



## A Message from Rabbi Rachel

*Shalom! Wonderful to meet you...*



I'm writing this on February 7; tomorrow, I will have been at CBTBI for exactly one month. Today is the second day of Adar, the happiest month in the Jewish calendar. For both these reasons, it seems like an especially good time to write my first

*Shofar* article, introduce myself, and share with you what I've been up to during my short time at CBTBI.

When Dan and I discussed coming to join the CBTBI community, we knew it would be a big change in our lives, and in the lives of our daughters, Fay (age four), and Nora (age two). But there were so many reasons to come, it just seemed *b'sheret*, like it was meant to be. We bought a yellow house in Collingswood, big enough for our parents — who are, more importantly, our kids' grandparents — to come stay with us regularly. We're *\*almost\** all unpacked, and are looking forward to hosting CBTBI on the afternoon of Sunday, April 7. We enrolled Fay and Nora in the JCC preschool so that they could be together, and in an environment where, as a rabbi's kids, they'd feel at home. It's amazing how well they've transitioned. Dan is still doing consulting work while he holds down the fort at home, and is starting to search for a position himself.

At CBTBI, it's been a wonderful immersion for me. I've led services, attended committee meetings, visited classrooms, and led a participatory Shabbat School. I've gotten to know many of you at the "Nosh and Schmooze" programs that Caryl has organized, and many of you have opened your homes, and your hearts

to me. I've gotten to know the way the office works, and even had help from the seventh grade class, and then from the confirmation class, in labeling and unpacking my books. I had an interview with the editor of "The Jewish Voice," met Rabbi David Levin (he says hello to everyone!), and will be attending my first Tri-County Board of Rabbis meeting next week. I've started planning holiday celebrations for Purim, Passover, and Shavuot, and I was given a wonderful cameo in the Purim play. I even spoke with a tipsy member or two at the Night at the Races, and, even though I didn't bet correctly on a single race, I won a gift basket (tickets to the Pitman Broadway Theatre). And, all this in only a month!

I'm generally around CBTBI Tuesday through Friday during the day, and on Wednesday I'm here late for school. I'm also available as needed for evening or Sunday meetings. You can reach me at CBTBI's main number: (856) 589-6550, ext. 4, or at [rabbi@cbtbi.org](mailto:rabbi@cbtbi.org). [See Page 3 for additional information on contacting Rabbi Rachel.]

I'm looking forward to growing and learning, and celebrating together in the years to come.

—Rabbi Rachel

### Upcoming March Events

- Wed. 13th: Lamp Post Diner fundraiser
- Sat. 16th: Purim Shpiel, 7:30 PM
- Sun. 17th: Purim Carnival, 9:15 AM; Holidays 101: Purim, 10 AM; Nosh & Schmooze, 12:45 PM
- Wed. 20th: Pizza dinner, 6 PM; Megillah reading, 7 PM
- Sat. 23rd: Wine tasting, 7 PM
- Mon. 25th: Red Cross blood drive, 2 PM
- Sat. 30th: Salon concert, Meyer home, 7:30 PM

## From the President's Desk by Joshua Meyer

*Welcome Rabbi Rachel!*



On March 16, the Menorah Theater of CBTBI will perform our annual Purim Shpiel. As you know, the story comes from the Book of Esther. It deals with the triumph of good over evil. One character in the shpiel addresses the importance of treating

all people with respect and kindness.

Recently, CBTBI welcomed our new rabbi, Rachel Dvash Schoenfeld. From the moment she arrived, Rabbi Rachel started constructing pathways to reinforce our respect and kindness for each other.

She began full steam ahead, interacting with our staff, teachers, students, and members of the

congregation. In small group gatherings at congregants' homes, she learned about members' dreams for our congregation and the roles they would like to have as we move forward.

How meaningful and wonderful it is that we at Congregation B'nai Tikvah Beth Israel demonstrate a culture of respect and kindness! A culture of going out of our way to wish each other a good Shabbat. A culture of reaching out to those of us who have lost a loved one or have a family member who is ill. A culture of just caring for each other. Rabbi Rachel is here to walk that culture of caring, respect, and kindness with us. She seeks to bring together our generational differences, our personal interests, and our commonality to build pathways of strength and to energize our Jewish heritage. Together, we can all build with her.

