



T H E Menorah

N E W S L E T T E R

The Official News Bulletin of Congregation B'nai Israel

April 2011

www.bisrael.com

Adar II-Nisan 5771

A MESSAGE FROM OUR RABBI

TRADITION AND CHANGE

One of the motto's of the Conservative movement is "tradition and change." Clearly, we need both. Without tradition, we would eventually become rootless. Without change, we would eventually become irrelevant.

The challenge of remaining loyal to the past and responsive to today can be traced throughout the Jewish world – across time and geography. Usually, this issue is portrayed in a negative way, in relation to conflict over controversial issues. But the commitment to (and even the tension between) tradition and change are also positive and fruitful in Jewish life. Passover is a prime example.

The Bible anticipates that future generations will not automatically understand what the Exodus was, and so we will need to explain it first to ourselves and then to our children. "For, in future days, your child will ask you, saying, "What is the meaning of the testimonies, and the statutes, and the ordinances, which Adonai, our God, has commanded you [about Passover]?" (Deuteronomy 6:20). This verse, together with other Biblical texts fertilized by the Rabbinic imagination, gives rise to the "four sons" of the Passover Seder. In turn, these "four sons" have been read as four archetypes, four generations, four aspects of every person, and four ways of being Jewish. The Exodus experience becomes the tradition of talking about the

Exodus experience, which takes a variety of forms and approaches.

The Exodus was a defining omen for our people, and so we are enjoined, each of us, to imagine ourselves as if we had personally been freed and redeemed. But even as we read ourselves back in time (tradition), we are also reading the text in new ways and applying it in new situations (change). For example, the Exodus condemns modern slavery and supports abolitionists; the Exodus is a paradigm for personal liberation and liberation theology; the values of the Exodus apply to the civil rights movement and women's liberation.

We witness the interplay of tradition and change in our own personal Passover observances. Some families wouldn't dare omit the chicken soup or the Shfoch Hamatcha prayer, or ask anyone but Cousin Sadie (now age 62) to recite the Ma Nishtana. On the other hand, it might be very welcome to learn some new melodies, trade assignments for food preparation or prayers, or bring a reading on freedom for Africa to the Seder. Inevitably, the "traditional" person who leads the Seder will ultimately have to "change." For one family, that might mean moving the location of the Seder from Grandma's house to Mom's; for another it will mean that Uncle Ricky takes over Zeydie's role in the Passover play. As we pass on our Passover traditions, change comes with the territory.

This month at CBI, in preparation for Passover, we are offering many programs

to deepen your connection to tradition and provide you with ideas and resources for innovation. On Tuesday, April 5, for a "Mom's Night Out" program sponsored by CBI and UJA, mothers with children age seven and under will explore the meaning of the Festival of Freedom in the context of motherhood and contemporary families. Our Passover Family Program, for children ages 3-7 and their siblings, parents, and grandparents, will take place on Sunday, April 10. Morah Sarit, our gifted Pre-Aleph teacher, and I, will lead a workshop that both teaches young families the traditions of Passover and gives them new ideas and ways of engaging for the Seder. Our Hebrew School will enjoy a model Seder and go home with new insights to share at family Seders.

Finally, on April 19, the second night of Passover, CBI will host a Community Seder. The public is invited, along with our membership, and Temple Beth Sholom of Park Ridge will also be joining us, as we joined them last year. We will continue not only this "new tradition" of a shared Seder, but the larger tradition of tradition and change. Come experience the time-honored Seder with a fresh new approach and a few surprises.

I wish you a good, sweet, and kosher Passover. May you discover innovations this year worthy of becoming lasting traditions. And may you rediscover traditional practices and texts, so that you can appreciate them anew.

Rabbi Debra Orenstein

CANTOR'S CORNER

My partner, Dave Steck and I were going to Israel for three days scouting locations for my film.

You can't film in Meah Shearim so we scouted it for the flavor, and were shown look-alike neighborhoods where they won't stone you to death if cameras roll.

Sharon and Anika, the execs of Biblical Productions were with us, and men averted their eyes, or pulled down the brim of their hat so as not to look at these women.

Dave was flabbergasted. "I thought you were being overly dramatic with the 'no looking at women' stuff," he said.

I looked at him and said, "Now you know why we can't film in Williamsburg."

We walked and talked for five hours, then headed back to meet our cinematographer. It was a long day, and I could hardly keep my eyes open; my phone rang.

"Cantor? It's Ayal Pierce."

Robin gave him my phone number when she heard I was going to be in Jerusalem. I was happy to hear from him, and made plans for Monday night.

The phone rang again. "Cantor? It's Matt Silver."

Matt is in the Israeli army, and I told Sheryl that if he could get away, I'd love to see him. "My squad leader thinks I'm giving her a line of BS about my Rabbi/Cantor being here."

We spoke and she assured me that Matt would be in Jerusalem Tuesday.

I woke bright and early Monday morning; 3:30 a.m., and tried desperately to go back to sleep: no such luck.

Sharon & Anika picked us up and we spent Monday morning in the Old City of Jerusalem.

The Western Wall overwhelmed me, and as my hands ran over the stones I could feel life coursing through them. Tears flowed down my cheeks as I put a

large note with the names of people that need healing into the cracks of the wall.

The sounds, the smells, the noise & even the vendors in the marketplace have always excited me. "Come in," they all shout. "No charge for looking."

It was another long day, a wonderful dinner, and sleep.

I woke up Tuesday feeling very emotional, and went to The Great Synagogue. The acoustics were incredible and my voice filled the Shul and my heart, as I stood on the Bimah chanting High Holidays prayers.

That afternoon, sitting in the outdoor market drinking coffee, I heard a vendor shout: "Chayal, chayal" (soldier).

"That's him," I said, and my cinematographer grabbed his camera.

