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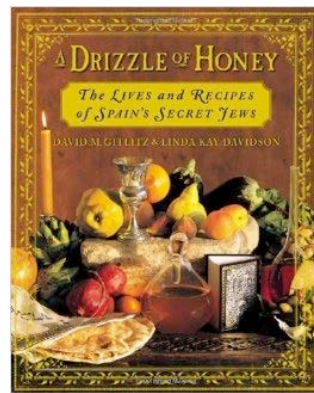
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UPCOMING EVENTS YOU WON'T WANT TO MISS

We continue to add new offerings and events (e.g. Annual Purim Carnival – see page 3) and are pleased that many of you are participating. Check out some of the programs and events that are coming up that are sure to be moving, inspirational and educational. All Programs are at CBD unless otherwise noted.

Yom Hashoah Program, April 12, 2015

We will hear from Al Silverstein who left Austria on the kindertransport during the war, plus hear a live performance of some of the music written and played in the concentration camps.



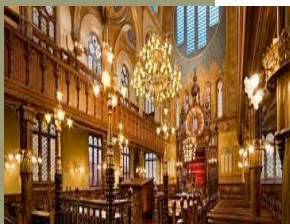
Authors David Gitlitz and Linda Kay Davidson

“A Drizzle of Honey” – May 31, 2015

Winner of a National Jewish Book Award, “Drizzle” is a fascinating combination of ten meticulously researched fictional stories — and recipes — of Jewish families in Spain during the Inquisition. Come meet and listen to the authors - you may even get to taste some authentic medieval Sephardic cooking! Program details will be forthcoming in future weekly CBD “What’s Happening” emails.

Tour of NYC Jewish Heritage Sites, June 14, 2015

CBD is organizing a day trip to New York City to tour the historic Tenement Museum and The Eldridge Street Synagogue. Both of these sites are of significant importance to Jewish heritage in the U.S. In between the tours you can have lunch at one of the well-known delicatessens in the area, such as Katz's. Transportation will be provided.



Contact Liz Karp at lizkarp1@gmail.com for more information. Space is limited and reservations are filling up.

Read more about the Museum and the Synagogue by going to www.tenement.org and www.eldridgestreet.org.

FROM RABBI ETHAN ADLER



In a few weeks, Jews throughout the world will be celebrating the Festival of Freedom, as stories of the Exodus take center stage. The official name for this holiday is Pesach (Passover in Hebrew). This refers to the narrative in the Torah, as well as the Haggadah, the Seder booklet, that describes how the Angel of Death "Passed Over" the houses of the Israelites, with their blood-marked doorposts, as the tenth plague, the death of the first-born of Egypt, reached its crescendo. Very soon after, the Israelite slaves were literally escorted out of Egypt, as they began their 40-year journey towards Canaan, the Promised Land.

As we celebrate this event, with all the accoutrements of the Seder meal, and all the symbolism which enhances its celebration, we are reminded

to appreciate the gift of freedom, given to the ancient slaves, as well as to us. Sitting around the holiday table, singing traditional songs and tasting familiar foods, we once again recognize and acknowledge the value of home, family and community.

When we dip the parsley in the salt water, we recall the tears shed by the slaves, as well as the saltiness of the Red Sea, which the Israelites crossed in a panic-stricken escape from the chariots of the Pharaoh, rushing to bring them back to Egypt, to building storage cities and other buildings. And when we dip the sharp horseradish into the sweet Charoset mixture, we concede that life itself is a mixture of sharp times and sweet times – hopefully more sweet than bitter. These special days certainly offer many valuable lessons. And, the English name of the holiday suggests a unique message as well. All too often we tend to "pass" "over" participating opportunities.

Every Friday evening (except the first Friday of the month) you have an opportunity to spend a spiritual hour or so in prayer,

song, camaraderie and a sweet Oneg. Don't "pass" this "over" too often.

The first Saturday of the month (and every Saturday in July & August) we gather to spend a couple of precious hours singing familiar melodies and engaging in Torah discussions; of course, followed by a sweet Kiddush. Don't "pass" this "over" too often.

