

Congregation Sons of Israel THE MYERS FAMILY CAMPUS

CONTINUING THE VISION — BUILDING OUR FUTURE

APRIL 2021

19 Nisan - 18 Iyar 5781



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Congregation Sons of Israel

1666 Pleasantville Road Briarcliff Manor, NY 10510 Phone: (914) 762-2700 Fax: (914) 941-3465 www.csibriarcliff.org info@csibriarcliff.org

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

Educational Director: Naomi Elyachar

naomi.elyachar@csibriarcliff.org

Synagogue Director: Ellen Green Johnson ellen@csibriarcliff.org

OFFICERS:

Clare Rosen, President

President@csibriarcliff.org

Robin Ginsberg, VP

Jill Greenstein, VP

Mark Rosenberg, VP

Fred Schulman, VP

Bob Margolies, Treasurer

Treasurer@csibriarcliff.org

Marc Auslander, Secretary Steve Bender, IPP



PASSOVER SERVICES

Friday 4/2 6:30pm: Pesach Service

Saturday 4/3 6:30pm: Pesach Service

Sunday 4/4 9:30am: Pesach Service, Yizkor recited

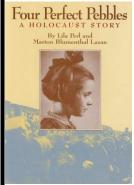
Services will be <u>live-streamed</u> from the Sanctuary.







Call the office to pick up your Yom HaShoah Candle. We also have set up Monday, 4/5 from 1-5pm to stop by and pick up. See page 16



All are invited to join us for our annual *Yom HaShoah* program and service on **Wednesday, April 7th at 7pm.** This year we are honored to welcome celebrated author Marion Blumenthal Lazan. Lazan's unforgettable memoir recalls the devastating years that shaped her childhood. Following Hitler's rise to power, the Blumenthal family was caught in the nightmare that was Nazi Germany. For the next several years they were forced to live in refugee, transit and

prison camps--including the notorious Bergen-Belsen in Germany.

Somehow they managed to stay together and, although their story is one of horror and hardship, it is also one of courage, hope and the will to survive.

ZOOM LINK HERE

CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFORMATION ON MARION



FROM THE RABBI Steven C. Kane



The Hebrew date of *Yom HaShoah*, the 27th of *Nisan*, seems rather strange. Why was that date chosen? It appears to be almost random, as nothing specific happened on that date during the war. Yet it is a date that has a purpose to it, and it was chosen by the Israeli *K'neset* in 1951 and has remained the date on which Jews observe a day of mourning and remembrance for the 6 million Jews murdered by the Nazis, and those fortunate to have survived.

How was the 27th of Nisan chosen? First, we should note that the official name of the commemoration is Yom Hashoah Ve-Hagevurah, or Holocaust and Heroism Day. It was important in Israel to not only emphasize the memory of those who died, but also the great acts of heroism and defiance by members of the Jewish people (note that the NY Times recently featured an article on the book "The Light of Days: The Untold Story of Women's Resistance Fighters in Hitler's Ghettos"). The surviving fighters from the Warsaw ghetto had wanted the commemoration date tied to their uprising, which occurred just as Pesach began, on the 14th and 15th of *Nisan*. However, the Orthodox members of the K'neset want the date to be set on some other previously established date for mourning, such as Tisha B'av (the 9th day of the month of Av, when the Temple in Jerusalem was destroyed).

Ultimately the date of 27 Nisan was chosen so as not to interfere with the joy of Pesach, but still during the time when the ghetto uprising was well under way. It was also chosen as a way to commemorate the Shoah prior to Yom Ha-Atzmaut, Israel Independence Day, which is only a week later (this year both dates are moved so as not to conflict with Shabbat). Thus the 27th of Nisan serves not only as a memorial to the victims of the Holocaust. It has also become the beginning of a new period on the Jewish calendar where we recognize the need to have our own state, one that can both provide a sanctuary for persecuted Jews from around the world and a place where Jewish culture and religion will flourish.

As we have moved further and further away from the end of WW II there are fewer and fewer people alive who survived and can testify to the atrocities of the *Shoah* first hand. We are truly fortunate this year to welcome Marion Blumenthal Lazan to CSI. At the onset of the war, the Blumenthal family left Germany to flee to America. But, while they were in the Netherlands, Germany invaded and bombed the ships that would have taken them to safety. For the next six-and-a-half-years of her childhood, Marion struggled through the Holocaust, surrounded by death, starvation, filth and disease. From the age of 4 through 10 she somehow managed to survive a myriad of concentration camps, which is documented in both her book "Four Perfect Pebbles" and a film, "Marion's Triumph", made in 2003.

