

The Herald Hamvaser

המבשר

GREENBURGH HEBREW CENTER

NOVEMBER-DECEMBER | Heshvan—Tevet 5780

Vol. 50 No. 3

FROM THE RABBI'S DESK

We Are Listening

Rabbi Jay M. Stein

Amy Kessler, Director of Education

Just last week we met with a local psychologist who specializes in issues surrounding infertility. It was an eye-opening discussion in which we learned so much. We talked about something known as Disenfranchised Grief.

Disenfranchised grief is a term describing grief that is not acknowledged by society. Examples of events leading to disenfranchised grief are: the death of a friend; the loss of a pet; a trauma in the family a generation prior; the loss of a home or place of residence particularly in the case of children who generally have little or no control in such situations and whose grief may not be noticed or understood by caregivers; American military children and teens in particular those who move a great deal while growing up; an aborted/miscarried pregnancy; a mother's loss or placement of a child into adoption; a child's loss of their birth mother due to adoption; and the death of a loved one due to a socially unacceptable cause such as suicide.

We met with the psychologist to prepare ourselves for whatever issues are brought to us. You see, we are ready to be wherever you are. We are brave enough to be with you no matter what is going on in your life.

We as Jews are good with dealing with classic categories of grief. We have prescribed methods we call burial shiva, kaddish, etc. However, here at GHC we have to cope with kaddish, etc. However, here at GHC we have to cope with everything else as well. Because we are in-

involved with so many lives and different family configurations not everything fits neatly into a box. In truth, sometimes the fact that Judaism has long created those categories means many people feel there is no place for them in organized religion. They feel disenfranchised. It is not true, and it should not be. As Sabeeha Rehman, who spoke here at GHC pointed out in her book *Threading My Prayer Rug*, "All religion is local."

At GHC we are a family with incredible resources to help you and your family, regardless of makeup, through most any challenge in your life. We regularly meet with local professionals in most any sphere to expand our expertise and to create a network of trusted referrals. We are ever growing in our own abilities to meet people where they are and to know when we need to bring in someone else.

One of the mantras of our people is *Kol Yisrael Aravim Zeh Bazeh*: All Israel is Responsible for One Another. It is something we take very seriously.

We are involved with families, starting in our ECC all the way through widowed people in their late 90's. We recognize the unique quality of every Individual and look forward to connecting with you where you are. We meet you in the halls, classrooms, prayer spaces, local establishments, the hospital and in your homes.

Feel confident that if we don't know how to address an issue you may raise, we will walk with you hand in hand to the places and the people who do. "Don't walk in front on me, I may not follow. Don't walk behind me, I may not lead. Just walk beside me and be my friend," says a popular song.

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WESTCHESTER BOARD OF RABBIS WESTCHESTER JEWISH COUNCIL



WESTCHESTER'S 6TH NIGHT OF JEWISH LEARNING AND CELEBRATION

Saturday, November 23, 2019 @ 7:15 p.m.

Registration opens @ 7:00 p.m.

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Hadar, a Westchester Jewish Council member organization, is an educational institution that seeks to empower a generation of Jews to create and sustain vibrant, practicing, egalitarian communities of Torah learning, prayer, and service.

\$20 PER PERSON BY NOV. 8TH • \$25 PER PERSON AFTER NOV. 8TH

Register online at www.wjcouncil.org or payable by check to:

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For more information contact: Donna Bartell at donna@wjcouncil.org • www.wjcouncil.org • 914-328-7001



PLEASE TURN OVER

PRESIDENT

The Holidays have come and gone, beginning with Rosh Hashanah and ending with Simchat Torah. Hundreds of adults and children gathered in our sanctuary, social hall atrium, chapel and classrooms. Most were members, some were guests, friends and family of our members. Some were new to GHC, Young Families and PJLibrary devotees joining us for services for the very first time. The feedback was wonderful, as many commented on the spirituality, content, flow, and energy of the various services.

This doesn't happen by chance and I would be remiss if I don't acknowledge the principle players. Of course, I run the risk of leaving someone out and for that I apologize. Rabbi Stein and Cantor Leuchter must be recognized and commended for their extraordinary efforts in providing these services. Their hard work and dedication were evident at each and every service. While our choir was small in number, it was mighty in sound and spirit, which made each service so enjoyable. Yasher Koach to Caryn Kravitz, Lenore Katkin, Sharon Rabinowitz, Judy Goldstein, Michael Abelson, Phil Eisenberg, Joseph Goldstein and our guest participant Phil Sassoon. Our lay leaders were exceptional, Kol Hakavod to Michael Billig, Michael Katz, Mark Sloane, Karizmah Brauner, Mike Abelson, and Marty Frankel. We **are** a participatory congregation, how fortunate we are to have so many congregants, truly too many to name, ready, willing and able to read Torah and Haftorah on each of the Chags. A special thank you to David Luftig for sharing his personal journey with us on Kol Nidre.

There are so many parts in a service and like any production, it needs a director. How lucky we are to have Judy and Andrew Goldstein. With the help of the Honors committee, this dynamic duo coordinated the honors, choreographed the logistics of the services by getting everyone where they needed to be at the right time and in the right place. Assisting them were Karen Ecker Greenbarg and Jay Lutzky.

Our children big and small were educated, engaged and involved in their respective services. Steve Hirsch returned to lead Junior Congregation, his ability of engaging our children in grades three through seven, no easy feat, was remarkable. Kudos to Leslie Liss, Robin Rosenberg, Laurie Davidowitz and her Israel houseguest, Tamar for leading our Young Family Services. The numbers were astounding,

we had as many as 40 adults and children participating in a particular service. Our Kiddush Kids, in grades in grades Kindergarten to two, were actively involved in their services, led by our excellent Educational Director Amy Kessler and our amazing volunteers Enid Lotstein and Deborah Jagoda. Kudos to Gabi Mondschein for stepping up and leading the teen discussion. Stephanie Luftig was instrumental in providing babysitters and feeding our little ones. Amy Kessler and her ECC and RS staff, must be recognized for preparing our children in such a very brief period of time, for these High Holy Days.

Security, always a concern, was addressed so ably by Andy Weiss and Lori Sloane. Our security guards, now considered, GHC "regulars" were dedicated to our welfare and safety. Kellie and Teasha braved the cold, wind and rain to ensure our rosters were accurate and that all were checked in and accounted for. Our ushers and greeters, also too numerous to name, played a crucial role in welcoming our members and guests.

