

### **Congregation Sons of Israel**

### THE MYERS FAMILY CAMPUS

CONTINUING THE VISION — BUILDING OUR FUTURE
APRIL 2023

10 Nisan - 9 Iyar 5783

SAVE THE DATE Sunday, 5/21 at 4:30pm

CSI's Annual Event: Page 7



Passover Services & Seder Schedule: Page 2

CSI Passover Guide: Page 25

Project Ezra - Donate through Monday, 4/17: Page 9

Yom HaShoah - Join us for our annual service and program on Monday, 4/17: Page 2

Yom Ha'Atzmaut Concert with Cantor Shiovitz & Guests on Sunday, 4/23: Page 5

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#### **Congregation Sons of Israel**

1666 Pleasantville Road

#### **OUR MISSION STATEMENT**

(adopted 1999, revised 2007): Congregation Sons of Israel is an egalitarian, Conservative synagogue dedicated to imparting Jewish values and traditions from generation to generation in a welcoming participatory environment. We are a caring community committed to lifelong Jewish learning, the observance of mitzvot, meaningful prayer and charitable deeds. We promote spiritual, cultural and social connections within our community, to the State of Israel, and to Jews worldwide.

Rabbi Steven C. Kane
Rabbi@csibriarcliff.org
Cantor Jeffrey Shiovitz
jshiovitz@gmail.com
Nursery School Director:
Naomi Elyachar
naomi.elyachar@csibriarcliff.org
Interim Religious School
Director: Orit Daly
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Synagogue Director:
Ellen Green Johnson
ellen@csibriarcliff.org

#### **OFFICERS:**

Mark J. Rosenberg, President
President@csibriarcliff.org
Shane Dolch, VP
Suzanne Haber, VP
Deborah Hertz, VP
Henrik Sukonnik, VP
Jack Zinn, Treasurer
Treasurer@csibriarcliff.org
Marc Auslander Secretary

Marc Auslander, Secretary Clare Rosen, IPP



### **PASSOVER SERVICES**

- Wednesday, 4/5, 8am, Service for the Fast of the Firstborn\*
- Wednesday, 4/5, 9am, Sale of Chametz deadline
- Wednesday evening, First Seder
- Thursday, 4/6, 9:10am, First Day Pesach Service
- Thursday evening, Second Seder
- Friday, 4/7, 9:10am, Second Day *Pesach* Service
- Friday, 4/7, 6:30pm, Shabbat of Pesach Evening Service
- Saturday, 4/8, 9:10am, Shabbat of Pesach Morning Service
- Tuesday, 4/11, 6:30pm, Seventh Day Pesach Evening Service
- Wednesday, 4/12, 9:10am, Seventh Day Pesach Service
- Wednesday, 4/12, 6:30pm, Eighth Day *Pesach* Evening Service
- Thursday, 4/13, 9:10am, Eighth Day Pesach Service, *Yizkor* recited

All services will be held in the Sanctuary and available on our Live Stream.

\*Service for the Fast of the Firstborn will also be available on Zoom.

YOM HASHOAH GUEST SPEAKER Monday, 4/17 at 7:00pm

We Welcome Alfred Schoenfeld In Person and on Live Stream



Fred will speak about his experience as a child surviving the war in Czechoslovakia by hiding in his father's storehouse, a farmhouse, and finally in the mountains with a mix of Russian, Polish and Jewish partisans.

RULE OF THUMB: The CSI staff welcomes drop-ins... It always brightens our days!

That said, we suggest calling the office before coming over just to be sure

we are here to help you. Thanks!

## FROM THE RABBI Steven C. Kane



If you open up any Passover *Haggadah*, no matter how traditional or creative, you will always find The Four Questions. I have questions about the Four Questions! Where did this custom come from, and are there truly only four questions, or are there other ways to understand them?

The idea of children asking and being taught about *Pesach* is found in the Torah. In Exodus 12:26 the Torah states, "And when your children ask you, 'What is the meaning of this service,? you shall shall say 'It is a Passover sacrifice to *Adonai*, because God passed over the houses of the Israelites in Egypt when God smote the Egyptians but saved our households." So we learn from this that the tradition of children asking questions about the meaning of *Pesach* goes back to our most ancient texts. However, that is only one question, not four, as it is not even one of the four in The Four Questions! What then is the source of the questions in our *Haggadot*?

For that we have to look to the Mishnah, the first section of the Talmud. In the tractate about Pesach we learn the following: "The second cup of wine is poured, and the child asks his father (and if the child is too young, the father teaches them) "Why is this night different from all other nights?" (Mishnah *Pesachim* 10:4). It then goes on to list the four questions pretty much as we have them today. There are, however, three differences. The first concerns the question of dipping. In the Mishnah it asks, "Why do we dip twice tonight, when on all other nights we dip ONCE." That guestion in our *Haggadot* is the third question, but in our *Haggadot* it becomes the fourth one. The biggest difference is the last question (third in the Mishnah), which states,

"On all other nights we eat meat roasted, stewed or cooked, but on this night we only eat roasted meat."

We can understand why that last question in the Mishnah was changed, because the question of eating only roasted meat was relevant up until the destruction of the Temple (in 70 C.E.), when everyone ate the roasted lamb sacrifice that night. However, once sacrifices ceased, we no longer only ate roasted lamb at the Seder, and so the question was no longer relevant. So, another question was substituted, the one about eating while reclining.

However, if you look carefully at The Four Questions, other questions arise. What is it about pouring the SECOND cup of wine that prompts the child to ask the questions; why not after pouring the first cup? Are there truly four questions, or is it perhaps only one question, "Why is this night different from all other nights,?" with four answers, "On all other nights we eat chametz or matzah...".? Why when looking for a substitute for the roasted meat question, was one on reclining chosen, and why did it move from question three to question four? Finally, why did the question on dipping originally say "on all other nights we dip ONCE, but on tonight we dip twice," but today we say "on all other nights we do NOT dip even once?"

