



CONGREGATION BETH JACOB

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# The Newsletter of Congregation Beth Jacob

מה-טבו אהליך. יעקב. משכנתיך. ישראל!

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

**JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2015**

## HOLIDAYS

5775

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

February 4 Tu Bshvat

March 5 Purim



## RABBI'S MESSAGE

Dear CBJ Congregants,

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.

The holiday occurs when there is a full moon, close to mid-winter in the northern hemisphere. It is a reminder that trees and, for that matter, all kinds of growing things, are renewing themselves at this time -- and a reminder that we should build upon this occasion to seek renewal for ourselves as well.

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.

Trees and humans and the multitudes of living things that share this planet with us: All of us need clean water, clean air, and many other natural resources to survive.

Tu Bishvat, the fifteenth of Sh'vat, this year, begins on the evening of February 3rd...--

Shalom,

Rabbi Silverman

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**BEIT SEFER NEWS**

Beit Sefer News

During that past few months, our children have completed units about Creation, Jews in America, Joseph, and Famous Jews. For these units, they have had the opportunity to read, discuss, view videos, and create crafts. As we move forward, we will complete our Judaism in the Home unit. This unit provides a real opportunity for families to get involved. Parents are encouraged to incorporate Jewish traditions in their home. Try lighting the candles on Friday night, reciting the blessings, or even going on a scavenger hunt for kosher foods at the grocery store. These are just a few ideas to help your children make connections to what they are learning each week at Sunday School.

Upcoming Dates:

January 4 <sup>th</sup>	No Beit Sefer - School Vacation
Friday, Jan. 9 <sup>th</sup>	Simcha Shabbat @ 7:30
January 11 <sup>th</sup>	Famous Jews unit
January 18 <sup>th</sup>	No Beit Sefer - Martin Luther King, Jr. weekend
January 25 <sup>th</sup>	Judaism in the Home unit
February 1 <sup>st</sup>	Judaism in the Home unit
Friday, Feb. 6 <sup>th</sup>	Simcha Shabbat @ 7:30
February 8 <sup>th</sup>	Judaism in the Home unit
February 15 <sup>th</sup>	No Beit Sefer - School Vacation
February 22 <sup>nd</sup>	No Beit Sefer - School Vacation

**Confirmation Dates 10:25-11:25**

- January 11th**
- January 25th**
- February 8th**
- March 1st**
- March 15th help with Purim Carnival**

Hanukkah Party - The synagogue was alive with music, games, and of course LOTS of yummy latkes. This event would not have occurred without the efforts of Noelle Bashore, Brian Duckman, and Jeremy Kusmin. Thank you for planning this fantastic party.

\* **IMPORTANT** - Now we are looking for parents who are willing to plan the Purim Carnival, which is scheduled for Sunday, March 15<sup>th</sup>. Jeff Isaacson said he would be willing to "consult" with the planning as needed. Please remember that this special event will not occur if parents don't step up and get involved. Contact Laura Finkel for more information.

