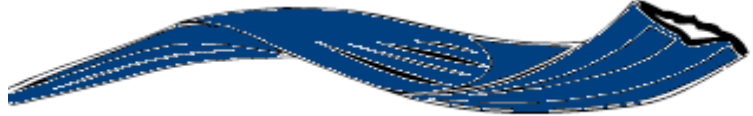


SHOFAR



Monthly Newsletter of the Monterey Peninsula Jewish Community

www.carmelbethisrael.org

UPCOMING EVENTS

APR 6 CBI 70th Anniversary
Blue & White Ball

APR 10 Lunch with the Clergy

APR 18 Best Years Visit to
Monterey Museum of Art

APR 21 Hesed Academy Model
Seder

APR 23 2nd Night Community Seder

MAY 5 Yom HaShoa Service "Torn
Lilacs" author Henry Michalski

MAY 11 Bella! This Women's Place is
in the House – Film Event

AUG 25 Jewish Food Festival

Visit our website for
more information,
to register for all events,
and to make donations.



2nd Night Community Passover Seder

Our congregation's Community Passover Seder will be held in our social hall the second night of Passover, **Tuesday, April 23 beginning at 6:00 PM**. This fun, family Seder will be led by Rabbi Bruce Greenbaum and Cantor Alisa Fineman. Much of our time will be spent singing together. We will also take turns reading different parts of the Seder. The rabbi will even bring a few props that will add to our recalling the 10 plagues.

Our dinner will be prepared by one of our favorite caterers, Nicole who has prepared some of our previous Seder meals. Our traditional meal includes matzo ball soup, gefilte fish, chicken and of course a tasty dessert.

This interactive Seder will include our taking turns reading with lots of singing as well. After 2 cups of wine/grape juice, blessings over the various foods, and sharing the Seder story we will take a 30-minute break from our Seder to enjoy our dinner. Then we will continue with the hunt for the Afikomen (prizes for those who find it!). After dinner we finish the second part of the Seder that includes blessings after the meal, two more cups of wine/grape juice and welcoming Elijah to our Seder tables.

Please call the CBI office or sign up online to RSVP for this year's Seder. Rumor has it our homemade Charoset is the best! Don't miss out.



From the Rabbi's Desk

This month we celebrate one of my favorite holidays, Passover. I enjoy our family getting together for our Seder (so rarely are we all in the same place these days). It is fun to page through the Haggadah, singing the songs and retelling our Exodus story. I love sharing a delicious meal (Susan is a fantastic cook) and just being together as a family; and joining with some close friends is always wonderful.

But the message of freedom is what I enjoy most. This is the time of year where we focus on our biblical redemption. We recall that transition from slavery to Egyptian taskmasters to becoming servants of God. We go from building cities for Pharaoh to building a tabernacle for God. Our work evolves from being almost meaningless, to bringing purpose to our very existence.

How many of us today forget to celebrate or take full advantage of our freedom? When was the last time you conscientiously served God? My fear is too many of us have become slaves to our work or struggle to cover the materialism that floods our lives. Day-to-day demands overwhelm us. In one way or another we have enslaved ourselves. How might we break out of this pattern?

Find someone or some worthy organization that needs support and help them. While giving funds might assist them, do more than that. Take some time and physically be present for them. Helping a person will lift both your spirits. Looking into another's eyes while assisting them is like taking a spark within and sharing it, bringing warmth and light. This is something I experience every week when I work at our soup kitchen Abraham's Tent.

Nothing feels better than handing someone a meal who I suspect might be food insufficient. I bask in the smiles and kind comments I receive knowing how much they appreciate the time and effort on their behalf. I know I am bringing some wholeness (think Shalom) to them. While cleaning the kitchen at the end of another shift at the soup kitchen, I see the joy in those who have joined in this effort of serving those in need. At that moment, we have shared the experience of using our freedom to serve God. The sense of satisfaction and contentment is complete. Giving to others has broken our shackles of enslavement. This simple Mitzvah, which we are all free to do, leaves our spirits soaring.

This is the lesson of our Passover holiday. God redeemed us for a purpose. There is a reason God gave us freedom. I pray this season is filled with the joy found in serving God through service to God's creation. Amen.



From Cantor Alisa

Dear Friends,

While writing this message, our Book of Exodus draws to a close. For weeks, the Torah instructs us in the building of the *Mishkan*, a portable sanctuary to carry and know G-d's presence on our ancestors' journey through the wilderness. In its completion, we are given explicit instructions to honor *Shabbat*—intended to help us rest not only in this physical space, but to help us create a holy space for G-d to dwell within us as well, in all the ways we know or name G-d—a space for wellbeing, divine presence, love, the light of awareness. In our pausing we create a space of awe and wonder, remembering from whom and where all blessings flow, in turn enlivening our gratitude for life, Torah, creation, the gift of each other and so much more.

