



THE BAYIT BULLETIN



November 29 - December 7, 2013

Weekly Edition

27 Kislev - 4 Tevet, 5774

Hebrew Institute of Riverdale

3700 Henry Hudson Parkway

Bronx, NY 10463

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Kiddush

Kiddush is sponsored by the Pepper-Fox family in honor of Shamma's Bar Mitzvah.

To sponsor a Kiddush, please contact
Seth Aronson - kiddush@hir.org.

This Week

Shabbat Parshat Miketz Shabbat Mevarchim & Chanukah

- Candle Lighting: 4:11pm
- **Mincha/Kabbalat Shabbat: 3:50pm**
- Tefillat Shalom Bayit: 6:50am (LL BM)
- Shacharit - Main Tefillah: 8:30am
- Sephardic Tefillah: 8:30am (2nd FL BM)
- Learning Service: 9:30am (LH SH)
- Sof Zman Kriat Shema: 9:22am
- Parsha Shiur: 3:25pm (Main Sanctuary)
- Mincha: 3:55pm
- Listening Room: 4:20pm (LL BM)
- Maariv/Shabbat Ends: 5:14pm

Weekday Times

- Shacharit:
 - Sun: 8:30am
 - Mon/Thurs: 6:40, 8:15am
 - Tues/Wed: 6:30, 8:15am
 - (Rosh Chodesh Tevet)
 - Fri: 6:45, 8:15am
- Mincha/Maariv all week: 4:15pm

Next Week

Shabbat Parshat Vayigash

- Candle Lighting: 4:10pm
- Mincha/Kabbalat Shabbat: 4:15pm
- Shacharit - Main Tefillah: 8:30am
- Mincha: 3:55pm
- Maariv/Shabbat Ends: 5:13pm

NOTE: The office will be closed on **Wed., Dec. 4** as our Staff will be attending a training seminar. Thank you to UJA-Federation for hosting this important learning opportunity for Synagogue staff in the NY Metro Area.

Wishing Mazal Tov to:

Julia & David Klahr on Benjamin's Bar Mitzvah. To grandmother **Jessica Stern** and to the entire Klahr family.

Alessandra & Richard Lipkin on David's Bar Mitzvah. To brother **Benjamin**, grandparents **Joan & Martin Lipkin**, grandmother **Anna Scalmati**, and the entire Lipkin and Scalmati families.

Beth Pepper & Rabbi Jeff Fox on Shamma's Bar Mitzvah. To brothers **Adin, Yehuda** and **Yishai** and to the extended family from Israel, Arizona, Maryland, New Rochelle and New Jersey. Kiddush this Shabbat is sponsored by the Pepper-Fox family in honor of Shamma's Bar Mitzvah.

Barbara & David Blumenthal on the marriage of their daughter, **Shira** to Elliot Schrag, son of Deborah and William Schrag of Scarsdale, NY.

Joan & Arnie Stark on the birth of a grandson. To parents **Lauren & David Boim**, brothers **Isaac** and **Max** and grandparents Judie & Eddie Boim.

Wishing Condolences to:

Phil Shaw on the passing of his mother **Blanche Shaw**. Funeral will take place today, Friday at 10:00am at the Hebrew Institute of Riverdale. Shiva details to follow.

This Shabbat @ The Bayit

EREV SHABBAT CHANUKAH LIGHTING: Sing with us and participate in a communal candle lighting of our large menorah in the Main Sanctuary after Mincha (Mincha: 3:50pm.) One can light the Chanukah and Shabbat candles at home after 3:30pm and no later than 4:10pm.

SHABBAT DRASHA with Rabbi Jeff Fox: "Searching for God in the 21st Century: Joseph, Chanukah & Thanksgiving" - Dedicated to Shamma's Bar Mitzvah.