**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

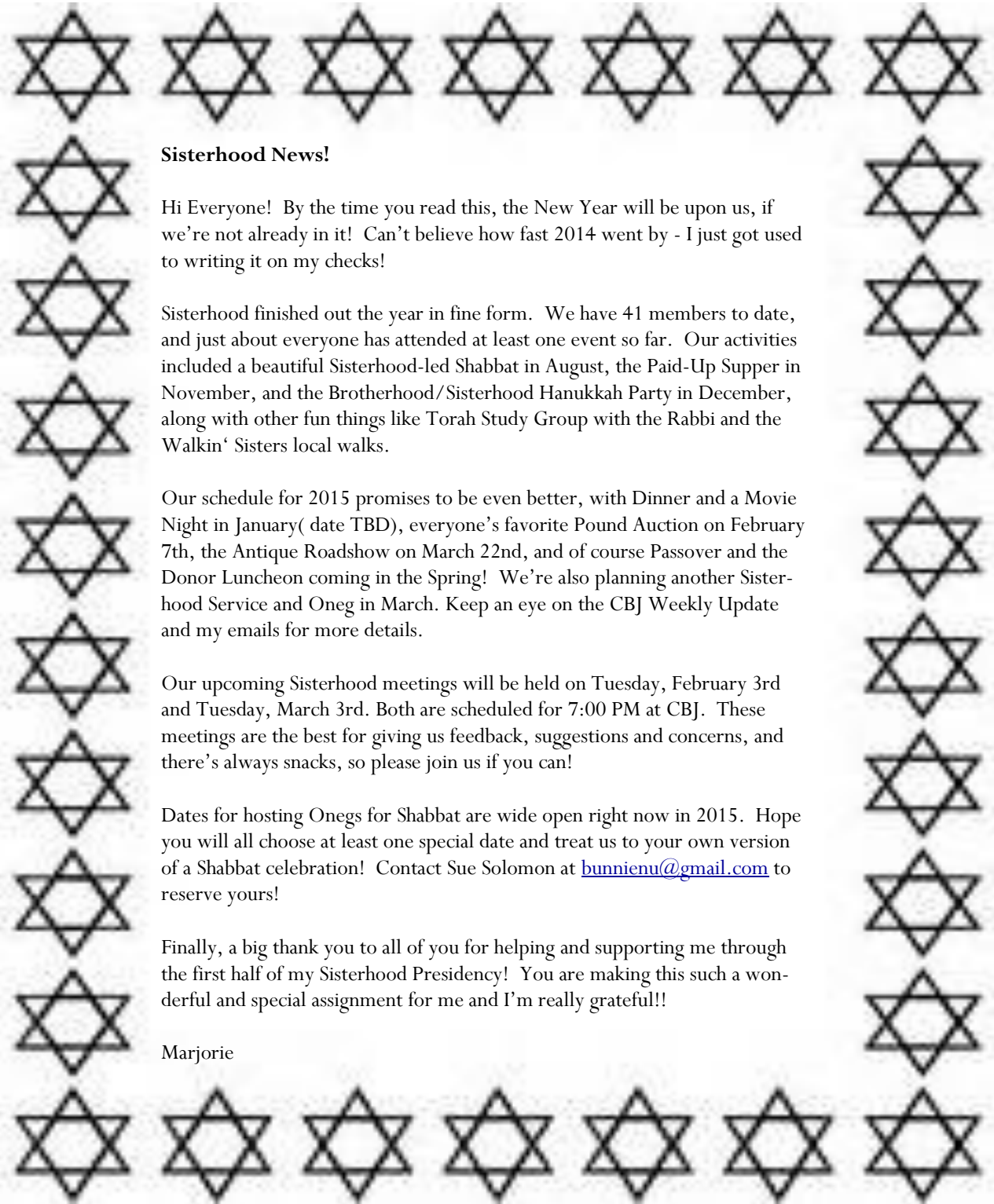
- Carl Finer - Member-at-Large
- Len Freed - Member-at-Large
- Melissa Goldbach - Member-at-Large
- Jeremy Kusmin - Member-at-Large
- Ronnie Hirschhorn - Member-at-Large

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

- Brian Duckman
- Arnold Gladstein
- Larry Winokur



**WELCOME NEW MEMBER:** WENDY PULJANOWSKI AND DAUGHTER EMILY FROM CARVER



**Sisterhood News!**

Hi Everyone! By the time you read this, the New Year will be upon us, if we're not already in it! Can't believe how fast 2014 went by - I just got used to writing it on my checks!

Sisterhood finished out the year in fine form. We have 41 members to date, and just about everyone has attended at least one event so far. Our activities included a beautiful Sisterhood-led Shabbat in August, the Paid-Up Supper in November, and the Brotherhood/Sisterhood Hanukkah Party in December, along with other fun things like Torah Study Group with the Rabbi and the Walkin' Sisters local walks.

Our schedule for 2015 promises to be even better, with Dinner and a Movie Night in January( date TBD), everyone's favorite Pound Auction on February 7th, the Antique Roadshow on March 22nd, and of course Passover and the Donor Luncheon coming in the Spring! We're also planning another Sisterhood Service and Oneg in March. Keep an eye on the CBJ Weekly Update and my emails for more details.

Our upcoming Sisterhood meetings will be held on Tuesday, February 3rd and Tuesday, March 3rd. Both are scheduled for 7:00 PM at CBJ. These meetings are the best for giving us feedback, suggestions and concerns, and there's always snacks, so please join us if you can!

Dates for hosting Onegs for Shabbat are wide open right now in 2015. Hope you will all choose at least one special date and treat us to your own version of a Shabbat celebration! Contact Sue Solomon at [bunnienu@gmail.com](mailto:bunnienu@gmail.com) to reserve yours!

Finally, a big thank you to all of you for helping and supporting me through the first half of my Sisterhood Presidency! You are making this such a wonderful and special assignment for me and I'm really grateful!!

