The SCOOP

The Happenings of Congregation Beth Israel

August 2025 | מנחם אב-אלול תשפ"ה

As August approaches this year, it's worth remembering how it's often thought of as a month of mourning for our destroyed Temples in Jerusalem, but there is more to this month than just endings and sorrow. It is also associated with new beginnings, fresh starts, new endeavors, divine visitation, and an opportunity to rekindle broken friendships with family, friends, and God.

Let's begin in chronological order, calendar-wise. The eve of August 2 through August 3 is commonly known as Tisha B'Av, and commemorates the destruction in Jerusalem of the first Temple by the Babylonians in 586 BCE and the destruction Second Temple by the Romans in 70 CE and other historical events such as the expulsion of Jews from England in 1290 and Spain in 1492.

And this is a major day of communal mourning, as it is observed by reading from the Book of Lamentations, chanting soulful melodies, reciting Kinot (poems of lament), abstaining from pleasurable activities, fasting from food or drink, avoiding dancing at weddings, avoiding haircuts, and refraining from listening to music, or wearing leather and using perfumes or ointments. The eight days leading up to Tisha B'Av also have some stringent customs, such as avoiding swimming or unnecessary travel, refraining from eating meat or drinking wine, or laundering one's clothes. Overall, it is a time to reflect on Jewish historical tragedies. In more recent times, Tisha B'Av signifies a day to remember the Holocaust and other tragic events that befell the Jewish people.

But the end of August, starting on the the 25th, is the beginning of the Jewish month of Elul, in which we make preparations for the High Holy Days and pray for redemption and rebuilding for a brighter future. This is a mainstay of the Jewish people, which is to always look forward.

Our beautiful Shul, Congregation Beth Israel of Cathedral Gardens is also going through a renewal of sorts that we will weather graciously and come out stronger and more vibrant on the other side.

Wishing you a great rest of the summer.

The CBI Editorial Team

CBI's longstanding tradition of its
High Holiday Flower Fund was spearheaded by Muriel Levine for many decades. It was her pride and joy.

In her honor and memory, we have renamed it the
Muriel Levine Flower Fund.
Please consider a donation to honor Muriel, to wish your loved one a Happy New Year, or to remember someone special.

Contact **Shari Miljoner** at 516-404-4868
to pledge your donation
and provide your High Holiday message
(click here to make your payment)

High Holiday Book of Life

The amount per individual name to be listed in this year's Book of Life remains $18 as in previous years.

Also, this is not a "check-only" donation. Any CBI donation is payable online through our website. Please indicate the names of your loved ones in the notes section and it will be included in our newly designed memorial format.

The $25 amount indicated in the HH mail packet was an error.

Of course, you can always give as much as you'd like.

Do's & Don'ts
for CBI Kiddush Etiqette

- Enjoy Yourself!
- Converse with all
- Pretend you're being polite, not ravenous
- Sponsor a kiddush on a birthday or Yahrtzeit
- Tell clean jokes
- Leave something for those behind you who also enjoy food and happiness

- It's Shabbat; Limit Phone use
- Eat now; Take nothing home later
- No Kibbitzing at the buffet (to keep the line moving)
- One trip is admirable, two are expected. Three? Dayenu!

The Rabbi Speaks

Dear Friends

Exactly seven years ago, on August 1, 2018, I officially started my job at CBI to lead this community into the future. I still remember that day as I stood on the Bima, facing a community that had roots in the past and was yearning to become a synagogue of the future. There was no cordless microphone, nor was a guitar even a thought at the time. I had my work cut out for me.

The future then held many things that neither I nor anyone else was aware of. I would get engaged then married to lovely Allie, and then have a child with her, a beautiful son named Ezra, during this time. I would also learn to play the guitar, incorporating it into our synagogue life, would earn an MSW degree, and learn the ups and downs, the peaks and valleys of our synagogue community. At that time, I didn't know but we would lose some very good people during this period, and my heart mourns for all of them.

Much was unknown.

A worldwide pandemic would visit planet Earth, which would upend the world as we know it, as well as the way people worship in synagogues. "Zoom," a word that was related to describing how cars rumbled in comic strips, suddenly became a word that described worship.

I cried with many of you, attempting to comfort you in your time of losing precious loved ones, and I laughed with many at you at different auspicious times in your lives and our synagogue. We became a family during this period.

We came together as a community, post-COVID, to try to grow and continue to flower, and we did that in many ways. There are many new people in our community now who bring so much to the world of CBI, and I look forward to greeting more each week.

All that I didn't know on August 1, 2018. There is so much to be thankful for despite all the struggles that we experienced individually and collectively, and we never really know what the future holds. In baseball metaphor, life will throw both curveballs at us, as well as strikes right over the plate. We have to deal with each experience appropriately.

