I am writing to you with an exciting opportunity! An anonymous donor is challenging the CBD community with a matching opportunity. Every donation made to CBD from now until December 31, 2017 will be matched up to $10,000, providing us with the opportunity to raise a total of $20,000 for our programming and school!

Please help us to maximize the impact of this generous matching gift. Make a donation by going to www.cbdri.org and clicking DONATE NOW, or send a check made out to “CBD - Matching Gift” and mail to:
Congregation Beth David
PO Box 3299
Narragansett, RI 02882.

Thank you

Chanukah Dreams

Chanukah I think most dear
Of the feasts of all the year.
I could sit and watch all night
Every twinkling baby light.

Father lights the first one—green;
Hope it always seems to mean;
Hope and Strength to glow anew
In the heart of every Jew.

Jacob lights the blue for Truth.
Pink for Love is lit by Ruth.
Then the white one falls to me,
White that shines for Purity.

How the story of those days
Fills my wondering heart with praise!
And in every flame one sees
The heroic Maccabees. -Judith Ish-Kishor,
1895-1971
A New “Spin” on Chanukah

We are all familiar with the Dreidel game – spin it and depending on which side it lands, a specific action is followed. As you recall, land on a “G”immel and you get the whole pot; a “N”un means you skip a turn; “H”ey says you get half the pot, and “SH”in calls for you to put in an extra ante. Children love this game, as well as many adults (who like to remember when they were children!).

This year, as we play the game (and I know you will 😊), let’s redefine the value of the letters, reflecting the times in which we live.

Let the Gimmel represent ‘Goodness.’ May the spin of our lives land on this letter, symbolizing all the good stuff that life can provide us – good health, good people, good activities and a good spirit.

Let the Nun represent ‘Naches’ – satisfaction and delight. May we have many opportunities to enjoy moments of Naches – with our children, with each other, with ourselves!

Let the Hey represent ‘Holy.’ The Hebrew word for ‘Holy’ is ‘Kaddosh,’ which intimates a sense of ‘separation.’ May we continue to learn to separate that which is profane from that which is pure; that which is truly important, from that which is not; that which will create wonderful and fond memories, from that which will not.

And finally, let the Shin represent ‘Shalom.’ May we find peace in whatever we do, wherever we go, with whomever we are with. And may this gift of peace expand to our families, our neighbors, our communities, our countries, and mostly, to the leaders of the world.

So, go ahead and spin that dreidel – there’s no losing in this game!
Chanukah Candle Lighting Prayers

One candle is added to the menorah each night. The first night, you light only the shammus (usually the highest candle) and one Chanukkah candle. By the eighth night, you light all of the candles.

Candles should be added to the menorah from right to left (like Hebrew writing). The shammus candle is lit first. While holding the shammus candle, recite the following blessings.

Blessed are you, Lord, our God, sovereign of the universe
Who has sanctified us with His commandments and commanded us
to light the lights of Chanukkah. (Amen)

Barukh atah Adonai, Eloheinu, melekh ha'olam
asher kidishanu b'mitz'votav v'tzivanu
l'had'lik neir shel Chanukah. (Amein)

Blessed are you, Lord, our God, sovereign of the universe
Who performed miracles for our ancestors
in those days at this time. (Amen)

Barukh atah Adonai, Eloheinu, melekh ha'olam
she'asah nisim la'avoteinu bayamim haheim baziman hazeh. (Amein)

This prayer is said on the first night only.

Blessed are you, Lord, our God, sovereign of the universe
who has kept us alive, sustained us, and enabled us to reach this season (Amen)

Barukh atah Adonai, Eloheinu, melekh ha'olam
shehecheyanu v'kiyimanu v'higi'anu laz'man hazeh. (Amein)
From Rabbi Sol Goodman, Religious School Education Director

As we all know so well, the winter holidays are fast approaching. In our wonderful CBD Hebrew School, our children are experiencing the ideas, the music, the sights and the sounds that are part of the Chanukah celebration. I hope that you and your family find the celebration of this miraculous event in our people’s history enlightening, inspiring, and enriching. As we recall the victory over tyranny, the strength to overcome against overwhelming odds, and the miraculous realization that a tiny amount of oil can ignite a flame within that burns long after that first bit is gone, may we all be filled with the spiritual light that Chanukah truly represents.

Chanukah means “dedication.” It comes from a Hebrew root which also means “education.” The inference is clear. As our forebearers dedicated and re-dedicated themselves to their spiritual lives, they realized that that dedication was incomplete without education. That is why our Rabbis always stressed the importance of learning and study, for without a dedication to education, the lamp which we have kept lit for generations will run out of the precious “oil” that keeps it burning. And that is why our sanctuary remains bright with the light and spirit of our students.

The light of Chanukah is already here. As you and your children, grandchildren, and all the children in your lives light your Menorahs, eat your latkes, and spin your dreidels, take time to also celebrate our busy, vibrant, sometimes noisy, and always joyful congregational religious school.

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Tikkun Olam Survey Results

By Liz Karp and Bob Fricklas
Co-Chairs, Tikkun Olam Committee

Thanks to everyone who completed the survey about the types of volunteer opportunities the Tikkun Olam committee should be exploring and organizing on behalf of the CBD community. The results are summarized below.

The three preferred areas for social action, in order of priority are: feeding the hungry, the environment, and education (secular). Respondents preferred occasional volunteering to longer term commitments, noting a preference for volunteer opportunities in South (Washington) County

The Tikkun Olam committee will use your responses to guide our decisions about the volunteer opportunities we will offer to the congregation and will contact those of you who indicated an interest in social action events.