Marjorie



**DONATIONS****Yahrzeit Fund**

Carl & Sheila Finer in Memory of Leo Abramson  
Carl & Sheila Finer in Memory of Henry Feinberg  
Carl & Sheila Finer in Memory of Jean Feinberg  
Carl & Sheila Finer in Memory of Harold Finer  
Deborah Cohen in Memory of Harris Cohen

**GENERAL FUND****RESNICK FAMILY EDUCATION FUND****ESTELLE POKROSS AND HYMAN SHERMAN FUND****SARAH AND ABRAHAM SHERMAN FUND****MISC****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.

All congregant requests will be maintained in the strictest of confidentiality. Any requests for assistance should be directed to the program coordinator, Suzanne Goldberg @ 508-833-8896, or Rabbi Silverman @ 508-746-1575. Volunteers are always welcomed and needed.

## Yahrzeits During January/February

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

### Yahrzeits for January and February

(Observance begins the preceding evening)

#### January

- 1 Louis Coffman
- 5 William Smick
- 7 Louis Sherman
- 7 Rhoda Burstein
- 8 Faye Rothstein
- 8 Elaine Winter Brown
- 8 Ruth Ross
- 10 Helen Evans
- 10 Adeline Winokur
- 10 Irving Etkind
- 13 Ronald Goldberg
- 14 Edith Beatrice Kagan
- 14 Pauline Resnick
- 14 Philip Ratick
- 14 Frederick Klein
- 15 Jessica Pershing Strauss
- 16 John Jacob Marcus
- 17 Bessie Skulsky
- 17 Shirley Lubin
- 18 Hyman Aranowitz
- 21 Mendel Aranowitz
- 22 Rebecca Shriber
- 23 Ruth Bornstein Strauss
- 23 Emil N. Winkler
- 24 Louis Policow
- 25 Joseph Rains
- 25 Samuel Resnick

- 26 Philip Aranowitz
- 27 Charles Ginsburg
- 27 Fred Greenbaum
- 27 Michel Toabe
- 27 Lawrence Friedman
- 28 Seymore Horenstein
- 28 Annie Mankoff
- 29 Shirley Greenbaum
- 29 Charles Righter
- 30 Hannah Cooper
- 31 Manuel Kalaminsky
- 31 Angy Moore

#### February

- 1 Bernard Riback
- 2 Morris Rodman
- 3 Mae Hirschhorn
- 4 Sadie Stein
- 5 Ida Resnick
- 6 Kay Levenson-Meltzer
- 11 Abraham Toabe
- 12 Myer Meyer
- 12 Rina Shamir (nee Strumsky)
- 13 Ethel Berger
- 14 Hilda Keil Toabe
- 15 Frank Gladstein
- 17 Isadore Rothstein
- 17 Harry Dorph
- 17 Adele Pevzner
- 18 Arthur Rosenblum
- 19 Ida Penn



*"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 2015**

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2 7:30 Shabbat Services Oneg:	3
4 No Beit Sefer	5 11:00 Sisterhood Torah Study	6 Brotherhood Bowling	7	8	9 7:30 Simchat Shabbat Services Oneg: Jeff Isaacson	10
11 9:45 Beit Sefer 10:25 Confirmation	12	13	14	15	16 7:30 Shabbat Services Oneg:	17
18 No Beit Sefer	19	20 Brotherhood Bowling	21	22	23 7:30 Shabbat Service Adult Ed Program Oneg:	24
25 9:45 Beit Sefer 10:25 Confirmation	26 3:30 Sisterhood Torah Study—Check time with Rabbi 7:00 CBJ Board Meeting	27	28	29	30 7:30 Shabbat Service Oneg: Cindy Teles, Paula Keller, Sherri Sore	31

**FEBRUARY 2015**

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 9:45 Beit Sefer	2	3 7:00 Sisterhood Meet- ing Brotherhood Bowling	4	5	6 Simcha Shabbat 7:30pm Oneg:	7 6:30 Pound Auction
8 9:45 Beit Sefer	9	10	11	12	13 Shabbat Service 7:30pm Oneg:	14
15 No Beit Sefer	16	17 Brotherhood Bowling	18	19	20 Shabbat Service 7:30pm Oneg:	21
22 No Beit Sefer	23 7:00 CBJ Board Meeting	24	25	26	27 Shabbat Service 7:30pm Oneg:	28
March 1 9:45 Beit Sefer 10:25 Confirmation	March 2	March 3 7:00 Sisterhood Meeting	March 4	March 5 Purim	March 6	March 7

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

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

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