If you count carefully, you will see that the traditional Four Questions have now spawned four more questions! While I do have responses for each (if you want my answers, please e-mail me at <a href="mailto:rabbi@csibriarcliff.org">rabbi@csibriarcliff.org</a>), what is most important is that, as we first learned in the Torah, there is no better time than *Pesach* to teach children about who we are as a people, our history and what that means to us today.

CONTINUED....

## FROM THE RABBI -continued-

That is what asking questions is all about. Perhaps that is why so many of us have such fond memories of our Seders when we were children, when we asked the questions and our beloved relatives responded to them. Indeed there is perhaps one other important question to ask, "What questions will the children at your Seder ask, and how will you respond to them?" Throughout our history, those questions are etched in our memory and have come to shape who we are as Jews.

Judy, Arielle, Tamar, Daniel, Elan, Leora and I wish everyone a *chag kasher v'sameach*, a beautiful, happy and question filled *Pesach!* 

L'hitraot,

Rabbi@csibriarcliff.org

Ko C. Kan





After 7 years, Rabbi Kane's assistant, Dina Katz, has retired. She worked her last day at CSI on March 30th. Dina will be sorely missed by all with whom she came in contact.

Her unique blend of kindness, humor, intelligence and skill made every day with her a joy. We wish her nothing but the best in this new phase of her life, which includes being grandmother to her first grandchild, Ezra.

# CANTORIAL NOTES Hazzan Jeffrey Shiovitz



One of the highlights of the Passover *Seder* is the singing of *Dayeinu*. From a very young age, children learn the words and the tune and delight in leading the song. Perhaps some of our most loving memories of Passovers past are the family singing *Dayeinu* together.

But, did you ever stop to read the words in English? The beginning works well, but five or six lines in, we begin to wonder. "If He had brought us out of Egypt but not split the sea for us, it would have been enough." Really? Surely we would have ended up dead. "Had He split the sea but not taken us through it on dry land, it would have been enough." I'm not so sure about that. "Had He taken us through it on dry land but not drowned our oppressors, it would have been enough." What? "Had He drowned our oppressors but not provided for us in the desert, it would have been enough." So we would die in the desert instead of at sea? Is that really enough?

Do you see the problem? It would not have been enough. Perhaps it would be better if, after lines such as these, the Hebrew word *Dayeinu* would be intoned not as a statement but as if it were a question. "Would it have been enough?" One may reasonably ask what the rabbis had in mind when writing this and including it in the *Seder*.

The rabbis want to teach us something. Often, people judge the present not for itself, but by its future outcome. The present will be judged favorably only if it leads to something positive. Not

true, say the rabbis in *Dayeinu*. See the beauty and wonder of the moment—at the moment. If God had delivered us from Egypt but not split the sea then, yes, we would have died, but we would have died free, having experienced an amazing miracle. And who knew at the moment, when we were leaving Egypt, if everything would turn out well? We never know what the next moment will bring. But if we wait for the future to judge the present, then we will always miss out on the wonders and miracles of the moment. The rabbis are teaching us to be able to say *Dayeinu* for the blessing of the present regardless of what the future will bring.

The truth is that each hour in life brings a *Dayeinu*. For some, it is a declaration of appreciation for when we can say, "*Dayeinu*, This would have been enough!" For others, it is a question of doubt: "*Dayeinu*, is this enough?" The lesson of the *Haggadah* reminds us that happiness lies in learning to say *Dayeinu* as a statement and not as a question. In these times, it is a lesson well learned.

Robyn, Rachel and Yonah, David and Gina, Sarah and Drew, Talia, Miriam, Jamie, Maya and I wish you a *Zissen Pesach*, a happy and healthy Passover.

Ishiovitz@gmail.com

Jshiovitz@gmail.com



Join us for our *Yom Ha'atzmaut* Concert
Sunday, April 23rd, at 4pm
Featuring Cantor Shiovitz,
Amichai Margolis & Brian Gelfand!
REGISTER HERE





# FROM THE PRESIDENT Mark J. Rosenberg



This year, *Yom HaShoah* (Holocaust Remembrance Day) falls on April 17-18. While we remember the Six Million, we should also take time to remember the Righteous Among the Nations, the gentiles who risked their lives and, in the case of diplomats, their careers, to save Jews in Nazi-occupied countries.

I have long been intrigued by the Righteous. Why were they willing to take such risks to, for the most part, help strangers? The relatively few studies on the subject have shown that most were driven by a moral code that gave them a strong sense of what was right and just. Many were driven by religious beliefs, ideology, ethics or compassion and often a combination of these. Others came from professions that trained them to take care of those in need, such as medicine and social work. And for some, the act of rescuing Jews was done in the broader context of anti-Nazi activities. Cutting across these groups are certain commonalities. Most were raised in nurturing and loving homes where there was an acceptance of people who are different. And when, as children, the Righteous were disciplined, it was done in a loving and rational way.

I recently read *In the Garden of the Righteous*, by Richard Hurowitz. The book profiles a number of the Righteous: Greek, French and Italian clergy, the winner of the 1938 Tour de France, the people of Denmark, Princess Alice (the mother of the late Prince Philip) and others.

The profile that struck me the most was the one about ten British POW's imprisoned in a German work camp in the waning days of World War II. One day, Stan Wells, one of the POW's, was on a work detail outside of the camp and literally stumbled upon Sara Matuson, an emaciated sixteen-year-old Jewish girl who had escaped a death march from a concentration camp. Stan immediately decided to do something, giving Sara some food and hiding her in the barn where he worked. Years later, Stan was asked why he did that. He recounted that he saw someone who needed help, so he helped. It was that simple.

That night, the ten POWs unanimously decided to help Sara, ignoring the great risk to themselves by doing so. Over the following weeks, they snuck her into their camp where they hid her, fed her, ensured that she was warm, nursed her back to health and provided companionship when it was safe to do so.

