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Monthly **Bulletin**

Congregation Beth Israel
West Hartford, CT
March 2012
Number 7



Barbara Friedman
as
Vashti

Fred FitzGerald
as
Hamen **Boo! Hiss!**

Mitch Cohen
as
King Ahasuerus

Jeff Smith
as
Mordechai

YOUNG ESTHER, QUEEN OF THE DESERT

A musical retelling of the story of Esther

Lyrics Preview!

Sung to the tune of *I Will Survive*
originally performed by Gloria Gaynor

Our people were afraid, we were terrified.
A tyrant threatened us with not just death,
but genocide
But then a hero came along
With the *chutzpah* to stand strong
And we were saved
And so we lived to sing this song!

Yes, we're still here! We are alive!
And as long as there's one Jew to *kvetch*
Our people will survive
We've got *chutzpah*, we've got heart
Lawyers, doctors, 'cause we're smart!
We will survive! We will survive!

SUNDAY, MARCH 11, 10:30 AM

A Guaranteed Good Time!

FOLLOWED BY OUR ANNUAL AWESOME



PURIM CARNIVAL



ESPECIALLY DESIGNED FOR YOUNG AND OLD!

See pages 6-7 for all of the details!

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Visit our website, www.cbict.org, for additional content and information.

WE MOURN THE LOSS OF MEMBERS OF OUR COMMUNITY

Muriel Bressler, sister of Lenore Blank
Sheldon Chafetz, father of Stuart Chafetz and his wife Ann Krinitsky, and Deena Chafetz
Phyllis Pearl Fink, sister of Bennett Pearl and his wife Libby
David Garlansky, friend of David Ward and his wife Cindy
Rosalind Gold, mother of Ken Kaufman and his wife Lauren;; grandmother of Stephanie and Eric Kaufman
Myra Lansky James, mother of Amy James, Raquel Isaza, Claudia Isaza, and Robert Isaza; grandmother of Soren Hough and Jadin James
Florence Kaye, aunt of Lionel Jackowitz and his wife Beverly
Anatoliy Khazanov, father of Eugene Hazanov; grandfather of Jane Hazanov
Naomi Klein, mother of Robert Klein and his wife Karen, and Donald Klein
Julie Kronowitz, niece of Ronnie and Gerald McNamara
Jack Laffin, husband of Jo Laffin; step-father of Paula-Rae Cohn; brother-in-law of Shirley and Henry Seltzer
Vera Lundina, mother of Valentina Shkolnik and her husband Nikolay; grandmother of Alexander Shkolnik and his wife Lauren; sister of Roza and Alexander
Michael Passehl, brother of Diane Davidson and her husband Harry
Frances Perelman, mother of Susan and Bob Zarchen, Steve and Kathy Elovich, and Robert and Susan Elovich; grandmother of six; great-grandmother of two
Arnold Pessin, brother of Marcia Kagan and Sandy Gersten, and Sandy's husband, Aaron; uncle of Jeffrey Kagan and his wife Sunny
Ilya Rozovsky, husband of Natalya; father of Julia and Danny; son of Yefim and Inna Rozovsky; brother of Lily Beider and her husband Michael, and Leonard Rozovsky and his wife Svetlana
Yefim Rozovsky, husband of Inna; father of Len Rozovsky and his wife Svetlana, Lily Beider and her husband Michael, and father-in-law of Natalya Rozovsky; grandfather of Yan Rozovsky, his wife Irina and daughter Lia, Eugene Rozovsky and his wife Yana, Julia Rozovsky, Dina Beider, and Danny Rozovsky
Lawrence "Larry" Schwartz, husband of Evelyn; father of Riki Motes and her partner Dean Scheffler, David Schwartz and his wife Joanne; grandfather of eight; great-grandfather of nine
Lewis Sheketoff, husband of Sylvia Sheketoff; father of Alan Charles ("Chuck") Sheketoff and his wife Naseem Rakha; grandfather of Elijah Rakha-Sheketoff; brother of Gilda Brock and Zelda Gersten
Irwin Singer, husband of Beverly; father of Gregory, Jonathan, and Pamela and her husband Allen Bestwick; grandfather of Andrew and Austin
Bernice Waldman, mother of Nancy and Robert Pearlman, Jaime and Mark Seltzer, and Jamie and Keith Waldman; sister-in-law of Evelyn Perlstein and Ethel Waldman; grandmother of Marisa and Scot Lerner, Lindsay Pearlman, Amanda and Matthew Seltzer, and Zoe, Emma, and Benjamin Waldman; great-grandmother of Cali Lerner

Introducing our New Director of Noah's Ark, Leah Bratton!

Leah Bratton became Noah's Ark's Director at the beginning of December. She came to Noah's Ark—and to West Hartford—from Vermont, where she lived for thirty years, mostly in Brattleboro. She now lives right around the corner from Beth Israel with her husband Farren and their cat Minou. Their two sons—now young adults—Sascha and Cory, live in Brattleboro, and she is the proud grandmother of Dillon who just turned five years old.



Leah and her grandson, Dillon

What was your path to becoming an early childhood program leader and director?

I started working in the field of early childhood education more than thirty years ago as a teacher at Temple Israel Early Learning Center on the Upper East Side in Manhattan. I left Temple Israel, and New York, to move to Vermont (and get married!) but could not find a teaching position. Vermont is a very small state, and at that time there were not many early childhood programs. The few that existed offered limited opportunities. Therefore, I took an extended sabbatical from early education to work in administrative and management positions in different kinds of interesting organizations—everything from the Brattleboro Music Center and School to a women's shelter to a children's mental health program. When my own children started attending an early childhood program, I loved spending time in their classrooms. A position opened up as a program administrator, and I jumped on it. The job offered a chance to combine my interest and experience in early education with my administrative and management skills. I returned to graduate school to earn a Master's Degree in Early Childhood Education/Child Development and went on to hold a number of education management positions, including Education and Disabilities Services Coordinator for Early Head Start. My path also led me to return to direct service, teaching children and supporting families as an early interventionist, and I continued my education to become a licensed early childhood special educator. Before coming to Congregation Beth Israel's Noah's Ark, I was the director of The Little School, a NAEYC-accredited early education program in Weston, Vermont.

What motivated you to become an early childhood educator and to continue in the field?

Advocacy and collaboration have always been part of my work with young children and families—indeed, it is an essential role. A commitment to social justice underlies my choice of a career in early childhood education, early intervention, and early childhood special education, and it is this commitment, along with the inspiration offered by children and families with whom I work, that motivates me to continue. Throughout my career, my professional and personal commitment is to making our community a better place for children and families. I believe it is my professional obligation to participate in the decision-making processes of my community, to promote the efforts of organizations and individuals who support young children and families, and to advance the fields of early child-

hood education, special education, and child development.

I have been excited to discover that West Hartford has a very active early childhood professional community and a great deal of advocacy work is going on. In fact, I've already joined the West Hartford Early Childhood Partnership, a collaboration among professionals and parents to promote the well-being and learning of the community's children, birth to age eight. And, our State Representative, Beth Bye, is an early childhood educator!

Tell us your beliefs about the most important aspects of a high quality early childhood programs.

There are many aspects to providing high quality services, but ultimately, the quality of the services and program rests on the quality of the professionals. It is important that they understand child development, listen to and observe children carefully, know how to scaffold children's learning, design a meaningful, engaging curriculum, and set up thoughtfully and beautifully arranged environments that encourage children's engagement and discovery. Most important are warm, supportive relationships between children and teachers, between families and teachers, and among teachers and other staff members. Further, we must build upon the strengths that all children and families possess. This requires flexibility and creativity, and the capacity to communicate with families, especially when there are cultural and language differences.

What has been the most engaging work for you as an early childhood director and leader?

Supporting teachers' professional development is perhaps the most fulfilling aspect of my work in the early childhood field. As a program manager and a consulting teacher, my most important role has been as a supervisor, teacher, and coach for teachers. I have also supported teachers' professional development by teaching workshops and making presentations at conferences.

Tell us about your first impressions and experiences at Noah's Ark.

As I meet Noah's Ark families and spend time in the classrooms, I am continually amazed at how strong and capable the children are. Every day, children are learning to express themselves through art, music, stories, movement, and so many other ways. They are learning to make friends, work cooperatively, take on challenging tasks, fulfill responsibilities and appreciate their own capabilities and accomplishments. They are growing by leaps and bounds, literally. I am impressed, too, by the dedication of Noah's Ark teachers, who strive to support young children's development and encourage their learning, and I am looking forward to working with the Noah's Ark educators on their professional development and practice. It is also clear that Noah's Ark parents care about their children's education and want them to have the best possible experiences during their days at the Ark. It is important to build on this, because a strong home-school connection is absolutely necessary when creating a good environment for young children. Although I took on the role of Noah's Ark's director just a few weeks ago, I have already gained respect and fondness for the teachers whose commitment to our children and families have clearly made Noah's Ark the warm and welcoming community it is. A day at Noah's Ark always starts with a warm welcome for everyone. We're so glad to see the children—and the parents, too. It's great to be here!

SEAN MICHAEL ENNIS

Saturday, March 17, 11am

JORDAN AVRUM KEI-RAHN

Saturday, March 24, 11am

CAMMIE MAIA CHO

Saturday, March 31, 11am

Parashot

At Sinai, Moses is given and imparts instructions for the construction of the *mishkan* (tabernacle). Between the instructions and construction of the mishkan is the episode of the golden calf. Exodus concludes with the completion of the Tabernacle. The first two parashot in Leviticus concern offerings.

March 3 Tetzaveh (Command) Exodus 27:20-30:10
(See commentary in next column).