BETWEEN MINCHA AND MAARIV - Shiur with Rav Ari: "Jewish Dream Theory"

KUMSITZ WITH RAV AVI AND THE BAYIT BAND - 8:00pm - 10:00pm:
Enjoy music under the Chanukah! Bring an instrument and join in!

Join the Bayit & Eitan Kastner for a Chanukah tour of Greek Art at the Met Sunday, December 1st, 11:00am

Eitan Kastner is a teacher at the Frisch School, has an MA in religious history, University of Chicago and a BA in Jewish/Art history, Honors Program at Yeshiva University. Cost: \$36/person for museum admission and tour. Will take the Express Bus @ 10:00am (West Side Express Bus stops in front of the museum) and start our tour at approximately 11:00am.

Register online @ www.thebayit.org/met. Minimum registration 20 people. Payment due with registrations. Refunds will be issued if trip is canceled.

This Tues., December 3rd @ The Bayit

THE BAYIT'S CONTEMPORARY ISRAELI POETRY GROUP - Tues., Dec. 3rd, 7:00pm:

This meeting will be dedicated to the Yiddish and Hebrew poetry of Uri Tzvi Greenberg taught by the Bayit's own Gella Fishman. All are invited! Will meet in Room 3-4. Next date: 1/7.

FOUNDATIONS OF JUDAISM - DISCOVERING OURSELVES - 7:30pm:

Join Rabbi Ari Hart, Rabba Sara Hurwitz and Rabbi Steven Exler on TUESDAY EVENINGS, 7:30pm. Room 3-3. 30 sessions. **7th session this Tues night:** "Mitzvot - the Beautiful World of Obligation II."



Please remember to start saying "V'ten Tal U'matar Livrachta" in your tefillot beginning at Maariv on Wednesday night, Dec. 4.

Next Shabbat @ The Bayit

GUEST SHIUR with Devorah Evron, Midrasha Oranim:

In lieu of the drasha, Devorah will deliver a 30 minute interactive shiur immediately following tefillah.

As Director of the Elga Stulman Women's Institute for Jewish Studies "Nigun Nashim," Devorah Evron is empowering Israeli women towards social equality and progressive leadership.



BETWEEN MINCHA AND MAARIV - Shiur with Professor Avigdor Shinan:

"The Strange Connection Between Moshe Rabbenu and Chanukah"

Professor Shinan is Professor Emeritus in the Department of Hebrew Literature at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. He is Tilde Klein and Pesach Klein z"l's son-in-law.

This Week's Classes @ the Bayit

Daf Yomi with Rabbi Dov Linzer meets 7:30am - 8:30am Sun. - Fri. and Shabbat after Mincha in Room 3-7. Open and accessible to all. Join this group and experience Tractate Yoma and beyond!

Shabbat

8:05am - Midrash Hashavua with Rav Ari (Main Sanctuary)

3:25pm - Parsha Shiur with Rav Avi (Main Sanctuary)

4:25pm - Listening Room with Myra Estelle (LL BM)

Monday

6:30pm - Free Hebrew Crash Course with Sara Kinberg (Lobby)*

8:00pm - Brotherly Love: The Story of David and Jonathan with Rav Avi (at his home)

8:00pm - Advanced Hebrew Ulpan with Sara Kinberg (Room 3-3)*

8:30pm - Advanced Talmud: Topics in the Laws of Mourning with Rabbi Jeff Fox (at David Mann's Home. Email rebjeff@gmail.com to attend)

Tuesday

10:00am - Bereishit: The Genesis Narrative with Rav Avi (Lobby)

11:00am - Sefer Devarim: Power, Courage and Faith with Rabba Sara (**Not meeting this week**)

7:00pm - Contemporary Israeli Poetry by Atara Fobar & Gella Fishman (Room 3-4)

7:30pm - Foundations of Judaism: Discovering Ourselves with Rav Ari
Session 7: Mitzvot - the Beautiful World of Obligation II (Room 3-3)

Wednesday

7:30pm - Intermediate Hebrew Ulpan with Sara Kinberg (Lobby)*

Thursday

10:00am - Book of Shmuel with Rav Steven (LL BM)

7:30pm - Biblical Hebrew and Siddur Study with Sara Kinberg (Room 3-3)*

Friday

7:25am - Tractate Megillah with Rav Steven (LL Lobby)

* Sara Kinberg is an experienced Hebrew teacher. For info and guidance on placement, please call Sara at 718-548-2461. Payment made directly to the teacher.