Welcome Rabbi Rachel!



THE SHOW YOU WON'T WANT TO MISS  
CBTBI'S ANNUAL PURIM SHPIEL  
DIRECTED BY JOSH & NORMA MEYER

SATURDAY, MARCH 16  
7:30 PM

JOIN US FOR AN EVENING OF LAUGHTER,  
MUSIC, AND MAYHEM AS THE MENORAH  
THEATER PRESENTS THE PURIM STORY  
THROUGH THE TUNES OF BILLY JOEL

(A RECEPTION WITH TONS OF FOOD WILL  
FOLLOW, OF COURSE)



## Come Say “Hi” to Rabbi Rachel!



My first goal as CBTBI's new rabbi is to get to know each of you, and to be available to you. So, come say hi! Here's a practical guide:

### Walk in and find me:

My office hours are, in general, 9-5 Tuesday and Thursday; on Wednesday I'm in until 7ish; on Friday I leave at 2ish, and then come back before services. I'm here on Fridays and Saturdays for services and every other Sunday for school and meetings. I'm available for evening meetings, but try to keep them to one or two evenings a week. If you're going to stop by, please call me first or check with the office to confirm that I'm available.

### Call or email me:

You can always call me at (856) 589-6550, ext. 4. I check this number from wherever I am. I am the only person checking this voicemail, so it's confidential. Please use this number, except in emergencies. Email me at [rabbi@cbtbi.org](mailto:rabbi@cbtbi.org).

### Emergencies:

If you are contacting me in general, please use the number above. In case of emergency, you can reach me on my cell at (617) 208-8813. This number is for members only, and should only be used in cases of pastoral emergency.

### Facebook:

I'm on Facebook at Rachel Dvash Schoenfeld (Rabbi Rachel Schoenfeld). I'd like to be friends! I've also joined the CBTBI Members Facebook page, and recommend you do, too. I'm glad to connect with you on Facebook, and will continue using it for more informal connections, and for outreach.

### Time on, time off:

Being a rabbi, especially one with two young kids, is a balancing act! It was very important to me to have time off spelled out in my contract, so that I can spend time with my family. I have off every Monday, every other Sunday, and one weekend every other month. These times off are marked clearly on the private CBTBI calendar. Please DO contact me in cases of pastoral emergency even if I'm off.

### Getting to know every single member:

The many “Nosh and Schmooze” sessions we've held have helped me get to know many of you. There is one remaining on March 17 after the Purim Carnival. Please sign up on SignUpGenius or contact Caryl Wax.

### Come to my house:

You and your family are invited to my house! Come stop by, have some pizza, and play with Fay and Nora. Mark your calendars: open house on Sunday, April 7, 2-7 PM.

Looking forward to getting to know you!

—Rabbi Rachel

### *The Shofar*

Editor: Lisa Parker

[editor@cbtbi.org](mailto:editor@cbtbi.org)

*The Shofar* is published four times a year. Please contact the editor for deadline information.

**Congregation B'nai Tikvah-Beth Israel**

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## *Pour Some Fun...* with the members of CBTBI

Enjoy a fun-filled evening of wine tasting along with food pairings. Non-alcoholic beverages, coffee and delectable snacks will also be served.

**March 23, 2019, 7 to 10 p.m.**

**CBTBI Synagogue**

115 E. Holly Ave., Sewell, NJ 08080

### *Tickets*

\$25 (if paid by March 16)    \$30 (after March 16 or at the door)

Checks payable to **CBTBI**

Mail to: **Chuck Nappen, 36 N. Childs St., Woodbury, NJ 08096**

OR use PayPal on our website, [CBTBI.org/WineTasting](http://CBTBI.org/WineTasting)



**\* Special \***

Bring a potential new member and BOTH of you get 50% off!

*Hosted by the*  
CBTBI Membership Committee



# Mazel TOV!

## Congratulations to Our Recent and Upcoming B'nai Mitzvah

### Jacob Veytsman — February 16, 2019

*Hebrew name: Ya'akov*

*Parsha: Tetzaveh*

Jacob is the son of Natalie and Peter. He has two younger siblings, Aaron and Kate, and two dogs, Tessa and Indy. His mitzvah project was volunteering for Hearts United Against Cancer and Stockings for Soldiers and Veterans.

