



Congregation Beth Israel  
חבורת בית ישראל

**CBI NEWSletter**

July/August 2016 - Sivan/Tammuz/Av 5776



From the Rabbi

Holy friends,

As I write these words, the sweetness of our Shavuot retreat at Isabella Freedman is still reverberating in me. It was a joy to spend a few days immersed in community, in study, in prayer, and in song -- and it was an extra joy to be able to share that sweetness with members of our community, and to be able to introduce some of y'all to some of the teachers I am honored to call my colleagues and friends.

Some of those who went on the retreat have already approached me about bringing some of those teachers to CBI to share their wisdom and their energy with the community, so stay tuned -- I'll see what we can do on that front in months to come!

July and August are relatively quiet months on the Jewish calendar, but in a way they begin our journey toward the Days of Awe.

In late July we'll begin the period known as the Three Weeks -- the weeks leading up to Tisha b'Av, when we will commemorate the destruction of both Temples, as well as many other destructions throughout our history. (Rabbi Pam Wax will lead an observance of Tisha b'Av here on Saturday, August 13.)

Tisha b'Av can be a difficult holiday for contemporary liberal Jews. Many of us don't relate well to the memory of the Temples which once stood in Jerusalem. Some of us may wonder what merit can be found in a day of grieving ancient destruction. Especially in the sweetness of high Berkshire summer, why would we want to remember ancient carnage? Rabbi Alan Lew teaches (in his extraordinary book *This Is Real And You Are Completely Unprepared: The Days of Awe as a Journey of Transformation*, which I re-read each year, beginning with the Tisha b'Av chapter) that

Tisha b'Av is an opportunity to sit face-to-face with brokenness. Whether for you that means the fall of the Temples, or environmental degradation on our precious planet, or relationships or hopes in your own life that have been shattered beyond repair, there's value in spending a day facing our own brokenness.

Not because we're going to stay there -- on the contrary. We face what's broken because only in so doing can we truly become ready to heal. As I move through the journey of divorce, I can attest to that truth on a personal level in a renewed way.

From Tisha b'Av, there are seven weeks until Rosh Hashanah -- a kind of reverse Omer count. Seven weeks from our day of communal sorrow to our day of communal new beginnings, "the birthday of creation." This is one of the brilliant moves our sages made in establishing our calendar: the ebb and flow of sorrow and joy, of times when tradition calls us to recognize the "downs" precisely in order that we might then be able to celebrate the "ups."

Here's to a summer of peace and green hills and long days -- and may all of our sorrows be springboards to joys.

Blessings to all,

Rabbi Rachel

## Reflections on the Shavuot Retreat at Isabella Freedman

by Jen Burt

Life moves in cycles,  
Ebb and flow...  
Sometimes there is stillness,  
where understanding blooms.  
Sometimes, the winds of change  
Blow great and powerful storms  
across the open expanse of the human spirit.

A few days ago, I was gifted an experience.  
A chance to get to know myself better.  
It was a chance to connect with other people,  
Jewishly,  
In a communal setting that was surrounded  
by natural beauty.  
Despite telling myself that I was prepared,  
I had underestimated the profound impact  
of personal growth  
That I was walking into...

RIGHT NOW,  
In this very moment,  
As I write these words,  
I am a better person for having gone.

I am humbled by gratitude  
And  
emitting a radiant glow  
Induced by  
Emotional, physical, intellectual and spiritual  
Stimulation.  
Some of my views and practices have been  
permanently altered  
As a result of this encounter.  
Cracked open to let the light in...  
Baruch Hashem

## ARTSBRIDGE Showcase coming to Buxton School

-Cantor Bob Scherr

Artsbridge Institute is a Boston based nonprofit organization that has been using the unique approach of the visual arts and dialogue to develop constructive partnerships between American, Israeli, and Palestinian youth since 2007.

