



The Herald Hamvaser

המבשר
GREENBURGH HEBREW CENTER

MAY—JUNE IYYAR—Sivan 5781

Vol. 50 No. 12

FROM THE RABBI'S DESK

Snow Days

Rabbi Jay M. Stein, D.D.

There are serious casualties because of COVID. Loss of life and work are at the top. Loss of social interaction and human contact certainly are being felt by so many. Some of this will be reclaimed; some lost forever. However, in this column I just want to distract you with a different casualty of the COVID: Snow days.

I know that with summer on the horizon, no one is really thinking about snow days. Shoveling is behind us. Salt on the streets is a thing of the past. Bundling up before we go outside is no longer necessary. Soon we will all be settling into our favorite outside restaurants and hitting the beaches. Soon we will be enjoying outside things, like hikes and fire pits. Before that I would like to talk about the snow day.

You might remember them from when you were a child. Some of us wore our pajamas inside out the night before hoping to further encourage the snow gods to send the snow. I remember waking early and listening to the radio to see if my school had closed. It was made even more challenging because I grew up in Fairfield, Connecticut, which was considerably more southern than a school district called New Fairfield, which seemed to get twice the amount of snow as we did and were always one of the first to close. So we spent a lot of time calling out to each other, "did they say Fairfield or New Fairfield?"

A snow day when I was little was a day of playing in the snow, drinking hot chocolate and watching TV. No homework. Just a day of freedom. As I got older a snow day meant some extra cash in my pocket from shoveling driveways and sidewalks. And as an adult it meant that I got a day off of teaching. Either way, I loved and still love, snow days.

That is why I am so concerned about the virtual classrooms. Now there is no need for a snow day, at least in the suburbs where students don't, for the most part, rely on school for lunch. School can go on as planned even if it snows. What a simple little pleasure potentially gone. Yes, maybe I am perseverating on something so inconsequential because I have no control over the more serious losses we have all felt, yet I do think there is something to this complaint. I also realize that for some the snow makes life more difficult.

אמר ר' בון ש' מ' ע' ו' בן גמ' ל' יאל, לא היו ימים טובים ל' י' א' ל'
כחמ' שה' ע' ש'ך באב' , כ' , ו' הכפ' ר' י' מ'

Rabban Shimon ben Gamliel said: There were no days as joyous for the Jewish people as the fifteenth of Av and as Yom Kippur.

The Mishna is explaining that what might seem as the most difficult days may have some hidden joy and we must look for it and work for it. It is also suggesting that the lasting effect of distress is one of appreciation of the good. During this pandemic, there have been moments of joy, moments of celebration. Parents of our B'nei Mitzvah have, with just a few exceptions, mentioned

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Something exciting is
happening at GHC!



SUNDAY
JUNE 27
7:00 PM

SAVE THE DATE!

Virtual event details to follow

WWW.GHCNY.ORG



If you haven't yet gone and browsed our new website, please do so. Not only will you see an updated calendar, but also events that are highlighted on the home page and zoom information when you go directly to the event page. Learn about GHC in a very concise, easy to read way. Each member will get their own log-in user name which will allow you to see your account, pay your bills and of course make donations. We are anticipating that the full financial launch will take place around June 1, 2021, the start of our new fiscal year. Any questions or concerns, please feel free to e-mail Jeff at execvp@g-h-c.org.

RABBI cont'd from pg. 1

that, stripped of the big parties and over the top festivities, their family celebration was so much more meaningful. Zoom shiva during the pandemic allowed for deep serious memories, devoid of the playful banter around the embarrassing amounts of food brought to the house.

There is something really attractive about meeting despair and anguish with unfettered joy.

I hope we have said good-bye to winter but not good-bye to snow days.

CANTOR

In honor of Yom Yerushalayim, which we observe this year on Monday, May 10th, I offer some personal reflections and photographs from my time living in Jerusalem.



I still dream about Israel. Sometimes I am on the streets of Jerusalem, lost, trying to find my way back to the apartment where I lived in Kiryat Menahem, a working class neighborhood near Hadassah's Ein Karem Hospital. Some-times I am waiting for a bus, or trying to find my way to a synagogue on Shabbat. In the dreams, I do not feel quite at home. I am always on a journey, trying to get some-where and unsure if I can find it, and how people will re-ceive me once I am there. I guess I am still searching for my place there, looking for what living there meant to me.

The other night I dreamed that I was in a café with a friend, and I could barely remember any Hebrew. I ordered a Cafe Hafukh (literally an "upside down" coffee, or Israeli cappuccino) but then I did not have enough money to pay for it. Maybe I am worried that my experiences in Israel are slipping away from me, even while I try to hold onto them.

I lived in Israel for close to two years, from 2012-2014, before coming back to the United States to begin cantorial school. I made aliyah, became an Israeli citizen. I worked as a librarian at the Hebrew Union College Library, on King David Street. I learned how to sing, and fell in love with cantorial music. I heard God's voice more clearly then ever before or since. While part of me felt at home there, many times I felt more alone than I have ever felt.

I had no family at all in Israel. My adopted Israeli family consisted of my roommates, olim (immigrants) from St. Petersburg and Kiev. They made me feel at home, and introduced me to their friends, who were all Russian speakers. We spoke an idiosyncratic hybrid of Hebrew, Russian and English that probably only we could understand. The apartment was full of whimsical furniture made out of twisted tree branches, because one roommate, who owned the apartment, was an eccentric and very spiritual man who could make beautiful things with wood. The space looked and felt like a cross between a dusty fairy tale cottage and a cabin in the Alps.

There was something dream-like about that whole period of time for me. Our kitchen window looked out over the village of Ein Karem and a beautiful gold onion-domed church.

So much of our liturgy focuses on our yearning for Jerusalem, and praying for the rebuilding of that holy city, and for its protection. While we know that today it is a modern city, fully built up, with a strong army protecting its borders, we still yearn for it, and what it represents. We long for the feeling of peace and unity, and divine protection, that hover over it, even during its most difficult periods.

I do not know when I will have the chance to return to Jerusalem, but I hope it will be soon. I know I will never have quite the same relationship to it as I did before, when I lived there and strove to assimilate into its culture

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Sisterhood Shabbat

Kabbalat Shabbat Service
led by Sisterhood GHC and GHC Community

**Friday, May 7th at 6 pm
via Zoom**

Please also join us for a special
presentation to our

**Woman of
the Year**
and outgoing
Sisterhood President
**Robin
Rosenberg**



Would you like a part in English or in Hebrew?
Questions?

Please contact Allyn or Arlene at:
Sisterhood@ghcny.org

Event Page: www.ghcny.org/event/sisterhood-shabbat.html



For information, contact
Greenburgh Hebrew Center
515 Broadway • Dobbs Ferry NY
(914) 693-4260 • www.ghcny.org

Sisterhood GHC
is a member of
Women's League for
Conservative Judaism

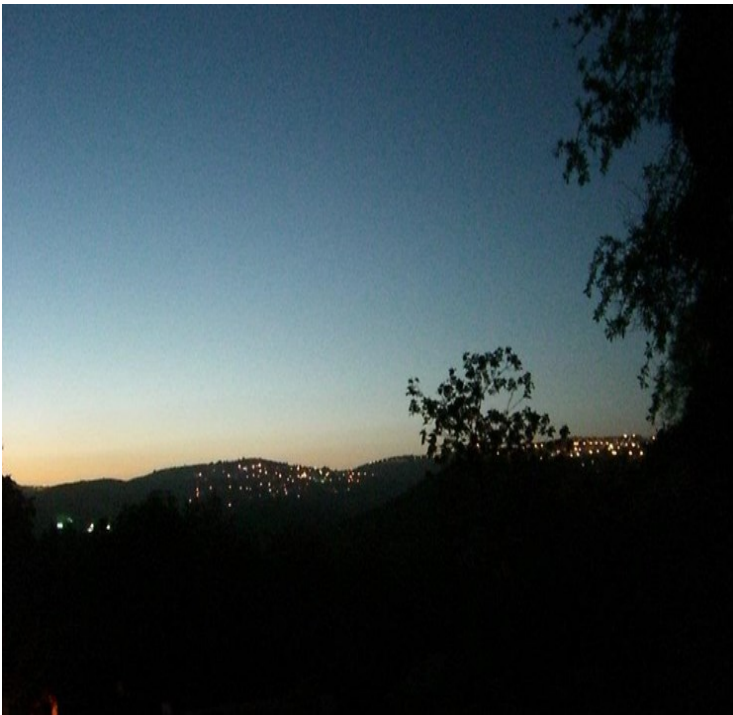


CANTOR cont'd from pg. 3

and society. While New York feels like home, I continue to long for the streets of Jerusalem, and to feel God's presence so viscerally among its stones.

Yom Yerushalayim commemorates the reunification of Jerusalem following the end of the Six-day War in June 1967, when Israel regained control over the Old City, and access to the Western Wall. It is celebrated in Israel as a national holiday, with ceremonies and memorial services. In its honor, I offer a recording I made of *Yerushalayim Shel Zahav*, Jerusalem of Gold, by Naomi Shemer. This is one of the most famous, and most beautiful, songs written about Jerusalem.

Yersushalayim shel Zahav/Naomi Shemer, 1967 <https://youtu.be/5DR2Yamd344>



OUR GHC SCHOOLS

GHC's religious school has continued to thrive despite the challenging circumstances. We celebrated Passover and Yom Ha'Atzmaut together with singing, learning, crafts and virtual tours. Our older students were able to join GHC's April 11th Yom HaShoah event, and hear a powerful story from a survivor. After learning more about the Jewish mitzvah of taking care of our environment, the Zayin class is helping our Green Team create composting bins right here at GHC for their mitzvah project. Junior Congregation began again in person on April 10th, and our religious school students did another beautiful Kabbalat Shabbat service on April 23rd.

