

**PJC**  
**PORT JEWISH CENTER**  
OPEN ARMS • OPEN MINDS • OPEN HEARTS

20 Manorhaven Blvd.  
Port Washington, NY 11050  
516-944-7202  
portjewishcenter.org



September/October 2019

Elul/Tishrei/Cheshvan 5780



# High Holy Days

with Port Jewish Center



## Rosh Hashanah

Sunday, September 29  
Erev RH Service at 8PM (UMC)

Monday, September 30  
RH Morning Service at 10AM (UMC)  
RH Family Service at 2 PM (PJC)  
Tashlich Service at 3PM (Manorhaven Beach)

## Yom Kippur

Tuesday, October 8  
Kol Nidre Service at 8PM (UMC)

Wednesday, October 9  
YK Morning Service at 10AM (UMC)  
YK Family Service at 2 PM (PJC)  
YK PM, Yizkor & Neilah Service at 4PM (UMC)

Locations:

PJC: 20 Manorhaven Blvd., Port Washington  
UMC: 35 Middle Neck Road, Port Washington, NY





## High Holy Days Schedule

### **Selichot** - *Saturday, September 21*

Begin the season with a late-night service introducing the themes of the Holy Days, part of a full evening of thought-provoking and community-building programming.

*8:30 pm:* Using poetry and readings from our new machzor (high holy day prayer book), Mishkan HaNefesh, we will search for new and interesting ways to engage spiritually, to touch souls through prayer and ritual, and to discover meaningful areas of Jewish tradition that we haven't yet explored.

*9:30 pm:* Dessert buffet

*10:15 pm:* Havdallah and Selichot Service with Rabbi Mendelson

### Rosh Hashanah

#### *Sunday, September 29*

*8:00 pm:* Erev Rosh Hashanah Services at the United Methodist Church (UMC), 35 Middleneck Road, Port Washington

#### *Monday, September 30*

*10:00 am:* Rosh Hashanah Morning Services at UMC

*2:00 pm:* Family Service at Port Jewish Center (PJC), 20 Manorhaven Boulevard

*3:00 pm:* Tashlich Service at Manorhaven Landing

Tashlich, literally "you shall cast," is a ritual by which we symbolically cast our sins—represented by pebbles or bread crumbs—into a body of moving water. This is a short informal service with shofar and guitar, followed by personal time for the casting of crumbs.

### **Yom Kippur**

#### *Tuesday, October 8*

*8:00 pm:* Kol Nidrei at UMC

#### *Wednesday, October 9*

*10:00 am:* Yom Kippur Morning Services at UMC

*2:00 pm:* Family Service at PJC

*4:00 pm:* Afternoon, Yizkor, and Neilah Services at UMC

## Other 2019/5780 High Holy Day Information

**Service Participants:** The participation of PJC members makes our High Holy Day services special and unique.

**Oneg Rosh Hashanah:** Our Oneg Rosh Hashanah, following Rosh Hashanah evening services, is a time for us to greet new and long-time members, as well as our guests. This reception is made special by contributions of baked goods and other treats by our members.

**Yizkor Memorial Book:** Each year, we print a book and read aloud the names of loved ones provided by our members and friends.

**Prayer Books:** All should bring their own prayer books for the High Holy Days. This year we will again be using Mishkan Hanefesh. New copies are available through the PJC office for \$36. Prayer books are not sold at services. Please order and pick one up in advance from the PJC Office.

**Shofar Blowing:** We welcome members (youth and adults alike) to blow the shofar at our afternoon family services, during tashlikh, and for the final blast at ne'ilah la, the closing Yom Kippur service. In addition, we honor those with well-honed Shofar skills to participate individually during our morning services. If you are new to blowing the shofar and would like a pre-High Holy Day lesson or review, please contact Rabbi Mendelson.

**Non-Members are Welcome at PJC:** PJC has an open-door policy for the High Holy Days and services throughout the year. In addition, we open our adult education classes and most other programs to all who wish to participate.



## Rabbi Alysa Mendelson Graf

This year, we will be celebrating the Jubilee year of Port Jewish Center. According to the Torah, a jubilee year is celebrated every fifty years. Specifically, “You shall count off seven weeks of years—seven times seven years—so that the period of seven weeks of years gives you a total of forty-nine years.” Then, on Yom Kippur, you shall “have the shofar sounded throughout your land and you shall hallow the fiftieth year.” (Lev. 25:8-10) And so, this year when we sound the shofar on Yom Kippur with our *tekiah gedolah*, we will not only proclaim the beginning of a new year, 5780, we will also begin the FIFTIETH year of Port Jewish Center!

Fifty years ago, our founders were determined to create a community for Jewish families that was open to all. Luckily for all of us, they have had continued success over the last five decades. In Port Jewish Center, so many have found a place that truly feels like home. Our membership has been committed to keeping PJC the haimish place it was intended to be, while also remaining on the cutting edge of Jewish innovation. We understand that for a Jewish community to be successful we need to be engaging and to be willing to meet people where they are.

As the current rabbi of PJC (and one who hopes to be here for a long time), I am grateful that the foundation for this kind of congregation was laid by those

who came before me. My predecessors, beginning with our Rabbi Emerita, Donna Berman, and continuing with Rabbis Beth Davidson and Sheila Goloboy, did a tremendous job in working with our passionate lay leadership and the larger congregation, to make PJC the place it is today. And, of course, our long-time Hazzan, Herb Straus z”l, gave his beautiful voice, heart and soul to PJC for decades and in doing so, made a glorious mark on the heart and soul of PJC.

If you look at the archives at PJC, you will find decades worth of pictures that reflect the countless happy occasions and milestones that have been celebrated by our community. Look at the “simcha tree” in our sanctuary and you will see that the roots planted fifty years ago have sprouted 100s of beautiful leaves, which mark the b’nei mitzvah and confirmation of our students (both young and older), who we have celebrated together. Across the room, on our yartzheit memorial board, you will see the names of loved ones we have mourned together. We have shared so much with one another, been there for one another and created many memories together. That is some of the sweetest of the sweetness that is Port Jewish Center.