That all came to an end when the POWs learned that their camp was to be evacuated due to the advancing Soviet forces. Because taking Sara with them was too dangerous, the POWs arranged for a villager to keep Sara hidden once they left. After many harrowing turns, Sara and all of the POWs survived the final days of the war. The POWs made it home to the UK, and in 1947, Sara immigrated to the US.

In 1964, after nearly two decades of searching for the POWs, Sara, through the assistance of the British War Department, was able to contact one of them. This led to years of letter writing between Sara and her rescuers and a reunion with all of them in 1972. None of the ten felt that they did anything special, nor did they want to take credit for saving Sara's life. Instead, many felt guilty for leaving Sara behind when they were forced to evacuate their camp. Sara felt otherwise. As she wrote in her letter to Yad Vashem nominating the ten to be honored among the Righteous Among the Nations, amid the evil of the Holocaust, "ten ordinary men appeared, whose humanity was so natural and real that they helped to restore faith in the ultimate triumph of life and love." Or, as the Talmud teaches, whoever saves a life, saves the world.

Hopefully, none of us will ever be put in a position in which we have to risk our lives or careers to help someone in need. We should never forget the Six Million. In their memory, let's strengthen our efforts to help those in need in our community and throughout the world. And, let's honor the Righteous Among the Nations by rededicating our efforts in performing *tikkun olam*, promoting tolerance and engaging in acts of kindness in our everyday lives.

President@csibriarcliff.org

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# CSI'S Annual Gala & Fundraiser SUNDAY, 5/21, 4:30pm - 7:30pm

Honoring and celebrating the extraordinary work of the 40+ member RESETTLEMENT COMMITTEE and co-chairs Abbe Marcus & Julie Peskoe.

# Join your friends and make some new ones!

An evening of great food and drink, a jazz quintet, a special musical performance and insanely short speeches!

This is our most important fundraiser.

We need everyone to participate by attending, buying raffle tickets AND placing an ad in the journal.

Proceeds are used for CSI's operating costs.

**BUY TICKETS AND JOURNAL ADS HERE** 

### SECURITY BRUNCH Sunday, 4/23, 11am - 1pm.

Hosted by our own Security Manager, Andy Polay, who brings over 40 years of combined Law Enforcement and Security experience. We will discuss methods, planning, and how to stay safer in an emergency. We will build on past teachings, but don't worry if you weren't here for those, as everyone will leave with a greater sense of how to stay safer at CSI.

- "ABC's" of Security
- Dialogue
- Team aspects
- Hands-on training
- Personal safety
- Brunch!



April 2023

We'll have a good time and leave enriched with practical knowledge specific to CSI and your personal life (and full stomachs!).

**REGISTER HERE** 





## THERE IS STILL TIME TO DONATE TO PROJECT EZRA. DONATIONS MAY BE MADE THROUGH MONDAY, APRIL 17th.

As we have for the past three years, we will be collecting money rather than Passover food for Project Ezra, a wonderful organization that services elderly Jews on the Lower East Side. Any amount is welcome - chai (\$18) or double chai (or more!) is always appreciated. The cost of the box of food we donated in the past is approximately \$65. Project Ezra will deliver small packages with Passover essentials to their clients. These seniors will also receive a direct relief check they can use for Passover shopping. The checks will be distributed beginning the last week in March. As you begin to think about your own Seders, please help with this mitzvah and be as generous as you can to help others celebrate Passover.

**To donate through CSI:** Go to the CSI website homepage (<a href="www.csibriarcliff.org">www.csibriarcliff.org</a>) and click on "Support Project Ezra" next to the Seder plate. This will take you to the page where you can make your donation. We will forward the funds directly to Project Ezra in time for their Passover distribution.

**To donate directly to Project Ezra:** Go to their website (<a href="www.projectezra.org">www.projectezra.org</a>) and click on DONATE. (Where it says "tribute text" if you note that this is from Congregation Sons of Israel in Briarcliff Manor, NY, Project Ezra will keep track of our donations – similar to the memo line on a check.) You can pay by credit card or send a check to: Project Ezra, 387 Grand Street (Ground Floor), New York, NY 10002. (Please write "Congregation Sons of Israel Briarcliff" on the memo line of your check.)

Thank you for supporting this drive. Wishing you all a joyful and meaningful Passover.

-Judy Boehr

# FROM THE NURSERY SCHOOL DIRECTOR Naomi Elyachar



Although everyone in the northeast experiences the change of seasons throughout the year, the seasonal changes can be much more apparent for young children than for anyone else. At CSI, we are fortunate to have such a lovely property that provides many different types of outdoor activities throughout the year. Our classes still play outside on the playground in cold weather, we walk through the farm and nature trail, and even bundle up and play in the snow—but there is a carefree notion that takes over once the winter cold starts to thaw and our teachers are no longer helping whole classrooms of children put on hats, coats, and gloves each day.

Our students are in awe of the changes they see in the world around us throughout the year, and these changes are most apparent in the spring. The children love to see the plants starting to sprout and the first flowers start to bloom. There are puddles to jump in and more

birds flying about. For our students, changes provide more than mere observations—these seasonal chanaes permeate the classroom. Our classes will use nature as inspiration for artwork and dramatic play. They strike up conversations while bird watching from their windows and start growing seedlings to later transplant to the farm. When children have interest in a subject, their brains fire up and they are very ready to learn. We use the inspiration from the outside natural world to excite our little learners and through their natural curiosities about a beloved topic, they learn and take in so much. This is our approach throughout the year with all subjects, and it is fun to experience the nice weather and more outdoor play time together as it starts to warm up outside.

> Naomi Elyachar Nursery School Director Naomi.Elyachar@csibriarcliff.org



- 3-7 NO SCHOOL—Spring recess & Passover
- 12-13 NO SCHOOL—Passover
  - 25 NO SCHOOL—Professional Development Day
  - 26 Yom Ha'atzmaut Celebration



### MORE FROM THE NURSERY SCHOOL



### FROM THE NURSERY SCHOOL PARENTS ASSOCIATION

### **REGISTER FOR OUR SPRING GATHERING!**

The PA is looking forward to our Spring Gathering on April 16th! This event will be casual and open to all current and incoming nursery school families. It will be a great opportunity for grown-ups to come and meet our Nursery School Parents Association members, and get to know one another as well. It's never too late or too early to start making connections!

