



**MERRICK
JEWISH
CENTRE**
CONGREGATION OHR TORAH

The Bulletin

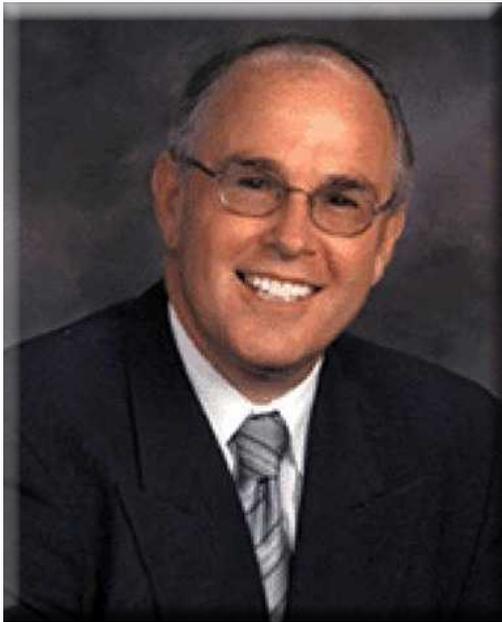


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www.merrickjc.org

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A Message from Rabbi Klein



Dear Friends,

Over these many years I have participated in preparing well over 2,000 B'nai Mitzvah. Almost always, I have tried to convey to my students how absolutely miraculous it is, in light of Jewish history, for them to be sitting with me preparing to become a Bar or Bat Mitzvah. I ask them to consider the determination of their ancestors, living in times of great peril, to hold tight to their Judaism. During many eras in Jewish history, I share with them, their ancestors chose to remain Jewish in the face of every manifestation of Anti-Semitism.

I'm not certain what our young B'nai Mitzvah glean from our conversation; nonetheless, I've always felt the need to help them gain some appreciation of the miracle which is the survival and renewal of the Jewish people. Chanukah needs to be seen within the context of the long and un-ending story of a people whose faith would not allow them to believe that Judaism and the Jewish people had come to the end of the road. The seemingly impossible task of defeating the Greeks, re-conquering the Temple and renewing Jewish life gave way to improbable victories and spiritual renewals. We know that the Maccabees were not stronger, nor were they more numerous than the Greeks who had sought to extinguish Jewish life. On Chanukah we celebrate the victory of the few who went to war against the many – one of the greatest military upsets of all time. That victory was the triumph of will over reality, of determination and destiny over despair. That miraculous victory will never be forgotten by the Jewish people – it is woven into who we are as a people, and it is a powerful annual reminder that for the Jewish people anything is possible.

The Chanukah story inspired and strengthened our ancestors, as it continues to inspire and strengthen us. In the darkest and most painful times in Jewish history, our people lit the menorah each night connecting themselves to the miracle, not just of Chanukah – but of the undying Jewish story.

As I continue to prepare our B'nai Mitzvah I will share this story with them. It's not just our history – it's our memory, and in a sense our biography. And when we light the candles each night and say, "Blessed Art Thou King of the Universe who performed miracles for our ancestors at this time of the year," we know that the miracles did not cease with Chanukah. Standing in front of the menorah we sense that the miracles will not come to an end. So long as the story lives on within us and the generations which follow - the miracle endures.

Betty joins me in wishing all of you a Chag Urim Sameach – a Joyous Festival of Lights.

Faithfully yours,

Charles A. Klein

A handwritten signature in dark ink that reads "Charles A. Klein". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

The Bulletin

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CONGREGATION OHR TORAH

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A Message from Rabbi Dermer

Happy Holidays.

Two simple words that buzz in our ears and echo through town as the days of Chanukah and the winter holiday season quickly approach. Happy holidays. Two simple words, but what do we mean when we say them? For so many Americans, these words conjure up images of storefront lines out the door, Black Friday shoppers frenetically searching for the hottest deals, and the mad dash to find the most up-to-date gifts and presents. As Jews, however, we think about the happiness of the holiday season a little bit differently.

The practice of gift giving, while a valuable way to share our love with those we care for, has little to do with Chanukah from a historical point of view. Jewish historians note that, with the exception of a little bit of gelt or a dreidel, gift giving wasn't associated with the holiday until late into the 20th Century. That's because, from the point of view of our tradition, the joy we are meant to feel in these days is a deeper joy, one which can't be bought, wrapped, or ordered on Amazon Prime. It is a joy, rather, that springs from the memory of the courage of our ancestors. Or from the faith that light can be found in even the darkest of moments. Or, from the glow on the faces of family and friends as we gather around the menorah and watch young one's light candles which began burning generations ago.



Over this past Thanksgiving weekend, I had the great pleasure of reading the best-seller *10% Happier*, by ABC reporter Dan Harris. In this highly readable (and recommended work) the author describes the difference between happiness as we typically understand it, and spiritual happiness. He writes that the English word happiness begins with the root "happ," as in happenstance; that which occurs to someone from the outside. His thesis, which he borrows from many of the great faith traditions including Judaism, is that true happiness doesn't merely "happen" to us, it is cultivated, and develops as we learn to better appreciate the people, and the miracles, in our lives. Harris' conclusion is Jewish through and through, and reminds me of our famous teaching from Pirkei Avot, that the most wealthy are not the ones with many possessions, but the ones who most fully appreciate the moments they are given. In these days of wishing each other "Happy Holidays," let's strive to be a little bit more intentional about the happiness we seek. If you find yourself getting caught in the gift giving frenzy, remember to step back and cherish what really matters in your life. May we all appreciate the peace and serenity that comes with just a few seconds of basking in the glow of the menorah, and those beautiful moments in which we are able to share our holy traditions with the next generation. At the MJC we are doing just that. As you can see from these pictures of our recent L'dor V'dor Brunch, true happiness, simcha, radiates from our building week in and week out.

Happy Holidays,
and Chanukah Sameach

Rabbi Dermer



From the Cantor



Greetings!

I hope you all enjoyed an affirming, cathartic and rejuvenating High Holiday/Fall season. Mine was certainly full of new experiences, personal reflection, some challenging situations, and many wonderful joys. The biggest joy, though, is that I am so pleased to join the Merrick Jewish Center family as your new Cantor. These have been an extraordinarily eventful few months filled with music, moving (my office and music library from Chicago), traveling, getting to know a new neighborhood, and getting to know a lot of new faces. All of you have welcomed me so wholeheartedly that I feel particularly blessed to be joining such a warm community in this beautiful place.

I was particularly struck by the phrase over the ark in the MJC sanctuary: *Ivdu et Hashem B'simcha/Serve G-d in joy!* This phrase happens to be among my father's favorite teachings, and I believe, the principle that guides his Jewish life. It has also become one of my own "raison d'être" ideas and one of the main concepts I try to share through music, prayer and my personality; I strive to serve in SIMCHA/JOY!

So, it is with great joy that I began my duties here a few weeks ago, and I believe there is special meaning to the fact that our first holiday together is Chanukah. The Festival of Lights offers a unique opportunity to see our fellow Jews in a state of pure celebration and heightened spiritual joy than that which we experience throughout the rest of the year. It is such a propitious time to share and grow our simcha together because the Chanukah season is intrinsically joyful!

May we be blessed to elevate the other 358 days of the year with the child-like simcha that is intrinsic to the Chanukah miracle, lights, songs, and dreidels. I look forward to strengthening the bonds between us and spending many more JOYFUL Shabatot and Festivals together in the future. On behalf of my wife, Heather, and our children, Adina and Sam, I wish you all a Chanukah Sameach and a Happy 2020!

Regards,

Cantor Benjamin Warschawski

From The Administrative Director



As Chanukah approaches, I am beginning my 10th month of employment at the Merrick Jewish Centre. The office and facilities staff have definitely found their groove and I am proud of the way we work together to support the clergy, board, committees, school and our congregants.

Susan Mundhenk has been working at MJC for 5 years. She was first hired to support our Hebrew School. She has since moved to a full time position in our office and has most recently been promoted to office manager. Susan supports our congregant accounts. She is the one who can answer your billing questions. She keeps everything in the office up and running and makes sure we have the supplies we need.

Our head custodian, Keith Yarde, has been here for 26 years. He is the backbone of not only every event that happens, but also tends to our daily needs. Keith is always ready to fix anything or help out in any way. His beautiful Kiddush luncheon preparations are made from years of experience. He knows our needs before we do. On Keith's team is custodian Felix Rupay. He has been here for 19 years and works the night shift along with Paulette Williams who has been here for 5 years.

Our newest addition to the office is Heather Diamond. Heather was hired in August to fill the position of administrative assistant. She supports both the clergy and myself. Heather helps our clergy prepare for Shabbat and holidays, schedules appointments, sends congregational emails, keeps track of event RSVP's and she is the first smiling face that you will see as you enter the office.

Even though technically we are not in "the city that never sleeps," MJC is a strong candidate to take the title of "the synagogue that never sleeps." There is always something going on be it morning, afternoon or night. On the night of the Cantorial Concert, all of the staff came together to create a lovely memorable evening for all to enjoy. It was a wonderful way to formally introduce Cantor Benjamin Warschawski and welcome him to the MJC community. He, in turn, delighted us with his beautiful music.

As we enter 2020, our congregants will be introduced to our new synagogue management system. You will be able to log into your account to pay your bill or make a donation. If you want to make a huge jump into 2020, you can download an app that will give you access to your account. Stay tuned for more information. As always, if you prefer, you can just continue to call the office and we will all be happy to help you with anything!

As I mentioned in my last article, I was a teacher in the Merrick Schools. I have found great pleasure in reconnecting with quite a few families who have students who were in my classes. As one young man picked up his High Holiday tickets I was happy to point out that his first-grade teacher was handing him his tickets! On Rosh Hashanah I was delighted to greet a brother and sister who were both in my class. It gave me such joy to talk to them as young adults and hear about their lives.