We have planned many ways to celebrate our Jubilee year at PJC. I am grateful to our Jubilee team, led by Renae Cohen, Linda Feldman and Adam Lenter, for their hard work over the

summer and their continued work in the year ahead, to make sure PJC is properly celebrated. In the next few



weeks, we will be sending out a calendar of Jubilee events so you can help us mark this milestone in PJC’s history. I hope you will plan to be with us for as many events as you are able. We will be welcoming back our PJC rabbis, re-enacting our march from UMC to PJC with our Torah, and celebrating on May 2nd with our annual gala.

As we begin our Jubilee year, I feel blessed to be able to serve this incredible community as your rabbi. I am grateful to all who came before me, from our rabbis and Hazzan, to so many incredible members of the PJC family who were determined to see that our little community thrived. Because of them, because of you, we are still here and have a beautiful future ahead of us. Before we know it, the *tekiah gedolah* will sound, and as it does, I will look forward to beginning the next chapter in our congregation’s history with you.

*Rabbi Alysa Mendelson Graf*



## News of the Congregation

### Thank you to:

- ✻ Rich Feldman for coordinating Second Night Seder and Shabbat Under the Stars
- ✻ Robin & Jon Helfat for hosting Shabbat Under the Stars
- ✻ Rochelle Potak for leading services when the Rabbi was out of town

### Mazel tov to:

- ✻ Fredda & Mark Meltzer on the marriage of their daughter Jennie to Evan Schmidt
- ✻ Our High School graduates: Andrew Beberman, Josh Gitman, Jacob Keller, Emma Levin, Haley Lustbader, Rebecca Orlick, Rachel Silberg, and Pamela Stern

### Condolences to:

- ✻ Judy Sofen on the passing of her mother, Dora Friedland
- ✻ Adam & Jane Bernstein on the passing of their son, Phillip
- ✻ Richard Mayeri on the passing of his father, Elias

## Shabbat Services

- Friday, September 6, 8:00 pm – Shabbat Service
- Friday September 13, 8:00 pm – Shabbat Service
- Friday, September 20, 8:00 pm- Shabbat Service
- Friday, September 27, 8:00 pm – Shabbat Service
- Friday, October 4, 8:00 pm – Shabbat Service
- Friday, October 11, 8:00 pm – Shabbat Service
- Friday, October 18, 8:00 pm – Shabbat Service
- Saturday, October 19, 10:30 am –Maximo Mayeri's Bar Mitzvah
- Friday, October 25, 8:00 pm – Shabbat Service
- Saturday, October 26, 10:30 am – Ava Karnsomtob's Bat Mitzvah

## Weekly Torah Portions

September 6	Shoftim	Deuteronomy 16:18-21:9
September 13	Ki Tetze	Deuteronomy 21:10-25:19
September 20	Ki Tavo	Deuteronomy 26:1-29:8
September 27	Nitzavim	Deuteronomy 29:9-30:20
October 4	Vayelech	Deuteronomy 31:1-31:30
October 11	Ha'azinu	Deuteronomy 32:1-32:52
October 18	Chol Hamo'ed Sukkot	Exodus 33:12-34:26
October 25	B'reisheet	Genesis 1:1-6:8



## Co-President Nancy Kaplan

This is an exciting year for Port Jewish Center. It's PJC's jubilee year, the 50th anniversary of the establishment of our synagogue. Many members of the congregation are familiar with the history of PJC, but the newbies, including me, are not.

In 1970, 11 Port Washington families formed Port Jewish Center. The founders were the Aprils, Barams, Ellners, Farbermans, Gerbers, Kupferbergs, Lustigs, Moris, Pappells, Rosenbaums, and Zimmermans. They had an ark built by one of their members, Kurt Rosenbaum, and a Torah rescued from the holocaust. They had no rabbi or permanent home, but they had a commitment to Judaism and to a Jewish education for their children.

From 1970-1986 PJC's home varied in location, starting with The Community Synagogue, and then the United Methodist Church in 1978. Cantor Herb Strauss volunteered in the beginning to serve as cantor and continued in that position until his death in 2007. A religious school was organized by congregants in

1969/1970, and a part-time rabbi was hired through a program at Hebrew Union College, which assigned rabbinical students for one to two years to congregations in need. The first High Holiday Service, led by Rabbi Eugene Borowitz, was held for the congregants, and everyone in the community was welcomed to attend. This policy has not changed.

Student and part time rabbis served the growing PJC congregation until 1981. Rabbi Donna Berman led the congregation for twelve years from 1981-1993. She was followed by Rabbi Beth Davidson, who served the congregation for twelve years, from 1993-2005. Rabbi Sheila Goloboy began an eight year term in 2005, followed by Rabbi Alysa Mendelson-Graf, our current spiritual leader. Under Rabbi Berman's leadership the congregation grew to about 150 families.

A permanent home for Port Jewish Center was established at 20 Manorhaven Blvd. in 1986, thanks to the extraordinary generosity of the Brodsky family. That building was expanded to include

the building next door. Currently our membership averages 100 families. Our mission continues to be:



*Port Jewish Center provides a warm, down-to-earth, accepting Reform Jewish environment where our members can take from and give to the temple based on their personal needs at various points in their life cycle.*

I hope you will all join me as we celebrate the 50th birthday of PJC at the many and varied events being planned by our Jubilee Committee. It is always my pleasure to greet you at Friday night services, holiday celebrations and social events.

*Nancy Kaplan*





## Religious School Director

Welcome back to the 2019-2020 school year. I hope everyone had a great summer. I am looking forward to greeting our students on Monday, September 9th. I love to see how much they have grown and matured over the summer.