At our Torah study on Saturday mornings and at our monthly "Lunch with the Clergy," I cherish the gifts we bring one another as we reflect on what it means to "build a holy space." As the building of the *Mishkan* is finalized, our ancestors were so inspired to contribute, day after day, that their gifts overflowed and overwhelmed the artisans. Moses actually had to tell them to stop! Can you imagine receiving too many gifts? What is it about this *Mishkan*, this holy space, that inspired and compelled the Israelites to give so generously? What moves us to come together, to give of ourselves and build our holy space here at CBI?

As we know, many of our members make significant financial contributions, while many others tirelessly volunteer their time and skills on a regular basis. Just showing up is an offering—the offering of our being, our presence—whether it be for Shabbat and holiday services, special guest speakers, social events, or Pilates and Zumba classes. By doing so, we make connections, create fellowship, welcome the stranger and uplift those facing hardships. There are so many ways our members build this holy community. When our hearts are so moved, every offering, every gift, every person makes a difference as we build this place together.

Hine mah tov—Indeed, how good it is when we dwell together at CBI, a most beautiful space because of our individual and collective offerings that make CBI the

community it is and all that it can be. It's amazing to think we exist because of each other, serving not only the Jewish community, but our greater community as well.

V'chol chacham lev— “wise hearted people”— may we continue in the ways of our ancient mothers and fathers and know that all our gifts matter—our presence, our wisdom, our voices, our skills, our caring and contributions of all kinds— and may our gifts continue to flow. As it says in our morning prayers: *Ashrei yoshvei veitecha; od y'hal'lucha selah*— “Happy and rich are those who dwell in your house; we will sing our thanks and praises to You forever.” May it be so for all of us. *Chazak, chazak v'nitchazek*— may we be strong and strengthen one another as we move forward on our journey as Congregation Beth Israel.

– Cantor Alisa

Counting the Omer— the period from Passover to



Shavuot

From Freedom to Revelation

At Passover, we remember and experience the spiritual rebirth of the Jewish people, leaving *Mitzrayim*—“The Narrow Place”— for the freedom and expansiveness of the wilderness. Just as our ancestors had to navigate the confines of slavery, our journey toward freedom and a more expansive consciousness is not easy either and in these turbulent and emotionally fraught times, we can feel especially challenged. Our journey is both an individual and a collective one, for are any of us truly free if others remain enslaved?

Our Jewish calendar provides us with an opportunity to explore and improve upon our relationships with one another, and through those encounters, our relationship with G-d as we know G-d—*the divine, the light of awareness*. Originally a grain harvest festival for our biblical ancestors at Passover time, our sages innovated a way to count by way of a spiritual practice we can liken to an “inner-pilgrimage”.

The rebbes taught that each day is unique and will never come again. This practice reminds us that our journey to freedom is ongoing. As a free people, we have the choice to make each day count, to make our lives count, to remember that everyone counts, enabling us to see the divine in all beings. May the Counting of the Omer help us illuminate our path as human beings so we can truly be a

light unto the nations and to those around us, realizing a world of justice and freedom for all.

Some online resources to learn more about Counting the Omer:

My Jewish Learning: How to Count the Omer-- a guide to the ritual that occurs between Passover and Shavuot by Rabbi Jill Hammer.

<https://www.myjewishlearning.com/article/how-to-count-the-omer/>

Moshe House– 49 Facts about Counting the Omer (Bim Bam video)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AMqb73x1hGA>

Meaningful Life Center with Rabbi Simon Jacobson-Sign up to receive daily Emails

My Omer: 49 Steps to Personal Refinement. Daily insights and teachings for 49 days.

<https://www.meaningfullife.com/category/torah/months-holidays/nisan/myomer-app/>

Reform Judaism.org: Counting of the Omer: Blessings for Each Day

<https://reformjudaism.org/jewish-holidays/counting-omer/counting-omer>

Aish.com A practical guide to becoming great in 49 days:

<https://aish.com/daily-omer-meditation/>

For more in-depth study: Institute for Jewish Spirituality: Learn The Jewish Practice That Helps You Be Your “Best Self” during the Omer — the period between Passover and Shavuot

<https://www.jewishspirituality.org/go-deeper/aia-omer/>



CBI has a few board positions open

Contact Bob Fenton to learn about available opportunities 818-645-3972

lawbobman@aol.com



Hesed Academy News

March was such a joyful month at Hesed Academy! Students listened to stories, made beautiful Purim masks and crowns, and baked delicious *hamantaschen*. We celebrated Purim with a silly retelling of the Purim story, lots of songs and music, a costume parade, and a festive Purim Carnival. It was amazing to have the whole Hesed Academy community come together for fun and games!

Hesed Academy will be in session on Sunday, April 7, 14, and 21. There will be **no class on April 28** for Passover Break.