No undertaking of this magnitude could ever be this successful without the tireless efforts of our staff. Pat Conlan with the help of Jake Mendez and Eddie Rodriguez transformed the social hall, stage and atrium into an all-inclusive sanctuary, not only once or twice but three times!! Our office staff had the monumental task of getting everything ready for the holidays, organizing our requests, printing the various materials, tickets, letters, Book of Remembrance and so much more. We are grateful for the commitment of Madaline Bruno, Nalini Addanki and Jacqui Walker.

I am privileged to serve with a devoted Executive Committee and Board of Trustees, who each in their own way contributed and continue to contribute to the success of GHC. We are so much more than just a synagogue, we have so much to offer, the best is yet to be!!

Looking forward to seeing you at the many GHC programs and events planned for 5780.

Naomi Feinkind

What is Judaism?

with Rabbi Stein

Everything you
ever wanted to
know about
Judaism but were
afraid to ask.



Three one-hour classes

Sundays November 10
November 17
10:00 am November 24

Questions?

(914) 693-4260

RabbiJayStein@gmail.com

Greenburgh Hebrew Center
515 Broadway
Dobbs Ferry, New York 10522
Greenburgh Hebrew Center

CANTOR

Why I Became A Cantor Part One--Grassroots Judaism

I came to the official cantorate in mid-life, after being a lay cantor, baal tefila and music teacher at several synagogues over the years, including my own on the Upper West Side. I had been pursuing a career in classical music and been active in the revival of klezmer music and Yiddish song in the 1970s and 80s. But I had not seriously considered becoming a formally trained, credentialed cantor.

Then for two years, I worked as the writer in the intergroup relations department at the national Anti-Defamation League. Among my tasks was to write promotional materials for two ADL-incubated organizations: the Jewish Foundation for Christian Rescuers (now the Foundation for the Righteous)--which supports "righteous Gentiles" who risked their lives to shelter Jews during the Holocaust--and the Hidden Child Foundation, which had just formed to support and publicize the stories of children hidden by non-Jews during that period.

As inspiring as these activities were, I also saw the national ADL allow its larger intergroup and interfaith network wither as the defense of Israel became its director's primary focus. I believe this increasing dissociation also occurred on the synagogue level throughout America. At this juncture in history, however, I believe we all have to reaffirm our commitments to intergroup outreach and solidarity. Not only is it the right thing to do from the standpoint of Jewish values, but we need allies. It's one thing, very important, to support an umbrella group like the Westchester Jewish Council, which is quite active in intergroup relations and Jewish advocacy. But synagogues should be involved too. Most of our non-Jewish neighbors have never heard of any of the Jewish organizations we know about. But they all know about synagogues, because synagogues are universally viewed as the primary address of the Jewish people in the Diaspora.

I subsequently worked for the Jewish Fund for Justice (which eventually became the Jewish social-justice group Bend the Arc). The JFJ's grantees included grassroots partnerships between synagogues and non-Jewish anti-poverty groups addressing local concerns. It was here that I met Rabbi Stein's late father, Rabbi Israel Stein z"l, who led Bridgeport Jewish involvement in the city's interfaith action organization. The interfaith coalition coalesced around a non-controversial issue - trash removal. As I formed a national rabbinic advisory committee for JFJ, I met many rabbis nationwide who were similarly involved in developing networks of mutual solidarity on the local

level. I saw how much work goes into this, but what the rewards could be.

For a small synagogue, GHC is impressive in its commitments to supporting our members, to providing basic food and supplies to the poor and to Israel programming. We also might have many opportunities to act together with our non-Jewish neighbors on issues of mutual concern and moral principles right here in our community. Putting our values into practice and strengthening our communities can also strengthen our own community and set an example for our children.

Cantor Janet Leuchter

Simchat Torah Luncheon Sponsors

Rabbi William and Patricia Berman

Lawrence and Lynne Ecker

Michael and Naomi Feinkind

Deanna Fried

Joan Fuhrman

Hal and Sheila Greenwald

Andrew and Deborah Jagoda

David and Dorothy Kamenshine

George Katz

Alan and Caryn Kravitz

Enid Lotstein

Zvi and Linda Markowitz

Norman and Vivian Milefsky

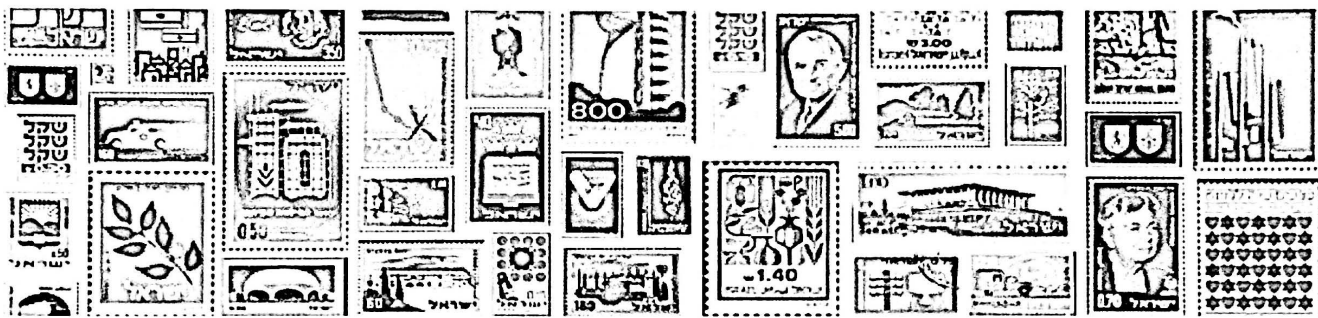
Naomi Rosenberg

Allyn Salpeter

Brian, Judy and Tyler Sepinski

Cecile Singer

Pam Stoller



ISRAEL BONDS^{AND} Greenburgh Hebrew Center INVITE THE COMMUNITY TO An Israel Bonds Breakfast with



Dr. Jonathan Schanzer

Senior Vice President of The Foundation
For Defense of Democracies

Israel's Warming Ties with Gulf Arab Countries

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 2019 • 11:15AM-1:15PM

Greenburgh Hebrew Center
515 Broadway • Dobbs Ferry, NY

AN ISRAEL BOND INVESTMENT IS ENCOURAGED
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FUNDRAISING

Comedy Night was a resounding success, with over 90 congregants, friends and family joining us for an evening of comedic relief, delicious desserts, wine and excellent company. A special thank you to all our Patrons, your continued generosity is truly appreciated. Fun was had by all! We relaxed and laughed, as we were entertained by three of NY's finest comedians. Laughter is still the best medicine!! Thank you ALL, for your support and assistance in helping to make this event a success.

