

CONGREGATION BETH JACOB

P.O. Box 3284

Plymouth, MA 02361

508-746-1575

[www.cbjplymouth.org](http://www.cbjplymouth.org)

# The Newsletter of Congregation Beth Jacob

מה-מנו אהליך. יעקב. משכנתך. ישראל!

“How lovely are your tents, O Jacob, your dwelling places, O Israel!”

**JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2014**

## PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

Dear CBJ Congregants,

Hanukkah this year was celebrated along with Thanksgiving...the last time that the first day of Hanukkah fell on Thanksgiving was in 1888. And by the way, I hope that everyone had a joyous Hanukkah and a delicious Thanksgiving! This particular alignment of Thanksgiving and Hanukkah will not happen again in our lifetimes. So what can we take away from this special occurrence? What do Thanksgiving and Hanukkah have in common?

At Thanksgiving we remember and celebrate the Pilgrims’ difficult journey to escape religious persecution for freedom in a new land and the establishment of a democracy. Sound familiar? At Hanukkah we recall the story of the Jewish people fighting back against religious oppression in our land, earning our freedom, and thanking God for these miracles. Both holidays could be summed up by saying, “Thank God we’re free!” It was pointed out in an article I read about Thanksgiving and Hanukkah that Thanksgiving is a national holiday, not a religious holiday. But for many of us there is religious significance in Thanksgiving. If we can identify with the journey of the Pilgrims, and when we think of America and the land of opportunity and liberty, then we acknowledge that we are free, and we rejoice at thanking God for that.

So for Jews in America this year, we thanked God twice for our religious freedom – once in celebration of the Pilgrims and once in celebration of the Jewish people. I find that thought to be very uplifting!

I found this short quote on Chabad.org written by Rabbi Tzvi Freeman, a senior editor at Chabad.org:

### Free At Last

Hi, America, I’m Thanksgiving.

And I’m also Chanukah.

Hold my hand.

Take a deep breath.

Exhale.

Now say, “Thank God, we’re free.”

Doesn’t that feel good?

Shalom,

*Christine Burke*

President, CBJ

## HOLIDAYS

5774

Jan 16, Tu Bi Sh’vat

Mar 16, Purim

Apr 14 First Seder

*Holidays begin at sundown on the evening before the dates listed.*



### Inside this issue:

|  |   |
|--|---|
| President’s Message                      | 1 |
| Rabbi’s Message                          | 2 |
| Beit Sefer News<br>Hebrew & Confirmation | 3 |
| Sisterhood News<br>Onegs                 | 4 |
| Brotherhood News                         | 5 |
| PTO News                                 | 5 |
| Donations                                | 6 |
| Yahrzeits                                | 7 |
| Calendar                                 | 8 |
| Ad Page                                  | 9 |

"Earth Day" is a fairly recent addition to the civil calendar. This special day, focusing on taking care of our planet, Earth, is observed in April.

Tu Bishvat (the 15th day of the Jewish month of Sh'vat), also called the "New Year of the Trees," is Jewish tradition's equivalent of "Earth Day." Like many things Jewish, Tu Bishvat is an ancient observance that takes on all kinds of new meanings in today's world. Whether we read the Genesis account of Creation or a scientific journal, one thing is obvious: Before human beings lived on this planet, there were trees, as well as birds, water-dwelling animals, and many other living things. When humanity comes into the picture, according to the Torah, we assume a great responsibility to take care of the world in which we live. As Molly Cone writes: "The Torah includes directions on planting and harvesting, caring and feeding of animals, and maintaining the health of the land as well as that of the community." Among these instructions is the commandment "Bal Tashchit," which means "Do not destroy." Again, Molly Cone: "It is prohibited to cut down

fruit-bearing trees [even your enemy's], to plug up a spring, to pile up wastes near a dwelling, and to let grapes wither on the vine." The Torah teaches us not to waste anything -- just as our grandparents used to tell us! That these ideas about the environment should be part of a religion as ancient as Judaism really should come as no surprise.

Tu Bishvat, this year, falls on the civil calendar date of January 16th.