April Specialty Class Schedule

April 7: Storytelling

April 14: Art

April 21: Cooking

April Children's Choir Rehearsal

April 14: 12:30-1:00 PM

Passover Model Seder

Hesed Academy will be hosting a school-wide Model Passover Seder on April 21, 10:00-11:30. This will be a wonderful opportunity for students to learn and practice Passover traditions as a community. The event will take place in the Social Hall. Stay tuned - we will be looking for parent volunteers to help with the event!

Class Dinner

The **4/5 class** will have their class dinner on April 5. The dinner will start at 5:30 followed by the 6:30 PM Service. We are looking forward to having the students and their families come together as a community!

I-HELP Meals

This month, the **6/7 class** will be hosting I-HELP Dinner, which will take place on **Sunday, April 7**.

Aleynu

Over the past month, helped lead the Purim Carnival and enjoyed a super-fun beach picnic with teens from Temple Beth-El in Santa Cruz. It was wonderful to get to know other Jewish teens from the larger community and spend the afternoon building a fire, playing frisbee, flying a kite, building a sandcastle, and just hanging out talking and bonding. We hope to get our communities together again soon! This month, Aleynu will have meetings on April 7 and April 21.

Happy Passover and have a wonderful month!

Sophie Little



Christopher & Eden Chambers, Stacey & Jacob Scherling The Parents helped the Children Set the Dessert Table for the I-HELP Men, March 3rd. Then Eden served the Mashed Potatoes & Jacob served the Dinner Buns!



First Friday Shabbat Service now at 6:30pm

On the **first Friday** of each month during the remainder of the school year we plan to hold a class Shabbat dinner before our early evening service. To best accommodate the school families, we are making a small shift in our First Friday evening schedule. The class dinners will begin at **5:30pm** and the Sabbath service on those evenings will begin at **6:30pm**.

All are welcome to join us for these services on the first Friday of the month. All other Friday services will remain at **7:30pm**. We hope everyone joins us at the early services when Moshe the monkey stories are shared in place of our regular sermons. Birthday blessings and presents are also a special part of these First Friday services. This month, on **April 5**, we welcome our Fourth and Fifth Grade class who will enjoy a class Shabbat.



Lunch with our Clergy

This month Rabbi Greenbaum will lead a discussion on "Interfaith Passover Celebrations" on Wednesday, **April 10 at noon** at Baja Cantina. The rabbi will answer the questions, was the Last

Supper a Passover Seder? Should we invite our Christian friends to our Passover table? Why are so many church groups holding their own Seders? Come prepared to discuss, question and debate. Sign up online or call the CBI office at 624-2015 to RSVP. As always, we will be ordering off their menu so expect lunch to be approximately \$25.



Spring 2024 Hesed Academy Youth Choir!

If you have children who love to sing, Cantor Alisa is holding Youth Choir rehearsals to meet once a month on Sundays for 30 minutes, directly after Hesed Academy. This month's rehearsal will be on **April 14, 12:30 – 1:00pm**. Our Hesed Academy singers will be invited to sing for special Friday night services, Jewish holidays and more throughout the year.

If you are interested, please join us! Little ones should be accompanied by parents if possible!

BEST YEARS

Best Years Visit to Monterey Museum of Art

Please join Cantor Alisa for our **Best Years** program this month as we take a field trip to the Monterey Museum of Art on **April 18** for a docent-led tour of the *Dorothea Lange* and *Mixed Up – Connected: Joe Ramos Photographs* exhibitions from **11am-12:15pm**. Their powerful images focus on migrant camps and migrant labor in California and the complexities of identity and belonging. Our tour includes a special activity led by our docent.

Admission fees will be covered by the Senior Activities Fund. Vegetarian lunch boxes will be from Parker Lusseau for a picnic on the grounds of Colton Hall following our tour and activity.

Please register on our website or call the CBI Office so we know how many lunches to order. We will meet at the Monterey Museum of Art which is located at 559 Pacific Street, Monterey, CA 93940. Participants can organize their own carpooling if desired. For more information about the exhibits, please visit montereyart.org



Please Note the Time Changes



In April, Zumba will meet every **Sunday, at 2:30pm** in the CBI Social Hall. You can register online at www.carmelbethisrael.org. Note

that you need dance/gym shoes for Zumba.

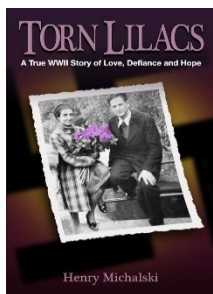


Penelope's
PILATES

In April, Gentle Pilates will meet every **Sunday at 3:30pm** at CBI.

Penelope, our certified Pilates instructor, guides us through a series of gentle stretches and core work. Please bring your own mat--extra padding underneath your mat would be a great addition as well. Suggested \$20 donation; you can register online at www.carmelbethisrael.org.