Marion's story has parallels with another famous youth, Anne Frank. Both of them were interred in the Westerbork Camp in the Netherlands and then in Bergen-Belsen where Anne died. Like Anne Frank's diary, "Four Perfect Pebbles" has been taught to children in classrooms around the world. I have no doubt that you will find her story to be inspiring and courageous. I hope that you will join us on Wednesday April 7th as we both remember those who lost their lives and the people who somehow survived to tell their courageous story.

L'hitraot,

Rabbi@csibriarcliff.org

KS C. Kan



Wednesday, April 21st at 7:30pm— HEADLINE SPEAKER: DAN GRANOT, Assistant Director in AIPAC's Policy and Government Affairs department, where he focuses on progressive engagement, social movements, and economic issues. He is the leading expert on efforts to oppose the boycott, divestment, and sanctions (BDS) campaign against Israel. Look for registration and Zoom link information soon!

CANTORIAL NOTES Hazzan Jeffrey Shiovitz



Kol Haneshama Tehalel Ya-Halleluyah-"Let everything which has breath give praise to God." These words of the 150th Psalm are but one of many places where our liturgy offers us a beautiful lesson – a singing lesson- on how to lift our voices in prayer and praise to God.

Professional singers spend years learning how to control breath so as to maximize the resources of their voices. They know what the Psalmist meant when he wrote, "Teitsey Rucho Yashuv L'admato" -When the breath departs, he returns to dust... his thoughts perish." Without breath in our lungs, we can't even think clearly, let alone express our thoughts aloud in song. Since the pandemic began a year ago, we have all become aware that singing has been shown to spread the virus. The little droplets that come from our mouth can spread up to 20-30 feet. At CSI we require everyone to wear a mask while in the building. From the "shtender" that I use to daven from, there is a plexiglass enclosure. No one sits close to where I am. Those of you who tune in to our services know that both the Rabbi and I sing and speak while wearing a mask. I must tell you that it is not the most comfortable thing I do. Singing behind a mask is difficult. There is less air and I sometimes find myself breathless. However, I know it could save lives. Every day I am thankful that I have adequate breath. I never take it for granted.

A particularly beautiful passage in the liturgy praises God for the pure soul which He "breathed" into us. We feel the presence of God: even as we inspire air, we inspire our souls. The word *Ruach* in Hebrew means both air and the spirit of God which is with us. We feel the Godliness of the breath of life, both as we take in air and as we express our praises.

My colleague and teacher, Gregor Shelkan, of blessed memory, a superb Hazzan and a highly regarded voice therapist, pointed out that for the most effective intake of air, we need a "happy throat," which creates the best opening. He also taught me to see how the Rabbis told of the angels preparing to praise God: B'nachat ruach-with happy air-which leads to Safah B'rurah-pure speech-which leads to N'imah K'doshah-holy melody-then they can proclaim God's holiness: Baruch Sheim K'vod Malchuto L'olam Va'ed.

Our forefathers, perhaps better attuned than we to the need to be appreciative of life, understood how to praise God with all their being. We need to feel that every breath we take (with or without mask), the inspiration of air is the inspiration of Godliness within us. We express that beauty, *B'nachat Ruach*, with joyful spirit.

Jshiovitz@gmail.com

HA MISHPACHA

Tuesday, April 13th at 12:30pm

Join us as Rabbi Kane leads a discussion all about Israel.

ZOOM LINK

Yom Ha'atzmaut Concert Wednesday, April 14th at 8pm Featuring Amichai Margolis





In celebration of Yom Ha'Atzmaut, Israel's Independence Day, we welcome Amichai Margolis, AKA "Amichai The Music Guy" for a live concert.

Amichai is currently the Music Director at Orangeburg Jewish Center, Minister of Music/Musical Director of the Leffell Lower School, as well as Musical Director at Camp Ramah in Nyack.

REGISTER HERE.