Overall, I have been blessed by so much in the last seven years, and I've learned so much from all of you. Despite all the struggles that are still there, I look forward to continuing to build on our progress as time goes on. One day at a time, one soul at a time. If we all continue to throw ourselves into the work, things will happen.

With wishes for a great rest of the summer, and a meaningful and prosperous New Jewish Year up ahead.

Warmly,
Rabbi Abe

Upcoming Events

PLEASE JOIN US FOR A
SPECIAL ONEG
KABBALAT SHABBAT

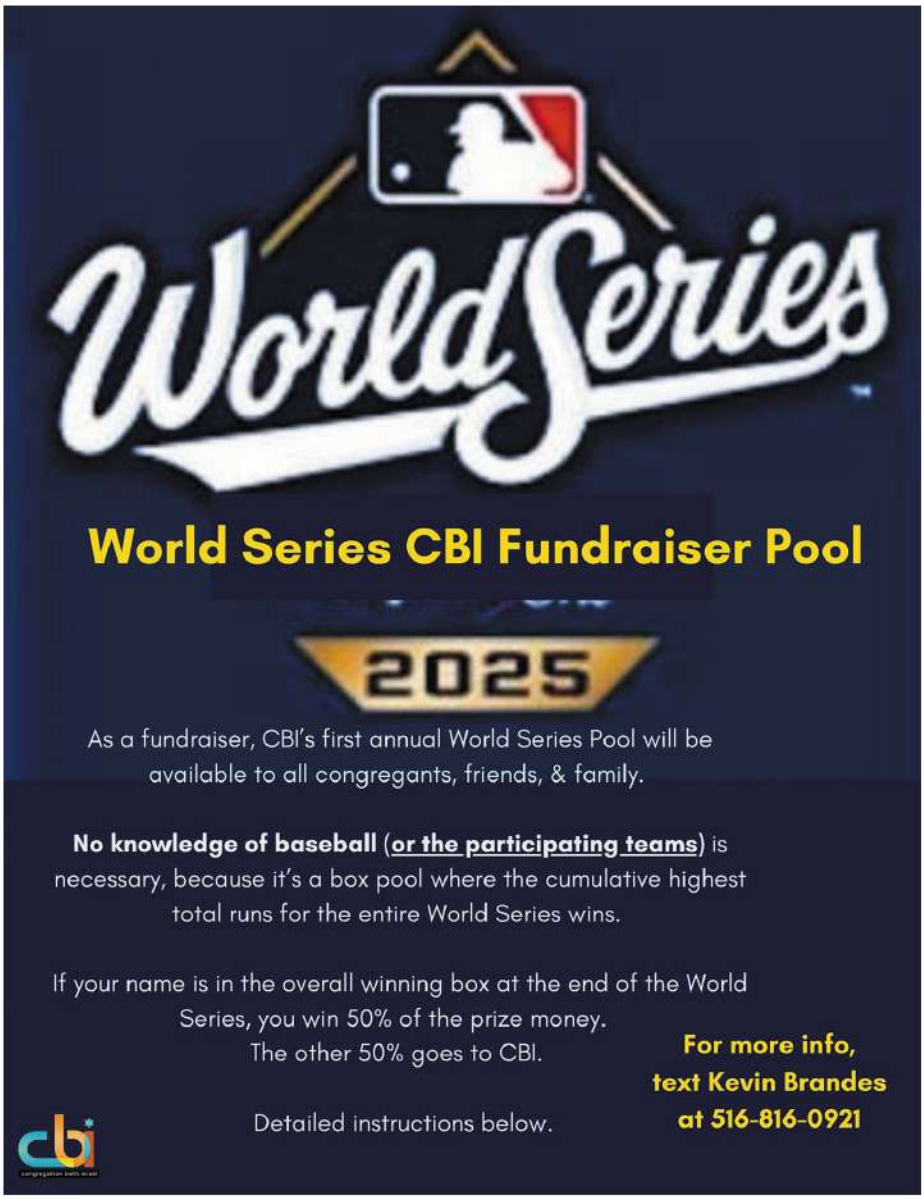
FRIDAY, AUGUST 1
@7:30 PM

OUR PRESIDENT, RICHIE KRAUSS & DEBBIE ARE SPONSORING THE ONEG IN HONOR OF THE NEWLY APPOINTED CBI BOARD OF TRUSTEES.

PLEASE RSVP TODAY , IF YOU HAVEN'T DONE SO ALREADY.

TEXT 917-446-7983.

Congregation Beth Israel
141 Hilton Avenue
Hempstead, NY 11550



World Series CBI Fundraiser
Pool Instructions

$20 per half inning (for example, top of 5th inning, bottom of 7th inning). Participants can play in more than one half inning (similar to more than one box in the Super Bowl pool).