While the winters here are cold, I hope you can feel the warmth of the Merrick Jewish Centre and the staff that supports it.

Worship With Us

Morning Minyan
Monday and Thursday 6:30am
Friday 6:45pm
Sunday 8:30am

Daily Evening Minyan
Sunday to Thursday 8:00pm

**they only need one
to make ten**



minyan

HELP WANTED!

The Shiva Minyan Squad
performs one of the most important services we offer:
providing minyans in the home when a temple member experiences a loss.

This is one committee which would like to have less business!
Unfortunately, however, with 700 families - there will be bereavements.

Over the past few weeks, you may have noticed how many there have been.

We need to bolster our ranks of leaders!

The short evening service is simple – the training is easy.
If you would like to perform this mitzvah occasionally, (you will NOT be called on often),
please sign up for this short course.
It means so much to the families who are very appreciative...and it will make you feel very good.

If you're interested in coming on board, contact Steve Kussin, Squad Leader (sk3015@aol.com)

The "Bulletin" Board

We invite you to visit the
Merrick Jewish Centre website
www.merrickjc.org
Check out our CALENDAR for upcoming events
Visit our PHOTO GALLERY
Check out our BULLETIN BOARD

USY/Teen Programs

If you are a teen grades 8-12 and looking for something fun and meaningful to do on Monday nights then USY at MJC is perfect for you. We meet twice a month and have a mix of programs that are social, Jewish, and social action in nature. If you would like more info contact Rabbi Dermer.

Do you know that the Merrick Jewish Centre now has its own YouTube Channel?

You can find sermons, classes, and recordings of special events all on the Merrick Jewish Centre YouTube Channel.

You can go to our website (www.merrickjc.org) and click on the link for the YouTube Channel, and there you will find a long and growing list of videos available.

We want to hear from YOU!

Do you have something to contribute?
Is there something you would like to see
in future issues of the MJC Bulletin?

Contact Howard Zryb at
bulletin@merrickjc.org
with your ideas and suggestions.

Join The "I.N.N." Crowd

You can be part of the "I.N.N." crowd by joining us one Thursday morning a month when we prepare trays of lasagna for the Interfaith Nutrition Network.

It is prepared in the dairy kitchen of MJC and delivered to a soup kitchen in Freeport.

We are fun, fast and efficient and very welcoming!

For additional info please contact the synagogue office or Shelley 867-0717.

Clothing Donation?

Drop off your bags in the Big Brothers/Big Sisters bin located in the back of our parking lot, and the office will provide you with a tax receipt. Too many bags to carry? Call the office and a volunteer will be happy to schedule a home pickup.

Thank you!

Having an Event?

Don't forget to save your left-overs for
Rock and Wrap It Up.

Need someone to deliver to the Shelter?
email: Chesed@MerrickJC.org

Faith and Family

A NEW PROGRAM FOR PARENTS OF YOUNG CHILDREN

Do you ever wonder...

- ▶ "How can I bring some peace into my family's crazy schedule?"
- ▶ "How can I answer my children's questions about God when I'm not even sure what I believe?"
- ▶ "How can we navigate holiday celebrations as a multi-faith family?"
- ▶ "How can I teach my kids to deal with tough situations and to make good choices?"

Parenting is more challenging than ever – but Faith and Family can help you find answers to your difficult questions. Join a supportive community of fellow parents to learn, share, and explore the ways in which Jewish wisdom can support you on this crazy ride called parenthood.

Faith and Family consists of five sessions geared towards parents of kids in nursery school and elementary school. Sessions include learning, spirited discussion, and hands-on projects like art and baking – because why should your kids get to have all the fun?

Families of all backgrounds are invited to participate.

Faith and Family – because our faith values your family.

Faith and Family is a program of USCJ.



The Merrick Jewish Centre Presents

WHAT DO JEWS DO ON DECEMBER 25TH?

December 25th starting at 5 pm

Celebrate with your MJC family the traditional way...
Chinese food and a movie!

- Community candlelighting for the 4th night
- Kosher Chinese food dinner from Wing Wan
- Choose between 3 different movies:
The Producers, Raiders of the Lost Ark
or Toy Story 4
- Latkes, sufganyot and fresh popcorn
- Dreidels and prizes for the kids

Chinese buffet is \$13 per person
(Kids food and snacks available for free)

Mark your calendars now!
RSVP with the MJC office



Minyans

Chesed

One of the services that the Merrick Jewish Centre provides for its members is shiva minyans in the home for families who have experienced a loss. Since I assumed the chair of this committee, our squad members have served more than 400 families. This is a daunting challenge at times, when there are several families with bereavements during the same week.

This is one committee NOT looking for more activity; as a matter of fact, we wish there was none. However, when a bereavement occurs, we're standing by ready to help out.

Just a few guidelines:

1. If your family experiences a loss, please notify the synagogue office as soon as possible—and indicate whether you'd like an evening minyan in the home. We will come as many nights as you need us.
2. If you do want a minyan, please arrange to have someone pick up the shiva chairs and the books from the synagogue. Return them following the shiva period.
3. Minyans start promptly at 8:00 pm. Please understand our leaders are often coming from work and they themselves want to get home. On occasion, families are receiving visitors and aren't ready to start for quite some time.
4. Should you decide for whatever reason to cancel a scheduled minyan, please let the office (or me – sk3015@aol.com) know immediately so a squad member doesn't have to come out needlessly.
5. If you have any special needs, let us know. For example, sometimes we've been asked to help with the recitation of the Mourner's Kaddish.
6. For obvious reasons, we can serve families only in the Bellmore-Merrick area. Thank you for your understanding.

Again, this is one committee which wishes it has as little activity as possible.

Steve Kussin
Shiva Minyan Squad Leader

- Bereavement Support
- Family Support Services
- Support Groups and Services
- Bikur Cholim
- Mitzvah Days

"Chesed is practiced by those who accept and fulfill the Gemilut Chassidim...Deeds of Loving Kindness." Our desire is to provide support for members of our congregational family that are in need. We ARE our brothers' keeper!

Thanks to all of the congregants who brought food in for the High Holiday food drive. This was our 5th year participating with Project Replenish - sponsored by the Mid-Island JCC. MJC provided over 400 pounds of food and cleaning items for this worthwhile endeavor!

Thanks also for your participation in the Chanukah Gift Card collection which brought the joy of the holiday to several hundred children who are part of UJA's Single Parent Family Network. Your support is instrumental to the success of these campaigns!

- Help Keep Others Warm this Winter:
Please bring unneeded gently used coats and jackets to Busy Bee Cleaners on Merrick Road. Once again, they are cleaning and distributing coats to those in need.

There are Jewish people on Long Island who are going hungry. As you may know, The Chesed Committee is committed to a wonderful initiative in which we support the Kosher Pantry at Bellmore Jewish Center, which helps our fellow Jews in need.

When you come to the Merrick Jewish Centre, remember to bring one kosher item of non-perishable food: a can of soup, a box of pasta, a jar of peanut butter, a canister of oatmeal - and so forth... and deposit these donations in one of the collection bins in the lobby. You get the idea! When the kids come to Hebrew school, that's also the perfect time for a drop off. If each person in our congregation remembered, imagine what we would collect - and how far our donations would go to alleviating this pressing problem.

THE KOSHER FOOD PANTRY IS OPEN TO ALL WHO ARE IN NEED REGARDLESS OF RELIGIOUS AFFILIATION.

Men's Club

The Men's Club program year was kicked off with the building of the MJC Sukkah. Thanks go out to Josh Diamond and Peter Donath for their help in organizing the building and the taking down of the Sukkah.

Our first project this year was the Sukkah Palooza. This was a tremendous undertaking. The commandment tells us to celebrate and rejoice in the holiday ... and celebrate we did. Thanks to Josh Diamond for all of his efforts. One hundred MJC members and their families joined us for a very special holiday program. Big carnival games were set up in the social hall, food was served in the Simcha Room and Vic Kastel and Rabbi Dermer entertained in the CJL. We were very happy to present MJC with a check for \$600. We would like to thank all of our sponsors for their generosity. Without them the games would not have been possible.

On January 25th we will be celebrating Men's Club Shabbat. Parts for the service are still available. Contact mensclub@merrickjc.org for a part. Thanks to Steve Greenstein for organizing our service.

On January 26th at 6:30pm we will be holding our Paid Up Membership Dinner. There will be a big dinner featuring Oven Smoked Brisket and Glazed Corned Beef. Of course there will appetizers and a wonderful dessert, and Charlie Skop has assured us that the spirit tastings will be spectacular, along with Ira Blankstein who has assured us that raffle prizes will be plentiful.

Look for your invite and RSVP card which will be in the mail or send a note to mensclub@merrickjc.org to make your reservation. The best news is that there is no charge for all of our paid up members! If you are not a member, your dues can be paid at the door. Since it takes a great deal of effort to prepare for 65-70 hungry men, please let us know by January 20th if you will be joining us.

Further, please do not forget that we will be having the World Wide Wrap and Yom Hashoah Candle packing and distribution. More activities throughout the year will be announced. However, there is one that will be announced at the Men's Club Shabbat. This will be the "Men's Club Man of the Year" who will be honored at our annual Mets game on May 21st.

Note too, this year Men's Club will be donating a good part of our fundraising activities to the MJC Building Fund. Our synagogue is very special to us and we would like to help maintain MJC as our synagogue for many years to come. We look to your participation to help us towards this end.

We wish you a Channukah Chag Sameach. A wonderful holiday filled with Lights and Happiness.