Our goals at PJC Religious School are to instill within our students a love of Judaism and a connection to the Jewish community. We teach the fundamentals of Torah, holidays, Hebrew, and heritage needed to be an active member of the Jewish community. We strive to build a sense of belonging and love of the Jewish community in our school, in our synagogue, in Israel and around the world. But more than all of that, we want each of our children to be a *mensch*—“a person of integrity and honor”; a good person. Our theme for this school year is “Making Mensches: A Periodic Table”. Based on research by Tiffany Shlain’s Periodic Table of Character Strengths and adapted by Rabbi Avi Orlow from

the Foundation for Jewish Camps, this is a periodic table of character traits/values, or *midot*, that are key to success in living as a *mensch*.

This year, we will explore some of these *midot*. Character development leads to success not only in school. It creates people who are engaged, which can lead to a more just world. Throughout the year we will look at such values as wisdom, courage, compassion, patience, gratitude and joy, to name a few. We will come to see how each of these *midot* plays a role in helping to make us *mensch*es.

*“The Maharal of Prague (Rabbi Yehudab Loeb, d. 1609) created a golem, and this was a great wonder. But how much more wonderful is it to transform a corporeal human being into a mensch!”—Rabbi Israel Salanter.*

On opening day, we will welcome Mad Science to help us kick off our year

and our theme of Making Mensches. We will focus on the value of “*Kehillah*,” or community, and the crucial role that each one of us plays in our Port Jewish Center community. I look forward to seeing familiar faces and welcoming new families into our community.

If you have any questions, please don’t hesitate to reach out to me. I am looking forward to an amazing school year.

All the best,

*Lauren Chizner*





## Bar Mitzvah — Maximo Mayeri — October 19

Maximo Mayeri is an eighth grader at Weber Middle School of Port Washington. He was born in Port Washington. Max keeps himself busy with his passion of drawing. He loves reading and making comic strips. Some of his work has been published in the school newspaper. Not too long ago, he joined the fencing club in Port Washington, hoping one day to compete at the national level like his father. Max will be celebrating his Bar Mitzvah in October with friends and family who will be arriving from far and away to spend this special time with him. His grandparents, aunt, and cousins are from Atlanta and his dear uncle is from Costa Rica. This occasion will honor his recently departed grandfather Elias.



## Bat Mitzvah — Ava Karnsomtob Mayeri — October 26

Ava Karnsomtob is an 8th grader at Weber Middle school. She enjoys playing volleyball and field hockey. Ava also enjoys hanging out with friends and going to the movies. She is excited to be making her Bat Mitzvah in October. For her mitzvah project, Ava chose to help the Ronald McDonald House. She is going to be collecting items to donate and will be going to the Ronald McDonald House in New Hyde Park to cook for the families living there. She has a friend who had cancer and wanted to help others who are also going through treatment.





**PJC Religious School's  
Monday Night Family Dinner**

**Don't Cook, Just Come!**  
Begins at 6PM

9/9, 10/21, 12/16, 1/13, 2/10,  
3/9 (Purim), 5/11

RSVP to:  
[info@portjewishcenter.org](mailto:info@portjewishcenter.org)

We'll provide a home cooked meal,  
you enjoy good conversation  
and community.

**Religious School Starts  
Monday, September 9, 2019  
4:15-6:15 PM**

**Save The Dates**  
.....

September 9*, 16, 23	February 3, 10*, 24
October 7, 21*, 28	March 2, 9*, 16, 23, 30
November 4, 18*, 25	April 6, 20, 27
December 2, 9, 16*	May 4, 11* (last day)
January 6, 13*, 27	

**\*Monday Night Family Dinner**



# HEBREW HS

MONDAYS, 6:30-8:00PM

9/16, 10/21 (SIMCHAT TORAH), 10/28,  
11/18 (TRIP TO HVC SOUP KITCHEN-NYC),  
11/25, 12/2, 12/16, 1/13,  
1/19 (SUNDAY, MITZVAH DAY/MLK JR DAY),  
1/27, 2/3, 2/24,  
3/2 (4:15PM START, HOUSES FOR CHANGE),  
3/9 (PURIM SPIEL), 3/30, 4/6,  
4/20 (YOM HASHOAH SERVICE), 5/4 (LAST DAY)

## Stories and Crafts for the Jewish Holidays



with Port Jewish Center at  
The Dolphin Bookshop & Café

**9/22/19: High Holy Days**

**10/20/19: Sukkot**

**12/8/19: Chanukah**

**1/12/20: Shabbat**

**2/23/20: Purim**

**4/5/20: Passover**



*No tickets necessary!*

*Children of all ages welcome!*

*Come one come all!*

**Family High Holy Day Services**

**Rosh Hashanah**  
Monday, September 30 at 2PM

**Yom Kippur**  
Wednesday, October 9 at 2PM

at Port Jewish Center  
20 Manorhaven Blvd  
Port Washington, NY  
516-944-7202

[www.portjewishcenter.org](http://www.portjewishcenter.org)



**CELEBRATE SUKKOT at PJC**  
our z'man simchateinu ~ season of our rejoicing  
**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 13 @ 4:30PM**  
CRAFTS, BBQ DINNER & a BRIEF, FAMILY FRIENDLY SERVICE

RSVP: [INFO@PORTJEWISHCENTER.ORG](mailto:INFO@PORTJEWISHCENTER.ORG)

PORT JEWISH CENTER, 20 MANORHAVEN BLVD, PORT WASHINGTON, NY ~ [WWW.PORTJEWISHCENTER.ORG](http://WWW.PORTJEWISHCENTER.ORG)



**PJC AT THE DOLPHIN**  
celebrate SUKKOT & SIMCHAT TORAH  
Sunday, October 20 @ 11:00am  
STORY & a HOLIDAY CRAFT WITH RABBI MENDELSON  
FROM PORT JEWISH CENTER



FOR CHILDREN OF ALL AGES!