Jacob's favorite activities are football and baseball. He said finding the time to commit to his Hebrew studies was the most challenging part of becoming a bar mitzvah. He looked forward to feeling a sense of accomplishment after his big day and making his grandparents proud.

Becoming a bar mitzvah helped Jacob become more patient. He thanks his parents and his tutor, Evan.



### Sarah Markham — March 9, 2019

*Hebrew name: Sarah*

*Parsha: Pekudei*

Sarah's family includes her parents, Colin and Marie, and her younger sister, Samantha. For her mitzvah project, she volunteered at the Greater Woodbury Cooperative Ministries.

Sarah enjoys dancing and swimming.

She said learning the Hebrew for her bat mitzvah was the most challenging aspect. The part of her big day she most looked forward to was the party.

Preparing for her bat mitzvah helped her to create a better work ethic. Sarah thanks her family, teachers, Rabbi Rachel, and Mrs. Marder.

*Continued on Page 5*



# Mazel TOV!

*Continued from Page 4*

**Linda Herrera** — April 6, 2019

*Hebrew name: Malkah*

*Parsha: Bo*

Linda's family includes parents, Shari and Cuper; Rachael; Matthew, and her two dogs. For her mitzvah project, Linda volunteered at an animal shelter.

Learning the Hebrew was the biggest challenge for Linda to becoming a bat mitzvah. She thanks everyone for their support.



**Ryan Igielski** — April 13, 2019

*Hebrew name: Shimon*

*Parsha: Metzora*

Ryan's family includes his mom, stepdad, dad, stepmom, and stepbrother. For his mitzvah project he volunteered at a food bank. Ryan plays the trumpet, enjoys listening to music, and takes care of his pet lizards.

Ryan said the biggest challenge for him was teaching his parents to read Hebrew. The part of his bar mitzvah that he is looking forward to the most is the reception.

He sends a special thank-you to his family; Hebrew school teachers; his tutor, Misha Feldman; and Mrs. Marder.

## Bob's Garage

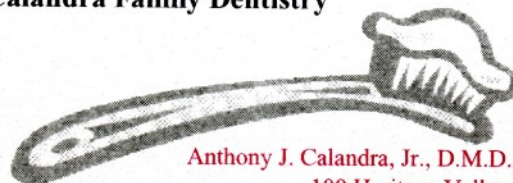


American & Foreign Car Repair  
Alignment - Tune Ups  
Towing - State Inspection

**Bob Holshue**

236 Delsea Drive • Sewell, New Jersey 08080  
856-589-5055

**Jamie H. Green, D.D.S.**  
**Calandra Family Dentistry**



Anthony J. Calandra, Jr., D.M.D., LLC  
100 Heritage Valley Drive  
Suite 3  
(856) 582-5555  
www.drcalandra.com  
Sewell, NJ 08080

## Salon Concert Series

# Celebrating the Music of Four Romantic Composers



Join us for an intimate and memorable evening  
with pianist **Norma Meyer**

**Saturday, March 30, 2019**  
or  
**Saturday, April 6, 2019**  
**7:30 pm**

Rekindle the works of four  
19th century Romantic composers . . .  
Clara Schumann, Robert Schumann,  
Frédéric Chopin, and  
Louis Moreau Gottschalk



At the home of  
Norma & Joshua Meyer

*Inclusive of wine, cheese  
and dessert*

40 Bells Lake Drive  
Turnersville, NJ 08012

**Room for only 30 guests each date**  
Earliest postmark will determine attendance



## Reservation Form

Please make check for \$36 per person payable to **CBTBI** and mail with this form to:

**Todd Wilen, 277 Tall Pines Drive West, Sewell, NJ 08080**

*All proceeds benefit CBTBI*

Questions? Call Todd at 856-625-1470 or email [toddiwilen@yahoo.com](mailto:toddiwilen@yahoo.com)

Please print the names of those attending below and  
indicate the total number of tickets you are purchasing with this order \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Please use the back of this form for additional names)

Your preferred date: \_\_\_ March 30 \_\_\_ April 6 Your phone number (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_