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October 2020

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# Thank You Bryan, Geo, Elmer and Chico

On Friday, October 16, 2020 our community came together over Zoom to express words of thanks and a standing ovation to our beloved Facilities Team. Here are their messages:

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Dear Bryan, Geo, Elmer, and Chico,

Thank you for all you have done and do to keep our sacred community functioning during this time of crisis for all of us.

May you and your families be blessed and healthy.

Our sincere thanks,

**Gaya and Lewis Bernstein**

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Thank you for keeping our shul so clean and comfortable this holiday season!

**Yael Bellin  
& Ariel Douek**

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Dear Bryan, Geo, Elmer and Chico -  
Thank you so much for all your  
dedication and hard work the past  
month going above and beyond to  
help make all our Bayit prayer spaces  
safe and possible.

Thank you for always greeting us with  
smiles! We miss you seeing you,

with love,

## Alisa & Michael Brown

The maintenance team made the  
year's yom tovs possible for  
many HIR members including  
our family. The number of hours  
to set up all of the minyanim was  
enormous, and they did it all with  
a great attitude and professional  
manner! Thank you all.

## The Braverman Grossman Family

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Dear Bryan, Geo, Elmer, and Chico,

We are so full of gratitude for all the incredible work you do at HIR. The fact that even amidst the pandemic, you have stepped forward to take care of our spiritual home and make it possible for us to be there (and off-site!) for services has meant the world to us.

Thank you from the bottom of our hearts.

With gratitude,

**Paul “Pinny”, Melissa, Ariella, and Avishai Bulman**

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As soon as I walk into the synagogue's greeting area I feel the welcome. It is always clean and ready for the day's work.

I thank you, fellows, for keeping our 2nd home so inviting.

The care of our chapel, the most important part for us, you keep so orderly... even placing the prayer books is done with care. Next is the partaking of the food in the party room. Thank you, again, for all your care in arranging the tables, etc. You all are truly dedicated to keeping all well. You even make the last crumb disappear before closing up.

It's wonderful to be able to depend on you. May you all stay well and strong.

With Appreciation,

**Mabel Cohen**

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Dear Bryan, Geo, Elmer and Chico,  
Each time I saw any one of you during the Jewish holidays I was so pleased.  
I knew that everything would be OK. And it was!  
THANK YOU. THANK YOU.

**Rabbi Moshe  
Edelman**

Dear Bryan, Geo, Elmer, and Chico,  
I offer my deep appreciation for your valuable help to keep the Bayit running during these difficult times! I offer a prayer that you and your families stay well and keep your spirits up.  
Many thanks,

**Alisa Eilenberg**

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Dear Bryan, Elmer, Geo and Chico, You are our heroes.

Your love and devotion to our Bayit, your tireless energy and warmth, your creativity and consistency, and your generosity of spirit make our Bayit what it is. In the last 6 weeks and the last 6 months, you have done the impossible to make this most challenging time inclusive and comfortable for us all, at home and at the Bayit.

We love you - you are the cornerstone of our Bayit. We bless you and your families with health, love, joy and peace.

Love,

**Rav Steven & Shira and family**

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Dear Byran, Geo, Elmer and Chico,

We are so grateful for the help you gave us over this Yom Tov. We were in awe over the amazing canopies and mechitzas you constructed. They were all so solid and the cloth was so beautiful. And even on the playground! What a fabulous job.

And always were you there with sanitizer and wipes to be sure we were safe. What a brilliant idea to use green/red magnets for the bathrooms.

But most importantly you were always there with a smile and with kindness, so ready to help. This is such a special quality that you all have and we are so lucky that you are part of our team.

May you and your family be blessed with good health and happiness, now and forever.

**Bonnie and Isaac**

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# Congregation Beth Aharon

The B Team is the real A Team! Thank you!

What you pulled off to prepare us for the holidays was amazing. I can't thank you enough for your hard work and diligence. You made our holidays work!

**Barbara Gochberg and Steven Pretsfelder**

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Thank you so much Bryan, Geo, Elmer,  
and Chico for all you do to make our  
Bayit the wonderful place it is.