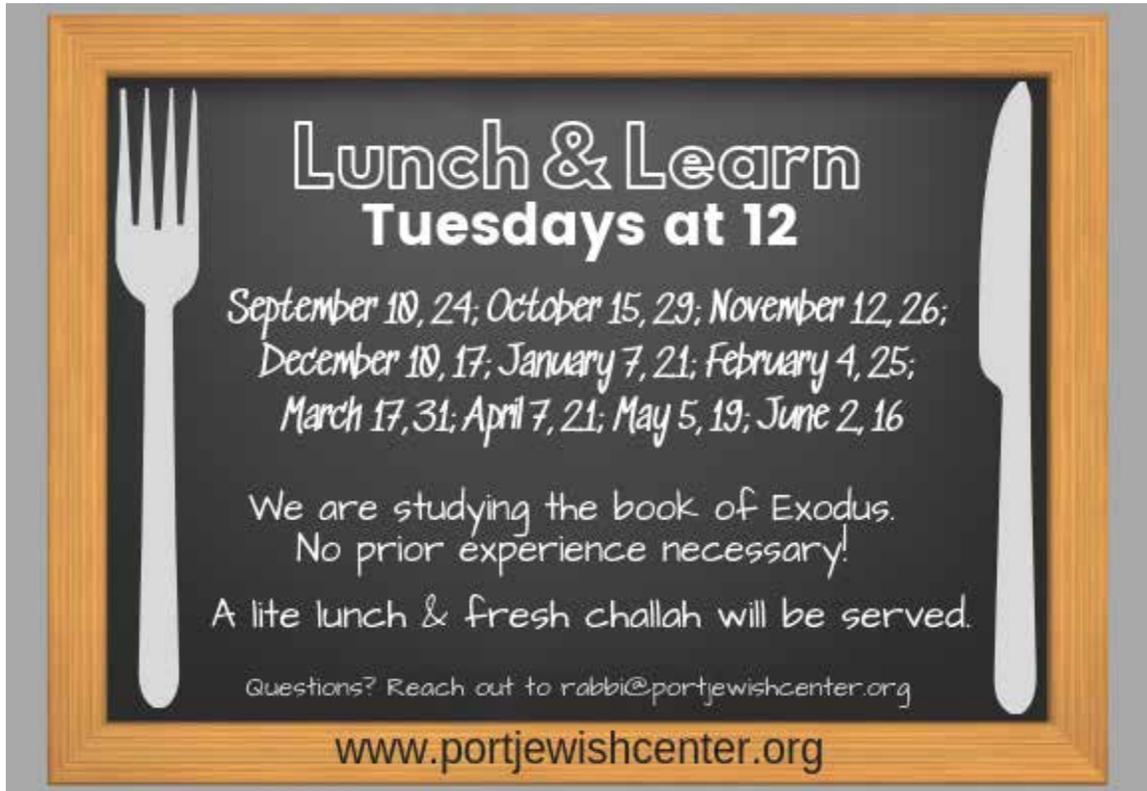
You've prayed . . . you've fasted . . . now its time to dance!



**PJC's Simchat Torah Celebration  
& New Student Consecration  
Monday, October 21**

**Dinner at 5:30 pm ~ Service & Consecration at 6:30 pm**

Our celebration is in lieu of religious school!  
All students are expected to attend.



**Lunch & Learn  
Tuesdays at 12**

September 10, 24; October 15, 29; November 12, 26;  
December 10, 17; January 7, 21; February 4, 25;  
March 17, 31; April 7, 21; May 5, 19; June 2, 16

We are studying the book of Exodus.  
No prior experience necessary!

A lite lunch & fresh challah will be served.

Questions? Reach out to [rabbi@portjewishcenter.org](mailto:rabbi@portjewishcenter.org)

[www.portjewishcenter.org](http://www.portjewishcenter.org)



**Port Washington  
Rosh Chodesh Group  
5790/2020**

**Thursdays:**

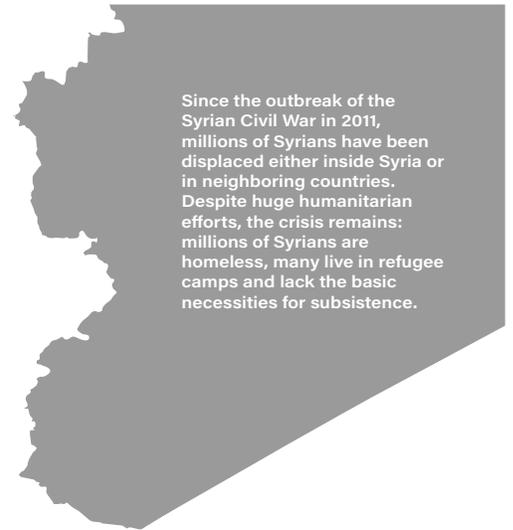
10/31 Rabbi Irwin Zeplovitz  
11/21 Rabbi Alysa Mendelson Graf  
2/27 Rabbi Sam Pollak  
3/26 Rabbi Mike Mishkin  
4/23 Cantor Claire Franco  
5/21 Cantor Sharon Grainer

The Rosh Chodesh Group is  
jointly sponsored by TCS, PJC, and TBI.  
For further information contact  
Charlotte Cohen:  
[chacohen02@gmail.com](mailto:chacohen02@gmail.com)



Whoever saves one life  
saves all of humanity.

# HELP RESETTLE A SYRIAN



Since the outbreak of the Syrian Civil War in 2011, millions of Syrians have been displaced either inside Syria or in neighboring countries. Despite huge humanitarian efforts, the crisis remains: millions of Syrians are homeless, many live in refugee camps and lack the basic necessities for subsistence.

# REFUGEE FAMILY



The Social Action Committee, in connection with Levant Canada (a not-for-profit organization), is raising funds to allow a Syrian family to resettle in Canada. The funds raised will be sent to Levant Canada with the express purpose of resettling the family and taking care of their urgent needs.

Donate now and make a difference:  
[tbiport.org/giving/social-action](https://tbiport.org/giving/social-action)



## Adult Education

### Lunch and Learn

Tuesday, September 10 & 24, October 15 & 29 at 12 pm.

