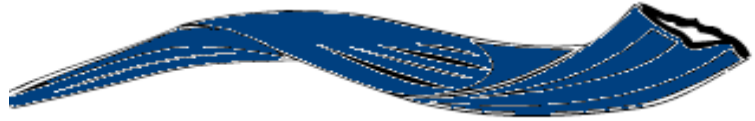


SHOFAR



Monthly Newsletter of the Monterey Peninsula Jewish Community

www.carmelbethisrael.org



Hosting an Oneg... Building Community

An Oneg usually refers to the refreshments after the Shabbat service. According to the prophet Isaiah one should delight in the Sabbath and one way of adding joy is to partake in the Oneg. By having something sweet to nosh on (especially in times when food was scarce) joins delight and joy to Shabbat. Today, lingering, talking, and eating after service adds to the feeling that Shabbat is special and allows us to enjoy the company of our fellow congregants.

Hosting an Oneg is an excellent way of performing the mitzvah of "hachnasat orachim", of hospitality. Abraham was known for his hospitality and rabbis in the Talmud valued it over almost all else.

Continued on page 6



Teachers Needed

Our CBI Religious school, now known as "Hesed Academy: Developing Kind Souls" begins September 11. Rabbi Bruce Greenbaum and Cantor Alisa

Fineman are now overseeing this important educational program for our congregation. Please call the rabbi if you might consider job sharing with another teacher for the school year. Each teacher is being asked to make a commitment of teaching 13-14 Sunday morning sessions during the school year. Interested in performing this Mitzvah? Please call Rabbi Bruce at 624-2015 and let him know if you will be one of our teachers.



A Message From Cantor Alisa

Dear CBI Community,

It's with great pleasure and honor that I return to serve you as Cantor. It's

also with an element of surprise; though we never left the area and remained a part of our beloved CBI community, Kimball and I did not anticipate an invitation to return. And so it is, with delight. After completing my one-year contract at sister congregation Temple Beth El in Aptos, I embarked on a year of free-lance opportunities, working with several congregations in central and Northern California. I've learned much, but perhaps even more so because of the unexpected realities presented by the pandemic. People longed for connection, for warmth and reassurance, opportunities to seek meaning through spiritual conversation, song and prayer, healing circles, and Jewish teaching. And there were children to teach, and nurture, B'nai Mitzvah students to prepare. I don't think I've ever been as busy, challenged by social distancing at first, but discovering tools that helped us stay connected, meet congregational needs, and keep our educational programs going. I look forward to sharing these new skills and building on all the good work at CBI.

Continued on page 6



From the Rabbi's Desk...

Two events this past week reminded me that we as a congregation need to work on reconnecting. At a life cycle event, someone walked up to me and while I knew his face and his significant other's name, I could not pull out his name. Clearly this upset him, embarrassed me, and was frustrating for both of us. Then on Sunday when a group gathered to bake for the Jewish Food Festival, one person arrived a little late, missed the introductions, and felt completely left out and almost ignored. For over an hour no one spoke with her while she worked preparing for our August 28 festival.

My concern is that after being physically apart for two years because of Covid-19, we need to find ways to reconnect with one another. We need to find various methods and practices that will help us get to know each other again. With many new faces and lots of long-standing members starting to interact with each other, too many of us (this rabbi included) need to be reminded of names and get to know each other better.

So what should we do? After apologizing to the person whose name I had forgotten, I invited him to join me for lunch. I look forward to sitting with him, getting to know him better, and enjoying a little social time together. I can assure you, that's a name I will not forget again! In fact, I encourage those of you who are new to the congregation, and those of you who have had no interaction with me over the last couple of years to give me a call and suggest we get together. We can "do lunch" or just meet and visit. Share with me your thoughts about how our congregation can strengthen our interaction with all our members. While I would like to initiate all these phone calls myself, my calling each member is a little overwhelming. Please don't wait for me to call you. Call me and let's get together, or at least connect over the phone or on zoom.

The person who felt disconnected during the food festival baking suggested to me that we should strengthen our Chavurah program. While I know we have a handful of Chavurot that have been meeting for

years, no where do we have a listing of all the Chavurot and their members. If you are in a Chavurah that has met in the last 4 months (some have stopped meeting two years ago), please call the CBI office and share this information with Abby. Let us know if your Chavurah has a name (most do not) and who else is in the Chavurah with you. Also let us know if your Chavurah might be looking for new members. If you would like to join a Chavurah, please call the office, and let Abby know this as well. We hope to grow our current Chavurot and possibly start a couple of new ones as well. This is a great way to meet other CBI members and become connected to our community. Chavurot not only strengthen our community connections they have helped CBI in other ways as well. In the past Chavurot have helped host the IHELP program when we prepare meals for homeless men, they have hosted Onegs after our Sabbath services, and have enjoyed a variety of social events together. I encourage you to join a Chavurah. It benefits you and others in our community.