During March, the ECC made a Pesach video for students' families, created haggadot, and even practiced searching for the afikomen at school. The ECC celebrated Yom Ha'Atzmaut with a virtual trip to Israel and an archaeological dig, shuk, Western Wall, and sand art!

We are thrilled that our tents are going back up shortly! Our ECC will be mainly outdoors again, and we are planning to start in-person, outdoor religious school classes by the end of April. We will still be Zooming religious school classes as well, for those families for whom this option works best.

Upcoming Important Dates:

RS –

May 19: Last day of Wednesday Religious School

May 23: Last day of Religious School & Closing Celebration

ECC –

June 4: Last day of school - Moving-Up/Graduation

June 7-June 25: GHC Mini-Camp

CLOSED: May 17 & 18 for Shavuot, May 28 & 31 for Memorial Day Weekend

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

1,051,200 minutes, how do you measure two years? In meetings, on phone calls, in webinars, on Zoom calls, in planning, in praying, in reaching out to all we hold dear, paraphrasing a favorite song, *Seasons of Love*, from the Broadway Musical, *Rent*. As I reflect on the past two years, I am struck by how much was accomplished and how much more I intended to do. While the road is certainly paved with good intentions, I could never have predicted a worldwide Pandemic, nine months into my term. Eleanor Roosevelt once said, **"You must do the thing you think you cannot do."** Fortunately, I was not alone, as I had the support of our clergy, our officers, our board, our committee chairs, our staff, and of all of you, our congregants.

I was determined to accomplish several things in my term in office, including, to establish a method for congregants to pay bills on line; to update our website; to see that security measures were implemented; and, to make sure our constitution was updated, revised and presented to our congregation. I changed the Hamvaser publishing schedule from monthly to bi-monthly and, in consultation with Andy Goldstein, VP of Religious Affairs, and Rabbi Stein, we introduced weekday Morning Minyans on Demand.

I also wanted to mix things up a bit, to engage the congregation in different ways, so I suggested we offer Kabbalat Shabbat at Waterfront Park and to offer Russian Language PJ Library events for our toddlers to complement PJ Library events planned by Stacey Rosenkranz. I called upon Leslie Liss to develop our Mishpacha Shabbat service for younger siblings during Junior Congregation Shabbat. I established a Technology Committee and asked Davin Milun to be its chair. Recognizing the importance of socializing after Shabbat Services, I formed a Kiddush Committee, with Andy Jagoda and Leslie Liss taking the lead. I saw the need for a Law Committee and asked Debbie Jagoda to be its chair. Andy Jagoda chaired our Constitutional Review Committee, and Andrew Goldstein the Cantorial Search Committee. Ultimately, I felt the need to establish a Planning for the Future Task Force, and served as its chair.

I have been told that it is all "in the ask" and how fortunate for GHC that few said no. We welcomed Shiran Pasternak as the chair of the Marketing Committee, Shara Sheinberg as SATO chair and Craig Mondschein as chair of our Video Streaming Committee, Ilana Finkelstein, B'nei Mitzvah Liaison, Ada Menaker joined Debbie Jagoda as a leader of the weekly Tot Shabbat service. Allyn Salpeter agreed to be our Hamvaser editor and is being succeeded by Willys Kals, as Allyn moves into another synagogue position. Enid Lotstein took on two important roles: The Campus Connection and The Green Team. Jo-Ann and Jay Lutzky took on responsibility for the Midnight Run and Nancy Silverman became our Liaison to the Rivertowns Consortium.

How fortunate for us that so many in our congregation continued serving in their most important roles: Risa Kaufman, as Religious School Chair; Suzy Neuburger, Calendar; Alan and Caryn Kravitz, Journal; Pam Stoller, Mosaic; Judy Goldstein, High Holiday Committee; Karen Ecker- Greenbarg, Interfaith Liaison /RS PTA Co-President; Shara Sheinberg, PTA Co- President; Sheila Greenwald, Caring Community; Mark Sloane, Israel Team; Lori Sloane, Security Committee Chair; Bruce Segall, Cemetery; Erica Wolff, Book Club; Rhonda and Howard Baskin, Empty Nesters; Robin Rosenberg, Sisterhood; David Luftig and Howard Baskin, Men's Club.

Our Executive Committee, past and present, took on more and more tasks both pre-and post- Covid. Our VP of Religious Affairs, Andrew Goldstein, has been twice nominated for, and twice been a recipient of, community awards recognizing his commitment, expertise and dedication to keeping GHC safe. Deborah Jagoda, our Executive Secretary, not only supervises the office, but also provides legal expertise. Andrew Jagoda, Recording Secretary, was my go to person when dealing with procedures and protocols. His dedication to chairing the

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE cont'd from pg. 6

Constitution Committee must be appreciated by us all. Craig Mondschein, Treasurer, and his Finance Committee, worked meticulously to provide realistic, workable budgets for GHC. Rebecca Lazar, VP of Fundraising, never missed a beat; she and her committee worked tirelessly to raise funds, at first in person and then virtually. Elyse Milun, VP Membership, and her committee, planned social events, games and other fun activities for existing members and reached out to engage new members. Andrew Weiss, VP of Management, faced more issues than most in maintaining our aging building and replacing a custodian of 27 years. Both Lynne Ecker and Nancy Sklar served as VP of Adult Education and Cultural Affairs and provided stimulating activities and guest speakers. Stephanie Luftig, VP of Education, has worked in tandem with our amazing Director of Education, to navigate the system and provide meaningful educational opportunities for all of our children. Traci Mondschein, VP of Youth, has revitalized our Kadima and USY programs, engaging our tweens and teens. George Katz, Financial Secretary, works diligently for the welfare and support of our Kehilla. Our Executive VP and your next President, Jeff Liss, did a monumental job. His hard work on the GHC NEWS is evident in each and every issue. He has worked tirelessly with the technology team to bring GHC into the 21st Century with our new amazing website. He has served on a myriad of committees, arranged for our PPP loans, negotiated contracts and set up our on-line credit card payment system. His best is yet to come.

Our Office and Custodial Staff must be acknowledged as well. No one ever said no. Madaline Bruno, Jacqui Whitney, Nalini Addanki and Yoko Yamamoto-Furst have been generous with their time and spirit. We said goodbye to Pat and Brian Conlan after twenty- seven years at GHC and welcomed Rene Zayas and Andrew Lewitt.

As President, I have been privileged to work with an incredible professional staff. Amy Kessler, as noted above, did a phenomenal job in leading our schools through difficult times. She was able to pivot almost instantaneously from in-person to virtual learning. Her hard work has earned GHC not one, but two Schechter Awards of Excellence for our ECC and RS. Cantor Janet Leuchter provided us with wonderful Family Services, showcasing the achievements of the children in our Religious School, Renewal Services, and when COVID hit, delightful virtual Kabbalat Shabbat Services. We bade farewell to Cantor Janet at an incredible Virtual Gala last Spring. When one door closes another opens and we welcomed Cantor Anna Chapman May into our Kehilla. Cantor May had the difficult task of beginning her position at GHC with few congregants present at our services and students in our schools participating virtually. With the High Holidays only two months away, she joined with Rabbi Stein in offering eight unique High Holiday services. In addition to leading services and teaching in our schools, Cantor May has reached out to the congregation by providing two Singing Circles, one in Yiddish and the other with Niggun. She is now teaching Trope for those adults who are interested in chanting Torah.

When I assumed the presidency of GHC, I met with Rabbi Stein and said that for this to work we have to form a partnership and form a partnership we did. Once COVID reared its ugly head, everything changed. From that moment on, Rabbi worked assiduously to keep the congregation engaged, involved, interested and connected. He began his Shabbat Morning Experience, started classes, called all of our members, personally volunteered to set up Streamspot, made YouTube vide-os, delivered Siddurim and of course prepared an exhausting schedule of High Holiday services. He participates on the Planning for the Future Task Force on his day off and is available to everyone in the congregation. I am truly grateful for his support.

When asked: **“What was Your Synagogue’s Response to the Pandemic?”** I respond by citing four overlapping themes: Transparency, Communication, Challenges, Protocols and Procedures.

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE cont'd from pg.. 7

Transparency- It was extremely important for our members to know what was happening and why.

Communication- We stepped up our communication via frequent email blasts, updates, flyers, and phone calls. We provided Covid-19 information and links. We put the Hamvaser on line and expanded the GHC News. We sent mailings to those without email addresses. Rabbi and I created our HH messages on Youtube. Our boards and all committees continued to meet virtually. We sent out five surveys!!! We continued to engage our members through Camp GHC, Men's Club and Sisterhood, which offered Trivia, Bingo, Challah Baking, a self-defense course and so much more.

Challenges- They included: **Educating our children-** we provided virtual classes; **Closing the building-** our office staff worked from home; **Selecting a new cantor-** we provided a bare bones minyan and asked the entire congregation to livestream the services and respond to the surveys; **Shabbat morning services-** Rabbi Stein provided an Shabbat Experience on Streamspot from the sanctuary; **Kabbalat Shabbat-** Cantor Janet provided a Zoom service; **Scheduled activities-** Women's Seders, Congregational Meetings; Virtual Gala, Art Auction, all on Zoom; **B'nei Mitzvahs-** many were held in backyards with Zoom links to family and friends; others in the sanctuary with limited attendance. .

Procedures and Protocols- I convened a Planning for the Future Task Force that was charged with establishing procedures and protocols for the safe and secure reopening of our building. We implemented a reservation system for services, developed health care questionnaires and contact tracing methodologies, reconfigured the sanctuary, erected plexiglass partitions, bought in PPE and a Sani-Sprayer, developed a protocol for opening the ECC and the utilization of three tents in the parking lot.

