 and March 11 & 18, 12:15 – 1:30 PM in the Social Hall.

PASSION IN PRAYER: EMBRACING OUR SEASONAL LITURGY: Sundays, January 25, February 1, and March 22 from 10:45 – 12:00 Noon in the Bet Midrash.

ONGOING MONTHLY:

MONTHLY MINHA WITH CANTOR TILCHIN: Saturdays, January 24 at 4:00 PM, February 28 and March 28 at 4:30 PM in the Cantor's home.

YOUNG FAMILY SHABBAT SERVICE AND DINNER: Fridays, February 6 & March 6. For families with children ages 10 and under; services begin at 5:30 PM and are immediately followed by dinner. \$10 per member/\$15 per non-member, 12 years of age and over; \$5 per child member/\$7 per child non-member 2-11 years old. Children under 2 are free.

SISTERHOOD'S BOOK CLUB: Thursdays, January 8, February 12 and March 12 at 7:30 PM. We are discussing *Gone Girl* by Gillian Flynn for January, *Orphan Train* by Christina Baker Klein for February, and *Alias Grace* by Margaret Atwood for March.

PRAYERSONG January 10 from 9:30 – 10:30 AM in the Family Life Center.

SUNDAY SUPPER, AN INTERFAITH EFFORT (and perfect Mitzvah Project too!): Sundays, January 11, February 8, and March 8 from 4:00 – 7:00 PM. We need people to prepare, serve and clean up dinner for needy individuals and families at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 1221 Wass St., Tustin. Two hour time slots available.

MEDITATION WITH RABBI SPITZ: Saturdays, February 21 & March 21, 9:30 – 10:15 AM in the Bet Midrash.

TEEN SEUDAH SH'LISHIT AND LEARNING WITH RABBINIC INTERN ADIR GLICK: Saturdays, February 21 at 5:00 PM and March 21 at 5:30 PM in the Social hall, followed by a USY-style *Havdalah*.

EXPERIENTIAL PRAYER AND TEXT STUDY WITH RABBINIC INTERN, ADIR GLICK: Saturday mornings, January 24 & February 21 at 10:30 AM: Come join us in the Bet Midrash!

CBI MEN'S CLUB MEETING: Sundays, January 25, February 22, and March 22 at 10:15 AM in the Social Hall.

CBI MEN'S CLUB POKER NIGHT: Sundays, January 25, February 22, and March 22 at 7:00 PM in a private home.

SYNAGOGUE SKILLS WITH CANTOR TILCHIN: Saturdays, January 31 and March 14 from 9:30 – 10:15 AM in the Bet Midrash.

HAPPENINGS IN JANUARY ONLY

FAST OF THE TENTH OF TEVET: Thursday, January 1: Service at 9:30 AM in the Bet Midrash.

SHABBATON WITH DR. HARTLEY LACHTER: January 9-10.

BRUNCH FOR PAID-UP SISTERHOOD MEMBERS: Sunday, January 18 at 10:30AM in a private home.

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In the B'nai Israel Family . . .



Bat Mitzvah of Maya Galante

January 17, 2015 (26 Tevet)

Maya is a 7th grader at Corona Del Mar Middle School in Newport Beach where she enjoys Science and English. She loves reading, playing volleyball, hanging out with her friends and going to the beach. Her favorite thing is spending a few weeks each summer at Camp Alonim. For Maya's mitzvah project she made and sold blankets to raise money to purchase art supplies that will be donated to the Friendship Circle and the Orangewood Children's Foundation. She also volunteers her time once a month with special needs teens. Maya organized a book drive and collected books to be donated to these organizations. Maya has worked very hard preparing for her bat mitzvah and thanks her mom, dad and brother for their continued support and patience. Maya is excited to share the day with her whole family and her friends from camp, temple and school. Mazal Tov! ☆



Bat Mitzvah of Anna Eisen

February 7, 2015 (18 Shevat)