With partner sites in the United States, Israel, and Palestine, the goal of Artsbridge is to create a safe environment for its students, which fosters understanding, curiosity, creativity, and leadership. Today, our graduates are becoming active leaders and change-makers both in and outside of their communities. Our model has proven to be productive, durable, and transformative. With the help of partner organizations, our students have the opportunity to create leadership initiatives within their own communities throughout the year.

Save the date: Sunday, July 31, 12-3 p.m. at the Buxton School, on South Street in Williamstown. Each year, the community is invited to the SHOWCASE, an afternoon where students share their collaborative art work in painting, film, music, poetry, or other projects where young people have engaged with one another to produce personal and meaningful projects. The wider public is welcome to meet these extraordinary young people, to sample the beauty of their art, and the beauty of their souls. Please visit the website at [www.artsbridgeinstitute.org](http://www.artsbridgeinstitute.org). With thanks to Susie Scherr for bringing this to our attention.

## NORTHERN BERKSHIRE COHOUSING PROJECT

An informational meeting for anyone interested in learning about the Cohousing project to be built in Blackinton (less than a mile from the synagogue) was held at CBI on Sunday, June 26 at 3 P.M. Jane Shiyah is the "the burning soul" behind the Northern Berkshire Cohousing Community, and has provided the following information about the project.

Her dream of creating Cohousing here in the Berkshires began when she attended a workshop on Jewish Intentional Communities. There she learned that cohousing is a way of creating an intentional community that seeks to recapture the feel of a traditional close-knit neighborhood and to reduce the sense of social isolation that has become all too common in our modern society. It provides a nice balance between privacy and community.

Cohousing is characterized by privately owned homes clustered around a core of common spaces: pedestrian friendly paths, gardens, play areas and a member-designed common house that might include a kitchen and dining area, children's play areas, a meditation room, an art studio, whatever the members decide.

The planned Northern Berkshire community is open to seniors wishing to age in place, and to individuals and families of all ages. In addition, a portion of the homes will be dedicated to people with chronic health conditions. Cohousing is a perfect solution for the problem of social isolation, that often affects those already suffering from health challenges.

Further information can be found on the Northern Berkshire Cohousing Community's website: [www.cohousingberk.org](http://www.cohousingberk.org)

## Service Times

First Fridays: July 1, Aug 5

Shabbat Service  
Every Saturday 9:30 a.m.  
11ish a.m. Kiddush/Torah Study

Meditation minyan  
Friday mornings at 9 a.m.

## July/Aug. Shabbat candle lighting and Havdalah times



*If you want to light Shabbat candles and make havdalah at the halakhically accepted times, for North Adams, here they are:*

July 1: 8:16 lighting; July 2: 9:23 havdalah  
July 15: 8:09 lighting; July 16: 9:17 havdalah  
July 29: 8:04 lighting; July 30: 9:11 havdalah  
July 8: 8:13 lighting; July 9: 9:21 havdalah  
July 22: 8:04 lighting; July 23: 9:17 havdalah

Aug 5: 8:48 lighting; Aug 6: 8:55 havdalah  
Aug 12: 7:39 lighting; Aug 13: 8:45 havdalah  
Aug 19: 7:28 lighting; Aug 20: 8:35 havdalah  
Aug 26: 7:17 lighting; Aug 27: 8:23 havdalah

## Ride Share?

Are you in need of a ride to and from CBI  
to attend services or events?

Are you in need of a ride for local errands or appointments?  
The CBI community can try to help. Please let Jack know what your needs are.

If you are able and willing to share rides or give rides, please send your information on your availability to Jack.

## Ruthie's Lunch Bunch

If you are old enough for Social Security, come share lunch, good company and conversation on:

Thursday, July 14 ~ Thursday, August 18 ~ Thursday, September 22

Please R.S.V.P. to the CBI office at 663-5830, by Monday before the luncheon date. We start promptly at noon.

Good times at Waubeeka Links for the Lunch Bunch included a guided tour of the golf course, stopping to see a hand carved wildlife sculpture, and a leisurely lunch in the clubhouse.





