The SCOOP

The Happenings of Congregation Beth Israel

December 2023 | כסלו-טבת תשפ"ד

As you can see from the picture above, Israel and Chanukah are part of the same story. After all, Chanukah, more than any other Jewish holiday, tells us about the history of the Jewish people in the land of Israel. The Menorah is one of the most common symbols in ancient Jewish history and is the reason why the Menorah is the symbol of the modern government of Israel, with its proud Menorah standing outside its Parliament building (the Knesset) and on its coat of arms.

We are all feeling the pain that Israel is enduring now, but we are all supporting Israel as well in its time of need. CBI stands with Israel while it goes through some of its most trying tribulations, but we also know that Israel will overcome. The Menorah, that ancient symbol of light and endurance, tells us so.

So we go on, with our little Jewish community doing its best to chip in with deed and spirit, among all the Jewish communities across the globe.

Please join the CBI community in all of its many activities to keep that Jewish fire going.

And the light continues…

Happy Chanukah!
The CBI Editorial Team

The Israel Conversation

Thanks to Dr. Mandel for enlightening our community with his knowledge and insight about the crisis in Israel and the Middle East

Follow Dr. Mandel at his MEPIN website by clicking here

TURN OFF YOUR DEVICE

DURING OUR SERVICES AND EVENTS

Click on the Spanolatkes for a
Chanukah Recipe with a GREEK-Jewish Twist

Mazel Tov!

Wishing Debbie & Richie
a long, happy marriage
and a lifetime of joyful adventure

The CBI community thanks you
for hosting the eleborate Aufruf Kiddush on Nov. 18

The Rabbi Speaks

Dear Friends,

October 7 has changed everything and our lives have not been the same since that infamous, terror-stricken day. The Israeli Army—the IDF—is taking care of the business of protecting both the Jewish and non-Jewish citizens of Israel by attempting to obliterate Hamas and its murderous death cult, and we need to take care of the business of bringing more love into the world, fighting the hate and venom that Hamas preaches and fending it off with its exact opposite. Love and light will always overcome darkness and hate.

And, in fact, that's what the holiday of Chanukah is all about: The celebration of light in a world where darkness seems to reign supreme. The message of Chanukah is that in the depths of darkness, the ancient Jews of Judea were able to discover a way to herald light in the dark abyss. So, too, should we try to find the light wherever it is--and it will show up in the most unexpected of places. We must only open our eyes to see the flickering and sizzling (think latkes!) light all around us.

And if we can't find the light, then we must create it.

Now is not the time to sit back, but to be involved in the battle of light over darkness. The stakes are currently just too high. And as our sages say, "A small amount of light dismisses much darkness." It's the little things that count and that gently nudge the direction of the world into the path of illumination.

To that end, I hope you participate with me on December 7—exactly two months from the dark day of October 7—to join in with our local Hempstead community to illuminate the public Menorah and holiday lights at Village Hall (see flyer below). We are planning to go get a bite afterward to celebrate Chanukah as a community. Then there's Shabbat Chanukah a couple of days later at CBI, and you don't want to miss that (see flyer below).

Let's, as a community, one step and one day at a time, engage in the process of introducing more spiritual light into a world that desperately needs it. No light is too small or insignificant!

Wishing you and your family a happy Chanukah, and prayers for healing in Israel.

Warmly,
Rabbi Abe

Upcoming Events

Celebrate the Holidays with Us!

Please join Mayor Waylyn Hobbs, Jr.
for the annual

Christmas Tree Lighting
&
Lighting of the Menorah

with special guest Rabbi Abe (Beth Israel)

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2023. 4:30 PM

VILLAGE HALL
99 JAMES A. GARNER WAY
HEMPSTEAD, NY 11550

PHOTOS ON FIRE TRUCK WITH SANTA CLAUS
TOY STOCKINGS (CHILDREN ONLY)
CHRISTMAS CAROLS

For more information call: 516-478-6286

Let's have a significant presence representing CBI at this Village of Hempstead Community event!
Chanukah Gathering at Ben's Carle Place immediately afterward (appx. $30 per person)