Finally, while we are still zooming most of our services and events, many of us are choosing to get together in person for these activities. If you have received your vaccines and boosters, even if you do get Covid-19, most likely it will be more of a mild health hiccup instead of a serious medical threat. In the next few months, consider joining us on Friday nights, or for our outdoor Havdalah on the beach, or a Best Years Lunch gathering or... It's time to reconnect. And if I have forgotten your name, please forgive me, and remind me! Welcome, or welcome back to CBI.

Let's
Reconnect
Reunite
Relove
Redefine
Rejoice
Relax



From our President *Dan Nussbaum, President Board of Trustees*

A strong and enthusiastic welcome to Cantor Alisa Fineman as she rejoins CBI as our Cantor & Religious School Assistant Director. I encourage everyone to reach out to her, to embrace her, welcoming her (back) to CBI.

Our Annual Congregation Meeting is scheduled for August 21st, at 5PM. We hold this meeting only once per year, and it is important for as many of us as possible attend, so that we can take care of issues like elections for the coming year. We will try to do this in a hybrid mode, but we will see if that's reasonable. We will let you know, but in any case, please try to attend.

Cara Lieb and her Nominating Committee have developed a slate for elections for next year's Board members. My thanks go in two directions: To Cara and her NomCom team for thinking through who the potentially willing and able candidates are; and to those members at CBI who said yes to this call of duty. I still need your ideas on how to make CBI a more "radically welcoming" place; I am asking for your ideas on this topic. For example, if you are in a havura, and your haverim are willing, tell us who the other members of your havura are; and 3) If you're not in a havura, and are interested in joining one, please let Gary and me know that.

The world is in turmoil, and, sure, each of us can adduce a favorite list of current knotty problems and travails, but to gain a bit of perspective, try one of the following experiments: Ask your grandparents about how things used to be; Or, as the Kingston Trio sang in 1959 (some say they are Tom Lehrer's lyrics; anyway, you can see them here:

They're rioting in Africa; They're starving in Spain.
There's hurricanes in Florida; And Texas needs rain
The whole world is festering With unhappy souls.
The French hate the Germans; The Germans hate the Poles;
Italians hate Yugoslavs; South Africans hate the Dutch,
And I don't like anybody very much!

Yes, the world is in turmoil. And yet, we simultaneously remind ourselves, daily, for example in

morning prayers, that there is much to be thankful for and that there is enduring goodness. We say, in modeh ani (I give thanks), *I give thanks to You living and everlasting Ruler for restoring my soul with mercy. Great is Your faithfulness.* And in Ma tovu (how good it is), we say *How good are your tents, Jacob: your dwelling places, Israel; I will enter Your House.* These are very positive sentiments, and they are not at all misplaced.

Perhaps counterintuitively, I find it helpful to hold both images in my mind; both the turmoil and the good. In that way I am reminded that there is work to do, and that we are the partners who are commanded to make the world a better place. This idea is beautiful captured by the famous saying of Rabbi Tarfon in Pirkei Avot (Ethics of our Ancestors), "...it is not up to you to finish the task, but you are not free to avoid it." Ok, the world gives us problems; now please start on your solutions.

May all our efforts to improve security and return to normal interpersonal activities bring us peace

Dan Nussbaum

(C) (831) 324-3228



CBI Interest-Free Loan

Because of the generosity of an anonymous donor, CBI continues to offer interest-free loans up to \$500 for CBI members. So far, only a handful of people have borrowed these funds. Please contact our Administrative Assistant Abby King or Rabbi Greenbaum at 831-624-2015 and ask for the simple one-page loan application. Loans will be made for both personal and professional needs. All requests will be kept confidential. Our congregation is here to support those in need during these challenging financial times.



THE
ANNUAL MEETING
OF THE CONGREGATION

Join us on Sunday, August 21, at 5:00 PM
Look for details in the weekly Eblast



CBI Fun at the Theater

CBI is going to the theater on **Sunday, July 3**. Enjoy "Little Shop of Horrors" at the outdoor Forest Theater. The show starts at **4:30**. This will be a fun afternoon for all who join us! Go to the Forest Guild website to buy the tickets. All CBI members are directed to purchase the senior discount ticket regardless of your age. Please let the CBI office know if you will be joining us so we can reserve the correct number of seats at the theater. People of all ages will enjoy this show. We will provide snacks for all who join us.