**Do you know someone who needs any of the following?
Would you like to volunteer for any of these committees?**

Meals For Ill Members:

Jackie Binstock - 718-543-9135, jacalyn.binstock@gmail.com.

Shiva: We are looking to grow this committee. Please contact ravsteven@thebayit.org.

Home or Nursing Home Visits or Telephone Calls:

Rivka Haut: 718-543-1072, rivkahaut@yahoo.com

Ruth Licht: 718-796-3491, ruth.licht@verizon.net

Meals for New Mothers:

Aimee Baron: 917-331-2285, aimeebaron1818@gmail.com

Mazal tov to Aimee and Jonathan Baron on the birth of twins! For info on meals for new moms please contact Shuli in the office: shuli@thebayit.org.

Hospitality and Welcome: hirwelcome@gmail.com

Bayit Band: lamelle.ryman@gmail.com



Social Worker @ The Bayit: Questions about an aging loved one, financial pressures, concerns about children? Contact HIR social worker Anna Kirshblum for guidance, information, referrals and a sympathetic ear. There is no fee and all conversations are strictly confidential. Anna can be reached on Mon. 8:00am - 4:00pm, Tues. 8:00am - 8:00pm and Thurs. 8:00am - 8:00pm at 718-601-9714 or e-mail her at akirshblum@jbfcs.org. (In partnership with UJA & JBFCS)

HIR GIFT CARDS - Support our Bayit by purchasing Gift Cards - Buy it for the Bayit! For more information on volunteering or to place an order, email giftcard@hir.org or call Shira Gordon at 718-549-5280.



SHAARE ZEDEK AND THE IDF IN THE PHILIPPINES: Please see this wonderful video of the disaster relief that Shaare Zedek and the IDF are doing in the Philippines in the wake of Typhoon Haiyan - link here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=T4QIJQLSIw>

Happenings @ the Bayit

ABRAHAM & SARAH'S TENT: Join us for our open communal dinner sponsored by the Bayit giving thanks to Toby & Rav Avi. To see which Shabbatot are available for sponsorship and to choose your week go to www.thebayit.org/tent or contact James Lapin at tent@hir.org.

HOLIDAY BIKUR CHOLIM - Wed., Dec. 25th, 11:30am - 1:00pm: Take time from your day off to visit with our veterans at the VA Nursing Home. To RSVP at www.thebayit.org/event/holiday-bikkur-cholim.html or email yael@thebayit.org.

PARKING AT THE TOP OF THE SHUL DRIVEWAY: If you are using the HIR driveway to park and you need to park at the top of the driveway, please park to the right side of the driveway. Thank you.

BAYIT SEFARIM FUND: Donations to the Sefarim fund will be used to purchase the books we need as determined by the rabbinic team and gabbaim. Donors will be recognized with a thank you in the 2nd bulletin of every month and a dedication label in the book that is purchased. To donate visit our website at www.thebayit.org/sefarim.

BUSINESS ADVERTISING IN THE BAYIT BULLETIN: Promote your business to Bayit Bulletin readers in the first bulletin of every month.

LOST ITEM: Something valuable was found in one of the black bags donated to the Bayit's Tag Sale. If you've donated a black bag and believe that it may be yours please call Yael at the shul office (718-796-4730 x101) to provide identification markings on the bag. Thank you.