## Congratulations to Susan Gold!

Congratulations to Susan Gold, newly elected Chairperson of the Board of Trustees of Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts (MCLA). Susan has been a member of that Board since 2010, and became its Chair in April, after having been reappointed by Governor Charlie Baker to a second 5-year term.

In a recent statement, MCLA President James F. Birge said, "We are fortunate to benefit from the dedication and expertise of Susan Gold. Her willingness to commit to this critical position speaks to her deep dedication to MCLA, and I am grateful for her service."

Susan's initial involvement with MCLA was as a long-time Board member of the MCLA Foundation. Since her recruitment to the college Board of Trustees, she has served as a member of its student affairs and academic affairs committees, and was co-chair of two presidential search committees.

An active community volunteer, Susan has given her time to more than a few non-profit organizations in the northern Berkshires, earning a well-deserved reputation as an outstanding leader. Among the beneficiaries of her fund-raising leadership was North Adams Regional Hospital, including its REACH Community Health Foundation. She is a past Board member, and a past Chair of the Board, of Images Cinema, the region's only independent movie theater; a Trustee Emerita of the Williamstown Rural Lands Foundation; and currently a Trustee of the Massachusetts Museum of Contemporary Art (MassMoCA), where she chairs the government and community outreach committee.

Susan is a native of northern Berkshire, having grown up in Adams, and is a life-long (and third-generation) member of CBI. She returned to this area in the late 1970's after living in the Washington, DC area, including attending college at American University. She is the mother of two grown children, and now a grandmother of three. Of her involvement in CBI she recalls, "When my children were young, parents needed to volunteer to keep the Hebrew school up and running. I, as well as others, spent many hours on making sure our kids had the teachers and schooling that was necessary."

- Barbara Bashevkin

### Friends:

Your donations are appreciated! If you have books to donate to CBI, call Chaim Bronstein at 917/609-6732. If you have artwork or other items, please contact Pattie Lipman through the CBI office. Please do not just drop them off - unless you are dropping off canned and boxed goods for the Berkshire Food Project.

## MAZAL TOV!



Mazel tov on becoming a Bat Mitzvah: Odelya Kalmanofsky, granddaughter of Barbara and Michael Kaplan.



**Mazel tov to Rabbi Rachel on being named one of America's Most Inspiring Rabbis 2016 by the Forward. She is one of 32 rabbis from around the nation selected for this honor.**

The Forward published the following:

Through the gift of her poetry and prose, as posted on her highly popular “Velveteen Rabbi” blog site, Rabbi Rachel Barenblat inspires thousands of followers all around the world in addition to her congregants at Congregation Beth Israel. I would never say that I have been a “poetry person,” but I find that Rachel’s gifts with words have the ability to reach right into the deepest longings of my soul. Whether it be a reflection on a specific Jewish practice or a poem on the changing of the seasons, Rachel always has the right words to make us all think a bit deeper and look at our lives through a different, more perceptive lens. In addition to her writing, Rachel is a highly gifted and sought-after teacher, mashpi'ah (spiritual director) and national Jewish leader. She inspires me every day. — *Shoshanna Schechter-Shaffin*

## **MAZAL TOV!**

Mazal tov to Tara Johnson and her wife Marissa Carlson on the naming of their daughter Ksenia (Hebrew name: Miriam bat Avrasha v'Marisa).

### **Mazal tov on becoming a Bar Mitzvah!**

Jordan Callahan

Jeremy Guy

Gabe Schoenbaum

Sasha Rooney

Mazal Tov to Bob Greenberg on his 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of becoming a Bar Mitzvah!

**Congratulations and every good wish for the future to our young people who are graduating and heading off into their next stages of life, and to their parents!**

- Barbara Bashevkin

Naomi LaChance, daughter of Joan Rubel and David LaChance, has graduated from Bard College with a degree in Historical Studies and Written Arts.