Also save **August 6 at 2:00 PM** when we will enjoy a modern version of Macbeth at the performing arts center at Carmel High School. CBI member Justine Stock is the managing director of this show and is giving us a discount. All CBI members are directed to purchase the senior discount ticket regardless of your age. To order tickets go to their website at: <http://www.newcanontheatre.org/.season> Again, please let the CBI office know that you are joining us for this modern interpretation of this Shakespearian classic. This show is not appropriate for those under 12.



**Please Note Our
New CBI Office Hours**
Tuesday – Friday
9 AM – 5 PM
and by appointment



BEST YEARS Another Free Lunch!

Join us for lunch on **Wednesday, July 27 at noon** as we enjoy what should be a warm sunny day outside RG Burgers in the Crossroads. Meet us at the restaurant or call the synagogue to car pool with the rabbi. This free lunch, paid by the CBI Senior Endowment Fund will be a fun way to visit with other CBI members and enjoy a delicious meal. Ideas for future Best Years events should be shared with the rabbi. Do you have a suggestion for a program or speaker or outing? Join us as we relax and visit with friends and feast on a delicious meal. Drinks are included as well! To RSVP for this program call the CBI office at 624-2015. Please let us know if you need a ride for this event.



Community Shabbat Dinners are Back!

We are so excited to resume our monthly tradition of Shabbat dinners, prepared by Malina Breaux and her entourage of assistants. Savor a sense of community and food worthy of celebration at **6:15 PM on Friday, July 29**.

Join us as we offer blessings for the bread and wine and sing traditional music to begin our gatherings. **For now, dinner will be limited to 40 guests, all fully vaccinated.** Evening services follow if you wish to attend.

Call or email the CBI office for reservations to enjoy our lovely community Shabbat meals. \$18 for members and guests and \$10 for children under 13.



CBI's Bloxom Community Garden

Our Bloxom Community Garden needs your tender loving care. Who wants to come once a week

and make sure all the vegetable plants are getting enough water? Who can pull a few weeds making sure only our herbs and vegetables are getting all the nutrients from the soil? All volunteers are welcome! Next time you find yourself in the CBI parking lot, check out our wonderful garden and help out! We also now have a compost bin located just inside our garden gate. Help us with our new composting project. All volunteers are welcome.



CBI Book Club

Dear Jewish Book Clubbers,

IMPORTANT: You must be fully vaccinated and boosted against Covid-19 in order to attend Book Club.

Here are our next three dates and book selections:

July 12, 1:30 PM, home of Suellen Rubin.
Book: MONKEY BOY by Francisco Goldman

August 9, 1:30 PM, home of Suellen Rubin. Book: THE MAGICIAN by Colm Toibín

September 13, 1:30 PM, home to be determined.
Book: THE EMPATHY DIARIES by Sherry Turkle

Our warmest thank-you to Suellen for her continuing hospitality in hosting Book Club. Please RSVP to Suellen (suellenrubin@hotmail.com / 915-4107). Call for directions or if you need to cancel.

Be well, Karen



Jewish Food Festival 2022, August 28th – We need your help

The Jewish Food Festival has been the signature event for Congregation Beth Israel. No other event or set of events has done more to open the temple to the citizens of Monterey County – Jews and non-Jews alike.

The Jewish Food Festival is also a major fund-raiser that is crucial to maintaining the financial health of the synagogue and its ability to provide support and services throughout the year. This event is only as successful as it is because of all the great volunteers we have. And you can be one of those volunteers.

Because of the success of the Drive Thru Food Festival last year, the Planning Committee has made the easy decision to have a “drive thru” Festival again this year on August 28th. But we need your help.

We have a strong core group of volunteers on the festival planning committee. Most of us have done this for many years. This will be Malina Breaux's last year as captain. We are looking for some new energy and new ideas. This event is a lot of work and a lot of planning. But there are things in place that have had proven success. We just need more hands to make the work lighter for all of us and a group of people who are ready to take the festival to the next level.

Please consider volunteering this year. We have many important spots that need filling. If you are looking for something to do or you want to get more involved or you want to meet more people, this is for you. We are a great group of people to work with. We have lots of fun. All the volunteer opportunities are listed in the center fold of this issue of the Shofar.

If you are interested in getting involved in the Jewish Food Festival in any way, big or small, let us know. You can email foodfesitval.cbi@gmail.com or you can call or text Malina Breaux at 831.601.5791.