PA member, Rachel Lemonik, will be hosting the event in her beautiful backyard; details provided upon RSVP. Please reach out to <a href="mailto:csinspa@gmail.com">csinspa@gmail.com</a> for more information!

And as always, if you are interested in becoming a PA member, please reach out to <a href="mailto:csinspa@gmail.com">csinspa@gmail.com</a>.



### **CSI SUMMER CAMP**



Camp begins June 26th

Click here for more information and enrollment links



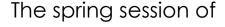
### **ACTIVITIES FOR CHILDREN UNDER 2**

Join us at CSI Nursery School Music & Fan for Mile Ones as we welcome Rose from Musical Round-Up!

10:45-11:45am Friday, May 5th



at CSI This program is FREE and open to all! Advance registration **HERE** is appreciated.







has begun!

Please contact **Naomi** with any questions!



# FROM THE RELIGIOUS SCHOOL DIRECTOR Orit Daly



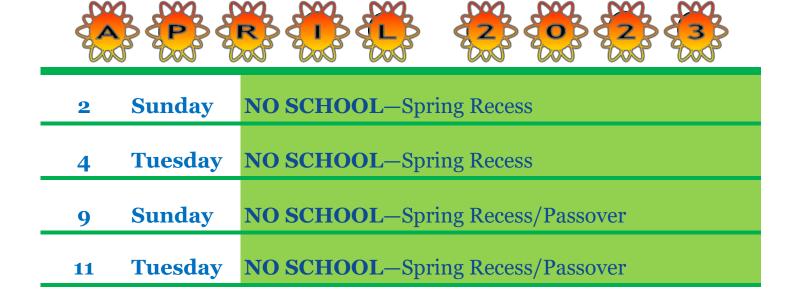
Purim learning and fun filled the month of March. Our Purim Carnival returned after a three-year Covid hiatus. It was so wonderful to see so many children laughing and playing, many in costume, enjoying food, crafts and fun. Thank you to the Men's Club for providing and cooking all the food and volunteers for staffing the tables. A special thank you to Andrea Bromberg for coordinating all the set up and fun.

As we move into April, the air is warming and Spring has sprung. *Chag Ha'aviv* (the holiday of spring), *Pesach*, is upon us. The flowers are blooming and the *Matza* is boxed and ready for the *Seder. Pesach* is my favorite holiday for many reasons. I love spending the holiday in Los Angeles with my parents, sister and her family. I also love the kugel, roast chicken, charoset and, of course, chocolate *matza* layer cake. As a historian, I also appreciate the opportunity to reflect on our long history as Jews and our place within that

history. Ultimately, that is the goal of the holiday, the *Seder* and even the food, the ability to impart tradition, history and learning to our children and the next generations. When I teach about *Pesach*, or any other holiday, I'm always amazed at how many generations before me said the same words and sang the same songs. The *Haggadah* was created for that very purpose: "You shall teach them to your children." (Deuteronomy 11:19)

CHAG KASHER V'SAMEACH!

Orit Daly
Religious School Director
RSDirector@csibriarcliff.org















### MORE FROM THE RELIGIOUS SCHOOL

### **Junior Congregation**

Shabbat 10:45am - 12:00pm

April 15



Junior Congregation, led by *Morah* Sheera Zuckerman, is a *Shabbat* service designed to teach our 3rd (*Gimel*) through 7th (*Zayin*) grade Religious School students the structure of the *Shabbat* morning service and prayers in preparation for becoming *b'nai mitzvah*. 3rd-7th grade students must attend THREE of these services during this school year.

### Save the date! Tuesday, May 9th

We will have regular class beginning at 4pm and invite all families to join us at 5pm for a Lag Ra'Omar colobration.



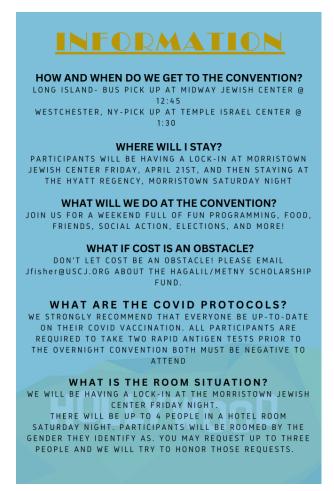
for a *Lag Ba'Omer* celebration and our *Zayin* (7th grade) class graduation.

### **USY - ANDREA BROMBERG, ADVISOR**

I would like to thank all of the teens and young adults that helped with this year's Purim carnival. The day went so smoothly because of you, and everyone who attended had a great time! Thanks to Sarah Nabi, Jess Dolch, Adin Fijman, and Reuben Daly who spun cotton candy. Thank you to Meia Rappaport who assisted with sand art. Shout out to Brandon Hawson, David Schifrin, Ben Schifrin, and Eden Rappaport for setting up the social hall on Saturday night. Thank you to Ryan Morris, Harrison Fleischer, Eden Rappaport, Reuben Daly, and those in class Zayin who helped run the games.

Spring Convention for our region is coming up, and it's open to teens in grades 8-12. Register here. Questions? Email drothstein@uscj.org.







### **Regenerative Agriculture Rooted in Jewish Tradition**

As I'm writing this article the farm is waking from its winter slumber. The chives, garlic and horseradish have already broken through the soil and are looking a vibrant green, quite a contrast to the otherwise browns and grays of the planting field. We've harvested horseradish and hope that you've had the opportunity to purchase some to enjoy at your Passover Seder. Special thanks to Fred Schulman for making a fresh batch of his CSI famous ground horseradish.