Our high school graduates, and the colleges they will be attending, include:

Hannah Fein, daughter of Wendy Penner and Steve Fein, Princeton University.

Cal Filson, son of Amy and Adam Filson, Oberlin College.

Sophie Gerry, daughter of Laura Schoenbaum and John Gerry, Bates College.

Noah Howard, son of Lisa & Orion Howard, University of Connecticut.

Additional congratulations to:

Hannah Fein on being the faculty-selected student speaker at the Mount Greylock Regional High School graduation.

Alex Apkin, son of Anne and Joe Apkin. Alex graduated from Connecticut College with a Bachelor of Arts in Government and a minor in Sociology.

(continued on the next page)



Congratulations to the grandchildren of Helene and Stu Armet: Zoe graduated Williamstown Elementary School; grandson Kale graduated Amherst Regional High School; grandson Zach was selected to attend Boys State (there is also a Girls State) a weeklong leadership and citizenship program. One or two students are sent from each high school in the state. Some former attendees are Bill Clinton, Neil Armstrong, Tim Cook, and Jane Pauley.

Congratulations to Jonah Kelly-Whitney, son of Chris Kelly and step-son of Maude Rich. Jonah will enter Mount Greylock Regional High School in Williamstown in September as a freshman. He completed his eighth-grade year at Pine Cobble School this year. Jonah began at Pine Cobble at the age of two in CBI member, Beth Callahan's Beginners pre-school classroom. As a Kindergarten student, his teacher was his now-step-mother, Maude Rich.

## **Todah Rabah to our Volunteers!**

### **Thank you to:**

Michael Kaplan for creating and facilitating a second class, this current one on Jewish Theology.

Take and Eat Volunteers – cooks, packers, cleaners and drivers - a special “Thank You!” from Ed Oshinsky.

Jane Miller and Barbara Kaplan for Ruthie’s Lunch Bunch.

The Shamashim – our Shabbat helpers - Bob and Barbara Bashevkin, Bill Levy and Karen Kelly, Roberta Sullivan, Wendy Penner, Steven Green and Rose Ellis, Chris Kelly, Darlene Radin, and Cheryl Sacks.

Chaim Bronstein for delivering the Berkshire Jewish Voice to local businesses.

Barbara Bashevkin for her ace reporting for this Newsletter.

R’Pam Wax for organizing Tikkun Leil Shavuot at CBI.

Jeremy Guy now having the skill to open the walls of the sanctuary.

Jane Shiyah for becoming the Linen Service Coordinator.

And everyone else – you know who you are - but if we don’t – please let us know who to thank!

## Why volunteer at CBI?

**Share my talents and knowledge?**

**Learn new things?**

**Helping feels good?**

**Be involved in my Jewish community?**

**Find friends?**

**Share my ideas?**

**Model volunteering for my children and grandchildren?**

**Have a sense of accomplishment?**

## Who to contact:

Financial - (includes fundraising, investments, development) – contact Sue Hogan, [shogan@williams.edu](mailto:shogan@williams.edu)

Spiritual Life – contact Steven Green, ([StevenGreenLawOffice@gmail.com](mailto:StevenGreenLawOffice@gmail.com))

Chesed - (lovingkindness and helping others) – contact Jane Shiyah, ([jawss13@gmail.com](mailto:jawss13@gmail.com))

Chevra Kadisha - (preparing the body for burial) – males contact Len Radin ([lenradin@gmail.com](mailto:lenradin@gmail.com)); females contact Darlene Radin ([darleneradin@gmail.com](mailto:darleneradin@gmail.com))

Shmira – sitting with the body before burial – contact Steven Green, ([StevenGreenLawOffice@gmail.com](mailto:StevenGreenLawOffice@gmail.com))

Shamashim - (Shabbat hosts) – contact Jack Hockridge ([cbioffice1@verizon.net](mailto:cbioffice1@verizon.net))