Cantor Alisa *continued from page 1*

With encouragement from Rabbi Bruce and members of our Executive Board, I was encouraged to apply, and was accepted to the Pardes Institute's Senior Educator Learning Fellowship. This is a 13-month program designed to inspire congregational school educators with ongoing Jewish learning and equip them with new approaches for engaging with real-world challenges using Jewish texts. The program begins in July at Pardes Institute in Jerusalem for three-weeks and continues with online learning. I am excited for this opportunity of learning and growth and all that I can bring home to CBI.

Rabbi Bruce and I have been planning an exciting school year for our newly branded Hesed Academy-Developing Kind Souls, and still seeking teachers and madrichim whose talents and skills can enhance our program. We have a community mosaic project planned for our first day of school, Sept 11th, when Jewish artist/educator Nancy Katz and stained-glass artist and master craftsman Mark Liebowitz will join us to create a beautiful piece of artwork which will be installed in our entryway. Teachers, madrichim, students, parents and all members are invited to come and add their "jewel" to our project. (More details to come; for a sneak preview, see <https://www.nancykatzwilmark.com/community-mosaics>).

Talmudic sage Ben Zoma teaches, "Who is wise? One who learns from everyone." I look forward to learning from and with all of you, gathering again to sing and pray for Shabbat services, holidays, lifecycle events, and more, and to greet new faces at CBI!

Until then, may the words of Torah be sweet on our tongue, and may we walk a path of blessing together,
Cantor Alisa


Oneg *continued from page 1*

You can host an Oneg. It is not only an honor and a mitzvah, but a way to celebrate a birthday, bar or bat mitzvah, engagement, anniversary, graduation, remember a yahrzeit of a loved person, or honor others on their life events. It entails providing a welcoming table of sweets (cookies, cake) and healthy food (fruit, vegetables).


To host an Oneg (which can also be done with another family) please access the easy to use website Signup Genius. It lets you pick the date and add the occasion for your mitzvah in the comments.

[CLICK HERE](#) to access or call the CBI office.

Thank you from Lois Epel, Congregation Beth Israel Board Trustee and Oneg coordinator



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www.pacificgroveanimalhospital.com



SAVE THE DATE
SUNDAY, AUGUST 28, 2022
The Jewish Food Festival is Back!!



Meet Ralph Senesky

*Accomplished
director, screen
writer, and
long-time CBI
member, in his
own words...*

Rabbi Bruce has asked me to introduce myself to the members of Congregation Beth Israel. Now I'm sure we all realize there is nothing a 99-year old man would hate more than being asked to talk about himself, but it was a Rabbi that made the request. So -- Congregation Beth Israel – HELLO!

My name is Ralph Senesky. My Hebrew name is Rachmil Abba Senesky and I was born May 1, 1923 in Mason City, a city in North Central Iowa just 45 miles from the Minnesota border, population 28,000. I must add the city was totally surrounded by farms and the farmers that the communities' retail establishments relied on as purchasers, especially on Saturday nights.

My dad, William Senesky, was born in Ukraine, Russia, in 1897. He was brought to the United States when he was 4 or 5 years old with his parents, who settled in St. Paul, Minnesota. He was the 9th of 10 children in the family. My mom, Jennie Senesky, was born in Ukraine, Russia, in 1899. She was the oldest of 5 daughters and was brought to Mason City before her first birthday.

As for my current commitment to Congregation Beth Israel, my paternal grandfather was a Torah scholar. I went to Cheder (Hebrew School) 4 days a week after my regular schooling ended. I became Bar Mitzvah in an orthodox shul. My mother kept a kosher kitchen. But now I have to tell you one of my favorite stories. When I was about 10 years old, I remember sitting in the back seat of our 1930 Model-A Ford and hearing my mom and dad talk as we were driving somewhere. One of the elder patriarchs of our 80-family Jewish community had just died. I won't use his real name; I'll call him Yossel. Yossel was the richest man in our Jewish community. He had a very successful business and my dad was saying he could just imagine Yossel going before God to obtain his admittance to heaven.

God was going over Yossel's history and he saw Yossel had been a very observant Jew. He had performed the morning tefillin rituals regularly. He had maintained a kosher diet. He had observed the Sabbath. He walked to shul on the High Holy Days. He had been a totally observant Jew. But God continued; He didn't see anywhere that he had donated to help someone less fortunate. My dad continued: Yossel started to think and he remembered. There was that one time he saw a poor destitute Jew on the street and he gave him two dollars. God then looked at Yossel and said, "Yossel, here's your two dollars back and go to hell."