### Book Club Wednesdays at 8:00 pm

**September 18**, *The Gallery of Vanished Husbands*, by Natasha Solomons,

London, 1958. It's the eve of the sexual revolution, but in Juliet Montague's conservative Jewish community where only men can divorce women, she finds herself a living widow, invisible. Ever since her husband disappeared seven years ago, Juliet has been a hardworking single mother of two and unnaturally practical. But on her thirtieth birthday, that's all about to change. A wealthy young artist asks to paint her portrait, and Juliet, moved by the powerful desire to be seen, enters into the burgeoning art world of 1960s London, which will bring her fame, fortune, and a life-long love affair. 352p. 2013.

**October 23**, *Barbie and Ruth: The Story of the World's Most Famous Doll and the Woman Who Created Her*,

by Robin Gerber

*Barbie and Ruth* is the incredible, inspiring, tragic, and ultimately redeeming true story of how Ruth Handler, the tenth child of Polish Jewish immigrants, built the largest toy company in the world and created an enduring international icon. 288p. 2009.

**November 20**, *Eternal Life*, by Dara Horn

Rachel is a woman with a problem: she can't die. Her recent troubles, widowhood, a failing business, an unemployed middle-aged son, are only the latest in a litany spanning dozens of countries, scores of marriages, and hundreds of children. In the 2,000 years since she made a spiritual bargain to save the life of her first son back in Roman-occupied Jerusalem, she's tried everything to free herself, and only one other person in the world understands: a man she once loved passionately, who has been stalking her through the centuries, convinced they belong together forever. But as the twenty-first century begins and her children and grandchildren, consumed with immortality in their own ways, from the frontiers of digital currency to genetic engineering, develop new technologies that could change her fate and theirs, Rachel knows she must find a way out. Gripping, hilarious, and profoundly moving, *Eternal Life* celebrates the bonds between generations, the power of faith, the purpose of death, and the reasons for being alive. 256p. 2018.

**December 18**, *Cooking Gene*, by Michael Twitty

From the tobacco and rice farms of colonial times to plantation kitchens and backbreaking cotton fields, Twitty tells his family story through the foods that enabled his ancestors' survival across three centuries. He sifts through stories, recipes, genetic tests, and historical documents, and travels from Civil War battlefields in Virginia to synagogues in Alabama to Black-owned organic farms in Georgia. As he takes us through his ancestral culinary history, Twitty suggests that healing may come from embracing the discomfort of the Southern past. Along the way, he reveals a truth that is more than skin deep—the power that food has to bring the kin of the enslaved and their former slaveholders to the table, where they can discover the real America together. 464p. 2017.



**January 15, *Lilac Girls*, by Martha Hall Kelly**

New York socialite Caroline Ferriday's world is forever changed when Hitler's army invades Poland in September 1939—and then sets its sights on France. Kasia Kuzmerick, a Polish teenager, senses her carefree youth disappearing as she is drawn deeper into her role as courier for the underground resistance movement. The ambitious young German doctor, Herta Oberheuser, finds herself trapped in a male-dominated realm of Nazi secrets and power. The lives of these three women are set on a collision course when the unthinkable happens and Kasia is sent to Ravensbrück concentration camp. Their stories cross continents—from New York to Paris, Germany, and Poland—as Caroline and Kasia strive to bring justice to those whom history has forgotten. 496p. 2017.

**February 2, *If All the Seas Were Ink*, by Ilana Kurshan**

Ilana Kurshan's memoir is impressive for many reasons. On its face the story is about a woman, the author, and how she recovered from her divorce through *daf yomi*, the daily practice of studying the Talmud, which took over seven years to complete. But Kurshan's divorce is neither the focus of her book nor the main story of her life. Rather, the book's topics range widely, from Kurshan's childhood to her aliyah to Israel, to parenthood. Organized in a loosely chronological fashion, it is arranged by Talmud tractates. The power of this memoir arises from the expert connections Kurshan draws between her personal story and the talmudic anecdotes. 320p. 2017.

**March 18, *Judas*, by Amos Oz**

Jerusalem, 1959. Shmuel Ash, a biblical scholar, is adrift in his young life when he finds work as a caregiver for a brilliant but cantankerous old man named Gershom Wald. There is, however, a third, mysterious presence in his new home. Atalia Abarbanel, the daughter of a deceased Zionist leader, a beautiful woman in her forties, entrances young Shmuel even as she keeps him at a distance. Piece by piece, the old Jerusalem stone house, haunted by tragic history and now home to the three misfits and their intricate relationship, reveals its secrets. At once an exquisite love story and coming-of-age novel, an allegory for the state of Israel and for the biblical tale from which it draws its title, *Judas* is Amos Oz's most powerful novel in decades. 325p. 2016.

**April 29, *Spies of no Country: Secret Lives at the Birth of Israel*, by Matti Friedman**

The four agents at the center of this story were part of a ragtag unit known as the Arab Section, conceived during World War II by British spies and Jewish militia leaders in Palestine. Intended to gather intelligence and carry out sabotage operations, the unit consisted of Jews who were native to the Arab world and could thus easily assume Arab identities. In 1948, with Israel's existence hanging in the balance, these men went undercover in Beirut, where they spent the next two years operating out of a newsstand, collecting intelligence and sending messages back to Israel via a radio whose antenna was disguised as a clothesline. They would emerge as the nucleus of the Mossad, Israel's vaunted intelligence agency. *Spies of No Country* is about the slippery identities of these young spies, but it's also about the complicated identity of Israel, a country that presents itself as Western but in fact has more citizens with Middle Eastern roots and traditions, like the spies of this narrative. 272p. 2019.

**May 27, *Naamah*, by Sarah Blake**

Acclaimed writer Sarah Blake reclaims the story of Noah's wife, Naamah, the matriarch who kept them alive. Here is the woman torn between faith and fury, lending her strength to her sons and their wives, caring for an unruly menagerie of restless creatures, silently mourning the lover she left behind. Here is the woman escaping into the unreceded waters, where a seductive angel tempts her to join a strange and haunted world. Here is the woman tormented by dreams and questions of her own - questions of service and self-determination, of history and memory, of the kindness or cruelty of fate. 304p. 2019.