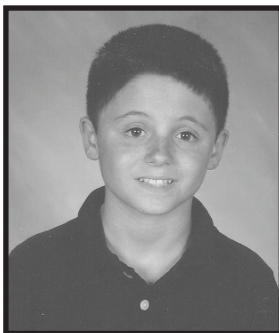
Anna is a 7th grader at Tarbut V'torah and is enrolled in the Advance Institute of Art Program. Anna has been singing with the Southern California Children's chorus since kindergarten and is in the Glee Club at school. She also earned her black belt in Tae Kwon Do. Anna loves to hang out with her friends, boogie board, ski and watch too much TV and videos. Above all else, Anna loves to draw and aspires to a career as a cartoonist. Following in the footsteps of her Grandma Bubbie Bernice and cousin Shayna Silk, Anna's mitzvah project is to serve the blind. She will be raising funds for the Seeing Eye Dogs of America to honor her great grandfather, Isadore Eisen. Anna is very excited to share this special day with her family, friends and CBI community. Mazal Tov! ☆



Bar Mitzvah of Benjamin Susskind

February 28, 2015 (9 Adar)

Ben is in 7th grade at Orange County School of the Arts, where he is in the Musical Theater conservatory. He enjoys acting, singing, and set-design, and recently performed in South Coast Repertory's A Christmas Carol. For his mitzvah project, he is helping the homeless. Mazal Tov! ☆



Bar Mitzvah of Noah Susskind

February 28, 2015 (9 Adar)

Noah is in 7th grade at Venado Middle School, where he is on the honor role and takes GATE classes. He enjoys playing soccer, FIFA, and spending time with his friends. He especially loves his dog, Lilly, who was rescued from the Pets and Pals shelter two years ago. For his mitzvah project, he is feeding the homeless. Mazal Tov! ☆

CALLING ALL SHPIELERS: C'MON FEEL THE NOISE!!!

Singers/Actors/ Rockers of ALL AGES welcome
Sunday, January 11: Organizational Rehearsal
1:00-3:00 PM in the CBI sanctuary

Shushan honors 80's Rock and Roll with the California premier of
"SHLOCK OF AGES"
Performance date: Wednesday night March 4

In the B'nai Israel Family . . . cont.



Bar Mitzvah of Ryan Reiss

March 7, 2015 (16 Adar)

Ryan is a 7th grader at Yorba Linda Middle School. He is a straight-A honors student who is currently in Advanced Eighth Grade Math in addition to his regular advanced 7th grade classes. He is active in his school's ASB and is looking forward to further leadership roles. Ryan is highly competitive in sports, playing both club soccer and baseball. He also enjoys video games, playing basketball, and running. His favorite places to visit are Maui and Orlando. Ryan has also routinely volunteered at Sunday Supper. In addition, his baseball team raised more than \$5,000 for the CHOC Orthopaedic Institute. Ryan celebrates this milestone with his parents Lilya and Joel, his siblings Brady and Emma, his grandparents, Diane and Fred, as well as his family traveling from the East Coast. Mazal Tov! ☆



Bat Mitzvah of Clara Seely-Katz - off-site

March 14, 2015 (23 Adar)

Clara is a 7th Grader at TVT where she is very creative and loves to make all sorts of art -- including drawing, painting and sculpture. Clara likes to ski, surf, swim, read, and play volleyball. In the fall quarter, Clara was awarded the All-Star award by the coaches in her Tri-Way Volleyball league. Clara loves animals and hopes to have a large collection of them under her care someday (including rats and a teacup pig), but right now she has her Poodle Mix, Archie to take care of. Clara is very involved with the OC Jewish Community through her involvement in the Community Scholar Program and Tarbut. Her mitzvah projects are centered around finding homes and/or good care for needy pets and animals. Clara also really enjoys helping out at Sunday Supper. She is looking forward to celebrating her Bat

Mitzvah with her older sister Emma, her parents, grandparents, as well as family and friends from around the country! Mazal Tov! ☆



Bat Mitzvah of Leslie Frankel

March 21, 2015 (1 Nisan)

Leslie attends Fairmont Private School in North Tustin, where she is a 7th grade honors student. Leslie plays on Fairmont's volleyball team, and is on the cheerleading squad. She's also a member of the school's vocal ensemble, and participates in her school's drama program. For her mitzvah project, Leslie has been feeding those in need, both at CBI's Sunday Supper and at Isaiah House in Santa Ana. She is looking forward to celebrating her bat mitzvah with her family and friends. Mazal Tov! ☆



Bar Mitzvah of Evan Youngblade

March 28, 2015 (8 Nisan)