I spent almost all of the first 19 years and 4 months of my life within the boundaries of Mason City. There were those rare days in the summer when we drove 10 miles west to Clear Lake for an outing at its beach. When I was 9 years old I went with an aunt and an uncle to Winnipeg, Canada, to visit our Senesky relatives and when I was 17 years old I went with 2 uncles to Philadelphia to meet and visit my maternal grandfathers' extensive family. Oh and starting soon after I entered my kindergarten class, there was a national depression that continued for years. I think young people today would consider my life rather Dickensian. But I don't remember it that way.

It was the beginning and foundation for my life – a life that has been almost like a Frank Capra movie, even having the title of one of his finest – IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE. I've been writing about it for the last 13 years on my website, RALPH'S CINEMA TREK (<https://senesky.com/>).

In 1991 I stopped off in Carmel for 3 days after visiting family in San Francisco. It was my first visit and I can't explain why I did what I did. I can only relate the facts. When I returned to my home in Los Angeles I called a real estate agent and put my home up for sale. The following month I returned to Carmel and started my search for a home there. It took some time, but 10 months later I moved to Carmel and spent Rosh Hashannah and Yom Kippur of 1992 seated in CBI's temple. That was (I believe) a year before Rabbi Greenbaum arrived. One more important statistic! Next month on July 31 I will be commemorating my 30th year anniversary of my arrival here.

And now I will conclude my *introduction* the same way I end each of the posts on my website – The Journey Continues.



Jewish Food Festival 2022

The Jewish Food Festival has been the signature event for Congregation Beth Israel. No other event or set of events has done more to open the temple to the citizens of Monterey County – Jews and non-Jews alike.

The Jewish Food Festival is also a major fund-raiser that is crucial to maintaining the financial health of the synagogue and its ability to provide support and services throughout the year.

Who would have thought that 2022 would still bring a level of uncertainty to the Food Festival? With the months of planning that are involved in creating the event, the Food Festival Planning Committee has made the hard decision to have a “drive thru” Festival again this year. We hope that as in the past, you will continue to support this amazing event, even in its new form.

Sponsor Benefits	Gourmet \$5000 +	Connoisseur \$2500 +	Foodie \$1000 +	Epicure \$500 +	Chef \$300 +	Sous Chef \$150 +
Booth Sponsorship	*	*				
Logo with Link on JFF Web Page	*	*				
Personalized Sponsor Sign at JFF	*	*	*			
Recognition on Festival Facebook	*	*	*			
Recognition on JFF Web Page	*	*	*	*		
Recognition on Festival Brochure	*	*	*	*	*	*

Email foodfestival.cbi@gmail.com or Call Malina 831.601.5791 or Abra 831.601.5773 with questions.

I wish to become a sponsor of the 2022 Jewish Food Festival at the level indicated below:

<input type="checkbox"/> Gourmet	<input type="checkbox"/> Epicure
<input type="checkbox"/> Connoisseur	<input type="checkbox"/> Chef
<input type="checkbox"/> Foodie	<input type="checkbox"/> Sous Chef

Business/organization for website link: _____

Print Name (Individual or Company)

Signature

Please make your check payable to: Congregation Beth Israel and return with this completed form to Congregation Beth Israel, 5716 Carmel Valley Road, Carmel, CA 93923. Or **call the temple office (831-624-2015)** if you wish to pay by credit card.

NOTE: Congregation Beth Israel is a 501.c.3. Your sponsorship may be deductible for tax purposes. Check with your accountant.

Jewish Food Festival
Congregation Beth Israel
5716 Carmel Valley Road,
Carmel, CA 93923
831.624.2015

How Can You Help?

Our members have been very kind and generous giving time, effort, and sponsorships to previous Jewish Food Festivals. Please help again.

Listed below are the volunteer opportunities that we need to fill. Please send an email to foodfestival.cbi@gmail.com and let us know what you'd like to help with. Thank you in advance.