The Fundraising Committee was instrumental in coordinating all the necessary pieces that allowed the evening to run smoothly. A special Thank You to Rabbi Jay Stein, Naomi and Michael Feinkind, Jeff and Leslie Liss, Shiran Pasternak, Andy Weiss, Robin Rosenberg, Nora and Jonathan Contract, Howard and Rhonda Baskin, Jay and Jo-Ann Lutzky, Mara-Lee Bierman, Sheila and Hal Greenwald, Nalini Addanki, Madaline Bruno, Pat Conlan and staff, Jacqui Walker, Suzanne Newman, Suzanne Neuburger, Deanna Fried, Alan and Caryn Kravitz, Marcie Schneider, Karen Ecker Greenbarg, Davin Milun, and each and every one who assisted in putting this event together. Everyone contributed to the fun and fundraising efforts of GHC. As they say, it takes a village, and this village enjoyed its hard work last night. I look forward to coordinating and celebrating future functions with all. Share your thoughts for events, we welcome new and innovative ideas.

Thank you to everyone who participated in the Kol Nidre Appeal this year. Your continued generosity and support are what helps keep GHC the vibrant and inclusive spiritual home that we all know and love. Kol Nidre Appeal donations are still being accepted.

Rebecca Lazar, VP Fundraising

MEMBERSHIP

Fall is upon us now. The temperatures are dropping, the sun is setting earlier, and the leaves are turning their beautiful shades of red and yellow. Just as squirrels are getting ready for the winter, the membership committee is now hard at work planning our fall activities.

On November 16th, we will be celebrating our Simcha Shabbat for birthdays in October, November, and December. So, if your birthday is during these months, please come celebrate with us!

On Sunday December 15th we will be having our annual Hanukkah celebration. Though Hanukkah begins on December 22nd this year, it is never too early for dreidels and gelt. Check out the flyer in this issue of the Hamvaser. Please join us and please RSVP!

It is also my pleasure to welcome the newest members of our GHC family: Pamela Koplik and her son Daniel of Dobbs Ferry and Leor Edo and his children Sigal and Ilan also of Dobbs Ferry.

Elyse Milun

VP Membership





The Greenburgh Hebrew Center

Presents



A Hanukkah Buffet Dinner

Music, Crafts, Games, Stories, Dreidels and more

Fun for Everyone!



Sunday, December 15th
5:00pm - 8:00pm

515 Broadway Dobbs Ferry, NY 10522 914.693.1260 www.g-h-c.org



Happy
Hanukkah

Name(s) of adult
attendee(s) _____

Name(s) and age(s) of children

Phone _____ Email _____

<u>Price per attendee</u>	<u>Number attending</u>	<u>Subtotal</u>	<u>Total</u>
Adults 18 and over \$25	_____	\$ _____	
Children 6-17 \$10	_____	\$ _____	
Children 0-5 Free	_____	FREE	
Family Maximum \$65	_____	\$65	
			\$ _____

Please make checks payable to GHC (note Chanukah Dinner on check)

RSVP by Sunday, December 8th to VPmember@g-h-c.org or mail this form



ADULT EDUCATION/ CULTURAL AFFAIRS

Those who braved the chilly weather enjoyed celebrating Sukkot with each other and especially enjoyed the **Sangria and Snacks in the Sukkah** organized by Meredith Rusoff. We may have a new GHC tradition!

Clear your Sunday morning calendar for **Judaism 101 with Rabbi Stein**. Three hours, one hour each Sunday, designed to explain Judaism. Everything you wanted to know but were afraid to ask! Join us on **Sunday mornings November 10, November 17 and November 24 from 10:00 to 11:00**. No RSVP required -- just come!

We were able to secure additional tickets for our private, docent guided tour of **Auschwitz: Not Long Ago. Not Far Away** at The Museum of Jewish Heritage on **Sunday, December 1 at 2:00**. We're fortunate to have an opportunity to see this acclaimed exhibit as it tours the world. Please complete the form on the flyer and send your payment to the office as soon as possible if you'd like to attend. We'll send a list of participants so you can arrange to carpool if you'd like. The museum advises arriving early and staying after the tour to explore the entire exhibit.

Book Club will meet on **Tuesday, November 26 at 10**. Check the weekly email for the title to be discussed. Future meetings are **December 24, January 28, February 25, March 24, April 28, May 27 and June 23**.

Shul Stitchers will continue regular sessions at GHC on **Thursdays, November 21, December 19, January 16, February 20, March 19, April 23, May 21 and June 18** from 1 - 2:30. If you're knitting at home please keep track of your hours so GHC will get credit for all the volunteering you do! We're still working out the logistics with The Mann Center so we can continue our **Shul Stitchers and Friends** which was so successful last year. When we have a date we'll notify last year's participants. If you'd like to join us please email vpadulteducation@g-h-c.org

Intermediate canasta and mah jongg players, did you contact Rhonda and Howard Baskin to let them know if you're interested in an **Empty Nesters and Wanna Be's game night**? emptynesters@g-h-c.org. The summer games were a lot of fun!

We hope to see you soon!

Lynne Ecker

BNEI MITZVAH

Bat Mitzvah
Sari Barnattan
Lech-Lecha

January 8, 2007, marked a very special day for Chad and Michele Lachs Barnattan. Their first child, a daughter they named Sari Cecelia, was born. Sari, now almost thirteen years of age, will become a Bat Mitzvah at GHC this November. This is especially meaningful because GHC has been the synagogue home of the Lachs family for three generations with Sari now being the fourth. Sari's mother, uncle, aunt and two of her cousins celebrated their B'nai Mitzvah at GHC.

Sari is a 7th grader who loves fashion, Instagram, shopping, and spending time with her friends. She is the elder of two children, with younger sister Dahlia (age 8) who loves being around her big sister and doing whatever she does. Sari's favorite sport is volleyball. She plays on a travel team and spends many of her weekends, when not with her friends, playing in tournaments all over the tri-state area.

Sari is an excellent student. She loves English Language Arts and Science and, as of now, would like to study physical therapy in college. Sari loves spending her summers at Camp Nockamixon where she truly lives "10 months for 2". She has spent many months, including those at sleepaway camp, preparing for her Bat Mitzvah. Sari's parents are very proud of her, not just because she is a good student who works hard, but also because she is well respected by her peers for treating others fairly and being kind and inclusive.