During difficult times we persevered, and we also found ways of helping others. We collected turkeys for our annual Turkey Drop, toys for Children's Village and Passover food for those in need. We may have been down but we were never out.

To all of you who served on the Task Force; Constitution Revision Committee; Finance Committee, Kiddush Committee; Cantorial Search Committee; our school boards; Technology Committee; Religious Affairs Committee; Green Team; Sisterhood; Men's Club; Management Committee; Security Committee; Caring Community; Yad Squad; Membership Committee; Fundraising Committee; Law Committee; Marketing Committee; and, Journal Committee, THANK YOU.

To all of you who made phone calls; shopped for someone who could not; served as a screener; greeter or usher during the High Holidays, THANK YOU.

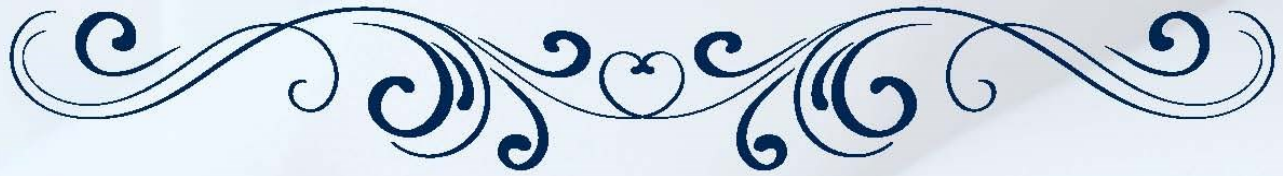
To my husband Michael, my children and grandchildren, thank you for sharing me with GHC.

Please forgive me if I have inadvertently left someone out of this exceptionally long thank you.

What are 1,051,200 minutes? Why a measure of love, of course.

Be well. Stay safe.

Naomi



Scroll of Gratitude

Greenburgh Hebrew Center



The past year has been extremely difficult for so many of us. However, there have been bright spots, people who reached out to help. Was there someone who went shopping, picked up a prescription, took your dog for a walk, called to say hello, brought you a meal, drove you to the doctor, etc.?

If saying thank you, just wasn't enough, here is an opportunity to show your appreciation. Inscribe their names on our Scroll of Gratitude. We are asking for a small donation of \$18.00 per name and a description of how that individual helped you in your time of need. Only his/her name will be added to the scroll, but with your permission, we will print the specific information as to why the name appears.

Your Name_____

Person(s) you are grateful for_____

Reason(s)_____

____ I give permission to have this information shared with the congregation



ADULT EDUCATION / CULTURAL ACTIVITIES

Hi everyone!

It has been an unusual year for adult education and cultural activities at GHC. We have spent this year with very little of the warmth that comes from our being physically together to share experiences. However, the pandemic gave us new opportunities that made it easier and less time-consuming for many of us to “attend” events. We were able to pop on our devices, log in, pour a cup of whatever and listen to, watch, and learn, from a great presentation in the comfort of our own homes. Though many complained of being Zoomed out, I’m glad to say that our presentations had very good attendance!

Adult Ed partnered with GHC’s Sisterhood for two fabulous events: one by Dr. Sharon Keller, on Judaism and magic, and the other, by Benjamin Marcus, on his creation of an illuminated Megillah. The recent Yom HaShoah speaker, Hannah Holsten, shared the amazing story of her life (so far) in an eloquent and clear fashion. I think all who attended learned a lot and were inspired by this magnificent woman.

I must give a huge thank you, thank you, thank you to my dear friend, Robin Rosenberg, for never saying “no” to providing kind, thoughtful and learned mentoring; partnering support for the events; as well as managing the Zoom tech support for Dr. Keller’s presentation

Thank you to Rabbi Stein for his support as well as his general advice regarding a variety of matters for the proper functioning of the portfolio. Thank you also to Erica Wolff for working with the Rabbi and the Book Club participants, taking full charge and managing it in such a fair minded and efficient manner. I also want to thank Davin Milun for providing the tech support for the Yom HaShoah presentation, and to Naomi Feinkind and Jeff Liss for providing me with general support to ensure the success of programs.

We have been working on some fun and interesting summer events to begin in June. Check your GHC news and emails for announcements.

L’hitraot!

Nancy Sklar
Vice President for Adult Education /Cultural Activities

B’NEI MITZVAH

Madeline Starr Barth

Bamidbar

Maddy is a 7th grade middle schooler. She is the first of the Barth trio to become a Bat Mitzvah and is setting an exceptional example for the family. Maddy is a devoted and loving sister to Alex (10) and Jack (6 and a half) and a role model for all. Maddy is a natural born leader and is never afraid to speak up and take charge.

Maddy is a loyal and empathetic individual and makes friends everywhere she goes. When the school was divided this past year, Maddy found a fantastic group of friends with which to spend her time and can often be found talking and giggling on Zoom. She is also a curious and wonderful student and has made the Honor Roll every term in middle school. Her teachers are often complimenting her intelligence, pleasant manner and helpful

nature. Most of all, Maddy is the brains behind the Barth family and keeps the operation running. If not for Maddy’s planning, we would perpetually be out of necessary condiments and toiletries!

In her free time, Maddy enjoys reading, art, baking, basketball and softball. Maddy puts her heart and head into everything she does, which always leads to success. Maddy enjoys our family vacations, especially those with good friends on trips to Cape Cod.

Maddy’s parents, Allison and Evan, grandparents, Wendy, Barry and Richard, as well as many aunts, uncles, cousins, and close family friends could not be more proud of her accomplishments and, more importantly, of the woman Maddy is becoming.

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MANAGEMENT YEAR END REPORT

As we approach the end of the current fiscal year, I want to take the opportunity briefly to review some of the challenges faced by, and activities of, the GHC Management committee members over the past year and to thank the many members who assisted us in getting through this year. What is clear is that this was a year like no other in memory, with the COVID 19- related restrictions and regulations upending our previous routines and halting many activities that were routine in prior times. Our focus was on the following activities:

1. We continued staffing adjustments and training necessitated by the retirement of Pat Conlan.
2. Rene Zayas and Andrew Lewit worked as a team to provide for building operations and to undertake many repairs and improvements. Their hard work is much appreciated.
3. In our efforts to provide a safe place to work and pray and to accommodate better separation of people, we implemented sanitizing activities; built a variety of protective devices for the office, the sanctuary and entrances; and, provided stands for hand sanitizer dispensers. In addition, we upgraded filtering for the HVAC units servicing the Sanctuary and Social Hall.
4. In conformance with recommendations of the Task Force, we adjusted seating positions and procedures for sanitizing and handling prayer books to allow for social distancing and safe services on Shabbat, as well as during the High Holidays.
5. Ongoing maintenance and repairs included repairs to the sanctuary roof; replacement of deteriorated doors and hardware; and, coordination with the Security Committee to assist in implementing contracts for improvements funded by State and Federal grants.
6. A substantial exterior wall improvement contract has been awarded and physical work is scheduled to start in May. This will address many years of deterioration from weather and damages by birds to the façade of the building and will substantially refresh the appearance of the Broadway façade.

We look forward to the return of full activities to at GHC in the coming year and would like to offer a special thank you to the members of the Management Committee, including Roy Kushner, Michael Feinkind, Paul Bialowas, Mel Goldstein and Scott Krady.

Andrew Weiss, VP Management

WANTED: TALENTED MEMBERS

Sunday, June 6th is our Virtual Gala honoring our President Naomi Feinkind! Broadway's Zachary Noah Piser, who was Boq (The Scarecrow) in *Wicked*, headlines our entertainment. We need talented members to round out the program. Did you perform in last year's Gala? Do you perform during Kabbalat Services or Havdalah? Do you play an instrument or enjoy singing? Do you write and recite poetry? If you have answered yes to any of these questions, then we need you! You would videotape your performance to be shown at the Gala. Many people told me they enjoyed last year's Gala show more than in previous years. Let's make this year's a great show! Contact Leslie Liss at leslieliss25@gmail.com.

*** Also...honor Naomi by placing an ad in the Gala Journal. Your donation will help to support the many programs, services, schools and other activities offered at the GHC.

B'NEI MITZVAH cont'd from pg. 10

Maddy cont'd

We are grateful to Rabbi Stein, Cantor May, Cantor Janet and Maddy's teachers for helping her prepare for her Bat Mitzvah. Maddy and her family invite the entire GHC community to join the live stream of the Bat Mitzvah service.

Manuel Chris Taub
Nasso

Manuel, or as people call him, Manny, will celebrate his Bar Mitzvah this May. His parents, Christine and Mark, along with his older sister Lori, as well as his extended family, are all very excited and proud of Manny for reaching this momentous benchmark.

Manny is a very bright middle school student. He is attending a Gifted and Talented middle school in the City. He is enjoying his time there, as evidenced by the way he speaks about school each day when he comes home. Along with being an excellent student, Manny is proud of

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Greenburgh Hebrew Center
Ardsley, Dobbs Ferry, Elmsford, Hartsdale, Hastings, Irvington,
Scarsdale, Tarrytown, White Plains and Yonkers

JOURNAL 2021

Honoring Naomi Feinkind

Please join us by placing an ad in this year's Journal

_____ Diamond \$2000 (10"x 8")	_____ Pearl \$250 (5"x 8")
_____ Emerald \$1000 (10"x 8")	_____ Topaz \$136 (2.5"x 8")
_____ Sapphire \$750 (10"x 8")	_____ Business Card \$100 (2"x 3.5")
_____ Ruby \$500 (10"x 8")	_____ Friends Page \$72 (Name only)

Name_____ E-mail_____

Address_____ Solicited By_____

Day Phone_____ Evening Phone_____

Enclosed is my check for \$_____ Check#_____ Category_____

Web Address/URL _____

Ads must be clear, legible and in **LANDSCAPE** mode.