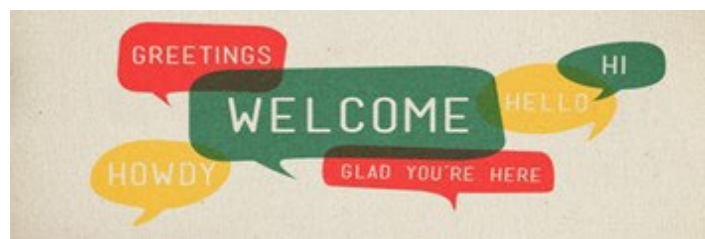
Volunteer Opportunity	When	Where	Notes
<i>Volunteer Co-Coordinator</i>	<i>Now</i>	<i>From your computer</i>	<i>Help organize the volunteers for this year's festival.</i>
Making Rugelach to bake the week before the festival	Sundays July 10th & July 17th 9:30am to 1pm	CBI Kitchen	Limited space. Sign up on Sign Up Genius
Put up Banners	Week of July 18th	Sites in Carmel & Monterey	Help put up Banners at CBI, Mouth of the Valley and the Knights Inn Hotel in Monterey.
Remove Banners	Monday August 29th	Sites in Carmel & Monterey	Take down banners from the sites they were put up.
Baking Tahini Cookies	Sunday August 8th 9:30am to 1pm	CBI Kitchen	Limited space. Sign up on Sign Up Genius
Kitchen Help	Thursday & Friday August 25th and 26th 10am to 4pm	CBI Kitchen	Baking the cookies that have been prepared, making chopped liver, making Matzoh Balls and preparing items for the volunteer lunch.
Booth Set Up	Friday August 26th 9am to 3pm	Front Parking Lot	This task may include heavy lifting.
Packaging	Friday August 26th 9am to 3pm	Social Hall	Packaging cookies, chopped liver, matzoh balls, knishes, & meat.
Packaging	Saturday August 27th 1pm to 4pm	Social Hall	Packaging cookies, chopped liver, matzoh balls, knishes, & meat.
Fill CBI Member Pre Orders	Saturday August 27th 3pm to 5pm	CBI	Fill orders for CBI members to pick up Saturday between 4pm and 5pm
Traffic Management	Sunday August 28th 9am to 3pm	Along the driveway	Adults only
Greeters	Sunday August 28th 9am to 3pm	Top of the driveway	Greet people as they arrive and give them their pre-printed orders
Kitchen Help	Sunday August 28th 9am to 3pm	CBI Kitchen	Warm meat for the Deli Booth and prepare and serve lunch for the volunteers
Deli Booth Prep	Sunday August 28th 9am to 3pm	Social Hall	Assemble sandwiches for Tock's Tish Deli Booth
Latke Prep and Frying	Sunday August 28th 9am to 3pm	Back Parking Lot	Prepare and cook Latke for Larry's Latke Booth
Bakery Booth	Sunday August 28th 9am to 3pm	Front Parking Lot	Fill Baked Goods order to visitors' cars
Drink Booth	Sunday August 28th 9am to 3pm	Front Parking Lot	Fill Drink order to visitors' cars
Larry's Latke Booth	Sunday August 28th 9am to 3pm	Front Parking Lot	Fill Latke order to visitors' cars
Dairy Booth	Sunday August 28th 9am to 3pm	Front Parking Lot	Fill Dairy Goods order to visitors' cars
Tock's Tish Deli Booth	Sunday August 28th 9am to 3pm	Front Parking Lot	Fill Deli order to visitors' cars
Information Both	Sunday August 28th 9am to 3pm	Front Parking Lot	Pass out information packs, bags, cookbooks and utensils.
Refrigerated Truck	Sunday August 28th 9am to 3pm	Front Parking Lot	Assist booths in retrieving items from the refrigerated truck
Cleanup & Breakdown	August 28th 3pm to 6pm.	CBI	Break down booths, clean kitchen, put away left over food, clean social hall.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Judy Simon	1
Beck Lande	2
Charlene Webber-Schuss	2
Oscar Biblarz	4
Wendy Fried	4
Michael Marcus	5
Marilyn Bloom	8
Joel Jacobson	9
Jade Granbery	13
Tybe Franklin	13
Lenny Popky	13
Carlos Ramirez	13
Adina Abeles	14
Bee Epstein-Shepherd	14
Jan Hurwitz	14
Rafael Lyons	14
Penny Bard	15
Susan Krome Neben	15
Cele Passin	16
Shelagh Baseman	17
Christopher Chambers	18
Ellison Wittels	19
Sheila Kaplan	20
Judi Lang	20
Susan Simon	20
Angelica Blatt	21
Jennifer Stone	21
Madelon Zimmer	21
Wendy Cohn	22
Michael Krasner	22
Andrew Sisolak	23
David Awerbuck	26
Beverly Nussbaum	28
Michael Leo Tamler	29
Beryl Levinger	31
Nico Vitiello	3

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

Todd Hornik & Donna Shore	4
Howard Messinger & Leta McCarty	7
Richard & Marilyn Bloom	9
Joel & Bonni Weinstein	10
Jill & Jim Sleeper	11
Martin & Karen Wiskoff	12
Eric & Judi Lang	15
Leonid & Larisa Modorsky	17
Alan & Lyn Rosen	20
Barry & Nancy Rund	29



Welcome to These New CBI Families

Daniel Bernstein & Leslie Steinway
Jill Firestone
Stanley Mellin

Family News

On May 29, Bob Fenton and Debra Givner welcomed granddaughter Lily Sol Porter.