-- Rabbi Lawrence

### **LIMUD TORAH / TORAH STUDY GROUP**

We are in the midst of studying the works of several notable Jewish thinkers of the 20th Century. We begin January with a continuing discussion of the philosophy of Rabbi Emil Fackenheim. Our conversations are lively and informative. (Please see the CBJ Weekly Update to keep informed as we move on to our next subject-for-study. The Weekly Update will also note possible, rare changes in our schedule.) While Hebrew is always helpful, our texts are in English. We meet most Monday mornings, from 8:30 to 10:00, at the Synagogue. New participants are always welcome. Meetings in January and February are planned for the following dates (all Mondays, with occasional breaks for Monday holidays): January 6, 13, and 27; and February 3, 10, and 24.

## BEIT SEFER NEWS

Matriarchs Unit - Special thanks to Barbara Aharoni, Jeremy Kusmin, Ashley Burke, and Christine Burke for portraying our four Matriarchs. They made these important women come alive for our children. At the end of the unit, each class made a beautiful Matriarch poster and shared it with the rest of the children.

"Herschel and the Hanukkah Goblins" at CBJ - Congratulations to Elissa Davis and her 5th & 6th graders for their wonderful performance of this favorite Hanukkah story at our Simcha Shabbat in November.

CBJ Hanukkah Party - Once again, the annual CBJ Hanukkah Party was a great success with good company, fun activities, and lots of latkes! Thank you to the PTO for organizing this wonderful celebration!

Beit Sefer Bulletin Board - Make sure to check out the students' work on display on the bulletin board as you enter the Vestry.

Attendance Policy Reminder - Students must attend a minimum of 75% of scheduled classes. This allows for 5 Beit Sefer absences during the year. Speak to the Laura Finkel if your child is having difficulty meeting this attendance requirement. We will be happy to work with you, but ask that you take the first step. Also remember that children are expected to attend 4 Shabbat services during the school year. If they can't make it to our Simcha Shabbat, they can get credit for attending another Shabbat service. Consider reaching out to the parents of your child's classmates to see if they can help with transportation.

### Upcoming Dates -

December 22<sup>nd</sup>, 29<sup>th</sup>, & January 5<sup>th</sup> - No Beit Sefer - School Vacation

Friday, January 10<sup>th</sup> - Simcha Shabbat

January 12<sup>th</sup> - Tu B'Shevat unit

January 19<sup>th</sup> - No Beit Sefer - Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday

January 26<sup>th</sup> - Literature unit, part 2

February 2<sup>nd</sup> - Literature unit, part 2

Friday, February 7<sup>th</sup> - Simcha Shabbat

February 9<sup>th</sup> - Literature unit, part 2

February 16<sup>th</sup> - No Beit Sefer - School Vacation

February 23<sup>rd</sup> - No Beit Sefer - School Vacation

March 1<sup>st</sup>—Pizza & Havdalah

### **CONFIRMATION CLASS 10:25—11:25:**

January 12<sup>th</sup>

January 26<sup>th</sup>

February 9<sup>th</sup>

## CONGREGATION BETH JACOB EXECUTIVE BOARD

Christine Burke – President

Open – Vice President

Paula Keller – Recording Secretary

Sheila Finer – Corresponding Secretary

Brian Duckman – Treasurer

Alan Koplan – Assistant Treasurer

Carl Finer - Member-at-Large

Len Freed - Member-at-Large

Melissa Goldbach - Member-at-Large

Steve Goldberg - Member-at-Large

Jeremy Kusmin - Member-at-Large

Ronnie Hirschhorn - Member-at-Large

## BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Brian Duckman

Arnold Gladstein

Larry Winokur

**SISTERHOOD NEWS:**

**Get out your calendars and mark the following events down to save the dates for the following fun activities!**

Dinner & a Movie—Tuesday, January 7th— Irene Sarke—Chair 7:00 movie - Early dinner - Watch your e-mails after New Year's for more info

Pound Auction—Saturday, February 8th Going, going, gone! Yes, you got it, the perennial favorite Pound Auction. This is one of Sisterhood's main fundraisers so mark your calendar for Saturday, February 8<sup>th</sup>. You will be asked to bring an appetizer or dessert and items beautifully wrapped or bagged to be auctioned off. Paula Keller will serve as mistress of ceremonies. This is an adult only event. We can guarantee a seat to the first 40 people to RSVP. Sisterhood will provide soda, coffee and tea as well as snacks for the table. This is a BYOB event.