On a regular basis, CBD members and the South County Jewish community are offered several opportunities for learning, sharing and discovering. Book Club, Essen & Lesson, Adult Bar/Bat Mitzvah, Kollel, Chabhad – just to name a few. Find something that interests you and don't "pass" it "over".

However, when you are "too tired" or "too busy" or "too whatever," that WOULD be a good time to "pass over" those feelings and come join us anyway!

Chag Sameach to all of you and may all of us, throughout the world, enjoy the gifts of freedom!

CBD'S DIRECTION – WHAT'S NEXT

Mission

We are an inclusive congregation that provides a supportive and welcoming environment in order to sustain and strengthen Jewish traditions, education, and sense of community.

Value Statements

We value Jewish traditions that are based on Conservative teachings and that are informed by our congregants' needs

We value lifelong Jewish learning and therefore provide a nurturing, inclusive educational experience, including programs, across all age groups and family settings

We value a strong sense of community engagement among our congregants and within the broader communities in which they live. We value **Tikkun Olam** and infuse that spirit into our social, religious, and community service activities and encourage our congregants to do the same.

We value inclusiveness and thus welcome members of all ages including, but not limited to, traditional Jewish families, mixed faith families, young and elderly singles, members of the LBGTQ community, guests and partial year residents, and students

During the High Holiday I mentioned that your Board of Directors would be preparing a strategic plan to move CBD forward in the new landscape in which today's synagogues operate. I also indicated that this is a process that takes some time and asked for everyone's patience. Well, after several months and many discussions, I am pleased to let you know that the Board is finalizing a strategic plan for our members' feedback. In the process, the board also looked at CBD's *mission statement* and, as a result, has updated the *mission statement* and prepared a set of accompanying *value statements*. These are presented here to the left.

Briefly, the strategy will include a cross-generational commitment to CBD members and to the Jewish community at large. CBD will strive to be the center of Jewish life in South County, and outreach will be a major focus. We know that there are many non-affiliated Jewish singles and families in South County, as well as many inter-faith families. We would like them to feel part of our welcoming Jewish community. Tikkun Olam will be a major part of our strategy and a new Tikkun Olam committee already is meeting and planning. There will be a focus on education for children and adults. We have a very active school committee that is developing new curriculum for our students. And, even though we have some good educational programs for adults through Kollel and Chabad, further development of our adult education programming will also be a priority.

The next step in the process, once the strategic plan is fully developed, is to get feedback from our members and others in the Jewish community. Over the next few months we will reach out through various means – surveys, face-to-face meetings, maybe even at a Shabbat luncheon! The Board of Directors and I look forward to your feedback!

Some people have asked me why is it necessary to spend a lot of time and effort to articulate our mission and value statements, and to develop a strategic plan. To some, because CBD is a small synagogue, we know what our members want and don't want, and everyone who does know us, loves us. The reality is that we don't necessarily know what our members, and the Jewish community as a whole, want from our synagogue. Synagogue life is changing dramatically and the needs of the Jewish community are changing. Taking the time to understand what is important to our members and the Jewish community at large is essential for CBD to address the future. Our mission and value statements will guide every decision we make for CBD, our members and the Jewish community at large.

Chag Sameach!
Harris Chorney, President

CBD'S FIRST ANNUAL PURIM CARNIVAL

CBD's first Purim Carnival was held on March 3, 2015 at the Narragansett Community Center. Over 40 children and a like number of adults came together to enjoy games, crafts, a live klezmer band, and to learn how to make hamentashen. This was CBD's first Purim Carnival and based on the overwhelming positive feedback you can be sure that this will be an annual event. Much appreciation goes out to the many volunteers who helped make the carnival a success, but a special thank you goes to the Purim Carnival Committee – Laurie Kaufman, Michelle Neri, Jason Krumholz and Emily Manz – whose tireless effort made this a day to remember. We hope you enjoy some of the pictures from the carnival.