Attach a business card, camera ready artwork or ad text with form and mail to:

Greenburgh Hebrew Center
Attention: Journal Committee
515 Broadway
Dobbs Ferry, NY 10522

This form with ad can also be submitted by email to Journal@g-h-c.org

Ads submitted online should be in a word, pdf or jpeg format

Make checks payable to Greenburgh Hebrew Center

Credit Cards are also accepted; use our website www.ghcnny.org to make payment

Contact Alan Kravitz via the GHC office for further information 693-4260

Your donation may be tax deductible as permitted by law.

ADS MUST BE RECEIVED BY MAY 21, 2021

We are happy to be offering both a printed journal to event attendees as well as a Virtual Journal which will be available for viewing on our GHC website for an entire year. Viewers will be able to link to a business' website through the business web address. The Virtual Journal will be screened at the event on June 6, 2021.

We Are Honoring Naomi Feinkind!!!!

On **Sunday, June 6, 2021** Greenburgh Hebrew Center is honoring **and** celebrating Naomi Feinkind! Naomi has been an extraordinary champion for GHC. Each president faces unforeseen challenges during a two-year term but Naomi is the only president who has had to deal with a pandemic! COVID-19 has demanded that she deal with issues that included health and safety, security, and the creation of a virtual community that keeps our members involved, connected and feeling relished. She works flawlessly with both the professional and lay leaders to develop committees that continue to build and grow GHC. Her dedication, hard work and resilience have made our synagogue a model during this crisis from which other organizations have learned. Naomi knows every member and makes each of us feel special. She excels in reaching out and finding ways that members can use their talents to benefit GHC. Naomi deserves our appreciation and gratitude!

Let's ALL unite in honoring and thanking Naomi for her commitment to GHC. Place an ad in our Journal and attend the June 6th Virtual Gala.

The Journal: Let's make this the biggest and most successful Journal in GHC's 74 years! Last year our members were very generous. We are asking you to be even more generous this year. As of this writing our Gala will be virtual with no cost to you. Please consider taking out a larger ad than you have in the past. You can send your ad, which can include graphics, to journal@g-h-c.org. If you need a graphic, contact Caryn and Alan Kravitz and they will work to find one for you. Include the sponsorship level in your e-mail. Please remember to send your remittance to the GHC office. We thank you for your generosity.

The Virtual Gala: We are excited to announce that our headline entertainer is **Broadway's Zachary Noah Piser!** Zach was Boq (The Scarecrow) in *Wicked*, as well as the original Evan Hansen alternate in *Dear Evan Hansen's* premier international production in Canada, and has appeared in many other regional and Off-Broadway productions. In addition we are hoping that many of you will share your talents as you did in last year's Virtual Gala. It was a joy to watch last year's performances!

If you would like to sing, play an instrument or recite a poem, please contact Leslie at leslieliss25@gmail.com.

So, what does the Fundraising Committee want you to do right now? It's easy!

Send in your Journal ad. Use the form that is in the Hamvaser.

Save June 6th on your calendar and plan on joining this fun event where we will celebrate Naomi Feinkind!

--The Fundraising Committee

B'NEI MITZVAH cont'd from pg. 11

Manny Taub cont'd.

being a younger brother to his sister Lori, whom he loves very much. They enjoy being around each other and at times are inseparable.

Manny has a big heart, and a passion to help others. He is always willing to help out with anything and to assist anyone who needs help. This is one of the reasons why he has his mind set on serving those who cannot tell you they need help. He is looking into becoming a veterinarian.

Our final words are to Manny, our son: We could not be more proud of you. We will always support you in any path that you choose to follow and we will always love you.

Manny's parents and extended family (including his grandmothers Sonia and Terry) would like to welcome the whole GHC community to watch Manny become a Bar Mitzvah via livestream. We hope to celebrate with you in person at a Kiddush luncheon in honor of Manny in October, should this be safe by then.

Emmett Kushner
Shelach

Emmett Kushner is having his Bar Mitzvah in June. We would love everyone to help us celebrate this joyous occasion with us via live-stream.

The first thing you might notice about Emmett is his curly reddish-brown hair. He's been keeping it long these days, which makes his mother happy.

Cont'd on pg 15

SISTERHOOD

"Moving On but not Moving Out"

I hope you all had a joyous and sweet Passover and are enjoying the beautiful spring weather! As this Hamvaser is the last issue of my term as president of Sisterhood GHC (I am not leaving Sisterhood, just moving to a different position on the GHC Executive Board), I wanted to take the opportunity to thank everyone who has worked so hard to make Sisterhood such a success. Sisterhood has had an amazing year, even with the pandemic. Our events have been incredibly well attended and were enjoyable, educational and enriching! The fundraising events went beyond our expectations, enabling Sisterhood to meet its financial commitment to the GHC as well as support to other projects needed by the schools and the synagogue. We are excited to announce that Allyn Salpeter will be the next President of Sisterhood. Allyn has been Financial Secretary for the past four years, editor of Hamvaser for over two years (and she was outstanding!) and understands the workings of both the GHC and Women's League. She has also been on the Board of Trustees and the Membership Committee. Allyn is smart, creative and will be a great leader! I will stay on the Sisterhood Board in a different capacity, to be determined.

In addition to Allyn, we have a fabulous Board and everyone deserves a **HUGE** thank you: Pam Stoller-Treasurer, Arlene Krawitz-Parliamentarian and Gift Shop, Sharon Weiss-Secretary, Nancy Streiter-Membership, Enid Lotstein-Social Action and Programming, Bernice Strauss and Vivian Milefsky-Past Presidents. Each Board member contributes beyond her "area" and everyone is congenial and works closely together to ensure the success of all Sisterhood projects! We are always looking for more volunteers and can use help at any level – you can volunteer remotely, a little or a lot. We would love to chat with you – please let us know!

There are many other women who help to execute the various programs and services we provide to GHC members. Although Sherry Padva lives in North Carolina, she is always "close by" to help answer questions and provide assistance with the gift shop. She also provided tremendous guidance when I first started as Sisterhood President and I am so appreciative! Thank you Meryl Kupersmith, who writes thoughtful notes to members' families in their time of need. Thank you Suzy Neuburger for ordering all of the beautiful holiday bimah flowers. Thank you Iris Sherman for overseeing the annual Mah-jongg card sale, which was a success this year despite the pandemic. Thank you Linda Markowitz who

coordinates the Siddurim for B'nai Mitzvah (the gift from Sisterhood). Thank you Nancy Sklar for sharing your creativity and collaborating with Sisterhood on some very successful events this year. And thank you Naomi Rosenberg, who contacts Sisterhood women without email when a member of our community experiences a loss. All of you are amazing and again, thank you!

We really cannot undertake all of the activities and programs that we offer without the expertise and creativity of Suzanne Newman. Suzanne has maintained the GHC website for many years and has created absolutely beautiful and impactful flyers and marketing materials for us. We are truly indebted to her! Suzanne has also overseen the successful Rosh Hashanah Honey Sale and set up the entire Purim Shalach Manot program when it was updated and improved a few years ago. Thank you so, so much Suzanne for your talent, dedication and conscientiousness! And thank you to your daughter Sydney for her beautiful work for the Women's Seder, the "pandemic" Purim Packets and the new Purim card!

Sisterhood also is very grateful for all of the support of our clergy, Rabbi Stein and Cantor May, for their assistance in programming and their participation. Thank you Naomi Feinkind and Jeff Liss for all of your support and guidance. And thank you to Madaline Bruno, Yoko Yamamoto-Furst and Jaquelyn Walker, the GHC Office Staff, for their incredible assistance and support.

Our condolences to Mel Goldstein and his entire family on the loss of his wife, Nettie, who was a former Midchester Jewish Center President and Sisterhood President. Nettie was also on the Sisterhood board for many years and we thank her for her many contributions, in particular the High Holiday greetings card, which has become a very successful annual fundraiser. Nettie was also honored by Torah Fund in 2019.

Here is a brief review of recent Sisterhood activities: The 3rd annual Women's Seder held on March 7 was a big success with so many participants from near and far! Cantor May was amazing in leading the various songs and no one could tell that this was her first Women's Seder! Thank you to the 30 women who had parts, and special thanks to Natalie Garson for singing the Four Questions. We all had a great time and, as we said last year, "Next Year at GHC!". Let's hope!

The Passover food collection for the Jewish Community Council of Washington Heights-Inwood, held on March 14, was also a nice success this year. Thank you to Enid for making the connection to this agency and to Shara Sheinberg for her efforts with the flyer, publicity and food

Cont'd on pg. 15

B'NEI MITZVAH cont'd from pg. 13

Emmett Kushner cont'd

Emmett is a 7th grade middle schooler. He is the older brother of Natalie (age 9). He is an intelligent, funny, creative, and intense young man. He plays drums, soccer, and enjoys playing video games with his sister, his friends, and his cousins.

Emmett is a natural negotiator and already a skilled manager. He loves to delegate tasks to everyone, especially his family. He is also a talented tinkerer and builder. (His dad bought him his first cordless screwdriver when he was 3.) Last summer, Emmet rigged an old bike with a cordless drill and created a self-propelled go-cart.

Emmett thinks big, and is not intimidated by the scale or scope of any project. To give you an example, he offered to do the masonry work for the front stairs of our house. He was serious. Sometimes we feel like we are holding him back.

For Emmett's Mitzvah Project, he has been designing a website that assists local Dobbs Ferry residents in finding donation sites.

We are so proud of him.

Max Falex Korach

Max Falex will be celebrating his Bar Mitzvah in June. We are very proud of all that he has learned during his many years at the GHC. We are especially pleased with how he has remained focused and disciplined during the pandemic while learning his entire Haftorah and Maftir over Zoom with Cantor May. Our family is so excited to celebrate this momentous milestone together.