Coming in May



For Yom HaShoa, "Torn Lilacs" author Henry Michalski will speak to Hesed Academy's 6th & 7th grade class and at our **7:00pm** evening service. "Torn Lilacs" has captured the essence of the Jewish struggle during World War Two. It has woven in his parents touching and adventurous love Story. **Sunday, May 5**



Film, dessert, and discussion with Rabbi Leah Novick, who once served as Chief Aide to Bella Abzug. **Saturday, May 11 at 7:00pm**
Tickets are \$18
RSVP online or call the CBI Office



CBI has a full-time opening.

Do you have experience in

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Become a part of making CBI great!

To apply or for more information, please contact
Donna Shore at Donna@CarmelBethisrael.org



COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP NEWS

Attention All High School Seniors and Parents of Seniors!

Each year CBI supports the 12K run at the Big Sur International Marathon. This year, the marathon is on Sunday, April 28. We assist with 6 stations along the 12K route in Point Lobos. We commit to 12 volunteers and in doing so receive a donation of over \$1000.

We meet at the mouth of Carmel Valley at 6am and walk to Point Lobos, approximately 2.2 miles, and set up at the 5 stations along the race route inside the park and 1 station at the entrance. The race starts at 7:35. The racers show up a little while after that. Our job is to make sure they don't get lost or make a wrong turn and to cheer them on. The final racers are usually out of Point Lobos by 10am. Then we will walk back to our cars.

There is a volunteer food tent at the mouth of the valley. We usually stop there on the way back. You will also receive a free volunteer tee shirt. It is a really fun event. If you are interested in volunteering, please let Malina know. You will need to sign up through the Big Sur Marathon website to complete the registration and order your tee shirt.

Malina – 831-601-5791 malinabreaux@gmail.com

Volunteer Registration

Link: <https://bigsurinternationalmarathon.volunteerlocal.com/volunteer/?id=75717>

Password: bethisrael



If you are interested in applying for a CBI Merit College Scholarship, now is the time to get started. Applications are available in your high school career center, at the CBI office, or on the CBI website at <https://www.carmelbethisrael.org/college.html>

The College Fund was born through the efforts of Judy Masliyah b"r'h to give back to the students of our local community, and to recognize their achievement and involvement in Jewish Life. It has been and remains a way to honor students who consistently show outstanding academic work, leadership, community dedication and values of Jewish life with a financial reward and community recognition.

We have awarded over 90 scholarships since 1993 when we first started this worthwhile endeavor. The committee is grateful to the wonderful contributors who have helped establish and have sustained this fund since its inception.

The College Fund recognizes worthy Jewish students on the Monterey Peninsula who have been admitted to a four-year college. Awards will be made in May and, if possible, presented at the students' high school awards ceremony. In addition, the students will be recognized at the CBI Senior Shabbat on May 17. We want to acknowledge your accomplishments and contributions to our community. We hope you will apply for the CBI Merit College Scholarship!

Be sure to read the criteria for selection carefully. The deadline for submitting your completed application package is Wednesday, April 24, 2024, 4:00 p.m. Please email your application to Vivi Fenwick at vivifenwick@gmail.com

Thank you.

Vivi Fenwick

CBI College Scholarship Committee Chair



The Lester A. Tockerman Arts Scholarship Fund

In his will, long-time member, and well-loved Jewish Food Festival captain bequeathed \$25,000 to CBI to establish the Lester A. Tockerman Arts Scholarship Fund.

The purpose of the fund is to help support a deserving temple member who is graduating or has graduated from high school and will be going to or is currently attending college to study in the arts, including but not limited to dance, theater music, performing arts, painting, sculpture, and textiles.

Grants will be \$1000, and recipients will be entitled to only one grant. A committee is being formed as required by the trust. There will be more information and an application process in place for the 2025-26 school year.

We are so very grateful to Lester and his family for this gift and look forward to supporting the aspiring artists in our community.



CBI Interest-Free Loan

Thanks to the generosity of an anonymous donor, CBI continues to offer interest-free loans of up to \$500 to CBI members for personal or professional needs. Please contact the CBI office at 831-624-2015 for the simple one-page loan application; all requests are strictly confidential. CBI is committed to the continuing support of all its members during these challenging times.



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831.625.0545

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Visit Potrero Canyon School

Our resident preschool would love to invite any CBI families with preschool aged children to visit Potrero Canyon School for a tour. They offer flexible schedules and have spaces open for the 2024-25 school year. Potrero does not require children to be potty trained prior to enrollment. They spend most of their days on the playground surrounded by trees and nature! Please email andra@potrerocanyonschool.com to schedule your tour and visit www.potrerocanyonschool.com to learn more.

