



MERRICK JEWISH CENTRE

CONGREGATION OHR TORAH

The Bulletin



A MESSAGE FROM RABBI DORSCH



I always cringe a little when we refer to the period of time from Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur as the “High Holidays,” or “The holiday season.” While Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur technically fall into the Hebrew category of a “Chag” which means festival, I think that referring to them as such undermines the inherent holiness and sense of purpose of those days.

Rabbi Sydney Greenberg emphasized the importance of referring to Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur as “Holy Days” as opposed to “holidays.” He wrote:

On holidays we run away from duties;
On holy days we face up to them.
On holidays we seek to let ourselves go;
on holy days we try to bring ourselves under control.
On holidays we try to empty our minds;
on holy days we attempt to replenish our spirits.
On holidays we reach out for the things we want;
on holy days we reach up for the things we need.
Holidays bring a change of scene;

holy days bring a change of heart.

That is why I prefer to call both Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur by their Hebrew name: the Yamim NoRaim, which is translated as “The Days of Awe.” The word Norah in Hebrew is actually one of my favorite words in Hebrew because based on its context, it means polar opposites. Being filled with awe can either be mesmerizing or petrifying. Being filled with awe can be awesome or awful.

God forbid you have an awful experience with us over the coming weeks. If you do, please let us know. Nevertheless, we want the experience you have with us to be a powerful one filled with meaning. We hope that by observing the upcoming Holy Days with the MJC, you are encouraged to engage in deep reflection and introspection. During these Holy Days we want to elevate ourselves spiritually and create a heightened sense of awareness and emotion. During these Holy Days we want to push ourselves to be brutally honest and inspire ourselves to be the best versions and better versions of ourselves in our community and in the year ahead.

Doing so can be difficult and challenging. It can even be painful at times, but it is what Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur are all about.

I am honored and humbled to be embarking on this journey with all of you. It is my hope and prayer for all of us that the experience we have together, is one that is awe inspiring. May the time we spend together help us on our journey to becoming the people we want to be, drawing us closer to each other, community, tradition, and God.

Rabbi Joshua Dorsch

The Bulletin

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CONGREGATION OHR TORAH

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FROM THE CANTOR



Greetings,

I am always amazed at how quickly the year passes. It seems like we just completed last year's Tishrei cycle and now it is upon us once again. This cycle is so replete with symbols, symbolism and meaning. The scope of thought and the years of evolution of the celebration of these holidays is vast. But there is one aspect I would like to focus on in the hopes that it will give us all a renewed sense of how to approach these days.

The Machzor states, "T'shuvah, T'fillah, Utz'dakah maavirin et roah hag'zeirah/Repentance, prayer, and charity remove the evil of the decree!" It is amazing that God gives us this formula to help undo the decree against our past year's transgressions. The main one for me is T'shuvah/repentance because it seems the most direct way to address and repair a sin. The Rabbi's teach that there are two types of T'shuvah. T'shuvah meahavah and t'shuva meyirah/Repentance out of love and repentance out of fear.

While repentance out of fear is certainly common, repentance out of love is considered the higher form of repentance because it is motivated by the person's most intimate feelings rather than by a reaction to a fear stimulus. Repentance from fear has an almost instinctive or reactionary quality to it. If one is afraid of imminent punishment, one will do just about anything to avoid it. However, if one has thought about what they did, processed it, realized that they love their God, love themselves, love the person they hurt, and feel remorse for the transgression, then they are involved in the deepest form of human reflection on the path to repentance. This repentance out of love not only repents for the transgression itself but also brings a new level of kedusha/holiness and love into the world that was not there previously.

While the past 12 months have been full of new challenges this congregation has met and overcome them all with hard work, love for this synagogue, and most importantly a striving toward achdut/togetherness. This togetherness through adversity demonstrates how we as a congregation can function from a place of love, and that is the highest path both in repentance and life.

I am so pleased that Rabbi Dorsch now joins me on the bima and Donna Bartolomeo rounds out our professional team. I feel blessed to know them and to work with them. Together I am positive that we can lead this synagogue with love, strength, and compassion into the future.

As your Cantor I pray that we approach each other and these Days of Awe with that introspective love. I will endeavor to approach the liturgy with that same love, and I look forward to leading this congregation in prayer again this year!

I wish you all an enjoyable, sweet New Year and a cathartic High Holiday experience. On behalf of Heather, Adina, Sam and the extended Warschawski family, I wish you all a shana tova tikateiv v'teichateim! May you all be inscribed and sealed for a wonderful year!

With warm regards,

Cantor Benjamin Warschawski

Cantor Benjamin Warschawski

FROM THE MJC PRESIDENT



Dear Friends:

This past summer we renovated the Fox Boulevard Lobby. In doing so, we removed a wall of mirrors that had been installed, I am told, during the early 1990s. I had also been told there was some kind of sculpture behind the wall and I asked the contractor to be extremely careful when removing the sheetrock so we could see what had been hidden from view for thirty years, longer than many of us have been members of the MJC.

On Yom Kippur morning, I am going to speak in some detail about the artwork we uncovered during the renovation, our "archeological dig" so to speak, and I hope you will have a chance to see it during the High Holy Days or the days beyond.