Evan is currently rocking 7th grade at Sierra Vista Middle School in Irvine. If he is not playing club soccer or tennis and the water is warm, you will often find Evan body surfing at the beach with the friends he has made in the two years since moving to California. On those occasions when he is home, Evan likes to read, hang out with friends and of course, play Xbox. For his mitzvah project, Evan chose to volunteer with Sunday Supper and help feed people who are less fortunate than himself. Evan is excited to be sharing this special event with his parents, Lynda and Allen, his sister Rachel, his grandparents, uncles, aunts, cousins and friends who are coming from across the country and as far away as Israel. Mazal Tov! ☆

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Schedule of Services for February and March

Friday, February 6

5:30 PM Young Family Service and Dinner
6:00 PM Service

Saturday, February 7

Bat Mitzvah of Anna Eisen

9:30 AM Service PARASHAT: YITRO
Torah: Exodus 18:1 – 20:22
Haftarah: Isaiah 6:1 – 7:6; 9:5 -6

Friday, February 13

6:00 PM Service

Saturday, February 14

Shabbat Shekalim

Mevarekhim Hahodesh

9:30 AM Service PARASHAT: MISHPATIM
Torah: Exodus 22:4 – 23:19
Haftarah: 2 Kings 12:1 - 17
9:30 AM CBI Coastal Service

Friday, February 20

6:00 PM Service

Saturday, February 21

9:30 AM Service PARASHAT: TERUMAH
Torah: Exodus 26:1 – 26:30
Haftarah: I Kings 5:26 – 6:13

Friday, February 27

6:00 PM Service

Saturday, February 28

B'nai Mitzvah of Noah & Ben Susskind

Hal'lu Musical Service

9:30 AM Service PARASHAT: TETSAVEH
Torah: Exodus 28:31 – 29:18
Maftir: Deuteronomy 25:17 - 19
Haftarah: 1 Samuel 15: 2 – 34
4:30 PM Mincha at Cantor's Home

Wednesday, March 4 - 5

See front cover for all Hag Purim Services

Friday, March 6

Shushan Purim

5:30 PM Young Family Service and Dinner
6:00 PM Service

Saturday, March 7

Bar Mitzvah of Ryan Reiss

9:30 AM Service PARASHAT: KI TISSA
Torah: Exodus 31:18 – 33:11
Haftarah: 1 Kings 18:1 - 39
9:30 AM CBI Coastal Service

Friday, March 13

6:00 PM Service

Saturday, March 14

Mevarekhim Hahodesh

9:30 AM Service PARASHAT:

VAYAK HEL + PEKUDEI

Torah: Exodus 37:17 – 39:21

Maftir: Numbers 19: 1 - 22

Haftarah: Ezekiel 36:16 - 38

Friday, March 20

6:00 PM Service

6:00 PM CBI Coastal Service

Saturday, March 21

Bat Mitzvah of Leslie Frankel

Shabbat Hahodesh

Shabbat Rosh Hodesh

9:30 AM Service PARASHAT: VAYIKRA

Torah: Leviticus 3:1 – 4:26;

Numbers 28:9 -15

Haftarah: Ezekiel 45:16 – 46:18

Friday, March 27

6:00 PM Service

Saturday, March 28

Bar Mitzvah of Evan Youngblade

Shabbat Hagadol

9:30 AM Service PARASHAT: TSAV

Torah: Leviticus 7:11 – 7:38

Haftarah: Malachi 3:4 – 24, 23

HAPPENINGS, cont. from page 7

SHABBAT SERVICES LED BY SISTERHOOD: Saturday, January 24 at 9:30AM. Come join us as Sisterhood and our female CBI congregants lead and participate in services!

HELP SERVE BREAKFAST TO THE HOMELESS: Sunday, January 25, 9:45 – 11:15 AM at the LightHouse: 1885 Anaheim Ave., Costa Mesa 92627.

HAPPENINGS IN FEBRUARY ONLY

SHALOM Y'ALL: CDC FUNDRAISER: Sunday, February 8, 3:30 – 5:30 PM. A rootin', tootin' shindig for all ages!

A SISTERHOOD RECIPE-TASTING EXTRAVAGANZA: Monday, February 9 at 7:30 PM. Come hear Marcia Friedman and taste some of her recipes from *Meat Balls and Matzah Balls!*

HAL'LU MUSICAL SHABBAT SERVICE: Saturday, February 28 at 9:30 AM in the Family Life Center.

COSMIC HAVDALAH CELEBRATION: Sunday, February 21 at 6:30 PM. Join us for an inspiring Havdalah led by our own USY and complete with a mobile planetarium! Details forthcoming.