Religious School – contact David Arfa ([maggiddavid@gmail.com](mailto:maggiddavid@gmail.com)) or Laura Thompson ([ljdtompson1@verizon.net](mailto:ljdtompson1@verizon.net))

Adult Education – contact Chaim Bronstein ([chaim@bcn.net](mailto:chaim@bcn.net))

Library, Films and Book Group – contact Chaim Bronstein ([chaim@bcn.net](mailto:chaim@bcn.net))

Speakers – contact Suzanne Graver ([sgraver@williams.edu](mailto:sgraver@williams.edu))

Membership - (recruitment and retention) contact Liz Miller ([emiller@isenberg.umass.edu](mailto:emiller@isenberg.umass.edu)) or Alice Cande ([amcmediator@yahoo.com](mailto:amcmediator@yahoo.com))

Calender, Public Relations and Graphic Design – contact Pattie Lipman ([plipman@fairpoint.net](mailto:plipman@fairpoint.net))

Newsletter – contact Pattie Lipman ([plipman@fairpoint.net](mailto:plipman@fairpoint.net))

Events (Holidays, Life Cycle and Social) – contact Pattie Lipman ([plipman@fairpoint.net](mailto:plipman@fairpoint.net))

Building/Grounds – contact David Pomerantz ([dpomerantz@bhs1.org](mailto:dpomerantz@bhs1.org))

Cemetery – contact Jane Miller ([janesm@roadrunner.com](mailto:janesm@roadrunner.com))

Take & Eat – “Meals on Wheels” one Sunday a month – contact Ed Oshinsky ([eoshinsky@yahoo.com](mailto:eoshinsky@yahoo.com))

Website – contact Len Radin ([lenradin@gmail.com](mailto:lenradin@gmail.com))

## Book Group Schedule - For more information contact Chaim E. Bronstein

---

Name of Book	Additional Information	Author	Year	Genre	Number of Pages	Day, Time & Date of Meeting
The Girl From Human Street	History of a Jewish Family	Roger Cohen	2015	Memoir	300	Monday, 7:00 PM Jun 27, 2016
Costantine's Sword	A History of The Church and the Jews	James Carrol	2001	History	Only the first 234	Monday, 7:00 PM Aug 29, 2016
Killing a King	Rabin's Assassination	Dan Ephron	2015	History	300	Monday, 7:00 PM Oct 24, 2016
My Father's Paradise		Ariel Sabar	2009	Biography	325 + Appendices	Monday, 7:00 PM Dec 19, 2016

## More from the Rabbi: Want to Meet with Me?

One of the great joys of this line of work is meeting when y'all want to talk. Whether you want to talk about synagogue business or about the intimate happenings of your spiritual life or your heart, I am honored to be able to listen to you.

In an emergency, I am always available. If the situation is not an emergency, I want to encourage you to reach out and make an appointment to see me (rather than just dropping in.)

I usually spend Mondays and Fridays doing synagogue work, but sometimes that work takes me out of the building -- e.g. if someone makes a pastoral care appointment with me and wants to meet at their place instead of at the shul -- so even on the days when I'm fully focused on synagogue work, I'm not always sitting behind the desk in the synagogue office.

If you know you're going to want to meet with me, it's helpful to me if you can drop me an email or give me a call and set up a meeting time. That way I can block out thirty minutes or an hour on my calendar, and I'll know that I will be dedicating that time to you (so I won't, for instance, be counting on that as time I need in order to prepare for Shabbat or whatever is next on my docket.)

I look forward to seeing you at CBI!