Matt passed me: "chayal, huh?" I said.

He turned, his face breaking into a huge grin: "yeah," he said, "I hear it all the time."

After a big hug I snapped a picture with my phone and sent it to Sheryl & David.

Matt walked with us the rest of the afternoon. Hours passed and it felt like minutes.

A few hours later, sitting in the hotel lounge, my phone rang. It was Ayal Pierce. Ten minutes later he ran in grinning from ear to ear and I gave another great bear hug.

We went to dinner & spent a couple of hours schmoozing, drinking beers, and eating. It was great, but alas, we had a plane to catch.

Matt and Ayal were gonna hang out, so we said our goodbyes in the restaurant.

Leaving Israel saddened me, but it was a very productive trip, and we had lots of laughs.

Sheryl Silver said: "Think about this, Lenny. How many kids, away from home, would want to spend time and throw back a couple of beers with the Cantor of their Shul?"

How's that for putting my life as the Hazan of CBI into focus?

Cantor Lenny Mandel

THE Menorah

NEWSLETTER

The Official News Bulletin of Congregation B'nai Israel

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MENORAH NEWSLETTER DEADLINE:

Articles due 5th of preceding month. E-mail articles to Menorah@bisrael.com. Questions? Call 201-768-9661.

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Refer to www.bisrael.com for officer e-mails.

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The Principal's Pen

Shalom Chaverim,

We are gearing up for the second half of the Hebrew school year. We celebrated and learned about the holiday of Tu- B'Shevat. It is a wonderful holiday which honors the trees and the environment. I remember growing up in Israel and celebrating Tu-B'Shevat. The school organized field trips for the entire school. The students boarded the buses and then drove to a field. At the field everyone received a plant and planted while singing Tu-B'Shevat songs. Planting a tree in Israel is a mitzvah. The Torah tells us that when you arrive in Israel, the first thing you should do is plant a tree. At CBI, to commemorate Tu-B'Shevat, we discussed how we could help our environment and make the world a better place. This mitzvah is called tikkun olam which means repairing the world. Another mitzvah is to eat fruits that grow in Israel. It was a very special treat to eat an orange or an apple that grows in Israel.

Our next holiday is Purim. We are anticipating a great celebration of the holiday. The Hebrew School is planning a wonderful Purim workshop for the younger grades. The

workshop will be open to the community and will include: The Purim story, the Mitzvot of Purim, arts and crafts, songs and dramatization of the Purim Story. The Hebrew School students will listen to the Megilah reading on Purim Sunday morning.

This year we welcomed quite a few new students. I am happy to report that they are making wonderful progress in Hebrew reading and prayers. They integrated beautifully in our school thanks to our great students. I am very proud of our students that understand and fulfilled the mitzvah of hachnasat orchim-hospitality. We welcome Morah Hanna this year and we are grateful for her return. Many thanks to Morah Hanna for teaching the Holocaust to our students. It is a privilege for our students to learn with such a highly qualified teacher. Many thanks to our fabulous teachers and the education committee Lori and Val for your hard work and your caring.

With all the best wishes,

*L'hitraot,
Zahava Gall*

EVENTS FROM THE RABBI

Yom Hasho'ah

Sunday, May 1, 7pm

On Yom Hasho'ah, Holocaust Remembrance Day, we will commemorate the tragedy with candlelightings, inspirational readings, and a theater piece discovered by our own Cantor Lenny Mandel. We will also use our new illustrated Torah, dedicated to the memory of Holocaust victims and survivors, to honor and commemorate the day.

Adult Education Continues:

Introduction to Jewish Mysticism

Four Thursdays – April 28, May 5, May 12, May 19 – 7:30 -9:00 pm

Madonna does it. Or does she? This course will explore the world of Jewish mysticism, including traditional texts and concepts from the Zohar (a major Kabbalistic commentary on the Torah), Hasidic stories and parables, and Jewish meditation. We will learn about the ideas and ideals of Jewish mysticism, as they evolved over time and infused every aspect of Jewish life and literature. We will also consider how we might incorporate Jewish mystical concepts and behaviors in a personal spiritual practice.

Each session will include text study, discussion, and an experiential component, and will be both accessible and stimulating for

people of all backgrounds. The four sessions will be independent of one another, but also build on one another, making it inviting (but not necessary) to attend the entire series.

Session 1: Sources of the Jewish Mystical Tradition. What are the Biblical sources for Jewish mystical ideas and practices? How do the Rabbis develop these? What is the Zohar, and how do we understand and define Kabbalah? How do Hasidic texts and stories draw on and expand the mystical tradition? What are the four worlds and the ten sefirot?

Session 2: Mysticism in All Our Practices. We will delve into readings in the Kabbalah about the four worlds, and consider how the four worlds and other mystical concepts apply in our Jewish experience, including Shabbat, other holidays, prayer, Bible study, and meditation.

Session 3: Jewish Meditation. This session will explore the sources, theory, and practice of Jewish meditation.

Session 4: This session will be shaped by the needs and interests that are revealed in the prior three classes.

The series is free to B'nai Israel members. The suggested donation for non-members is \$10 per session or \$36 for four sessions.

SISTERS IN THE HOOD

Dear Sisters and Congregation,
March was full of fabulous events; our special Rosh Chodesh service on March 6 was fantastic! Another fun time was had by all at Sertino's Cafe on March 14 for Ladies Nite Out. We will be planning our spring trip for May and the Paid Up Membership Luncheon will be on April 10 at noon at IMA's Restaurant in Teaneck. See our flyer in the Menorah and Shul Schmooz. New members are free! Please come. The food and

company will be fabulous and we would love to have you. Please e-mail us with activities that you would be interested in attending or planning. Speaking of planning we are looking for a few good women to be part of Sisterhood's planning for next year... Look for updates in the Schmooz and in our e-mail to you. Happy Spring and a Happy Pesach to you and yours!