Max is in 7th grade and enjoys math, reading and writing. He has played the trumpet since he was in 3rd grade. He is an avid sports fan and walking encyclopedia of sports knowledge. Max's favorite teams are the Steelers and the Mets and his favorite sports to play are baseball, tennis and flag football. At the age of 5, Max began studying Taekwondo and recently earned his black belt. Max also loves all things Star Wars and Harry Potter. One of Max's best characteristics is his willingness to try anything, especially eclectic and spicy foods.

Max is a loving big brother to Elliot and his dog Chewie. He is a caring, thoughtful and loyal friend and an amazing son. Max truly makes us proud every day.

We would like to thank Rabbi Stein, Cantor May and Cantor Janet for all their hard work with Max over the years, and especially during this year of craziness. Thank you for your dedication to Max and all of the students. We look forward to hosting a Kiddish in Max's honor once we are once we are able to do so and to celebrating with the entire community.

SISTERHOOD cont'd from pg. 14

collection. Thank you to Shara and Arlene for staffing the drive at the GHC.

The JCC-WI-I wrote to us, "On behalf of the Jewish Community Council of Washington Heights, and all those who will benefit from your generosity, I am writing to thank you for organizing the Pesach food drive. Less than 15 minutes after the food was delivered, a divorced woman with four children came by and was so touched by the provisions we were able to offer her - only thanks to you." And a big thank you to everyone who supported the food drive with food or cash donations!

Thank you to everyone who has supported Sisterhood's fundraisers this year, most recently the Passover Wine Sale and Passover Pop-up Sale. All of these events, and especially the Shalach Manot, enabled us to meet our financial obligation to the GHC as well as to support so many programs and special touches.

Next up is our annual Sisterhood Shabbat, which will take place on Friday, May 7 at 6 pm, via Zoom. The link will be the same Zoom link as Rabbi Stein uses every Friday night. ((<https://zoom.us/j/95417257214?pwd=NjFENloxOEpGSghrc1M5dWQ4SG9UQT09>)

This Kabbalat Shabbat service will be led by women from Sisterhood, plus a few guests, including our clergy. It should be quite special! More information can be found in this Hamvaser. If you would like a part (English or Hebrew) please specify what type of part you would like and let us know **ASAP** by emailing Sisterhood@ghcnyc.org or by contacting Allyn or Arlene, or even me. The service is short and the entire event will be over by 7pm. And even if you prefer not to take a part, please join us!

Cont'd on pg.20

GHC NEWS

TO SUBSCRIBE / ADVERTISE : **CALL** 914 693 4260 **EMAIL** OFFICE@GHCNY.ORG | **VISIT THE WEBSITE** WWW.GHCNY.ORG

Greenburgh Hebrew Center

Phone: 914-693-4260 Fax: 914-693-4907

Email: Office@ghcny.org

Position	Name	Email Address
Rabbi	Rabbi Stein	RabbiStein@ghcny.org
Cantor	Cantor May	Cantor.May@ghcny.org
Director of Education	Amy Kessler	DirectorEd@ghcny.org
President	Naomi Feinkind	President@ghcny.org
Executive Vice President	Jeff Liss	ExecVP@ghcny.org
Executive Secretary	Deborah Jagoda	ExecSecy@ghcny.org
Financial Secretary	George Katz	FinanSecy@ghcny.org
Recording Secretary	Andrew Jagoda	RecordSecy@ghcny.org
Treasurer	Craig Mondschein	Treasurer@ghcny.org
VP of Adult Education	Nancy Sklar	VPAdultEducation@ghcny.org
VP of Education	Stephanie Luftig	VPEducation@ghcny.org
VP of Fundraising	Rebecca Lazar	VPFundraising@ghcny.org
VP of Management	Andrew Weiss	VPManagement@ghcny.org
VP of Membership	Elyse Milun	VPMembership@ghcny.org
VP of Religious Affairs	Andrew Goldstein	VPReligiousAffairs@ghcny.org
VP of Youth	Traci Mondschein	VPYouth@ghcny.org
Bnei Mitzvah	Ilana Finkelstein	BneiMitzvah@ghcny.org
Campus Connection	Enid Lotstein	college@ghcny.org
Caring Community	Sheila Greenwald	caring@ghcny.org
Green Team	Enid Lotstein	greening@ghcny.org
Empty Nesters	Howard Baskin	emptynesters@ghcny.org
	Rhonda Baskin	
Hamvaser	Willys Kals	hamvaser@ghcny.org
Israel Team	Mark Sloane	israel@ghcny.org
Kiddush	Leslie Liss	kiddush@ghcny.org
Marketing	Shiran Pasternak	marketing@ghcny.org
Men's Club	Howard Baskin	mensclub@ghcny.org
	David Luftig	
PJ Library	Stacey Rosenkranz	pjlibrary@ghcny.org
Religious School Board President	Risa Kaufman	rsboard@ghcny.org
Religious School PTA	Karen Greenbarg	rspta@ghcny.org
	Shara Sheinberg	
Security	Lori Sloane	security@ghcny.org
Sisterhood	Robin Rosenberg	sisterhood@ghcny.org
Social Action	Shara Sheinberg	sato@ghcny.org
Technology	Davin Milun	TechChair@ghcny.org

CONDOLENCES

OUR SINCERE CONDOLENCES

The entire Greenburgh Hebrew Center community expresses its deepest sympathy to:

Mel Goldstein on the passing of his wife, Nettie Goldstein Past President of Midchester Jewish Center

Morris Cohen and his children, Leah and Justin, on the passing of their wife and mother, Eve Cohen.

Joyce Frangipani, on the passing of her sister, Perle Laura Wurm.

May their memory always be a blessing.

NEW BABY NEWS!

It is so nice to welcome beautiful babies to our families and our community.

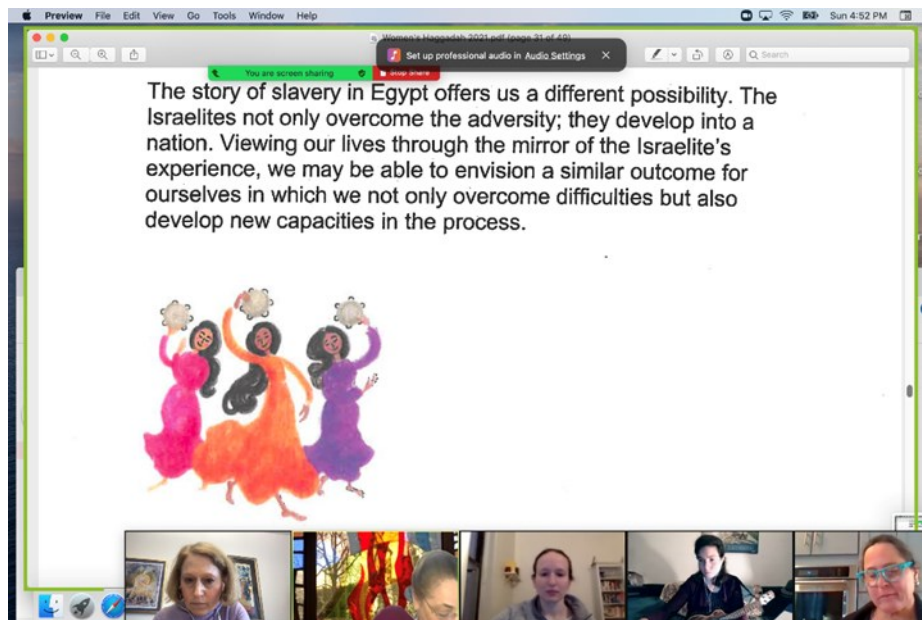
We share your joy and wish you a lifetime of good health and happiness together!

We welcome:

Leslie and Jeff Liss's new granddaughter,

Celine Elizabeth Liss, parents Karina and Steve Liss.

Virtual Women's Seder March 7, 2021





SHARE YOUR JOY!

**INSCRIBE A LEAF ON
ONE OF OUR
TREES OF LIFE**

\$180 per leaf

**"IT IS A TREE OF LIFE TO THOSE WHO
UPHOLD IT"**

Proverbs 3:16-18



TREE OF LIFE ORDER FORM



**NAME OF HONOREE AND
OCCASION:**

**Please use exact name and spelling to be used
for engraving**

Name of Contributor: _____

Email Address: _____

Phone: _____

___ **Attached is my check for \$180 payable to
Greenburgh Hebrew Center.**

Thank You for your contribution!

515 Broadway
Dobbs Ferry, NY 10522
(914) 693-4260



SISTERHOOD cont'd from pg. 15

We are currently working on a June event and we'll have information to you as soon as possible. We are also beginning to work on fall events.

We are most likely going to be sponsoring a talk by 'Women of the Wall', live from Israel. Stay tuned!!

Believe it or not, the High Holidays are early this year! Erev Rosh Hashanah is **SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 5!** Therefore, the annual Honey Sale, which allows you easily to send jars of honey to friends, family and colleagues, will be starting late May/early June. **Free shipping will end July 7.** You will still be able to order honey after July 7, but the cost will increase. We will promote this special holiday fundraiser via emails as soon as we have more information. Sending a jar of honey to loved ones and colleagues is a great way to show appreciation and stay connected even if you have not seen them in a while.

Torah Fund News: As you may know, Sisterhood carries a variety of greeting cards (condolence, get well, simchas, thank you and Mazel Tov) and the sale of these cards supports Torah Fund, which in turn provides scholarships to future rabbis, cantors and educators studying at the Conservative movement's institutions. We still have many cards for sale, but now you can also buy E-Cards on line and the cards will be delivered right to the recipient's inbox! The platform is easy to use, the cards are attractive, one can set a date for delivery, and the purchaser can customize a message. Go to: <https://torahfundecards.jtsa.edu/>. All purchasers receive a JTS/Torah Fund receipt. And thank you to everyone who supported Torah Fund this year! As the JTS office has been closed, we have not received the pins for the Benefactor level. Perhaps soon...

