The SCOOP

The Happenings of Congregation Beth Israel

January 2025 | טבת תשפ"ה

Oh no, a whole month with no Jewish holidays? How will we survive without a week off to cook, clean, and argue over whose kugel is better? Fear not! January is your time to recharge. Use this rare, holiday-free month to tackle those leftovers from Chanukkah—latkes freeze, right? Or maybe it's time for a little Jewish innovation: "Tu Bishvat, but make it January." Who says we can't plant trees and eat dried fruit early?

Alternatively, lean into the downtime. After all, "Dry January" is this month. People all over the world are taking a break from things. So study up on the Torah portion, perfect your challah braiding technique, or finally read the entire Passover Haggadah (yes, even the parts we usually skip). January is also prime time to prep for Purim, which will sneak up on you before you know it. So, take a breath, enjoy the quiet, and remember: the next Jewish holiday is always just around the corner.

The CBI Team

The Rabbi Speaks

Dear friends,

As I sit and write on the first day of a brand new year, it is not lost on me that my cup runs over with blessings, and for that, I/we are so grateful. This time last year, we did not have a child, nor were we pregnant, and it was just me and Allie. And, now? It's already 11 weeks since Ezra Joshua was born and our lives are forever changed for the better. As many of you might have already experienced, there's no better feeling than holding your infant in your hands with him looking up into your eyes and giving you that feeling that he trusts you and, if you're lucky, a nice, delicious smile.

I'm also very grateful for the support the CBI community has given us as we experience the beautiful challenges of parenthood. We are and will be forever grateful to all of you.

Still, as we encounter a new secular year and take stock of all the goings on in the world, we are aware that there are many problems and challenges outside of our little cocoon, and despite our blessings, there are those who are suffering and hurting. Similarly, 2025 also marks the third calendar year in which Israel is engaged in a war for its existence. Israel is obviously in a much better place than it was on Oct. 7, 2023, but who on that day would have thought that on January 1, 2025, the war would still be ongoing?

So, in addition to my gratitude, I'm humbled by all the goodness God has bestowed upon my family. I hope that in 2025, I will be able to pass on some of our blessings to those I interact with daily—both in my role as a rabbi and as a human being.

I look forward to engaging with each of you in the year ahead and, together, to work to bring more joy and meaning to our lives as a community and in one-on-one encounters.

Happy New Year! I hope to see you in shul more this year than in previous years.

Warmly,
Rabbi Abe

Rabbi Abe lights the Menorah at Hempstead Village Hall, bringing light to the Community. After braving the cold, some of us warmed up with hot soup and Chanukah fare at Ben's

Upcoming Events

YOU'RE INVITED TO JOIN CBI @CBI IN CELEBRATING THE 70TH B-DAY CELEBRATION OF

ADELE MURPHY

WHERE SHE WILL READ FROM THE TORAH TO CELEBRATE THIS GREAT MILESTONE

Shabbat
February 1
10 AM
Kiddush luncheon to follow

RSVP required by Jan. 23

Join us for our

Tu B'Shevat Seder

February 8, 2025
following
Shabbat Services

Learn about this beautiful, ecological Jewish Holiday, and partake of a bounty of fruits and nuts, and sing some songs about our precious earth and all the gifts that it gives us

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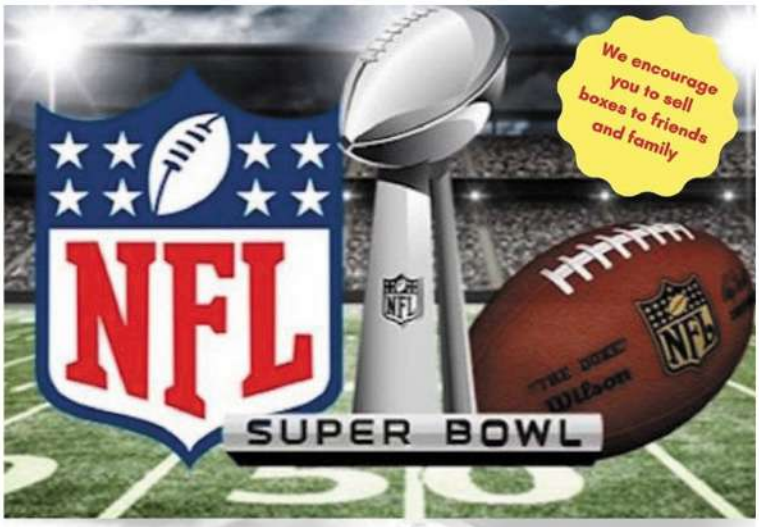


CBI Super Bowl LIX Fundraiser

Jump in our Pool to Win Big Prizes!