Lisa, Lori and Marilyn

Kulanu B'Yachad *All of us together*

Our annual Congregation B'nai Israel Sisterhood luncheon is
Sunday, April 10, 2011 at 12:00pm at
IMA Restaurant, 445 Cedar Lane, Teaneck NJ
New members come as our guests! We hope that you can join us!



It will be an
Israeli-Mediterranean menu



Please send payment to

Marilyn Halprin at 57 Cedar Lane, Closter, NJ 07624

Any questions contact **Lisa Pollack** at sisterhoodlp@bisrael.com or **201-750-0546** or
Marilyn Halprin at sisterhoodmh@bisrael.com or **201-666-3576**.

We hope that you will join us!

Lori, Marilyn and Lisa, your Sisterhood Co-Presidents

Name _____

Phone _____

Email _____

I want to join the fun at \$25 per person.

President's Pen

*Spring is in the air, plants begin to grow
CBI vases display many flowers, after the snow
Each variety, each color, will be wonderful to behold
In April's CBI garden, delightful images unfold*

Colors begin to emerge as trees and flowers enjoy the warmth of the spring. Though not linked with either the Jewish or secular new year, I always feel like spring is a new beginning as plants sprout and trees develop new buds after the winter (finally) comes to an end. This spring season will prove no different. And, at CBI, new and familiar flowers are developing blossoms.

While CBI's programs and services continued in full force during the winter months, April will start our spring with celebrations and fun as our CBI garden continues to bloom. As you know, the first two weekends will bring us together. Our newest flower, Rabbi Orenstein, will be installed and our Illustrated Torah, a growing "Tree of Life" will formally join our sanctuary garden.

Comedy Night, guaranteed to bring a smile, returns to make a statement with bold-colored flowers representing the variety of comic stylings of the comedians we'll see. Working with UJA, mothers of younger seedlings (metaphor for Moms of babies through toddlers) will have a Mom's night

out at CBI on April 5th. A lovely chance to share an evening, experiences, and "cultivate" new friendships. Sisterhood's membership luncheon on April 10th, a delightful perennial flower, is sure to be enjoyed by all.

Passover, perhaps best represented by parsley and spring greens, will be a holiday that will be forming a bouquet of a variety of herbs and plants -- with many ways to participate and celebrate. We all have the first Seder on April 18th on our personal calendars. A lovely bloom to behold each year. Following last year's enjoyable Seder at Temple Beth Shalom in Park Ridge, CBI will host a community Seder on the second night of Pesach with CBI and Beth Shalom temple members and hopefully others, too. The evening will be a beautiful assortment to create our Passover bouquet. We can also connect to the holiday as we attend performances of "A Seder Like No Other," whose cast includes two of *our* CBI students -- some younger blossoms -- on April 10th (2pm) or on April 21st (7:30pm) at the YJCC in Washington Township.

Our monthly Dalet/Hey learning services, young family Shabbat programs, and our visits to the Jewish Home Assisted Living, like daisies, are familiar favorites -- always bringing joy and a smile, that last a long time.

So, April is full of our familiar floral favorites. Yet our B'nai Israel flower bed, always evolving, yet never ceases to be beautiful and vibrant.

*Looking forward to a wonderful spring,
Naomi Weinberg, President*

CLEANING AND SELLING CHAMETZ

The signature law of Passover is to avoid chametz (leaven). Symbolically, chametz represents pride (being puffed up) and procrastination (waiting for the bread to rise when freedom is calling you). In cleaning for Passover, we strive to eliminate both. In searching for leaven with a candle and feather before the holiday, we look for hidden corners of our lives where these qualities may be lurking. In selling our chametz well before the holiday, we set an intention -- on purpose and in advance -- to divest ourselves of what no longer works in our characters and in our lives.

As a reminder, chametz consists of leavened breads, cakes, biscuits, crackers, cereal, coffees containing cereal derivatives, wheat, barley, oats, spelt, rye, and all liquids containing ingredients or flavors made from grain alcohol. Most Ashkenazic authorities also disallow kitniyot, i.e., rice, corn, millet, peas, and beans. (String beans, however, are permitted). The Committee on Jewish Law and Standards has ruled unanimously that peanuts and peanut oil are permissible. Sephardim eat kitniyot.

It is a mitzvah to sell your chametz, and Rabbi Orenstein is happy to aid you in doing so. Just give her a call (201-265-2272), drop her an email (rabbib@bisrael.com) or catch her at synagogue anytime other than Shabbat.



Drumming Circle Rehearsals



SAC volunteers who prepared and served a full course dinner to 120 dinner guests at the Health, Housing and Human Services Center in Hackensack on Sunday, December 19th, 2010.

RITUAL

March came in like a lion and stayed that way; the CBI community was busy every week. On March 4th we participated in Shabbat Across America along with approximately 700 other shuls. This is a program designed to help foster Jewish revitalization and Jewish unity. Conceived and organized by the National Jewish Outreach Program (NJOP) in 1997, Shabbat Across America and Canada represents an effort by a wide spectrum of the community to renew interest in the fourth of the Ten Commandments – observing a weekly day of rest (Shabbat). Through the prayer explanations, music, and sermon that evening, Rabbi Debra Orenstein and Cantor Lenny Mandel explored the history and meanings of Shabbat. Throughout the evening, those in attendance experienced the joys and peace of the Sabbath.

Our tradition of monthly casual shabbatot continued with a Tropical Shabbat on Friday March 11th. We chased away the winter blues as those in attendance enjoyed the warmth of community and Shabbat. Cantor Mandel led us in singing the Shabbat liturgy to some familiar beach song melodies and a calypso beat. Rabbi Orenstein told us the story of the Jews of Curacao, the oldest continuous Jewish settlement in the Western Hemisphere.