It won't be long before we're planting our Spring crop of beets, bok choi, kohlrabi, lettuce, radish, and turnip. Our first significant harvests of the season won't be too far behind. Please keep an eye out for email alerts regarding our farm stand operating hours and the availability of our produce. We anticipate hosting farm stands for our members and the local community twice a week this season. Your support of this unique feature of the CSI community is critical for us to maintain the program.

in our greenhouse. If you have suggestions re other vegetables you'd like us to try in the Community Garden, please let us know.

There's no shortage of tasks, large and small, strenuous and relaxing. As always, we welcon volunteers to help with the various farm chor prior experience is necessary. Tasks include harvesting, harvest weighing, order preparations re other vegetables you'd like us to try in the Community Garden, please let us know.

There's no shortage of tasks, large and small, strenuous and relaxing. As always, we welcon volunteers to help with the various farm chor prior experience is necessary. Tasks include harvesting, harvest weighing, order preparations re other vegetables you'd like us to try in the Community Garden, please let us know.

Our chickens are beginning to lay more regularly as the daylight lengthens and weather warms. Purchasing these farm-fresh heirloom eggs in the CSI office for \$6 per dozen is another way you can help support the CSI Farm. Please call the office in advance to confirm availability and reserve yours.

The expanded CSI walking/nature path is ready for those looking to take advantage of CSI's wonderful campus with a stroll through the woods. Our picnic, BBQ, outdoor worship and fire pit areas are all available for your enjoyment and can be reserved for private events. Please call the office to inquire about availability.

We'll be busy preparing our planting beds, getting the irrigation system running and making the Community Garden ready for rentals. Reservations for roughly 3' x 15' beds can be arranged with Jill Greenstein (jillgreenstein9@gmail.com).

Additional produce for the season will include five varieties of cucumber, fennel, squash, zucchini, basil, six varieties of cherry tomato and seven varieties of regular tomato. Flowers will be included again this year and we'll supplement with seeded crops started in our greenhouse. If you have suggestions regarding other vegetables you'd like us to try in the Community Garden, please let us know.

There's no shortage of tasks, large and small, strenuous and relaxing. As always, we welcome volunteers to help with the various farm chores. No prior experience is necessary. Tasks include harvesting, harvest weighing, order preparation, marketing, farm stand set-up, sales, greenhouse management, as well as outdoor labor associated with planting, weeding, pruning, staking, tying, chicken coop tending, and chip and compost distribution. Please email Ryna Lustig (rynalustig@gmail.com) if you would like to volunteer.

Looking forward to seeing you on the farm!

Farmer Dave

### SISTERHOOD

### Matanah the Sisterhood Gift Shop

Schedule an appointment for all of your Passover shopping needs. Contact Robin Ginsberg.



### Sisterhood Shabbat is May 6th!

Please contact Gail Sider if you would like to participate!



**Mah Jongg:** Monday nights at CSI at 7:30pm. Contact Cheryl Katz for more information.



### Sisterhood Membership:

Sisterhood offers complimentary membership for one year to new CSI members and to any CSI members or school families who have not previously joined Sisterhood.

Please mail your check for \$36 (\$54 for non-CSI members) to Annleah Berger, 10 Charlotte Court, Briarcliff Manor, NY 10510. Please include your name, address, phone number and e-mail. If you would prefer to pay by credit card, contact Robin Ginsberg and an invoice will be sent. (There is an additional charge to cover the credit card service fees.) Just contact Robin to sign up!

# SECOND GENERATION SURVIVORS AT CSI

Did you know CSI has a 2<sup>nd</sup> Generation Holocaust Group that (generally) meets on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the month?

We started about 6 years ago and have met to share stories, hear from guests, watch films, read selected materials and support one another.

The members of the group have seen a *Holocaust Survivor Cookbook* 2007 with stories and recipes collected from around the world, and we have decided to do a CSI 2<sup>nd</sup> Generation Cookbook 2023. We now have a collection of stories and recipes from 15 members of CSI. We are ready to bring this project to fruition.

As the number of living witnesses (Survivors) dwindles, it is important to pass on their stories of the Holocaust and to contribute to Jewish culture through food. We want to commemorate all the brave Survivors related to CSI, who had little or no food for long periods of time and yet managed to survive.

If you are a child or grandchild of a Survivor, and want to participate and share your family story, or you know of a CSI member who has a story to tell, please contact Cheryl Katz at 914-945-0826 or <a href="mailto:cabkatz@hotmail.com">cabkatz@hotmail.com</a> this month so that we can go to press in April.

### **MEN'S CLUB**

### **COMING EVENTS:**

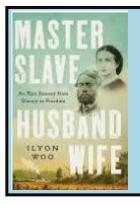
Our Yellow Yahrzeit candle program in commemoration of Yom HaShoah will begin on Monday evening, April 24th.

Congregation Sons of Israel
MEN'S CLUB

We are planning an eagle-watching event in Croton along the Hudson River.

After our successful Nature Walk, we will be planning additional walks.

We look forward to meeting new members this year in our Sanctuary and Social Hall, and at outdoor venues.



Book Club: Monday, April 24th at 7:30pm In the Small Chapel at CSI

We will be discussing
Master Slave Husband Wife
by Ilyon Woo

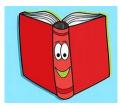
Join the Men's Club <u>here</u>. Questions/Ideas: Email us <u>here</u>.

Men's Club invites all who wish to run or those who wish to nominate someone for next year's slate of officers, to submit names now! Men's club totes \$10 Each! ORDER HERE



### **CARING COMMUNITY**

The intergenerational Nursery School reader program is in full swing. If you pass by the Nursery School on a Wednesday morning, you will see one of our congregants reading to our youngest students. Thank you to everyone who volunteered to help launch this program: Marion Sader, Merrie Daitch, Sherman Alpert, Alan Legatt, Emily Sack, Susan Levitsky, Mary Dale Allen, Francine Goldstein, Shane Dolch, and Judy Boehr. We actually had more volunteers than there were weeks left to read!



