The SCOOP

The Happenings of Congregation Beth Israel

January 2024 | כסלו-טבת תשפ"ד

New Year's resolutions are often personal commitments to improve oneself, but from a Jewish perspective, they also emphasize communal values such as tolerance, kindness, and patience toward humanity. The concept of "Tikkun Olam," which translates to "repairing or refining the world," underscores the Jewish belief in taking action to make the world a better and kinder place. As the New Year dawns, individuals are encouraged to introspect and reflect upon how they can embody these virtues in their daily lives.

Tolerance, in this context, calls for recognizing the inherent dignity and worth of every individual, irrespective of their background or beliefs. Drawing from Jewish teachings, one is reminded of the principle, "Love your neighbor as yourself," emphasizing mutual respect and understanding. This New Year's resolution involves actively listening to diverse perspectives, fostering dialogue, and challenging prejudices.

Kindness is another cornerstone, rooted in the Jewish value of "Gemilut Chasadim," engaging in acts of loving-kindness. It calls on individuals to perform acts of charity, offer assistance to those in need, and cultivate empathy. By prioritizing kindness, one not only uplifts others but also nurtures a sense of interconnectedness within the broader human family.

Lastly, Patience emerges as a virtue that underscores the Jewish notion of enduring hardships with fortitude and maintaining equanimity amidst challenges. In a fast-paced world, cultivating patience enables individuals to respond thoughtfully rather than react impulsively, thereby fostering harmony and resilience.

If we all lean into those very Jewish values in the coming year, our community, as well as all whom we touch, will be in a much better place.

Here's wishing to a peaceful 2024!

The CBI Scoop Editorial Team

Thank you to those who donated to CBI's fundraiser on November 19 to support Israel

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TURN OFF YOUR DEVICE

DURING OUR SERVICES AND EVENTS

CBI Celebrates Chanukah at Village Hall & Ben's

December 7, 2023

Thanks to Mindy & Monte Leeper for donating delicious, gourmet chocolate Chanukah Gelt at our Shabbat Chanukah

The Rabbi Speaks

Dear Friend,

The last quarter of last year has been very tough on the Jewish community throughout the world. During the High Holidays, things were looking relatively just fine, and it looked like it would be the first year post-COVID when things would really get back to "normal." And then October 7 happened, and all of our lives turned upside down.

It's now about three months since that fateful day that changed everything, and it seems like the aftermath of that day might take a lot longer than first anticipated. Israel needs time to eradicate the evil on the other side of its borders, and that means that Jewish people the world over will be on edge until that mission is accomplished.

Concurrently, that day has also brought together the Jewish community more than ever, and Jews are more interested in their heritage in ways they never have been. Suddenly, out of fear or love, Jews realize that their history and legacy are more special than they realized. No more can one sit on the sidelines and just be Jewish by mere accident of birth. Jews realize that being Jewish means being part of something greater than oneself, that it's about connecting to an inheritance that belongs to each and every Jewish person, no matter their color, creed, or denomination.

At CBI, those feelings are also manifesting, as we have seen a very active and lively congregation since October 7. The fervor is greater, the singing is louder, and the community is stronger. Things are really coming together, and while grieving for and supporting Israel, we are also doing our part to retain the Jewish community and its beautiful way of life by actually "doing Jewish." Remember, that also includes studying, which is what "Jewish Heritage Wednesdays" are all about.

I look forward to continuing "doing it" and studying it with you each week of 2024.

Warmly
Rabbi Abe

Upcoming Events

Journey Pilates

CHAIR PILATES @CBI for Mobility & Strengthening

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, Jan. 8
@ 11:00 am
Registration required
$5 donation per class