FROM THE PRESIDENT Clare Rosen



Last Passover in early April 2020, less than a month after we all began to social distance the question "Why is this night different from all other nights?" had a double meaning. So many of us were separated from family. As we conclude Passover 2021, we again ask the same question, but with a vastly different outlook, one filled with promise, rebirth, and renewal of body and spirit. The Passover story is one of redemption, both physically and spiritually. While Spring is a time of breaking out and rebirth in the biological sense, this year it's so much more. It's halting the impact of COVID and finding new ways to live, a rebirth for each of us and also our community, state and country.

CSI was founded by eleven men in 1891. For the next ten-plus years, services were held in homes and stores. At the turn of the twentieth century the synagogue, now twenty-three families strong, purchased a building on Durston Avenue and our still-used cemetery on Dale Avenue. As more families joined CSI a religious school was established. Needing more space, the congregation purchased a site on Waller Avenue and moved into the building in 1922. The current site, home of CSI since 1960, the former Mead farm, was purchased in the 1950s. The owners of the Mead farm would no doubt celebrate our farm and knowing our appreciation and respect for the earth.

And here we are now with 330 plus families nearly 130 years later. We have a rich history, one filled with growth and preservation. As members of this remarkable synagogue each of us has to do our part, no matter how small or how large, to safeguard what those who came before us worked so hard to build. Not all can make large monetary donations, but all can contribute. We need your support. We need your support by attending programs, at fundraisers, contributing goods and services and by reaching out to each other with love and caring. While it is essential to maintain what we have, we want to move the synagogue forward. And to do so takes money. When you get a call or read a notice asking for money, please think about how you will be contributing to the future of our beloved CSI, just as our founding member families did in the late 1800s.

I wish you all a release from the bonds of COVID. Celebrate spring.

Clare E Rosen, President CSI clayrcsi@gmail.com



YOUR GENEROSITY TO OUR PROJECT EZRA COLLECTION COVERED THE COST OF FOOD FOR 200 PEOPLE! THANK YOU TO...

Sharon & Stephen Alpert

Martin Amsel

Jonathan Arfa

Bennett Ashley & Ruth Weinreb

Rochelle & Marc Auslander

Sharon & Gil Balog

Roberta & Doron Bar-Levav

Annleah Berger

Barbara & Norman Block

Judy Boehr Dean Brown

Malvina Browne

Susan & Howard Code Nancy & Daniel Cohen

Daphne & Alan Crosswell

Merrie Daitch Orit & David Daly

Susan & Peter Diamond

William Drucker & Rhonda Rosenbaum

Rosanna & Marshall Frank

Roberta Freilich

Eleanor & Michael Frey Robin & Sam Ginsberg

Francine & Robert Goldstein

Janis Golubock Todd Greenberg

Susan & Alan Grotenstein Suzanne & Neal Haber Susan & Henry Hartman Susan & Paul Hodara Robin & Steven Karp

Cheryl Katz

Roberta & Rick Kay Georgia & David Keidan

Ronnie Kent

Cheryl Kestenbaum Margie & Mike Kirsch Sonia & Paul Kleinman Elizabeth & Alan Legatt Jill & Jonathan Lerner

Susan Lerner

Beth & Harold Levine

Marian & Daniel Levine

Susan Levitsky

Corazon Loteyro & Marc Lewy

Marilyn & Bob Margolies

Allison & Andrew Markowitz

Dara & Jason Mirsky
Susan & Andrew Morris
Gregory & Mara Mortman
Diane & Ronnie Myers

Sadia & Ahsan Nabi Phyllis & Calvin Neider

Joel Neuberg

William Null & Lauren Thaler

Sharon Orenstein
Gail & Barry Perlow
Janice & Steve Rappaport
Rika & Mark Reisman
Patti & Bill Robbins

Clare Rosen

Jennifer & Stuart Rosen Betsy & Richard Rosenblum

Andrew Rotter & Rhona Golubock

Steve Saper & Shelley Glick
Pam & Jordan Schiffman
Robert Schloss & Emily Sack

Leona & Neil Schluger Rachelle & Evan Schmeltz Barbara & Henry Schoenfeld

Esther Schwartz Lois Gimpel Shaukat

Louis Sherman & Marci Dressler

Bette & Gary Slutsky Livia & Marc Straus David Teicher

Richard & Charlotte Watt Jewel & David Weiss Suzanne & David Wexler Deborah & Richard Yoken

Debra Young

Lisa & David Zimmerman Jack Zinn & Darlene Fairman Thank you to everyone who participated either through the Rabbi's Discretionary Fund or directly through Project Ezra. This wonderful organization provides help year-round, but their work is especially meaningful and appreciated during *Pesach*.