Reading the Megillah with Miss Laurie



Putting desert sand in a bottle



Preparing for the Purim Carnival



Two Queen Esthers



Dancing to live Klezmer band



Learning how to make hamentashen



Haman being attacked!



Fun for all ages!



Face painting is always a favorite!

Spotlight on Hebrew school

*“Teach your child and you teach your child’s child.”
(from the Talmud)*



In the last issue of this newsletter, we said that the school year was off to a wonderful start. And indeed it was. We have had a busy and productive winter. Students celebrated Hanukkah with Rabbi Yossi Laufer, who engaged the children and their parents in the process of making oil. We participated in a special Tu B’Shevat seder, tasting wonderful fruits that come from trees. We enjoyed a fabulous Purim Carnival, complete with a Megillah reading, costumes, face-painting, hamentaschen and live Klezmer music. We are now preparing for Passover, retelling the ancient story of our freedom from slavery in Egypt, and discussing the continued quest for freedom today. We will continue learning about the seder and the haggadah.

In January we welcomed a second experienced teacher, Lev Poplow, to the Hebrew School faculty. He has helped us to provide more small group instruction on Wednesday afternoons and Sunday mornings. Sophie Ahava continues to join us as an assistant on Sunday mornings. She is a post-bat mitzvah from our own congregation who loves

working with children.

Our Israeli shaliach, Gilor Meshulam, continues to strengthen our students’ connection to Israel. They really enjoyed learning about Tu B’Shevat practices in Israel. We also held mock elections, to mirror those in Israel. In upcoming weeks, Gilor will be discussing Yom Ha Atzma’ut (Israel Independence Day) with the students.

Everyone continues to enjoy lively discussions about the Torah portions. We have been looking at what makes a hero, as we study not only Moses, but Joseph, Miriam, Esther, and Mordechai. To integrate Torah study with our Hebrew program, we have a new bulletin board feature, called “Who are these people?” Reading skills are practiced by sounding out the names of these people in Hebrew, then sharing what has been learned about the role they played in Jewish history.

As the students become more familiar with the prayers and their meanings, their confidence increases. They are learning about

shoreshim (roots) and are able to recognize these in our tefillah service during class, where they love to take turns as leaders. We have enjoyed two Friday night family services, one in November and one in January, with students helping Rabbi Adler. The students have done so well, and families have been so enthusiastic, that we are planning to include these services more often.

The little ones are continuing to enjoy our special PJ Kabbalat Shabbat, which is held on the third Friday of each month, from 5:45-7:00 pm. They are beginning to want to read from our child-friendly siddur, and their joyful singing is something to experience!

Finally, we have launched a new family e-news, complete with school highlights, student reflections on the Torah portions, things to try at home, and interesting website recommendations. We will soon be offering online Hebrew for students to share with their parents at home. It will coordinate with their Hebrew text.

It has been a very good year!

Stephanie Malinow, Chair
CBD School Committee

WE ARE GRATEFUL TO OUR MANY DONORS*

General Fund

Annual General Appeal

Steven & Hinda Kreiger
Stephen & Beverly Schneider

In Honor of Avi and Lisa Ahava's B'nei Mitzvot

Gladys Jacober
Nancy Chorney

In Honor of the Birth of Lindsey Corinne Doyle

Carole Robrish

In Honor of Gladys Jacober

Caryl Anderson
Helen Ginsberg
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Leon & Judith Missry