*Rabbi Rachel*

## **Donations -- With Deep Thanks for your Generosity**

### **Take & Eat Donations**

Cantor Larry Eschler & Robert  
Mendelson

In Honor of Ed Oshinsky

### **In Honor of Bob Greenberg on his 50th Anniversary of his Bar Mitzvah**

Mitchell Burgin

Warner & Amely Smith

Howard & Debbie  
Wineberg

### **High Holiday Appeal**

Michael & Barbara  
Kaplan

Len & Darlene Radin

### **Memorial Donations**

Richard & Anna Jo                      In memory of Saul Dubow  
Dubow

Myrna Katz                                In memory of Tillie Goldstein

Barbara Mindel                         In memory of Henry Feder

Paulette Wein                            In memory of Jacqueline Wein

Larry & Anne Wein                     In memory of Jacqueline Wein

Susan & Charles Welsch               In memory of Irving Golob

Howard & Deborah                     In memory of Mervin Wineberg  
Wineberg

Ellen Schiff                                In memory of Shirley Frankfurt

### **Additional Donations**

Selma Shapiro Silberman & James  
Silberman

**In Honor of R'Rachel's recognition  
as one of America's most  
inspiring Rabbi's**

Susan & Charles Welsch

### **CBI Reader of the Month**

Ezra the Scribe has selected Barbara Bashevkin as the CBI Reader of the Month. Barbara received this special honor by bringing and reading the wonderful poetry of Marge Piercy from her "The Art of Blessing the Day – Poems with a Jewish Theme" at the CBI Tikkun Leil Shavuot.

## Independence Day Picnic!

**12:30 pm Monday July 4th**

With thanks to Darlene Radin and Lisa Howard for organizing our picnic!

Our annual July 4<sup>th</sup> celebration will be at Orion and Lisa Howard's home. They will provide BBQ hot dogs, hamburgers and beverages.

Please bring your favorite sides, fruit salad, appetizers and desserts.

Also please bring your lawn chairs and any lawn games you like. Please let us know what you plan to bring and also if you would like vegetarian.

Rsvp to the office or to Lisa directly.

Hope to see you there!!



**Jewish Music**  
for a Summer Sunday Morning  
with Bernice Lewis  
July 17th at 11 to 1

a journey of song  
and story

Congregation Beth Israel 53 Lois Street  
~ North Adams ~ MA

Free and open to the public. Refreshments.  
For info and to RSVP: [office@cbiweb.org](mailto:office@cbiweb.org)  
or call: 413/822-5267

Presented by Congregation Beth Israel and the  
Jewish Federation of the Berkshires

PosterMyWall.com



# Join us in saying Congratulations to all who celebrate Birthdays and Anniversaries during July and August!

## July Birthdays

Ellen Bernstein  
Robin Brickman  
Chaim Bronstein  
Beth Callahan  
Elizabeth Cohen  
Anna Jo Dubow  
Philip Guy  
Beverly Hertzog  
Darlene Radin  
Len Radin  
Richard Reichler  
Fern Sann  
Maxx Sann  
Roberta Saunders  
Emily Sullivan  
Edith Taskin  
Sherry Wein

## August Birthdays

Hannah Fein  
Cole Filson  
Suzanne Graver  
Sam Guy  
Rachael Hogan  
Karen Kelly  
Lindsay Kushnet  
Sadie Lentzner  
Adam Pomerantz  
Maude Rich  
Alice Rudin  
Phyllis Sands  
Rachel Shiyah-Satullo  
Pamela Smith  
Paulette Wein

## July Anniversaries

Richard Cohen & Cheryl Sacks  
Adam & Amy Filson  
Steven Green & Rose Ellis  
Robert & Beverly Hertzog  
David & Deborah Rothschild  
Howard & Roberta Saunders

## August Anniversaries

Stuart & Helene Armet  
Robert & Barbara Bashevkin  
Carrie Greene & James McAllister  
Michael & Barbara Kaplan  
Joan Rubel & David LaChance  
Elizabeth & Steven Miller  
Carol & Edward Oshinsky (50th)  
Len & Darlene Radin  
Warner & Amely Smith  
Dustin & Beth Wees

## We Stood at Sinai!

By R' Pam Wax

Seventeen folks sat together at the foot of Mount Sinai on Erev Shavuot to receive Torah. Together we garnered the spirit of Sinai at CBI.