CHANUKAH SHABBAT AT CBI
12/9/23 | 10AM
Festive Kiddush with
Holiday Favorites
Interactive Chanukah
Sing-Along With Your
Favorite Musical Rabbi
RSVP by 12/5 by texting
Roberta at 917-446-7983

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for
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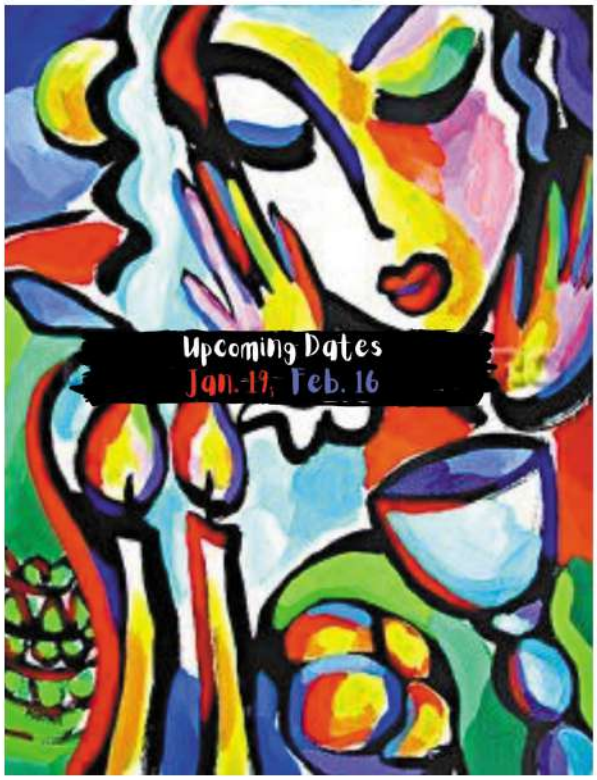
Join us for the joy and benefits of movement in our NEW Pilates Class! Discover gentle and effective exercises to elevate your strength, flexibility, and balance while enjoying our vibrant community. Open to all ages and genders.
Monday, Dec. 18
@ 11:00 am
Registration required
$5 donation per class
Click here to register

cbi Presents
JEWISH
HERITAGE
WEDNESDAYS
WITH RABBI ABE
@8 PM On Zoom



Musical Kabbalat Shabbat @CBI

Join us these Friday nights

December 15

January 19

February 16

@7:30 PM

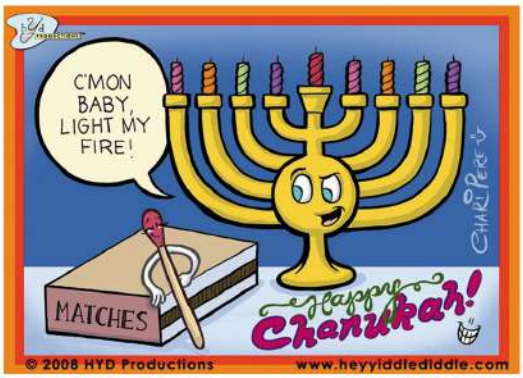
Oneg to follow services

Bring your friends and family

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



Come on, laugh a little, and have a donut. Or two!

December Yahrzeits

- **Sadie Zaum** 12-5
- **Miriam Pollack** 12-10
- **Sarah Fricklass** 12-14
- **Hanna Herscovicci** 12-14
- **Howard Mandell** 12-17
- **Melvin Zucker** 12-17
- **Ina Abo** 12-20
- **Beatrice Janvey** 12-23
- **Simon Faver** 12-24
- **Edwin Shepard** 12-24
- **Allen Albert** 12-25
- **Miriam Mauer** 12-27

In Memoriam & Yahrzeit Donations

Susan Bass (in memory of the innocent Israelis and Americans murdered on October 7)

Ilene & Robert Rothschild (yahrtzeit for Beatrice Brass)

Muriel Levine (in memory of Nat Levi's sister, Beverly Soderberg)

Alan Mantis (at the yahrtzeit of Sarah Fricklas)

Donations

Aileen & Lenny Goldberg (donation for dedication)

Shari & Irv Miljoner (good health and happiness to all congregants and well-being and peace in Israel)

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or the opening of a new venture?

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by advertising in our monthly newsletter.
Please reach out to info@cbicg.org
or 516-489-1818 for more info.

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