But for now, I just want to mention that I believe this special artwork, the ark doors that used to be in the Sanctuary and now are framed and hung in the Fox Lobby, and other artifacts of our history, are items that we must treasure, as reminders not only of the incredible 93-year history of our congregation, but also of the generations of MJC members, leaders, clergy

and staff on whose shoulders we stand today.

The MJC is in a wonderful position as we start 5783, as one of the few Conservative congregations on Long Island poised for success, filled with promise and potential, with a new and exciting Rabbi and with an influx of young Jewish families into our neighborhood. As we strive for that potential, let's always remember how we got here. In order to know where we are going, we must know where we have been.

Paula, Brianna and I wish you a hearty L'Shana Tova, and our best wishes for a happy, healthy, safe, sweet and good New Year.

Howard

Howard Tiegel

President

htiegel@merrickjc.org

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

5783 / 2022

SCHEDULE OF HIGH HOLY DAY SERVICES

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 25 - Erev Rosh Hashanah

Happy Birthday World Rosh Hashanah Family Experience	5:30PM
Light Holiday Candles	6:28 PM
Evening Services	6:30 PM

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 26 - First Day of Rosh Hashanah

Morning Services	8:15 AM
Torah Reading	9:45 AM
Pre-Service Supervision for Children	9:30 AM
Children & Teen Activities	10:00 AM
Tashlich at Caaman's Pond	5:00 PM
Evening Services (Mincha/Maariv)	6:30 PM
Light Holiday Candles	after 7:25 PM

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 27 - Second Day of Rosh Hashanah

Morning Services	8:15 AM
Torah Reading	9:45 AM
Pre-Service Supervision for Children	9:30 AM
Children & Teen Services	10:00 AM
Evening Services (Mincha/Maariv Service)	6:30 PM

SATURDAY, October 1 - Shabbat Shuvah

Services	9:00 AM
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TUESDAY, OCTOBER 4 - Erev Yom Kippur

Light Holiday Candles	no later than 6:13 PM
Mincha Services	6:00 PM
Kol Nidre Services	6:15 PM
Discussion, Stories & Games (ages 4-12)	6:00 PM

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 5 - Yom Kippur

Morning Services	8:15 AM
Pre-Service Supervision for Children	9:30 AM
Children & Teen Services	10:00 AM
Yizkor Services	10:45 AM
Community Yizkor Service.....	4:30 PM
Mincha & Neilah Services	5:15 PM
Yom Kippur Ends	7:20PM

HEBREW SCHOOL HAPPENINGS



What a special opening day we had at our Kehilatenu ("our community" Hebrew School) on Monday, September 12, 2022.

Our students were greeted with such joy by our faculty of caring and very talented teachers. The happiness of the children being together was palpable!

We began our year with Rabbi Dorsch taking on an integral role in the students' learning, as well as Cantor Warschawski bringing music back into the school. This is after two years of such limited musical opportunities due to Covid. They will each take active roles in our weekly tefillot (school wide prayers) as well.

We closed our first day with a welcome assembly, led by Rabbi Dorsch and Cantor Warschawski- just a taste of the excitement that they are already bringing to the school. Rabbi and Cantor took a fun selfie as the students and parents continued to come into the sanctuary, ending the first day with such exuberance!

Wishing everyone a Shanah Tovah u'Metukah!! A good and very sweet year for all!!

Morah Heléna

Heléna Eilenberg



MEN'S CLUB

An invigorated Men's Club returns for the fall with a jam-packed calendar to start the season. We soak up the remaining end-of-summer weather with our Family Fishing Trip and Fluke Derby on September 18, followed by our "Welcome Back" Fall BBQ for members at the end of the month. We move into October with the building and raising of our MJC Sukkah, where Men's Club will co-sponsor the Adults Night Out in the Sukkah with Membership and Sisterhood, a testament to the all-hands-on-deck collaborative approach befitting this new era at the MJC. In November, Men's Club will host its 2nd Annual Men's Health Forum featuring a Q&A with congregant medical professionals (everything you wanted to know but were afraid to ask!), and more to come in Winter 2023 and beyond!

Men's Club would like to take this opportunity to welcome our newest honorary member, Rabbi Josh Dorsch, and affirm our commitment to support the Rabbi in his endeavors as an Arm of the Shul.

And Men's Club would like to thank past MJC President Steve Davis for his grace and dedication in his service as our Recording Secretary.

Men's Club looks forward to a year of strengthening the spiritual, social and cultural bonds of our MJC men, fostering Chaverim among our members, and spreading the message of Tikkun Olum through the Paul Stone Youth Fund.

Hank Arkin

Adam Goldstein

Hank Arkin

Adam Goldstein

Men's Club Co-Presidents

MEN'S CLUB

On Sunday September 18 Men's Club sponsored the MJC First Annual Family Fishing Trip. Thirty three MJC members, friends and relatives joined us for an adventure on the Fishfinder 2 from Captree. The kids that fished with us participated in a Fluke Derby. Prizes of Snapper Rods were given to the winners. The weather was great. The camaraderie was fantastic. It was a pure pleasure to see our members having so much fun.

The day was so successful that the participants asked for another fishing trip in the fall for Striped Bass. More to follow about this next trip.

Both Adam and I would like to thank all of the participants for making this a very memorable day.

Adam Goldstein & Hank Arkin
Men's Club Co-Presidents



SISTERHOOD

Sisterhood Bulletin Fall 2022

Sisterhood has begun this new year with so much energy buzzing around us. We anticipate not only innovation this year, but also very creative programs. Please look for our email with information on membership and join us.