Shavuot is the night of Revelation and commemorates the giving of Torah. In that vein, the tradition is to stay up late exploring the breadth of what "Torah" might signify. For several hours, we ate the delicious dairy foods we are to eat on Shavuot (including chocolate cheesecake imported from New York City and lukschen kugel and other delicacies lovingly made by Bob Greenberg) while exploring the many faces of Torah, through art, poetry, song, conversation, and text.

Barbara Bashevkin shared the poetry of Marge Piercy that most inspires her. Marc Jaffe facilitated a conversation about "Who is a Jew," concerned by the narrow definition to which Orthodoxy adheres. Chaim Bronstein, an inveterate walker himself, investigated prayers, Biblical passages, and rituals that involve the concept of walking. Pam Wax discussed "Sinai of the Imagination," bringing artwork that represents Sinai, and talked about the meaning of Sinai for her.

Three Bobs brought Shavuot offerings. Bob Greenberg delivered a humorous take on Moses as the first CEO. Cantor Bob Scherr offered the well-known Talmudic text about the potential convert who approached both Hillel and Shammai wanting to be taught Torah while standing on one foot. We got a lot of mileage discussing the text's punchline "What is hateful to you, do not do under others," comparing it to the Biblical verse, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." Bob Bashevkin shared some oldie-but-goodie jokes including this favorite: It was Christmas time, and 5 year old Jake said to his father, "All my friends say that Santa Claus comes to their house and leaves lots of presents for them every Christmas

Eve." His father replied, "Think about it, Jake. You don't really believe that one person could go to all the Christian houses in the world on one night, do you? It's impossible." "But Daddy," said Jake, "Elijah comes to our house on Pesah and he goes to all the Jewish houses. How does he do that?" "Jake", his father said, "You have to remember that Jewish people are only 2% of the population!"

The whole while, Patti Lipman sat sketching many of those gathered there. Here is her image of Marc Jaffe:



Revelation comes in many forms, and we experienced how different members of our community understand and transmit their personal Torah.

The Tikkun Leil Shavuot is a beloved tradition in our community. Be sure to join us next year for another inspiring trip to Mount Sinai!

## Join us on Tisha B'Av!

By R' Pam Wax

The mid-summer holiday of Tisha B'Av (the 9th day of the Hebrew month of Av) will be commemorated on Saturday night, August 13. This is the holiday that commemorates the Destruction of the Temple in Jerusalem through the reading of the Biblical book of Lamentations and fasting.

Classical Judaism ascribes "baseless hatred" as the cause of the Temple's destruction.

[Join us at Tisha B'av, continued...](#)

Beginning at 8:00 PM we will look at the theme of baseless hatred through text study, reflecting on recent world events, including the rise of hate speech, hate crimes, and demagoguery the world over.

Following our study, we will conclude Shabbat with Havdalah, then sing and read portions of the book of Lamentations ("Eichah," in Hebrew). Please bring a flashlight or yahrzeit candle to read by, as this ceremony traditionally takes place by candlelight. For those who wish to sit on the ground as a sign of mourning, bring a cushion



Dear Members of the CBI Family,

It is with great sadness that I inform you that Morton Rollnik, father of our member Margaret Larabee, died on June 1.  
Baruch dayan ha-emet.

A celebration of his life will be held in Hilton Head, SC on Friday. There may be a memorial service forthcoming at CBI, and when those details are known we will share them with you.

May the Source of Peace bring comfort to Morton's family along with all who mourn.  
And may his memory be a blessing.

Rabbi Rachel Barenblat

---

The last date to receive news items, articles and pictures for the September/October Newsletter is August 15<sup>th</sup>. Please send your simchas and sorrows to Barbara Bashevkin and articles and photos to Pattie Lipman. Please put NEWSLETTER SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER in the subject line.

Articles and letters are invited, though subject to acceptance by the editorial staff.  
All items may be edited.