Our next Caring Community meeting is Wednesday, April 26th at 7:30pm on Zoom.

### PRIDE COMMITTEE

CSI's annual Pride Shabbat will be held on June 3rd.
If you would like to participate in the service,
please contact <u>Suzanne Haber</u>.

Our next meeting is Monday, April 24th at 7:30pm on Zoom.

(Usually we meet on the second Tuesday of the month. Note change of date due to holidays and other conflicts.)

For more information or to join our committee, contact Suzanne Haber.

### RESETTLEMENT COMMITTEE

Passover is the holiday of liberation, the story of how the Jewish people first became refugees. According to HIAS, our resettlement partner, last year the total number of displaced people around the globe rose to more than 100 million. HIAS has created a Haggadah with stories of refugees from around the world. We'd like to share this Haggadah here:

<u>Download the full HIAS Haggadah to weave the stories of today's refugees and asylum seekers into your Passover Seder.</u>

HIAS suggests that "the stories of all these brave souls and the communities they represent, help you connect the foundational Jewish story of liberation with the vital work of welcoming the stranger and protecting the refugee today." For ideas about how to incorporate the HIAS Haggadah at your Seder, you can watch the <u>Bringing Refugee Stories to Your Seder</u> webinar here.

Best wishes for a sweet and meaningful Passover, Abbe and Julie







### Join the "Hot Flashes" MS Walk team in the fight against multiple sclerosis!

- The MS Walks raise money for research, treatment, and support services to help people affected by multiple sclerosis.
- Much progress has been made in the fight against multiple sclerosis, but there is still a lot to be done.
- The Hot Flashes team has raised a total of over \$700,000 since its first MS Walk in 2000. Help us to raise a lot more!

### Please join the Hot Flashes team for the 2023 Westchester MS Walk

### Glen Island Park, New Rochelle, New York Sunday, April 30, 2023

- If you can't make it to the walk at Glen Island Park or would prefer not to, you can still participate as a "Virtual Walker" and do the walk yourself in your community. Or you can sponsor us with a contribution.
- Please join us, and please ask your friends, neighbors, co-workers, and relatives to join us as well. Help stamp out multiple sclerosis!

For more information and to join the team or to donate, visit the team web site at http://www.teamhotflashes.org

If you have any questions, please e-mail team captain Alan Legatt at ALMSWalk@gmail.com.

### Go, Hot Flashes!!

Best regards,

Alan Legatt Team Captain



### April 2023 10 *Nisan* – 9 *Iyar* 5783

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
NS: Nursery School RS: Religious School JITN: Jews in the News C/L Candle Lighting	Click HERE For the Web calendar					1 10 Nisan 9:10am Shabbat Service Sanctuary & Live Stream BM: Knox Gary
2 11 Nisan NO RS 9:15am Minyan	3 12 Nisan NO NS 8am Minyan 8:45pm Talmud w/Rabbi Kane	4 13 Nisan NO NS NO RS 11:15am JITN w/ Rabbi Kane 7:30pm Educ. Comm. Zoom	5 14 Nisan NO NS 8am Service for the Fast of the Firstborn Sanctuary & Live Stream & Zoom 9am Chametz sale deadline	6 15 Nisan NO NS OFFICE CLOSED 9:10am 1 <sup>st</sup> Day Pesach Service	7 16 Nisan NO NS OFFICE CLOSED 9:10am 2 <sup>nd</sup> Day Pesach Service Sanctuary & Live Stream 6:30pm Kabbalat Shabbat Pesach Evening Service Sanctuary & Live Stream C/L 7:09pm PASSOVER	8 17 Nisan 9:10am Shabbat Pesach Service Sanctuary & Live Stream
9 18 Nisan NO RS 9:15am Minyan	10 19 Nisan 8am Minyan	11 20 Nisan  NO RS  11:15am JITN  W/ Rabbi Kane  6:30pm 7 <sup>th</sup> Day  Pesach Evening  Service Sanctuary &  Live Stream	12 21 Nisan NO NS OFFICE CLOSED  9:10am 7 <sup>th</sup> Day Pesach Service Sanctuary & Live Stream  6:30pm 8 <sup>th</sup> Day Pesach Evening Service Sanctuary & Live Stream	13 22 Nisan NO NS OFFICE CLOSED 9:10am 8 <sup>th</sup> Day Pesach Service w/ Yizkor Sanctuary & Live Stream	14 23 Nisan 6:30pm Kabbalat Shabbat Sanctuary & Zoom C/L 7:16pm	9:10am Shabbat Service Sanctuary & Live Stream 10:45am Junior Congregation  4:15pm MINCHA BM: Emily Newman
CHOL HAMOED  16 25 Nisan  9am RS 9:15am Minyan	CHOL HAMOED  17 26 Nisan 8am Minyan  7pm Yom HaShoah Guest Speaker Alfred Schoenfeld	CHOL HAMOED  18 27 Nisan 11:15am JITN w/Rabbi Kane  4pm RS 7:30pm Exec. Comm.	PASSOVER  19 28 Nisan	PASSOVER  20 29 Nisan 8am Minyan  11am Contemporary Issues and the Talmud: Zoom	21 30 Nisan 6:30pm Kabbalat Shabbat Sanctuary & Zoom C/L 7:24pm	Shemini  22 1 Iyar  9:10am Shabbat Service Sanctuary & Live Stream  Tazria-Metzora
23 2 lyar 9am RS 9:15am Minyan 11am Security Brunch 4pm Yom Ha'Atzmaut Concert  30 9 lyar 9am RS 9:15am Minyan	24 3 lyar 8am Minyan 7:30pm Men's Club Book Club 7:30pm Pride Committee Zoom 8:45pm Talmud w/ Rabbi Kane	25 4 Iyar  NO NS-STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAY  11:15am JITN w/ Rabbi Kane  4pm RS  7:30pm Board of Trustees	26 5 lyar 7:30pm Caring Community Yorn Ha'Atzmaut	27 6 Jyar 8am Minyan 10:30am HaMishpacha Discussion Group 11am Contemporary Issues and the Talmud: Zoom	5pm NS Dinner on the Farm 6:30pm Kabbalat Shabbat Sanctuary & Zoom C/L 7:31pm	29 8 Iyar 9:10am Shabbat Service Sanctuary & Live Stream 4:30pm MINCHA BM: Alexandra Johnsen Achrei Mot-Kedoshim