For her mitzvah project, Sari will be collecting new and gently used, as well as new pajamas and slippers to donate to The Sally and Anthony Mann Center, a residential treatment facility in Hawthorne, NY.

The Barnattan and Lachs families welcome the entire congregation to join them for a celebration of Sari's Bat Mitzvah at services and the kiddush luncheon to follow.



Jr. Congregation

September 7
October 19

November 16
December 14

January 11
February 8

March 14
April 11

May 9



Shabbat Mishpacha



Service!
for Young Families
with children 6 & under

September 7
October 19

November 16
December 14

January 11
February 8

March 14
April 11

May 9

"On alternate Saturdays there will be Tot Shabbat/Kiddish Kids"

SIMCHA SHABBAT



*Let's
Celebrate
Together*

November 16, 2019, 9:30 am
Celebrating October, November
December Birthdays

RSVP- VPmember@g-h-c.org





Join GHC
for a private, docent-led tour of
Auschwitz: Not Long Ago. Not Far Away
at the Museum of Jewish Heritage
36 Battery Place, NYC
Sunday, December 1, 2019
Tour begins promptly at 2:00 pm
Please arrive by 1:45 pm



Tickets are limited and **must** be purchased in advance.

TICKETS
Adults \$18
Seniors \$15
Teens/Veterans \$12
Carpooling is suggested

To reserve your tickets, please complete and return:

Name (s) _____

No. of tickets requested Adults _____, Seniors _____, Teens/Veterans _____

Email address _____

Cell Phone _____

Amount enclosed \$_____ Checks should be made payable to GHC and sent to the
GHC Office, attention Lynne Ecker.

STRETCH

Your Donation Dollars!!!



SUPPORT



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CARING COMMUNITY

It was 2012 and Mark Sloane and I were hammering out the details for the soon-to be Caring Community. I clearly remember our hope to further “change the culture of helping.” While the GHC community has always looked out for each other, we hoped to piggyback on the existing caring culture and make it as easy to give help as to accept it. To that end and staying mindful of our mission, we are gratified to know that our members are graciously offering help AND accepting help when needed.

Our volunteers are quick to offer assistance when asked. I am very pleased that so many of you are on our new volunteer list. You are our eyes and ears. Thank you for sharing your concerns about other members when allowed to. We are careful to respect personal privacy and will assist only when our help is wanted. Thank you for being the instruments for change at GHC!

Thank you for caring,

Sheila Greenwald on behalf of the Caring Community at GHC!



SISTERHOOD

Hi Everyone! We are so glad that Sisterhood is off to a great start this year!

The September Welcome Back Brunch was a huge success! Chavie Weisberger enthralled everyone with her story about her journey from an ultra-orthodox family to her current life as a secular, divorced, queer woman. The audience asked so many questions! Congrats to Lynne Ecker who won the 50-50 raffle and thank you Lynne for donating the raffle proceeds to Sisterhood. We are truly appreciative. Thank you to everyone who helped set up, clean up and shop! As of this writing we haven't yet met Sa-beeha Rehman, the October 27 speaker, but the RSVPs are coming in strong and the feedback about her book is excellent. Thank you Johnna Freud for so generously sponsoring the Yom Kippur “break fast” cake in loving memory of her parents, Gloria E. and John A. Freudenreich, Sr. The cake was delicious! Thank you to everyone who helped set up for the break fast!! And speaking of food - Join us at Ben's of Scarsdale, on Central Avenue, on **Sunday November 17** for dinner. A percentage of your bill (from dinner or take out) will go to GHC!! You must bring the flyer with you. The flyer can be found in this Hamvaser and will also be available at GHC. This is a win-win! You enjoy the food and company of other GHCers (or anyone else) at Ben's on Sunday, November 17 and GHC will benefit. We will be reserving big tables at Ben's for dinner at around 6 pm. So please join us – whether you are a party of 1 or 10 or more, you are welcome to sit with us. Please contact me if you want us to reserve a seat for you. If you can't make it for dinner, but can get to Ben's in the afternoon and get take-out, we will still benefit. And if you don't eat meat, please be advised that Ben's has non-meat alternatives!

The December Sisterhood event will take place on **Sunday, December 8** at 10am. Brunch and the activity will be Hanukkah-themed and fun. We are still working out details but please be advised there will be a nominal charge for the project supplies. We will be creating a fun and practical gift for yourself or someone else. Join us at 10am. The flyer will be distributed as soon as it is available. The **Hanukkah Mini-Mart** will also take place on Sunday morning, December 8. You will be able to purchase all of your Hanukkah needs in one place and GHC will benefit! We always stock a wide variety of candles, menorahs, dreidels and other Hanukkah gear. If you want something in particular for Hanukkah (like an electric menorah, lights to

JOIN US FOR

FAMILY SERVICE

SEVERAL EVENTS THROUGHOUT THE COMING YEAR

Friday, November 22

6:30 PM

Saturday, February 1

10:00 AM

Friday, March 27

6:30 PM



For more information information or to RSVP,
visit <http://g-h-c.org/family> or
email cantor@g-h-c.org



GREENBURGH HEBREW CENTER
515 Broadway
Dobbs Ferry, NY 10522
(914) 694-4260
<http://g-h-c.org>

SISTERHOOD con't

hang or a drip plate), please let me know ASAP!! If you can help with the Mini-Mart, please contact me.

If you haven't paid your Sisterhood dues yet (or you aren't sure) please let us know. We need your support to continue the work that we do. And this is a great opportunity to thank our amazing treasurer, Pam Stoller, who keeps us financially sound and more! In fact, we just authorized the Israeli Bonds office to roll over our current bond and we thank Pam for her financial guidance in recommending the terms. And thank you to Allyn Salpeter, financial secretary.

We have more thank you's: Thank you Nettie and Mel Goldstein for another successful High Holiday Greetings card. Thank you Suzanne Newman for overseeing a super successful honey sale.

Do you play Mah Jongg? If so, it is time to order your card for 2020-21! For each card ordered through GHC Sisterhood, GHC will benefit. We are confirming the prices, but we believe the costs are the same as last year, \$8 for a regular card and \$9 for a larger type card. Please order cards for yourself and the others in your game. Thank you Iris Sherman for coordinating the card sale. The online form and more information is found at www.g-h-c.org/mahjonggcards or email Iris at: mahjonggcard@g-h-c.org.

