The SCOOP

The Happenings of Congregation Beth Israel

October 2023

Hey there, let's dive into the lesser-known Jewish holiday of Shemini Atzeret, a special Jewish festival that's like the grand finale of the holiday season! It's like the encore after Sukkot, the big outdoor party.

Shemini Atzeret means "the eighth day of assembly" in Hebrew. So, after all the fun in the sukkahs during Sukkot, this day is like a laid-back hangout. It's like saying, "Hey, let's keep the good times rolling for one more day! In fact, at CBI, weather permitting, we will sit and dine in the Sukkah that day for our Kiddush. There are also various Orthodox Jewish groups who do that as a matter of course. It keeps the festive spirit of the holiday going.

This festival has this awesome vibe of gathering with friends and family, and also with the big boss, if you catch my drift. It's a time for deep conversations, reflections, and a bit of spiritual hang-out.

Here's an interesting twist: we start praying for rain during Shemini Atzeret. Back in the day, rain was like the golden ticket to a bountiful harvest. So, it's like putting in an order for a season of growth and prosperity. We also use this day to remember our loved ones with the Yizkor service. Come to CBI on the 7th to experience all of that. And, there's that Kiddush afterward in the Sukkah. But we mentioned that already!

Imagine Shemini Atzeret as that perfect Sunday after a wild weekend--only this year it falls on Shabbat! It's the day to kick back, connect, and set the tone for what's coming next. Like a sweet transition into the next chapter of the year.

We, at CBI, look forward to that chapter with all of you. We hope you do, too.

The CBI Editorial Team

How to Prepare for Sukkot?

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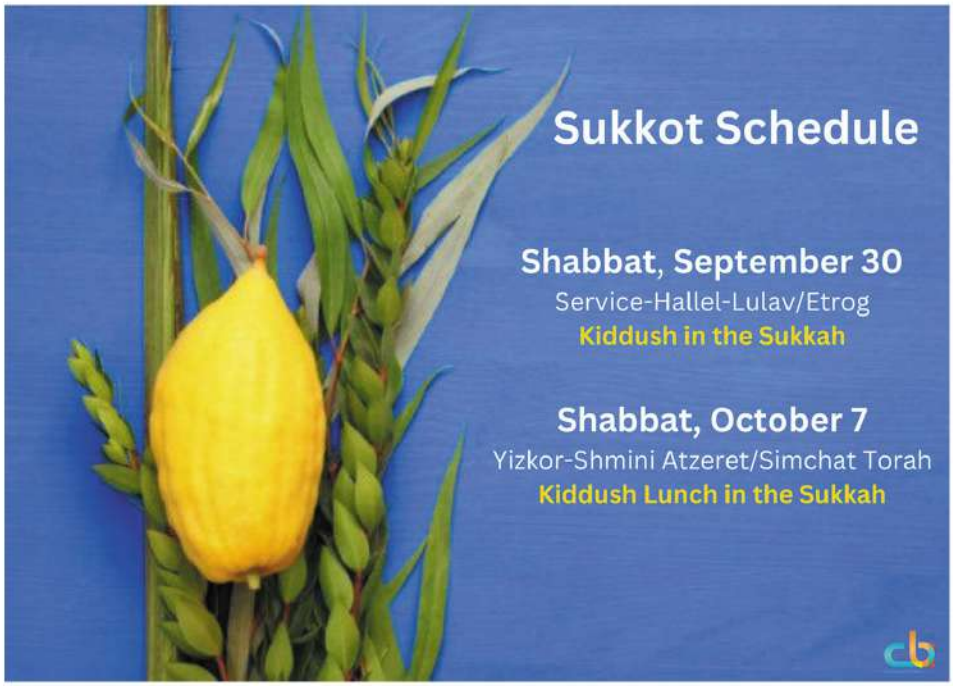
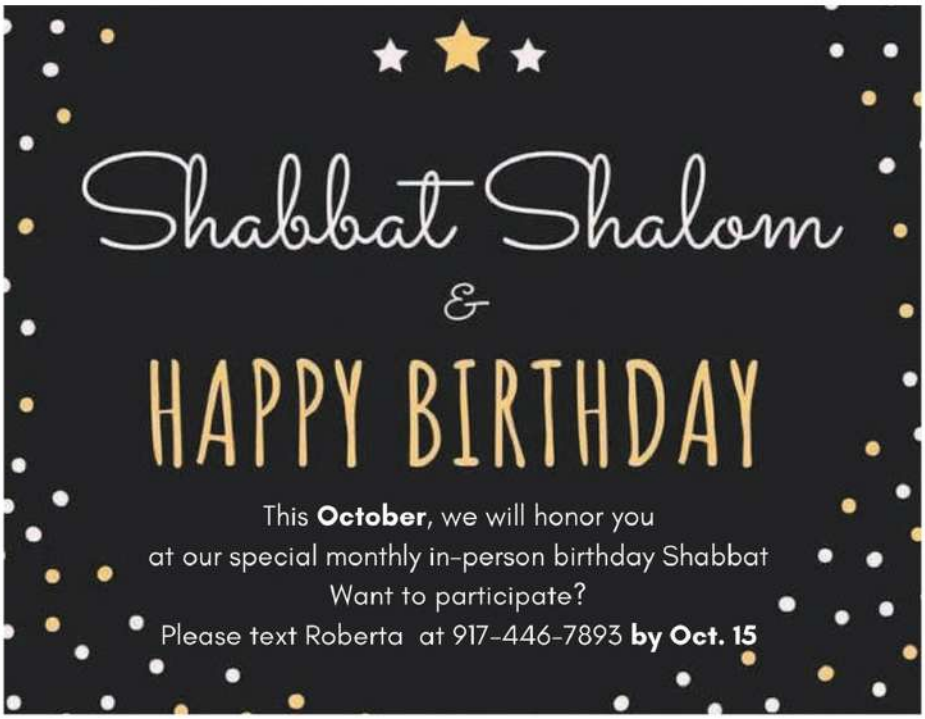