March brought us the joyous holiday of Purim. In addition to the younger children's service with a Purim theme and the Purim Workshop for children, we thoroughly enjoyed Congregation B'nai Israel's unique Purim shpiel and Megillah reading. Performed by the temple's Hebrew School students, and relying on some familiar show tunes, the temple shared the story of Purim in a fun and special way. We experienced traditional Jewish hilarity, as our Rabbi and Cantor lead us in Purim sing-along and a Megillah reading in Hebrew and English that brought boos for Haman and cheers for the humor and meaning.

On Wednesday, April 20th, CBI will host a Kosher for Passover Community Seder, led by Rabbi Orenstein and Cantor Mandel. The Seder will start at 6:15 and end at approximately 9 PM and will include a festival meal with everything from soup to nuts. The cost will be \$50 per adult and \$25 per child 12 years and under. You can become a sponsor for \$180, which will include two tickets. Make your plans early as reservation and payment must be received no later than April 12th.

Ongoing activities included our monthly visit to the Jewish Home for Assisted Living in River Vale, Erev Shabbat services with a drumming circle and younger children's Shabbat programs. Watch the Menorah and the Shul Schmooz for the dates of future activities.

Please also join us for our Erev Shabbat and Shabbat morning services held throughout the year.

*See you at Shul.
Marsha, Judy and David*

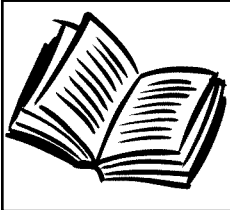


We are honored to be showing the movie, "The Little Traitor" in celebration of Yom HaAtzmaut—Israel Independence Day. Furthermore, we are lucky to have the director, Lynn Roth, making a trip from the west coast to Emerson, NJ to speak about making the movie in Israel. Rabbi Orenstein says the movie is FANTASTIC and that Lynn is a very engaging speaker. So, save the date—May 10th—and more details will follow.

DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

Many movies begin as a book. "The Little Traitor" was born of a short novel, "Panther in the Basement", by the brilliant Israeli author Amos Oz. It is a lyrical story of a young boy growing up in Jerusalem during the British Mandate, when Israel (then still Palestine) lived under occupation. This boy, the son of Holocaust survivors, shares the passionate longing of his parents and Jews everywhere: for Israel to become its own state. One day he is befriended by the warm and avuncular British Sergeant Dunlop, and as their friendship evolves, the boy finds himself caught between his hatred of "the British"—whom he dreams of destroying—and his growing affection for a member of the detested enemy.





EDUCATION COMMITTEE NEWS

While we usually write about all of the events that are happening in the Hebrew School, this month we would like to write about where the tzedakah that is collected at Hebrew school is going. The students learn about tzedakah – giving to those less fortunate than themselves. We have chosen to send a portion of the tzedakah collected to an orphanage in Israel, Yemin Orde Youth Village (www.yeminorde.org). This orphanage has over 500 children from 20 countries from all different cultures. The other portion of tzedakah collected will be put into a fund at the Temple for the Hebrew

school. The students will vote on how we use that money. Please send your child with some coins so they can give tzedakah each week.

We would like to say Todah Rabah to Cantor Mandel for working with the students on this year's Purim Shpiel. We know that they really enjoy it. Also, thank you to all of the Hebrew school families who helped with the Purim carnival (shopping, running games, setting up / taking down the games, etc.) And a special thank you to George Liepmann, Peter Reiff, David Spatz, and Bruce Weinberg who no longer have children in Hebrew school but are always there to help us out!

(If we left anyone out, we apologize and say thank you to you too!) We could not do it all without everyone's help! Todah rabah!!!!

Passover is not too far away. Our principal Zahava will be leading a family seder on Sunday, April 10th. More information on this will be sent out after Purim.

Todah rabah to our teachers too. Please remember, you can always contact Zahava with any questions or concerns. We also welcome any ideas and suggestions and are available if you have any concerns.

*Val Weinstein & Lori Aisenman
Education Co-Chairs*

CBI Men's Club Spring Poker Event



**Have fun,
come out and
play!**

DATE: April 14TH

TIME: 7:30 PM

AGE REQUIREMENTS: 18+ ONLY

**CBI Men's Club will be holding our seasonal poker tournament
on
Thursday, April 14th.**

**All temple members ages 18 and older, are welcome to
attend and compete!
Snacks and drinks will be served.**

**If you would like to sign up for the tournament, please email
mensclubbk@bisrael.com or call me at 212-935-2215.**

**Cost to play: \$20 per person covers food, drink, prizes.
Money to be collected on poker day.**



ANNUAL B'NAI ISRAEL MOTHER'S DAY PLANT SALE



Time to get the yard in shape for Spring is right around the corner. Have you thought about what to get Mom on Mother's Day, Sunday, May 8th? Fill out order form and mail in by **May 2nd**.

As usual we will have a wide assortment of plants and hangers including: Flats (Begonia, Impatien, Petunia, Marigold, Other), 8" and 10" Hangers (Geraniums, Begonia, Coleus, Petunia) and Vegetables (Cherry, Peppers, Cucumbers and Eggplant).