Annual Donor Luncheon, Sunday, May 18th

We are looking for activities for March and April. If you have an activity that you would like to see happen please let either Suzanne Goldberg [sgold3016@aol.com](mailto:sgold3016@aol.com) or [PMAKeller@aol.com](mailto:PMAKeller@aol.com) know.

We are meeting once a month for Torah Study with Rabbi Silverman. The next meeting is Monday, January 13<sup>th</sup> @ 11:00 a.m. at the Temple.

**\*\*REMINDER— A SISTERHOOD PRESIDENT IS STILL NEEDED IF ANYONE WOULD LIKE TO VOLUNTEER!\*\* (and as you can see most of the year is set with fun activities making the job a cinch!)**

ONEGS FOR JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2014 - Many dates still available! Contact Susan Solomon at [bunnienu@gmail.com](mailto:bunnienu@gmail.com) to sign up for one of the open dates below.

January 3rd Sherri & Ed Sore

January 10th Jeff Isaacson

January 17th Elayne Kalaminsky in Memory of her father

January 24th

January 31st

February 7th Cindy Teles/Paula Keller in Honor of Seth Teles Birthday

February 14th

February 21st Suzanne & Steve Goldberg in Honor of their 45th wedding anniversary

February 28th

Deadline for the March/April TENT is February 10th. Articles and news may be submitted to Robin Kirby at [robink12@verizon.net](mailto:robink12@verizon.net) and are accepted earlier than the deadline. Please note that the deadline is just that a deadline. I would like to keep the issues of the TENT coming out the last week of the month prior to the TENT issue so congregants that wish to attend upcoming events know of them in advance.

Thank you in advance for your understanding,

Robin Kirby, Editor

## BROTHERHOOD NEWS

On December 1st we had the privilege of having State Treasurer Steve Grossman come to our Brotherhood Breakfast. Considering the "challenged" group confronting him in front of our "sumptuous" breakfast table, he was intelligent, caring, patient and generous with his time. One of our "Republican brethren" was quoted saying to his wife that "I may have met the first Democrat that I would consider voting for." It was, in fact, one of our best breakfasts yet.....and most of you weren't there to appreciate it. Such is life! I do hope you enjoyed your dry cereal..... A great big thanks to Carl Finer (for getting our distinguished speaker) and (as usual) Arnold Gladstein for his "hands on" with the eggs and onions and Jay John for the "fab" home fries. Kudos to our Sister brethren (Alyce Gladstein, Arlene Pierce, Suzanne Goldberg and Ronnie Hirschhorn for the scrumptious desserts. More thanks to Len Freed and yours truly for co-sponsoring this memorable event. It was all quite delicious and entertaining.

Again a great big thanks to Arnold (can we just drag this guy out of the kitchen for heavens sake...) for helping Cindy make enough latkes to feed the 1st Air Calvary. They were wonderful, and Ronnie Hirschhorn once again supplemented this glorious Sisterhood/Brotherhood Chanukah party with her delicious homemade applesauce. Then there was Yosi providing the evenings musical entertainment for all to participate and enjoy. Thanks Yosi! Alyce was there with another yummy dessert. I'm sure there were others, but this aging brain tissue won't help in remembering who....

We are still looking to enhance our membership roll with invigorating, thoughtful, intelligent men. Or.....you can just be shallow like the rest of us, and do the best you can while trying to get through the laughter to "get things done" at our meetings. As you may surmise, our standards are not very high, but we still manage to have a good time while helping our synagogue survive.

There will be future "sumptuous breakfasts" planned. There will be a Bingo Night/Pot Luck Dinner planned. There will be other "stuff" planned. But that's for another time, another year....hope yours (from your CBJ Brotherhood) is a happy and healthy one.