If you've seen our 2022-2023 calendar on the website, you already know that our theme this year will be "The Art of..." On September 19th we will have The Art of Tradition, a Rosh Hashanah tasting seder in the manner of Mizrahi Jews presented to us by Yochi Thum. For those unfamiliar with these traditions, you will find a new meaningful layer to add to your Rosh Hashanah dinners.

Get ready for our Paid Up Membership Party (PUMP), because after the whirlwind of our fall holidays, it will be here before you know it. Circle November 2nd on your calendar for The Art of Sisterhood and send in your dues so you can join the fun. Not only will we have a delicious dinner that night, but we will have a hands-on participatory demonstration preparing charcuterie boards.

December will bring you The Art of Self Care including a yoga class. And our newest program, Rosh Chodesh will have its genesis on December 26th, The Art of Light, where we will hold a Rosh Chodesh Circle and conclude with creating our very own light catchers.

This is just the beginning. There are many more fun times to come. I hope you will step into the Centre and bring your own light into our circles.

Cheryl Uram

Cheryl Uram

Sisterhood President



LIFELONG LEARNING

The Lifelong Learning Committee of MJC is thrilled to be offering many different learning opportunities in Fall 22. Please check on the MJC website for more details and feel free to reach out to us with suggestions or questions. Our emails will be at the end of this article.

We want to thank Rabbi Dorsch and Cantor Warschawski for the Higher and Higher series that took place prior to the High Holidays. The sessions were a spiritual preparation for the days ahead! Also we are continuing to enjoy the Dr. Stephen Berk series, "Jews on the Move" about Jewish immigration and emigration throughout the history of our people. He is a simply fascinating and knowledgeable speaker.

Coming up this year is Bagels and the Bible with our very own Rabbi Dorsch at Bagel Plaza at 10am. The sessions will begin on Wednesday, October 19th. Don't forget to get there early to order your discounted breakfast or get a cup of coffee.

Many thanks to Sharyn Kussin who will be teaching Spanish and Hebrew classes again this year. This is Sharyn's third year and her students are loving it. Anyone who is interested in joining should reach out to Joanne or Steve for more information.

Would you like to learn about television production – behind the scenes? Steven Kussin will be teaching a 3 session mini-course for both young and older adults. The classes will be on Wednesdays, Oct. 26, Nov. 9 and Nov. 23 in person in the CJL. You must pre-register at lifelonglearning@merrickjc.org.

If you feel the need to move and dance, we have free zoom Zumba with Carrie Dale. Classes are Mondays at 11am – no class 9/25 or 9/26: Tuesdays at 10:30am (45 minutes): Wednesdays at 9:30am – no class 10/5: Sundays at 10:15am (45 minutes)-no class on 9/18. The zoom ID is 968 5836 5963, Password is 067653.

Do you love short stories? Join Stan Bloomfield for a 2 session class on a contemporary and classic short story of Jewish content. Watch for dates in November. Please pre-register at lifelonglearning@merrickjc.org.

Don't forget to enjoy Virtual Hollywood every Sunday at 11am with Rich Knox on zoom. His entertaining class continues as it has for years! Can't thank Rich enough for keeping this going from Omaha, Nebraska! LLLC will join with Sisterhood for a pre-Hanukah Art Project for all you hands-on people. It will take place on December 7th. More details to follow.

Also stay tuned for a discussion about an Israeli film. Keep an eye out for screening and discussion date. Steve and I want to thank all the volunteers, teachers, other shul committees and LLLC committee members that have joined with us to keep LLLC vital and relevant. Any ideas (last year's Windows on the Holocaust was very successful and well received), please reach out to me, Joanne Skop at chantchaz@aol.com



MJC

THE PLACE TO BE!

(on the high holidays)

PROGRAMMING AVAILABLE FOR ALL AGES:

- Fun & meaningful Rosh Hashana and Yom Kippur services for kids ages 3-12.
- Babysitting for kids 0-2. 9:30 am to 1:00 pm
- Teens 8th grade and up will have choice of discussion groups or helping out with activities.



Day 1

MONDAY, SEPT. 26TH

**MEET THE REPTILE GUYS!
FIND OUT WHAT SNAKES
AND LIZARDS HAVE TO DO
WITH ROSH HASHANA!**

Then... discover the
magic within you on
Rosh Hashana with
an awesome

**MAGIC
SHOW!**



Each day- supervision is from 9:30 to 10:00 am.
Programs and services from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm



Day 2

TUESDAY, SEPT. 27th

**Learn all about bees and honey
from HONEYGRAMZ!**

Watch a REAL observation hive!

COME HUNGRY!

**Take part in an apple and
honey taste test! And... dip
your apples and challah
into CHOCOLATE honey!**



• MERRICK JEWISH CENTRE •

APPLE & PUMPKIN PICKING

WINDY ACRES FARM
3830 MIDDLE COUNTRY RD
CALVERTON, NY 11933

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 2, 2022
10:00 A.M.

MEET PROMPTLY AT 10:00 A.M.
TO ENJOY A TRACTOR RIDE OUT
TO THE ORCHARDS TOGETHER

*\$12.50 FOR 4-5 POUND BAG OF APPLES
*PUMPKINS PRICED BY THE POUND

MERRICK
JEWISH
CENTRE
CONGREGATION OF THE TOWN

Merrick Jewish Centre

Family Day in the Sukkah

Sunday, October 16, 2022 @ 10:30AM

Come join us for brunch and make your own
edible Sukkah with your family and friends!