THANK YOU FOLLOWING THANKSGIVING FOOD COLLECTION: We would like the Bayit community to know how much we appreciate the very generous response to the Thanksgiving food drive for the BJCC pantry. With your help we are supplementing the tables of those most in need in the Bronx, putting out more than 3000 meals each month. For your expression of kindness and sensitivity.....we thank you!

Niti Minkove, Director of Volunteers BJCC

UPCOMING EVENT

Sunday night Dec. 22, 7:30pm - Book talk with Donny Ebenstein:

"I Hear You - Communicating Through Conflict"

Chessed Opportunities:

DONATIONS FOR THE BAYIT'S NURSING ROOM: In an attempt to beautify and better equip our Nursing Room, we are asking for your help. If you have left-over disposable diapers or wipes that your child is not using any more, please consider donating them to us for our Nursing Room. Please drop off your donations with Yael at the shul office. Questions? Email yael@thebayit.org.



RECYCLE/DONATE YOUR OLD EYEGASSES AND CELLPHONES: There is a collection box in the coat room under the back table. Glasses will be given to the Lions Club (www.lionsclub.org). Cell phones will be given to My Sister's Place (www.mspny.org).

SHORT TERM TUTORING OPPORTUNITY BY ISRAELI SCHOOL TEACHER: Does your child need help with school? Experienced Israeli elementary school teacher in Riverdale (who is here for medical treatment for next few weeks) can help. Please call Efraim at 732-569-8542.

HOLIDAY COLLECTION DRIVE @ KIDVILLE RIVERDALE: Kidville has partnered with Second Chance Toys to collect gently used plastic toys for children in need! The drive will take place from Mon., Dec. 2nd to Sun., Dec. 8th at Kidville Riverdale, 555 W. 235th St. Ph: 718-708-8081. Donation requirements: Toys must be plastic, gently used, in good working condition. Battery powered toys must come with working batteries.

VOLUNTEER AT THE BJCC'S ANNUAL DREYDL BALL: Volunteers are needed to greet, set tables, serve, sing songs and celebrate Chanukah at the 12th Annual Bronx Jewish Community Council's Chanukah celebration for seniors. This event will take place on Tues., Dec. 10th, at Adath Israel of Riverdale, 250th St. and Henry Hudson Parkway. Set up: 4:15pm, Dinner: 6:00pm. To volunteer R.S.V.P. by Dec. 5th to Niti Minkove, Director of Volunteers at nminkove@bjcconline.org or 917-693-3084.

HIR YOUTH DEPARTMENT 2013-14



Calling all Riverdale kids! The Bayit is the place to be!
 Be a part of it! Please register your child and become a youth member today!

THIS FRIDAY NIGHT!

Tot Kabbalat with Carmiya!



Highly interactive Friday night
 Tot Shabbat for children 3 & younger
 (with parent or caregiver)
 Light snacks included.
 (Feel free to bring your own snacks. No nuts please.)
 Dates: Nov. 29 & Dec. 6
5:15pm in Social Hall



Happy Chanukah!

Live Music
Dreidels & Chocolate Gelt
PJ Book Reading
Latke Making
Glow-in-the-dark dodgeball
Dunkin Donuts



THIS SUNDAY & MONDAY:

Glow-in-the-Dark Chanukah Dodgeball with Bnei Akiva: Sunday, Dec. 1st: 10am-12pm

- Glow-in-the-dark dodgeball, design your own sufganiyot, games, prizes and yummy snacks!
 \$7/child; \$10/2 children - RSVP with riverdaleba@gmail.com.

Chanukah PJ Library @ Dunkin Donuts: Monday, Dec. 2nd: 4:15-6:00pm

- Free donut for the first 200 people! PJ Library Puppet show with & book reading Puppeteer, Nicola, live music, and lighting! You don't want to miss this!

WINTER BENEFIT CARNIVAL
December 15 @ The Bayit

Teen led carnival fun for
 kids of ages 4-12!

**GAMES, PRIZES, X-BOX,
 MUSIC, COMPETITION,
 RAFFLE, FOOD**

And so much more!