If you missed the Film Premiere of "Discovering Wisdom -- Rabbi Leah's Journey," it will be shown again!



DISCOVERING WISDOM
RABBI LEAH'S JOURNEY

A FILM BY ARLENE KREBS
Saturday, April 13th 7:00pm - 9:00pm
Center for Spiritual Awakening/CSA
522 Central Ave, Pacific Grove
[Tickets \\$15](#)
Dessert Reception Follows Film Screening
Purchase tickets at the door



Please join us for our annual festive Passover Seder on **Tuesday, April 23 at 6 pm!** The Seder will be co-led by Rabbi Bruce Greenbaum and Cantor Alisa Fineman. Dinner will be served in the social hall of **Congregation Beth Israel.**

4 ways to RSVP:

- Register online at CarmelBethIsrael.org or use this QR Code
- Email your reservation request to shalomcbi@carmelbethisrael.org
- Mail the attached reservation form, with your payment (checks made payable to Congregation Beth Israel or CBI)
- Call the office with credit card information (831 624 2015) by **April 15.**



Because of demand, we can accommodate the first 150 participants. Only confirmed and pre-paid reservations received by **April 15** can be guaranteed. To begin our Seder promptly at 6:15 pm, we ask that you be seated by 6:00 pm. There are no reserved tables.

Dinner Menu

First Course: Matzo Ball Soup, Gefilte Fish ❖ Entrée: Pan Seared Chicken Breast with Caramelized Onion and Roasted Garlic Olive Oil, Mashed Potatoes and Seasonal Vegetables with Pan Jus ❖ Dessert: Sorbet with Fresh Fruit ❖ Vegetarian Entrée: Stuffed Portobello Mushroom ❖ Kids Meal: Matzo Meal Breaded Chicken Tenders with Roasted Potatoes and Fruit Cup ❖ Traditional Seder Plate on Every Table ❖ All Entrees are Gluten Free

.....
PLEASE RETURN THIS PORTION TO CBI, 5716 Carmel Valley Road, Carmel, CA 93923

For additional information and reservations, call the CBI Office at 831 624 2015 or visit our website CarmelBethIsrael.org

Name _____

Email _____

Phone # _____

I wish to pay by credit card: ☐ Visa ☐ MasterCard
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Credit Card # _____

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Member Adults \$72	_____	_____	_____
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Children (12 and under) Free	_____	_____	_____
Total \$ _____			

Please note that reservations **MUST** be received by April 15, 2024



We hope to see you all at the Blue and White Ball on Saturday, April 6. If you have questions about the event, please call the CBI office at 831-624-2015

Thank you to our sponsors!

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Carmel Valley
 ESTATE WINES



The Jewish Food Festival is Coming! Save the Date August 25, 2024

Call for Committee Members:

As we gear up for this year's festival, we're seeking enthusiastic individuals to join our committees. We have opportunities available in the following areas:

1. **PR/Marketing:** Help spread the word and generate excitement about our festival through strategic marketing and publicity efforts.
2. **Green Initiatives:** Assist us in implementing environmentally friendly practices to reduce our ecological footprint.
3. **Sponsorships:** Secure sponsorships and partnerships to ensure the success of our event and support our community initiatives.
4. **Grounds Management:** Oversee the logistics of our festival grounds, including setup, maintenance, cleanup and parking.
5. **Non-Food Activities:** Curate engaging activities and entertainment for attendees of all ages beyond the culinary delights.
6. **Volunteer Management:** Coordinate volunteer recruitment, training, and scheduling to ensure smooth operations during the festival.

If you're passionate about Jewish culture and cuisine and eager to make a difference, we want to hear from you! Also, if you have a special interest or skill or anything that you feel would be helpful but not necessarily fitting into the above categories, let us know! Join our team and be part of something truly special.

Contact:

Lisa Averbuch, Chairperson
925-948-5183
LisaA@carmelbethisrael.org



CBI Women's Book Club

For location information, email wiskoff@aol.com.

April 9, 1:30 PM — ANYTHING BUT YES by Joie Davidow

May 14, 1:30 PM — MY LAST INNOCENT YEAR by Daisy Alpert Florin

June 11, 1:30 PM — KANTIKA by Elizabeth Graver



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Meet the Cantor Family

Hi, we are the Cantor family, Ilene, Neil, and Robby. We moved to the Monterey/Carmel area in stages. On our first visit to the area in February 2022, Neil, Robby, and myself (Ilene) stopped by Congregation Beth Israel and met with Rabbi Bruce to find out more about CBI and the Jewish community in the area. A Jewish community is very important to us, whether it's big or small, and we always want to be involved in the Jewish community where we live.