100 Boxes Up For Grabs
$20 per box

Prizes

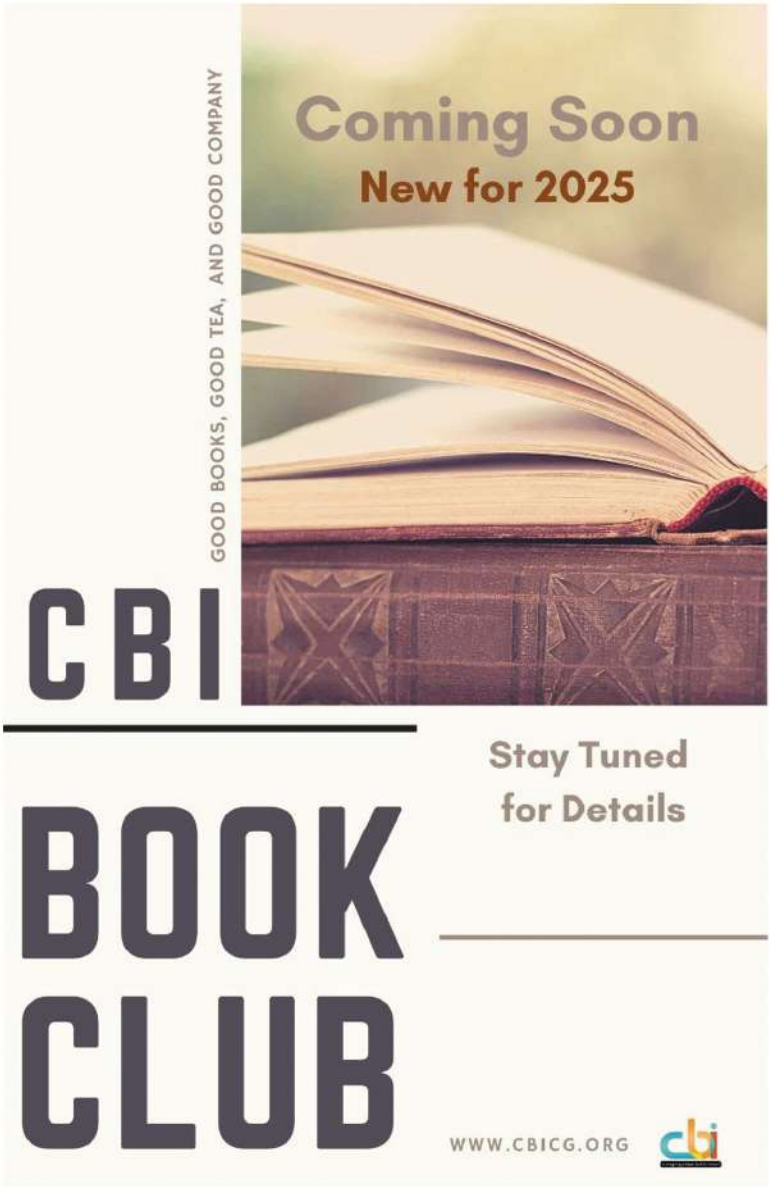
First Quarter:	$150
Half Time:	$300
Third Quarter:	$150
Final Score:	$400