Supporting communities affected in
 the Philippines and the HIR YD.
1-3pm in the HIR Social Hall
\$15/child (2 for \$25)

Entry entitles child 1 free raffle ticket.



HIR Youth & THE RIVERDALE Y

Present:

WINTER CAMP 2013!

Dec. 23-31 (not including Dec. 25)

Gym, Martial Arts, Swimming, Arts & Crafts, Baking, Hot Lunch & Snack all at the Y's amazing facilities ALONG with Tefillah and interactive Torah programming with Menachem and more!

TRANSPORTATION TO & FROM BAYIT INCLUDED FOR HIR MEMBERS!

Daily Rate: \$85/child (Y & Bayit Members: \$70!)
 All 6 Days: \$480/child (Y & Bayit Members: \$390!)

Sign up today @ www.thebayit.org/wintercamp



TUESDAYS TORAH & FUN in the Teen Lounge

GRADES 2-5

4:20pm:

XBOX, SNACKS & GAMES

5:00pm:

Torah w/ Menachem

4:20-5:30pm @ HIR

FREE FOR ALL!

Nursery-Kindergarten

Tefillah with Melissa and
 PJ Library Book with Abby
 followed by movement & fun!

SPECIAL CHANUKAH SNACKS!

COME GET YOUR
 CHOCOLATE GELT AND DREIDELS!

We are still looking for snacks sponsors for this Shabbat.

Please visit: <http://www.thebayit.org/?id=16355>
 Or contact Menachem. Thank you!

Room 3-4: NURSERY
 Room 3-5/3-6: Pre-K & K



HOLIDAY STYLE
Shabbat Morning Groups:
3rd Floor Youth Wing @ 9:45-11:30am



Room 3-3: GRADES 1-2
 Room 3-1/3-2: GRADES 3-6

TOT SHABBAT

Tot Shabbat is led by nationally
 acclaimed Tot Leader,
Carmiya Weinraub
TS meets @ 10:30am,
Lower Level Bet Midrash
 (@ 9:30am: Open Play, Right Hand Side)

THANKSGIVING WEEKEND

Please note that this week's groups follow
 holiday style, and will be supervised by
 Abby. If you need assistance, please
 consult with her. Abby and all the group
 leaders are glad to assist :)

Teen Lounge

Teens welcome to come hang
 out in the lounge for Kiddush
 and games.
11:00am-1:00pm

Have YOU Joined the PJ Library Yet?



The PJ Library at HIR provides free Jewish children's books and music to families in the Riverdale area.

It's easy to enroll! Go to www.pjlibrary.org/ny/HIR Sign up and share news of this program with your friends and neighbors with young children! For more info contact Shuli in the HIR office at 718-796-4730 x102.

Stay tuned for special PJ events being planned for this year!

For Assistance, Please Contact:

Menachem Menchel,

Director of Youth Education & Programming
 Office - 718-796-4730 ext. 119

Cell - 516-233-8285

menachem@thebayit.org



Chanukah Programs @ The Bayit 5774

Third Chanukah Candle - Friday, November 29:

Erev Shabbat Chanukah Lighting by 4:10pm - Sing with us and participate in a communal candle lighting of our large menorah in the Main Sanctuary after Mincha. Mincha will be at 3:50pm. One can light the Chanukia and Shabbat candles at home after 3:30pm and no later than 4:10pm.

Fourth Chanukah Candle - Saturday, November 30: Kumsitz with Rav Avi & the Bayit Band - SEE p. 1.

Fifth Chanukah Candle - Sunday, December 1: Trip to the Met with Eitan Kastner - SEE p. 1.