Zachor (Remember) Deut 25:17-19

March 10 Ki-Tisah (When you raise) Exodus 30:11-34:35

March 17 Vayakhel-Pekudei (Assembled-Accounts)

Exodus 35:1-38:20; 38:21-40:38

Parah (Cow) Numbers 19:1-22

March 24 Vayikra (He called) Leviticus 1:1-5:26

HaChodesh (the month) Exodus 12:1-20

Rosh Chodesh (First of the month) Numbers 28:9-15

March 31 Shabbat HaGadol (the Great Sabbath)

Tzav (Command) Leviticus 6:1-8:36

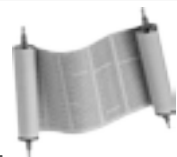
Beginning with this bulletin, we will focus on one parsha per month. Additional information on the parashot can be found on the CBI website at <http://www.cbict.org/category/torah-portions/> or go to www.cbict.org then **Learn** then **Torah Portions**.

Tetzaveh

Joe Dix

In this portion we learn about the priestly vestments. More than just fancy clothes for the priests, their symbolic nature reminded the priest that he carried the sins of the Israelites: fringed tunic—murder; breeches—sexual immorality; headdress—haughtiness; sash—sinful thoughts of the heart; breastpiece—unrighteous judgment; ephod—idolatry; robe—*lashon hara*; and the gold plate—impudent deeds (Mishnah Arachin 16a). The priestly vestments are also *l'kavod ul'tifaret* (for honor and beauty). Exodus 28:2. But whose honor and beauty? In the blessing after reading from the Haftarah on Shabbat morning we thank God “for giving us the Sabbath for holiness and rest, for honor and beauty.” Six priestly vestments are grouped together at Exodus 28:4 (breastpiece, ephod, robe, fringed tunic, headdress, and sash) and then discussed in detail at verses 5-35. Then a seventh is mentioned at verse 36—the gold plate. On the gold plate is the inscription “holy to the Lord.” The Sabbath is also “holy to the Lord.” Exodus 31:15. The honor and beauty are for the Sabbath. •

Joe Dix is Chairman of the Adult Education Committee.



Judaism...It's Personal



It is hard to believe that it is March already. In just a few days we will be donning costumes and picking up groggers to honor the bravery of Queen Esther and her heroic decisions all those years ago in Shushan. And just a few short weeks after that, we will gather in homes and in our synagogue to celebrate our people's redemption. The Passover Seder is, amazingly enough, American Judaism's most observed religious ritual. On April 6 and 7 Jews across the country will retell the story of our freedom from slavery, eat a delicious ritual meal, and conclude with a vision of the future. "Next year in Jerusalem," they will say, just as they have done for hundreds of years. The Passover Seder has always been my favorite Jewish ritual (the seven or eight days of eating matzah... not so much!) As I began to make the jump from individual Jew to Jewish professional, the Seder revealed a great secret to me, a secret that I think could save contemporary Judaism and solve many of the problems today's Judaism faces.

What is the mindset with which we are encouraged to enter the Seder each year? What is the theme that flows throughout the entire experience? Over and over again, the Hagaddah tells us we are supposed to imagine that *we ourselves* were there, that *we* and *our* children were slaves in the land of Egypt, that *we* and *our* children were led out with a mighty hand. Contrary to popular belief, the Hagaddah and the Seder experience are not meant to be simply a retelling of this most important narrative, but rather a *reenactment* of it. Rather than simply discussing the pain, depression, and suffering of our ancestors at the hands of their Egyptian taskmasters, we must *live* it *ourselves* through the consumption of bitter herbs. Rather than simply reading about the miracle of the sea and the sweet victory of freedom, we must *live* it *ourselves*, by reclining on pillows, and refilling our glasses time and time again. In essence, we must *personalize* this particular Jewish experience.

To personalize something is, by necessity, to make it subjective. To personalize something is to necessarily squish it, mold it, shape it, pinch it, and form it until it fits *your* needs, until it reflects who *you* are. To personalize something is to infuse it with *your* spirit and *your* inner creativity. Imagine the possibilities if we applied this lesson of Passover to every Jewish act, to every ritual, to every experience. Oh, how we would transform our community and ultimately the Jewish people! The challenge is that early modernity coached us to believe

Rabbi Dena Shaffer

that Judaism is a science that offers formulaic instructions with the ingredients of thought, speech, and action. We were led to believe that as Jews we were like Golems, lifeless bodies that only a Rabbi or Jewish professional, or someone who knew how to do it “right” could animate. The truth is that Judaism today is not a science; it is an art—albeit with some rules (which is how we maintain a sense of community)—an art that depends on our creativity, sincerity, and presence.

I am not one of those worrying, statistic-providing, panic-driven Jews who professes that we are on the verge of witnessing the collapse of our religion. I see way too many individuals in my own peer group wanting, no, *needing*, a connection to their faith for me to feel like the survival of Judaism is threatened. And besides, I'm way too optimistic for that. But I also don't believe that mere survival should be our goal, for survival is not nearly enough. I want Judaism, particularly our brand of Judaism, to thrive, and I believe that personalization and creativity are the keys. Recently at CBI we offered a Sunday morning panel discussion on bringing Shabbat observance into your home. The well-attended program ended with a question and answer session. I was blown away by the number of questions that in essence revealed people's fear that they might be expected to observe the entirety of Shabbat in the most “correct” way and if they couldn't, perhaps they shouldn't observe it at all. This sentiment surprised me. As one of your Rabbis, I want you to feel *empowered* by Jewish observance—any and all of it! Shabbat, like Passover, can and should be a personal experience in which individuals and families creatively engage with the smorgasbord of rituals that presents itself on those days or to even develop a new ritual all their own.

Let's make Judaism personal again. Let's infuse our community with the spirit of creativity. Let's worry less about the “right way” and the “wrong way” to do things and simply encourage one another and ourselves to do something at all. Let's *live* our Movement's principle of Choice through Knowledge and take our religious autonomy seriously. Let's allow ourselves to dream up ways to make our religion meaningful and let our only boundaries be the Jewish framework and our own imaginations.

You can begin personalizing your Judaism by choosing the Seder that best fits you at our Super Seder Community Passover Event on April 7. See the registration form (page 20) for more information. If you're interested in leading one of the tables, please contact Rabbi D as soon as possible, rabbishaffer@gmail.com. •

Scout Shabbat

Early Service, Friday, March 2, 6:30pm

if your son or daughter has received a Religious Emblem in scouting, please come to this service. Our clergy will officially bestow the emblem on your child.

Tot Shabbat

Saturday, March 3, 10:30am

An engaging Jewish experience for infant and preschool children!

Young Families and Friends

Saturday, March 17, 5:30pm

This month, instead of our traditional Shabbat service, we will have a “pajama” Havdalah celebration! Come join us for dinner, a special kid-friendly Havdalah, and crafts and games! RSVP **Michele Meyer**, mgmct9@yahoo.com, by Wednesday, March 14 with the number of children and adults attending.

Kabbalat Shabbat

Friday, March 30, 6:30pm

Share in an uplifting, spiritual service and then stay for a dinner! Cost for each dinner is \$15/adult, \$12/student & senior, and there is a \$54 cap for families. RSVP **Sarah Beck**, sbeck@cbict.org, 860-233-8215 by Tuesday, March 27.

The Creative Minds Behind Our Purim Celebration

Eric Schneider, Purim Carnival Organizer

What do you think of Purim as a holiday?

The show and story of Esther the way we tell it at Beth Israel is an amazing event every year. That is what we are here for first, the story of Esther. I especially like that Purim tells the story of a heroine in our heritage. Taking the risk of speaking up when confronted with danger is not easy for anyone. The story of Esther helps us all think about being better people.

What motivates you every year to organize a Purim carnival?

What motivates me is the magnitude of our Purim Celebration and how there is something enjoyable for all ages. Many people at Beth Israel are known for their help in running or working on certain projects, holidays, or events in our year. This just seems to have become something I do to help our community. I consider myself active with our Brotherhood. Brotherhood supports the carnival, and this is what I do to help our Brotherhood be active in supporting a major Temple celebration.

How long have you been planning Purim Carnivals?

I think this will be the seventh carnival I have helped organize. So, since 2006.

How many hours do you put in when you are planning it?

I start dusting off last year's notes right after Chanukah. I spend about two hours a week talking to people, editing notes, making calls, sending messages, and having some meetings for the eight weeks prior to the carnival. In the two weeks before, I spend a little more time being sure the layout is OK and all of the helpers are organized. We spend five-six hours before the carnival doing the set up. At that point, it is a big team effort.

Pattie Weiss Levy, Lyricist

Pattie writes a weekly blog, NiceJewishMom.com. In these excerpts from her blog, she explains why she's written lyrics for us for 11 years.

Part of it is just that I relish the chance to write lyrics that people will actually sing and listen to, as opposed to the usual mundane fare of my life—answering emails, antagonizing my husband, and blabbering on this blog. But beyond that, there's something specific about the Purim story, which, as ancient as it may be, still speaks to us today and, I'm convinced, always will.

Heightening its personal appeal is the distinctly feminist nature of the story. Esther is still hailed as a heroine for all time, inspiring young girls, along with the rest of us, to boldly face grave danger and risk all for the greater good.

Equally compelling to me, though, is her regal predecessor, Vashti, who refused to dance while publicly baring all at the behest of her boorish husband, King Ahasuerus. For her role, I have my own personal interpretation, as illustrated in the lyrics I write. My take is that she struts out in a huff because she values her self-respect above the riches of royal life and all else. In my updated idioms, she rushes off to Reno or finds the next flight on Orbitz. The need to preserve her dignity must prevail at all costs.