FLATS OF 24 PLANTS \$15.00 EACH FLAT

BEGONIA FLATS W/ BRONZE LEAF \$15

_____ White _____ Pink
_____ Red _____ Mix

BEGONIA FLATS W/ GREEN LEAF \$15

_____ White _____ Pink
_____ Red _____ Mix

IMPATIEN FLATS \$15

_____ White _____ Pink
_____ Red _____ Mix
_____ Salmon _____ Lavender
_____ Rose _____ Coral

PETUNIA FLATS \$15

_____ White _____ Pink
_____ Red _____ Mix
_____ Lavender

MARIGOLD FLATS \$15

_____ Orange _____ Yellow

OTHER FLATS OF 24 \$15/FLAT OF 24 PLANTS

_____ Dahlia Mix
_____ Coleus Mix
_____ Snapdragon Mix
_____ Pansies Mix
_____ Savlia Mix
_____ Dusty Miller

BY 1/2 DOZEN AND HANGERS

4 1/2" GERANIUMS BY POT

\$20.00 PER 1/2 DOZEN

_____ White _____ Pink
_____ Red _____ Rose
_____ Coral

8" HANGER @ \$10.00 EACH

_____ NonStop Begonia
_____ Impatiens
_____ Coleus
_____ Begonias
_____ Petunia

10" HANGER @ \$18.00 EACH

_____ Fushia
_____ NonStop Begonia
_____ Ivy Geranium - Red
_____ Ivy Geranium - White
_____ Ivy Geranium - Pink
_____ Strawflower
_____ Wave Petunia
_____ Verbena
_____ New Guineas Impatien

4 1/2" VEGETABLES BY POT

\$12.00 PER 1/2 DOZEN

Tomatoes

_____ Big Boy
_____ Plum
_____ Cherry

_____ Peppers
_____ Cucumbers
_____ Eggplant

SUB-TOTAL - FLATS	# _____ x \$15.00/24 Plant Flat	= \$ _____
SUB-TOTAL - ANNUALS	# _____ x \$24.00/half dozen	= \$ _____
SUB-TOTAL - GERANIUMS	# _____ x \$20.00/half dozen	= \$ _____
SUB-TOTAL - 8" HANGERS	# _____ x \$10.00 each	= \$ _____
SUB-TOTAL - 10" HANGERS	# _____ x \$18.00 each	= \$ _____
SUB-TOTAL - VEGETABLES	# _____ x \$12.00/half dozen	= \$ _____
TOTAL AMOUNT DUE		\$ _____

CHECK PAYABLE TO CONGREGATION B'NAI ISRAEL

Family Name _____ Phone _____ E-Mail Address _____

Questions? Contact BRUCE KASPER (mensclubk@bisrael.com) at 201-664-2175 or DAVID GORDON (mensclubdg@bisrael.com)

DEADLINE FOR ORDERS: MAY 2ND

ORDER PICK UP: **SUNDAY, MAY 8** from 9:00 am to 12:30 pm at the Temple

Did you complete the form? Enclose a check? OK! Mail to: **CBI PLANT SALE, P.O. BOX 345, Emerson, NJ 07630**

SAC EXCHANGE

The Social Action Committee was “under construction” in the month of February. Armed with nail guns, staple guns, and trowels, members of CBI along with some nonaffiliated friends, participated in a project sponsored by Bonim Builders to help renovate a group home for the developmentally disabled in Bergenfield. Bonim Builders is a program of the UJA Federation of Northern New Jersey (NNJ) that helps renovate homes for low income families, the elderly, and the handicapped. Thanks to Lonnie Robinson, Sheryl and David Silver, Bruce and Eric Kasper, Amy Shein, Charlotte Milchman and her friend Kylie Dyskstra, Warren Kuperinsky, Susan and Marty Casper, Carolyn Ginsberg, Craig Weisz, David Spatz, Kyle Pavlik, and Patrick Carroza, we successfully installed insulation in a basement on one Sunday and put up sheetrock and spackled the following Sunday. A very special thanks goes to Don Fultonberg for organizing as well as participating in this event. Watching the CBI crew hard at work, was like watching a scene out of “This Old House”. Who knew that home repair could be so much fun and rewarding as well? It has been a great experience working with Bonim Builders and the Bonim coordinator for the UJA of NNJ, Stacey Orden. We hope to participate in similar projects in the spring and summer so keep your eyes open for information soliciting volunteers for our latest home renovation projects for those in need. This is also a great opportunity to get our college and high school kids involved with community service.

As we are writing this article, we are preparing for our next event in March, which involves assembling and delivering Shalach Manot baskets to veterans at the Veterans Memorial Home in Paramus. We will be filling baskets with baseball hats and games such as crossword and Sudoku puzzles and of course hamantashen. We



are also looking forward to spending time with the veterans at the home.

SAC would like to express our sincere gratitude to both Gabe and Mikah Green for suggesting that guests to their Bar Mitzvah, make a donation to the SAC in lieu of a gift. Look for information regarding future SAC events and activities in the Shul Shmooz and The Menorah.

As always, the SAC welcomes new members and appreciates new ideas. If you are thinking of joining the committee or would like more information about our mission, please contact **Linda Spatz** at socialactions@bisrael.com or **Renee Kuperinsky** at socialactionrk@bisrael.com.

—Co-Chairs-Linda & Renee

By popular demand here's the recipe used for the shelter dinner on December 19th, 2010:

BRISKET “A LA WARREN” Serves 12-15

Ingredients:

- 6-8 lb Brisket (fat intact)
- 3-4 lg onions chopped
- 3 stalks celery chopped
- 2 tsp Salt + pepper (mixed)
- 1tbs Granulated garlic
- 1 tsp gravy master

- 1 tbs Paprika
- 1 Cup dry red wine (optional)
- 1/4 cup flour

1. Preheat oven to 425 degrees. Dry rub your Brisket with salt, pepper, garlic, & paprika.
2. Place in large roasting pan and roast at 425 degrees, until one side is brown, then turn the meat and brown on the other side.
3. Place celery and onions in roasting pan around the meat and roast for another 15 min; add dry red wine (optional).
4. Lower oven temperature to 350 and cover with foil. Roast for 3 hours until tender.
5. Remove Brisket from roasting pan to a different dish and allow to cool at room temperature; strain juices and vegetables from pan into a saucepan. Refrigerate pan with juice until fat is

solidified. Save onions for gravy (optional).