REGISTRATION REQUIRED
AT WWW.MERRICKJC.ORG

225 FOX BLVD. MERRICK, NY 11566

THE "BULLETIN" BOARD



Cemetery Information

The sale of Cemetery Plots at the Merrick Jewish Centre grounds at Wellwood Cemetery is on-going for members in good standing of our congregation.

Please contact the MJC Cemetery Committee for information. We can be reached by email at: cemeterycommittee@merrickjc.org

We want to hear from YOU!

Is there something you'd like to see in future issues of the MJC Bulletin?

Do you have some writing to contribute, such as: A Special Shabbat Experience; An Article of Interest (relating to Judaism); My First Time Making Challah (or any Holiday Dish)! A Special Moment at MJC; What My Child Taught Me about Judaism ...and the like. Send your submissions to me for inclusion in future MJC Bulletins!

Contact Howard Zryb at
hzryb@aol.com
with your ideas and suggestions.

MJC Helpline

We're here to listen and offer support during this crisis.

Please call 516-379-8650

We have assembled a team of wonderfully capable mental health professionals to offer phone counseling to our members who feel the need to speak with a caring therapist. Your Rabbis are also available. Please leave a message and a team member will return your call.

Do you know that the Merrick Jewish Centre 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.

Clothing Donations

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!

Virtual Minyan Services

Morning Services:

Saturday Shabbat 9 am (In-person & Livestream)

Evening Services

Sunday through Thursday at 8 pm (in-person & Zoom)

Friday Shabbat at 6:30 pm (in-person & Livestream)

Zoom meeting ID: 649-098-3015

Password: Mitzvah613

Zoom call in phone number: 1-929-205-6099

ID: 649-098-3015

Password: 6489824613

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

BOOK CORNER

Highlighting One of Merrick Jewish Centre's Own...

MJC Past President, Steve Kussin, recently launched his second book: *It's the Principal of the Thing: You Can't Make This Stuff Up*. It is a memoir of his 21 years as a high school principal. The idea for this memoir came at a dinner party. He was sharing with guests some of his true, off-beat, humorous experiences. When he was done, someone suggested: "Why don't you record these and write a book?" So he did.

His memoir consists of more than 120 anecdotes divided into 20 chapters, including "Students," "Faculty," "Staff," "Substitutes," and "Parents." There is even a section on "Wardrobe Malfunctions." Towards the end of the book, Steve gets serious, dealing with current debates in education... the state of the teaching profession... and remembering 9-11.

It was suggested he schedule a book-signing at the MJC; however, he doesn't want to do that. Instead, he is putting three proof copies in the MJC office for any members who want to borrow one. "Everyone went to high school - so everyone should relate to these stories, giving it universal appeal."

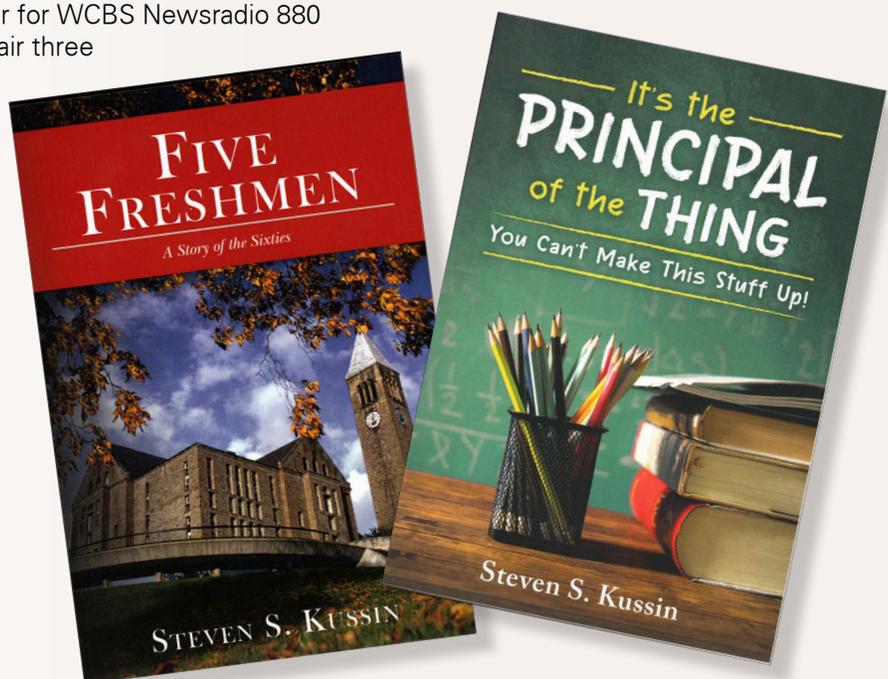
This is Steve's second book; his first, *Five Freshmen*, is a semi-autobiographical saga of five incoming students at Cornell University in 1965 and follows them for four years from orientation to graduation as the winds of the War in Vietnam start to gather over American college campuses. "It traces what happens to each. Having lived through that turbulent decade, I tried to present the 1960s as realistically as possible." He is currently finishing up his third book, this one a novel - a cross between a whodunit and a buddy story.