B'Shalom

Hank Arkin and Glenn Friedman
Men's Club Co-Presidents

The M J C Men's Club

Invites you to our Paid Up Membership
Dinner on January 26th at 6:30 pm

A Night of Food, Drink and Entertainment



The Annual Event is
FREE for Paid up
members!
Dues of \$40 can be paid at
the door.
But!!!
Advance Reservations are a
MUST!

You must be a member to attend

This event is another benefit of membership

We will have raffles for great prizes Great Food, Drink and Entertainment

Please reserve by January 20th.

Send Reservations to the MJC Office or

contact: Hank at hanka7@verizon.net -

Ira at ilb609@verizon.net or Glenn Friedman at gfriedl8@aol.com

Reservation for Mens'Club Paid Up Dinner 2020

Nameemail.....cell phone.....

.....Enclosed please find my check of \$40 for my Mens's Club Dues

..... I have paid my dues I will pay at the door. I would like to help

with the dinner . Please contact me at the above email or cell phone

Please contact me at the above email or phone.

Sisterhood

Sisterhood is looking forward to many events to brighten the winter doldrums.

Coming up on Sunday, December 15 at 10AM, we are excited to present an author event featuring Talia Carner, author of the best seller Jerusalem Maiden. She will be discussing her new book *The Third Daughter*, which focuses on Jewish sex trafficking at the time of the pogroms. There will be books available for purchase at a discounted price. A light breakfast will precede the discussion. Please check emails for further details as the flyer has been sent out. An RSVP to Sisterhood@merrickjc.org is kindly requested.

We have another delightful event scheduled for Wednesday, December 18. We have joined forces with the Hebrew School and Family Programming to present an evening of pizza and the creation of edible dreidels!! We will be serving pizza immediately following Hebrew School at 6:15 PM. The craft will follow. An RSVP is required to Sisterhoodsvp@merrickjc.org. Please check your email for the flyer.

A freilach (Yiddish for fun, happy) activity we look forward to is an evening of Israeli dancing on Wednesday, January 8 at 8:30 PM with instructor Honey Goldfein. It's always fun and it's great exercise too, a winning combination.

We are also excited to have Rabbi Dermer lead us in a second installment of #Ritual on Wednesday, January 22, at 7:30 PM. Last year we had a thought provoking presentation on egalitarianism in Conservative Judaism. We expect to have an equally enlightening evening. Details to follow.

Packing of Purim baskets, exercise while performing a mitzvah, will take place on Wednesday, February 26 at 7 PM. We could always use extra hands, so bring your family for a fun night. Purim falls on Tuesday March 10. Please watch your mail and email for further details about packing Shalach Manot.

Our Paid Up Membership Party will finally be held on Wednesday, March 4 at 7 PM, instead of our original date in the fall. We are looking forward to a wonderful evening of food, fashion, vendors and raffles. If you haven't already done so, please pay your \$40 Sisterhood dues, which includes this enjoyable evening.

Lastly, Sisterhood will be hosting its annual Sisterhood Shabbat on Friday, March 27. Services will begin at 6:30 PM followed by a Shabbat dinner. Further details to follow.

We hope to see you at our future events. We know you will feel good that you participated.

Anita Cohen
Sisterhood President

Hebrew School

As Chanukah approaches, the gift that our Hebrew School students are focusing upon is the gift of kindness. Kindness to people whom they know well, to fellow students whom they do not know, and reaching out beyond our immediate community to homeless families who live almost around the corner! On Monday, December 9, thanks to the generosity of Irene and Robert Kroll and of the MJC Sisterhood, our Hay and Vav students, (5th and 6th graders) enjoyed performances by New York and Broadway actors from InterACT, focusing on Kindness!



InterACT was founded by Fran Mendelowitz, a Merrick resident, Jewish educator and social worker. She formed InterACT as an educational program where actors portray scenes that reflect real-life situations.



The scenes portrayed that day were similar to events that our students experience in Hebrew school and public school. The actors demonstrated situations where students are unkind to each other. After each scene, students reflected with the actors who stayed in character to respond.

Our Hay and Vav students were exceptionally engaged, questioning the actors, challenging them as to why they had acted unkindly, were not open to the friendship of the outsider, or carelessly sent a cruel text. Some of our students came up on the stage and confronted the actors as their characters.



Hebrew School

Following the program, the students created chains of kindness. In response to the InterACT presentation, they joined Rachel's Challenge where they wrote on a chain, one random act of kindness that each student wishes to do by the end of this school year. Rachel Joy Scott lost her life in Columbine, but in a final high school essay had written: I HAVE THIS THEORY THAT IF ONE PERSON CAN GO OUT OF THEIR WAY TO SHOW COMPASSION, THEN IT WILL START A CHAIN REACTION OF THE SAME. PEOPLE WILL NEVER KNOW HOW FAR A LITTLE KINDNESS CAN GO.

Our Hay and Vav students have joined this chain!

And the rest of the school is part of this as well!!



With the help of Hebrew school parents and our entire synagogue community, the Hebrew school packed over 50 bags of clothing for homeless families in the Hempstead public schools. In addition, our students joined together and "purchased" warm hats, gloves, and scarves to add to our collection. They used "Torah Cards" to make their purchases. These cards are earned for doing what students should do each day-- be respectful and kind to their fellow students and teachers.

These necessary items, "purchased" by the Torah cards, were sponsored by the generosity of the Blanche Batnick Mitzvah Fund, supported by Joan and Blaine Land. With the 50 bags of clothing and almost 200 hats, gloves and scarves, our Merrick Jewish Centre has given such a gift of kindness for Chanukah!!



Introducing Cantor Benjamin Warschawski...



A beautiful evening of music and stories was held
November 21st introducing the Merrick Jewish Centre to
the voice of Cantor Benjamin Warschawski.





JOIN RABBI DERMER FOR:

Parasha at the Plaza

✧ **LEARN AND DISCUSS THE WEEKLY
TORAH PORTION**

✧ **HAVE A NOSH - 20% OFF**

✧ **BAGEL PLAZA, 1704 MERRICK RD**

✧ **WEDNESDAYS AT 10AM**

When Koufax Made A Pitch for Jews Everywhere

Commentary by Carl M. Cannon - Real Clear Politics
11/18/2019

Fifty-three years ago today, the most famous rabbi in America announced his retirement. He had been suffering for years from arthritis and the pain became just too debilitating, he explained. People mourned the announcement. At 30 years old, he seemed too young to be hanging it up. Then again, Sandy Koufax wasn't really a rabbi. He was a major league baseball player -- perhaps the greatest left-handed pitcher of all time -- and an icon to Jewish kids (and not only kids) all over this country. The "rabbi" moniker was first given to him by the genuine article: prominent Jewish scholar and rabbi Brad Hirschfield. Koufax was humbled by the compliment, but it was fitting.

Anyone fortunate enough to see Sandy Koufax pitch in his prime was witnessing baseball played nearly to perfection. Such artistry in any human endeavor tends to ignite our fancy and spark other-worldly comparisons. "There are two times in my life the hair on my arms has stood up," Dodgers general manager Al Campanis once recalled. "The first time I saw the ceiling of the Sistine Chapel and the first time I saw Sandy Koufax throw a fastball."



A high school basketball and baseball star in the Borough Park neighborhood of his native Brooklyn, Sanford Koufax signed a professional baseball contract with the hometown team in 1955 after a tryout at Ebbets Field. By 1961, he had established himself as the best pitcher in baseball. In 1962, he would pitch the first of his four career no-hitters -- a record at the time -- and he did so in consecutive seasons, culminating in a 1965 perfect game. This gem was captured in all its drama by another Hall of Famer, Dodgers announcer Vin Scully. ("There are 29,000 people in the ballpark," Scully intoned in his melodious voice in the top of the ninth, "and a million butterflies.")

Koufax struck out the last six Cubs he faced that night, entering the history books as well as our imaginations. More than five decades later, it's difficult to remember the mood of the times, but Sandy Koufax had signed with the Dodgers only 10 years after the Holocaust was ended by the Allies' liberation of Europe. In 1965, Koufax would not only lead the Dodgers to the National League pennant, he then declined to pitch Game 1 of the World Series because it fell on Yom Kippur, the holiest day on the Jewish calendar.

His team took this announcement in stride. Dodgers owner Walter O'Malley, who was Catholic, quipped to reporters that he'd ask the pope about making it rain that day. The Dodgers could afford to be high-minded because they had another ace on their pitching staff, and that man, Hall of Fame right-hander Don Drysdale, assured Koufax that he would take care of the Minnesota Twins in Game 1, and Koufax could do his thing in Game 2.

It didn't quite work out that way. Drysdale got shelled in the series opener and the Dodgers lost the second game, 5-1, even though Koufax only gave up one earned run.

But this was a team that was tough to rattle. After the first game, Drysdale quipped to manager Walter Alston, "Hey, skip, bet you wish I was Jewish today too." As they headed back to Los Angeles, down two games to none in the best-of-seven series, the Dodgers were a confident bunch. Koufax's decision to put his faith ahead of a game seemed to give the team a sense of serenity. Or maybe it was simply that they knew how good their pitching was.

When Koufax Made A Pitch for Jews Everywhere

One thing is certain, though: By not pitching on his religion's Day of Atonement, Sandy Koufax gave Jews all over the country -- Dodger fans and Dodger haters, baseball fans and non-baseball fans -- a sense of pride and belonging that remains to this day.

One movie character in the 1998 cult classic "The Big Lebowski" described Judaism as "3,000 years of beautiful tradition from Moses to Sandy Koufax." In her magnificent 2002 biography of Koufax, former Washington Post sportswriter Jane Leavy put it this way: "He was the New Patriarch: Abraham, Isaac, Jacob and Sandy."