I arrived first in March 2022, from the metro Detroit area. Neil and I lived in Michigan for 30 years. Robby was next when he moved here in July 2022 after he finished 5th grade in elementary school. Neil flew out and visited us every month until he finally moved here last September 2023 right before Rosh Hashana. During our short time here in Monterey/Carmel we moved several times until we found the perfect house (our 3rd) on the 7th green of the golf course at Quail Lodge. It's been an amazing journey. Neil and I are originally from the east coast. Neil was born in Richmond, Va. and I was born in New York City, NY. We met while we were both working for the Associated Press while attending Northeastern University in Boston, MA. We were both Journalism majors and Neil also received a double major in Political Science.

After graduation, I was a TV Anchor for 16 years in 4 U.S. markets - Presque Isle, Maine; Bangor, Maine; Lansing, Michigan; and, Flint, Michigan. Neil, however, went on to attend law school. Neil was accepted into The Thomas M. Cooley School in Lansing, MI the same day I was offered the morning anchor job at the NBC station in Lansing, MI, so we knew it was "bashert" to be in Lansing together. Neil actually made a television commercial and proposed to me while I was on the air during a newscast. I retired from TV in 2005, and now work in the strategic Marketing, Communications and Public Relations field.

Neil is an Attorney and is employed with the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. Prior to Neil's current position, he worked in Civil Rights and Labor law for 16 years and then ten years as the Director of Jewish Student Life at Hillel of Metro Detroit. At Hillel Neil worked with over 1,500 Jewish students guiding them on their Jewish journeys. He also led the staff and student interns and staffed many Birthright Israel trips to Israel. Neil has traveled to Israel over 18 times, six with me. Neil and I have also traveled to Europe several times and we are cruise aficionados.

Our son Robby recently turned 13 and celebrated his Bar Mitzvah over Hanukkah here at CBI. Robby loved working with Rabbi Bruce and Cantor Alisa. He loves living in Carmel and is currently in the 7th grade at Carmel Middle School. Robby is very active in sports playing flag-football, basketball and, he is currently on the Carmel Middle School wrestling team. He hopes to join the swim team at Carmel High School. Robby is looking forward to attending Camp Ramah Northern California, Ramah Galim, and the Ramah Sports Academy this summer. He is a huge sports fan and loves going to see the Warriors, 49ers, and the Giants. Robby also loves playing video games with his friends.

Neil and I were brought up and raised in very active traditional Conservative families and both of our families kept Kosher. We still keep a Kosher home. We enjoy hosting family and friends for Shabbat Dinners, holiday meals and displaying extensive Hanukkah blow-ups outside in December. When we were in Michigan Neil followed in his mother's footsteps and served on the board of our Synagogue, including Vice-President and, he served on the board of our local Jewish Federation. I am currently serving on the CBI Board and, also proudly chairing this year's CBI "Blue and White" 70th Ball. When we're not working, we love exploring the local area and hope to explore more of California. We also enjoy going to farmers' markets, the beach and yes, even to Disneyland! We enjoy going to Broadway shows and have already attended several in San Francisco and San Jose. Next on our list is to travel to Tahoe or Yosemite as we haven't been skiing in many years and want to introduce Robby to skiing. Neil, Robby, and I feel very lucky to have found such a warm and welcoming community (family) here at CBI.





Gabriela Lipsky	1	Barry Rund	16
Joshua Kosmont	2	Desmond Moir	16
Jana Stiebel	4	Nicole Zeff	16
Bill Pardue	5	Elizabeth Grogin	17
Jill Gabbe	5	Michael Newton	17
Elaine Lazarus	7	Richard Kreitman	17
Marian Sosnick	7	Barbara Mitchell	18
Eli'Noar Lipow	7	Arina Ganeles	21
Elijah Lang	7	Pauline Troia	21
Theodore Little	8	Robert Fenton	22
Hannah Sabih	8	Ruthie Pack	22
Michael Leavy	9	Elizabeth Heff	23
Daniel Rosenthal	10	Nathan Tockerman	23
Myles Elliot Dau	11	Mitchel Winick	23
Poppy Esther Dau	11	Rory Lakind	23
Paul Harmatz	11	Rizal Sidney Baguio	23
Julie Chase	11	Gary Simon	24
Amos Cohen	11	Daniel Robbins	26
Ian Joshua Anderson	12	Richard Gerber	26
Robert Kershner	12	David Schnitzer	26
Marshal Blatt	13	Steven Goldberg	26
David Ortiz-Suslow	13	Makayla Schnitzer	28
Larry Solow	13	Elizabeth Benjamin	29
Bryce Fenwick	14	Susan Rosen	29
Abra Teitler	14	Alison Baguio	30
Vivi Fenwick	15		



Deborah & Mitchel Winick	1
David & Andrea Rosenberg	2
Hersh & Liz Davis	7
Thomas & Ellen G. Krause	11
Barbara Mitchell & Bill Pardue	13
Matthew Schuss & Charlene Webber-Schuss	18
Robert & Chinanit Kershner	26
Joel Jacobson & Milene Crispin	30
Senen & Alison Baguio	30
Daniel & Louise Riddell-Kaufman	30

Family News

Our Congregation strives to offer love and support to fellow congregants in times of joy and celebration, as well as in times of trouble and sorrow. One of the ways we do this is to let the congregation know your news. Please let us know if there is a simcha you wish to share (or know someone else's that they are willing to share), or a wish of encouragement or condolence that can be shared. You can send this information to shalomcbi@carmelbethisrael.org to be included in the Shofar.