Judy Boehr

PROJECT EZRA

387 GRAND STREET GROUND FLOOR NEW YORK, NY 10002

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March 16, 2021

Board of Directors

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Emeritus Misha G. Avramoff Rabbi Steven C. Kane Congregation Sons of Israel 1666 Pleasantville Road Briarcliff Manor, NY 10510

Dear Rabbi Kane and our dear friends at Congregation Sons of Israel,

We are writing to express our gratitude for your contribution of \$7,400.00 which will allow us to give direct relief checks to our members for Passover. The holidays can be a lonely time for our seniors, especially with the pandemic but your generosity will surely enhance the celebration of Passover.

We are grateful to have partners like you, who appreciate and understand the importance of the work we do for the elderly Jewish community on the Lower East Side.

Thank you for being the encouragement we need during these tough times to continue to fulfill our important mission. The Project Ezra community is very fortunate to have you by our side.

May this Passover season be filled with an abundance of health and happiness for you and your entire congregation.

Chag Pesach kasher v'sameach!

Geraldine E. Murphy and the

Project Ezra Team

FROM THE NURSERY SCHOOL DIRECTOR Naomi Elyachar



Last month, our teaching staff gathered together for professional development workshops. I always love these days and the opportunity that it affords us as teachers to continue our own learning and development. This year, we focused on two different topics: anti-bias and teaching racial justice in early childhood settings as well as on emergent curriculum. Our teachers were active participants in the workshops, discussing their own background and understanding of the topics as we continued to learn together. I hope the conversations we began were just the beginning of many to come at our school.

The work we do in early childhood classrooms help children understand the world around them as they simultaneously understand and develop their own identities. We aim to create environments and experiences where our students are exposed to different races and cultures during this early stage of life. We are tasked with the important responsibility of educating young people who will grow up to interact with individuals from all different backgrounds. We will continue to discuss ways we can be mindful of the images, literature and materials that we use to ensure that

our teaching embodies our values of diversity, inclusion, openness, and acceptance in our school.

We also spent part of the morning discussing with one another about ways we put our students' interests and creativity at the forefront of our planning and their learning. We spoke about ways that our classroom layout and material choices can help promote an emergent curriculum and how student work can be documented to show the learning and connections made "behind the scenes." We are fortunate to have so much talent on our teaching staff, and it is wonderful to have these opportunities to take a step back from the daily work we do to come together and learn with and from one another.

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

Time to think about gardening!

Once again, CSI is offering garden beds for CSI families to grow your own vegetables and flowers. Novices, as well as seasoned gardeners, are welcome. Help is always available.

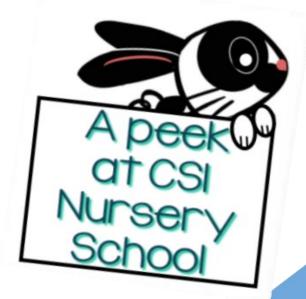


For further information, please contact: Jillgreenstein@gmail.com

Galendar Notes

School is on a break through Passover and <u>resumes on Monday</u>, <u>April 5th</u>

No school for students on Wednesday, April 21st for Parent-Teacher conferences









MORE FROM THE NURSERY SCHOOL

Please join us with your little one for

THIS PROGRAM IS DESIGNED FOR CHILDREN AGED TWO AND UNDER WITH A PARENT/CAREGIVER. IS FREE. AND OPEN TO EVERYONE!



Email: naomi.elyachar@csibriarcliff.org

START YOUR WEEK WITH AN OUTDOOR, SAFE AND SOCIALLY-DISTANCED MUSIC AND ENRICHMENT ACTIVITY FROM 9:30-10:30 A.M. ON THE FOLLOWING MONDAYS:





APRTI 5TH APRTI 19TH MAY 3RD TUNE 7TH





BRING YOUR OWN PARK BLANKET AND JOIN US FOR SINGING, PLAY TIME. AND AN OPPORTUNITY TO MEET OTHER FAMILIES FROM THE AREA.