At the time, non-Jews and secular sportswriters were perhaps a bit slow to appreciate the impact of Koufax's gesture. Although it devoted 7,000 words to a piece explaining why Koufax was the magazine's 1965 Sportsman of the Year, Sports Illustrated never mentioned the Yom Kippur angle. Reprising the events of that season on the 50th anniversary of the '65 Series, the magazine atoned for this oversight.

It quoted Michael Paley, at the time a 13-year-old Jewish kid in suburban Boston, as saying that Koufax's decision to not pitch on Yom Kippur became the talk of his neighborhood. "It's one of the best American Jewish stories we have," said Paley, now a rabbi and scholar at the Jewish Resource Center of the UJA Federation of New York. "He didn't see the burden of his identity, he saw the possibility of it."

"It was the beginning of changed feelings about being Jewish in America," Rabbi Paley added. "Because of Sandy, we were admired." Well, yes, but there was also the little detail of how that World Series played out.

Koufax wouldn't lose again: He pitched a complete game shutout in Game 5, and came back on two days' rest, pitching in pain to dominate the Twins in Game 7 with a three-hit shutout.

Forty-five years later, Sandy Koufax, graying but still handsome, stood in the East Room of the White House, one of the honorees celebrating Jewish American Heritage Month.

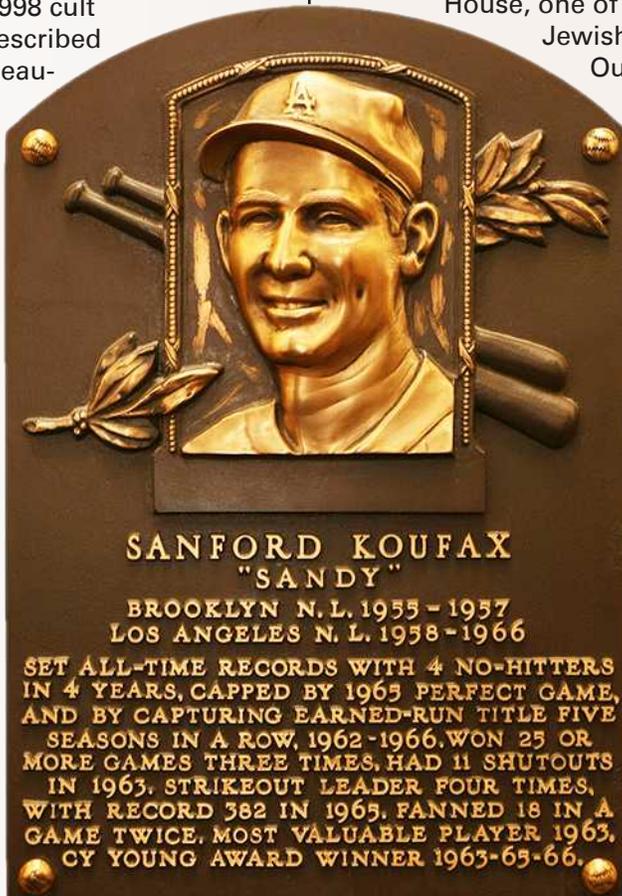
Our country's first African American president was in good form that day, and seemed to channel a borscht belt comedian when he spotted Koufax in the front row. "Sandy and I actually have something in common," Obama said. "We are both lefties. He can't pitch on Yom Kippur; I can't pitch."

For Koufax, though, the more evocative moment came after the ceremony ended when he was approached by Brad Hirschfield, who asked Koufax what it felt like to be a Hall of Famer and "one of the most important rabbis of the 20th century."

"Believe me," Koufax replied, "I'm no rabbi."

Hirschfield wrote later that he explained to Koufax that the All-Star pitcher had empowered a generation of Jews to claim their Jewishness with "pride, confidence, and joy," and that if that didn't constitute being a great rabbi, he didn't know what did.

Koufax, as gracious as we remembered him from those long ago summers, replied, "Thank you, rabbi, for putting me in your club."



Scoring for G-d

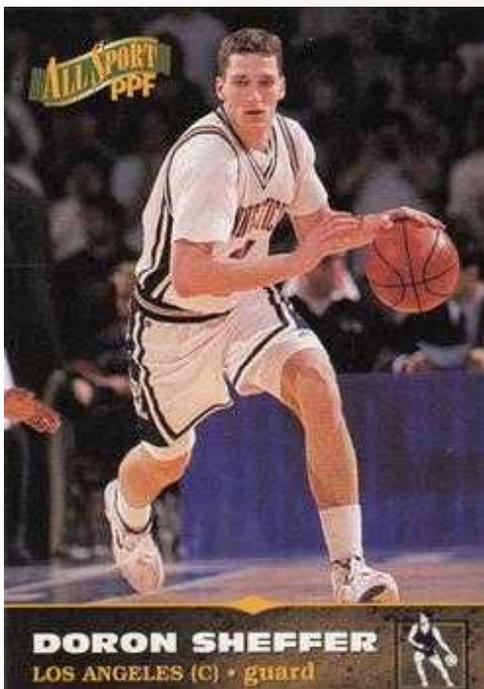
Scoring for God: The Spiritual Journey of Former Basketball Star Doron Sheffer

Nov 16, 2019 | by Hillel Kuttler

The Israeli athlete is discovering the Torah's wisdom on how to live in a more healthy, happy and balanced way.

Grasping a basketball in his enormous hands, Doron Sheffer looks slim and nimble enough to hit the court again as he greets a visitor to his home on Moshav Amirim. The glorious afternoon in this hilly community with breathtaking views of the Galilee's mountains seems light years from the snow and chill of New England, where Sheffer played for three seasons for the University of Connecticut Huskies in the mid-1990s.

As a UConn guard, Sheffer fed the ball to such star teammates as Ray Allen and played for legendary coach Jim Calhoun. Sheffer averaged five assists and thirteen points per game, hit 40 percent of his three-point attempts and led the Huskies to a sparkling 89-13 record and NCAA tournament appearances in each of his three seasons. Sheffer was the first Israeli ever drafted by the NBA – the Los Angeles Clippers selected him in the second round in 1996 – but he instead signed a lucrative contract with Israel's dynastic professional basketball team, Maccabi Tel Aviv, leading it to four consecutive national championships.



Raised in a secular home near Tel Aviv, Sheffer, 41, retired from basketball in 2008. Today, he sports a trim beard and a black-knit kippa rests on his head. A set of Talmud stands with other traditional texts lining his living room shelves. All attest to a changed man, someone who has evolved most strikingly in the past decade but whose shift in orientation began at UConn when his mother, Yael, mailed him a book about spirituality.

Sheffer's journey has featured dramatic mileposts: a sojourn to India, a successful battle with testicular cancer and several basketball comebacks. One such comeback, playing for Hapoel Jerusalem for two seasons beginning in 2003, proved pivotal because that is when Sheffer began wearing tefillin more regularly and reading Psalms. By the time he returned to Jerusalem in 2006, he had married his second wife, Talia, and together they decided to observe Shabbat, kashrut and family-purity laws and to start going to shul. He also began wearing a kippa and tzitzit and studying Talmud at the Ashrei Ha'Ish Yeshiva.

"It wasn't a decision made in one day or one minute," Sheffer explains. "At a certain point, though, I realized, 'I'm going for it.' There were rises and falls. I wore tefillin and stopped, learned Torah and stopped, observed Shabbat and stopped."

Sheffer is sitting at a kitchen table in a guest apartment in the couple's modern sun-drenched home where they run a business catering to people who come for healing of the body and mind.

Sheffer's livelihood also comes from running youth basketball clinics that impart values and addressing various audiences in Israel and abroad about his life story. He's synthesized those experiences and life lessons in an autobiography published in Hebrew. It's titled Aneni, from David's famous proclamation in Psalm (118:5) "Out of my distress I called upon the Lord; the Lord answered me [aneni] with liberation."

Played for the right reasons, Sheffer says, basketball is "a teacher of life," imparting joy and inculcating in its practitioners the values of work, play and consistency.

Personally, Sheffer says, "I had distress, and God answered."

One answer was Sheffer's surviving cancer; another, Sheffer's path toward observance and back to the region, far changed from the adolescent who headed north to play for the Hapoel Galil Elyon team in 1990 and concluded his career with the same club nearly two decades later.

Scoring for Q-d

Amirim consists primarily of nonobservant residents, with approximately twenty observant families. It was founded in 1958 as a retreat for vegetarians, and that ethic remains. Amirim's entrance features a billboard speckled with more than 100 signs promoting the moshav's businesses: aromatherapists, massage therapists, herb gardens, spas, a health food shop, an organic olive oil shop, art galleries, restaurants and plentiful bed and breakfasts.

"It's a vegetarian community, which spoke to us," Sheffer explains. "I eat healthily – organic fruits and vegetables, except for some occasional meat. Health of body and of soul – it's all here. It does me good to eat healthy, to breathe clear air."

A healthy soul includes Jewish learning, and classes are held most nights in residents' homes. Many of Amirim's observant families come from less observant backgrounds.

"To be a ba'al teshuvah is a way of life, a never-ending story: not too much, not too little; not to climb too high up the tree, but not to flee from it, always seeking balance," he says.

The Sheffers have four children together: daughters Gavriel, eight, and Michael, seven, who were given the names of angels; a son, Yedidya, four; and another daughter, Yaara, three. Sheffer's eldest child, Ori, eleven, resides primarily with her mother in Tel Aviv, but often comes to Amirim. Ori's situation is unique, Sheffer says, because she lives with both observant and nonobservant parents.

The children constitute the Sheffers' "starting five."

"We don't push. We give her freedom," he says. "On Shabbat, if she wants to call her mom, we let her. We try not to push something before its time. Thankfully, she feels a part of our home and blends into our lifestyle."