Finally, Women's League continues to offer amazing programs and a delightful daily weekday half hour study session at noon, *Makom B'yachad*, which includes the recitation of the Mourner's Kaddish and names of the deceased. I have participated a few times and the sessions are warm, welcoming and a great break at midday. All are welcome to participate via Zoom at:

<https://zoom.us/j/630830287>

Meeting ID: 630 830 287

Password: 875936

That's all for now! I look forward to seeing the amazing activities that Sisterhood will continue to sponsor to engage so many women and members of our community. I

know Allyn will be fantastic and I hope you all take the time to participate. Even if you have never ever been to a Sisterhood event, feel free to contact us and then just "jump in"! You'll be fine!

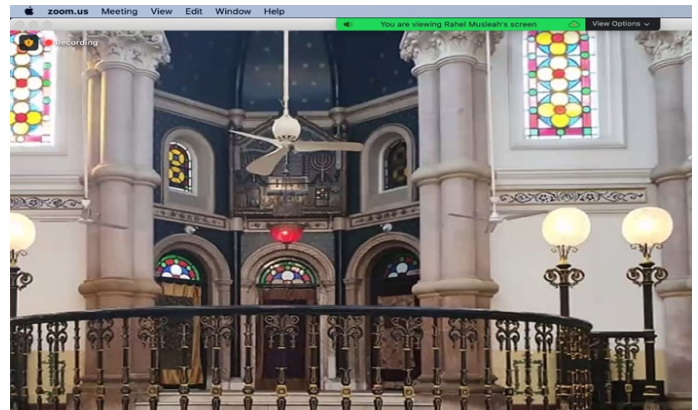
I hope you all have a great summer and I cannot wait to see what next year will bring!

B'shalom -

Robin

Jewish India Virtual Tour with Rahel Musleah

Sisterhood Event – February 21, 2021



THANK YOU TO THE GHC OFFICE STAFF AND ALL WHO HAVE HELPED

What a year it has been! At this time last year, we were in full "New York Pause" mode, with our building essentially shut and only one person allowed in at a time. What a relief it is has been that things have been gradually reopening, and that people can now come to GHC in-person!

Throughout all of the difficulties of the past year, GHC's office continued functioning, and even took on new challenges.

Even in the darkest days, our office staff made sure that everything that needed to get done did get done. While most people other than health care professionals and others officially classified as essential workers were staying home, our office staff members were performing work essential to GHC. Mail was received and disseminated. Payments and donations to GHC were entered into our accounting system and deposited, and letters of thanks and acknowledgment were sent to our donors and honorees.

Cont'd on pg. 21

THANK YOU TO THE GHC OFFICE STAFF AND ALL WHO HAVE HELPED

cont'd from pg. 20

Yahrzeit notices were prepared and mailed. Our bills to our vendors were paid, and invoices to the members of our community were prepared for 2020-21 dues, tuition and fees. Issues of Hamvaser were laid out and disseminated. Administrative assistance was provided to GHC's clergy, professionals, officers and committees. And phone calls from the members of our community were attended to, with answers to questions and assistance with requests.

Now as we move forward, we are making a huge transition, from the TempleTracker database and accounting system that we have used for many years, to a cloud-based ShulCloud integrated website and database linked to QuickBooks. It is our hope that this new system will serve our community well for years to come.

None of this would be possible without the dedication and hard work of our office staff. In addition, members of our community have also pitched in to help, and their help has been much appreciated.

First and foremost, tremendous thanks are due to our Director of Office Services, Madaline Bruno. Madaline is in her 33rd year at GHC, and her commitment to GHC is unsurpassed. Without her hard work this past year, we would not have made it. Throughout the New York Pause, she came to the GHC office several times per week, along with working from home, to get done everything that needed to be done. She also took on additional responsibilities, helping wherever help was needed. She has continued taking on additional responsibilities as the year has progressed, and is now immersed in the transition to ShulCloud. For the time being, she is working both in TempleTracker and in ShulCloud and has been engaged in a number of projects focused on getting the ShulCloud database ready for use.

We also would not have made it without Jacquelyn Walker, who is now in her 9th year at GHC. Jacqui is the technology maven on our office staff. Although Jacqui is at GHC only one day per week, her contribution is invaluable. When the New York Pause began, Jacqui set up our computer systems so that files and data stored on our on-site server could be accessed by our office staff members from home.

She also worked with Technology Committee members Davin Milun and Shiran Pasternak on implementation of the move of our emails from our prior email server to Microsoft 365; worked with Cantor May to set up her access to our computer systems, both from home and in her GHC office; and, worked on the export of our TempleTracker data so it could be imported by ShulCloud. In addition, Jacqui provides us with technology support and administrative support on an ongoing basis, helping with whatever is needed. Jacqui is also a donor to GHC. Several times during the year, she donated much-needed computer equipment.

The newest member of our office staff, Yoko Yamamoto-Furst, is also an essential part of our team. Yoko joined us in August, after our prior bookkeeper resigned. Yoko has worked hard to learn GHC's systems; to process incoming payments and donations to GHC; to pay our bills; process payroll; prepare invoices to the members of our community; and to prepare our financial statements. She also works on various financial projects as requested by Treasurer Craig Mondschein and other officers of GHC. For example, she assisted Executive Vice President Jeff Liss with respect to GHC's PPP loans and provided data to various officers for purposes of preparation of their portions of GHC's budget.

During the course of the year, we have also appreciated the support and assistance provided by the members of the GHC community. GHC President Naomi Feinkind and Executive Vice President Jeff Liss provided support and guidance to the office throughout the year. Vic Freeman volunteered in the office on days when Madaline was on vacation. Michael Feinkind has been bringing the deposits to the bank weekly for months, and in the fall, Craig Mondschein brought several deposits to the bank. Kerri and Jonathan Ferman donated a desktop printer. And recently, when we were faced with an upcoming mailing deadline and hundreds of envelopes to be stuffed, Leslie Liss and her mother Lee Fanwick, along with Naomi Feinkind and Jeff Liss, all pitched in to help get the mailing done in time.

We have also appreciated the support of Rabbi Stein and Cantor May; the coordination between Amy Kessler and the office staff; the work done by Rene Zayas to build a plexiglass partition in the office and to keep the office clean; and, the editorial skills of Hamvaser editor, Allyn Salpeter. We thank Allyn for all that she has done on Hamvaser, and look forward to coordinating with new Hamvaser editor Willys Kals in the year to come.

Deborah Jagoda,

Executive Secretary

RELIGIOUS AFFAIRS

To say that I had a very busy two years as the Vice President of Religious Affairs would clearly be an understatement. I was quite grateful that the very beginning of my first year started typically. It involved convening the High Holiday Committee and then making the arrangements for the High Holy Day services. However, I was soon tasked with finding a cantor for GHC to take over for Cantor Leuchter. As you may recall, we sent a survey to the congregation to determine if a cantor was in fact the third professional that the congregation wanted. I convened a committee to analyze the survey results and once that was made clear, we started our search. We were lucky enough to find Cantor Anna May.

Unfortunately, the Covid-19 pandemic began just after Purim 2020 and GHC had to change the way it provided its religious services. Rabbi Stein began to provide live-stream Shabbat morning services and Cantor Leuchter led Friday Night Kabbalat Shabbat services via Zoom. I ended my first year expressing gratitude, along with the entire congregation, to Cantor Leuchter at the virtual Gala Event.

The task force to plan for the High Holidays and reopen the synagogue met to plan the safest way to prepare our-selves for returning, once again, to pray in our sanctuary. We wrote policies and procedures to return safely for Shabbat services. These services began on June 13, 2020 with 13 attendees and grew to a max of 19, even though we were prepared to accommodate 30. This was the staging ground to test all our protocols so that we could safely have High Holiday services at the end of September 2020. To the best of our knowledge, few other synagogues in Westchester provided in-person services for Shabbat leading to the High Holidays. We provided a hybrid format of in-person High Holiday services that was livestreamed to the congregation. Congregants had the choice of which of the eight High Holiday services to attend and which to livestream. Rabbi Stein and Cantor May adapted the service to provide a unique religious experience. Since then, we have continued to provide Shabbat services for our congregation, while temporarily going on hiatus in light of the increase in Covid-19 cases in December. I am proud to say, and grateful that there have been no cases of Covid-19 as a result of religious services at the GHC. As I finish my second year and step down as the VP of Religious Affairs, I am equally proud to have served my GHC family.

I was lucky enough to participate in, and sometimes serve as, chairperson of many committees. I was blessed to have worked with many talented, thoughtful, and creative people, whose input, I felt, made, and continues to make, a difference in the lives of the GHC congregants. I want to start by thanking all the clergy with whom I worked. As the VP of Religious Affairs, I regarded Rabbi Jay Stein, Cantor Janet Leuchter and Cantor Anna May as my coworkers. I had a great working relationship with all of them. They have always been supportive and patient with me as I learned to do the job. I would like to thank Risa Kaufman, Deborah Jagoda, Naomi Feinkind, Jeff Liss, and Bruce Segall, who worked with me on the Cantorial Options Committee and whose hard work made it clear that the congregation wanted a cantor. The Cantorial Search Committee included Stephanie Luftig, Marcie Ader, Stacey Gershkovich, Judy Goldstein, Dan Belasco, Lawrence Ecker, Philip Karmel, and Jeff Liss.