Torah Fund is our national "charity". Torah Fund provides financial support to all of the Conservative movement's rabbinical, cantorial and educational institutions, such as the Jewish Theological Seminary in NYC and the Ziegler School in LA. Donors at various levels, over \$180, receive really nice pins. This year's pin has a heart and contains the word "chesed", which means kindness in Hebrew. The pin is shown below. We are currently accepting donations for Torah Fund and hope that you can contribute at any level. We also sell nice greeting cards that support Torah Fund. The selection includes Sympathy, Mazel Tov, Get Well and other types of cards. There are a variety of ways to support Torah Fund and thereby supporting the future of Conservative clergy and educators.



Even though the GHC Women's Seder is 4 ½ months away, we have started planning for this major event! Last year's

Women's Seder was a huge success. Afterwards, so many participants, and more, asked to do it again! So we are! But your help and input are vital. Please volunteer! If you would like to work on the Hagaddah, food or decorating, please let us know. We anticipate using most of the same Hagaddah as last year, and making a few improvements.

I hope that I covered everything that will happen in November and December 2019. I wish you all a delicious and bountiful Thanksgiving, and enjoy the time with friends and family. And Happy Hanukkah too!!

Robin Rosenberg
Sisterhood@g-h-c.org

GREEN TEAM

Kids These Days! Barney Wolff

I've said it. If you're old enough, you've probably said it. But I watched, at close range, kids pull off the Climate Strike. I have to say that both the organizers and the participants did a magnificent job. The kids see the adults as unable or unwilling to protect them from obvious and imminent grave danger. They are frightened and very angry, with good reason. Some of the signs they carried used words that politicians only use when they think they're not being recorded. But there was no violence, no vandalism, no harassment of old folks like my wife and me. Relations with the police were cheerful and friendly on both sides. Strikingly, that seemed to be the pattern all around the world.

Some of my favorite signs: "Think or swim." "Science not silence." "You'll die of old age, I'll die of climate change." "There is no Planet B." "I've never lived a year that wasn't one of the hottest on record." I'd like to expand on that last one. The years 2001-2018 were 18 of the 19 warmest ever, globally, and 2019 is on track to make it 19 of 20. If you were born after 1976 you have never experienced a year as cool as the 20th century average. People who died before 2005 never experienced a year as warm as the 21st century average. The old folks who claimed they had to walk five miles to school through the snow, uphill both ways, were not exaggerating by much.

The Climate Strike owes its existence to a remarkable human being, Greta Thunberg, who at 16 has shown strength of character, poise and charisma that would be extraordinary in a person of any age. Her ability to face down

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JOIN AIPAC AT GHC

The American Israel Public Affairs Committee (AIPAC) is a bipartisan organization of U.S. citizens committed solely to strengthening, protecting and promoting the U.S.-Israel relationship in ways that enhance the security of the United States and Israel.

DECEMBER 14, 2019

9:30 am Shabbat Service

12:00 Kiddush Lunch

GREEN TEAM Con't

hostile congressional questioning is amazing, and her leadership has resulted in a worldwide demonstration by an estimated 4 million people. Greta Thunberg has a very simple message for the adult world: "The eyes of all future generations are upon you. If you choose to fail us, I say we will never forgive you!" If you wish to understand how one teenager can spark a worldwide movement, listen to her five minute UN speech¹, or this one² to the NYC Climate Strike crowd. She's not alone; we've seen 13-year-olds addressing a crowd of tens of thousands. It's beyond question; because the adults have dithered for decades, the kids are taking charge of rescuing their own future. Let's hope they do a better job than we did - they can hardly do worse.

There is precedent. Malala Yousafzai won the Nobel Peace Prize at 17 for her activism for female education in Pakistan. She blogged for the BBC starting at 11 or 12, and getting shot in the head did not deter her. From Anne Frank: "The young are not afraid of telling the truth." Further back, Joan of Arc comes to mind. (Do I sense a pattern here?) I have an oral history from my grandmother recounting how she met my grandfather. In 1893 they were both 15, attending a political meeting without adult accompaniment, having started working full time at 12.

If we baby our children they will act like babies. But if we listen to them, they might save the world.

¹ <https://www.databus.com/Greta-UN>

² <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tALIM6uUWrc>



MISHPACHA SHABBAT

On October 19th children, toddlers and their grownups gathered to pray, sing, laugh, play games and make edible sukkot! Yes, we ate the sukkah! We used graham crackers for the walls, pretzels and parsley for the branches and "skach", and Fruity Trix and Cheerios for decorations. Everyone had fun being creative!

The next Mishpacha Shabbat is November 16th where we will unwrap the torah to learn about its parts and then, make an **edible torah**. Mishpacha is Hebrew for Family. So kids who are toddlers to age 6, we hope you will bring your parents and grandparents to come join in the fun!!!! For more information contact execvp@g-h-c.org.



THE SOCIAL ACTION/TIKKUN OLAM COMMITTEE

THANKS THE FOLLOWING IN-
DIVIDUALS FOR PARTICIPAT-
ING IN

The October MIDNIGHT RUN

Robin Rosenberg and
Bruce Segal

Steven and Nathan
Hemmerdinger

Leslie and Jeff Liss

Willys Kals

Judy Fried Siegel

Sheila and Hal Greenwald

Hope Neuburger

Meredith and Molly Rusoff

Jo-Ann and Jay Lutzky

Ilana, Hilary, Ella and Clara
Finkelstein

Caryn and Alan Kravitz

Joseph Goldstein

Alan Shapiro

Thanksgiving

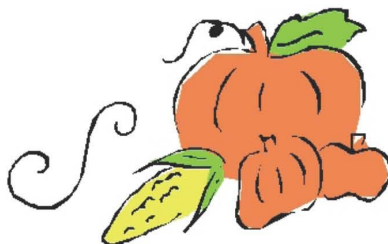
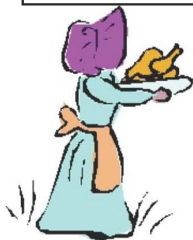


15th Annual Turkey Drop

Greenburgh Hebrew Center's
Social Action Tikun Olam Committee (SATO)
and the Religious School PTA
are asking the GHC community to participate in
our annual Turkey Drop to benefit families in
need in the Yonkers Public School District.

On **Sunday November 24th**,
between 10 am and 12 noon
please "drop" your FROZEN turkeys, yams,
cranberry sauce, sweet potatoes, stuffing, salad
bags, vegetables and other Thanksgiving staples
into the designated bins in the GHC parking lot.