On June 10, Ron and Darcie Kroll welcomed granddaughter Olema.

Mazel tov to both families!








We mourn the passing of long-time CBI member, Lester Tockerman. May his memory be for a blessing.



Congregation Beth Israel

Tamuz ~ Av 5782

July 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1  Traditions 6:00 PM Family Shabbat Services, With Special Birthday Blessings In person & 	9 10:30 AM Shabbat Morning Service with Grace Dean becoming a Bat Mitzvah in person and on 
3 5:00 PM I-Help Men	4 Independence Day	5	6 7:00 PM .IFF Mtg. on 	7	8 7:30 PM Erev Shabbat Services Lead by Sylvia Krimsley in person only	9 10:30 AM Shabbat Torah Study in person only
10	11	12 7:00 PM Executive Committee Meets	13	14	15 7:30 PM Erev Shabbat Services Lead by Bery Levinger, in person only.	16 10:30 AM Shabbat Torah Study in person only
17	18	19 7:00 PM CBI Board of Trustees Meets	20	21	22 7:30 PM Erev Shabbat Services in person only.	23 10:30 AM Shabbat Torah Study in person and on 
24	25	26	27 Best Year's goes to Lunch 12:00 PM	28	29 6:15 PM Shabbat Dinner 7:30 PM Shabbat Services with Anniversary Blessings, in person and on 	30 10:30 AM Shabbat Torah Study in person and on  31

TODAH RABBAH!

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

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

Selina Glater & Cheryl Crose: in memory of Lester Tockerman
Barry R. Harrow
Rosemary Lande: in gratitude for the Hebrew Liturgy Class

Jewish Food Festival Sponsorships

Alisa Fineman & Kimball Hurd
Brynie Kaplan-Dau & Daniel J. Dau: Pacific Grove Animal Hospital
Alan Lefkof & Ann Gordon
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Selina Glater & Cheryl Crose: in honor of Wendy Rosenthal and the start of her new business
Victor & Sylvia Krimsley: in honor of Ari Lester becoming a bar mitzvah
Victor & Sylvia Krimsley: in memory of our brother-in-law, Vern Gerrans
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Kenneth & Shelley Kroopf: in memory of Henry & Russell Kroopf
Clark Miller & Cara Lieb: in honor of Cara's mother, Ina E. Lieb
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High Holiday Donation

Diana Rosenthal: in memory of Lester Tockerman

Torah Connections *continued from page 15*

"You shall not make for yourself a statue nor any image of that which is in the heavens above, or that which is on the earth below, or that which is in the water beneath the earth. You shall not bow to them nor shall you worship them, for I am HaShem, your God, a God who is jealous, who visits the sin of fathers upon children upon the third and fourth generation for my enemies: but who acts with kindness for thousands of generations to those who love me and to those who observe my commandments."
(emphasis added) (Deuteronomy [Devarim] 5:8-10).
From this passage you can conclude that bad deeds have time echoes of maybe 4 generations, perhaps 100 years, but goodness has time echoes that are, essentially, forever. How wonderful is that!

This Torah Connection was inspired by 'Orchard of Delights' by Rabbi Trugman, but is the sole responsibility of the author and specifically does NOT necessarily reflect those of the Board of Trustees of CBI, CBI, its membership, Reform Judaism, or Judaism. Please send any comments to the author at: mlwaxer@sbcglobal.net.

Thank you to our Oneg Hosts for the Month of June

June 3 - CBI staff - In honor of Suzanne Guinane

June 17 – Ken & Shelley Kroopf - In Loving Memory of Ken's father Hery L. Kroopf and brother, Russel Kroopf

June 24 – Alex & Galena Bordetsky – In Loving Memory of Alex's mother Frida Leib Bordetsky and Aunt Leah Leib Cherepanov

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Torah Connections:

Vol. 170 July 2022, 5782

By Michael L. Waxer

Time Echoes

In the western world we are taught of the linear nature of time, that it proceeds predictably from one day to another, one year to the next. The traditional Jewish view is that time is more of a spiral. Each subsequent year the calendar dates align and have an impact on future years, as the spiral continues upward, expanding each cycle/year.

Another way to say this is that each moment is both entirely new, yet influenced by the past by a 'time echo'. One of the common examples of this is the annual 'Tisha B'Av', literally the 9th of the Hebrew month of Av (this year, in 2022, it occurs on August 6). A number of terrible things occurred on Tisha B'Av, to include the destruction of both Temples and the expulsion of Jews from Spain in 1492.