The Committee made the process of finding Cantor May so efficient. I was further assisted by Risa Kaufman and Jeff Liss (with consultations from Deborah Jagoda and Michael Katz) who served on the Contract Committee. Each year, I have the pleasure of working with the High Holiday Honors Committee, which includes Judy Goldstein, Leslie Liss, Karen Greenbarg, and Mark Sloane. We could not have reopened the synagogue and offered in person High Holiday services without the Task Force of Naomi Feinkind, Jeff Liss, Rabbi Jay Stein, Cantor Anna May, Stephanie Luftig, Cecile Singer, Lori Sloane, Andy Weiss, and Davin Milun. Lastly, I must thank the Religious Affairs Committee of which I have been a member for many years. I am grateful for their support. They include Rabbi Jay Stein, Cantor Janet Leuchter, Cantor Anna May, Pam Stoller, Erica Wolff, Deborah Jagoda, Leslie Liss, Bruce Segall, Marty Frankel, and Leonard Steinberg.

Most importantly, I want to thank my wife, Judy, and my kids, Ilana and Joseph, for their love, patience and support over the last two years.

Andy Goldstein

GREEN TEAM



NEWS FROM THE GREEN TEAM: AS THE COMPOST TURNS

The Green Team has many people to thank for their support: Rabbi Stein, Cantor May, Naomi Feinkind, Jeff Liss, Amy Kessler, Roy Kushner, Shiran Pasternak, Felice Barber, Madaline Bruno, Rene Zayas, and everyone who participated in Green Shabbat. I apologize for any omissions.

Planning a new composting bin has been an interesting story, filled with twists and turns. We had decided to build three bins whose use we could rotate as they filled up and the material “cooked.” We set a target date in April, when it would be an environmental mitzvah project for Kitah Zayin. However, the project will now take place on Sunday morning, May 16th, during Hebrew School hours.

Because a hoped-for donation from Stew Leonard’s or Trader Joe’s of wooden pallets to use as building materials did not come to fruition, the project has also been scaled down. Using material secured through a Foodtown Express in Northwest Yonkers, one bin will be constructed with Kitah Zayin. We hope to involve the students parents and to make this a small, socially distanced, community event.

We look forward to developing new programming for the High Holidays and the upcoming Sabbatical or Shmita year.

Enid Lotstein PhD

Chairperson

The Green Team

FUNDRAISING

THE TIME HAS COME TO SAY THANK YOU!!!

FOR ALL THE HARD WORK,

DEDICATION AND PERSEVERANCE

THAT HELPED ALL OF US AT GHC GET

THROUGH THESE CHALLENGING TIMES!!!

GHC is HONORING our very own SHINING STAR,

NAOMI FEINKIND, PRESIDENT EXTRAORDINAIRE!!

Save the Date: GHC VIRTUAL GALA EVENT

Sunday, June 6th at 4:00 pm

This promises to be an exciting and fun-filled event.

We look forward to each and every GHC member joining us as we celebrate Naomi and let her know how much she is appreciated.

If you have a special talent that you would like to share, please let us know.

(vpfundraising@ghcny.org)

Our Annual Gala Journal is well underway, with many JOURNAL ADS already submitted. Help us to make this the best Journal ever.

Share your thoughts with Naomi, let her know how she has made a difference in our lives, and that her tireless efforts have not gone unnoticed.

In this time of uncertainty, one thing we can rely on is our GHC family.

THANK YOU NAOMI, for keeping our spirits up and our hopes eternal.

Honor Naomi with a JOURNAL AD: journal@ghcny.org

For your convenience, a Journal Ad form has been included in this issue of Hamvaser.

A special “thank you” to the many volunteers involved in the Fundraising Committee who helped with the planning and execution of all our fabulous events throughout the year. I am honored to be part of this talented and hard-working team. A heartfelt “THANK YOU” to: our journal creators, Alan and Caryn Kravitz, Co-chairs); Leslie Liss, Journal Event Chair; Jeffrey Liss; Sheila Greenwald; Nora and Jonathan Contract; Mara Lee Bierman; Marcie Schneider; Lisa Goldman; Jo-Ann and Jay Lutzky; Rhonda and Howard Baskin; Shiran Pasternak, our creative genius and David Milun, our technology guru. Thank you to Rabbi Jay Stein, Cantor Anna May, Amy Kessler and our President, Naomi Feinkind, for your continued support. To our office staff, Madaline Bruno, Jacqui Walker and Yoko Yamamoto-Furst, your assistance, dedication and hard work is truly appreciated. Thank you, Rene Zayas, for keeping GHC running smoothly.

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DONATIONS

February 9, 2021 to April 12, 2021

GENERAL

Susan Arbuck
Howard and Rhonda Baskin
Marcia Bernstein
Mr. and Mrs. Michael Brody
Michael and Gail Brooks
Steve Cornell and Tina Ashkenazy Cornell
Sheldon and Sandra Dobres
Empty Nesters
Ludwig and Nanette Fischel
Deanna Fried

Joan Fuhrman
Alan and Miriam Gallantar
Mike and Lisa Goldsman

Melvin Goldstein
Andy and Judy Goldstein
Bruce and Madelon Gordon
Francis Gorlick
Joel and Michele Greengard

Hal and Sheila Greenwald

Steven Hemmerdinger and Tracy Bohn
Hemmerdinger Cynthia Hertz and Allen Dubbrin
Jonathan and Lynn Hock
Andy and Debbie Jagoda

Lenore Katkin
George Katz

In Memory of Nettie Goldstein
In Memory of Nettie Goldstein
In Memory of Nettie Goldstein
In Memory of Nettie Goldstein
In Memory of Nettie Goldstein
In Memory of Tina's beloved father David Ashkenazy
In Memory of Nettie Goldstein
In Memory of Nettie Goldstein
In Memory of Nettie Goldstein
In Memory of Nettie Goldstein
In Honor of Andy Goldstein
Donation
In Honor of Matthew's Bar Mitzvah
In Memory of Perry Schwartz
In Memory of Herbert Goldman
In Memory of Joseph Weisner
In Honor of Ilana, being accepted to Graduate School
In Memory of Al Roseman
Donation
In Memory of Nettie Goldstein

Mel Goldstein and family in memory of Nettie
Morris, Leah and Justin Cohen in memory of Eve
In honor of Leslie & Jeff's new granddaughter Celine
Pat Conlan for a speedy and complete recovery to good
health. Linda Markowitz for her mother, Ruth Anne Rubin's
complete recovery following hip replacement.
In Honor of Madeline Okun for being a superb Bat Mitzvah.
"Mazel tov to the whole family."

In Memory of Louis Hemmerdinger
Thank You to Marsha Bernstein
In Memory of Morton Hock
In Memory of Gerson Greenbarg, father of Todd Greenbarg In
Memory of Nettie Goldstein
In Memory of Eve Cohen
In Memory of Estelle Self
In Memory of my beloved wife Karen Katz
In Memory of Nettie Goldstein
In Honor of Andy Goldstein
In Memory of Eric Katz

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FUNDRAISING con't from pg. 23

To ALL of our congregants and friends, we thank you for your generosity and participation in the many events our dedicated GHC volunteers have worked so hard to coordinate. As the world resumes some sense of normalcy, we hope that you will join us, by sharing your thoughts on programs, and by attending events at which we can enjoy each other's company, in person or virtually.

Your continued generosity and support allows GHC to be the vibrant and inclusive spiritual home that we all know and love.

Fondly, Rebecca Lazar

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

Membership at GHC continues to grow. I would like to welcome our latest new members, Irina Paley and family, to the GHC community. In this community you will be treated with all the warmth that I have felt in my years of membership here. I look forward to meeting

you and all potential new members in person, and hope to see you at our activities and programs throughout the year.

As the weather is getting warmer and with some of us being vaccinated, we look forward to developing activities that will bring our community together in person. More information to come, as we work with the Task Force to ensure that we keep everyone safe.

This is the time of the year when many families begin their moves into the Rivertowns and Westchester. Please spread the word and let them know about all that GHC has to offer: our services; educational opportunities; social events; committees and activities.

As always, if there is anything that we at GHC can do for you to help you through these times, please let us know.

Stay safe and healthy! I look forward to seeing everyone soon!

Elyse Milun, VP Membership

DONATIONS

February 9, 2021 to April 12, 2021 cont'd from pg. 24

Howard and Helene Katz	In Honor of our children and Grandchildren, Shari, Michael, Emma and Ari
Ronald and Lisa Katz	In Memory of Saul Singer
Lauren Kline	In Memory of Joan Katz
Alan and Caryn Kravitz	In Memory of Irving Katz
	In Memory of Nettie Goldstein
	In Memory of Pearl Rizinsky
	In Memory of Gertrude Weiner
	In Honor of Bar Mitzvah, Zach Milun
	In Honor of Bat Mitzvah, Madeleine Okun
	In Memory of Nettie Goldstein
Jesse and Arlene Krawitz	In Honor of Andy Goldstein
	In Memory of Nettie Goldstein
	In Honor of Andy Goldstein for receiving the Julian Bernstein Distinguished Service Award
	In Memory of Debra Neustadter's step-father
Beth Krieger	In Memory of Eve Cohen
Pam Lashner	In Memory of Sophie Napp
Jonathan and Ruth Lichter	In Memory of Nettie Goldstein
	In Memory of Frances Klein
	In Memory of Elsa Lichter
Jeff and Leslie Liss	In Memory of Jeff's beloved father Carl Liss
	In Memory of Leslie beloved father Ernest Fanwick
	In Memory of Nettie Goldstein
	Thanking Rabbi for selling our Chametz
	In Honor of Bar Mitzvah, Zach Milun
	In Memory of Eve Cohen
Zvi and Linda Markowitz	In Memory of Gerson Greenbarg with condolences to Todd, Karen, Josh, Justin & Family
	Condolences to Mel Goldstein & Family on the passing of dear Nettie
	Yashir Koach to our very own "Wonder Woman", Robin Rosen-berg, for the lovely Women's seder and all she does everyday, year in and year out.
	Yashir Koach to Andy Goldstein on receiving the Julian Y. Bernstein Distinguished Service Award from the WJC
	Refuah Shleimah to Hal Greenwald
	Mazel Tov to Leslie & Jeff Liss on the birth of their grandchild
	In Memory of Eve Cohen, wife of Morris, mother of Leah, Justin & Family. May her life be for a blessing.