6. After Brisket is cooled, trim all unwanted fat from meat, then place in fridge to chill.
7. Slice meat with sharp knife against the grain in long strips and place in pan.
8. (Gravy optional) After juice is cooled, remove fat from top and place approx 2-4 ounces of fat in another pot and heat, add flour and cook until a roux is formed. Add juice to the roux and stir until it thickens. Season with gravy master.
9. Place Brisket in oven at 300 degrees until warm then pour gravy on top of brisket as needed. Bake 15-30 minutes more.

CONGREGATION



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COMEDY NIGHT

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FOR A NIGHT OF HILARIOUS FUN

SATURDAY

APRIL 9TH, 2011

8³⁰ PM

**jon
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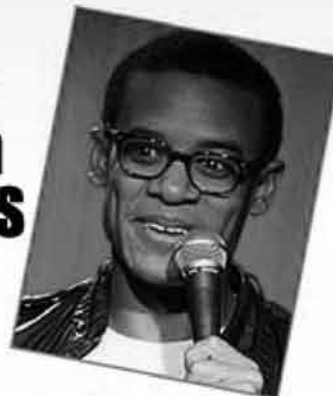


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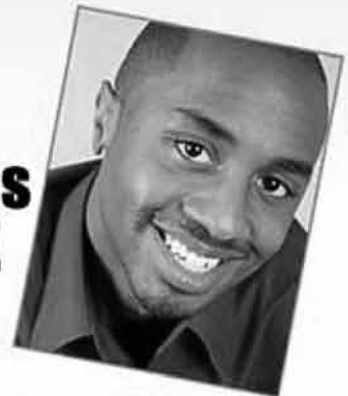
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ADMISSION: \$45 PER PERSON - GET YOUR TICKETS NOW!

INCLUDES: Cocktail hour beginning at 7:30pm;

Open Bar (beer and wine); Hors d'oeuvres and Soft Drinks; DJ Entertainment; Chinese Auction/Raffle; Coffee and Dessert

CONGREGATION B'NAI ISRAEL . 53 PALISADE AVE . EMERSON NJ 07630

GET YOUR TICKETS NOW! To order tickets, send a self addressed, stamped envelope with check (payable to Congregation B'nai Israel) to: CBI Comedy Night, PO Box 345, Emerson, NJ 07630

LETTERS

Dear Jamie,

Thank you for being our B'nai Mitzvah Board member on the bimah. You have cared for us since we started going to CBI and we love you. Your speech was really great. It really showed how much we mean to you and we couldn't have asked anyone else to do that. It feels like we've known you since we were born – you really are family.

Your nephews,
Gabe and Mikah Green

we needed to stay on track. Cantor, your blunt force got us learning more prayers faster than we thought possible, but we did it, thanks to you. On top of prayers, you helped us turn a service for one into something that was done easily and smoothly for two. Thank you both so much for helping us through it all.

Sincerely,
Mikah and Gabe Green

Dear Rabbi Orenstein and Cantor Mandel,

We couldn't have wished for a better Rabbi and Cantor to help us with the intense preparation for our B'nai Mitzvah. Rabbi, your guidance with learning and understanding the Torah, and pushing us to get to where we needed to be so we could be perfect on the big day, was exactly what

To the Executive Board,

Thank you for your kind words. The B'nai Israel family has been so supportive during this difficult time and it is greatly appreciated.

Warmest Regards
Renee Yomtov and family

Join Us For A Community Seder

Rabbi Debra Orenstein & Cantor Lenny Mandel of Congregation B'nai Israel of Emerson and Rabbi Gerald Friedman & Cantor Joel Leibowitz of Temple Beth Shalom of Pascack Valley will lead a Passover Seder at



Congregation B'nai Israel
53 Palisade Avenue, Emerson, New Jersey
Tuesday, April 19th at 6:15 PM



The seder will be stimulating for adults of all ages, as well as family friendly for those with young children. Toys, books and activities for children will be provided. Participation by people of all ages will be encouraged throughout the seder.

MEMBERS & NON-MEMBERS WELCOME! Please RSVP by April 12th.

Community Seder 2011

\$50 per adult, \$25 per child 12 and under, \$180 sponsorship includes 2 tickets

Name _____ Number of people attending _____

_____ Adult Ticket x \$50.00 = \$ _____ _____ \$25.00 Child Ticket x \$25.00 = \$ _____

_____ Sponsorship Tickets x \$180.00 = \$ _____

Total Amount Enclosed \$ _____

To RSVP, for additional information, or directions, please contact Marie by email at bnaioffice@bisrael.com, by phone at 201-265-2272, or visit the temple website: www.bisrael.com. Strictly Kosher for Passover; vegetarian option available.

APRIL 2011

Adar-Nisan 5771

Candle Lighting Times: **1:** 7:02 **8:** 7:10 **15:** 7:17 **18:** 7:20 **22:** 7:24
27: 7:27 **29:** 7:32

