

THE SHOFAR

JULY 2026



Congregation B'nai Israel

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Come Join Us!

FRIDAY NIGHT SERVICES – 8 PM

SATURDAY MORNING SERVICES – 9:30 AM

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**“Pearls of Wisdom”
Rabbi Pinchas Pearl**



Our Rabbi writes....

How long does one mourn for?

Judaism has well defined periods of mourning. For a parent, a full year (11 months for kaddish) for other close family members, 30 days. After that time has ended, our mourning ends, and we go about our lives.

However, with the mourning of the Temple, whose anniversary we commemorate on Tisha B'AV, (July 22 and 23) the mourning does not end. For nearly two thousand years, we have mourned this tragic day through fasting and intensive prayer. Why the extended and never-ending mourning?

We mourn because the lessons of Tisha B'Av, the need to study our history for mistakes and not to repeat them, never ends. Jewish history is filled with moments of despair, attack and exile. Yet, every time, we have bounced back. We have gone to new places, we have rebuilt lives, we have changed and adapted. We have endured, in a way that is unique and remarkable in Jewish history. The "how to", the methods and means of survival, are learned and utilized by visiting our past, drawing lessons, and going forward with them into the future.

We will mourn again this year. That is right and proper. We must also think and learn. In a time of intense anti-semitism, when public officials attack us in a shameless and blatant way, we need to look at Tisha B'Av again and learn from it. Only thus will we get through these tough times.
I wish you all an easy fast.

If you're missing Rabbi Pearl's weekly Friday night sermon, you're missing (1) his opening joke; (2) his discussion of how the week's Torah reading is relevant to our lives today; (3) his inspirational blessing; and (4) our lively discussions & delicious treats at the Oneg. Services are one hour; congregation participation is welcome & rewarding.

**PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE
KEVIN BROSNICK**



Dear Congregants and friends,

As the warm days of summer settle in, I hope this season brings you all a well-deserved chance to relax, recharge, and enjoy time with family and friends, whether you are traveling far or enjoying the quiet comfort of home.

While the summer months are traditionally a time of rest, they are also a season of quiet preparation at Congregation B’Nai Israel. Our thoughts are gently turning toward the fall. We are already looking forward to the High Holidays, when our sanctuary will once again be filled with the beautiful sound of our voices raised together in prayer, reflection, and renewal. There is truly nothing quite like the feeling of our congregation coming together again after the summer intermission.

Speaking of our sanctuary and home, I am thrilled to share that we are making continued progress with our temple improvements. If you step into CBI over the next few weeks, you might notice the fruits of this ongoing hard work. We are dedicated to ensuring that our physical space is warm, welcoming, and open. I encourage you to come see the shul and think about CBI for family occasions, simchas or community gatherings.

I want to extend a heartfelt **thank you** to every single person who contributes to CBI. From our dedicated staff and board members to the volunteers who step up for committees, and every congregant who joins us for a service or event: *you* are the heartbeat of this synagogue. Thank you for your time, your passion, and your generosity. You are the reason CBI isn't just a building, but a true family and a deeply connected community.

I wish you all a peaceful, safe, and deeply relaxing remainder of the summer. Refresh your spirits, enjoy the sunshine, and I cannot wait to welcome you all back this fall.

Warmly,
Kevin Brosnick

SISTERHOOD UPDATE

SANDY LEVY

President

Sisterhood met on June 2, 2026 and discussed plans for forthcoming events. Thank you June shoppers: Laurie, Eileen, Sandy, Michelle & Iris. The next meeting will be held on July 14, 2026 via Zoom, during which we will discuss the book, *The Punk Rock Queen of the Jews*.

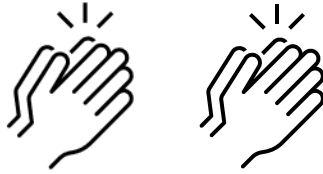
Friday Night Candle Lighting
July 4th at 8:13 pm
July 11th at 8:10 pm
July 18th at 8:06 pm
July 25th at 8:00 pm

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday July 5, 2026 "Rain or Shine"
Congregation B'nai Israel Family BBQ
Cost: Adults \$36; Children 5-12 \$10; Children 4 & Under Free
RSVP Susan Finkelstein

Board of Trustees Meeting
Tuesday, August 18, 2026 @ 8pm

CONGRATULATIONS



Family News:

Mazel Tov to Dr. & Mrs. Sergey Motov on the occasion of the Bat Mitzvah of their daughter Lyla on June 6, 2026 .



Marty & Rita Eisenberg are thrilled with news that their grandson Benjamin will be studying Astrophysics during his summer internship & their granddaughter will be attending college at Wellesley.