I realize that this is not exactly the way the story traditionally goes. In fact, once, when my son was exasperated with me, he blurted out the one thing that he knew was sure to provoke me: "You know, what, Mom? Queen Vashti doesn't divorce the

What does the Carnival bring to Beth Israel?

Creating a way to celebrate and have food, music, games, and just an all-around good time for everyone gives me great satisfaction. It is an event which brings so much joy.

Next to the High Holy Days, when do you see so many different ages of congregants in our building for the same purpose?

Any fondest memories with the Carnival?

I have a few memories to share. First, the year we thought we were just going to have a smaller "oneg-like" event, and within three weeks (or was it less?) we had this amazing carnival to start the current standard. Then, how families like the Bermans joined our Temple after attending our show and carnival. I appreciate the "thank yous" we get. I am always happy to hear about even one child or adult each year who says that Purim was a great and memorable event for them.

Anything else you would like to mention?

I am very proud and inspired by the others who help year after year. I think they know once the eighth night of Chanukah is over, they may be getting a call from me! **WHY, Touch of Klez, Sisterhood, Brotherhood, our custodial staff, and many parent and grandparent volunteers** help out. The honor of being asked to share thoughts here must give as much credit to **Beth Dworkin and Sandy Berinstein**, who have worked with me for the seven years.



king. She gets beheaded."

"She does not!" I countered, incensed at how effortlessly he could press my buttons. "You're so wrong. That's just your opinion."

"Opinion?" he replied, derisively. "No. That's what it says in the Megillah."

After our spat had blown over, I made him take it back, of course.

Having grown up with a domineering father who humiliated my mother daily, I would far prefer to see it my way. The story of a woman (a queen, no less) who storms out rather than submitting to her husband's whims? Now that's what I call heroic. Somehow, it never grows old.

This, by the way, is my eleventh year writing lyrics for CBI's shpiel, which I began in 2002, although for the first three years, I didn't write all of the lyrics myself. I finally asked if I could do it on my own so that the production would have a more cohesive vision. And I have been doing it solo ever since.

Read more on Pattie's blog:

http://www.nicejewishmom.com/2011.01.01_arch.html



Rabbi D
will read
from the
Megillah!

With the
Not Ready for Purim Players

Original Lyrics by
Pattie Weiss Levy

Produced by
Cantor Pamela Siskin

Music Directed by
Natasha Ulyanovsky

PURIM BAND
Chet Zaslow, Bruce Badner,
and
Wally Jacobson

With 1970s and 1980s disco songs
from *Priscilla Queen of the Desert*

YOUNG ESTHER, QUEEN OF THE DESERT

A musical retelling of the story of Esther

Sunday, March 11, 10:30 am

Purim Carnival!

11:30am – 1:30pm

Following the Purim Play

Light lunch includes a **Community Kugel Bake**

Put down this Bulletin and get your eggs and noodles out and make a kugel, why doncha.

Contact **Beth Dworkin**, golden210@aol.com, and let her know whatcha bringin'!



everybody wants more kugel

With
Touch of Klez
Bounce Houses
Games and Prizes
Balloon Artistry
Popcorn

Vashti's Getaway (for the adults!)



and some hamantaschen

And how about bringing some cash for Tzedakah, Silent Auction, and Raffle opportunities brought to us by our awesome WHY!

Watch our weekly Chai Lights email newsletter for more information.

GET OUT YOUR 70s POLYESTER AND WEAR A COSTUME !

This year's Purim Carnival is funded with generous shared support from the Sisterhood and Brotherhood. Your donation now or at the carnival is much appreciated. We have a goal of \$400 more to help defray costs. Checks may be sent to Sisterhood, Congregation Beth Israel, with a note to direct the funds to the Purim Carnival Fund. Suggested \$1/person or \$5/family at the door.

Contact **Eric Schneider**, doeguy@sbcglobal.net, for questions or to offer your help.

S.A.G.E. Schedule

Dr. Robert A. Kramer Fund / Beth Israel Seniors Group S.A.G.E.: Seniors for Arts, Growth, and Education

MARCH PROGRAMS

MARCH 6

11:15 AM Discussion with **Deena Sisitsky**
1 PM Program: Forum with
Lynn Marcus-Cohen, LCSW

Lynn Marcus-Cohen is a social worker who will work at CBI eight hours per month. Lynn will provide social work services to the entire congregation. Funding for her position is courtesy of a grant by Jewish Family Services of Greater Hartford. More information will be in our *April Monthly Bulletin*, or follow *Chai Lights*, our email newsletter.

MARCH 13

11:15 AM Discussion with **Karen Beyard**
1 PM Program: Cinema Judaica. A great feature film, carefully selected by **Charlotte Berman**.

MARCH 20

11:15 AM Discussion with **Lenore Blank**
1 PM Program: *The Way We Were: The Life and Times of F. Scott Fitzgerald, Gertrude Stein, Gerald Murphy, and Ernest Hemingway*
Ruthanne Hartzheim, a teacher at ALP (Adult Learning Program), will talk about the period of our history in the 1920s and 1930s. Her talk is based on the book *The Way We Were* by Gerald Murphy. Besides being a popular lecturer at ALP, Mrs. Hartzheim is a world traveler. She and her husband have been all over the world, including India, China, South America, Russia, Southeast Asia, and Europe. She is a graduate of the University of Wisconsin.

MARCH 27

11:15 AM Discussion with **Cantor Pamela Siskin**
1 PM Program: *Another Great Singer, Regine Crespin*

Although the soprano Regine Crespin may not be a household name like Sutherland and Sills, for **Jerry Siskin** she ranks, aside from the Cantor, among the greatest singing actresses of the 20th century. Please join Jerry when he will present another in his series on great singers and explain why, for him, Crespin is the tops!

Schedule

10:15 AM: Exercise

11:15 AM to 12:15 PM:

Discussion Group—Provocative and interesting conversation on a new topic each week.

12:15 PM: Light Lunch and Dessert

CBI members \$5; Guests \$7

Reservations required for lunch!

Call **Libby and Julian Adler**, co-chairs,

860-236-4452 by Sunday.

1 PM: Guest speaker/program

President's Report



Without all of the time and hard work that our members donate to Beth Israel, we would have to shut off the lights and close the doors permanently. As each month passes by, I develop a greater appreciation for all the efforts made by each and every congregant who contributes to the

common good of our Temple. To recognize each person would take up this entire Bulletin. I would like, if I may, to talk about two such individuals. They are the people who chair the committees that are responsible for the operation and preservation of our Congregation's assets, namely our building on Farmington Avenue, our cemetery in Hartford, and our cemetery in Avon.

Eric Lessne has been the Chairman of the House Committee for eight years. As stated in our bylaws, the charge of the House Committee is to ensure that the buildings and property of the Congregation are maintained in good order and repair and shall establish the policies for the use of the physical assets of the Congregation. Every time Eric steps foot into our building he can be seen inspecting something, a crack in a wall, a malfunctioning light switch, a burned-out bulb, a thermostat that is not properly working. Just name it, he can spot a problem and immediately attend to fixing the problem. There is not an inch of space in our building with which Eric is unfamiliar. As the Associate Director of Project Management and Engineering for our State Colleges and Universities, he brings his skills from his "day job" to ensure that our Temple is a safe, comfortable and attractive building for all of us to enjoy. Through his efforts in negotiating electricity and gas rates, planning the installation of light sensors, thermostat timers, and new heating control valves, just to name a few things, Eric

Jeffrey Winnick

has saved our Congregation tens of thousands of dollars. He was the driving force in coordinating all aspects of design and construction in the Generations Campaign. Every time I see Eric's name come up on an email before I open the email or I see his name come up on a caller ID, I ask what bad news does Eric have for me today. It may be bad news because something has to be fixed and it costs us money. Face it, our building is old and things have to be repaired constantly. But I know that we are in good hands with Eric as the guardian of our Temple.

Scott Lewis has been the Chairman of the Cemetery Committee for seven years. Our bylaws state that our Cemetery Committee has the responsibility to recommend rules and regulations governing the cemeteries of the Congregation and shall supervise their operation. In his position as the Chairman, Scott has diligently overseen all facets of the operation of our cemeteries including the sales of cemetery plots, the negotiation of contracts for the maintenance of our cemeteries including grounds keeping, tree trimming and removal, masonry repairs, repairs to fences, and every other maintenance issue that I just cannot recall or have no knowledge of (which includes several issues). I have often (jokingly) said that if I were given the choice of two positions, the position of Chairman of the Cemetery Committee or the position of President of the Congregation, there is no question that I would take the position of President. The President of the Congregation frequently receives thanks for his or her service to the Temple. The Chairman of the Cemetery Committee rarely receives thanks. If there is a problem, he is the first to know about it, and it is his responsibility to fix the problem immediately. It goes with the job.

Eric and Scott, as well as all of the members of the House Committee and the Cemetery Committee, deserve the thanks of every congregant for all that they have done, and will continue to do as the custodians of Beth Israel's most precious assets. •

Legacy for Our Future



Barbara Mindell

As September 2011 dawned, I suddenly realized that I and our beautiful Temple on Farmington Avenue, were both turning 75 years old.

How could I connect these two events; what could I do to commemorate these occasions? It occurred to me that I had spent my earlier, formative years in South Orange/Newark, New Jersey, receiving my religious education at Temple B'nai Jeshurun, a large, prestigious Reform congregation founded in 1848, with the exact same interior décor as Beth Israel. Thus, when our family joined Beth Israel in 1966, I felt very much at home, in familiar surroundings. We have always been proud to say that we represent a four-generation family membership.