Each participant will be assigned a half inning from the top of the 1st through the middle of the 9th innings using random number generators for the participant & the half inning.

The highest total combined runs in a half inning for the entire World Series wins the pool.

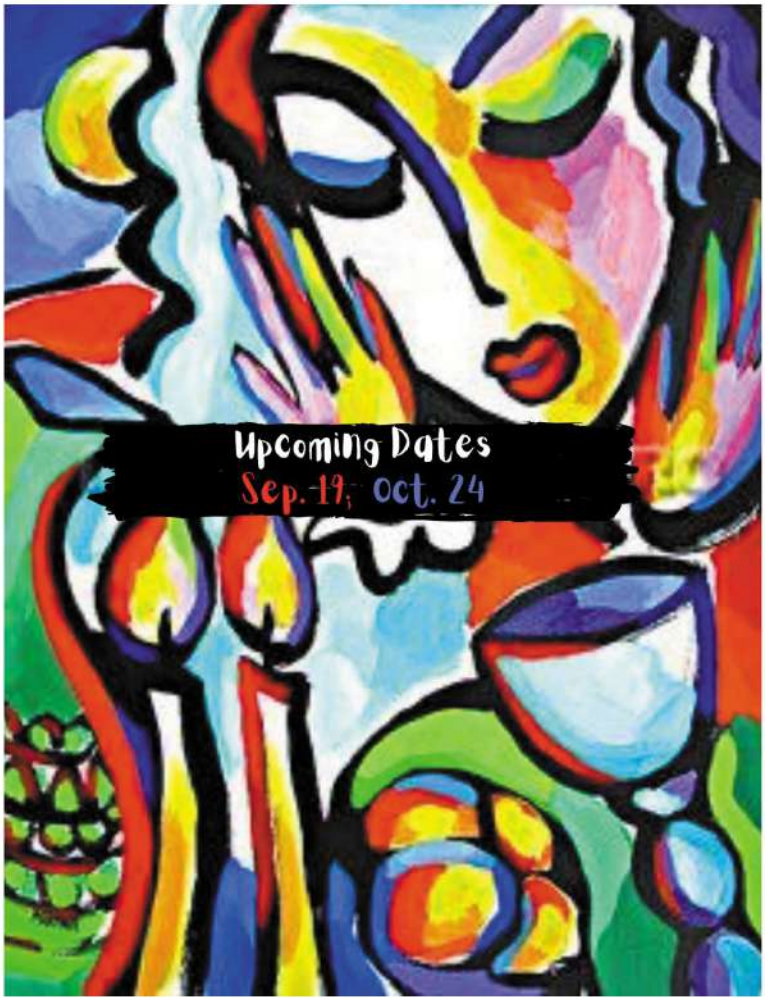
CBI gets 50% of the total contribution, and the remainder goes to the winner(s). In the case of a tie for total runs in a half inning at the end of the World Series, total prize money will be split equally between the winners.

All runs scored in the bottom of the 9th inning or later are not considered in the pool.

In the very unlikely event that a game does not go to 8 ½ innings, all runs scored in that official game will be counted in the pool.

Any runs scored in an unofficial game that is not continued will not be counted.

Note that your half inning will allow you to get runs from both the American and the National League, depending on which team is home for each game.