Jackie Malman's grandson Ari Bartolai visited from Pennsylvania where he works as an EMT and is studying for his nursing degree. We enjoyed meeting him at Friday night services on June 26th.



Graduations:

Alana has graduated from High School & plans to study theater in college. Alana is the granddaughter of Sandy Levy, niece of Michelle & Kevin Brosnick, cousin to Lee & Jeremy. Mazel Tov to all!

Dylan Kosta has graduated from intermediate school. Proud grandparents Laurie & David Raps.



Honors & Awards:

Susan Finkelstein won a Silver Medal for Dominoes at the JCC Senior Olympics.

Judy Weisberg was a Mah Jongg winner at Richmond County Country Club's Play for P.I.N.K. fundraiser for breast cancer research. Maxine Spierer & Yolanda Zinn won 1st place net in golf. The event raised more than \$40,000 for such a worthy cause.

Lee Brosnick was honored by the JCC on June 25, 2026 for his 10 years of service. Judy Weisberg was among the attendees.



Speedy Recovery:

Wishing a complete and speedy recovery to Carolyn Hall, our Preschool Director, on her knee replacement surgery.

Glad to hear the Harrs Schwartz is on the mend.

Bringing the community together in appreciation of the cultural diversity of food on Sunday, June 7, 2026. Sponsored by DA's Office & S.I. Hate Crimes Task Force.

Photo #1-Yolanda Zinn with DA Mike McMahon & Ryan Crimmins (a past Shabbat speaker on Hate Crimes);



Photo #2- Yolanda Zinn with Rabbi Mendy Mroznick & his daughter serving Israeli food.



Celebrating July Birthdays



Rita Hauser on July 1st

Dr. Gary Spierer on July 10th

Maxine Spierer on July 17th

Yolanda Zinn on July 23rd

Many Thanks for Your Generous Donations

Eileen and Bernie Cooper in memory of Benjamin Kalifowitz

Marvin Cooper in memory of Miriam Cooper

Marty and Rita Eisenberg in memory of George Eisenberg

Susan and Richie Finkelstein in memory of Heinz Moddel and Morris Finkelstein

Joel Ganzman in memory of Anne Ganzman

Marilyn Goldstein in memory of her grandparents

Charles and Ilene Greinsky in honor of Charlie's birthday

Shelley & Neil Harwayne in memory of Allen Perner, Michael Perner,

Ann Perner, & Barbie Abraham

Mira Mayzlin in memory of Mendel Mayzlin

Laurie and David Raps in honor of Janice Rappaport's birthday

Janet and Michael Rocco in memory of Lucille Rosenbach

Harris Schwartz in memory of Hyman Hoffnung and for refuah shlema prayers

Norman Smith in memory of Sidney Smith and Evelyn Gruschka

thank you!

Yahrzeits for July 2026

Hebrew Date/ 2024 Date*	Yahrzeit of	Member	Relationship to Member
16 Tammuz July 1	Manya Gitelman	Mikhail Gitelman	Mother
17 Tammuz July 2	Harry Goldstein	Dr. Steven Goldstein	Father
17 Tammuz July 2	Edith Levy	Sandy Levy	Mother-in-law
17 Tammuz July 2	Morris Finkelstein	Richie Finkelstein	Father
17 Tammuz July 2	Morris Finkelstein	Gail Kashubo	Father
17 Tammuz July 2	Harvey Phillips	Lillian Phillips	Husband
19 Tammuz July 4	Sol Eidlin	Doris Wasser	Father
23 Tammuz July 8	Emanuel Appelbaum	Arlene Gerstman	Father
24 Tammuz July 9	Ann Perner	Shelley Harwayne	Mother
27 Tammuz July 12	Miriam Sue Greinsky	Charles Greinsky	Sister
3 Av July 17	Lillie Hauser	Rita Hauser	Mother-in-law
4 Av July 18	Ida Gerstman	Arlene Gerstman	Mother-in-law
5 Av July 19	Ninia Besen	Ana Cramer	Mother
10 Av July 24	Jonas Fisch	Linda Fisch	Father-in-law
11 Av July 25	Paul White	Sandy Poris	Brother
15 Av July 29	Harry Zuniss	Judy Rosen	Father

*Yahrzeits begin on the evening before the given date. If you need to say Kaddish for a Yahrzeit, please call the office two weeks before and we will try to assemble a Minyan, most often via Zoom. It would be helpful if you have a few family members or friends attend the services to ensure there is a Minyan. For additions or corrections to this list, please contact Laurie Raps at 718-967-4975 or spar11012@aim.com.

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Please let our editor know your birthday (month & day are sufficient. We don't require the year unless you want to brag!). We love mentioning happy occasions. Also, send anniversaries, milestone events & warm wishes and prayers. Information can be emailed to oceanview@si.rr.com.

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