As for the actual writing process, Steve says, "I do most of my writing on the front porch with my word processor, pot of coffee, radio, and dog at my feet. Great office - even better commute! I also work late into the night - with Broadway and showtunes in the background."

Steve asserts that he loves the writing but not the marketing! "Just not good at selling! It's not my thing. As a matter of fact, I've finished the screenplay version of my first book and am trying to find an agent to shop it around."

Steve has been the education reporter for WCBS Newsradio 880 for the past eleven years; his reports air three times a day, Monday through Friday. In addition, he is an adjunct professor in the Department of Radio-Television-Film-New Media at Hofstra.

Both books are available at Amazon.com - BOOKS. As mentioned above, the current one is available for loan in the MJC office.



QUEEN ELIZABETH & THE JEWS

Facts about the monarch's tumultuous relationship with Jews

June 6, 2022 | by [Dr. Yvette Alt Miller](#)
From [Aish.com](#)

[Aish is saddened by the news of the death of Queen Elizabeth II. This article was written in celebration of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. She was the longest serving monarch in the history of Britain.]

Over three quarters of Britons report feeling admiration and approval for their queen. In fact, one recent survey found that the most popular dream in Britain is having tea with the queen.

On her 90th birthday, in 2016, Rabbi Lord Jonathan Sacks, then Britain's Chief Rabbi and who was knighted by Queen Elizabeth II, spoke for many when he noted that "the respect she has shown for all religions has enriched our lives." In her 70 years on the throne, her Royal Highness has provided encouragement to many, including her nation's Jews.

Here are some little-known facts.

Childhood "Heil Hitler" Gaffe

One of the major plot elements in "The Crown" is the alleged Nazi sympathies of Elizabeth's uncle, King Edward VIII, who reigned for less than a year in 1936. (He abdicated to marry American socialite Wallis Simpson; she was a divorcee, and at the time the Church of England didn't allow the monarch to wed someone who'd been previously married.) Rumors have long swirled around Edward and Wallis - they took the titles Duke and Duchess of Windsor - that they sympathized with the Nazis in the run-up to World War II.



There's plenty of evidence that the rumors do have some substance. In her 2008 book *Edward VIII*, biographer Frances Donaldson notes that in 1937, the Duke and Duchess of Windsor visited Hitler at his vacation home and Edward saluted Hitler throughout their stay. After World War II, the Allies found evidence of a top secret German project nicknamed "Operation Willi" which planned to overthrow Edward's successor (and Queen Elizabeth II's father) King George VI and reinstall Edward on the throne.

It seems that the pro-Hitler feelings of some of her relatives influenced a very young Queen Elizabeth. In 2015, Britain's newspaper *The Sun* released a private royal family video of a seven-year-old Elizabeth, along with her younger Princess Margaret, her mother Queen Elizabeth, and her uncle Edward VIII, performing Nazi salutes. When the video came to light, Queen Elizabeth was said by the Palace to be "livid" and emphasized her extreme youth in the video. At age seven, back in 1933, she could hardly have been aware of how vile it was to make a Nazi salute.

Her Mother-in-Law Saved Jews During the Holocaust

The third season of "The Crown" features a Greek-speaking, tough talking nun. Shockingly, that nun was Queen Elizabeth II's mother in law, Princess Alice of Battenberg. Even more surprisingly, "The Crown" never explores Princess Alice's heroism during the Holocaust, when she saved Jews by sheltering them in her home in Nazi-occupied Athens. It's an amazing story that ought to be known.

Born in 1885 in Windsor Castle - where Queen Elizabeth II now lives - Princess Alice was Queen Victoria's great granddaughter. She was deaf - a fact that the royal family hid - and learned to lip read as a child. Historians have speculated that this might have made Princess Alice more sensitive to other people who were different from the mainstream in some way.

When Alice's brother Edward was crowned King Edward VII in 1902, one of the guests at his coronation was a dashing Greek prince named Andrew. The two fell in love and married. Alice moved to Greece where she had four children: three daughters and a son, Philip (Queen Elizabeth II's husband). The family was riddled with dysfunction. Alice's husband became a dissolute playboy and eventually moved away. Her three daughters all became ardent supporters of Hitler and each one married senior Nazis. Only her son Prince Philip

QUEEN ELIZABETH & THE JEWS



Prince Philip with his mother Princess Alice

resembled her, eschewing Nazism and spending time with Jewish friends and his British relatives.

When World War II broke out, Prince Philip volunteered for the British navy, and battled Nazis with distinction. Princess Alice resisted in more secret ways. Remaining in Athens, she invited the Cohens, a distinguished Greek Jewish family with whom she and her husband had long been friends, to hide in her house. Rachel Cohen, her daughter Tilde, and her son Michel moved in with the princess. The apartment was small and located just yards from Athens' Gestapo headquarters. Once, Princess Alice was even brought in for questioning, but she refused to divulge the fact that she was sheltering Jews in her home.

After the war, Princess Alice founded an order of nuns. She returned to London in 1967 and died there in 1969. She requested that her remains be interred in Jerusalem, and in 1988 they were buried on Mount Zion in Jerusalem.