HAPPENINGS IN MARCH ONLY

SISTERHOOD'S BIBLIODRAMA WITH RABBI SPITZ: Sunday, March 1 at 10:45 AM. Join us in a journey of insight and imagination!

PURIM CELEBRATION WITH DALE SCHATZ: Wednesday, March 4 at 6:00 PM. Details on front cover.

HAG PURIM SERVICES & CELEBRATIONS: Please see front cover for details.

PURIM CARNIVAL FOR ALL AGES: Sunday, March 8 from 12 Noon – 2:00 PM. Come support the Youth Department. Booth Sponsorships greatly needed and appreciated!

CBI BLOOD DRIVE: Monday, March 9, 1:00 – 7:00 PM in the Social Hall. Register online at redcrossblood.org, code name bnai.

SHABBAT CELEBRATION WITH DALE SCHATZ: Saturday, March 28 at 9:30 AM in the Family Life Center.

CBI'S ANNUAL GALA: Sunday, March 29 at 5:00 PM. Join us in honoring our past president, Beth Elster.

Congregation B'nai Israel gratefully acknowledges the following donations ~ January, February and March

GENERAL FUND

IN HONOR OF

Mazel Tov to Ron and Francine Morrison on the birth of their grandchild

- Joe and Barbara Baim

In gratitude to Viviana Schulman, Helene Coulter and Ness Albagli for their courtesies during High Holy Days

- Yolande Bati

In recognition of and heartfelt gratitude to my CBI family and its outpouring of love and comforting support at the loss of my beloved Joe

- Yolane Bati

To Arie Katz, Aaron Miller, Liora Cohen, Helene Coulter, Carl Cedar, thank you for making Abby's Bat Mitzvah experience so meaningful

- Robin and Barry Steinmetz

Alyiah and Arc opening

- Ness Albagli

Shai Sklar, granddaughter of Bob and Marsha Sklar on becoming a Bat Mitzvah

- Natalie and Mike Vishny
- Sandy and Robert Klein
- Elaine and Jack Finkelstein
- Ness Albagli

Alyiah at Michael Kravitz's Bar Mitzvah

- Daniel and Phyllis Horwitz

Elaine Finkelstein's 80th birthday

- Cindy and Michael Furst

Travelers prayer before Israel trip

- Marion and Lee Brockett

Neil Spingarn and Dvora Cyrlak, thank you for your kindness and friendship

- Batia Swed

Mazel Tov to Danny Taylor on your Bar Mitzvah

- Elaine and Jack Finkelstein

Alyiah

- Anvar Alfi

Alyiah in memory of Moshe Ettinger

- Ruth Ettinger and Sheila Siegel

Anita Stein's 90th birthday

- Francine and Ron Morrison

The birth of their granddaughter, Hannah Morgan McFarland

- Bonnie and Scott Kirsch

Jay Witzlings birthday

- Michael and Cindy Furst

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Ruth Happ, mother of Sandy Klein

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Rabbi Spitz for his completion of Talmud study

- Mindy and David Paskil

- Roz Sher

- Yolande Bati

cont. on next page

DONATIONS, cont. from previous page

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Rabbi Spitz, thank you for making Abby's Bat Mitzvah experience so meaningful
- Robin and Barry Steinmetz

CANTOR'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

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Cantor Tilchin, thank you for making Abby's Bat Mitzvah experience so meaningful

- Robin and Barry Steinmetz

Thank you for helping Lauren and Logan with their mikvah

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Mindy Paskil and Rabbi Robin Hoffman, thank you for making Abby's Bat Mitzvah experience so meaningful

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Debbie Hebron, thank you for your wonderful years of service to the community

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Please see the CBI website for a complete list of Yartzeits for this month.