As always.....

Dan (always fearless, never quite serious leader) Hirschhorn

## PTO NEWS

Meetings will be held on the following Sundays from 10:00—11:00 a.m. Agenda items will include the Purim Carnival on March 16, possible fundraiser on April 6th and a possible joint program with another Congregation's school age children.

January 12th

February 9th

March 9th

## DONATIONS

### Yahrzeit Fund

Shamir Arye in Memory of Dr. Shamir  
 Richard & Susan Breslow in Memory of Pearl Breslow  
 Deborah Cohen in Memory of Harris Cohen  
 Deborah Cohen in Memory of Rose Cohen  
 Carl & Sheila Finer in Memory of Leo Abramson, Henry Feinberg & Jean Feinberg  
 Lauren & Mark Goldberg—in Memory of Frank Goldberg  
 Stephen & Suzanne Goldberg in Memory of Abraham and Bertha Goldberg  
 Paula & Joe Keller—in Memory of Manny Arons  
 Burton Matross in Memory of Samuel and Minna Matross  
 Louis & Melvin Klasky in Memory of Jack Minsky  
 Bernard Resnick—in Memory of his mother, Pauline  
 William Richter in Memory of Barbara Goldstein Richter  
 William Richter in Memory of Sylvia Richter  
 David Rodman—Memorial  
 Richard Rothstein in Memory of Gloria Rothstein  
 Richard Rothstein in Memory of Frederick Klein  
 Fred Sarke—in Memory of Al Sarke  
 Francine Shelly in Memory of Tina Liss  
 Sherri Sore—in Memory of E. Broom  
 Lois & Arnold Weiss—Yarzeitc  
 Jacqueline Winokur—in Memory of Adeline Winokur

### General Fund

Richard Breslow—for Phillip Ratick  
 Stephen & Susan Goldberg—60th anniversary of Arnold & Alyce Gladstein  
 Jerome Haller Donation  
 AW & H Goodman Donation  
 Susanne Wittenberg—Dad

### Resnick Family Education Fund

Bernard Resnick in Memory of Louis Resnick  
 Bernard Resnick in Memory of Stanley/Alice

### Tree of Life Leaf

Deborah Cohen—In Memory of Harris and Rose Cohen

### Sarah and Abraham Sherman Fund

Rose Geller in Honor of the Hundredth Birthday of Bedonna Ashapa  
 Rose Geller in Memory of Mrs. Judith Arishman  
 Rose Geller in Memory of Mrs. Ann Stein Zimon

### Misc

Susan Basiri—Tzedakah Mildred Goldberg  
 Rose Geller in Honor of the 50th Wedding Anniversary of Dr. & Mrs. Alan Geller  
 Sherman Geller in Honor of Rose Gellers 95th Birthday  
 Russell & Colleen Neitlich—Carole Neitlich Memorial for Early Childhood Education—Special funds for Jewish Education of Children

### PLEASE NOTE:

Contributions to the Rabbi's Mitzvah Fund are always welcome and, during the winter months, are especially needed. Checks should be made payable to "CBJ-Rabbi's Mitzvah Fund" and sent to the Rabbi's attention at P.O. Box 3284, Plymouth, MA 02361. Please include your dedication instructions. A note will be sent to the person (s) honored by your gift or to the family of someone in whose memory a contribution is made.

## HINENI

The Brotherhood and Sisterhood of Congregation Beth Jacob are continuing (Hineni) to provide one-time or short-term services to congregants. To this end, a number of congregants have volunteered to provide rides, meals, and other similar assistance as needed and requested.

For examples, rides to Temple for services, programs, and meetings as well as to appointments can be arranged. Meals will also be provided on a limited basis.

## Yahrzeits During January/February

Please note: Yahrzeit observance begins the evening preceding the date shown.