**June 17, *I.M.: a Memoir*, by Isaac Mizrahi**

In *I.M.*, Isaac Mizrahi offers a poignant, candid, and touching look back on his life so far. Growing up gay in a sheltered Syrian Jewish Orthodox family, Isaac had unique talents that ultimately drew him into fashion and later into celebrity circles that read like a who's who of the twentieth and twenty-first centuries: Richard Avedon, Audrey Hepburn, Anna Wintour, Mikhail Baryshnikov, Meryl Streep, and Oprah Winfrey, to name only a few. In his elegant memoir, Isaac delves into his lifelong battles with weight, insomnia, and depression. He tells what it was like to be an out gay man in a homophobic age and to witness the ravaging effects of the AIDS epidemic. Brimming with intimate details and inimitable wit, Isaac's narrative reveals not just the glamour of his years, but the grit beneath the glitz. Rich with memorable stories from in and out of the spotlight, *I.M.* illuminates deep emotional truths. 384p. 2019.

**Happy Birthday to Us – September and October Birthdays**

9/1	Mikayla Hyman	9/29	Brian Hyland	10/19	Adam Cohen
9/2	Jaime Levin	9/30	Daniel Wallick	10/19	Nicole McGuire
9/5	Neil Schultz	10/2	Bert Brodsky	10/19	Andrew Hollander
9/7	Jay Beberman	10/3	Sarah Silverstein	10/21	Ellen Katz
9/10	Allison Roditi	10/3	Matthew Pagano	10/24	Steven Greif
9/14	Kathy Bernhard	10/5	Lisa Miller	10/26	Jerry Halm
9/21	Fredda Meltzer	10/7	Steven Kaplan	10/27	Sophie Klemes
9/21	Dan Lorber	10/12	Adam Lenter	10/28	Angie Klemes
9/22	Leonard Rosenberg	10/14	Ryan Roditi	10/29	Rena Cohen
9/25	Judith Corn	10/18	Gary Cohen	10/30	Michele Greene
9/28	Kyra Thaler	10/18	Tina Fuchs		

**Views From the Board**

*July 15*

The new PJC Board met on July 15, 2019. As this is the 50th year anniversary of PJC, a Jubilee celebration was discussed. A 3-chair committee will focus on all aspects in the coming year for special programming and fundraising (including the annual gala) related to the Jubilee.

The Treasurer reviewed the budget and a discussion was held about the officer and board member responsibilities for the coming year. Also discussed were the gala, summer Shabbats, new and potential new members, the progressive dinner (set for December 7th), construction (including landscaping), and a local community support campaign. The next board meeting will be held on August 19th.

*August 19*

The PJC Board of Trustees' monthly meeting was held on August 19, 2019. The Jubilee committee, led by Rena Cohen, Linda Feldman and Adam Lenter, reported on special events and programs planned throughout the year, including a celebratory Gala on May 2, 2020 at the Village Club.

The Treasurer gave a financial report and noted four new member families and the total amount of dues collected thus far. Dues can now be paid using VENMO, with no extra charge for credit card payments. Preparations are being made for the High Holy Days and a busy fall season of religious celebrations. The next board meeting will be held on September 9th.



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## Wills and Trusts

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## Probate

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## Planning for Medicaid

### Advertising Opportunity

Do you have a business or service you would like to advertise in this newsletter? Display your business card in the PJC newsletter for one year. Fees: \$75 for members, \$125 for non-members. Contact Cindy in the office at 944-7202.



## Donations

### General Fund

Observing the yahrzeit of Donald Low,  
Observing the yahrzeit of Lyman  
Yarborough  
*Corbey & Andy Hyman*

Observing the yahrzeit of Steven Schul-  
man, Observing the yahrzeit of Ira Julian  
Schulman, Observing the yahrzeit of  
Mary Maltese  
*Elyse & Jim Lemonda*

Observing the yahrzeit of Lucille  
Isaacs, Observing the yahrzeit of  
Eva Brodsky, Observing the yahrzeit of  
Baruch Brodsky, Observing the yahrzeit  
of Doris Mohel  
*Muriel & Bert Brodsky*

All the best to Rabbi Mendelson on her  
5th year with PJC  
*Rabbi Irwin Zepowitz and the board of  
trustees at Community Synagogue*

Observing the yahrzeit of Aaron Littman  
*Littman/Klopp Family*

In memory of Harold Keller  
*Bill Keller & Lynn Steinberg*

Mazel tov to Janice and Gary Zeltzer on  
the birth of their grandson Marley  
Observing the yahrzeit of Trudy Dreyfus  
*Joan Charney*

Observing the yahrzeit of Valerie  
Altschuler  
*Lynn Graf*

Observing the yahrzeit of Moe Klang  
*Bob Klang*

Observing the yahrzeit of Harold Alpert  
*Lisa & Rob Alpert*

In celebration of Fredda & Mark Melt-  
zer's daughter Jennie's marriage to Evan  
Schmidt  
*Helen & Richie Albertson*

Observing the yahrzeits of Henrietta  
Heden, Max Labenson, Sidney Heden,  
Dorothy Labenson, Sarah Labenson and  
William Hochhauser  
*Arlene & Joe Labenson*

In honor of Bob Klang's Distinguished  
Teacher of 2019 Award by the Harvard  
Club of Long Island, In memory of Dora  
Friedland, mother of Judy Sofen, In hon-  
or of the birth of Amira Pearl Klazmer,  
granddaughter of Renae Cohen & Arlene  
Wasserman, In honor of the birth of Mar-  
lowe George Zeltzer, grandson of Janice  
& Gary Zeltzer  
*Roberta & Michael Cooperman*

In honor of the birth of Marley Zeltzer,  
grandson of Janice & Gary Zeltzer,  
In honor of the marriage of Jennie  
Meltzer, daughter of Fredda & Mark  
Meltzer to Evan Schmidt, Observing  
the yahrzeit of Frances Bernhard,  
mother of Steve Bernhard, Speedy  
recovery to Michael Cooperman, Speedy  
recovery to Stan Strauss, Good health to  
Roberta Cooperman  
*Kathy & Steve Bernhard*