Life Cycle Events in the Shofar
engagements, weddings, births
e-mail the details to
cbi8@cbi8.org

Kiddushes

Mazal Tov and Todah Rabbah to the following families for co-sponsoring CBI Kiddushes:

Djamshid Farivar in honor of Shervin's birthday
 Steven Littman in honor of Phyllis Abrams' birthday
 The Michaels family in honor of Jacqueline and Blake's anniversary
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 Anvar and Janet Alfi in honor of Marvin's birthday
 Ingrid and Joel Gallin in honor of Joel's birthday
 Cecily and Wolfe Yudelman in honor of Wolfe's birthday
 Phyllis and Al Steinberg in honor of Al's 84th birthday
 Bonnie and Scott Kirsch in honor of the birth of their granddaughter,
 Hannah Morgan McFarland
 Ellen and Howard Mirowitz in honor of Eric's birthday
 The Ascher family in honor of Alexis coming to the Torah
 Robyn and Brian Pittluck in honor of Emily's birthday
 The Ruth and Jerome Raskin in honor of their anniversary
 Elaine and Jack Finkelstein in honor of Elaine's birthday
 Roksana Ebrahemi in memory of her grandfather, Shlomo ben Chaim
 Marshall and Marcia Margolis in honor of Aaron's birthday
 Francine and Colin Wenhardt in honor of their anniversary
 Edythe and Robert Messe in honor of their anniversary
 David and Ofra Willner in honor of their 60th anniversary
 Samuel and Hana Mahgretef
 Colin Wenhardt in honor of Francine's birthday
 Nonna Snider in memory of her grandmother, Sarah Sheynkman
 Anvar and Janet Alfi in honor of Janet's birthday
 Ed Sussman in honor of Fredda's birthday
 Phyllis and Al Steinberg in honor of their anniversary
 Gila and John Alfi in honor of Gila's birthday
 David and Phyllis Iser in honor of their anniversary and Phyllis' birthday
 Andy and Esther Dosick in honor of their anniversary
 The Velazquez family in honor of Joshua's birthday
 The Elster family in honor of Beth's birthday
 Donna Gilbert Vann in honor of her birthday
 Deanna Epstein in honor of David's birthday
 Batia Swed in honor of her birthday
 Anvar and Janet Alfi in honor of their anniversary
 David and Andrea Ozeran in honor of Emily's birthday
 Aaron Harari in memory of his grandmother Sarah Harari
 Francis and Guther Kallman in honor of their anniversary
 Joel and Ingrid Gallin in honor of their anniversary
 Howard and Ingrid Rosenthal in honor of Hannah's birthday
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 Becky and Perry Bridger in honor of Naomi's birthday



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**February 6 and
March 6
CBI's Family
5:30 PM Shabbat Service
followed by Dinner
(for families with children
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Dated Material

Schedule of Services for January

Thursday, January 1

Fast of the 10th of Tevet

9:30 AM Service

Torah: Exodus 32:11 – 14: 34: 1 – 10

Haftarah: Isaiah 55: 6 – 56:8

Friday, January 2

6:00 PM Service

Saturday, January 3

9:30 AM Service

Parashat: VAYHI

Torah: Genesis 49:1 – 49:26

Haftarah: I Kings 2: 1 – 12



Friday, January 9

6:00 PM Service

Saturday, January 10

9:30 AM Service PARASHAT: SHEMOT

Torah: Exodus 1:1 – 6:1

Haftarah: Isaiah 27: 6 – 28:13; 29:22 – 23

Friday, January 16

6:00 PM Service

6:00 PM CBI Coastal Service

Saturday, January 17

Bat Mitzvah of Maya Galante

Mevarekhim Hahodesh

9:30 AM Service PARASHAT: VA'ERA

Torah: Exodus 7:8 – 8:15

Haftarah: Ezekiel 28:25 – 29:21

Friday, January 23

6:00 PM Service

Saturday, January 24

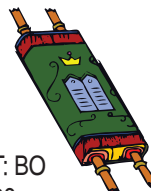
Sisterhood Shabbat

9:30 AM Service PARASHAT: BO

Torah: Exodus 11:4 – 12:28

Haftarah: Jeremiah 46:13 – 28

4:00 PM Mincha at Cantor's Home



Friday, January 30

6:00 PM Service

Saturday, January 31

Shabbat Shira

9:30 AM Service PARASHAT: BESHALLAH

Torah: Exodus 14:15 – 16:10

Haftarah: Judges 4:4 – 5:31

SATURDAYS ONLY

- **Child Care** is available from 10:45 AM until the conclusion of services every week.
- **Junior Congregation** for Grades K through 6 begins at 10:30 AM upstairs in the Family Life Center; 2nd and 3rd Saturdays.
- **Tot Shabbat** for Pre-schoolers and parents begins at 11:50 AM in the Family Life Center.
- **PJ Library** joins Tot Shabbat Jan. 10, Feb. 14 and March 14.



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