Click here to register

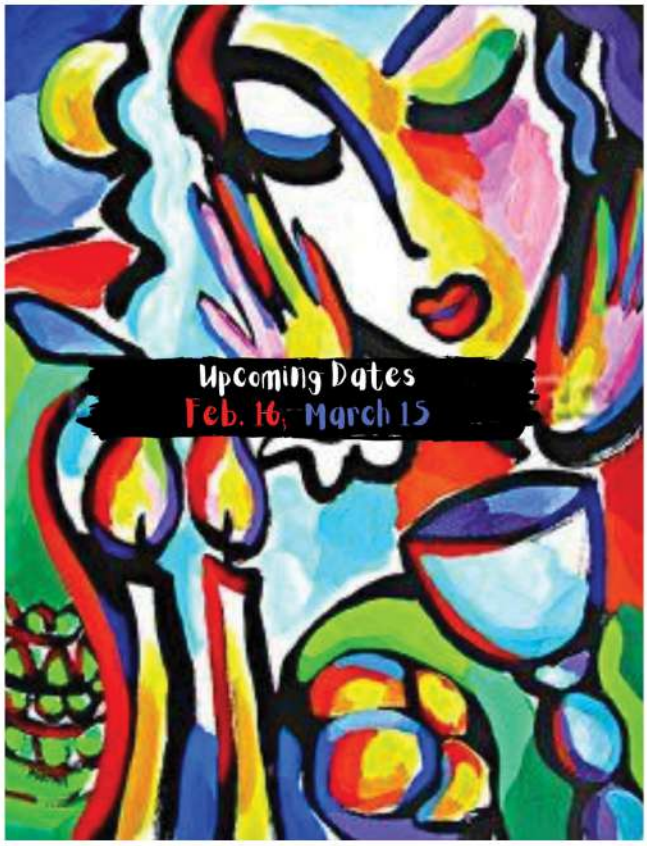
cbi Presents

congregation beth israel

JEWISH HERITAGE WEDNESDAYS

WITH RABBI ABE

@8 PM On Zoom



Musical Kabbalat Shabbat @CBI

Join us these Friday nights

January 19

February 16

March 15

@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

A big thank you to our December Kiddush sponsors:

Angela & Abe Sabbas -- December 2
Alan Mantis -- December 9
Sam Seifman -- December 23

Come on, laugh a little; It's a new year!

CBI Game Day: MAHJONG
Every Tuesday @noon at CBI
All Levels Welcome
Cover: $5
Bring your
kosher lunch and friends
RSVP by Monday to
Judi Slatsky at
jels244@aol.com
or 917-575-5443

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CBI Clothing & Housewares Drop Box
Get rid of your clutter and help CBI with your donations
Drop box located in CBI's parking lot.

January Yahrzeits

- **Tiffany L Greenfield** 1-1
- **Mia Rothschild** 1-3
- **William Cahn** 1-3
- **Mildred Rappaport** 1-7
- **Grace Janvey** 1-12
- **Ann Steinger** 1-13
- **Victor Feldman** 1-15
- **Claude Herscovicci** 1-15
- **Sol Schacter** 1-15
- **Sarah Brodsky** 1-18
- **Barbara Friedman** 1-18
- **Louis Wetizman** 1-19
- **Max Abo** 1-20
- **Harry Hanft** 1-27
- **Rhoda Rossman** 1-27
- **Ada Broder** 1-28
- **Harriet Neider** 1-30

In Memoriam & Yahrzeit Donations

Marianne Baker (yahrtzeits of great-niece Tiffany Greenfield and fiancees Leon Benedict and William Cahn)

Marsha Mandell (yahrtzeit of Howard Mandell)

Nancy & Terry Goldsmith (yahrtzeit of our father Allen Albert, of loving memory always)

Lorraine Albert (yahrtzeit of my husband Allen Albert, most sorely missed)

Donations

Aileen & Lenny Goldberg (In honor of the marriage of Dr. and Mrs. Richie Krauss)

Susan Bass (in honor of Richie's and Debbie's Aufruf and marriage)

Ellen Zimel (in honor of Richie's and Debbie's Aufruf and wedding)

Alan Mantis (in honor of Luis Robayo)

Muriel Levine (wishing Richie Krauss and Debbie Smith a long, healthy, and happy life)

Marianne Baker (to thank Richie for the aufruf at CBI, and best wishes for a long and contented life for the new Krauss family)

lilene & Robert Rothschild (in honor of Luis Robayo)

Roberta Bouer (In honor of the newlyweds, Richie & Debbie, and in honor of Luis Robayo)

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