In 1993, Princess Alice was declared Righteous Among the Nations by Yad Vashem. Prince Philip traveled to Jerusalem for the ceremony, where he planted a tree in his mother's memory. "The Holocaust was the most horrific event in all of Jewish history," the prince said, "and it will remain in the memory of all future generations. It is, therefore, a very generous gesture that also remembered here are the many millions of non-Jews, like my mother, who shared in your pain and anguish and did what they could in small ways to alleviate the horror. I suspect that it never occurred to her that her action was in any way special... She would have considered it to be a perfectly natural human reaction to fellow beings in distress."

Queen Elizabeth II Hired Jewish Mohel to Circumcise Prince Charles

Queen Elizabeth II hired an Orthodox Jewish mohel to circumcise her son Prince Charles. Rabbi Jacob Snowman (1871-1959) was a London mohel of great renown, and it's said that the Queen was impressed with Rabbi Snowman's skill and experience.

The tradition of British royals to ask Jewish mohels to circumcise their sons goes back to King George I, who was born in Hanover, Germany, and reigned over England from 1714-1727. Back in Germany, some aristocratic parents hired Jewish mohels, and George I brought the custom with him to England. Years later his great great granddaughter Queen Victoria hired Jewish mohels to circumcise all of her sons. She is said to have believed that her family tree went directly back to the Biblical King David.

Coincidentally, Queen Elizabeth's mohel Rabbi Jacob Snowman had another royal connection: his younger brother Emanuel Snowman was chairman of Britain's



renowned Wartski jewelry dynasty, which sold wedding rings both to Prince Charles and his wife Camilla, Duchess of Cornwall, and to Prince William and his wife Kate, the Duchess of Cambridge.

British Jews pray for the Queen every Shabbat

It's a Jewish custom around the world to recite a prayer on Shabbat for their government leaders. In Britain, this means praying for the welfare of Queen Elizabeth II and her family. British Jews ask God to "preserve the Queen in life, guard her and deliver her from all sorrow." The prayer goes on to ask that the Divine "put a spirit of wisdom into her heart and into the hearts of all her counsellors" too.

QUEEN ELIZABETH & THE JEWS

The Queen has never visited Israel

Despite traveling all over the world - including to many nations with reprehensible human rights records - Queen Elizabeth II has never made an official visit to the Jewish State. Over the long decades of her reign, this boycott has come to be seen as a painful omission by some British Jews.

In 2009, the British historian Andrew Roberts said that the "true reason of course is that the Britain's Foreign Office has a ban on official royal visits to Israel, which is even more powerful for its being unwritten and unacknowledged. As an act of delegitimization of Israel, this boycott is quite as serious as other similar acts, such as the academic boycott, and is the direct fault of the Foreign Office Arabists. It is, therefore, no coincidence that although the queen has made over 250 official overseas visits to 129 different countries during her reign, neither she nor one single member of the British royal family has ever been to Israel on an official visit."



That changed in 2018, when Queen Elizabeth's grandson Prince William went on an official visit to Israel. In 2000, her son Prince Charles represented Britain at the World Holocaust Forum in Jerusalem.

While her son and grandson might have warmed to the Jewish State, it's unclear exactly how Queen Elizabeth II feels about it herself. The Queen also made troubling remarks on an official visit to Jordan in 1984. Shown a map of the disputed West Bank, which has been in Israeli control ever since the Six Day War in 1967, Queen Elizabeth called it "depressing." On that visit, she also laid a wreath at a memorial to Arab soldiers who died attacking Israel.

She Departed from Royal Protocol to Listen to Holocaust Survivors

While Queen Elizabeth II seems notably cool towards the Jewish state, when it comes to Britain's Jews recent years have found her conciliatory. The royal family has shown a particular interest in the welfare of Holocaust survivors of late.

On January 27, 2005, the 60th anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz, Queen Elizabeth hosted a group of Holocaust survivors in St. James's Palace in the center of London. Notably punctual, on this occasion the Queen threw protocol to the wind. As she mingled with the survivors, one of her aides informed her that it was time to wrap up the event.



Queen Elizabeth with Holocaust survivors

Instead, the Queen continued to talk, to listen, and to reassure. Rabbi Lord Jonathan Sacks was present and later recounted: "When the time came for her to leave, she stayed. And stayed. One of her attendants said that he had never known her to linger so long after her scheduled departure. She gave each survivor - it was a large group - her focused, unhurried attention. She stood with each until they had finished telling their personal story.

"It was an act of kindness that almost had me in tears. One after another, the survivors came to me in a kind of trance, saying: 'Sixty years ago I did not know if I would be alive tomorrow, and here I am today talking to the Queen.' It brought a kind of blessed closure into deeply lacerated lives."

In January 2022, Prince Charles commissioned a royal series of portraits of Holocaust survivors. "As the number of Holocaust survivors sadly but inevitably declines," he explained, "my abiding hope is that this special collection will act as a further guiding light." The portraits are to be displayed in Buckingham Palace, Queen Elizabeth II's official home.

*Dr. Alt Miller lives with her family in Chicago, and has lectured internationally on Jewish topics. Her book *Angels at the table: a Practical Guide to Celebrating Shabbat* takes readers through the rituals of Shabbat and more, explaining the full beautiful spectrum of Jewish traditions with warmth and humor. It has been praised as "life-changing", a modern classic, and used in classes and discussion groups around the world.*

THE JOY OF ARAMAIC?



You might be surprised to discover that you speak a few words of Aramaic and you didn't know it.