For more information about Legacy for Our Future, contact Bennett Pearl, Chair, 860-233-8215 x260.

Thus, it was an easy decision to celebrate my birthday by designating a portion of the Mindell/Greenspon estate to Congregation Beth Israel's "Legacy for Our Future." I know that my husband, **Robert Mindell**, and his mother, **Sadie Kaplan Mindell Greenspon**, both of blessed memory, would heartily approve. It was especially gratifying to learn that my children, **JoAnn** and **Doug Eicher**, **Susan Mindell**, and **Amy** and **David Mindell** were very excited about this bequest and grateful for the care and concern to ensure the future of Congregation Beth Israel. It is their wish and hope that others will do the same, so that their children and their children's children can enjoy the same comforts of our religious institution. •

MusicNotes



BETH ISRAEL ORGAN SOUNDS!

Natasha Ulyanovsky will play musical meditations on our Austin Organ before our Shabbat service every second Friday.

Friday, March 9, 7pm

Classical Music for Organ

Sonata in A Minor by C.P.E. Bach

Adagio in F Major by L.v. Beethoven

Allegro in G Major by L.v. Beethoven

Concerto in C Major by W.A. Mozart

WHY Events

WHY has started off the year with a variety of very exciting events! We joined the congregation for the National Day of Service by fixing bikes at the Village for Families and Children. In January, we also enjoyed a festive evening with our fellow congregants at our second annual International Dinner and Interactive Oneg, which raised funds and warm clothing for the children at the Village. In February, we had a Babysitting Fundraiser for our Social Action trip to NYC this spring. We ended the month with our WHY Creative Service, filled with introspection and great tunes. In March, we look forward to the Purim Carnival. Email cbiwhy@gmail.com if you can help run a booth.

Eva Jacobson, WHY Advisor

RICHARD McBEE

There is no such thing as Jewish Art...or is there?



An amazing two-session, once in a lifetime opportunity to hear a fascinating overview of the history of Jewish Art. Bring a friend!

Sunday, March 25

Two sessions:

11am (art from 235CE to the Renaissance)

1pm (art from the Enlightenment to Contemporary Times)

No cost to CBI members, non-member cost is \$8 per session, \$15 for both lectures.

Includes lunch.

Sign up with adulted@cbict.org, 860-233-8215 x427.

Sponsored by Bob & Frankie Goldfarb, the Adult Education Committee, the Friends of the Library, and Robert Kirschbaum

Richard McBee is a painter of contemporary Biblical subjects and writer on Jewish Art. He was Program Director of the Alliance of Figurative Artists in the 1980s and member of the Biblical Painters Group. In the 1990s he helped found the American Guild of Judaic Art and the Jewish Art Forum held at several Manhattan Orthodox synagogues. Since 2000 he has written a column on the Jewish Arts for the Jewish Press and continues to exhibit paintings and curate Jewish art exhibitions. In 2008 he was a founding member of the Jewish Art Salon. A selection of his work can be seen at richardmcbec.com

In the Library

Rena Epstein

Rena is a volunteer at the Ellen Jeanne Goldfarb Community Learning Center and a teacher in Noah's Ark.

As I was researching resources in our library for interfaith families, I happened upon a short vignette, about a couple named Mandy and John. She was Jewish, he was Catholic, and they went through some tough times, figuring out how to raise their kids and blend the two extended families. But eventually it worked out, as evidenced by this final, heart-warming sentence: "Both [grand]mothers enjoy making lots of matzah balls together for the annual Passover Seder, to which all of John's family is always invited."

When I read that, I got a little choked up. Somehow that image—of a diverse and loving interfaith family sitting down together for Seder, sharing the traditions and rituals—somehow that image seems, to me, incredibly poignant and tender and just so right.

Our intention at CBI is to be a lot like Mandy and John's Seder table: a warm, welcoming place where everyone can come to experience and learn more about Judaism.

Many of the books we have to inform and support interfaith families are identified by call number 652.2. Here are some that come highly recommended:

Reading *The Intermarriage Handbook*, by Judy Petson and Jim Remsen, is like listening to a wise counselor who helps you, as a couple, better understand feelings and issues that arise over time, and offers tools and advice to help you co-create solutions that work best for your marriage and family.

You may enjoy thumbing through *The Guide to Jewish Interfaith Family Life* edited by Ronnie Friedland and Edmund Case, *Inside Intermarriage: A Christian Partner's Perspective on Raising a Jewish Family* by Jim Keen, *Strangers to the Tribe* by Gabrielle Glaser, and *If I'm Jewish and You're Christian, What Are the Kids* by Andrea King. Opening these books

is like hearing dear friends tell you their real-life stories—sharing their happiest and proudest moments, a few mistakes and regrets, and the knowledge that questions and answers continually evolve.

If you're needing a straightforward guide to all things Jewish, pick up *Jewish Ritual: A Brief Introduction for Christians* by Rabbi Kerry Olitzky and Rabbi Daniel Judson, or *How to Raise Jewish Children...Even When You're Not Jewish Yourself* by Olitzky and Paul Golin. (By the way, these books can be most helpful, even if you are Jewish but don't know what kinds of food we eat for Chanukah or how to run a Seder!)

For Jewish grandparents who look forward to sharing traditions with interfaith grandchildren in a positive, respectful and fun-loving way, we have *Mingled Roots* by Sunie Levin, and *Twenty Things for Grandparents of Interfaith Grandchildren to Do* by Olitzky and Golin.

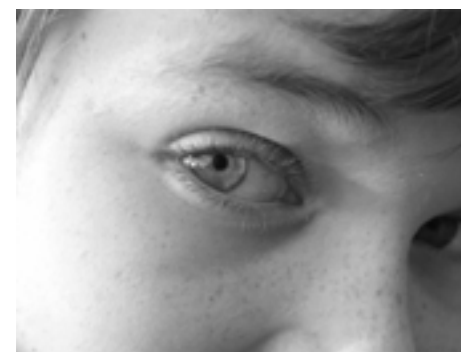
Finally, we have picture books with interfaith themes to read with young children: *Jalapeno Bagels* by Natasha Wing, *My Two Grandmothers* by Effin Older, *What Makes Someone a Jew* by Lauren Seidman, *Mommy Never Went to Hebrew School* by Mindy Portnoy, and *I Love Jewish Faces* by Debra Darwick.

For those of you who come through our doors and feel new to Judaism, just know that you are not alone—that many of us are here because we have much to learn, much to question, and much to wrestle with. We are all explorers on the same—sometimes dark, often brilliantly bright, always engaging—path.

Many thanks to Barbara Blechner and Danielle Stordy for their help with this column. •



Talking to Your Children About God Brotherhood Breakfast/Community Education Workshop



Sunday, March 18, 9:30am

Co-sponsored by Brotherhood, the Religious School Committee, and the CBI Adult Education Committee

Does your child have questions about God? Do you struggle to answer his/her questions? Join **Cantor Pamela Siskin** and panelists to explore a variety of ways families can have a conversation about God, and how to make this topic an ongoing conversation in your home. Our panel includes: **Marc L. Lehman**, LMFT, family and marriage counselor in West Hartford, and **Lisa Namerow**, MD, practicing adolescent psychiatry and pediatric psychiatry in Hartford. A packet of resources to further explore this topic will be provided. Join us for coffee and a light breakfast. A suggested donation of \$4-5 will cover the cost of your breakfast.

CBI BOOK GROUP



The CBI Book Group will meet on **Wednesday, March 7, 7:15pm** to discuss *Home in the Morning* by Mary Glickman. This is the book for the 2012 One Book One Jewish Hartford. Thank you to the **Friends of the Library** for

purchasing copies of the book so that we can participate in this program.

NEW in the Learning Center



We now are circulating e-readers loaded with books with Jewish content. Want to try one out to see what e-readers are all about? Like to read on an e-reader but don't want to purchase a particular Jewish book? Contact **Jane or Danielle** in the Learning Center for more information, jzande@cbict.org, 860-233-8215 x230.

Thank you to the **Friends of the Library** for sponsoring this initiative!

From the Archives

We participated in the multi-Temple softball league in mid-1990s. Anyone recognize these all-star players?



Join the Friends of the Library

Our Friends of the Library supports the Library beyond what our budget provides (except for staffing). Over the past years, the Friends has sponsored Jewish author programs, children's book programs, community book events, and new resources for our archives. The group helps keep our library collection up to date and maintains it as a free resource for our synagogue and our Greater Hartford Jewish community. The cost to join the Friends is \$10 per year (\$25 per year for Patron; \$100 per year for Benefactor). If you would like to show your solidarity and support and become a member for the 2012 year, please contact **Lynn Newman**, Treasurer, lnewman@renbrook.org, or contact **Jane Zande**, jzande@cbict.org, 860-233-8215 x230.

Almost 75 congregants went out into the community in a “Day of Service”, on Monday, January 16, and heeded the call to repair our fractured world. It was the national holiday when we honor the birthday of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Why did we do it, and did it make a difference?

Just before the day started, Jim Friedman and Rabbi Michael Pincus spoke eloquently about the meaning of the Day of Service. Some of their thoughts are reflected here in text and photos. More text and photos are on our website, www.cbict.org. Go to our blog and look for “Day of Service”. A video of the presentation by Jim Friedman and Rabbi Michael Pincus is available in the Learning Center.

Long story short: We did it because we are Jews, and that as Jews, we are commanded again and again to pursue justice. And yes, one person and two hours **can** make a difference.



From my perspective, the “Day of Service” was an unusually-meaningful and highly-successful experience for everyone who participated, almost 75 people, ranging in ages from 1 (Daniel Book and Benjamin Pincus) to close to 80 (unnamed).