Everyday non-perishable foods,
such as cereal, peanut butter, pasta, etc.
would be appreciated as well.



KOL NIDRE APPEAL SPEECH

HIGHLIGHTS OF KOL NIDRE SPEECH DELIVERED BY DAVID LUFTIG....

I know the Kol Nidre appeal is a tradition in many synagogues. A time to reflect on your thoughts about your synagogue, a time to think about how religion is impacting you and your family of late, a time to think about the last year, a time to think about the year to come, a time to think about breaking the fast tomorrow, and for some of you, a time to take a nap.

For those of you that don't know me - my name is David Luftig and I am co-president of the Men's Club, recently a member on the nominating committee, and a member of the Board of Trustees. My wife Stephanie, has been the President of the Nursery school PTA, member of the Religious School board, on the board nominating committee, a trustee / board member for over 7 years, and has been the VP of Education for the last 4+ years. We have two children - Justin (12) and Samara (8).

For Stephanie, Justin and me this is the start of our 11th year belonging to GHC. We joined when Justin entered the 2s and have been here ever since. 2 years after we joined we celebrated the birth and baby naming of Samara in this very room - and she too has been here since starting in the ECC in the 2s - she actually started with a program while she was 1. Now we are gearing up for Justin's Bar Mitzvah in a little over a year. Time definitely goes by quickly.

Stephanie immersed herself in GHC from day 1. Initially spending her time and effort on the nursery school PTA. I, on the other hand, would be here for high holidays, help out from time-to-time, but in all honesty - show up when I had to - not because I wanted to.

So what changed? What turned me from a person who would only enter this building when I had to - or really felt obligated to - to someone who enjoys coming here, seeing the people, and helping our community?

In no particular order:

1. The wife. Sitting at home talking to Stephanie after board meetings, and hearing what she was doing and needed to do specifically for the school. As I listened, from time-to-time I would provide feedback, what I would do, ideas, etc. - I started to realize I cared about what she cared about and what was happening.
2. Our friends. There was a pretty large group of us - members and those that had not decided where they wanted to join yet - that were hoping to make a decision together. After all, this is about community, friendships, and friends that become the family you choose. Stephanie and I hosted a night for our friends to meet Rabbi Stein at our house shortly after he started. I still get friends, who are now members, telling me how important and impactful that night was. Of course being with friends, but equally as important - they could sense Rabbi Stein was real. It was that night, combined with other data points of course, that led to a number of the younger families joining, re-

maining, and helping to build the future of GHC.

3. The Blind Date. My favorite of all stories. Stephanie was on the board and friendly with this other board member. For purposes of anonymity, we'll call this other member Lynne. Lynne's daughter and family had just moved in to town and she wanted to set us up on a family blind date with them. So we hosted this family for one of the Friday night share Shabbat dinners. We all hit it off right away. Fast forward to today - Todd, Karen, Josh and Justin, along with Lynne and my good buddy Larry, have become such close friends of ours - the family you choose - and without GHC, Lynne and Stephanie working together on the share Shabbat committee, and that Shabbat night, who knows if we would be as friendly with these amazing people.
4. The Club. The Men's Club. I organized an event in the spring of 2018 to see if we could get some of the newer dads/men more involved in the Men's Club. I like to think the event was a success - and people really had a fun time. We had people at that event that have been with the congregation for a very long time - and others that joined shortly after and some joined as recently as this year. As its newest President, it is hard work coordinating all of the events, and I am still learning about some of the responsibilities, but it really has been great to see how the Men's Club has transformed over the last couple of years.

Anyway, why is it important for me to tell you about all of this?

I tell you this story of my transformation, because as a result of it, I have found a home away from home, a "safe-haven" of sorts. I have found a new set of friends, a greater sense of what religion means to me, and most importantly I feel like I am doing something good to help others find their versions of the same.

We, here at GHC, have worked very hard to get ourselves financially to a position that I would hesitate to call healthy - but that is really only from an operating perspective. It has taken the very hard work of a few to make this happen. The amount of time I put in does not even compare to what I see others do. Again, all to aid in the benefits for us all. We are at a time - while operating at a healthier clip - where we can start to offer so much more as a congregation. Just some of the ideas...

>How do we enhance our security? This is no longer optional - it is a necessity. We have started - but just that - started.

>How do we enhance the Bar/Bat Mitzvah or other Simcha experiences? We have started with streaming video, and other amenities. But there is so much more we can do to create and preserve the memories of these amazing times.

>How do we enhance the classroom experience for our ECC and Religious School students? We are at a time with an amazing leader in Amy, have a solid staff of teachers - but now we need more resources to enhance the experience for the children so they look forward to coming to religious school and continue on after their B'nai Mitzvahs.

>How do we enhance the adult education programs? We have a program - but how many of you sit here on the high holidays barely following along, or because you feel you have to. Wouldn't it be great if we had new innovative education opportunities? Or just other ways to feel more engaged here more often?

Con't page 21

Join the Greenburgh Hebrew Center's

TRIP TO ISRAEL

August 2020

Highlights:

- 🕒 Tree planting
- 🕒 Palmach Museum
- 🕒 Bullet Factory - Machon Ayalon
- 🕒 Kabbalt Shabbat at the Tel Aviv Port
- 🕒 Caesarea
- 🕒 Druze Village
- 🕒 Kfar Kedem Ancient Village
- 🕒 Rafting down the Jordan River
- 🕒 Meet a Kabbalist in the Mystical city of Tsfat
- 🕒 Explore the Golan Heights
- 🕒 Jeep Ride
- 🕒 Chocolate Workshop
- 🕒 Archaeological Dig
- 🕒 Scavenger Hunt in the Old City of Jerusalem
- 🕒 The Western Wall
- 🕒 Caliber 3 anti-terror training
- 🕒 Culinary Tour
- 🕒 Masada
- 🕒 Dead Sea
- 🕒 Yad Vashem Holocaust Memorial Museum
- 🕒 Final Banquet Dinner

\$4,181
Per person, based on
double occupancy
with a minimum of 25
paying participants

Details:

- 🕒 Meet & Greet at Ben Gurion Airport upon arrival
- 🕒 Dan Hotel, Tel Aviv
- 🕒 Hagoshrim Hotel, Golan Heights
- 🕒 Inbal Hotel, Jerusalem
- 🕒 Full buffet breakfast every day at hotel
- 🕒 Porterage in all hotels
- 🕒 11 days with licensed English speaking tour-guide
- 🕒 Transportation in luxury bus for 9 days
- 🕒 6 Dinners, 5 Lunches
- 🕒 Bar and Bat Mitzvah Celebration at Robinson's Arch
- 🕒 Entrance fee into all sites per itinerary
- 🕒 Bottles water daily on the bus
- 🕒 Full backing Israel Maven support staff to ensure smooth running of the trip



For more information contact: Rabbi Jay Stein - rabbijaystein@gmail.com

KOL NIDRE APPEAL SPEECH con't

So what am I asking you to do? I will keep this part simple and straightforward.