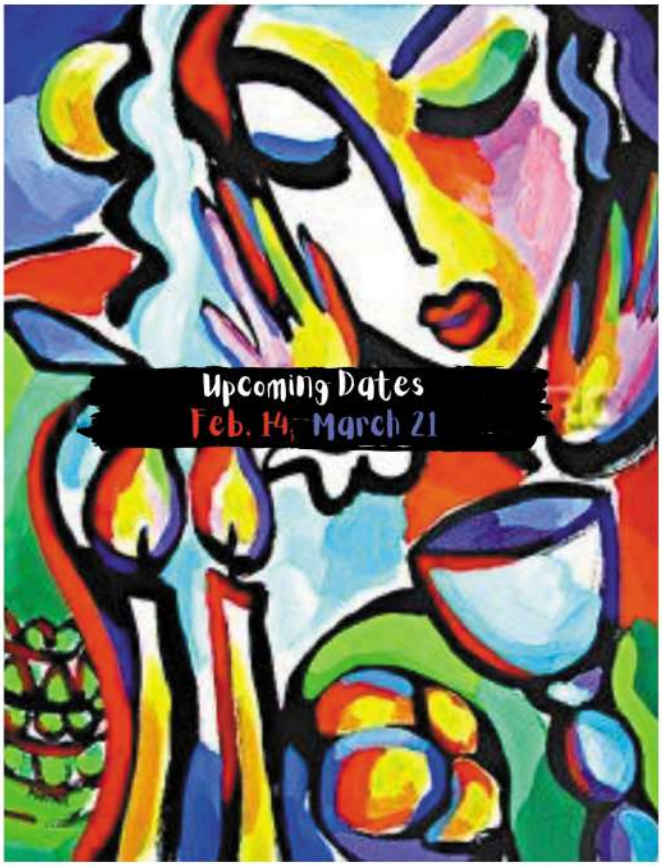
Questions? Contact Kevin Brandes
@ 516-816-0921
Checks to: 141 Hilton Avenue
Hempstead, NY 11550

Payment must be received before your boxes are assigned.
Deadline: on or before January 31.

Click here for quick and easy payment. (e-payment encouraged). You can also mail a check to CBI. Allow enough time for it to get there by the deadline to be assigned your boxes.

A copy of the grid will be posted on our website on February 6.





Musical Kabbalat Shabbat @CBI

Join us these Friday nights

January 17

February 14

March 21

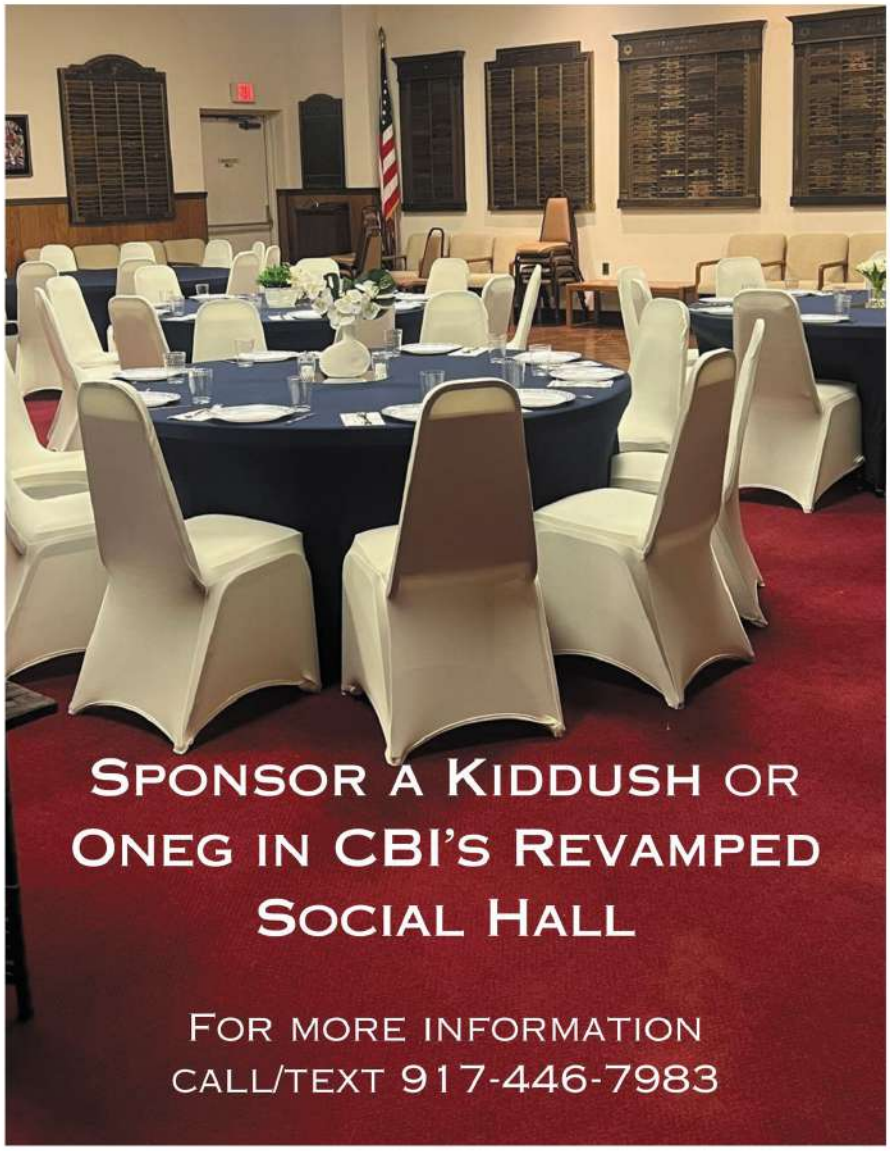
@7:30 PM

Oneg to follow services

Bring your friends and family

Presents
BACK TO JEWISH SCHOOL
WITH RABBI ABE
Wednesdays @ 8 PM
On Zoom by clicking here