I believe that not only did we make important contributions to the lives of many children and adults in the larger community, but our work also had an impact on every volunteer. Some saw a new part of the Hartford community, some got their hands dirty in new ways, some met congregants they did not know, some saw the meaning of their volunteer work in the faces and eyes of recipients of their service, some met people who work everyday through-

out the community in lending their hands and their hearts to those in need. I feel everyone knew they were making a difference and advancing our sacred Jewish quest for *tikkun olam*. We were, indeed, doing “justice”.—Jim Friedman

Celebrating the Dream “Day of Service” Monday, January 16, 2012



Rabbi Abraham Joshua Heschel (2nd from right) in the Selma Civil Rights March with Martin Luther King, Jr. (4th from right). Heschel later wrote, “When I marched in Selma, my feet were praying.”

Our country began the tradition of honoring Rev. Dr. King in 1986, twenty-six years ago. Proudly, we can say that for the past twenty-three years, since 1989, Congregation Beth Israel has held a Shabbat Service every January to honor Rev. Dr. King. —Jim Friedman

Some of us may question what can be done in a couple of hours. But whether someone prepares a meal for the hungry, fixes a bicycle so someone can have more mobility, or just cheers up a lonely person, whatever we do, we make a difference. And we make a statement: We are responsible for each other. —Rabbi Michael Pincus

Even if we don’t physically accomplish a lot at the places where we go, the fact that we care is noted and the attention we give to the community is sorely needed. Our visits [at the Hebrew Home] were very much appreciated. It was also quite fine folding bulletins for further distribution, it was relaxing and allowed time for conversation. I believe the children enjoyed going to the Hebrew Home since I talked to one of them afterwards and they did seem enthusiastic. — Norm Schain



I thought our project (fixing bikes at the Village) was extremely worthwhile. Besides the obvious mitzvah of having working bicycles for the kids who live there, there were benefits to our kids who participated as well. In addition to learning how to use tools (a useful life skill by any measure), our kids got to learn about others who have it really tough in life. This is important in helping our kids appreciate what they have, and in teaching them the

benefit of making a contribution towards those who are not so fortunate.—Jeff Smith

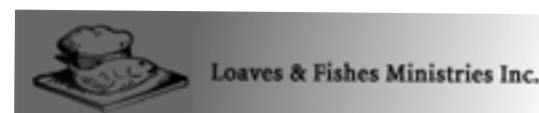


I brought my 8th Grade Journey Onward class to Foodshare’s Warehouse. They bonded with each other as they cleaned and packaged lettuce and tomatoes! We watched a Foodshare video about the importance of Foodshare in our communities. It was a home run for the kids! — Carrie Shaw

We delivered 7-8 Meals on Wheels. It provided a very worthwhile feeling to deliver meals for people who may not be able to leave their homes very easily. The children also saw the worth of this when knocking on doors and handing over meals. They received many smiles and words of thanks, which helped them feel of service to their community. With my young children, it allowed them a sense of participation and gave them the feeling of *tikkun olam*. Thank you for organizing this endeavor and providing my family with an easy way to mend the world. We look forward to the next “Day of Service” at CBI.—Kari Silverman

I was assigned the meals on wheels, and delivered food in Hartford. It is very meaningful, and very moving to see people living in poverty so near to us.—Ed Siegel

Thank you to Margo Lynn Hablutzal, Rabbi Dena Shaffer, Carrie Shaw, and Jeff Smith for the photos.



Dear Jim,

I had the good fortune to meet the families who made and delivered the bags—such lovely people! I particularly enjoyed the children; one young man was SO thrilled to be able to tell me that they had made 300 cookies! I had a good time showing them the dining room and answering their very good questions. We would love to have them work with us again.

Thank you for shepherding them to us. We will get them appropriate thanks -- more than deserved.

Best,
Allison H. Petrie
Asst. Director, Loaves & Fishes



A beautiful statement: 150 bags for Loaves and Fishes.



But in the end it is not the services we attend that will sustain us, it is the services we perform. For us, Shabbat was never meant as a stopping place. It was meant as a resting place.— Leonard Fein

Social JusticeNotes

To all the congregants who engaged in Beth Israel's "Day of Service" on January 16, 2012 in honor of the birthday of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., the Social Justice Committee says: *todah rabbah* - thanks!

AND WHY WERE THEY ENGAGED? READ ON

On Volunteering by Leonard Fein, Founder of *Moment Magazine*; Founder of MAZON: A Jewish Response to Hunger; Founder of the National Jewish Coalition for Literacy

"There is surely no need for us to review yet again the endless list of cruelties and miseries, of human pains and human sorrows that stand as indicting evidence of how far from justice we remain. No matter how insulated we ourselves have become, we are altogether too sophisticated and it is too late in the day for us to require yet another rendition of the heartbreaking details of cruelty and indifference, and of the pain that is their consequence. Let us instead stipulate that too many of God's children remain left out and locked out..."

We may not always know the precise statistics, but as every generation of Jews, including our own, has known, this world, our world, is badly fractured, and every generation of Jews, including our own, has understood that the heart of the Jewish enterprise is the repair of its fractures. That is what Jewish voluntarism is about...

Why should a community so justifiably occupied as ours with pressing internal problems, with recurrent threats to its body and constant threats to its soul, raise its eyes from the urgent work of defending its own interests to the larger challenge of repairing the world?

The answer to that question, directly and explicitly, is this: The Jewish community has no more urgent interest than the energetic pursuit of its values. Our values are not merely grace-notes to our lives; they are our purpose, they are the announcement of who we are and what we are about. And that is exactly why their energetic pursuit is in our urgent interest. For the central American Jewish problem of our time

is not anti-Semitism, nor is it intermarriage or assimilation more generally; it is the fact that for very many American Jews, the experience of being Jewish does not seem to be about anything—not, at any rate, about anything that matters very much. Very many Jews are simply unable to fill in the blank in the sentence that begins with the words, "It is important that the Jews survive in order to ..." What? In order to survive? Lots of luck: send out an invitation to the young that reads, "Please come survive with us"; see how many rsvp.

We need no focus groups or questionnaires, much less gimmicks and slogans, to fill in the blank. We need only turn to the chronicles of our people, to which of life's many roads it has most often chosen to walk, which grand visions have most consistently inspired it. No sentence more accurately and comprehensively captures the most fundamental Jewish insight than that this world, our world, is not working the way it was meant to—and to be a Jew is to know that somehow, you are implicated in its repair.

Accordingly, the completed sentence reads, 'It is important that the Jews survive in order to help repair this oh so fractured world.' And voluntarism is plainly one essential ingredient in the work of repair, an ingredient available to us all. Let us pray that others are similarly disposed; the world's fractures are so numerous and so compound that we alone are inadequate to the task. But ours was never to complete the work, merely to recognize that we are not free to desist from it."

SOME VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES TO HELP REPAIR THE WORLD!

1. Become a **Reading Mentor** to a child in grades kindergarten through third for thirty minutes a week at an elementary school in Bloomfield, West Hartford, Hartford, New Britain, East Hartford, or Manchester. To Volunteer, call the Hartford Jewish Coalition for Literacy at 860-236-READ.
2. Help at **Loaves & Fishes Soup Kitchen** on the fourth Monday of every month at Immanuel Congregational Church in Hartford at the corner of Farmington Avenue and Woodland Street where we've been preparing and serving lunches for more than twenty-five years. To volunteer, call **Carol Fine**, 860-286-9111.
3. Help distribute fresh food from **Foodshare's Mobile Truck** at Beth Israel every fourth Friday to 150+ hungry people. To volunteer, call **Marlene Wenograd**, 860-231-1423.
4. Donate **children's clothing, books, games, toys, and toiletries** to children who live in poverty. Collection bins are in the main lobby opposite the coat room and in the entrance downstairs. Items are given to shelters and organization which serve children in need.
5. Bring a **Food-of-the-Month** when you come to the Temple.

6. Look for the signs in the lobby and on the back stairs.
 6. Donate disposable diapers for **Covenant to Care for Children and Jewish Family Services**. Buy some diapers when you go to the market, especially Sizes Newborn 1 and 2, and place them in the crib in the Temple lobby.
 7. Donate to **"Nothing But Nets"** and help prevent the spread of malaria in Africa. A \$10 donation will go directly to purchase, distribute, and educate about a bed net to keep a family of four safe for 4-5 years. Send a check to the Temple and put "NETS" on it.
 8. Join the **Social Justice Committee** and share in our planning work.
 9. If you have a particular interest or project in mind, call one of us and we'll find and/or create a project for you, your family, friends, and neighbors.
- Contact one of the Committee's Co-Chairs:
Jim Friedman 860-236-0580, jpf7332@comcast.net
Susan Myers 860-586-6060, myers.suse@gmail.com
Andy Packer ajpacker@aol.com
Roberta Tansman 860-308-2165, rtansman@yahoo.com

SisterhoodUpdate



Now I understand **Dianne and Jim Friedman's** enthusiasm for attending the URJ Biennial Assembly for so many years. The URJ/WRJ 48th Assembly was my first of hopefully many to come. It was a sold-out event, with over 5,000 attendees assembled in one place

with extraordinary organization and energy.