Congregation Beth Israel

April 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 22 Adar II	2 23 Adar II	3 24 Adar II	4 25 Adar II	5 26 Adar II	6 27 Adar II Shmini Shabbat Torah Study 10:30am CBI 70th Anniversary Blue & White Ball 6:30pm
7 28 Adar II Hesed Academy 9:30am Aleynu Gentle Pilates 2:30pm Zumba 3:30pm I-HELP Men - assisted by grades 6 & 7 4:00pm	8 29 Adar II	9 1 Nisan Rosh Chodesh Nisan CBI Executive Committee Meeting 6:30pm	10 2 Nisan Lunch with Our Clergy 12:00pm Fundamentals of Judaism / Adult B'nai Mitzvah Program 7:15pm	11 3 Nisan	12 4 Nisan Erev Shabbat Service with Cantor Alisa Fineman & Rabbi Jeff Schulman 7:30pm	13 5 Nisan Tazria Shabbat Torah Study with Cantor Alisa Fineman & Rabbi Jeff Schulman 10:30am
14 6 Nisan Hesed Academy 9:30am Children's Choir Rehearsal 12:30pm Gentle Pilates 2:30pm Zumba 3:30pm	15 7 Nisan	16 8 Nisan CBI Board of Trustees Meeting 7:00pm	17 9 Nisan	18 10 Nisan Best Years Visit to the Monterey Museum of Art 11:00am Oneg Host - Sandy Leader 7:30pm	19 11 Nisan Erev Shabbat Service 7:30pm	20 12 Nisan Metzora Shabbat Torah Study 10:30am
21 13 Nisan Hesed Academy 9:30am Aleynu 12:30pm Gentle Pilates 2:30pm Zumba 3:30pm	22 14 Nisan	23 15 Nisan Pesach CBI 2nd Night Community Seder 6:00pm	24 16 Nisan Pesach 1st Day Omer Fundamentals of Judaism / Adult B'nai Mitzvah Program 7:15pm	25 17 Nisan 2nd Day Omer	26 18 Nisan 3rd Day Omer Erev Shabbat Service with Anniversary Blessings 7:30pm	27 19 Nisan 4th Day Omer Shabbat Torah Study 10:30am
28 20 Nisan 5th Day Omer Hesed Academy 9:30am Gentle Pilates 2:30pm Zumba 3:30pm	29 21 Nisan Pesach 6th Day Omer I-HELP Women 4:00pm	30 22 Nisan Pesach 7th Day Omer				

TODAH RABAH!

Thank you to those who have recently
given generously to
Congregation Beth Israel

OUR LATEST 70th BLUE & WHITE BALL SPONSORS

Montage Health
Pacific Grove Animal Hospital

GENERAL DONATIONS

for CBI

from Carol Rossi
Debora & Michael Waxer
Anita Arstein-Dunsay

in memory of

Robert Taylor Fletcher III & Joan Ott from Nancy Callahan
Jonathan Sabih from David Sabih & Anna Swartley
Susan's father George Ugoretz from Melvin & Susan Gorelick
Norman Chodosh, Maureen's husband from Maureen Chodosh
Fanny Chodosh, mother-in-law of Maureen Chodosh from Maureen Chodosh
Sarita's beloved father Joseph Silverman from Sarita Silverman
Ellen's mother Rose Ruja from Thomas & Ellen G. Krause
In memory of Lillian Kessler, my beloved mother and the grandmother to my children from Myrna Brandwein
Howard Copelan from Carol McKibben

I-HELP PROGRAM

in memory of

Jonathan Sabih from David Sabih & Anna Swartley

RACHAEL SAMMET CANTORIAL MUSIC FUND

in appreciation of

Cantor Alisa from Stanley Mellin & Catherine Sheen

in memory of

Rachael Sammet from Jim & Natalie Sammet

SOCIAL ACTION FUND

from Bill Pardue & Barbara Mitchell

TOCKERMAN ARTS SCHOLARSHIP

for CBI

For an ongoing arts scholarship from Lester Tockerman



Thank you to our Oneg Hosts for Last Month

March 1 –Hesed Academy K & 1st Grade Class
March 8 – Bee Epstein- Shepherd
March 15 – Myrna Brandwein & Jill Firestone in memory of Myrna's mother and Jill's grandmother, Lillian Firestone
March 22 – Monterey Peninsula Salinas Chapter of Hadassah in celebration of the 112th anniversary of Hadassah's founding as well as the 75th anniversary of Hadassah Neurim!
March 29 – Galena & Alex Bordetsky

If you would like to host an Oneg please call the CBI office for available dates. You may host in honor or memory of someone special to you or in gratitude or honor of a special occasion or life cycle event. Please help us keep this tradition alive. It's easy, it's fun and very much appreciated. Call the CBI office to schedule your Oneg at 831-624-2015.