# PESACH GUIDE: 2023 From The Committee On Jewish Law and Standards (CJLS) of the Rabbinical Assembly

## Food requiring no Kosher for Passover certification no matter when purchased (they are certainly *hametz*-free):

Baking soda \* Pure bicarbonate of soda, without additives \* Eggs \* Fresh fruits and vegetables (including pre-washed bagged) \* Fresh or frozen kosher meat (other than chopped meat) \* Nestea (regular and decaffeinated) \* Pure black, green, or white tea leaves \* Unflavored tea bags \* Unflavored regular coffee \* Olive oils (and other pure oils) \* Whole or gutted fresh kosher fish \* Whole or half pecans (not pieces)\* Whole (unground) spices and nuts \* OU/Star-K Raisins \* Kosher wine\* Plain butter, either salted or unsalted \* Unflavored Seltzer Water, Sparkling Water (without additives)

The following list of basic foods should be purchased before Passover. The reason for this is that these products present the consumer with a slightly lesser level of certainty (unlike the category #1, for which there is certainty) as to whether an unintentional trace amount of *hametz* may have found its way into the product. However, if the food item is crucial and one cannot procure a marked KP version of food during the holiday itself, one could purchase said item on Hol-HaMo'ed. All pure fruit juices \* Filleted fish \* Frozen fruit (no additives) \* Plain cheeses (without added flavor morsels) \* Non-iodized salt \* Pure white sugar (no additives)\* Quinoa (with nothing mixed in)\* GF ideal \* White milk \* Some products sold by Equal Exchange Fair Trade Chocolate (See available options <a href="here">here</a>) \* Frozen Vegetables (needs to be checked for possible hametz before cooking) \* Chopped meat \* Plain, non-flavored almond milk, rice milk, soy milk, cashew milk. \* Non-flavored Cream Cheese with ingredients of milk and cream, salt, stabilizers (xanthan and/or carob bean and/or guar gums) \* Non-flavored Yogurt with milk and bacteria, only (which are Lactobacillus bulgaricus and Streptococcus thermopiles). \* Canned Tuna with just tuna, water or oil, salt, and pyrophosphates \* 100% maple syrup \* 100% Agave \* Ground Salt and Peppers \* Plain (non-Flavored) Decaf Coffee \* Year-round supervised plain margarine \* Pure Honey \* Dried fruit, prunes only without potassium sorbate \* Club Soda

### Kitniyot:

**Fresh** *kitniyot*: Corn on the cob and fresh beans (like green beans or lima beans in their pods) may be purchased before and during Passover, that is, treated like any other fresh vegetable. Many do not consider green beans to be *kitniyot*, fresh or otherwise. This is certainly an accepted and longstanding practice among communities. This particular addition would be even for those who do treat green beans as *kitniyot*--i.e., when fresh they should be treated like any other fresh vegetable.

**Dried** *kitniyot* (legumes, rice and corn) can be purchased bagged or in boxes and then sifted or sorted before or on Passover. These should ideally not be purchased in bulk from bins because of the concern that the bin might previously have been used for *hametz*, and a few grains of *hametz* might be mixed in. In any case, one should inspect these to the extent possible before Passover and discard any pieces of *hametz*. If one could not inspect the rice or dried beans before Passover, one should remove pieces of *hametz* found in the package on Passover, discarding those, and the *kitniyot* themselves remain permissible.

**Frozen raw** *kitniyot* (corn, edamame [soy beans], etc.): One may purchase bags of frozen non-*hekhshered kitniyot* before or during (if necessary) Passover provided that one can either absolutely determine that no shared equipment was used or one is careful to inspect the contents before Passover and discard any pieces of *hametz*. Even if one did not inspect the vegetables before Passover, if one can remove pieces of *hametz* found in the package on Passover, the vegetables themselves are permissible.

### Requires Kosher for Passover label at any time:

All baked goods \* Farfel \* Matzah \* Any product containing matzah \*Matzah flour \* Matzah meal \*Pesach cakes \* All frozen processed foods \* Candy \* Chocolate milk\* Herbal tea \*Ice cream \* Liquor \* Soda \*Vinegar \*Margarine

It has become quite common for many folks to use food-shopping services in which individuals shop on behalf of others and drop products off at the door. While not inherently problematic for Passover, it is not uncommon for shoppers to substitute similar items for others, grocery stores often mismark products with their own signage, and Kosher sections can be confusing for the inexperienced Passover shopper. This is potentially challenging, such that those who utilize these services specify precisely what it is they prefer in the days before Passover, and certainly during the holiday itself. Some services provide options for flagging "no substitutions," which should be utilized whenever possible. We also strongly recommend those who use those services to be extra judicious in checking their orders for accuracy at delivery.

Lastly, many of us have already opened products in our homes that are *hametz*-free but used in the course of normal year-round cooking. If one is able to ascertain with a high level of certainty that no hametz contaminated the opened product (or at worst a negligible amount), it would be reasonable to set it aside for Passover use for this year (especially if procuring a new package presents a potentially dangerous situation one typically avoids or is financially prohibitive).

A Note on Medications: Though COVID has disrupted our lives in many ways, it has not affected any questions of the permissibility of medications on *Pesach*, or during the year. The following is a general guide; however, any specific questions should be directed to your rabbi. Special thanks to Rabbi Steve Kane, who is writing a longer responsum on this topic, for this explanation and expansion from previous Passover guides. All medications that are needed for illnesses and medical conditions that involve possible life-threatening situations are permitted.