In Memory of Father Norbert Schmidek

Shelley Parness

In Memory of Father Walter Markin

Karen Markin

In Memory of Father Aaron Gissen

Liz Karp

In Memory of Harvey Malise

Joanne Malise

In Memory of Husband Harold Jacober

Gladys Jacober

In Memory of Mother-in-Law Mary Karp

Liz Karp

In Honor of Marilyn and Bob Moskol's 50th Wedding Anniversary

Michael & Susan Weiss
Nancy Chorney
Harris & Sally Chorney
Alan Chorney

In Honor of John and Laurie Kaufman and Family

Daniel & Paula Karp

In Honor of Levine Family

Esther & Steven Levine

In Honor of Rabbi Adler

Joshua Starr
Leon & Judith Missry

In Honor of Marion and Ray Irizarry's Anniversary

Allen & Judith Kronick

In Memory of Annie and Charles Steingold

Larry Steingold

In Memory of Irwin Covinsky

Hope & Joel Rittner

In Memory of Jeffrey, Karen & Eric Jacober

Gladys Jacober
Nancy Chorney

In Memory of Marion Myer's Son, Aharon Klum

Sally and Harris Chorney

In Memory of Miriam Klein

Lori Adler

In Memory of Arline Bunny Feldman

Carole Robrish

In Memory of Bertha and Henry Jacober

Gladys Jacober

In Memory of Brother Myron Myerson

Edward & Anne Grossman

In Memory of Manny Seltzer

Carole Robrish

In Memory of Cindy Surdut

Neal & Arlene Rogol
Art & Sarah Little
Sally & Harris Chorney
Carole Robrish
Hope & Joel Rittner

In Memory of Ellen Jacober

Myrna and David Leven

In Memory of Ethel Siegel

Lori Adler

In Memory of Mother Sally Portman Chorney

Nancy Chorney
Sally and Harris Chorney

In Memory of Parents Daniel and Lilian Tolman

Richard and Marilyn
Greenberg

In Memory of Parents Myer and Irene Greenberg

Richard and Marilyn
Greenberg

* Donations are for period November 1, 2014 - February 28, 2015

WE ARE GRATEFUL TO OUR MANY DONORS (continued)

In Memory of Mother Renee Babat
Robert Babat

In Memory of Rebecca and Hank Mutal
Larry Steingold

South County Hebrew School Fund
The Morris & Zita Liebermensch Fund at
The Jewish Community Center

In Memory of Father, George Klein & Grandfather, Louis Siegel
Lori Adler

Other
Drew & Bonnie Kaplan
Sam & Sandra Weiner

Gladys Jacober Bar/Bat Mitzvah Fund
In Honor of Gladys Jacober
David and Myrna Leven

In Memory of Mother Pauline Poulten
Howard Poulten

Wendy Adler Fund
In Honor of Rabbi Adler
Joanne Malise



Over 40 people attended an “afternoon at the movies” at CBD. Two short film documentaries were shown resulting in lively discussions.

SERVICES AT CBD

Service Schedule for the months of September thru May:

Friday evening Kabbalat Shabbat Services occur every Friday **except** the first Friday of each month. Services begin at 8 pm, unless otherwise notified via weekly Constant Contact email and on the website.

Saturday morning services occur the first Saturday of each month, beginning at 9:00 am. Please note that the 9:00 a.m. start time is new (previous start time was 9:30).

The service schedule is posted on the bottom left hand corner of our website at www.cbdri.org. There is a full calendar of events linked to the website at <http://www.cbdri.org/calendar.html>.

NEW SEATING COMING TO CBD

For the last few years we have been holding more events and programs at CBD. The current set up having pews for the main seating arrangement limits the flexibility for different seating arrangements or more tables for events (e.g., for Shabbat dinners). As a result, the board of directors recently approved the purchase of 100 new chairs, an example of which is shown here to the right. Once a fabric color and pattern have been selected the chairs will be ordered. The pews have served CBD well over many years – we believe the new chairs will do the same going forward.



**Congregation
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We're on the Web!
WWW.CBDRI.ORG

YOU'VE GOT A FRIEND

Congregation Beth David has a facebook page. We use this form of social media to share reminders of upcoming services, publicize special events, kvell over our Hebrew School students (great photos!) and spread the news about news that's fit to print but didn't make it into our weekly Constant Contact e-mails.

Please join our virtual community; "friend" us on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/Congregation.Beth.David>

What – you aren't on our list to receive our weekly e-mails via Constant Contact? E-mail us at info@cbdri.org.

Note: We do not share this contact list with others. It is used exclusively to share CBD, Hebrew School and PJ Library news.

CBD
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