CBI is excited to welcome its newest members to our community:

Mindy & Monte Leeper
Deborah Smith
Susan Aller

Please make them feel welcome and introduce yourself when you see them at our synagogue.

The Rabbi Speaks

Dear friends,

The High Holiday season came and went—timewise, that is. But the spirit of the High Holidays should keep us going for a long time. If it doesn't, you might have been approaching it wrong— but that is the point of these holidays. The beginning of the year starts with such a bang that its reverberation is to be felt throughout the year. We start at the top of the mountain with the hope that we stay there or thereabouts for the rest of the year.

For those of you who were at CBI last week at the High Holidays services, I'm sure you all would agree that it was quite the spiritual boost. Despite the lower numbers than in years past, we did have some new members on hand and the spirit was one of conviviality and fraternity with a sense of hope—Tikvah—for the coming year. Indeed, 5784 has some real promise. I can feel that in my bones.

Of course, there are many factors that make a shul run well as our president, Dr. Richard Krauss, enumerated during his appeal, and we have many of the ingredients to keep going strong, but, of course, that is dependent on each of you. Each of us is the key to the puzzle. When one of us is missing in action, we are all incomplete.

The holiday of Sukkot which comes right after the Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur points to that continuity. Now is not the time to stop. Let's keep the spirit and the "high" of the High Holidays going with the spirit of this very joyous following holiday.

Our Sukkah is up in the parking lot, all beautiful and proud (a big shout-out to the team who built and decorated it). Please join us on September 30 and October 7 as we dine and socialize in its warm and beautiful walls, as we symbolically bring the spiritual life of the interior of the sanctuary to the outdoors and to the world at large. Sukkot tells us that the synagogue is meant to leave the cocoon of the sanctuary and live a holy life outside of it as well.

And with that message, the world is our oyster. Let's all do the best we can to keep our dear synagogue and community strong and vibrant.

May the joy and spirit of Sukkot maintain and sustain us in the darker and colder months of autumn and winter coming right up.

Warmly,
Rabbi Abe

P.S. Please join us on **October 15th** for what should be a very informative lecture about Israel and its future by Dr. Mandel (see flyer below).

Upcoming Events

CONGREGATION BETH ISRAEL

Cathedral Gardens, NY

presents

Israel At a Crossroads 2024 and Beyond

Lecture by

Dr. Eric R. Mandel

Followed by Q&A

Dr. Mandel is the Director of MEPIN (Middle East Political Information Network). He regularly briefs members of Congress and their foreign policy aides. He is the Senior Security Editor for the Jerusalem Report, and a regular contributor to The Hill and the Jerusalem Post.