If you didn’t respond to the survey but would like to be involved, please email your contact information to Susan Kirschenbaum (sjsk64@yahoo.com) and we’ll keep you informed as we coordinate events going forward.

There’s much we can do together to help others; we look forward to your help and participation.
CBD Movie Night

Cuba’s Forgotten Jewels, a haven in Havana

Congregation Beth David will host the Rhode Island premiere of a powerful film that tells the story of Jewish immigrants who fled to Cuba to avoid the Holocaust. “Cuba’s Forgotten Jewels: A Haven in Havana” will be shown on Jan. 20 at 7 p.m. at CBD.

Prior to the movie, CBD member Esther Levine, who was born and raised in Cuba, will share her story about growing up in Cuba. Cuban-themed drinks and snacks will be served before the movie.

Among the many Holocaust stories, that of Jewish immigrants who survived by fleeing to Cuba is barely known. Refugees who made it to Havana found work to support themselves and their family members in a newly transported trade: diamond polishing.

“Cuba’s Forgotten Jewels” was born of the tales that Marion Kreith told her daughter, co-director Judy Kreith, over the years. Marion escaped war torn Europe as a young girl with her family, evading Nazi capture and crossing the Atlantic to a tropical paradise. In this film, firsthand survivor accounts take us back to 1940s Havana – an era at once tumultuous, heart breaking, and intoxicating – to reveal an immigration success story.

With a stunning musical score of Jewish melodies and the pulsating music of Havana, the film merges the realities of two vastly different yet intermingled cultures, bringing this colorful and uplifting piece of history to light.

The film has or will be shown across the country at Jewish film festivals including Miami, New Jersey, Savannah, Denver. CBD’s screening will be the film’s R.I. premiere.

The film was made possible by the generous support from the National Center for Jewish Film.
Donations, Sept. 11, 2017 - Nov. 29, 2017

General Fund

In Memory of Norman Tobin
Rhoda Zaidman
Joan and Gerald Tebrow

In Memory of Joel Leonard and father Harry Chorney
Deborah Chorney

In Memory of Bernice Shulman
Cindy and Richard Amundson

In Memory of David Kilmartin
Carole Robrish

In Memory of mother Reta Sadowosky and father Louis Kanopkin
Philip and Susan Kanopkin

In Memory of Myer and Irene Greenberg, Daniel and Lillian Tolman, Melvin Greenberg, Allen Greenberg, husband Richard Greenberg, and son Kenneth Greenberg
Marilyn Greenberg

In Support of CBD
Tracey Tebrow
Jerrold Salmanson

In Appreciation of Rabbi Ethan Adler, In Honor of Margalit and Hisham Aharon on the birth of twin grandsons
Judy and Allen Kronick

In Memory of Ellen Jacober
Nancy Chorney
Myrna and David Leven

In Memory of daughter Ellen Jacober
Gladys Jacober

In Memory of father Ben Poulten
Howard Poulten

In Memory of son Aharon Klum
Marion Myers

In Memory of father Ronald Goldstein
Lesley Engelson

In Honor of Beryl and Elliott Chapman’s 55th Anniversary
Joan and Steve Garfinkel
Nancy Chorney

In Honor of the birth of Eliza Rose, granddaughter of Alvin and Lauren Gabriowiz
Nancy Chorney

In Memory of father Norbert Schmidek
Shelley Parness

In Memory of father Max Barnett
Stan Barnett

In Memory of brother Myron Myerson
Ann Grossman

In Memory of mother Renee Babat
Robert Babat

Annual Appeal

Eleanor Rand
Alan and Marlene Witten
Susan and Louis Kirschenbaum
Sheri and Doug Snow
Cynthia and Richard Amundson
Sally and Harris Chorney
Vicki and Gary Dorfman
Ruth and Jeff Jarrett
Howard Poulten
Karla Steele and Marshall Feldman
Lesley and Gary Engelson
Gladys Jacober
Nancy Chorney
Shelley and Larry Parness

Oneg Sponsorship

In Honor of the Hebrew School
Jen and David Avedisian

Yom Kippur Breakfast
Sara and David Nelson

Kiddush in honor of Beryl and Elliott Chapman’s 55th Anniversary
Beryl and Elliott Chapman

Tree of Life

In Memory of son Joel Leonard, and parents Evelyn and Harry Chorney
Deborah Chorney

THANK YOU

Thank you to all who supported this year’s annual appeal. More than $17,000 as raised this year – a CBD record! These funds go to support our religious school and the programs offered at CBD, many of which are available at no cost to our members. Your support is greatly appreciated!
A little rain – maybe, a lot of rain – didn’t deter some hardy souls who came out for CBD’s annual Sukkahfest – a barbeque, a chance to eat in the Sukkah (and dodging rain drops), and to celebrate Sukkot by waving the lulav and etrog.
CBD member Mike Reeder (center) recently was inducted into the R.I. Interscholastic League Hall of Fame, recognizing his more than 40 years serving as a referee for boys and girls basketball. It was not his first hall of fame inclusion. Mike entered the National Jewish Sports Hall of Fame in 1995 and, in 2014, he was honored by the prestigious International Association of Approved Basketball Officials, an organization that only adds four extremely qualified and experienced referees to its life membership per year. Pictured from left to right Joseph Goho, Member, Principals Committee on Athletics: Mike Reeder: Tom Mezzanotte, Director - R.I. Interscholastic League