Glow-in-the-dark Dodgeball with Bnei Akiva @ SAR High School - 10:00am - 12:00pm

Glow-in-the-dark dodgeball, Design your own sufganiyot (jelly donuts), Games, prizes & yummy snacks, Candle lighting. Grades 2-8, Cost: \$7/child; \$10/2 children. RSVP: riverdaleba@gmail.com

Beth Aharon's Annual Chanukah Party - 5:00pm

Join us for songs, sevivonim, sufganiot, holiday crafts and more...in the Social Hall. Suggested donation \$10 per family at the door. Mincha followed by Maariv @ 4:15pm. To RSVP e-mail bethaharon@gmail.com.

All Banners and Friends are welcome!

Sixth Chanukah Candle - Monday, December 2:

Chanukah PJ Library @ Dunkin' Donuts - 4:15pm - 6:00pm

HIR is sponsoring a community-wide Menorah lighting and Chanukah Celebration at Dunkin' Donuts, 259th St. and Riverdale Ave. A PJ Library Puppet show and book reading with Puppeteer Nicola, based on the book *Hershel and the Hanukkah Goblins*. Join us for Chanukah Songs, candle lighting and a free Chanukah donut! Free Chanukah donuts for the first 200 people.

Seventh Chanukah Candle - Tuesday, December 3: Street Lightings Around Riverdale

Bring friends and family as we brighten the Riverdale night with our 6-foot Chanukiah and celebratory music. Dreidels and chocolate gelt for all!

5:15pm - Cafeccino (269 West 231st St. - between Kingsbridge and Corlear)

5:45pm - Corner Café (3718 Riverdale Avenue)

6:15pm - Mother's Bake Shop (548 W. 235th St. - between Oxford and Johnson)

Eighth Chanukah Candle - Wednesday, December 4: Chanukah Chagiga of the Century - 5:15pm

Join us in the lobby of The Century (2600 Netherland Ave.) for a festive chagiga and candle lighting ceremony.

Eighth Day of Chanukah - Thursday, December 5: Golden Age Chanukah Program - 1:00pm - 3:00pm

Join us for Learn & Light Lunch with Rabbi Steven followed by an Adult Bat Mitzvah Class. To RSVP please call the shul office at 718-796-4730 x101.

Special Friends Chanukah Program - 6:30pm - 8:30pm

Celebrate with our special friends with pizza, candle lighting, and a Chanukah art project. If you know of special friends who would like to participate, or to join in and create connections, please contact Rav Steven at ravsteven@thebayit.org.

Sunday, December 15: Post-Chanukah Youth Benefit Carnival - 1:00pm - 3:00pm

Come join in the fun and excitement of the annual HIR Chanukah Carnival! Activities include: Bouncy House, Just Dance with XBOX Kinect, Games Prizes, lunch & more! See you there!



HAPPY CHANUKAH!

THE BAYIT

The Hebrew Institute of Riverdale – The Bayit – is an open Orthodox synagogue serving the entire Jewish community. The Hebrew Institute warmly embraces all Jews, regardless of affiliation, commitment, or background. It is affectionately known as the "Bayit," which is a home; a place of love and welcome. The HIR is known nationally for bringing spirituality into the synagogue, for activism, youth and teen engagement, learning programs, and work on behalf of the elderly, the homebound, and those developmentally and physically challenged.

If these words resonate with you, if our Bayit has touched your life, then please join our growing membership.

Beyond the Bayit - November 29 - December 7, 2013

VCJC AUCTION: The Van Cortlandt Jewish Center is running an online auction at www.biddingforgood.com/vcjc from **Dec. 1st through Dec. 15th**. 100% of the proceeds to benefit the VCJC. Great items available at a fraction of their retail value, including local merchants/service providers.

COMMUNITY BEIT MIDRASH @ YCT: Join YCT, Mechon Hadar and Yeshivat Maharat for Open Beit Midrash Tuesdays nights – now at YCT! Continuing **this Tues., Dec. 3rd**, with Rabbi Ethan Tucker's shiur titled "*When Can Jews Pass as Gentiles?: Reflections on Jews, Power and the Blurring of Cultural and Religious Lines.*" Participating institutions include JTS, JIR – HUC NY, and Drisha Institute. Classes will focus on the Jewish implications of both secular and Jewish fall holidays. For more information visit www.yctorah.org.