Not pushing children – when it comes to religion or to sports – is central to his philosophy. Screaming parents and coaches making demands on players, says Sheffer, constitute pressure points that sidetrack young athletes from the joys of competition.

But, played for the right reasons, he says, basketball is "a teacher of life," imparting joy and inculcating in its practitioners the values of work, play and consistency. That is the approach Sheffer takes in promoting basketball to kids – what he dubs "basketball therapy."

In comparison, "the Torah is the teacher of life," he says. "The Torah includes everything. It gives me endless advice, tools and inspiration for how to live in a more healthy, happy and balanced way – in my married life, raising my kids, employment and faith. All in all, it helps me be a better human being."

Sheffer rises. He has to head to Jerusalem, a three-hour drive, to address Hebrew University students, mostly nonobservant, who gather weekly for discussions on Jewish thought.

In a university meeting room thirty-five students and a rabbi await. Sheffer strides to the front and softly relates his background, basketball career and battle with cancer. Finally, he tells of his search for meaning and his discovering it in living a religious life.

During the hour-long appearance, Sheffer quotes freely from NBA legends Pat Riley and Michael Jordan, along with Chazal, Chasidism, Rabbi Nachman of Breslov and Pirkei Avot. He acknowledges that religious observance stimulates ever-more questioning of a path fraught with continual challenges. He takes students' questions: Are you happy? How did cancer shape your life? What about the stereotypes of newly observant Jews?

Afterward, a third-year engineering student, Luda Loginova, speaks of having gained from the presentation.

"It gives us inspiration that it's possible to deal with any difficulty, make any change and try to be a better person," she says. "He helped me think about things I don't think about daily."

From Aish.com

About the Author

Hillel Kuttler is a freelance journalist who writes regularly about sports for the New York Times and about Jewish affairs for many publications.



Auschwitz. Not long ago. Not far away

By Sarah Buder / Afar.com - October 31, 2019

Through recovered artifacts, photographs, and personal items from the Nazi concentration camp, as well as firsthand testimonies from Holocaust survivors, the exhibition in New York City attempts to shed light on the dangers of xenophobia.

Of the 6 million Jews killed in Nazi concentration camps during the Holocaust, an estimated 1 million died at Auschwitz.



Originally set to run through January 3, 2020, the *Auschwitz. Not long ago. Not far away.* exhibit has drawn more than 106,000 recorded visitors to the museum since its opening date. Due to this high demand, the New York institution recently announced that it will extend the poignant exhibition's current run through August 30, 2020 - eight months beyond its originally scheduled close date.

Auschwitz. Not long ago. Not far away. traces the development of Nazi ideology, outlining the transformation of the Polish town named Oświęcim into Auschwitz. Curated by an international team of experts and historians, the 18,000-square-foot exhibition includes personal testimonies from Holocaust survivors as well as more than 1,000 artifacts recovered from Auschwitz. Among the items on display are a German-made freight wagon that was used to transport Jews to the extermination camp, concrete posts that were part of the Auschwitz fence, plus suitcases, eyeglasses, shoes, and other belongings that were left behind by survivors and victims.

"When we had the vision to create the exhibition, we conceived its narrative as an opportunity to better understand how such a place could come to exist and as warning of where hatred can take us to," said Luis Ferreiro, director of the international exhibition firm Musealia, which partnered with the Auschwitz-Birkenau State Museum in Poland to create the exhibition project.

As part of this goal, the exhibition - the largest on Auschwitz ever to be presented in the United States - goes beyond showcasing recovered artifacts from the concentration camp. Throughout 20 galleries that span three floors of the museum, *Auschwitz. Not long ago. Not far away.* provides context about the rise of Nazism by outlining the stories of various Holocaust victims, perpetrators, and bystanders. The exhibit sheds light on the aftermath of the horrific experiences by Holocaust survivors displaying more than 100 artifacts from survivors who found refuge in the greater New York City area, such as sketchbooks and letters of personal correspondence, some of which have never before been on display in the United States.

Ahead of the Jewish high holidays this September, the museum notably added another object of significance to the exhibition: a shofar was hidden and secretly blown by individuals at the Auschwitz concentration camp.



"As the title of the exhibit suggests, Auschwitz is not ancient history but living memory," said Bruce C. Ratner, chairman of the museum's board of trustees. "My hope for this exhibit is that it motivates all of us to make the connections between the world of the past and the world of the present and to take a firm stand against hate, bigotry, ethnic violence, religious intolerance, and nationalist brutality of all kinds."

"This exhibit reminds, in the starkest ways, where anti-Semitism can ultimately lead," said Ron Lauder, founder and chairman of the Auschwitz-Birkenau Foundation Committee and president of the World Jewish Congress. "And the world should never go there again."

Auschwitz. Not long ago. Not far away. runs through August 30, 2020, at the Museum of Jewish Heritage in New York City. Tickets are available for purchase at Auschwitz.nyc. Admission costs \$16

Photos: Howard Zryb

In The Temple Family

BAR/BAT MITZVAHS

Anna & Douglas Kugal in honor of the Bat Mitzvah of their daughter Isabella Kugal

Sheri & Michael Barath in honor of the Bar Mitzvah of their son Connor Barath

Jill & Craig Levine in honor of the Bat Mitzvah of their daughter Rylie Levine

Irena & Aaron Beller in honor of the Bat Mitzvah of their daughter Lexi Beller

Beth & Haim Kichel in honor of the Bat Mitzvah of their daughter Tali Kichel

Sharon & David Ades in honor of the Bar Mitzvah of their son Gabe Ades

Stacey & Joseph Wiener in honor of the Bar Mitzvah of their son Maxwell Wiener

Robin & Brian Linett in honor of the Bat Mitzvah of their daughter Adrianna Linett

BIRTHS

Arleen & Samuel Rosenberg on the birth of their granddaughter Alexa Whitney Rosenberg born 9/7/19 daughter of Jill & Lee Rosenberg

Dana & Richard Knox on the birth of their granddaughter Madison Jade Schild born 9/11/19 daughter of Ashley & Brian Schild

Frieda & Alex Rosenberg and Yosef & Haya Sapirstein of Kafar Saba Israel on the birth of their grandson born 9/11/19 son of Dr. Jessica & Oren Sapirstein

Linda & Howard Zryb on the birth of their grandson Dylan Jay Zryb born 10/2/19 son of Stacey & Jesse Zryb

Michelle & Jon Goldenberg on the birth of their granddaughter Ileana Zahav born 10/20/19 daughter of Rachel & Roberto

Susan Blumberg on the birth of her granddaughter Davina Michele Kashdan born 10/20/19 daughter of Dayna & Andrew Kashdan

Irene & Larry Schechter on the birth of their grandson Maddax Reid Schechter son of Lindsay & Jason

CONDOLENCES

Ellen Sussman on the loss of her dear sister Janet Kremsky

Dan Babitz on the loss of his dear father Harvey Babitz

Lisa Bender on the loss of her dear mother and our long time member Sylvia Scharf

Ellen Zipkin on the loss of her beloved husband Bertram Zipkin

Steven Berger on the loss of his dear mother Gloria Berger

Michael Goldstein on the loss of his dear father Theodore Goldstein

Edward Berger on the loss of his dear mother Gloria Berger

Elayna & Frank Bloch in honor of the Bar Mitzvah of their son Ari Bloch

Dana Knox on the loss of her dear mother Ruth Feldman

Michael Mirotznik on the loss of his dear father Bernard Mirotznik

Ferri Kohen on the loss of her dear grandmother Janice Yedin

Doron Jaget on the loss of his dear father Jack Jaget

Jennifer Berkowitz on the loss of her dear father Edward Grossman

Elaine Feldman on the loss of her dear husband Edward Feldman

The Hirsch family on the loss of Shula Hirsch

Carol Klar on the loss of her dear brother Robert Schwinger

ENGAGEMENTS

Randy & Stuart Schoenfeld on the engagement of their daughter Risa to Andrew Dobry

Cheryl & Steven Haber in honor of the engagement of son Justin Haber to Brooke Klein

Sabrina & David Silverman in honor of the engagement of their son Spencer to Samantha Wormser

MARRIAGES

Janet & Harvey Fine in honor of the marriage of their daughter Emily Fine to Robert Karpeles

Donations

Blanche Batnick Mitzvah Fund

Mindy & Ed Goldstein in honor of Peter Donath & Phyllis Goldstein on the birth of grandson Jacob
Joan & Blaine Land in honor of Rose & Ray Cohen on the birth of their granddaughter
Lois & Jay Stein in memory of Janet Kremsky sister of Ellen Sussman
Joan & Blaine Land in memory of Janet Kremsky sister of Ellen Sussman
Lois & Jay Stein in memory of Janet Kremsky beloved sister of Ellen Sussman
Lisa and Ivan Menschel in memory of Janet Kremsky sister of Ellen Sussman
Mindy & Ed Goldstein in honor of Peter Donath & Phyllis Goldberg on the birth of grandson Logan