## CBI Community Hebrew School News

Dear Friends,

Have you noticed the word Community in CBI Community Hebrew School? Community is an important word for us. After all, our mission of strengthening Jewish identity 'takes a village'.

Special thank you's to our community this year: Our teachers, Rabbi Rachel, Rabbi Jarah and Counselor/Storyteller Jane Shiyah (and Inkele, our trained reading specialist and wonder dog too!) We wish R. Jarah many blessings as she moves on with her Rabbinic career, and hope she will be a visiting teacher next year, occasionally bringing special art-based projects to our community. (If you are interested in teaching our 4-6th graders or know of someone, please let me know. The job description can be found at <http://cbihebrewschool.weebly.com/employment-at-cbi.html>).

Thank you to Jane's aide, Beth Callahan and R. Jarah's aide, Heather Levy for your contributions all year long. Thank you to our community artists who came and shared their time with us, Robin Brickman, paper artist and David Lane, puppeteer and mask maker. Thanks to Jen Burt for your awesome Chanukah fund raiser.

Thanks to the behind the scenes organizational supporters, Rose Ellis, Liz Miller, Pattie Lipman and our new board liaison Laura Thompson for all of their efforts. Thanks to the larger synagogue board for sharing the library, for keeping the kitchen spic and span, for having office space available and the myriads of other projects that keep our synagogue a healthy and vibrant place for our children.

For those that do not know, Laura Thompson (mom to Jesse and Jacob) directs Kidspace at Mass Moca! Look for new school programs popping up at Mass Moca next year! Stay tuned as this new and exciting partnership develops!

Lastly, a special shout out to all our parents for your commitment in our school as evident with all your participation (and schlepping!) Most of all, thank you's go to our students for all of their great questions and enthusiasm.

As always, feel free to write with hopes and dreams; comments or reflections about our school. My email address is [david@maggiddavid.net](mailto:david@maggiddavid.net) I look forward to hearing from you. Here's our Alef Tav class wishing you a Happy summer from our whole school and reminding that a day is always better when cookies are involved.

Shalom,

David





## CBI Events and Occasions to Remember



The Motzi at Gabe Shoenbaum's kiddish after his Bar Mitzvah. One of 5 Bar Mitzvahs we are celebrating this year! Send your pictures!



Partying Bob Bashevkin.



Tikkun Leil Shavuot Study Session.



Your CBI Board! Bill Levy, fmr. Pres., Liz Miller, VP, Laura Thompson, Alice Cande, Steve Green, David Pomerantz, Chaim Bronstein, Ron Turbin, Paulette Wein, Chris Kelly, Pattie Lipman, Pres., Darlene Radin, fmr. Pres., Sue Hogan Trsr., and Lisa Howard. Photo by Len Radin.



Bob Greenberg, Ms. Star and friends celebrating the anniversary of his Bar Mitzvah.



R'Pam with friend R'Judith Edelstein who chanted 1 Aliyah of the Torah portion. R'Pam and Bob G. each chanted 3 Aliyot.



### **SYNAGOGUE OFFICE HOURS & PHONE NUMBERS**

President: Pattie Lipman  
Vice President: Liz Miller  
Treasurer: Sue Hogan

Synagogue Administrator: Jack Hockridge  
Newsletter Editor: Pattie Lipman  
Special Reporter: Barbara Bashevkin

Office:  
Monday – Friday  
10 am to 1 pm  
Phone and Fax  
413/663-5830  
Office e-mail: [office@cbiweb.org](mailto:office@cbiweb.org)

Visit our website at:  
[www.cbiweb.org](http://www.cbiweb.org)  
and our Facebook page

Rabbi: Rachel Barenblat

Rabbi's Study hours  
by appointment only  
Mondays 9 am to 3:30 pm  
Fridays 9am to 4 pm

Meditation Minyan  
Fridays 9 am

Rabbi's e-mail: [rabbibarenblat@gmail.com](mailto:rabbibarenblat@gmail.com)  
Rabbi's phone 413/822-5267