Einstein made us aware of the relationship between energy and matter. A related concept, in the mystical Jewish tradition, is that **time has a relationship with action**. The more intense the action, the greater is the impression made on the fabric of time.

In the Torah there are passages which exemplify this time echo concept. One example is when the people heard the report from the spies, where 10 of the 12 spies described the well-fortified cities and the 'giants' who inhabited them,

"The entire congregation lifted up their voice and cried; and the people wept that night. They complained against Moses and Aaron, all the children of Israel did, and the entire assembly said to them, if only we had died in the land of Egypt or in this wilderness, if only we had died. Why is HaShem bringing us to this Land, to fall by the sword, our wives and our young children will be taken captive! Is it not better to return to Egypt?" (Numbers [Bamidbar] 14:1-3)

In the Talmud the ramifications of this crying were discussed: "Rabbah said in the name of Rabbi Yochanan: 'That night was the ninth of Av. The Holy One Blessed Is He said to them: You cried for no reason – I will establish for you [on this night] a crying for generations'". (Ta'anit 29a).

There is a recurrent theme that at certain critical times the people lose their vision... their faith, their goal, their very purpose, and become afraid to the point that fear overtakes their reason. This is a story for each of us, personally, as well, as life gives us a number of 'bumps in the road' and there are times we can easily lose our faith, lose our direction.

But these stories are in the Torah to help us understand that HaShem is with us... we need not be consumed by fear. In fact, one clue to not falling into this trap is to notice how you are

presented information. Do your sources of information present data with a seeming goal of making you afraid? HaShem is telling us that there will be good news items and bad news items, but we should limit our fear to '**fear of HaShem**'.

Although many consider this 'fear of HaShem' to be incongruent with their concept of a loving God, in studying Torah it becomes clear that this fear fills the human 'need' or 'hunger' to fear. It may be the human condition that it is 'natural' for us to fear. By '**fearing HaShem**' we can satiate that human condition, and take on the world with reason and faith, and operate without the fear peddling that is so pervasive in our time, but which is a recurring time echo. Fear-mongering has been going on a long time, and the Torah wants us to develop our ability to overcome this weakness. Remember, many of the obstacles we master in the physical world strengthen us spiritually, and may have been put there specifically to help us to develop spiritually.

This episode, the incident of the spies, is said to have been the night of the ninth of Av, one of the earliest tragic events which set up time echoes for that date in future years.

This fear of occupying the land is still occurring today. The land of Israel has been re-established for over 74 years now, still the majority of Jews choose to live outside of Israel. The Tanach books of Ezra and Nehemiah tell us of the Babylonian exile, where Cyrus allowed the originally captive Jews to return to Israel, after 70 years in exile. Only a small minority chose to return.

Many of us choose to stay in other countries, like America, with the belief that we can not only live well, but spread the light of HaShem from where we are. Others may believe that having all the Jews in one little place makes it easier for madmen to destroy the Jewish people. It is possible that HaShem wanted Jews to be dispersed for the very reason of spreading HaShem's message throughout the world. It is difficult to not notice that the relatively small minority of Jews in various countries seem to have a larger impact than their tiny numbers would account for.

However, another lesson from the Torah is that when we follow HaShem, there is something special about this place, Israel, the Holy Land, which connects us in a deeper way to HaShem. Just like the weekly Shabbat, which opens a **time-based** portal which enhances connectivity to HaShem, the **physical location** of Israel opens the spiritual portal to a greater extent than other locations.

Wherever we chose to be, and however we spend our time, the idea of good or bad repercussions that occur in time, based on actions that we make, is a powerful idea. This should motivate us even more **to do good deeds**, as HaShem tells us repeatedly in the Torah,

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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 most Jews on the Monterey Peninsula. The Congregation sponsors weekly worship services on Shabbat evening and Shabbat morning; observances of all holidays and festivals; and formal educational programs from toddler through adult. We operate our own school on weekend mornings and midweek afternoons, and we also maintain a Judaic library.

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Parshiot

July 2, Korach

T: Numbers 16:1-18:32

H: 1 Samuel 11:14-12:22

July 9, Chukat

T: Numbers 19:1-22:1

H: Judges 11:1-33

July 16, Balak

T: Numbers 22:1-25:9

H: Micah 5:6-6:8

July 23, Pinchas

T: Numbers 25:10-30:1

H: 1 Kings 18:46-19:21

July 30, Matot-Masei

T: Numbers 30:2-36:13

H: Jeremiah 1:1-2:2