Chesed Fund

Gara & Robert Edelstein in memory of Janet Kremsky sister of Ellen Sussman
Linda & Howard Zryb in memory of Janet Kremsky sister of Ellen Sussman
Len & Lois Kaufman in memory of Janet Kremsky sister of Ellen Sussman
Andrea & Steve Davis in memory of Janet Kremsky sister of Ellen Sussman
Sarita Mlawer in honor of the birth of the granddaughter of Dana & Richard Knox
Gail & Joel Antin in honor of the baby naming of Sharyn & Steve Kussin's granddaughter
Gail & Joel Antin in honor of the birth of Michelle and John Goldenberg's granddaughter
Barbara & Joseph Sternberg in honor of the naming of Sharyn & Steve Kussin's granddaughter
Sarah Wexler and family in honor of the birth of Susan Blumberg's granddaughter
Rose & Ray Cohen in memory of Janet Kremsky sister of Ellen Sussman
Sarah Wexler & Family in honor of Bobby & Steve Scoll for their honor on Simchat Torah
Sarah Wexler & Family in honor of Iris and Allan Greenberg for their honor on Simchat Torah
Karen & Roger Blane in memory of the mother of Jeffrey Schantz
Linda & Ron Rosen in honor of Iris & Allan Greenberg for their honor on Simchat Torah
Linda & Ron Rosen in honor of Roberta & Steve Scoll for their honor on Simchat Torah
Marlene & Eric Barth in honor of Linda & Howard Zryb on the birth of their granddaughter Miriam
Leslie & Alan Chibnik in honor of Peter Donath & Phyllis Goldberg on the birth of grandson
Sharyn & Steve Kussin in honor of Stu & Randy Schoenfeld's daughter's engagement
Shelley Rosenblum in honor of Linda & Howard Zryb on birth of grandson
Ellen & Alan Sussman in honor of Linda & Howard Zryb on birth of grandson Dylan Jay
Sharyn & Steve Kussin in honor of Rose & Ray Cohen on the birth of granddaughter
Rae & Bennett Gewurz in memory of Janet Kremsky sister of Ellen Sussman
Gail & Joel Antin in memory of Gloria Berger mother of Steven Berger
Linda & Ronald Rosen in memory of Janet Kremsky sister of Ellen Sussman
Linda and Ronald Rosen in honor of the birth of the granddaughter of Susan Blumberg
Vicki & Lance Goldman in memory of Janet Kremsky sister of Ellen Sussman
Phyllis Goldberg & Peter Donath in memory of Gloria Berger mother of Steve Berger
Phyllis Goldberg & Peter Donath in memory of Janet Kremsky sister of Ellen Sussman
Phyllis Goldberg & Peter Donath in honor of the baby naming of Bailey Rose granddaughter of Sharyn & Steve Kussin
Marcia Kornbluth & Family in honor of the birth of Bailey Rose granddaughter of Sharyn & Steve Kussin
Marcia Kornbluth & Family in honor of the birth of Frieda & Alex Rosenberg's grandchild
Marcia & Doug Melzer in memory of Janet Kremsky sister of Ellen Sussman
Sara & Brad Eckstein in memory of Janet Kremsky sister of Ellen Sussman
Sarah Wexler & Family in memory of Janet Kremsky sister of Ellen Sussman
Paulette & Gary Mendelsohn in memory of Janet Kremsky sister of Ellen Sussman
Sarah Wexler & Family in honor of the naming of the granddaughter of Sharyn & Steve Kussin
Linda & Howard Zryb in honor of the naming of Bailey Rose granddaughter of Sharyn & Steve
Paula & Steve Rice in memory of Janet Kremsky sister of Ellen Sussman
Edith & Herb Margulis in memory of Janet Kremsky sister of Ellen Sussman
Shelley Rosenblum in honor of Roberta & Steve Scoll's Simchat Torah honor
Shelley Rosenblum in honor of the birth of Bailey Rose granddaughter of Sharyn & Steve Kussin
Shelley Rosenblum in memory of Janet Kremsky sister of Ellen Sussman

Donations

Randy & David Cohen in memory of Janet Kremsky sister of Ellen Sussman
Ruth and Barry Silverman in memory of Marvin Rappaport Grandfather of Rabbi Dermer
Gail & Joel Antin in memory of Janet Kremsky sister of Ellen Sussman
Ellen & Alan Sussman in honor of Iris & Allan Greenberg's Simchat Torah honor
Lois & Len Kaufman in honor of their granddaughter Zella Kaufman's Bat Mitzvah
Ruth Katz in memory of Janet Kremsky sister of Ellen Sussman
Amy and Jeff Wechsler in honor of the baby naming of Miriam Stella Zryb
Gail & Joel Antin in memory of Marvin Rappaport
Rose & Ray Cohen in honor of Phyllis Goldberg & Peter Donath on the birth of their grandsons
Mindy & Ed Goldstein on the birth of Dana & Richard Knox's granddaughter Madison Jade
Sarita Mlawer in memory of Rabbi Dermer's grandfather
Linda & Howard Zryb in memory of Rabbi Dermer's grandfather Marvin Rappaport
Leslie & Alan Chibnik in honor of Dana & Richard Knox on birth of granddaughter
Sarita Mlawer in memory of Rabbi Dermer's grandfather
Louella Silberberg in memory of her Aunt Ida (Chaya) Podolsky
Marcia Kornbluth and Gerry Storch in honor of Bobby and Steve Scoll's Simchat Torah honor
Sharyn and Steve Kussin in appreciation of the kindness of Iris and Allan Greenberg
Rose & Ray Cohen in memory of Rabbi Dermer's grandfather
Ilene Lambert in memory of Janet Kremsky beloved sister of Ellen Sussman
Linda & Ron Rosen in honor of Rose & Ray Cohen on the birth of their granddaughter Shayna
Phyllis Goldberg & Peter Donath in memory of Rosalind Goldfine sister of Edith Margulies
Steve Koton in memory of Rosalind Goldfine sister of Edith Margulies.
Linda & Ron Rosen in honor of the birth of Bailey Rose Kussin granddaughter of Sharyn & Steve
Shelley Rosenblum in honor of Peter Donath on the birth of his two grandsons Logan & Jacob
Harriet Feldman in memory of Janet Kremsky beloved sister of Ellen Sussman
Shari & Mitchell Simon in memory of Suzanne Knobel
Martha Kovel & Paul Konigstein in honor of Mary & Steve Greenfield on their 50th Anniversary
Yochi & Mark Thum in memory of Janet Kremsky beloved sister of Ellen Sussman
Michelle & Michael Schwartz in memory of Janet Kremsky, sister of Ellen Sussman
Barbara & Joseph Sternberg in honor of Dana & Richard Knox on the birth of their granddaughter
Gerald Storch in honor of Richard & Dana Knox on the birth of their granddaughter Madison Jade
Ivy & Dan Greenburg in honor of Mary & Steve Greenfield on their 50th Anniversary
Linda & Ron Rosen in honor of Dana & Richard Knox on the birth of their granddaughter Madison,
Sharyn & Steve Kussin in memory of Rabbi Dermer's grandfather
Gail & Joel Antin in memory of Gloria Berger mother of Edward Berger
Shelley Rosenblum in memory of Marvin Rappaport
Ellen & Alan Sussman in memory of Rosalind Goldfine sister of Edith Margulis
Felise & Jeffrey Fox and Family in memory of Marvin Rappaport
Felise & Jeffrey Fox and family in honor of Linda & Howard Zryb on the birth of their grandchild
Andrea & Steve Davis in honor of Peter Donath on the birth of his grandchildren
Andrea & Steve Davis in honor of Peter Donath's birthday
Andrea & Steve Davis in honor of Ray & Rose Cohen on the birth of their grandchild
Joanne & Charlie Skop in memory of Norman Karr
Tina & Ira Blankstein in memory of Marvin Rappaport
Linda & Ron Rosen in honor of Steve & Mary Greenfield on the marriage of their daughter
Amy & Jeff Wechsler in honor of Linda & Howard Zryb for the naming of granddaughter Miriam
Sharyn & Steven Kussin in honor of Phyllis Goldberg & Peter Donath on the birth of their grandson
Ellen & Alan Sussman in honor of Linda & Howard Zryb on the Baby Naming of their granddaughter
Sharyn & Steven Kussin in memory of Rosalind Goldfine sister of Edith Margulis
Linda & Howard Zryb in honor of Phyllis Goldberg & Peter Donath on the birth of their grandson
Ellen & Alan Sussman in honor of Rabbi Ravid & Yaffa Tilles on the birth of their son
Sarah Wexler & Family in honor of Peter Donath & Phyllis Goldberg on their grandson's Brit Milah

Donations

Sarah Wexler & Family in honor of Richard & Dana Knox on the birth of their granddaughter
Joan & Blaine Land in honor of Dana & Richard Knox on the birth of Madison Jade
Linda & Ron Rosen in honor of Dana & Richard Knox on the birth of their granddaughter Madison
Linda & Ron Rosen in honor of Mary & Steven Greenfield on their daughter's wedding
Ellen & Alan Sussman in honor of Bobbi & Steve Scoll's Simchat Torah honor
Linda & Ron Rosen in honor of Rose & Ray Cohen on the birth of their granddaughter
Sharon & Victor Hoffman & Family in memory of Janet Kremsky, beloved sister of Ellen Sussman
Marilyn & Rob Hochhauser in memory of Janet Kremsky sister of Ellen Sussman
Barbara & Joseph Sternberg in memory of Janet Kremsky sister of Ellen Sussman
Ellen and Alan Sussman in honor of the baby naming of Madison Jade granddaughter of Dana and Richard Knox
Sarita Mlawer in honor of the birth of Bailey Rose granddaughter of Sharyn & Steve Kussin
Gail & Joel Antin in honor of the birth of the granddaughter of Liz & Jeff Schwartz
Beth & Mitch Davis in memory of Janet Kremsky sister of Ellen Sussman
Beth & Mitch Davis & Family in memory of Gloria Berger mother of Steven Berger
Paulette & Gary Meldelsohn in memory of Janet Kremsky sister of Ellen Sussman
Sarita Mlawer in honor of the birth of the granddaughter of Susan Blumberg
Bobbi & Steven Scoll in memory of Janet Kremsky sister of Ellen Sussman
Shelley Rosenblum in honor of Susan Blumberg on the birth of her grandchild
Irma Koton in honor of the baby naming of Bailey Rose granddaughter of Sharyn & Steve Kussin
Felise & Jeffrey Fox in memory of Janet Kremsky, beloved sister of Ellen Sussman
Linda & Howard Zryb in memory of Gloria Berger mother of Steve Berger
Victor & Sharon Hoffman & Family in memory of Janet Kremsky sister of Ellen Sussman
Joanne & Marc Hamroff in memory of Gloria Berger mother of Steven Berger
Marcia Kornbluth & Family in memory of Janet Kremsky sister of Ellen Sussman
Lee & Richie Berman in memory of Janet Kremsky, beloved sister of Ellen Sussman
Bobby & Steve Scoll in memory of Gloria Berger mother of Steve Berger
Marcia Kornbluth and Family in honor of the birth of Madison Jade granddaughter of Dana and Richard Knox
Wendy & Frank Wetchler in memory of Janet Kremsky, beloved sister of Ellen Sussman