Some of my highlights were hearing the 44th President of the United States, Barack H. Obama, talking about tikkun olam (repairing the world) and hineni (here I am). He repeated the words that our tradition teaches: "We're not obligated to finish the work, but neither are we free to desist from it." Then there was Rabbi Eric Yoffie recounting his growth as President of the URJ and personal experiences with his family, a daughter choosing to practice religion as an Orthodox Jew and a son with a religious belief but in his own way. Ambassador Nancy G. Brinker, founder of Susan G. Komen for the Cure, recounted her Jewish upbringing and explained her dedication to honoring her sister's memory by changing the way the world talks about and treats breast cancer. Dr. Wendy Mogel, best selling author of the *Blessing of a B Minus*, told us that we need to accept our kids as they are and embrace their interests and nurture them with religious values that will carry them through life. And of course, our very own **Rabbi Stephen Fuchs**, in his acceptance speech as President of the World Union for Progressive Judaism, emphasized that without knowing it, he had been preparing for such a position all his life. He strongly encouraged us all to visit Israel to find out our roots and create meaningful experiences in our religious journey.

Other unforgettable events were the Friday night Shabbat services, Shabbat dinner, Singing Oneg, and Saturday morning Shabbat services where CBI delegates **Rabbi Michael Pincus, Cantor Pamela Siskin, Jerry Siskin, Toni Robinson, Nancy Kramer, Jim Friedman, Dianne Friedman, Barbara Blechner, Jack Blechner, Elaine Lowengard, Lisa and Greg Book and family, and I** connected as a delegation and enthusiastically

Carmen Holzman is President of Sisterhood.

BrotherhoodBeat

The Brotherhood welcomes all male members of the Temple as members. We serve the Temple in various ways: 1) monthly breakfast programs with interesting speakers on subjects such as Judaism, Israel, and financial/investment issues; 2) special programs for families such as hockey games and baseball (our next hockey game is Sunday afternoon, March 18) and 3) support, along with others, for other Temple programs, such as the Purim carnival. We welcome your participation and membership. For further information, please contact **Dan Schaefer**, 860-233-1600, DanielRobertS@inbox.com.

Carmen Holzman

participated in all the events. And believe me, we prayed as loud as we were able to, sang like no one was watching or listening, and never stopped admiring the crowded assembly filled with religious learning, personal development, spiritual renewal, and a quiet reminder of our social responsibility. So, start planning now for the next opportunity to celebrate at large by saving the date for the WRJ/URJ 49th Biennial Assembly, December 11-15, 2013 in San Diego, California. It will be warmer than Connecticut!

CBI Sisterhood has been busy participating in our community. In December, a donation was made to the Charter Oak Cultural Center's Book Drive organized by **Roberta Tansman**. In January we participated in the "Day of Service" at the Mercy Housing and Shelter, where a lunch meal was prepared and served to the residents. Thank you to **Sandra Gersten, Roberta Tansman, Deb Hersh, Dianne Friedman, Jim Friedman, Michael Holzman, and Jane Zande** for donating their time and efforts in making this community service possible. In February, we collected plates and mugs for the Mercy Housing Shelter in Hartford.

Thank you to **Jane Zande** and **Paula Schenck** for connecting the Judaica Shop to the CBI website. Check it out by clicking on "Connect-Sisterhood-Judaica Shop" to see the Judaica Shop's latest merchandise. The shop is open on Sunday when Religious School is in session or by appointment to assist you with any Judaica gifts or special orders. All Passover items in the Judaica shop (Seder plates, challah covers, etc.) are twenty percent off in March.

Sisterhood managed to have some social time on February 26. Thank you to **Norma Green** for organizing an extraordinary wine tasting/food pairing event filled with good food and conversation at Max Downtown restaurant. It was enjoyed by all the participants! We have a number of additional events coming up in March. (see below).

Our next Sisterhood Board Meeting will be on Tuesday, April 3, 7:15pm. If you have any questions or suggestions, please contact me, 860-233-5086, cpholzman@comcast.net. *"The future depends on what we do in the present."* —Mahatma Gandhi •

§ISTERHOOD EVENTS

Women's Seder, March 14, 6pm (offsite; reservations are sold out)

Hartford Stage, The Whipping Man. Sunday, March 18, 2 pm. RSVP **Barbara Kurtz**, 860-521-1395.

Heart Health Program, Tuesday, March 27, 6pm, free, with a light dinner (soup/salad). RSVP **Marge Cohen**, 860-284-1175.

BROTHERHOOD EVENTS

Talking to Your Children About God, Sunday, March 18, 9:30am (see page 11).

CT Whale Hockey Game, Sunday, March 18, 3pm, at the XL Center. Reservations closed in February; contact **Linda Schultz**, cbiyep@cbict.org, 860-233-8215 x233, to see if there are seats.

Human Trafficking and Modern Day Slavery, Brotherhood Breakfast, Sunday, April 29, 9:30am. Read more on www.cbict.org.

More Going on at Beth Israel!

Please Help!



Fabulous *mitzvah* opportunity!

If you've ever had occasion to be in our temple home on a Sunday morning, you will know that Community Coffee is where you can enjoy a cup of good coffee, read your favorite newspapers

in peace, get to meet fellow congregants who are looking for a chat, and get to know people whom you may otherwise never meet. Sunday morning buzzes with life as the Temple lobby fills with hungry children, and then slowly empties, allowing the adults to enjoy a Sunday morning of leisure, "down time", learning time—whatever your pleasure!

But somebody has to run it!

For many years **Jerry Siskin, Brenda Kestenbaum and Lynn Newman** have hosted this Community Coffee bar with the help of many willing volunteers; but the time has come for them to step back from this joyful but intense commitment. We need others to take their places!

We are looking for strong leaders who would be willing to form a team of volunteers to continue this important *mitzvah* for the temple and for the community. There is no other synagogue in the area that offers this service to its congregants and to its Religious School. This is a unique opportunity for you to contribute in a most enjoyable and meaningful way, while also making new friends. (You can even get a free cup of coffee!)

If you would like to find out more about this please contact **Jerry Siskin**, jsiskinimm@aol.com, or **Cantor Pamela Siskin**, prsiskin@aol.com, 860-233-8215 x234. Do it today!

More content, photos, and videos are on our website: Confirmation class photos of the trip to NYC; video of our seventh grade rap session, additional details of events, and much more! Visit www.cbict.org. Follow us on Twitter: twitter.com/cbict; Like us on Facebook: facebook.com/cbictwh

Israeli Solidarity Committee



We are forming an Israel Solidarity Committee at Congregation Beth Israel and we welcome new members. Contact **Dan Schaefer**, 860-233-1600, DanielRobertS@inbox.com for further information.

Temple members may be interested in visiting the Embassy of Israel website, an excellent source of information, www.Israelemb.org. You may also

want to sign up for their periodic email updates.

According to the Israel Embassy website, Israeli President Shimon Peres, whose duties are largely ceremonial, but who also is head of state, met with UN Sec.-Gen. Ban Ki-Moon February 1, 2012, and discussed Iran's nuclear program. President Peres stated in part:

"No country is immune from terrorism – not the US, not the European states and not the countries of the Middle East. While Israel welcomes the sanctions, in and of themselves they are not enough. I expect the international community not to take any option off the table, and to take determined action to prevent Iran from building a nuclear bomb! Iran finances and uses terrorism. We have witnessed the shipments of weapons and missiles that reach Gaza directly from Tehran and are received by Hamas, and the weapons convoys that go directly to Hezbollah in Lebanon and to Syria as well."

Spare Change



One million Jewish children were murdered in The Holocaust simply because they were Jewish. Five thousand German children were murdered at the start of World War II by their countrymen simply because they were born with disabilities. By contributing to charity one dime for each of these children, *Spare*

Change, a project of our 7th graders, remembers and honors the memory of these children. In its third year, as of December 31, 2011 Spare Change has honored 178,015 of these children, reflecting \$17,801.53 in contributions to The Smile Train, Heifer International, Kiva, Food Share, The Walk Against Hunger, Haiti relief, and charities seeking cures for juvenile diabetes and breast cancer.

Spare Change recognizes as Stars of David for their acts of *tzedakah* and compassion as 6th and 7th graders: **Remony Perlman, Danny Sheridan, Jessica Pasternack, Samantha Simoni, William Stordy, Laura Stordy, Jacob Tvaronaitis, Hanna Rosenfield, Hayley Eicher, Alex Benthien, Brianna Huebner, Remy Katz, Sydney Buckner, and Jordan Kei-Rahn**. Spare Change recognizes as Stars of David for their acts of *tzedakah* and compassion: **Kevin Pasternack, Sheryl Simoni, Clare Feldman, SAGE** (diaper drive donations), **Lenore Blank, Leonard Myers, Amy and Jadin James, Amy Deutsch, Ellen & Ethan Foxman, and Scott Myers**.

Spare Change also recognizes the compassion of the many members of Congregation Beth Israel who contribute anonymously to Food Share through Friday Shabbat service collections and to Spare Change through donations to the collection box in the Sanctuary Foyer.

To all of you, our 7th graders say thank you! We still have a long way to go together. Please participate by dropping your spare change into the project box in the Sanctuary foyer—coins, bills and checks are all welcome. The collection box proceeds are donated to charities chosen by the 7th graders. To find out how you can honor the memory of these children and participate in Spare Change while working to support a charity of your choice, please contact **Scott Myers** 860-586-8060, ssajmyers@comcast.net.

Nominating Committee

The Board of Trustees has elected the Nominating Committee for 2012.

They are:

Barbara Ricketts, chair

JoAnn Eicher

Jan Glass

Sue Piccone

Danielle Stordy

Cindy Ward

Joe Dix, alternate

Rob Berman, alternate

Kevin Pasternack, alternate

April Haskell, immediate

past president, ex officio

ZUMBA CLASSES AT CBI!