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					8pm Erev Shabbat Service 1	10am Dalet/Hey training service 2 10:45am Family service Parashat Tazria Shabbat HaChodesh
9am Hebrew School 3 10am Rabbi Orenstein's installation & Torah dedication	4	4pm Hebrew School 5 Rosh Chodesh Nisan 7:30pm Younger Mom's Night Out with UJA at CBI	7:30pm Board Meeting 6	7:30pm A Seder Like No Other Play @YJCC 7	8pm Erev Shabbat Service 8	10am JHAL Shabbat morning service 9 7:30pm Comedy Night at CBI Parashat Metzora
9am Minyan sponsored by the Katirachi family 10 9am Hebrew School 10:30am Family Passover Seder 12pm Sisterhood Paid Up Luncheon 2pm A Seder Like No Other Play	11	4pm Hebrew School 12	13	14	8pm Erev Shabbat Service 15	10am Shabbat morning service 16 Shabbat HaGadol Parashat Achrei Mot
9am Minyan & Bagel Breakfast 17 No Hebrew School	Erev Pesach 18 Ta'anit Bechorot 7:30am Siyum	Pesach I 19 No Hebrew School 6:15pm Community Seder at CBI	Pesach II 20	Pesach III 21	Pesach IV 22 7pm Family (Drumming) Shabbat Service 8pm Erev Shabbat Service	Pesach V 23 10am Shabbat morning service
Pesach VI 24 9am Minyan & Bagel Breakfast No Hebrew School	Pesach VII 25	Pesach VIII 26 No Hebrew School 7:30am Yizkor	27	7:30pm Adult Education: Introduction to Jewish Mysticism 28	8pm Erev Shabbat Service 29	9:30am Eric Katirachi Bar Mitzvah 30 Parashat Kedoshim

MAY 2011

Nisan-Iyar 5771

Candle Lighting Times: **6:** 7:39 **13:** 7:46 **20:** 7:53 **27:** 7:59

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Yom HaShoah 1 9am Minyan & Bagel Breakfast 9am Hebrew School 7pm Yom HaShoah presentation	2	4pm Hebrew School 3	7:30pm Board Meeting 4	7:30pm Adult Education: Introduction to Jewish Mysticism 5	7:30pm Casual Shabbat 6 8pm Israel-Themed Erev Shabbat Service	10am Dalet/Hey training service 7 10:45am Family service 8pm Community Havdallah Service Parashat Emor
Mother's Day 8 9am Minyan & Bagel Breakfast 9am Hebrew School	Yom HaZaikaron 9	4pm Hebrew School 10 6pm Yom HaAtzma'ut Dinner & Celebration 7pm Yom HaAtzma'ut Movie & Celebration	11	7:30pm Adult Education: Introduction to Jewish Mysticism 12	7:30pm Baseball Shabbat Service 13	Parashat Behar 14
9am Minyan & Bagel Breakfast 15 9am Hebrew School	16	4pm Hebrew School 17	18	7:30pm Adult Education: Introduction to Jewish Mysticism 19	7pm Inter-Generational Drumming Shabbat Service 20 8pm Erev Shabbat Service 8pm Oneg sponsored by Harvey Meer	10am Shabbat morning service 21 Parashat Bechukotai
Lag B'Omer 22 9am Minyan & Bagel Breakfast 9am Hebrew School 9am Minyan sponsored by the Hirshan family 1pm Spring Picnic	23	4pm Hebrew School 24	25	26	8pm Erev Shabbat Service 27	10am Shabbat morning service 28 Parashat Bamidbar
9am Minyan Breakfast 29 No Hebrew School	Memorial Day 30	4pm Hebrew School 31				

FUNDS

ETERNAL LIGHT FUND

TO: Jeff Farkas
In memory of father
FROM: Donna & Les Kaufman

TO: Lisa London
In memory of mother-in-law
FROM: Marsha & Albert Fleischner

TO: Cherry Clarke
In memory of father-in-law
FROM: Marsha & Albert Fleischner

TO: Meryl Effron
In memory of father
FROM: Ellen & Bruce Sonkin,
Lisa Pollack & Mark Milchman,
Marie Shust, Ellen & David
Michelson, Ellen Breger & Kendra,
Kira & David Meinhard, Susan &
Martin Casper

TO: Mr. & Mrs. Michael Selikoff
In memory of father
FROM: Sharon & Allen Neuhaus

SOCIAL ACTION COMMITTEE

TO: Judy Samuels & David Green
Mazel Tov on the B'nai Mitzvah of
Mikah and Gabe
FROM: Ellen & Dave Michelson,
Michael T. Folie & Frances Mayer,
Seymour & Harriette Turk, Bruce
& Naomi Weinberg, and Barbara
L. Finkel

TO: Rhoda Green
Mazel Tov on the B'nai Mitzvah of
Mikah and Gabe

FROM: Ellen & Dave Michelson,
Michael T. Folie & Frances Mayer,
Seymour & Harriette Turk, Bruce
& Naomi Weinberg, and Barbara
L. Finkel

FREYDA FUND

TO: Rich Kargauer
Mazel Tov on your retirement
FROM: Ellen & Bruce Sonkin

TO: Judy Samuels & David Green
Mazel Tov on the B'nai Mitzvah of
Mikah & Gabe
FROM: Harriette & Seymour Turk

TO: Grandma Rhoda & Nana
Jackie
"Nochas" and Mazel Tov on your
grandsons' Bar Mitzvahs
FROM: Harriette & Seymour Turk

TO: Aggi Wallach
MazelTov on the birth of your
granddaughter
FROM: Donna & Les Kaufman

GET WELL FUND

TO: Ike Gavzy
FROM: Goni & David Vardi

TO: Flo Shustak
FROM: Goni & David Vardi

Please join our family and friends at the
Oneg Shabbat following services
on Friday evening the 29th of April
in honor of our son

ERIC STANLEY

Eric will be called to
the Torah as a Bar Mitzvah
on Saturday the 30th
of April at nine-thirty
in the morning



MICHELLE & SHAHAB KATIRACHI

Eric is a seventh grade student at Park Ridge Middle School. Eric loves soccer. He plays defense, and also referees for the younger players. He has made the Honor Roll, plays trumpet in the school band, and is active in Boy Scouts. He greatly enjoys reading and spending time with his friends.