CJL Fund

Amy Rood & Jack Matza in memory of Rabbi Dermer's grandfather
Paulette & Gary Mendelsohn in memory of the brother of Edith Margulis
Leonard & Lois Kaufman in memory of Marvin Rappaport

Donniger Children's Library Fund

Lenny & Lois Kaufman in honor of grandson Jake's 9th Birthday

Dr. Alan Klein Memorial Fund

Philip & Gloria Goldstein in memory of Janet Kremsky sister of Ellen Sussman
Leslie Rappaport in memory of Janet Kremsky sister of Ellen Sussman

Endowment Fund

Mary & Steve Greenfield in memory of Gloria Berger mother of Steve Berger
Starr & Stan Goldberg in memory of Gloria Berger mother of Ed Berger
Linda and Lew Altman in memory of Robert Schwinger brother of Carol Klar
Linda & Lew Altman in memory of Janet Kremsky sister of Ellen Sussman
Michael Greenfield and Claire Halpern in honor of the 50th Anniversary of Mary and Steve Greenfield
Linda & Lew Altman in memory of Bert Zipkin husband of Ellen Zipkin
Linda & Lew Altman in memory of Gloria Berger mother of Steve Berger
Linda & Lew Altman wishing a Refuah Shlemah to Howie Field
Mary and Steve Greenfield in memory of Janet Kremsky sister of Ellen Sussman
Mary and Steve Greenfield in memory of Bert Zipkin husband of Ellen

Donations

Friends of the Merrick Jewish Centre

Joseph Enright in memory of Linda Friedman

Bobby & Steve Scoll in honor of the baby naming of Bailey Rose granddaughter of Sharyn & Steve Kussin

Hebrew School Scholarship Fund

Fran & Evan Schweitzer

Irene & Larry Schechter in honor of the birth of grandson Maddax Reid

Dr. Barry and Geri Silverman

Howard Chaskes Memorial Fund

Phyllis Chaskes in memory of Marvin Rappaport

Phyllis Chaskes in honor of Peter Donath on the birth of his grandson

Phyllis Chaskes in honor of Russell Donath on the birth of son

Phyllis Chaskes in honor of Philip Buglione on the birth of grandson

Sandra Pinkus in honor of Sharyn & Steve Kussin & Great Grandma Hannah on the birth of Bailey

Phyllis Chaskes in memory of Robert Schwinger brother of Carol Klar

Phyllis Chaskes in honor of the birth of Madison Jade granddaughter of Dana and Richard Knox

Sandra Pinkus in memory of Janet Kremsky beloved sister of Ellen Sussman

Sandra Pinkus in honor of Roberta & Steven Scoll's Simchat Torah honor

Sandra Pinkus in honor of Iris & Allan Greenberg's Simchat Torah honor

Sandra Pinkus in honor of Bea Goldberg becoming a great-grandmother

Phyllis Chaskes in memory of Janet Krimsky sister of Ellen Sussman

Phyllis Chaskes in memory of Shula Hirsch

Sandra Pinkus in honor of Rose & Ray Cohen on the birth of granddaughter

Sandra Pinkus in honor of the birth of the granddaughter of Dana & Richard Knox

Sandra Pinkus in honor of Peter Donath on birth of grandson

Irving Lipfield Memorial Fund

The Gershlak family in memory of Rabbi Dermer's grandfather

Barri & Allen Gershlak in memory of Janet Kremsky sister of Ellen Sussman

Kozin Fund

Rena & Steve Kozin in honor of Bobbi & Steven Scoll's honor as Kallat & Chatan Torah on Simchat

Rena & Steve Kozin in honor of the birth of Bailey Rose granddaughter of Sharyn & Steve Kussin

Rena and Steve Kozin in honor of the birth of Madison Jade granddaughter of Dana & Richard Knox

Rena & Steven Kozin in memory of Janet Kremsky sister of Ellen Sussman

Rena & Steve Kozin in memory of Marvin Rappaport

Rena & Steven Kozin in memory of Gloria Berger mother of Steven Berger

Kroll Educational Fund

Marcia & Mel Friedman in honor of Irene Kroll

PJ Library Fund

Susan Blumberg in honor of Madison Jade Schild granddaughter of Dana and Richard Knox

Mindy & Ed Goldstein in honor of Linda & Howard Zryb on the birth of granddaughter Miriam Stella

Ilene Lambert in honor of Susan Blumberg on the birth of her granddaughter Davina Michele

Ilene Lambert in honor of Sharyn & Steve Kussin on the birth of their granddaughter Bailey Rose

Phyllis Goldberg & Peter Donath in honor of the birth of Shayna Brielle granddaughter of Rose &

Marilyn & Rob Hochhauser in honor of the birth of the granddaughter of Susan Blumberg

Mindy & Ed Goldstein in honor of Rose & Ray Cohen on the birth of granddaughter Shayna Brielle

Marilyn & Rob Hochhauser in honor of the birth of the granddaughter of Elizabeth & Jeff Schwartz

Paulette and Gary Mendelsohn in honor of the baby naming of Bailey Rose granddaughter of

Marilyn & Rob Hochhauser in honor of Arleen & Sam Rosenberg on birth of granddaughter

Mindy & Ed Goldstein in honor of Frieda & Alex Rosenberg on the birth of grandson

Donations

Prayer Book and Tallis Fund

Sheila & Sam Rappaport in memory of Janet Kremsky sister of Ellen Sussman
Iris & Allan Greenberg in memory of Janet Kremsky sister of Ellen Sussman
The Dzigas Family in memory of Edward Yorke
Eleanor & David Leiner in memory of Janet Kremsky sister of Ellen Sussman
Iris & Allan Greenberg in memory of Marvin Rappaport grandfather of Rabbi Dermer
Chesed Committee in memory of Marvin Rappaport Grandfather of Rabbi Jack Dermer
Sheila & Samuel Rappaport in memory of Rosalind Goldfine
Richie & Sherry Schwartz in memory of Gloria Berger mother of Steve Berger
Sheila & Samuel Rappaport in memory of Marvin Rappaport

Rabbi Dermer's Pulpit Fund

Sandra Wegman in memory of Rabbi Dermer's grandfather Marvin Rappaport
Steve & Mary Greenfield in memory of Marvin Rappaport
Marilyn and Rob Hochhauser in honor of Mary and Steve Greenfield's 50th wedding anniversary
Dr. Andy Ageloff in memory of Marvin Rappaport
Linda & Ron Rosen in memory of Marvin Rappaport
The Swersky family in memory of Marvin Rappaport
Deborah & Michael Goldstein in memory of Marvin Rappaport grandfather of Rabbi Dermer
Linda & Lewis Altman in memory of Marvin Rappaport
Frederick Burns in memory of Marvin Rappaport
Marc R. Wolfson in memory of Marvin Rappaport
Steve & Sharyn Kussin in memory of Marvin Rappaport
Mindy & Ed Goldstein in memory of Marvin Rappaport
Karen & Gary Sanders in memory of Marvin Rappaport
Amy & Jeffrey Wechsler in memory of Rabbi Dermer's grandfather Marvin Rappaport
Susan Blumberg in memory of Rabbi Dermer's grandfather
Ilene Lambert in memory of Rabbi Dermer's grandfather
Paula & Howard Tiegel in memory of Marvin Rappaport
Phyllis Goldberg & Peter Donath in memory of Marvin Rappaport
Andrea & Steve Davis in memory of Marvin Rappaport
Randy & Stuart Schoenfeld in memory of Marvin Rappaport
Raye & Herb Newman in memory of Rabbi Dermer's grandfather
Geri & Barry Silverman in memory of Rabbi Dermer's grandfather
Stanley Becker in memory of Rabbi Dermer's grandfather Marvin Rappaport
Shari & Mitchell Simon in memory of Rabbi Dermer's grandfather
Sandra Pinkus in memory of Rabbi Dermer's grandfather Marvin Rappaport
Tara Bernstein & family in memory of Marvin Rappaport
DeeDee Katz in memory of Rabbi Dermer's grandfather
Steve & Michele Moscovitz in memory of Marvin Rappaport
Deb & Michael Goldstein in memory of Marvin Rappaport
DeeDee Katz in memory of Lorraine Berger
Ellen & Alan Sussman in memory of Marvin Rappaport
Fred Burns in memory of Rabbi Dermer's grandfather Marvin Rappaport
Men's Club & Chesed in memory of Marvin Rappaport
Marc Wolfson in memory of Rabbi Dermer's grandfather
Karen & Gary Sanders in memory of Rabbi Dermer's grandfather
Lois & Ed Saturn in memory of Marvin Rappaport
Joan & Blaine Land in memory of Marvin Rappaport
Sarah Wexler & Family in memory of Rabbi Dermer's grandfather