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

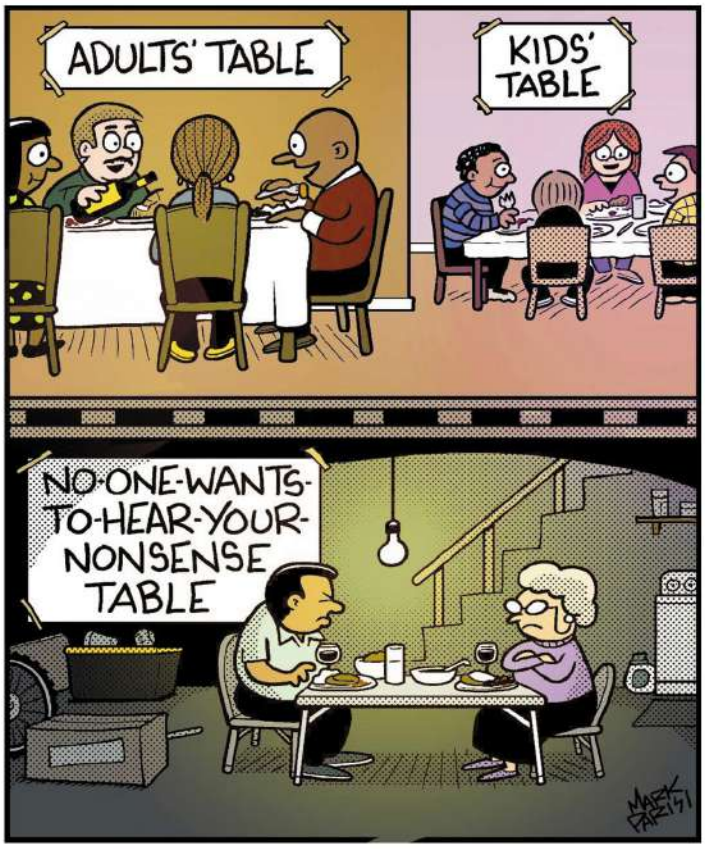


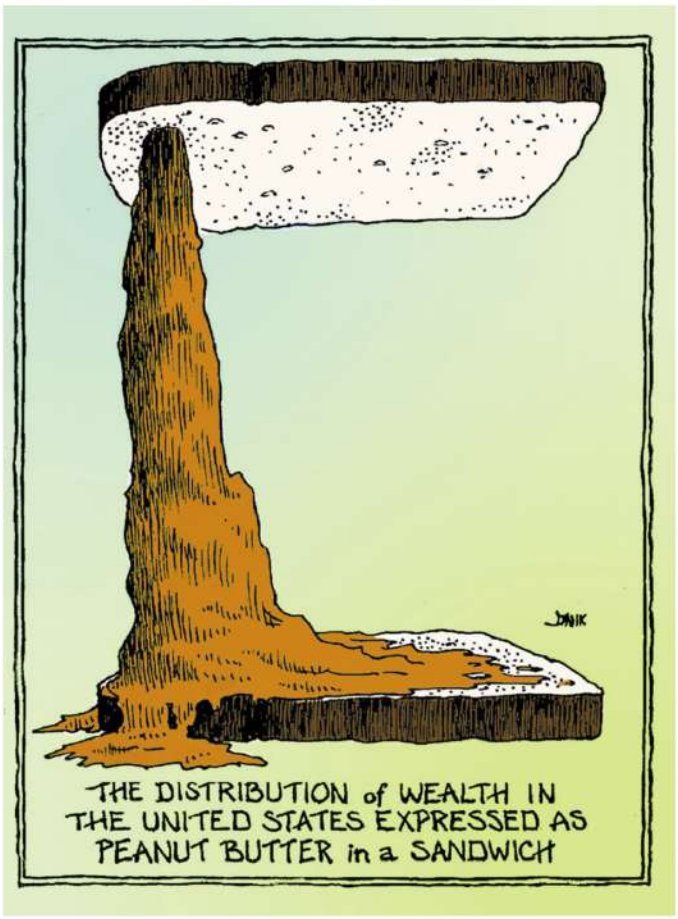
A BIG thank you to:

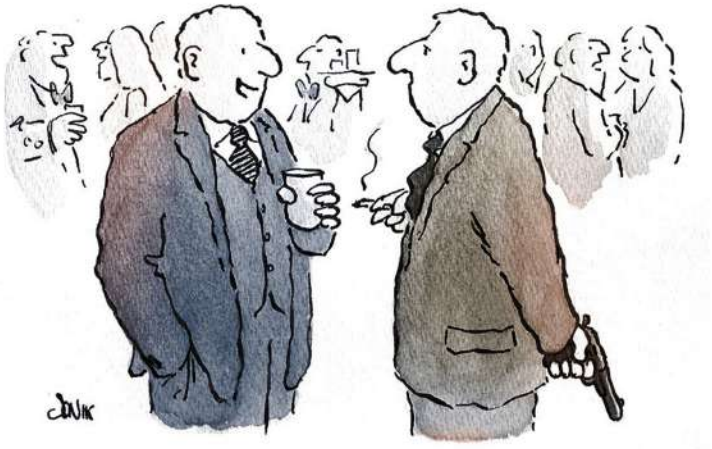
Alan Mantis
for sponsoring the Kiddush on Dec. 7 to celebrate his birthday

Debbie & Richie Krauss
for sponsoring a grand Kiddush to celebrate their first wedding anniversary on Dec. 14

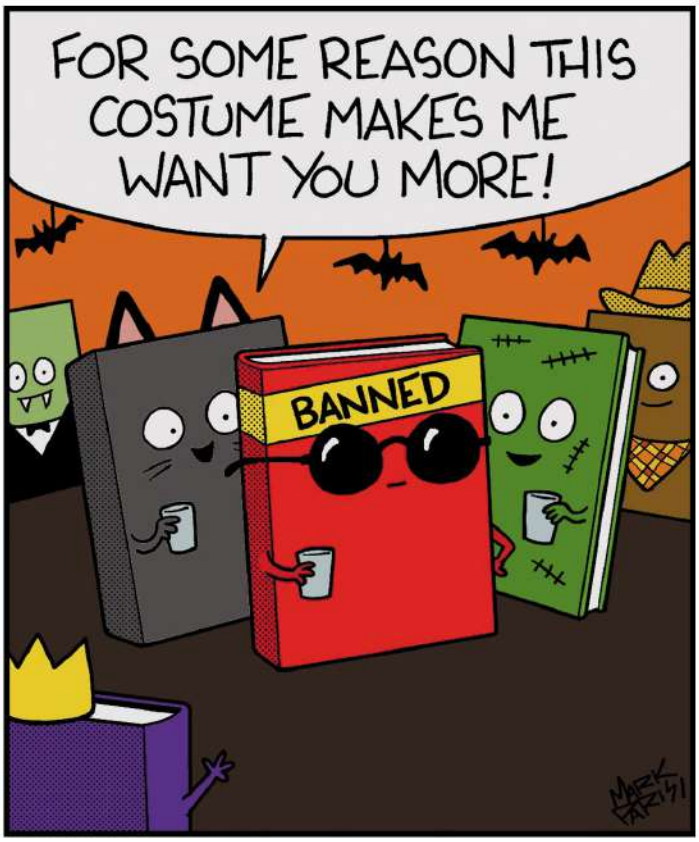
Roberta Bouer
for sponsoring the Kiddush on December 28 to celebrate Chanukah with the community