Chocolate- Caramel Matzo Toffee

Recipe from Marcy Goldman - Adapted by Melissa Clark

Total Time: 50 minutes, plus chilling

Yield: About 2 dozen pieces



Johnny Miller for The New York Times. Food

Matzo toffee is the Passover-friendly take on saltine toffee. A layered confection of matzo crackers, brown sugar caramel and melted chocolate, you can top it with practically anything you like, from the most elegantly minimal sprinkle of sea salt to a surfeit of nuts, dried fruit, potato chips, or a combination. This recipe, adapted from Marcy Goldman's cookbook "A Treasury of Jewish Holiday Baking," keeps well when stored airtight at room temperature — up to one week, if you haven't finished it by then. —Melissa Clark

INGREDIENTS

4 to 6 sheets matzo, preferably salted

sea salt

1 cup/225 grams unsalted butter (2 sticks)

7 ounces chopped bittersweet, milk or white

1½ packed cups/315 grams light brown sugar

chocolate, or a combination (about 1 cup)

2 teaspoons vanilla extract Large pinch of fine

Toppings, as desired (see note)

PREPARATION

Step 1: Heat oven to 350 degrees. Line a 13-by-18-inch rimmed baking sheet with aluminum foil, allowing it to go up and over the edges of the pan. Line the bottom of the pan with a piece of parchment. Arrange matzo over parchment in an even layer, breaking pieces to fit as necessary.

Step 2: In a medium pot over medium-high heat, bring butter and sugar to a boil, whisking, until thickened and smooth, about 3 minutes. The mixture may separate, and that is O.K. Stir in vanilla and salt. Quickly pour mixture over matzos. Transfer baking sheet to oven and bake until bubbly, about 15 minutes.

Step 3: Remove from oven. Sprinkle chocolate evenly over caramel and let stand until softened, about 5 minutes. Use an offset spatula to spread chocolate smoothly over surface of toffee. If you've used different kinds of chocolate, you can swirl them together decoratively.

Step 4: Immediately sprinkle melted chocolate with desired topping. Transfer baking sheet to refrigerator and chill toffee 1 hour to set chocolate. Break matzo toffee into large pieces for storing and serving.

TIP: The matzo toffee is delicious on its own, but any number of toppings add flavor and flair, such as flaky sea salt, crushed potato chips, chopped dried fruit (cranberries, cherries, apricots, raisins, prunes, dates), chopped nuts (pistachio, walnuts, pecans, almonds), chopped candied ginger or lemon peel, or pomegranate seeds (if using, serve within 1 day).



Congregation Beth Israel
5716 Carmel Valley Road
Carmel, CA 93923
831- 624-2015

email: shalomcbi@aol.com

Website: www.carmelbethisrael.org

Chartered in 1954 as the Jewish Community of the Monterey Peninsula, Congregation Beth Israel today serves the spiritual, educational, and social needs of Jews on the Peninsula. We derive programming and administrative strength from our affiliation with the Union for Reform Judaism and offer traditional programming to meet the needs of Jews on the Monterey Peninsula. The Congregation sponsors weekly worship services and Torah study on Shabbat; observances of all holidays and festivals; and formal educational programs. We operate our own school on weekend mornings, and we also maintain a Judaic library.

Clergy & Staff

Bruce Greenbaum - *Rabbi, D.D. & Director of Education*

Alisa Fineman – *Cantor &*

Asst Director of Education

Julie Chase- *Executive Director*

Donna Shore- *Interim Office Manager*

Sophie Little- *Education Coordinator*

Board of Trustees

2023-24

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Sam Helfont, *Youth Activities*

Bob Fenton, *Adult Education*

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Megan Felthoven, *At Large*

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Ilene Cantor, *At Large*

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Congregation Beth Israel
5716 Carmel Valley Road
Carmel, CA 93923

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Parshiot

April 6, Shemini

T: Leviticus 9:1-11:47

H: II Samuel 6:1-7:17

April 13, Tazria

T: Leviticus 12:1-13:59

H: II Kings 4:42 – 5:19

April 20, Metzorah

T: Leviticus 14:1-15:33

H: II Kings 7:3-20

April 27, Passover

Shabbat

T: Exodus 33:12-34:26

H: Ezekiel 36:37-37:14