Gayle Wintjen, congregant and certified Zumba instructor, is offering to hold Zumba classes at CBI! The one-hour classes will be held during Religious School. Free to CBI members! Zumba is an exhilarating, effective, easy-to-follow, Latin-inspired, calorie-burning dance fitness-party™ that's moving millions of people toward joy and health! Come and join and bring your friends! Starts Sunday, March 25. Watch Chai Lights for more information!

Mazel Tov Yasher Koach

Adam Greenberg competed at the Maccabi Games in Sao Paulo, Brazil, as starting Goalie for the US water polo team! The competition took place December 24 to January 3, and the team won the Silver Medal. Congratulations also to parents **Joan and Gary Greenberg!**

Our congregant, award winning, and nationally known artist, **Robert Kirschbaum**, has an exhibit at Trinity College. His show is at the Watkinson Library and will run from March 5 to April 15. The Watkinson is open from Monday to Friday, usually from 10am to 4:30pm.

Mazel tov to **Karen and Jared Insel** on the birth of their first grandchild, **Miles**. He was born on December 23. Miles is the son of **Ethan and Ana Insel**.

Julia Loewenthal has completed an educational experience in Cambodia.

Read her blog: <http://ballpointpenh.tumblr.com/>

Richard Rubenstein has been named one of the Movers & Shakers in 2011 by the Jewish Ledger!

Mazel tov to the **Ditman/Jackowitz Families!** Braden Ditman was born on Wednesday, January 18. He is the son of Kaitlyn Jacques and Marc Ditman, the grandson of Eden and Zak Ditman, and the great-grandson of Beverly and Lionel Jackowitz and Frieda Ditman, and Jodi Jackowitz is his great-aunt!

Yasher koach to **Dr. Todd Maily**. He was featured recently in an NBC-TV 30 video about the life saving medical equipment St. Francis Hospital has donated to Haiti for relief efforts. Dr. Todd Maily, an orthopedic surgeon, visits Haiti four times a year to train doctors.

SIMCHA SHABBAT FUND

In honor of birth of my new great-niece and great-nephews, Marin Eliza Slitt, Ryder Thomas Slitt, and Logan William Slitt

By Mark Slitt

Yefim Bensonoff

Charlotte Berman

Martin Brezner

David Dobrynin

Marvin Freifeld

Nathan A. Geetter

Harriet Giddon

Dena Hoberman

Marcia Kagan

Paul Matasovski

Sophia Messes

David Robinson

Miriam Salvin

Margaret Sandberg

Irene Eisenberg Staniford

Pamela Weltman

Happy Birthday to Simcha Shabbat Fund Triple Chai Supporter

Jacqueline R. Werner

Geoffrey Rosenblat

Simcha Shabbat Fund Patrons

Happy Birthday to

David Mangs

Happy Anniversary to

Don Ellis & Karen Beyard

An easy way to plan your Simcha!

SIMCHA FAIR
Sunday, March 18, 9 AM - 1 PM
 Florists, DJs, caterers, and other simcha vendors will be on hand...come and talk to them and get all of the information you need to plan an awesome party!

Thoughtful Donations

CANTOR SISKIN DISC.

In memory of my mother,
Frieda Goldfarb
By Ruth Rutt
In honor of the conversion of our
granddaughter, Lili Fishman
By Linda & David Fishman
In memory of Sybil Schwartz
By Adlyn & Ted Loewenthal
In memory of Pearl Malcus, mother
of Barbara Ricketts
*By friends and colleagues of the
University of Hartford campus*
CARING COMMITTEE
In appreciation
By Phyllis & Robert Cherlin
In appreciation
By Robert Yass
In memory of Dr. Kenneth C. Sack,
father of Marjorie Winnick
By Jeffrey & Marjorie Winnick
In memory of Dr. Kenneth C. Sack
By Thelma Sack
CEMETERY BEAUTIFICATION
In memory of
Gerald Keith Weisenberg
By Jackie Weisenberg and Family
In memory of Galina Silver
By Alexander Silver
In memory of my very loved and
missed mother, Henrietta Vigder
By Sandra Maltz
DR. ROBERT A. KRAMER S.A.G.E.
With appreciation for all the
S.A.G.E. programs
By Charlotte Berman
In memory of my beloved brother,
Stephen Reitman
By Janice Glass
In memory of Robert Krichavsky
By Kay Krichavsky
Wishing good health to
Evelyn Sandel
By Fayette Gordon
By Lenore Blank
By Jane Zande & Jeff Smith
In memory of Irwin Singer
By Jean & Ed Hotez
In appreciation of my friends at
S.A.G.E. and the CBI community for
your kind expressions of sympathy
By Lenore Blank
In honor of Nancy Kramer
In honor of Libby & Julian Adler
By Elaine Lowengard
With warm appreciation to the
Caring Committee for the lovely
Chanukah gifts
By Betty Singer
By Jewel Abrams
In memory of Milton Abrams
By Jewel Abrams

In memory of my beloved brother,
Dr. Isadore S. Geetter
In memory of my beloved wife,
Lillian
By Nathan Geetter
In memory of my brother
Sgt. Harold Pessin
By Marcia P. Kagan
In memory of my beloved
husband, Arthur S. Katz
By Amalia (Mickey) Katz
In memory of Arnold Pessin,
Marcia P. Kagan's brother
By Libby & Julian Adler
In memory of Lindy P. Feinstein
With gratitude for my birthday
By Marcia P. Kagan
In memory of my sister,
Frances Winkler Markowitz
By Rosalind Hoffman
In memory of Dr. David Weinstein
By Lenore Blank
By Miriam Selman
In memory of Muriel Bressler, sister
of Lenore Blank
By Fayette Gordon
By Libby & Julian Adler
By Danielle & Mathew Stordy
By Janice Glass
In honor of Marcia P. Kagan on a
special birthday
By Libby & Julian Adler
By Susan L. Redfield
By Marie & Steve Cureck
By Harriet Drucker
By Jean & Arthur Kagan
In honor of Alice Krall on a special
birthday
By Eleanore Caplan
In memory of Natalie Lebowitz
By Devida Botwick
In honor of Juliette Greene on her
special birthday
By Harriet Scharf
By Lenore Blank
By Jean Whyte
In memory of Naomi Klein
By Fayette Gordon
FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY
In memory of my sister Muriel
Bressler, who loved books and
leading book discussion groups
By Lenore Blank
In memory of our beloved
husband, father, and grandfather
By Leslie Kei-Rahn and Family
Patrons
Harry & Diane Davidson
DR. FRANK ROTH NOAH'S ARK
In memory of Julius Gerst
In memory of Sarah Gerst
By Eleanore Reiner and Family

GENERAL CHARITABLE

In memory of my father,
Shulim Gershman
By Yevsey Gershman
In memory of Charlotte Yass
By Bob & Naomi Lufkin
In memory of Emma Dolinger
By Sheldon Dolinger
In memory of Dina Eydelshyteyn
By Anna Malitsky
In memory of Isaac Kholodner
In memory of Ida Goman
In memory of Mark Goman
By Roman & Sarra Goman
In memory of Emma Spector
By Frank Spector
In memory of Robert Rosenblat
By Geoffrey Rosenblat
In memory of Ida Schaechter
By Fred Corwin
In memory of Norman Ruby
By Steven & Gail Ruby
In memory of Morton Narva
By Josephine Narva
In memory of Antonia Kamenskiy
In memory of Leah Peskina
By Valentin & Nellye Kamenskiy
In memory of Khaya Gitelman
By Nikolay Gitelman
In memory of Phyllis Pearl Fink,
sister of Bennett Pearl
By Beverly & Tony Halpin
In memory of Janet Saslow
In memory of Phyllis Katz
By Vida & Eliot Barron
In memory of my husband,
Lev Sorokin
By Faina Sorokin
In memory of Izrail Kaganovich
By Vera Lundina
In memory of Dorothy Kanell
By Gail Mangs
In memory of Shulman Gershman
By Abram Gershman
In memory of Chaya Komissar
By Gregory Komissar
In honor of Juliette Greene's
special birthday
By Ida Feldman
In memory of Fruma Kavalerschik
By Semen Kavalerschik
In memory of my grandfather,
Louis H. Rome
By Margery Bendetson
In memory of my mother,
Chaya Tandeytnik
By Yeva Berlinsky
GENERATIONS CAMPAIGN
In memory of Phyllis Pearl Fink,
sister of Bennett Pearl
In memory of Muriel Bressler, sister
of Lenore Blank
By Rob & Lisa Berman

LEGACY FOR OUR FUTURE

In memory of Lena Foster,
my mother
In memory of Minnie Lewis,
my mother-in-law
By Elaine Foster Lewis
In memory of Helen Davis
In memory of Susan Glickman
D'Angelo
In memory of the birthday of
Sydney Glickman
In memory of Muriel Bressler, sister
of Lenore Blank
In memory of Diane Glickman
Boscarino
In memory of Irene Sokoll
By Bette Glickman
In memory of Phyllis Pearl Fink,
Bennet Pearl's sister
By Jeff Smith & Jane Zande
By Janice Glass
By Seymour & Annette Gavens
By David & Lauri Miller
By Danielle & Mathew Stordy
By Marge Cohen
In memory of Frances Perelman,
mother of Susan Zarchen
By Barbara Mindell
Mazel Tov to Gail and David
Mangs on the birth of their
granddaughter
Mazel Tov to Sunny and Jeff
Kagan on the birth of their
granddaughter
Mazel Tov to David Miller on
becoming President of the Jewish
Community Foundation
In memory of Phyllis Pearl Fink,
sister of Bennett Pearl
In memory of Ilya and Yefim
Rozovsky, brother and father to Lily
Beider
In memory of Muriel Bressler, sister
of Lenore Blank
By Susan & Scott Piccone
**JUDITH AND HARVEY
GOLDSTEIN MUSIC**
Wishing Harvey Goldstein a speedy
return to good health
By Annett & Seymour Gavens
**LEONARD I. MERIN
SCHOLARSHIP**
In memory of Philip Tulin
By Mitchell Merin
In memory of my beloved family
My grandfather, Karl Kaiser
My mother, Emma Liebenstein
My aunt, Anna Kaiser
My grandma,
Eliese Eva Kaiser
By Margot Merin