**Lauren and Jack Gorman**

Thank you for your helpfulness  
and your politeness.

**Rabbi Joseph Hirsch**

To the best synagogue facility team in the world - I miss you all so much!  
Reading about everything you accomplished over the holidays was amazing.  
I can't imagine how much thinking and work went into everything you did.  
You're amazing!! Sending our love from Chicago.

**Rabbi Ari Hart**

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Bryan, Chico, Elmer, Geo!

You are inseparable from our Bayit family. Your values are so aligned with ours, your generosity of spirit, your unfailing positivity, your willingness to go above and beyond. I am so warmed and touched by your responses: We simply want to do whatever we can to have everything run smoothly and for the shul to do what it needs to do.

Thank you a thousand times!

You guys are amazing.  
Thank you for all that  
you did and do.

**Ilene and Zvi  
Paikin**

**Rabbanit Bracha Jaffe and Martin Flox**

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Dear Bryan, Geo, Elmer and Chico,

Thank you for your tireless work especially during this past holiday season. I appreciate all that you do for the Bayit and especially for everything you do behind the scenes that I don't see or know about. Your team is always friendly, goes beyond the call off duty and does it with a smile! I've been a member of this synagogue for 40 years and you guys are the best!

**Karen Jordan**

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To our Bayit dream team, Bryan, Geo, Elmer and Chico,

You rock!

You do it all, often at a moment's notice and with smiles.

We can't thank you enough for all you do for our family and our Bayit.  
You transformed our yard into a spectacular garden school.

We are grateful beyond words.

Thank you.

**MJ and Barry Kanner**

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Bryan,  
I want to thank you and your staff for your dedication to keeping the Bayit in tip top shape. You worked so hard getting all the spaces in the HIR and Riverdale backyards ready for social distancing during the month of holidays.  
Wishing you and your families good health and stay safe.

**Ruth Licht**

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Thank you for your endless hard work that makes the shul even better and truly feels like a second home.

**Harriet  
Rosenthal**

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We so appreciate all of the work you do - being available and ready to do whatever is needed - including some heavy lifting ! All the things that keep all the Bayit programs going forward. So many thanks, and hope to see you all sometime soon - back in person !

**Sally Mendelsohn and  
David Lowenfeld**

Thank you so much Bryan, Elmer, Geo, and Chico for your everpresent, always kind and enthusiastic presence and immense contribution to the Bayit and all of our lives. You are all such amazing people and teachers of goodness and service to community. Thank you Thank you. With much love,

**Adinah and Elli Kranzler**

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Dear Bryan and Team,  
What a privilege it has been to see your work for the Bayit. The care you show helps make our building a Home Away from Home for everyone who sets foot in our building. May G-d give all of you the blessings of good health, happiness, and success!

With great love and affection,

**Shani and David Schwartz**

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Thank you so much for all the work you do, always with a smile and never a complaint. We literally could not make the shul work without you, and I am so grateful!

**Gillian Steinberg  
and Mark Davis**

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To Bryan, Elmer, Geo, and Chico — Your tireless effort, your generosity of spirit, and your work ethic are a pleasure to be around. We are all so grateful for your friendship, care, dedication to our building and community. We love you --

## Rav Ezra, Ma'ayan, and the boys!

To the best facilities team in the world!  
We love you guys! You rock!  
Bryan - My favorite moment is after we've worked hard preparing a huge event and it runs smoothly....you and I look at each other and high five - because we know we did good!

Yael,  
Ari,  
Noa  
and  
Adam

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Para Bryan, Geo, Elmer y Chico,  
Hablo español, como uds. saben. Entonces, escribire en español.  
Muchas gracias por todo su trabajo duro y para estar allá horas largas.  
Especialmente aprecio que pusieron los asientos, libros, etc., etc. en  
las yardas de diferentes familias para que nosotros podamos rezar  
durante las fiestas últimamente y todos los Shabbats adentro de  
diferentes salones adentro y por la terraza. Hay mucho mas que hacer  
en general durante esta temporada del "virus." Que Dios les bendiga.  
Gracias de nuevo,

**Rhonda Stock**

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