When people think of Jewish languages, they often think first of Hebrew - the language of both the Bible and the modern State of Israel - and also Yiddish, the Jewish language of Eastern Europe. But the 3,000-year-old language of Aramaic was once one of the most significant Jewish languages. It is the language of Judaism's other most sacred text, the Talmud, and in antiquity it was the lingua franca of some of the major empires, Assyrian and Persian. Aramaic was also the language spoken by Jesus and it is still in use (albeit among a very small population) today.

The wide reach and historical importance of Aramaic is reflected in the fact that some well-known Jewish words and expressions that are commonly thought to be Hebrew actually turn out to be Aramaic. The last word on this list - not usually thought of as a Jewish word at all - might really surprise you!

Abba

A lot of people think this word for "father," used commonly in Israel and by Jewish families elsewhere, is Hebrew, but it is in fact Aramaic. The Hebrew word for father is av.

Ema

Like Abba, the word commonly used by Hebrew speakers for "mother" is actually Aramaic. The Hebrew word for mother is eim.

Kaddish

The prayer for Jewish mourners is written entirely in Aramaic, and its name is also Aramaic, meaning "holy."

Bar Mitzvah

This ceremony celebrates the passage of a young man into Jewish adulthood, when he becomes

responsible for fulfilling his own commandments, or mitzvot. It literally translates as "son of the commandment" but the word for "son" is not Hebrew (that would be ben) but Aramaic, bar.

Netilat Yadayim

This is the prayer Jews say when washing their hands before eating. The word netilat is actually an Aramaic word which means to "take" or "place;" yadayim is Hebrew for a pair of hands.

Kol Nidrei

The opening service of Yom Kippur and the most attended Jewish service of the entire year is named for the first prayer recited on that holiday, just before the sun goes down. The Kol Nidrei prayer asks God to forgive coerced vows made in the previous year. Both the text of the prayer and its name are Aramaic.

Davka

This term of talmudic logic has made its way into English as one of those Jewish words with no perfect English translation. In the original Aramaic, it means something like "precisely" but its common usage, as an emphatic or sarcastic expression, means something like "in fact" or "for that reason." It can also refer to something that is done out of spite.

Havruta

This Aramaic word for friend or fellow refers to a one-on-one study partner, especially for Talmud study.

Abracadabra

Everyone's favorite magical incantation is actually quite ancient, and while the origin language is obscure the form sounds like the Aramaic expression avra k'davra which means "I create what I speak" — which is, pretty much, what a magician might say before pulling a rabbit (or rabbi?) out of a hat.

- from My Jewish Learning

IN THE SYNAGOGUE FAMILY

BAR/BAT MITZVAHS

Carrie & Dvir Bilitzki on the Bar Mitzvah of their son, Jacob
Tara & Steven Bernstein on the Bat Mitzvah of their daughter, Alexa
Lisa & Jonathan Abel on the Bat Mitzvah of their daughter, Emma
Marie & Brian Fischer on the Bat Mitzvah of their daughter, Sophie
Pamela & Eric Marder on the Bat Mitzvah of their daughter, Shaina
Deborah & Yan Mogilyansky on the Bar Mitzvah of their son, Avram
Samantha & Brett Braterman on the Bar Mitzvah of their son, Scott

BIRTHS

Amy & Dr. Scott Leist on the birth of their granddaughter, Emerson Ivy Ackerman, daughter of Ariel & David
Judy & Barry Wilansky on the birth of their grandson, Julien David
Linda & Howard Zryb on the birth of their grandson, Lennon Rhys
Donna Bartolomeo on the birth of her granddaughter, Emily Anna
Lisa & Brian Wetchler on the birth of their grandson, Lucas Jordan

CONDOLENCES

Jonathan Koota on the loss of his beloved father, Paul Koota
Sara Goldberg on the loss of her beloved mother, Ellen Schifrin
Susan Blumberg on the loss of her beloved sister, Sheila Roman
Lois Saturn on the loss of her beloved mother, Ann Rosenfeld
Martha and Ed Weisel on the loss of their beloved son, Nathaniel
The Family of our beloved teacher and friend, Gerri Blum

MARRIAGES

Eleanor & David Leiner on the marriage of their son, Andrew to Jennifer
Ilene & Howie Segal on the marriage of their daughter, Allison Segal

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Susan Turner from Andrew Kantor

Alan Estrin from Joel Estrin

Marvin Shear from Stephen and Robyn Shear and family

Sandy Rosenberg from Steven Siegel

Florence Siegel from Steven Siegel

Dolores Rosenberg from Susan Siegel

Paul Koota from Susan Waidenbaum

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In honor of

The wedding of Ilene and Howie Segal's daughter from Joan & Blaine Land

In memory of

Nate Weisel from Joan & Blaine Land

CHESED FUND

For the speedy recovery of Susan Litman

Hope this finds you doing well after your knee surgery. Looking forward to seeing you back at MJC soon.

from Mindy & Ed Goldstein

For speedy recovery of Richard Knox from your recent surgery - Shelley Rosenblum

In honor of

Sarita Mlawer granddaughter's wedding. from Dr. Steven & Sharyn Kussin

the birth of Lennon Rhys Zryb, grandson of Linda & Howard Zryb from Ellen & Alan Sussman

the birth of Julien David, grandson of Judy & Barry Wilansky from Ellen & Alan Sussman