100% Participation!

Each of you - Just give a little of your time and a MEANINGFUL donation. To those of you that already give your time and donations – PLEASE give a little more THIS YEAR. A little time, or a little more time – and a GENEROUS DONATION from all of us can make a huge difference. IF YOU HAVE ALREADY MADE A PLEDGE THIS YEAR, THANK YOU, AND IT'S NOT TOO LATE TO ADD TO IT!

As I said before, we are at an amazing inflection point here at GHC. A chance to go from operating “okay” – to a place of modernizing, innovating, and at the end of the day making the experience for all members of our community that much better.

Shana Tova to you all – and may you all have easy and meaningful fasts. Thank you.

DONATIONS

The congregation of GHC gratefully thanks all donors making contributions to the Kol Nidre Appeal and all other GHC funds.

SEPTEMBER 14—OCTOBER 23

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In Honor of Leslie and Jeff Liss

Barbara and Lewis Harris

In Memory of Sandy Jaffe, brother of Fran Stone

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In Memory of Katalin Fisch, mother of Annette Fisch

Nita and Alvin Last

In Memory of Murray Sande

George Katz

In Memory of Helen Ashkenazy, mother of Tina Cornell

In Memory of Harry Ripps

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Arlene and Jesse Krawitz

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In Memory of Pearl and Charles Putter

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In Loving Memory of father, Ludwig Hofmann

Robin Rosenberg and Bruce Segall

In Memory of Martin Albaum, brother of Helen Sunshine

In Memory of Katalin Fisch, mother of Annette Fisch

Allyn Salpeter

In Memory of Marvin Podnos, father of Elyse Milun

In Memory of Shirley Sternberg, mother of Richard Sternberg

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In Memory of Reva Jaffe
In Memory of Pearl Morton

Susan and Rohland Thompson

In Memory of Melvin Goetz, beloved father and grandfather

Evan and Brenda Weiner

Ann and Howard Zauberman

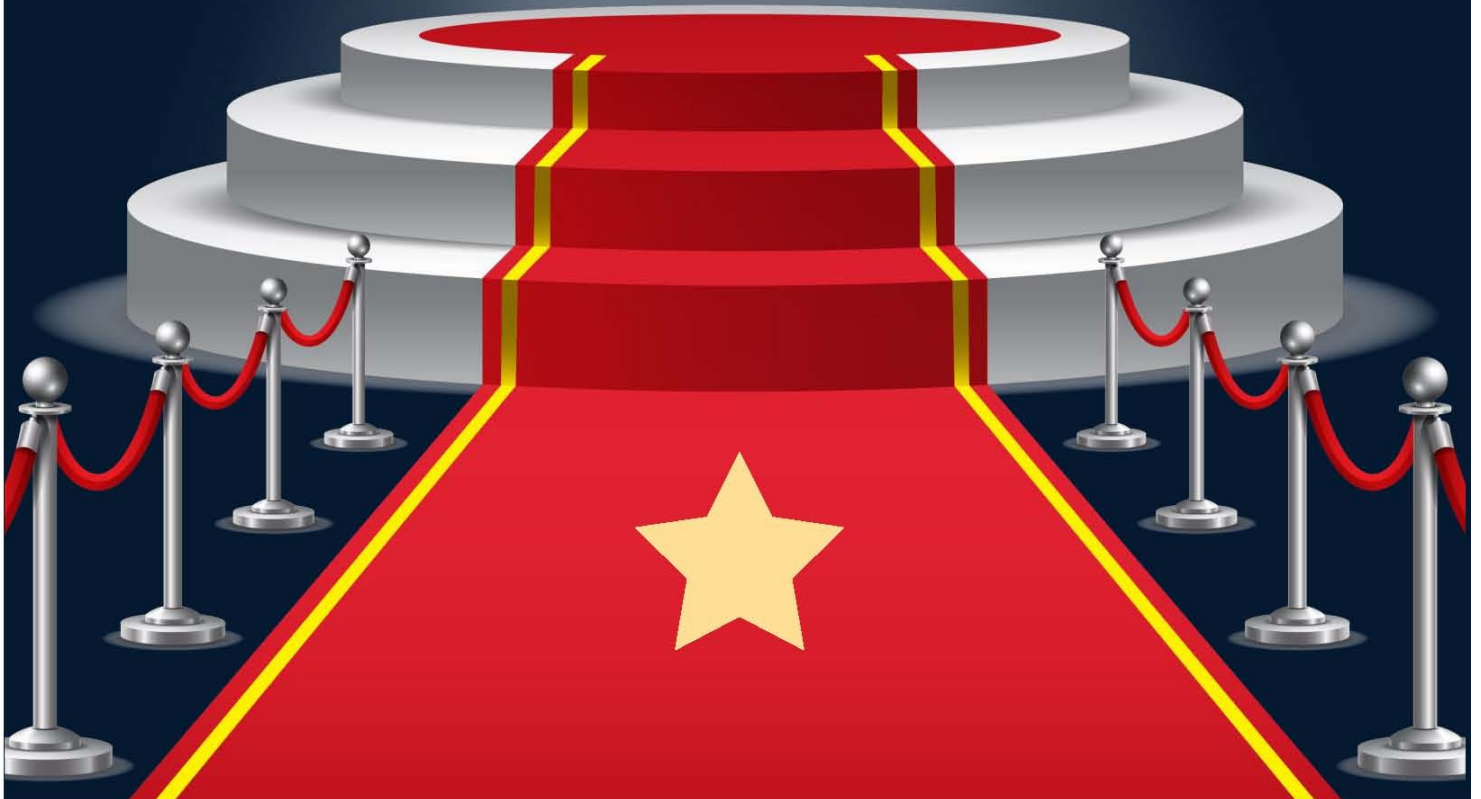
RUSSIAN LANGUAGE

PJLIBRARY Poetic Play

November 10 ★ 4:00-5:30pm ★ GHC 

Russian-speaking families are invited to attend a delightful Russian language play based on poems of Russian-Israeli children's book author, Leonid Soroka. His latest compilation of poems, Монетки на Ветке, will come to life through movement, song, and theater. Ideal for children ages 2+, but all are welcome!