LIBRARY

In memory of Ruth E. Falkin, sister
of Janice A. Falkin
By Rosalind Hoffman
In honor of the Bat Mitzvah of my
granddaughter, Laura Stordy
By Selma Mandell
In memory of Sigmund Kei
By Harriet Kei
To remember the yahrzeit of
Harry Wilder
By Michael Wilder
In memory of Andrea's mother,
Freda Kaplan
By Andrea & Stanley Labinger
To honor the birth of the first
grandchild of
Karen and Jared Insel
By Sunny & Jeff Kagan
In memory of Irwin Singer
To mark the yahrzeit of Lynn's
father, Roy Carol
By Lynn & Jeffrey Blau
In honor of the marriage of Abby
Cook-Mack and David Sandler
In memory of Bernice P. Waldman
*By Barbara, Norman, and
Julie Kurtz*
In memory of Muriel Bressler, sister
of Lenore Blank
In memory of Martin Tansman
In memory of Phyllis Pearl Fink,
sister of Bennett Pearl
In honor of the birth of Ezra
Kazakoff-Eichen, grandson of Pat
and Michael Kazakoff
By Roberta Tansman
In memory of George Meltzer
By Janice Goldschmidt
In memory of Mary Fine
By Morton Fine
In memory of Irwin Singer
By Charles & Shirley Weiner
In memory of Dr. Albert J. Dunn
In memory of my mother,
Lilyan Tillis Leichner
In memory of Jack Laflin
By Carol Dunn
In honor of Alice Krall's special
birthday
By Joy Palten
In memory of Sadie Giddon,
mother of A. Arthur Giddon
By Harriet Giddon
In memory of Arnold Pessin
By Phyllis & Jim Tierney
In honor of
Rabbi Michael Pincus
By Yvonne Goldstein
**RABBI HAROLD SILVER
COURTYARD**
In appreciation of Rabbi Silver
In appreciation of Rabbi Shaffer
In appreciation of
Michael Weinstein
By Susan & Bob Zarchen
By Steve & Kathy Elovich

MUSIC

In honor of Eric Schneider, Ian
Spence and A Touch of Klez
By the Stordy Family
In honor of Ian Spence
By Mildred Weinstein
In memory of Gladys and
Josef Gingold
By George & Anne Gingold
NEW AMERICANS
In memory of Naum Chernomzav
By Arkadiy & Faina Chernomzav
In memory of my mother,
Sarra Revich
In memory of my father,
Naftula Brodsky
In memory of my brother,
Yuriy Brodsky
By Lyudmila Lifshits
In memory of my mother,
Hacja Zaretsky
By Mariya Burshteyn
In memory of my father,
Munya Zalozhin
By Vladimir Zalozhin
In memory of my husband,
Vladimir Volodarskiy
By Lidiya Volodarska
In memory of brother,
Solar Fortel
By Leonid Fortel
In memory of my dear father,
Arkady Budyansky
By Igor Budyansky
In memory of my father,
Joseph Viner
In memory of my beloved
husband, Arkady Budyansky
By Gusta Budyansky
In memory of my mother,
Hay Tandeytnik
By Milya Treyster
RABBI PINCUS DISCRETIONARY
In memory of Leo Reiner, MD
By Eleanore Reiner and Family
Happy Chanukkah
By Sandy Berinstein
To honor your installation as
Senior Rabbi
By Sunny & Jeff Kagan
In memory of Ruth Falkin and with
appreciation of
Rabbi Pincus
By Janice Falkin
In memory of Arline Hyman,
my wife
By Irving Hyman
In memory of Charlotte Yass
By Bob Yass
In memory of Esfir Karchov,
Tamara, Alesha, & Sasha Savelov
By Vera & Sam Karchov
In support
By Lynn & Richard Fichman
In memory of Naomi Klein
By Karen & Robert Klein

In memory of Muriel Bressler,
my sister
By Lenore Blank
In memory of Muriel Bressler
By Lauri & David Miller
In memory of Bella &
Irving Cantor
By Sylvia & Arnold Cantor
In support
By Aliha & David Fine
Thanks for all the confirmation
"stuff"
By Sue & Scott Piccone
In appreciation
By Jennifer & James Kimenker
In memory of Irwin Singer
By Jane & Roger Loeb
In memory of Ellen Roisman
By Jerry Roisman
In memory of Ilya Rozovsky &
Yefim Rozovsky
By Rozovsky & Beider Families
To celebrate the *Pidyon HaBen* of
Miles Insel, our grandson
By Karen & Jared Insel
In memory of Phyllis Fink,
sister of Bennett Pearl
By Roberta Marcus & Rafael Mori
In memory of Florence Feldman
By Clare & Barry Feldman
In memory of Pauline Markman
By Esther Markman
In memory of Max Zietz,
our grandfather
By Judy & Ed Siegel and family
In memory of Mortimer Glotzer,
my husband
By Arline Glotzer
In memory of Lewis Sheketoff,
my husband
By Sylvia Sheketoff
Mazel tov to Jessica Stevens on the
continuation of her Jewish journey
By Cheryl & Neal Goldberg
RABBI SHAFFER DISC.
To honor the very special birthday
of Marcia Kagan
*By Deena Sisitsky, Hiro, Erica, Justin
& James Hara*
In memory of Olga & Samuel
Gellman, Rona's grandparents
In memory of Frederick R. Wachtel,
Rona's father
By Rona & Barry Gelber
In memory of Frances Perelman
*By Susan & Robert Zarchen and
Kathy & Steve Elovich*
In appreciation
By Mildred Weinstein
With thanks for the confirmation
"stuff"
By Sue & Scott Piccone
Mazel tov on your installation as
Assistant Rabbi
By Janice Glass

Happy Chanukah
By Sandy Berinstein
In support
By Aliha & David Fine
By Leslie Kei-Rahn & Jeffrey Rahn
By Sunny & Jeff Kagan
With appreciation for conducting
the shivah minyan for Ruth Falkin,
my sister
By Janice Falkin
In memory of Charlotte Yass
By Bob Yass
DR. NATHAN L. DUBIN RABBINIC
In memory of Dr. David Weinstein
In memory of Phyllis Harlan
In memory of
Dr. Nathan L. Dubin
In memory of Matilda Pregulman
In memory of Sheldon Chafetz
In memory of Margaret Hayden
In memory of Brita Peterson
In memory of Phyllis Pearl Fink
In memory of Irving "Dav" Levine
In memory of Fran Dubin Gross
In memory of Melvin Gross
In honor of the Bar Mitzvah of
Jacob Lessne
By Renee Dubin
**REBECCA K AND WILLIAM H.
ROSENFELD RELIGIOUS SCHOOL**
In memory of Louis Lazarowitz
By Rona & Barry Gelber
**ROBERT A. FALK MEMORIAL
SCHOLARSHIP**
In memory of Stuart S. Kaufman
In memory of Shirley Albert
By Roberta Kaufman
SISTERHOOD
In memory of Arnold Pessin,
brother of Sandra Gersten and
Marcia Kagan and uncle of Dr.
Jeffrey and Sunny Kagan
By Dr. & Mrs. Arnold Goldenberg
SOCIAL JUSTICE
In memory of Alfreda and
Nathan Tulman
*By Richard D. Tulman &
Cynthia L. Rutledge*
**RABBI FUCHS/CBI FOODSHARE
TRANSPORTATION**
In memory of my father,
Abram Silverman
By Leslie & Sam Silverman
In memory of Dr. David Weinstein
*By Ellen Cohen, Jim Klopper and
Aron Klopper*
In memory of my brother,
Dr. Ira Wilson Gabrielson
By Carol Fine
In memory of Joseph Rosenworcel,
father of Elliott
By Willa & Elliott Rosenworcel



Congregation Beth Israel

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bethisrael@cbict.org www.cbict.org

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Our mission is to serve the lifelong spiritual and educational needs of our congregants, within a welcoming and caring contemporary Reform Jewish *community*.

A Reform Congregation founded in 1843 and affiliated with the Union for Reform Judaism since 1877. The Temple Bulletin is published with the kind cooperation of the Solomon and Katie Wohl Foundation.

SUPER SEDER!



A New Look at the CBI Second Night Seder!

Imagine—hundreds of people at CBI simultaneously observing one of the oldest Jewish traditions. Imagine—hearing the story of our freedom in the way that speaks to *you* in a setting designed for *your family*. This spring, get ready for... **Super Seder!**

This year, we'll be trying something new as we gather on the second night to tell the story of the Exodus. While we will join together as one community in celebration, we will also strive to create a more intimate, personal atmosphere.

This year, each table will conduct its Seder independently. Seder themes to choose from, listed on page 20, range from really short Seders (perfect for small kids), to dramatic Seders (where participants can dress up to play the roles of Pharaoh and Moses) to musical Seders, to Seders with an emphasis on freedom and social justice. This will truly be an experience you'll never forget!

To start, we need coordinators and table leaders. Training will be provided. If you are interested in participating in Super Seder, please contact **Rabbi Dena Shaffer**, rabbishaffer@gmail.com, 860-233-8215 x226.

Come and enjoy your own family seder in the midst of other families doing the same!