A CHANUKAH GATHERING FOR HOLOCAUST SURVIVORS AT THE HEBREW HOME: The Hebrew Home at Riverdale located at 5901 Palisade Avenue will be hosting a Chanukah gathering for Holocaust Survivors with Cantor Natasha on **Tues., Dec. 3rd** at 2:30pm. If you would like to attend please call Rabbi Hirschhorn at 718-581-1416.

THE MA'AYANOT ADULT EDUCATION COMMITTEE IS PROUD TO PRESENT A WEEKLY SHIUR SERIES ON PARSHA AND PARSHANUT: An Analysis of Biblical Commentaries in Light of the Weekly Parsha given by Rabbi Yaakov Blau, Talmud Chair at Ma'ayanot. This series will meet on Tuesdays at 9:45am beginning **Dec. 3rd and continuing through Jan. 7th**. For more information or to sponsor a shiur, please contact Pam Ennis at ennisp@maayanot.org or 201-833-4307, ext. 265.

SCOTCH AND SUSHI RECEPTION FOR SHALVA: Shalva is a non-profit organization which provides services to special needs children in Israel. Join us on **Thurs., Dec. 5th**, 7:30pm at the home of Yocheved & Donald Liss, 3020 Arlington Ave. to hear Mrs. Esther Waxman speak about her son Nachshon, who was captured and murdered by Hamas. Please contact Dani at Daniel@shalva-usa.org for more information, or any questions or concerns that you may have.

KUMSITZ WITH RAV URI TOPOLOSKY @ JOFA: Our very own Rav Uri and Dahlia Topolosky will be leading a kumsitz on **Sat. night Dec. 7th** at the JOFA conference. Be there (with your instruments) to support both of them and the Jewish Orthodox Feminist Alliance! John Jay College West 59th Street. For more information go to www.jofa.org.

8TH INTERNATIONAL JOFA CONFERENCE: **Dec. 7-8**, John Jay College, NYC. Join us for 40+ sessions, panels, films and live music performances! Full schedule: <http://jofa2013.sched.org>. **Register by Dec. 2nd** for a lower priced ticket. For additional info call 212-679-8500 or visit www.jofa.org.

YAVNEH ACADEMY INVITES YOU TO A PARLOR MEETING FOR THE RIVERDALE COMMUNITY: **Sun., Dec. 8th** at 8:00pm, at the home of Rebecca & Yehuda Shmidman, 376 W. 245th St. Come meet our principal, Rabbi Jonathan Knapp, and other members of the Yavneh family. Have your questions answered in an informal environment, and learn more about Yavneh's dynamic, warm and exciting educational program. Busing options from Riverdale will also be discussed. Email vivi.septimus@yavnehacademy.org with any questions.

JEWISH CAREGIVERS SUPPORT GROUP: You are invited to a special session of the Jewish Caregivers Support Group on **Tues., Dec. 10th** from 5:00pm - 6:30pm. Join us as a guest speaker from the Alzheimer's Association will talk about the Safe Return Program and general safety measures for people with memory impairment. Where: Beatman Center, 521 West 239th street, 2nd floor. Please RSVP to Anna Kirshblum LCSW at 718-601-9714 or akirshblum@jbfc.org.

JEWISH ALCOHOLICS, CHEMICALLY DEPENDENT PERSONS AND SIGNIFICANT OTHERS (JACS): JACS is offering two exciting programs in December. A Free Sober Israel Birthright Tour in **late Dec**. To learn more and sign up go to www.israelfreespirit.com/jacs or call JACS at 212-632-4727. JACS is also offering its 69th Spiritual Retreat Weekend on **Dec. 13-15** at the Ramada Conference Center in Fishkill, NY. For more information call JACS at 212-632-4600 or email JACS@jacswb.org or visit www.jbfc.org/JACS.