Advance registration is required and enrollment will be limited. Please email CSI Nursery School Director, Naomi Elyachar, at naomi.elyachar@csibriarcliff.org.

All Covid protocols will be followed—everyone over two years old must be in a mask, brief screenings will be conducted upon arrival, and we will ask all participants to maintain social distance.



Book Wish List

Nursery School We have created a book wish list to help add to the Nursery School's library. We would be so appreciative of any book purchased to expand our library and enhance our educational program! Link to: Book Wish List

Are you thinking about summer?



We are!

Registration is now OPEN for CŠI's Summer Day Camp.

Visit www.csibriarcliff.org and go to the Learning Tab to link to our Summer Camp page or click here:





CSI Nursery School registration is already underway for the 2021-2022 school year.

> Visit our website for more information or to register your child, click here.

FROM THE NURSERY SCHOOL PARENT ASSOCIATION

Dear CSI Families,

With spring officially in the air, we are excited to announce these upcoming events as well as solicit your help as we begin to prepare for our 4's class Moving Up Day!

Spring Mini Photo Shoots

Sunday, April 25th

10:00am - 1:00pm*

(Rain Date: Sunday, May 2nd)

Local photographer, Lori Berkowitz, will be graciously offering 15 minute mini photo sessions with high resolution images for \$50. Outdoors on CSI property. Check out this sample

A portion of the proceeds will benefit the CSI NS Parents Association for future educational initiatives

Click **HERE** to sign up for your 15 min slot. Please grab your spot by April 19th.

Payment of \$50 is required at the time of booking. Please venmo @csinspta or bring cash or check to school.

Friday Morning Weekly Walking Group

Spring has sprung, so come grab some fresh air, earn your steps for the day, and enjoy the company of other CSI parents. Join the CSI NS PA for our new weekly Friday morning walking group (weather dependent). We will meet immediately after morning drop off at Wishnie Park (right near CSI on Pleasantville Road, close to the Chilmark Shopping Center). Stroller and dog friendly!

No weekly commitment required. Join as often as you wish. Contact us at csinspa@gmail.com for more info.

Moving Up Day: Committee Wanted

Hey 4's parents! It's hard to believe, but in just a few short months, your child(ren) will celebrate their last day of nursery school and be on their way to kindergarten! We are seeking parent volunteers to form a committee to organize Moving Up Day. If you are interested in being involved, please contact us at csinspa@gmail.com by Friday, April 2nd. Thank you in advance!

Join our next PA Meeting!

Wednesday, April 14th at 7:30pm

Melinda's Patio (23 Pea Pond Lane in Briarcliff)

Join us for wine and dessert while we continue planning for the spring! All are invited to join.

Please don't hesitate to contact us if you have any questions, suggestions, and/or concerns! We love to hear from you.

Happy Spring! The CSI NS Parents Association



FROM THE RELIGIOUS SCHOOL

It is finally Spring! We are all so thankful to experience the beauty of nature emerging after a long winter spent in our homes. This past year has certainly been a challenge to each of us and Jewish education at CSI has risen to face that challenge.

Our experienced and passionate teachers continue to share the beauty of Judaism with students. They create lessons that are relevant and provide personal meaning for each learner. This year in our Zoom classes, we have gotten to know our students even more so as individuals. We learned more about students' interests, hung out with them in their homes and even met their pets! Our many deep and impactful discussions prove how a good Jewish education supports and values each learner, making them stronger individuals and a valued part of our CSI community.

We are so proud of our *Kitah Heh* students. For *Pesach*, each student made a special connection to one of our CSI seniors through email and the creation of a beautiful hand-crafted centerpiece to use for their *Pesach Sederim*. This type of intergenerational connection is so important particularly as our *Heh* students become Jewish adults and with that take on a different, and more fulfilling role in our synagogue community.

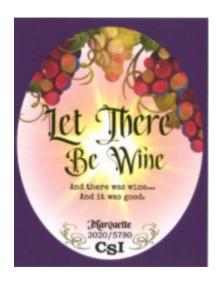
We look forward to special programs in May: two Friday night *Kabbalat Shabbat* services on the farm on May 7th and May 14th, *Kitah Heh* graduation on May 16th and more opportunities for outdoor in-person learning to come.