In Honor of Blaine & Joan Land. Thank you for your many years of incredible dedication to everything that is the Merrick Jewish Centre. You have given of your hearts and souls to the needs of the Jewish Community throughout the world. We wish you all good things in your next adventure!!! You will be greatly missed. from Lance and Vicki Goldman

Mazel Tov Tina & Ira Blankstein on your 50th Wedding Anniversary. Wishing you continued happiness and good health for years to come. from Mindy & Ed Goldstein

Tina & Ira Blankstein on their 50th wedding anniversary from Ron & Linda Rosen

the 50th Anniversary of Ira & Tina Blankstein. All the best and many more years to come. from Sarah Wexler

Good luck with your move, Joan and Blaine Land . All the best. from Sarah Wexler

Dana & Richard Knox from their MJC Families from Sharyn & Steve Kussin

the birth of Avi Ezra, son of Rabbi Josh & Steph Dorsch from Sharyn & Steve Kussin

the Bar Mitzvah of the grandson of Susan & Stanley Bloomfield from Sharyn & Steve Kussin

the engagement of Ayelet to Michael Multer, son of Ellen & Corey Multer from Sharyn & Steve Kussin

the birth of the grandson of Linda & Howie Zryb from Shelley Rosenblum

the Bar Mitzvah of the grandson of Susan & Stan Bloomfield from Shelley Rosenblum

the birth of Josie Brooke, granddaughter of Alan & Leslie Chibnik from Shelley Rosenblum

Ira & Tina Blankstein on their 50th Anniversary from Steven & Mary Greenfield

DONATIONS

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Your beloved mother, Rosetta from Arnold & Barbara Ruderman

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Your mother, Mira Missan from Dolores Lutsky

Nathaniel Weisel We are so sorry to hear of your loss. We wish you no more sorrows. from Eileen and Irwin Silversmith

The loss of your beloved son, Nate from Ira & Carol Bernstein

Sheila Roman, sister of Susan Blumberg from Ira & Tina Blankstein

Mother of Lois Saturn from Len and Lois Kaufman

Leon Bruckner, beloved brother of Robert Bruckner from Linda & Howard Zryb

Sheila Roman, beloved sister of Susan Blumberg from Linda and Lewis Altman

Eileen Singer from Louella Silberberg

Sheila Roman, sister of Susan Blumberg from Marilyn & Hochhauser

Ann Rosenfeld, mother of Lois Saturn May her memory be for a blessing. from Mindy & Ed Goldstein

With heartfelt condolences. May Nate's memory be for a blessing to you and your family. from Mindy & Ed Goldstein

Harvey Eckstein We are very sorry for your loss. Thinking of you and your family at this time from Rae and Bennett Gewurz

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Ann Rosenfeld, mother of Lois Saturn from Sharyn & Steve Kussin

Judith Jacobskind, mother of Carol Gamliel from Sharyn & Steve Kussin

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Ann Rosenfeld, beloved mother of Lois Saturn & Family from Steven & Paula Rice

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Gavin's 3rd Birthday from Anonymous

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Nate Weisel from Sandra Pinkus
Harvey Eckstein, father of Brad Eckstein from Stan Becker
Sheila Roman, sister of Susan Blumberg from Stanley Becker

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Rabbi Dorsch & family. We like to welcome Rabbi Dorsch & his family to the Merrick Jewish Centre from The Gershlak Family

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In memory of

Harvey Eckstein With our deepest sympathy on the loss of your beloved father from Rena and Steven Kozin and Family
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the birth of Josie Brooke, granddaughter of Al & Leslie Chibnik from Marilyn & Rob Hochhauser
Joan & Blaine Land. Good luck on your move. from Ray & Rose Cohen

In memory of

Sheila Roman, beloved sister of Susan Blumberg from Arnold & Barbara Ruderman
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Irwin Goldberg from Harriet and Barry Lasky

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Your beloved son Nate Weisel from Linda and Lewis Altma

Ann Rosenfeld, beloved mother of Lois Saturn from Linda and Lewis Altman

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Rabbi Dorsch for leading our wedding ceremony. We are so thankful! from Emily Shire

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the marriage of Heather Segal to Mike Hyman from Geri and Dr. Barry Silverman

Rabbi Josh and Stephanie Dorsch from Norm Katz

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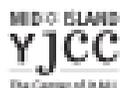
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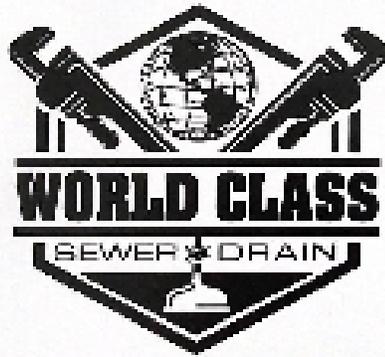
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PHONE NUMBER _____

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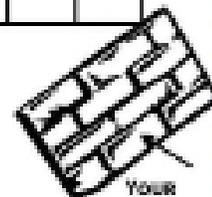
SIGNATURE _____

_____ (If we enclose our check for \$_____.

(PLEASE MAIL YOUR CHECK & COMPLETED, SIGNED FORM TO THE MJC OFFICE).

ANY QUESTIONS, PLEASE CONTACT:

LINDA AETMAN AT: leba328@optonline.net



YOUR
FAMILY'S
NAME
CAN BE PLACED
ON OUR BRICKS