Musical Kabbalat Shabbat @CBI

Join us these Friday nights

August 1

Sep. 19

Oct. 24

@7:30 PM

Oneg to follow services

Bring your friends and family

cbi Presents

BACK TO JEWISH SCHOOL

WITH RABBI ABE

Wednesdays @ 8 PM
On Zoom by clicking here

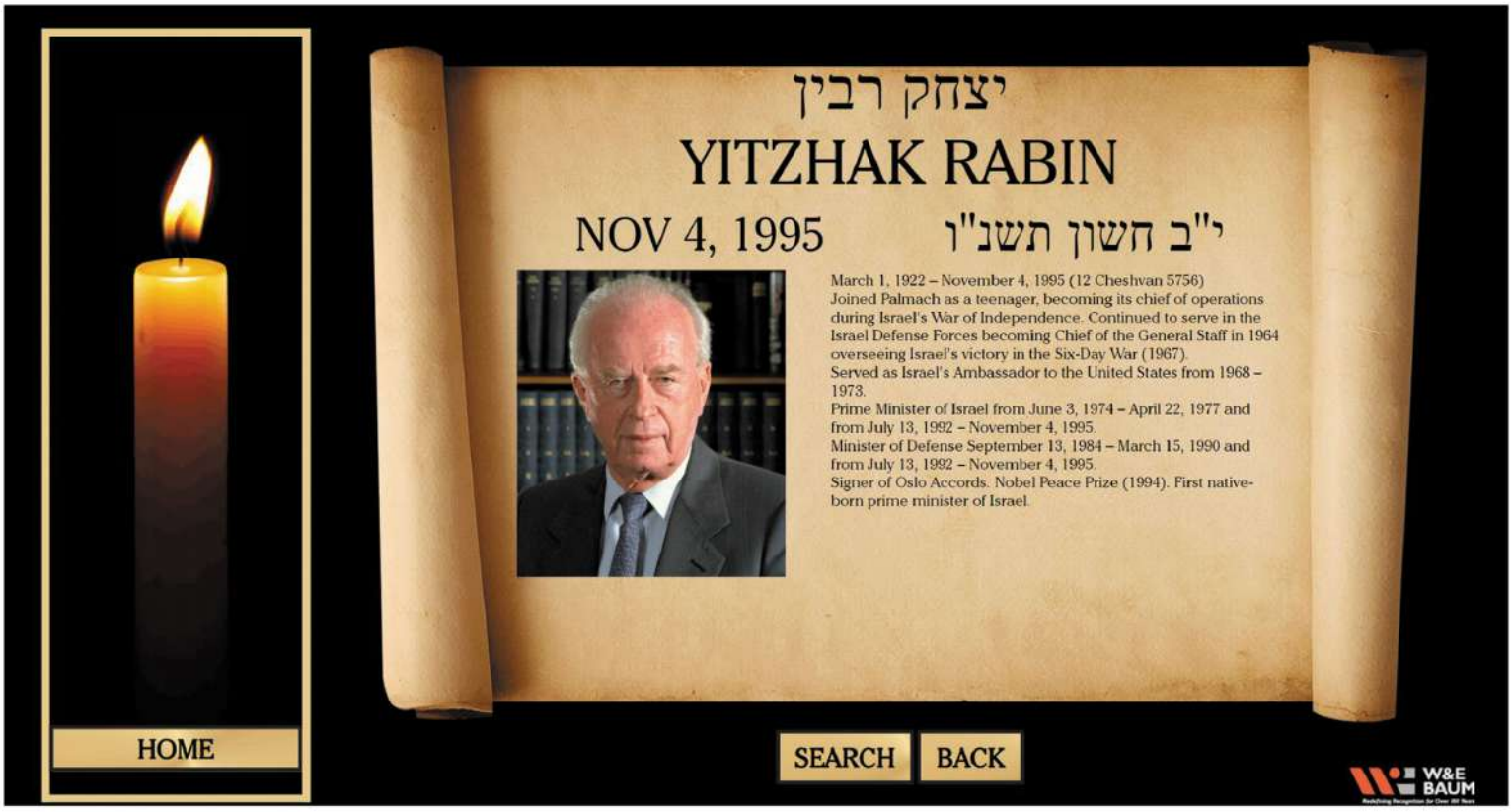
CBI Game Day: MAHJONG
Every Tuesday @noon at CBI
All Levels Welcome
Cover: $5
Bring your
kosher lunch and friends
RSVP by Monday to
Judi Slatsky at
jels244@aol.com
or 917-575-5443

SPONSOR A KIDDUSH OR
ONEG IN CBI'S REVAMPED
SOCIAL HALL
FOR MORE INFORMATION
CALL/TEXT 917-446-7983

This could be you being thanked for sponsoring a Kiddush at CBI

"I'm not losing my memory. I'm living in the now."

Come on, laugh a little 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

August Yahrzeits

Ida Rothman	8-7	Isidore Becker	8-21
Susan Zalkin	8-7	Doris Schachter	8-22
David J. Atlas	8-9	Milton Levine	8-22
George Baker	8-11	Paul Rossman	8-25
Pearl Gottleib	8-12	Abe Janvey	8-27
Alexander Goldberg	8-13	Ruth Guberman	8-28
Saul Steinger	8-13	Rose Shulman	8-28
Max Weisman	8-13	Gayla Louzin	8-29
Lee Louzin	8-14	Albert Etterman	8-31
Bella Wolff	8-18	Stanley Leeper	8-31

In Memoriam & Yahrzeit Donations

Barbara Kaufman: yahrzeit of my mother Florence L. Slossberg
Sondra Bernstein: yahrzeit of my father, David Volin
Matilda Lovinger: yahrzeit of my father, Samuel Herscovicci
Amy Zaum: yahrzeit of my father, Nathan Zaum
Shari & Irving Miljoner: general donation and in memorium
Roberta Bouer: Remembering my dad, Saul Bouer, on his yahrzeit

Other Donations

Ellen Zimel: general donation
Beth and Alan Levy: general donation

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

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

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