Observing the yahrzeit of Ruth Leopold,  
In honor of Neta & Steve Orłowski's  
new grandson, Finn, In honor of the bar  
mitzvah of Ellen & Marvin Makofsky's  
grandson Ellis, In honor of Jonathan  
Klopp's confirmation, In honor of the  
marriage of Jennie Meltzer, daughter of  
Fredda & Mark  
*Leslie & Arnie Sucher*

Observing the yahrzeit of William Engle  
*Robin & Jon Helfat*

In support of music at Port Jewish Center  
*Evelyn Strauss*

Observing the yahrzeit of Phillip Sil-  
verstein, In honor of the graduations of  
Sarah & David Silverstein, In honor of  
Paige Silverstein returning home  
*Adam & Stephanie Silverstein*

In memory of my wonderful brothers,  
Norman and Larry Feldhun  
*Mina Bobek*

Observing the yahrzeit of Marian  
Morgenstern  
*Stuart Morgenstern*

Observing the yahrzeit of Joseph  
Schachter  
*Amy & Brian Hyland*

Observing the yahrzeit of Alfred Garris  
Observing the yahrzeit of Seth Miller  
*Lisa Miller*



Observing the yahrzeit of Steve Sofen,  
In memory of Dora Friedland  
*Judy Sofen*

### Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

In appreciation for Rabb Mendelson's  
work in preparing Jonathan for  
confirmation  
*Brett Klopp & Cheryl Littman*

In memory of Phillip John Bernstein, son  
of Jane and Adam Bernstein, brother of  
Jenny, Rachel and Jacob  
*Arlene & Joe Labenson*

## PARTNERS IN CARING (PIC)

Sid Jacobson JCC's Partners in Caring offers an array of specialized services including support groups, counseling, information and community referrals, workshops, autism and Alzheimer's programs, as well as other social services. Together with UJA-Federation of New York and your synagogue, we are your partner in caring for you and your family.

PIC helps create a caring, responsive Jewish community by providing support for:

- Bereavement
- Parenting
- Life Cycle Issues
- Marital/Family Concerns
- Divorce/Separation
- Caregiving issues
- Respite programs and services

For assistance, contact us at 516-484-1545 ext. 196.

A licensed social worker will respond promptly to provide you with information and support.

*Partners in Caring is funded by a grant from UJA-Federation of New York and partnering synagogues.*



SJJCC.ORG



## Rosh Chodesh

What is Rosh Chodesh? A special day that Jewish feminists have “reclaimed” for feminine spirituality. Tradition says that as a reward for our faithfulness, God gave women Rosh Chodesh, the first day of the new month, and even exempted us from our usual household duties. Take a morning just for yourself, and for Jewish study and renewal. The Port Washington Rosh Chodesh Group meets at the start of every new Jewish month. We are a warm, friendly inter-generational group of Jewish women (men welcome, too!) exploring new and timeless topics and texts.

**The October 31, 2019 meeting will be held at Community Synagogue, 9:30 – 11:00 am**

Join us as we discuss

**“Demons, Dybbuks, Ghosts and Golems” with Rabbi Irwin Zeplovitz**

A Jewish look at the supernatural and consulting the dead, closing with a discussion about whether Jews should embrace, tolerate or oppose Halloween.

Rabbi Zeplovitz, affectionately called “Rabbi Z,” studied in Toronto, Jerusalem, Los Angeles and Cincinnati, where he was ordained in 1984. He became Senior Rabbi at the Community Synagogue in 2003. Rabbi Z is prominent in medical ethics and founder of several social action and social groups. Along with his wife, Anne, he is the recipient of the 2012 Humanitarian Award by the World Union for Progressive Judaism. He has served as a scholar in a number of synagogues, has appeared on radio and TV, and has spoken in numerous community settings. He has articles published in journals and newspapers on Jewish law. Spirituality and politics, including a series on the Book of Exodus for the Union for Reform Judaism website.

The next meeting is on Thursday 11/21/19 with Rabbi Alysa Mendelson Graf .

## Humor Column

### **Wisdom from an old Jewish man!**

A female CNN journalist heard about a very old Jewish man who had been going to the Western Wall to pray, twice a day, every day, for a long, long time.

So she went to check it out.

She went to the Western Wall and there he was, walking slowly up to the holy site.

She watched him pray and after about 45 minutes, when he turned to leave, using a cane and moving very slowly, she approached him for an interview.

"Pardon me, sir, I'm Rebecca Smith from CNN. What's your name?"

"Morris Feinberg," he replied.

"Sir, how long have you been coming to the Western Wall and praying?"

"For about 60 years."

"60 years! That's amazing! What do you pray for?"

"I pray for peace between the Christians, Jews and the Muslims."

"I pray for all the wars and all the hatred to stop."

"I pray for all our children to grow up safely as responsible adults and to love their fellow man."

"I pray that politicians tell us the truth and put the interests of the people ahead of their own interests."

"How do you feel after doing this for 60 years?"

"Like I'm talking to a darn wall."



## September Yahrzeits

To be read September 6

- 9/3 Anne Emsig Sucher, mother of Arnie Sucher\*
- 9/5 Miriam Katz, grandmother of Ralph Katz\*

To be read September 13

- 9/10 Max Golub, grandfather of Heidi Oringer
- 9/12 Simon Berman, father of Linda Berman

To be read September 20

- 9/15 Anthony Lemonda, father of James Lemonda
- 9/17 Gustine Bruckmann, grandmother of Joan Charney
- 9/17 Anne Lench, mother of Arlene Wasserman\*
- 9/18 Irwin Harrison, uncle of Andrew Hyman
- 9/20 Norman Feldhun, brother of Mina Bobek