### Yahrzeits for January & February

(Observance begins the evening preceding date shown)

#### JANUARY

2 Mendel Aranowitz  
 3 Rebecca Shriber  
 4 Ruth Bornstein Strauss  
 4 Emil N. Winkler  
 5 Louis Policow  
 6 Joseph Rains  
 6 Samuel Resnick  
 7 Philip Aranowitz  
 8 Charles Ginsburg  
 8 Fred Greenbaum  
 8 Michel Toabe  
 8 Lawrence Friedman  
 9 Seymore Horenstein  
 9 Annie Mankoff  
 10 Shirley Greenbaum  
 10 Charles Righter  
 11 Hannah Cooper  
 12 Manuel Kalaminsky  
 12 Angy Moore  
 13 Bernard Riback  
 14 Morris Rodman  
 15 Mae Hirschhorn  
 16 Sadie Stein  
 17 Ida Resnick  
 18 Kay Levenson-Meltzer  
 23 Abraham Toabe  
 24 Myer Meyer  
 24 Rina Shamir (nee Strumsky)

24 Ethel Berger  
 24 Roberta Lipetz  
 25 Hilda Keil Toabe  
 27 Frank Gladstein  
 28 Harry Dorph  
 28 Adele Pevzner  
 29 Arthur Rosenblum  
 31 Ida Penn

#### FEBRUARY

2 Jeanne Gurwitch  
 4 Saul Sokolow  
 5 David Schwartz  
 5 Max Shriber  
 6 Robert Arons  
 7 Sumner Robinson  
 9 Marcus Solomon  
 15 I. Harry Keller  
 16 Betty Balton  
 17 Elizabeth Rains  
 17 Joseph Harris  
 21 Barbara Hirschhorn  
 26 Albert Roth  
 27 Phillip Van West  
 28 Charlotte Lippman  
 (NOTE: Because this is a leap-year in the Jewish calendar, Yahrzeits that belong to the month of Adar are observed in this year's Second Month of Adar which, this year, roughly coincides with March.



*"May the Memory of each one abide as a Blessing"*

#### Notes on Yahrzeit observance:

Some customs associated with Yahrzeit observance are: lighting a memorial candle at home in the evening at the beginning of the Yahrzeit period; saying Kaddish during a Shabbat service close to the Yahrzeit; donating to a charity or one of CBJ's special funds in memory of the one whose Yahrzeit is being observed.

#### Members, Guests and Friends of CBJ:

I am happy to remind you of a program that we offer at Congregation Beth Jacob to inform fellow Jews: both members and their families and friends of CBJ, of the annual yahrzeit dates of their loved ones. Once you have supplied the names and dates (either Hebrew or English) of those whom you wish to remember, you will receive notification approximately three weeks in advance of the yahrzeit date. There is no charge for this service. We feel that it's important to supply this service to all interested Jews.

I realize that our members have furnished this information when they joined CBJ. We ask those of you who have not done so to supply this information again so we can be sure our records are up-to-date and accurate. This program is separate from your listings in our annual Yizkor Book of Remembrance.

Please send this information to:

Congregation Beth Jacob  
 Attn: Arnold Gladstein  
 P O Box 3284  
 Plymouth, MA 02361

#### \*\*\*HOW TO REACH US AT CBJ\*\*\*

508-746-1575

(Messages can be left here)

Rabbi Silverman can be reached at 508-746-0010 during Calling Hours and in Case of Emergency (Confidential messages can be left at this number).

Exception: When one knows that Rabbi Silverman is at the Synagogue, for example, for Hebrew School or Bar/Bat Mitzvah lessons, then it makes sense to try the Synagogue number first.

#### RABBI SILVERMAN'S CALLING HOURS:

Rabbi Silverman observes Calling Hours on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 10am - noon. In case of emergency, messages may always be left at 508-746-0010.