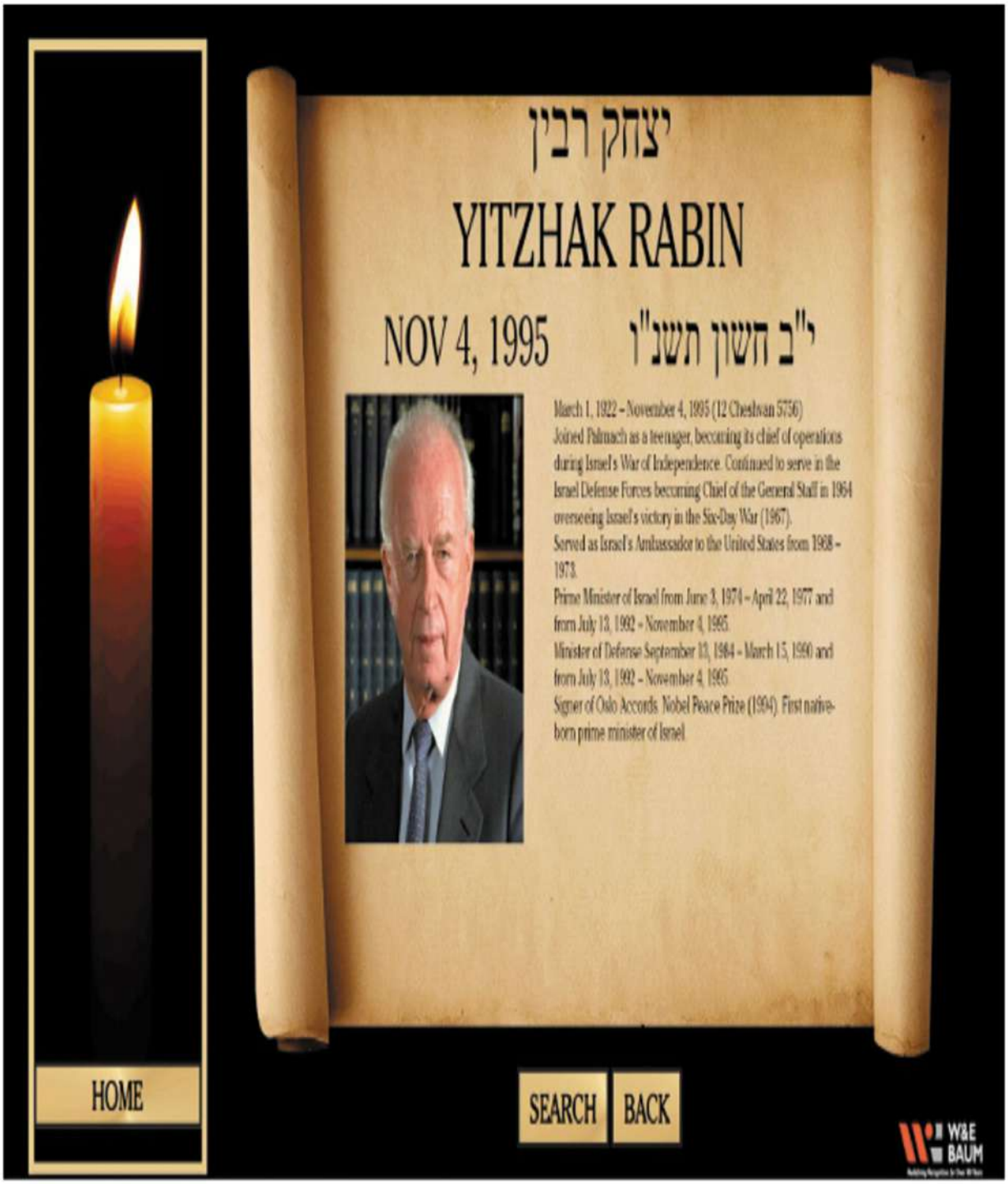




"Stop me if you've heard this one."



Come on, laugh a bit. It will do you good— and then some.



Honor the memory of your loved one on CBI's Digital Memorial Board

Share a bio, photo, or anecdote as shown above

(Click here to see the board online)

For more info, please contact Marianne Baker at 516-486-5140

January Yahrzeits

Sarah Fricklas	1-2	Allen Albert	1-13
Hanna Herscovicci	1-2	Toby Ratner	1-16
Howard Mandell	1-5	Miriam J. Mauer	1-20
Melvin Zucker	1-5	Mia Rothschild	1-22
Ina Abo	1-8	William Cahn	1-24
Beatrice Janvey	1-11	Mildred Rappaport	1-26
Simon Faver	1-12	Grace Janvey	1-31
Erwin Shepard	1-12		

In Memoriam & Yahrzeit Donations

Monique Reboh (in memory of Nissan Reboh)
Marianne Baker (yarhtzeits of great-neice, Tiffany Lynn Greenfield and fiance, William Cahn)

Donations

Marianne Baker (congrats to Dana & Kevin Brandes, parents of Rachel Brandes, upon her graduation from medical school)

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Looking to promote your business, professional services, or the opening of a new venture?

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by advertising in our monthly newsletter.
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