To be read September 27

- 9/21 Larry Feldhun, brother of Mina Bobek
- 9/21 Pearl Becker, mother of Sandy Hyman
- 9/21 Irwin Thrope, father of Jeffrey Thrope
- 9/21 Esther Levine, grandmother of Linda Berman
- 9/22 Chester Tow, father of Ilise Tow-Friedman
- 9/24 Ida Goldman, grandmother of Robert Alpert
- 9/25 Jennie Small, grandmother of Mark Meltzer
- 9/26 John Levin, father of Samuel Levin
- 9/27 Chester Rose, father of Fredda Meltzer



*Zichronam livrachah.  
May their memories  
be a blessing  
for us all.*

*\*Asterisks indicate that a loved one has been permanently memorialized with a plaque in the temple sanctuary.  
If you are interested in acquiring a plaque for your loved one, please contact the PJC office.*



## October Yahrzeits

### To be read October 4

- 9/28 Peter Maltese, grandfather of James Lemonda
- 10/1 George M. Zeltzer, father of Gary Zeltzer\*
- 10/3 Julius Mayer, father of Joseph Mayer
- 10/4 Gloria Herman, wife of Stuart Herman
- 10/4 Felipa Castro, mother of Angie Klemes

### To be read October 11

- 10/5 Bonnie Corn, mother of Judith Corn
- 10/10 Miriam Klang, mother of Robert Klang
- 10/10 Albert Appel, father of Marsha Appel
- 10/10 Florence Love, mother of Barbara Mayer
- 10/10 Manfred Strauss, father in law of Evelyn Strauss
- 10/11 Shirley Berger, mother of Janice Zeltzer\*

### To be read October 18

- 10/16 Benjamin Katz, father of Ralph Katz\*
- 10/16 Kathleen Ellegaard, mother of Michael Ellegaard
- 10/16 June Keller, mother of William Keller\*
- 10/16 Dorothy Golub, grandmother of Heidi Oringer
- 10/17 Bessie Labenson, mother of Joe Labenson\*
- 10/18 Joseph Epstein, father of Judy Epstein
- 10/18 Minnie Warshawsky, grandmother of Rochelle Potak
- 10/18 Grace Zeltzer, aunt of Gary Zeltzer

### To be read October 25

- 10/20 Bernard Helfat, father of Jonathan Helfat\*
- 10/21 Jerome Lorber, father of Daniel Lorber
- 10/23 Lillian Mayer, mother of Joseph Mayer
- 10/25 Evelyn Burns, mother of Barbara Lemyre, grandmother of Stefanie Seidner
- 10/25 Vivian Smith, mother of Nancy Federlein\*

## Remember a Loved One

Our Memorial Board is a way of remembering loved ones and keeping them in our minds when we are in the sanctuary, particularly during the month in which a yahrzeit falls. A plaque on our memorial board is a beautiful tribute to a blessed memory.

Please contact Cindy for more information.



## Port Jewish Center Organization

### PJC office hours:

Monday 12:30-6:30 pm, Wednesday and Friday 10:00 am - 4:00 pm

Port Jewish Center newsletter submission deadline is the 10<sup>th</sup> of the month prior to publication.

Newsletter Editor: Susan Rosenberg

Please send all submissions to: [susanmrosenberg1@gmail.com](mailto:susanmrosenberg1@gmail.com)

20 Manorhaven Boulevard Port Washington, New York 11050, 516-944-7202

### Clergy And Staff

Rabbi Alysa Mendelson Graf | [rabbi@portjewishcenter.org](mailto:rabbi@portjewishcenter.org)

Lauren Chizner, Religious School Director | [school@portjewishcenter.org](mailto:school@portjewishcenter.org)

Cindy Ellner, Office Manager | [info@portjewishcenter.org](mailto:info@portjewishcenter.org)

Laurie Ellis, Bookkeeper | [bookkeeper@portjewishcenter.org](mailto:bookkeeper@portjewishcenter.org)

Marcelo Fernandez, Custodian

PARTY (formerly PJCY) Advisor | [party@portjewishcenter.org](mailto:party@portjewishcenter.org)

### Officers

Co-Presidents: Nancy Kaplan & Jay Beberman | [president@portjewishcenter.org](mailto:president@portjewishcenter.org)

1st Vice President/Recording Secretary : Cheryl Littman

2nd Vice President/Corresponding Secretary: Ilise Tow-Friedman

Treasurer: Matt Kepke | [treasurer@portjewishcenter.org](mailto:treasurer@portjewishcenter.org)

Immediate Past President: Gail Thrope

### Board Of Trustees

Steven Bernhard

Linda Feldman

Sarah Hogenauer

Adam Lenter

Amy Luria

Allison Roditi Josephs

Deborah Silberg

Donna Berman, Rabbi Emerita

### Extended Family

Do you know of a PJC member who is ill? Going through a difficult time? A death in the family? Please let us know so we can reach out. Call one of the following:

**Rabbi Alysa Mendelson Graf** 516-944-7202\* or [rabbi@portjewishcenter.org](mailto:rabbi@portjewishcenter.org)

\*select option 8 and follow the instructions to page the rabbi

Co-Presidents: **Nancy Kaplan:** [nakaplan@usa.net](mailto:nakaplan@usa.net) or **Jay Beberman:** [president@portjewishcenter.org](mailto:president@portjewishcenter.org)

**Or** [caring@portjewishcenter.org](mailto:caring@portjewishcenter.org)



## Upcoming Events

**Religious School Begins**

Monday, September 9

**High Holy Days** (see page 2)

September 29-October 9

**PJC at Dolphin**

Sunday, October 20

**Hebrew High School Begins**

Monday, September 16

**Sukkot**

Sunday, October 13 at 4:30 pm

**Simchat Torah with Consecration**

Monday, October 21 at 6:30 pm

**Book Club**

Wednesday, September 18

**Office Closed, No Religious School**

Monday, October 14

**Book Club**

Wednesday, October 24

**PJC at Dolphin**

Sunday, September 22 at 11 am

**Maximo Mayeri's Bar Mitzvah**

Saturday, October 19

**Ava Karnsomb's Bat Mitzvah**

Saturday, October 26

Port Jewish Center  
 20 Manorhaven, Blvd.  
 Port Washington, NY 11050