Sunday, October 15
@11 AM

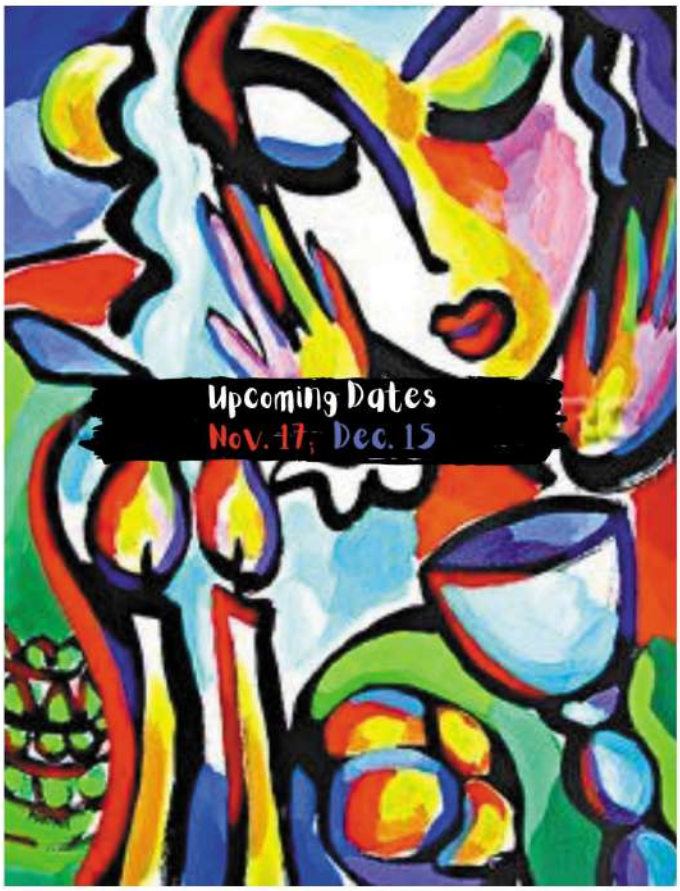
Complimentary Brunch Social following presentation

Mandatory Registration by Oct 11

Donations Appreciated

To attend, you must RSVP on the CBI Website by October 11

Click on the flyer to register



Musical Kabbalat Shabbat @CBI

Join us these Friday nights

October 20

November 17

December 15

@7:30 PM

Oneg to follow services

Registration required by
the Tuesday prior
on our website homepage

www.cbicg.org

Bring a friend and family

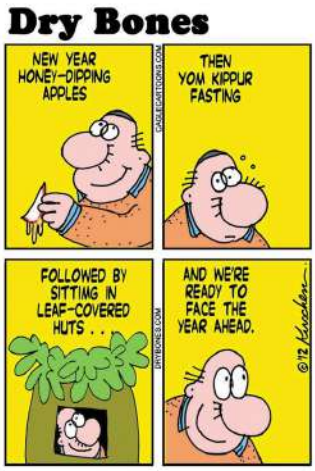
congregation beth israel

Do you enjoy our Shabbat lunch following our service?
What about our dessert Onegs following Kabbalat Shabbat?

Sponsor or contribute toward a Kiddush or Oneg today to celebrate a Simcha or to remember a loved one.

For more information, call 917-446-7983

A big thank you to **Marianne Baker** for sponsoring the post-Yom Kippur refreshments and Roberta Bouer for the Sukkot lunch



Come on, laugh a little!

October Yahrzeits

- Adele Chisel 10-1
- Bluma Miljoner 10-1
- David Miljoner 10-2
- Norman Abo 10-14
- Marc R. Agulnick 10-17
- Henry Neider 10-20
- Max Zaum 10-20
- Jeffrey Friedman 10-29
- Fay Meyerowitz 10-29

In Memoriam & Yahrzeit Donations

Lorraine Albert (in memory of my grandson, Jeffrey Goldsmith, who will always be remembered. He lives forever in my heart)

Alan Mantis (in memory of my father-in-law, Irving Fricklas)

Marianne Baker (bringing back an old CBI tradition, sponsoring a grab-and-go snack following the final Yom Kippur prayers at about 7:30 PM)

Suellen Agulnick (a sponsored kiddish, date to be announced)

Marianne Baker (in memory of Eleanor Nierenberg)

Muriel Levine: (In memory of my father, Aaron Shillet)

Marianne Baker and Alan Mantis: (kudos to Rabbi Abe and Roberta for an interesting and informative presentation by historian, Brad Kolodny, about the Jews of Long Island and the synagogues they created and supported, many still operating to this day, and to Roberta and her crew for the delicious repast that followed)

Nancy & Terry Goldsmith: (in memory of our son, Jeffrey Goldsmith)

Gail & Sal Quadrino: (in honor of Ellen Zimel, for her Yom Kippur Aliyah)

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or the opening of a new venture?

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Please reach out to info@cbicg.org
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