This event is made possible in collaboration with Greenburgh Hebrew Center, with the generous support of PJ Library of the Harold Grinspoon Foundation in partnership with Genesis Philanthropy Group.



DONATIONS Con't

Security Fund

Joan Fuhrman

In Memory of her beloved father, Sol Abramson

In Memory of Martin Albaum, brother of Helen
Sunshine

Social Action Fund

Robin Rosenberg and Bruce Segall

In Honor of Ella Finkelstein's Bat Mitzvah

In Honor of the amazing hard work Naomi
Feinkind has put into Midnight Run

Yahrzeit and Yizkor Fund

Nanette and Ludwig Fischel

In Memory of Sophie Regensburger, beloved
mother of Nanette

In Memory of Jacob Regensburger, beloved father
of Nanette

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In Memory of Sam Millstein, father of Neil

Hope Neuburger

In Memory of Tony Neuburger

Suzy and Steve Neuburger

In Memory of Tony Neuburger

Kiddush Fund

William Berman

Caryn and Alan Kravitz

In Memory of Reuben Rizinsky

Suzy and Steve Neuburger

Deep Sympathy & condolences to Neustadt family
upon the passing of our former president, Paul Neus-
tadt

Condolences to Elyse Milun upon the passing of her
beloved father, Marvin Podnos

Robin Rosenberg and Bruce Segall

In Memory of Gloria E. Freudenreich, mother of
Johnna Freud

Michele Weintraub

In Memory of her beloved mother, Selma Rabinowitz

Caring Community/ Hesed Fund

Natalie and Martin Frankel

In Memory of Morris Spielman

Sheila and Hal Greenwald

In Memory of Joel Goldner

Roberta Horowitz

Thank you to the Caring Community Committee

Suzy and Steve Neuburger

Congratulations to Okun family upon the bar mitz-
vah of Nathan

A speedy recovery to longtime member Al Gold-
stein

Amy and Michael Taub

In Memory of Ray Taub

Membership Retention

Naomi Rosenberg

In Memory of Arthur Gold

Cantor's Discretionary Fund

Joan and Michael Abelson

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In Honor of Joyce and Phil Sassoon, wishing you
well in your new home

Rabbi Lubliner Educational Fund

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In Honor of Stephanie, David, Justin and Samara
Luftig

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In Memory of Sandy Jaffe, brother of Fran Stone

Fran and Stan Stone

In Memory of Stuart Kessler

Bernice Strauss—Donation

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In Memory of Sandy Jaffe, brother of Fran Stone

In Memory of her beloved father, Leon Napchen

In Memory of her beloved father-in-law, Solomon Weinfeld

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In memory of Evelyn Eichen

Rusoff Educational Fund

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In Memory of Jean Bierman, mother of Fred

Prayer Book Fund

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In Memory of Sandy Jaffe, brother of Fran Stone

Israel Team

Suzy and Steve Neuburger

Condolences to Dolores and Abe Sanders upon the death of their granddaughter, Natasha



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GHC NEWS

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Service Schedule

Sunday morning, 9:30 a.m.

Mon. & Thurs. Morning, 6:45 a.m.

Tues., Wed. Fri. morning, 7:00 a.m.

Weekday Rosh Hodesh & Holiday Minyan,
6:30am

Candle Lighting Times

See calendar

Shabbat Services

Friday evening, 6:30 p.m.

Saturday Study Session 9:00 a.m.

Saturday morning service, 9:30 a.m.

Saturday Junior Congregation, 10:30 a.m.

CONDOLENCES

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

Fran Stone on the passing of her beloved brother Sandy Jaffee

Annette Fisch on the passing of her beloved mother Katalin Fisch

Helen Sunshine on the passing of her beloved brother Martin Albaum

May their memory always be a blessing.

DO WE KNOW HOW TO REACH YOU?

Have you changed your email address, cell phone number, home phone number, or home address? If so, please let Madaline Bruno in the GHC office know so we can update our records.

Call us at (914) 693-4260

or email

office@g-h-c.org

Two Trees of Life

Our synagogue is proud to possess the two Atzei Chaim, our "Trees of Life". These original sculptures by the noted synagogue artist, Sanford Werfel, are on permanent display in the GHC lobby and atrium. The branches of the trees bear leaves which are inscribed to highlight and commemorate joyous events and "Precious Moments" such as special birthdays, weddings, births, anniversaries, bar and bat mitzvahs, graduations or simply to honor parents and friends. Share your happy occasions by inscribing your family's simchas on our Trees of Life. Please indicate the tree you wish us to place your leaf and personalize the leaf with your name, the event and wording of your choice: Leaf dedication costs are:

Leaf: \$180 each
 Dove: \$750 each (two remaining doves)
 Rocks: \$1200 each (10 remaining rocks)

If you need more information please contact Steve Neuburger 914-693-6277 or Bruce Segall 914-693-6109 or Bruce-Segall@gmail.com or the GHC office..

TREES OF LIFE ORDER FORM

OCCASION _____ DATE OF OCCASION _____

NAME OF HONOREE _____

(Please spell name exactly as you wish it to be engraved)

CONTRIBUTED BY _____ PHONE _____

ADDRESS _____

CHECK ENCLOSED FOR \$ _____ PAYABLE TO GREENBURGH HEBREW CENTER

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For your convenience, please use this form to make your donations. send to:
Greenburgh Hebrew Center, 515 Broadway, Dobbs Ferry, NY 10522

This donation is being made by _____

Address _____

City / State / Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

I wish to donate to the fund indicated.

Attached is my check in the amount of \$ _____

In Honor of _____

In Memory of _____

Other _____

Please send an acknowledgment to :

Name _____

Address _____

City / State / Zip _____

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Date received _____

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

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Julia B. Chazen Camp Fund \$ _____

Kiddush Fund \$ _____

Prayer Book Fund \$ _____

Rabbi's Discretionary \$ _____

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Religious School \$ _____

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Rockowitz Youth Fund \$ _____

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Social Action Fund \$ _____

Torah Fund \$ _____

Yahrzeit & Yiskor Fund \$ _____

Youth Programs Fund \$ _____

Hamvaser – newsletter
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