Medications that do not involve life threatening situations are divided into two categories. Those medications, in particular pills which are known remedies in the medical community and are made to be swallowed whole, are permitted, since they are to be considered like a "burnt item" that has lost its relationship to its possible non-kosher origin. Although swallowed, they are considered to be neither food nor (edible) *chametz*.

However, medications for illnesses or medical conditions that do not involve a lifethreatening situation (including vitamins and supplements) that have been formulated to be edible or semi-pleasant to drink can be problematic. This includes soft gel caps which often contain porcine gelatin and liquid medicines that often contain glycerin and other additives (which can be made from animals). It is recommended that all such over the counter items be purchased with <code>hashgacha</code> (Kosher certification) before <code>Pesach</code> and state on their packaging that they contain no starch. If this is not possible, then it is preferable to purchase unflavored liquids and hard capsules, also prior to <code>Pesach</code>. If none of these are available, consult your rabbi.

CHAMETZ SALE: Deadline is Wednesday, 4/5 at 9am.

Kindly email Rabbi Kane with your name and address, giving him permission to sell your chametz.

It is customary to make a tzedakah donation at the time you sell your chametz.

You may click here to donate to the Rabbi's Discretionary Fund.

Please note "chametz" on your donation.

If you prefer, you can send a check to the CSI office.

Kindly indicate it is for sale of chametz.

### OUR APRIL B'NAI MITZVAH

### **APRIL 1st: KNOX GARY**

Hello Everyone: My name is Knox Gary and I'm excited to share that my *Bar Mitzvah* will be on April 1, 2023, on *Shabbat Ha'gadol*. We live in Garrison with our two Labrador retrievers and two barn cats. I'm currently in 7th grade at The Masters School in Dobbs Ferry and have been a student there since the 6th grade. My passion is karate, and I have been a member of the Go No Sen Dojo in Peekskill since I was five years old.

My *mitzvah* project is raising funds for Go No Sen. We learn the importance of *mitzvot*, hard work, sacrifice, and standing up for people who cannot stand up for themselves from the Torah. Karate teaches us many of the same lessons, and Go No Sen in particular, has extensive programs for people with special needs. The dojo is in a diverse, low-income community and has a scholarship program for students who cannot afford the tuition. I'm going to raise funds to help students who cannot afford karate have the privilege of being a part of the dojo through my *mitzvah* project, so they can have access to all of the benefits and opportunities that the dojo has afforded me.

I would like to thank my family for helping me reach this milestone: My mom, dad, and big sister, Lorelei. I would also like to thank Rabbi Kane and Cantor Shiovitz for all their help. I'm especially grateful to my Mima, Livia Straus, and to my Poppy, Marc Straus, for preparing me for my *Bar Mitzvah* by helping to teach me the prayers and my Torah and *haftorah*.

### **APRIL 29th: ALEXANDRA JOHNSEN**

My name is Alexandra Johnsen. I live in Ossining with my parents Rachel Goldman and Bob Johnsen, and I always have. I have two dogs and two siblings. My sibling's names are Michelle and Robert Johnsen. My *Bat Mitzvah* date is April 29, 2023. I have attended the Leffell School (f/k/a Solomon Schechter Westchester) since kindergarten. I am now in 7th grade. I am looking forward to my *Bat Mitzvah* because I am becoming a Jewish adult, which I am very proud of. I enjoy skiing, playing volleyball, and doing Taekwondo. For my *Bat Mitzvah* project I am volunteering at the Ossining Children's Center and working with the kids. I am also working with children at UMAC, my Taekwondo school, and teaching them their forms. I am very happy with what I have accomplished thus far in helping my community. I want to thank Cantor Shiovitz, Rabbi Kane and everyone who helped prepare me for this day.



### **LIFE CYCLE EVENTS**



DATE	CELEBRANT	AGE
2	Emma Klein	10
7	Emily Gilbert	3
12	Jake Maller	13



DATE	CELEBRANTS	YEARS
1	Donald & Elaine Sunberg	11
2	Ed & Hedi Sperling	49
3	Jonathan & Laurie Goldheim	30
4	Steven & Audrey Bender	41
4	Michael & Laura Teitelbaum	25
5	Barry & Donna Yellen	36
9	Robert Johnsen & Rachel Goldman	14
20	Paul & Sonia Kleinman	37
22	Howard Fleischer & Anna Medeiros	22
27	Scott & Amy Yules	20
28	Mark & Carole Herman	44



Have a Life Cycle event to share?

We'd love to know about it!

Email <a href="mailto:jenniferh@csibriarcliff.org">jenniferh@csibriarcliff.org</a> for inclusion in the Bulletin.

### LIFE CYCLE EVENTS

Mazal Tov to Sarena and James Gary on the Bar Mitzvah of their son, Knox.

Mazal Tov to Pamela and Benjamin Newman on the Bat Mitzvah of their daughter, Emily. Mazal Tov to Rachel Goldman and Robert Johnsen on the Bat Mitzvah of their daughter, Alexandra.

*Mazal Tov* to Daphne and Alan Crosswell on the birth of their twin grandsons, Nathaniel and Benjamin.

Mazal Tov to Stacy and Richard Charney on the engagement of their daughter, Molly, and Brady Schaer.

Mazal Tov to Elizabeth and Legatt on the birth of their granddaughter, Sasha Adira Merchan.

Condolences to Konstantin Millerman on the loss of his father, Aleksandr Millerman.

Speedy Recovery to Francine Goldstein.



### **DONATIONS**

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In honor of Bob Ashkinaze's 90th Birthday Jessica Goldman

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for leading the Civil Rights Journey

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Jill & Joel Greenstein

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In memory of Meyer Rosen Lisa & Larry Honigman

In memory of Sidney White Leon White

In memory of Sidney Gordon Sheri Gordon Handwerger

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In memory of Jean Dittelman & David Perelman
Faye Dittelman & David Perelman

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CSI Environmental Fund		_ Rabbi's Discretionary Fund	
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