## JANUARY 2014

| Sun                                       | Mon                          | Tue                                    | Wed               | Thu | Fri  | Sat |
|---|------------------------------|--|-------------------|-----|--|-----|
|   |                              |  | 1 HAPPY NEW YEAR! | 2   | 3 Shabbat Service<br>7:30pm<br>Oneg: Sherri & Ed Sore    | 4   |
| 5   | 6                            | 7 Sisterhood Meeting<br>Dinner & Movie | 8                 | 9   | 10 Simchat Shabbat<br>Services<br>7:30 Jeff Isaacson     | 11  |
| 12 9:45 Beit Seifer<br>10:25 Confirmation | 13                           | 14                                     | 15                | 16  | 17 Shabbat Service 7:30<br>pm<br>Oneg: Elayne Kalaminsky | 18  |
| 19  | 20                           | 21                                     | 22                | 23  | 24 Shabbat Service<br>7:30pm<br>Oneg:                    | 25  |
| 26 9:45 Beit Seifer<br>10:25 Confirmation | 27 7:00 CBJ Board<br>Meeting | 28                                     | 29                | 30  | 31 Shabbat Service<br>7:30pm<br>Oneg:                    |     |

## FEBRUARY 2014

| Sun                                      | Mon                          | Tue                       | Wed | Thu | Fri   | Sat                                |
|--|------------------------------|---------------------------|-----|-----|---|------------------------------------|
|  |                              |                           |     |     |   | 1                                  |
| 2 9:45 Beit Seifer                       | 3                            | 4 7:00 Sisterhood Meeting | 5   | 6   | 7 Simchat Shabbat<br>Service 7:30pm<br>Oneg: Cindy Teles/Paula Keller | 8 6:30 Pound Auction               |
| 9 9:45 Beit Seifer<br>10:25 Confirmation | 10                           | 11                        | 12  | 13  | 14 Shabbat Service<br>7:30pm<br>Oneg:                                 | 15                                 |
| 16                                       | 17                           | 18                        | 19  | 20  | 21 Shabbat Service<br>7:30pm<br>Oneg: Suzanne & Steve Goldberg        | 22                                 |
| 23                                       | 24 7:00 CBJ Board<br>Meeting | 25                        | 26  | 27  | 28 Shabbat Service<br>7:30pm<br>Oneg:                                 | March 1st<br>5:30 Pizza & Havdalah |
|  |                              |                           |     |     |   |                                    |

*Holidays begin at sundown on the evening before the dates listed.*



BARBARA A. LEVINE-DAVID R. DECTER-PAUL R. LEVINE 1921-2003

CHAPELS  
**LEVINE**

COMMITTED TO SERVICE

470 Harvard Street • Brookline, MA • 617-277-8300 • 800-367-3708

*Kingston Animal Hospital*



192 Main Street • Kingston, MA 02364 • (781) 585-6525  
www.kingstonAH.com

*Over a half century of hospitality and caring  
for the pets of the South Shore.*



**KUSMIN  
FAMILY**

NEW HOMES • RENOVATIONS • RESTORATION

**BUILDERS** Plymouth, MA  
kusmine@hotmail.com  
617-201-2714

**DOYLE & MINSKY FINANCIAL, LLC**  
INSURANCE & INVESTMENT SOLUTIONS

**Jarad Minsky**  
Financial Adviser\*

175 Derby Street, Suite 8  
Hingham, MA 02043  
P: 781.741.8602  
F: 781.741.8601  
jarad@doyleandminsky.com  
www.doyleandminsky.com

Since 1952

**CAPE AUTO**

SERVICE • COLLISION • SALES  
Plymouth, MA

David Gallerani

Service Center: 93 Samoset Street (Rt. 44)  
(508) 746-0339  
Fax (508) 746-1158  
www.apeautobody.com

Collision Center: 115 Sandwich Street (Rt. 3A)  
(508) 747-0316  
Fax (508) 747-9815



33 Haven Road  
Plymouth MA 02360  
(508) 224-1942  
www.ncbfinersales.com  
ncbfiner@yahoo.com

DUNS 830483462

**NCB FINER SALES**


Unique Products for Challenging Times

The **FIXER** [www.callthefixer.net](http://www.callthefixer.net)

insured

**Handyman Service**

Mark Darling  
Carver, Ma. (774)271-0174  
No job too small



Plymouth-Bridgewater Eye Care, Inc.  
Dr. Sherman Geller  
Optometrist

27 Court Street Plymouth, MA 02360  
Tel/Fax: 508-746-2080

54 Broad Street Bridgewater, MA 02324  
Tel/Fax: 508-697-8001

"We take your eyes to heart"