CPR COURSE AT CHABAD OF RIVERDALE: Riverdale Hatzalah Volunteer EMS will be offering a free American Heart Association CPR course for the community-at-large (no prior knowledge required). This class will cover CPR skills, choking relief and use of an AED. The course will be held on **Sun., Dec. 15th** at 6:00pm at Chabad of Riverdale, 535 W. 246th St. *Registration is required and space is limited.* To register, please go to www.RiverdaleHatzalah.org/cpr. For more information, please contact Charlie Wohlberg at charlie.wohlberg@gmail.com.

2ND ANNUAL SOHEM ALEICHEM YIDDISH KLEZFEST: The Sholem Aleichem Cultural Center, located at 3301 Bainbridge Ave. and 208th Street will host its 2nd Annual Yiddish Klezfest on **Sun., Dec. 29th**, 1:30pm - 5:00pm including the best of international Yiddish song and klezmer. For additional information call 917-930-0295.

PLANT A TREE IN ISRAEL, SUPPORT A TEEN'S TRIP: A teen in the community is fundraising for JNF through their Plant Your Way to Israel Program. If you have an occasion or person to honor, consider planting a tree in Israel. You will be helping the land of Israel and at the same time help a deserving teen with the trip of a lifetime. Half of all funds raised will be put aside for the teen's trip and half will go towards JNF's Forestry work. To donate online go to http://support.jnf.org/site/TR/Events/SecurePages?px=3860297&pg=personal&fr_id=1861.

Beyond the Bayit - November 29 - December 7, 2013

STRIVE FOR JUSTICE, THRIVE IN COMMUNITY WITH THE AVODAH FELLOWSHIP: Applications are officially open for the AVODAH Fellowship, a six month long high-impact learning and community-building experience in New York City for Jewish early-career professionals already working to address the causes and effects of poverty. Join a Jewish community of experienced social justice leaders who will help you develop your skills, and build a support system that will nourish you personally, professionally, and spiritually. Visit www.avodah.net/fellowship for more information.


DONATE SHOES TO CSAIR: The Sisterhood of the Conservative Synagogue Adath Israel of Riverdale is collecting men's, women's and children's gently used shoes and sneakers. Contributions can be left Sunday-Friday in the Lower Lobby collection box of the shul, located at 475 W. 250 St. For questions contact Phyllis Schulberg at hcspgs@optonline.net.

THREE EXCITING RAMAH SPECIALTY DAY CAMPS FOR SUMMER 2014: Ramah Sport, Ramah Outdoors, and Ramah Performs are unique programs that combine specialized instruction with years of Ramah camping experience in a spirited environment where Judaism, Jewish values, and Hebrew language are integral to daily activities. Choose one or more specialty camp options either as part of a Ramah Nyack package or as a distinct experience. For dates, tuition, locations, and program descriptions, please visit www.ramahnyack.org. For questions contact Rabbi Ami Hersh, Assistant Director, Ramah Day Camp in Nyack at ami@campramah.org or at 212-678-8884.

FOOD & GARDEN SCRAPS DROP-OFF AT THE RIVERDALE COMMUNITY COMPOSTING SITE: Although our food/garden scraps drop-off at the CSA has concluded we will continue to accept food/garden scraps throughout the year at our site, 4400 Independence Ave. We accept: fruits & vegetables scraps, shredded newspaper, non-soiled paper, leaves, grass clippings, tea bags, coffee grinds & filters, twigs & small branches. Please only deposit scraps in the scraps collection bin. We also welcome donations of bagged leaves and will be happy to pick them up. More info? 347-699-6520.

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The course will begin on January 29, 2014 and meet at UJA-Federation of New York (130 East 59th Street between Lexington and Park Avenues) in Manhattan. Cost is \$200. Applications are accepted on a rolling basis.
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