A SEDER LIKE NO OTHER

A ONE-ACT PASSOVER EXPERIENCE

Set in a Suburban Home, "A Seder Like No Other", written and Directed by Geoffrey Cantor, and featuring our very own, Adam Kushner, Sarah Gordon and Peri Ganbarg, brings the audience into the Steinsaltz home for their Passover Seder to explore and share a Passover Meal with unique individual experiences. Like all families who gather for this ritual and celebration, the Steinsaltz family has a lot to say to each other. And like the Passover Seder, A Seder Like No Other is a fun, yet meaningful, experience.

"A Seder Like No Other: A One-Act Passover Experience" is presented by the YJCC and the Kehillah Partnership of Northern New Jersey. The production will be held on Thursday, April 7 at 7:30 p.m. and on Sunday, April 10 at 2:00 p.m. at the YJCC, 605 Pascack Road, Township of Washington. Tickets are \$10.

Reservations should be made by contacting Ornit Michael, omichael@yjcc.org. Any questions, you may also contact Cathy Gordon at gccgactorsworkshop@gmail.com

YOM HA'SHOAH (Holocaust Remembrance Day)

6 million perished and we keep their memories alive

Sunday, May 1st at 7:00pm

Please join us as we commemorate the tragedy with candlelighting, poetry, inspirational readings, and a moving theater piece performed by Cantor Lenny Mandel, Rabbi Debra Orenstein and members of our congregation. We will also use our new illustrated Torah, dedicated to the memory of Holocaust victims and survivors, to honor and commemorate the day.

Congregation B'nai Israel
53 Palisade Avenue, Emerson, NJ
For directions or additional info call 201-265-2272,
email bnaioffice@bisrael.com or visit our website at www.bisrael.com

APRIL YAHRZEITS

Joseph Greenwald	Adar II 29	04/04/11
Minnie Radin	Nisan 3	04/07/11
Victor Vigotsky	Nisan 5	04/09/11
Bertha Gould	Nisan 7	04/11/11
Bernice Kuperinsky	Nisan 8	04/12/11
Rose Simberg	Nisan 8	04/12/11
Marilyn Altfield	Nisan 10	04/14/11
Harry Beldner	Nisan 10	04/14/11
Estelle Brenner	Nisan 12	04/16/11
Leah G Perlmutter	Nisan 12	04/16/11
Louis Simkins	Nisan 13	04/17/11
Selina Schoenfeld	Nisan 13	04/17/11
Adolf Hirschel	Nisan 13	04/17/11
Max Weitzman	Nisan 14	04/18/11
Fanny Simkins	Nisan 14	04/18/11
Morris Heimovitch	Nisan 15	04/19/11
Rose Sprecher	Nisan 16	04/20/11
Janice Goetz	Nisan 16	04/20/11
Irving Swire	Nisan 16	04/20/11
Rosalie Meinhard	Nisan 17	04/21/11
Beverly Bloom	Nisan 18	04/22/11
Max Thaler	Nisan 18	04/22/11
Herbert Signal	Nisan 18	04/22/11
Arthur Hertzberg	Nisan 19	04/23/11
Isidore Jaffe	Nisan 20	04/24/11
Frank Brenner	Nisan 20	04/24/11
John G Weisberg	Nisan 20	04/24/11
Harold Nagorsky	Nisan 20	04/24/11
Sigmund Horowytz	Nisan 21	04/25/11
Bella Frost	Nisan 21	04/25/11
Jesse Minikes	Nisan 21	04/25/11
Morris Zirl	Nisan 21	04/25/11
Rose Yashpeh	Nisan 23	04/27/11
Abraham Anton	Nisan 23	04/27/11
Hannah Mills	Nisan 24	04/28/11
Sidney Weil	Nisan 24	04/28/11
Helen D Wieder	Nisan 25	04/29/11

TEMPLE SERVICES

Yahrzeit/Memorial Plaques

\$200

A reminder card is mailed every year prior to the yearzeit anniversary. Plaques are displayed on the sanctuary walls.

Call Paula Javits at 201-265-6559

Tree of Life Leaves

\$126

Commemorate special occasions or honor someone special with a leaf displayed on our lobby walls.

Call Bob Greenblatt at 201-265-5777

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Call Donna Kaufman at 201-261-3055 or e-mail donnakaufman147@hotmail.com

- **FREYDA FUND** for all occasions, in memory of the good deeds of Freyda "Fran" Klein

- **ETERNAL LIGHT FUND** for memorials

- **IRVING RIEKES MEMORIAL**

- **GARDEN FUND** for all occasions.

Funds used to maintain garden behind temple.

- **GET WELL FUND**

- **CANTOR SID DERNER BUILDING FUND** for all occasions. Funds used for existing building needs.

- **GOOD & WELFARE FUND**

- **SOCIAL ACTION FUND** to help those in need

- **BERNICE'S KITCHEN FUND** for all occasions, in memory of Bernice Kuperinsky. Funds used for kitchen equipment.

Contact Meryl Kutzin at 201-664-0684 or e-mail mkutzin@qtbras.com or Idelle Schwinder at 201-265-7281

Prayer Book Fund

Contact Barry Bluestein at

Book plate dedications for all occasions.

201-782-0969

Judaica Gift Shop

Contact Meryl Kutzin at

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201-664-0684 or e-mail mkutzin@qtbras.com

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A major fundraiser that can be used at any Fairway, Shop Rite, Stop and Shop. Temple earns \$5 on every \$100 gift card.

Contact Idelle Schwinder at 201-265-7281

Prospective Members

Contact Sara or Lonnie

Let your neighbors know about our shul.

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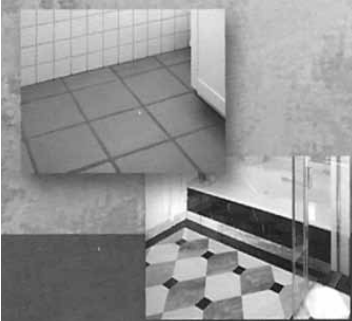
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