Cont'd on pg 27

DONATIONS

February 9, 2021 to April 12, 2021 cont'd from pg. 26

Norman and Vivian Milefsky

Mazel Tov to Rabbi Jay Stein on his honorary doctorate of Divinity degree from JTS.

In Memory of Michael Smith mother, Rhoda Smith

Mazel Tov to Supreme Court Justice Larry Ecker on his retirement. We wish you good health and happiness in your quieter days.

Mazel Tov to Naomi and Michael Feinkind

Rehuah Shelma to Suzie and Steve Neuburger

Refuah Shlema to Lenore Katkin

In Memory of Gerson Greenbarg father of Todd Greenbarg

Mazel Tov to Dr. Andy Goldstein for receiving the Julian Bernstein Distinguished Service Award from the Westchester Jewish Conference. Award for service over and beyond

Mazel Tov to Sheila and Alan Greenberg on the birth of granddaughter. May she be well.

In fond Memory of Saul Singer. Sincere sympathies to his beloved wife Fran and Family. Both Saul and Fran were tireless and generous workers on behalf of GHC and the Jewish community

In Memory of Nettie Goldstein beloved wife of Mel. Nettie was a past President of Sisterhood at Midchester Jewish Center as well as synagogue President. At GHC, Nettie was totally involved in Sisterhood and GHC. She will be missed.

In Memory of my beloved husband Alex Neuburger

In Memory of Rifka Neudorfer

In Memory of Albert Pollack

In Honor of Andy Goldstein for receiving the Julian Bernstein Distinguished Service Award

Donation

In Memory of Nettie Goldstein

In Memory of Todd Greenbarg's father Gerson Greenbarg

In Memory of Nettie Goldstein

In Memory of Saul Singer

In Memory of Nettie Goldstein

In Honor of Bar Mitzvah, Zach Milun

In Honor Bat Mitzvah, Madeleine Okun

In Honor of Bar Mitzvah of Joshua Bass

In Memory of Nettie Goldstein

In Honor of Andy Goldstein for receiving the Julian Bernstein Distinguished Service Award

In memory of Gerson Greenbarg father of Todd Greenbarg

Hope Neuburger

Julius Neudorfer

Phyllis Pollack

Naomi Rosenberg

Shirley Rubin

Allyn Salpeter

Robert and Suzanne Schaps

Mark and Sandy Scheffkind

David and Anita Schick

Bruce Segall and Robin Rosenberg

Cont'd on pg. 28

DONATIONS

February 9, 2021 to April 12, 2021 cont'd from pg. 27

Martha Siegel
Barbara Silverstone
Michael and Dorothy Smith

Maxine Spiegel
Glenn Staub
Martin Stern
Stan and Fran Stone
Bernice Strauss
Mark and Nadeen Tyler
Susan Udasin
Paul and Norma Warner
Gerald Weintraub
Gary and Ruth Weisenborn
Gilda Zucker

In Memory of my beloved mother Hilda Jochnowitz
In Memory of my beloved father Anton Klotz
In Memory of Michael's father Marcus Smith
In Memory of Sender Wolkun
Donation
In Memory of Nettie Goldstein
In Memory of my wife Rosalie Stern
In Memory of Meyer Jaffe
In Memory of my mother-in-law Hermine Strauss
In Memory of Oscar Kaplan
In Memory of Nettie Goldstein
In Memory of Nettie Goldstein
In Memory of Heidi Susan Weintraub
In Memory of Nettie Goldstein
In Memory of Saul Singer husband of Fran Singer
In Memory of Rhoda Smith mother of Michael Smith

RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

Michael and Joan Abelson

Inge Adler
Rabbi William and Pat Berman
Marcia Bernstein
Steve Cornell and Tina Ashkenazy Cornell
Empty Nesters
Martin and Natalie Frankel

Deanna Fried
Joan Fuhrman

In Memory of Eve Cohen
In Memory of Nettie Goldstein
In Honor of Andy Goldstein
In Memory of Saul Singer
Donation
Sale of Chametz
In Honor of Rabbi's doctoral degree from JTS
In Honor of Rabbi's doctoral degree from JTS
In Honor of Dr. Andrew Goldstein
In Memory of Harriet Glassman
In Memory of Nettie Goldstein
In Honor of Rabbi Stein
In Memory of Nettie Goldstein
In Honor of Dr. Andrew Goldstein

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DONATIONS

February 9, 2021 to April 12, 2021 cont'd from pg. 28

Alan and Miriam Gallantar

In Honor of Rabbi Stein

Empty Nesters

In Honor of our son Matthew's Bar Mitzvah

Elliott and Barbara Gross

In Memory of Nettie Goldstein

Donald and Rachel Lachs

Mazel Tov to Rabbi Stein receiving honorary degree

Myra Leib

Sale of Chametz

In honor of Dr. Andrew Goldstein

In Memory of my beloved in laws, Evelyn and Philip Leib

Sheldon and Adele Lobel

Sales of Chametz

In Honor of Rabbi Stein's Honorary Doctorate from JTS

Jack and Margo Maron

In Memory of Margo father Myron Gordon

In Memory of Jack parents William and Ethel Maron

In Honor of Rabbi's Stein

In Honor of Andy Goldstein's award

Congratulations to Leslie and Jeff Liss for the birth of a grand-child

Steve and Suzy Neuburger

In honor of Rabbi's recent degree

Alan and Michelle Rich

Mazel Tov on Rabbi's recent degree

Mr. and Mrs. Michael Rich

Mazel Tov to Rabbi Stein on being awarded an honorary doctorate from JTS

Naomi Rosenberg

In honor of Rabbi's recent degree

Bruce Segall and Robin Rosenberg

Donation

Fran Silkes

Donation

Ellen Silverstein

In Memory of Noah Holtzman

Cecile Singer

Gabe and Kate Silverman

In Memory of David Singer

In Memory of beloved parents

In Memory of Sally Zerinsky

Sales of Chametz

In Memory of Harry Y. Goldberg

In Honor of Rabbi's doctoral degree from JTS

In Memory of my beloved daughter Heidi Weintraub

Martin and Dodi Sklar

Roslyn Stein

Bernice Strauss

Sophie Uber

Melvin Weintraub

CANTOR'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

Michael and Joan Abelson

In Honor of Michael 80th birthday

Alan and Miriam Gallantar

In Honor of Matthew's Bar Mitzvah and a beautiful service

Naomi Rosenberg

In Honor of Cantor May

Cont'd on pg 30

DONATIONS

February 9, 2021 to April 12, 2021 cont'd from pg. 29

YIZKOR/YAHRZEIT FUND

Mr. Douglas Abrahams
Inge Adler
Howard and Rhonda Baskin

Lewis Harris
Bernard and Myrna Holzman
Gerald Kestenbaum
Ken and Meryl Kupersmith
Sheldon and Adele Lobel
Bernice Malamud

Mark Sadoff and Nancy Nager
Jonathan Siegel and Judy Fried

William Weinberger
Andy and Sharon Weiss
Irene Wool

In Memory of Solomon Abrahams
In Memory of Else Landeck
In Memory of Joseph Baskin
In Memory of Jerome Grossman
In Memory of Ida Harris
In Memory of Frances Price
Yahrzeit for Helen Kestenbaum
In Memory of Nettie Goldstein
In Memory of Mabel E. Becker
In Memory of Neil Adler
In Memory of Harry Adler
In Memory of Sam Nager
In Memory of Curt Fried
In Memory of Irene Fried
In Memory of Jack Goldman
Yahrzeit for my parents
In Memory of Irene Weiss
Yahrzeit for Dora Epstein

HESED FUND/CARING COMMUNITY

Steve and Suzy Neuburger

Robert Stien

SATO

Shari Hamburg

Donation

Condolences to Mel Goldstein upon the death of his beloved with, Nettie

In Memory of Harry Stien

In Memory of Nettie Goldstein

PRAYER BOOK FUND

Sherman Firsty
Lewis and Barbara Harris

In Memory of Gloria Firsty
In Memory of Ida Harris

RABBI LUBLINER FUND

Rhoda Rosenfeld

In Memory of Harry

EDUCATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Mr. and Mrs. Michael Feinkind

In Memory of Esther Runyon, Naomi's mother
In Memory of Dana Feinkind, Mike's mother

Cont'd on pg. 31

DONATIONS

February 9, 2021 to April 12, 2021 cont'd from pg. 30

RELIGIOUS SCHOOL FUND

Mr. and Mrs. Alan Gallantar

In appreciation to Ilana Finkelstein for her support and contribution to Matthew's Bar Mitzvah.

In honor of Cantor Janet for her support during Matthew's Bar Mitzvah

JEWISH EDUCATION FUND

Allyn Salpeter

In Memory of my mother Mary Salpeter

ISRAEL COMMITTEE

Steve and Suzy Neuburger

Congratulations to the Milun Family for the Bar Mitzvah of Zach

SISTERHOOD DONATIONS

Linda Markowitz

Naomi Rosenberg

DONATION FORM

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I wish to donate to the fund indicated.

Attached is my check in the amount of \$ _____

In Honor of _____

In Memory of _____

Other _____

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To celebrate, remember, express appreciation & support my synagogue, I have chosen the fund indicated below:

Capital Fund \$ _____

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Rabbi's Discretionary \$ _____

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Yahrzeit & Yiskor Fund \$ _____

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