Donations

Rabbi Klein's Pulpit Fund

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Cheryl & Steven Haber in honor of the engagement of their son Justin Haber to Brooke Klein
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Eileen Greenspan and family in memory of Billy Greenspan
June Goldhamer in memory of Bert Zipkin
Paula & Howard Tiegel in memory of Robert Schwinger brother of Carol Klar
Gail & Marty Unger in memory of Robert Schwinger brother of Carol Klar
Paula & Howard Tiegel in memory of Gloria Berger mother of Steven Berger
Sheryl & Gary Kissin in memory of Janice Yedin
Judy & Mitchell Mund in memory of Gloria Berger mother of Steve Berger
Paula & Howard Tiegel in memory of Janet Kremsky sister of Ellen Sussman
Irene & Bob Kroll in honor of Betty & Rabbi Klein
Philip & Gloria Goldstein in memory of Gloria Berger mother of Steve Berger
Michele & Steve Moskovitz in memory of Janet Kremsky sister of Ellen Sussman
Sheila Frascogna in memory of Shula Hirsch mother of Marilyn Shimon
Judy & Fred Elfenbein in honor of the baby naming of Bailey Rose granddaughter of Sharyn & Steve Kussin
Judy & Fred Elfenbein in memory of Janet Kremsky sister of Ellen Sussman
Dr. Andrew Ageloff in memory of Rose Kirschen
Marlene & Eric Barth in memory of Janet Kremsky sister of Ellen Sussman
Jacob Greenburg in appreciation of Rabbi Klein
Linda & Lew Altman in honor of their shared anniversary with Mel & Teddi Febesh
Stacey & Jonathan Goodman in appreciation of Rabbi Klein
Yochi & Mark Thum in appreciation of Rabbi Klein
Faye Kilstein in memory of Shula Hirsch mother of Marilyn Shimon
Louise and Seth Pitlake in memory of Tyrone Bauer
Louise and Seth Pitlake in memory of Jack Mansbach
Michelle Raio in memory of Shula Hirsch mother of Marilyn Shimon
Ivy & Dan Greenburg in appreciation of Rabbi Klein
Louise and Seth Pitlake in memory of Janice Yedin grandmother of Ferri Kohen
Geri & Barry Silverman in memory of Janet Kremsky, beloved sister of Ellen Sussman
Theda & Melvin Febesh in memory of beloved sister Minnie Davis
Geri & Barry Silverman in memory of Shula Hirsch
Jill & Jeffrey Kaiserman in appreciation of Rabbi Klein
Teddi & Mel Febesh in memory of Janet Kremsky sister of Ellen Sussman

Stacey Dawn Rosenberg Memorial Fund

Sophie Astrachan in honor of Caren and Jeff Rosenberg
Caryn & Jeff Rosenberg in memory of Janet Kremsky sister of Ellen Sussman
Caren & Jeff Rosenberg in memory of Arielle Klein's father
Sophie Astrachan in memory of Stacey Rosenberg.

The Alvin Perlmutter-Meyer Scholarship Fund

Lisa Scharf Bender on the loss of her dear mother and our long time member Sylvia Scharf
Carol Klar on the loss of her dear brother Robert Schwinger
Ferri Kohen on the loss of her dear grandmother Janice Yedin
Dan Babitz on the loss of his dear father Harvey Babitz
Ellen Sussman on the loss of her dear sister Janet Kremsky
Edward and Steven Berger on the loss of their dear mother Gloria Berger
Michael Mirotznik on the loss of his dear father Bernard Mirotznik
Ellen Zipkin on the loss of her beloved husband Bertram Zipkin
The Hirsch family on the loss of Shula Hirsch

Donations

Elaine Feldman on the loss of her dear husband Edward Feldman
Jennifer Berkowitz on the loss of her dear father Edward Grossman
Michael Goldstein on the loss of his dear father Theodore Goldstein
Aaron Goldsmith on the loss of his dear father Dennis Goldsmith
Dana Knox on the loss of her dear mother Ruth Feldman
Doron Jaget on the loss of his dear father Jack Jaget

The CJL Fund

Paulette & Gary Mendelsohn in memory of the sister of Edith Margulis

The Synagogue Fund

Jill & Jeffrey Kaiserman in appreciation of Rabbi Klein
Marcia Kornbluth & Gerry Storch in memory of Rosalind Goldfine
Jamey Kohn in memory of Shula Hirsch
Jonathan Kaiden in memory of Linda Friedman mother of Jay Friedman
Jamey Kohn in memory of Edward Grossman
Jamey Kohn in memory of Janet Kremsky sister of Ellen Sussman
Jamey Kohn in memory of Bert Zipkin husband of Ellen Zipkin
Lee Rait in memory of Celia Strow
Robin Rait in honor of her mother Leonore Rait
Gary & Karen Sanders in memory of Janet Kremsky sister of Ellen Sussman
Lee Rait in honor of Anna and Perry Strow, Dr. Robin Rait, Jeffrey, Lauren, Lindsay, Rebecca,
Robin Rait in memory of her father Louis Rait, grandparents Perry and Anna Strow, aunt Celia

The Zabriskie Family Israel Opportunity Fund

Benjamin Schoenfeld in memory of Marvin Rappaport

Youth Lounge

Nat & Susan Litman in memory of Marvin Rappaport

Yahrzeits

Yahrzeit

Lenore Friedman in memory of mother Ceilia Reichman
Michael Robin in memory of mother Susan Robin
Roslyn Goldsmith in memory of husband Sheldon Goldsmith
Elliot Zimmerman in memory of father Meyer Zimmerman
George Grossman in memory of father
Mara & Irwin Maltz in memory of father Bernard Maltz
Mitchell Mund in memory of father Walter Mund
Phyllis Goldberg in memory of her father Morris Burg
Dr. Andrew Ageloff in memory of mother-in-law Yetta Seligman
Shelley Rosenblum in memory of father Morton Ruck
Dr. Andrew Ageloff in memory of wife Miriam Ageloff
Irwin Silversmith in memory of father Samuel Silversmith
Jill Kaiserman in memory of father Meyer Rubin
Sarah Wexler in memory of husband Elliot Wexler
Phyllis Chaskes in memory of husband Howard Chaskes
Norma Weinreb-Bronstein in memory of father Sylvin Weinreb
Eli Levine in memory of sister-in-law Leah
Eli Levine in memory of brother-in-law Leonard Luckman
Paula Cohen in memory of beloved mother Sylvia Jeshion
Steven Scoll in memory of father Joseph Scoll
Lois Kaufman in memory of father Alvin Feit
Mel Parker in memory of mother in law Elsie Silverman
Dr. Andrew Ageloff in memory of father Monte Ageloff
Anna Kaplan in memory of sister Sandra Leon
Marcia Kornbluth in memory of father Abe Hiller
Evelyn Zisner in memory of husband Jerry Zisner
Steven Koton in memory of father Sheldon Koton
David Klein in memory of mother Julie Klein
Linda Zryb in memory of mother Geraldine Goldberg
Linda Altman in memory of her beloved mother Hilda Weiner
Judy Klein in memory of father Arnold Bick
Roy Levinson in memory of father Alvin Levinson
Martin Sommers in memory of father Anthony Siminerio
Beth Weiss in memory of mother Sylvia Swartz
Jeffrey Kaiserman in memory of father Gustave Kaiserman
Helen Drogin in memory of aunt Itke Hinitz
Dr. Andrew Ageloff in memory of son Rick Ageloff
David First in memory of mother Sally First
Joanne Skop in memory of father Norman Karr
Barbara Wolfson in memory of mother Lena Greenspan Blank
Gary Kissin in memory of mother Lila Kissin
Gerry Storch in memory of Sara Finkelman
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Marilyn Shimon in memory of father Martin Hirsch
Susan Jurman in memory of mother Dorothy Grober
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Steven & Amy Haas in memory of father Irving Diller
Judy & Dave Klein in memory of father David Klein
Steven Scoll in memory of beloved mother Julia Scoll

Jahrzeits

Jeffrey Trompeter in memory of beloved mother Minnie Trompeter
Jeffrey Trompeter in memory of beloved father Jonas Trompeter
Stephen Kramer in memory of beloved mother Miriam Kramer
Joan Schiff in memory of beloved son Scott Schiff
Marcia Maltz in memory of beloved father Bernard Maltz
Sue Forster in memory of beloved mother Rhonda Forster
Howard Ader in memory of beloved aunt Mary Koback
Barbara Sternberg in memory of mother Ruth Beck
Joanne Skop in memory of beloved brother Arnie Karr
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Jeannemarie Bradenstein in memory of her father Lawrence Swensen
Linda Feinberg in memory of beloved mother Eleanor Halperin
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Carol Kotz in memory of mother Ellen Kleinman
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Gary Farber in memory of father Bernard Farber
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George Adler in memory of his stepfather Vilmos Benda
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Robin Knoll in memory of mother Nyra Horowitz
Brenda Pitkoff in memory of brother Farrel Levine
Philip Goldstein in memory of father Jacob Goldstein
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Eve Meyer Perlmutter in memory of beloved mother Edith Heckscher Meyer
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Charlie Skop in memory of beloved mother Pearl Skop
Larry Friedman in memory of father Erwin Friedman
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Carl S. Gottlieb in memory of beloved mother Esther Gottlieb
Norma Bronstein in memory of beloved mother Kate Weinreb
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Mitchell Davis in memory of Jerry Davis
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Rhoda Feldman in memory of beloved daughter Sandra Feldman
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Shari Finkelstein in memory of mother Geraldine Finkelstein

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Cheryl Haber in memory of father Norton Friedman
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Cynthia Brenner in memory of mother Belle Cohen
Cynthia Brenner in memory of father Samuel Cohen
Lois Kaufman in memory of mother Shirley Feit
Leonard Kaufman in memory of sister Annette Kaufman
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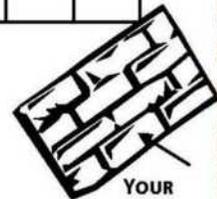
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