B'shalom,
<u>Libby Spitzer</u>, Assistant Educational Director

Special thanks to Myra Gordon for her support of the *Heh* Class Passover centerpiece project.



CSI WINE!



Mazal Tov & Yasher Koach to CSI's wine label design contest winner Janice Rappaport.

We thank each of you who sent in your creations.
They were all wonderful!

PURCHASE CSI WINE HERE.

A Special "Thank You" to Jack Zinn for volunteering his time and for all of his hard work behind the scenes to help with the voting software for the wine label contest.

Jack did a super job helping keep it clear, simple and anonymous. We are incredibly grateful for his participation in this project.





CSI Community Organic Farm

Regenerative Agriculture Rooted in Jewish Tradition

This has been a very busy month for the team working on the CSI Vineyard. Several weeks ago we began the process of pruning the vines of deadwood and cutting off the old spurs to stimulate new growth (which is how vines produce grape clusters). We also tied the vines to the upright supports and top cordon wire to provide support for the weight of the grape clusters that they will eventually carry. In the near future we will be adding wood chips as additional mulch to help prevent any fungus that may exist from infecting the vines.

On March 21st we began the process of fining/racking the wine and bottling for Passover sales as a fund raiser for the synagogue. The bottled wine is Kosher for Passover as certified by Rabbi Kane who has overseen the process from end to end. The wine has had the benefit of six months of oak barrel aging which provides added complexity to the aroma and flavor of the wine. We are also planning to age the remaining wine in barrel for another six months and will bottle in early September in time for Rosh Hashanah. If anyone wants to be part of the vineyard crew or winemaking team, please contact David Levitt, Ryna Lustig or me.

Aaron B. Stern sternab@aol.com

COMMUNITY GARDEN INFORMATION

Time to think about gardening. Once again, CSI is offering garden beds for CSI families to grow your own vegetables and flowers. Novices, as well as seasoned gardeners, are welcome. Help is always available. For further information, please contact: Jillgreenstein9@gmail.com

We are starting the **Greenhouse Growing Group** for those who want to help grow our secondary crops from seed. This requires NO EXPERIENCE! We will definitely be using this year as a learning year. The minigreenhouse is equipped. We are hoping to grow corn, peas, squash, zucchini, swiss chard, cherry tomatoes, cucumber, lettuce and pepper! Let's meet to go over the goals and how to help. The season for starting the growing isn't until early May but let's get growing!

Email Ryna Lustig with any questions: rynalustig@gmail.com



For Farm Information
Contact:
Rynalustig@gmail.com or
david.m.levitt@verizon.net

USY/KADIMA—Andrea Bromberg, Advisor



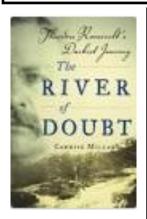
METNY REGIONAL CONVENTION IS ALMOST HERE!
This is the first in-person regional event in over a year! FREE for USYfi Spring Members and \$35 for

non-USYfi Spring Members.

Who: 8th-12th graders When: April 25th from 1PM-5PM Where: Solomon Schechter Long Island

<u>Click here to register</u> -- and reach out to <u>nover@uscj.org</u> with questions about the event.

MEN'S CLUB



Our next book club meeting is on Thursday, April 15th at 7:30pm. We will be discussing <u>The River of Doubt: Theodore Roosevelt's</u> Darkest Journey by Candice Millard.

JOIN THE MEN'S CLUB-WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT

To join the Men's Club, you can do it right now <u>here</u>. (Community | Men's Club from the CSI Home page). It's easy! Please contact <u>Jason Eidlitz</u> with any questions.



Yom HaShoah Yahrzeit Candle Program compliments of the Men's Club

We ask that you participate in remembering those who perished in the Shoah by lighting the yellow candle, placing it in a prominent place, and reciting the meditation on Wednesday evening, April 7th. As part of the worldwide Jewish community, it is our collective obligation to honor and remember the Six Million. In the spirit of remembrance, we encourage you to give tzedakah as a form of respect to those who did not survive the Holocaust.

Call the office to pick-up or stop by CSI on Monday, April 5th from 1-5pm.

IF YOU CANNOT GET HERE TO PICK-UP, EMAIL: JenniferH@csibriarcliff.org.

We will do our best to get a candle to you.

CARING COMMUNITY - Judy Boehr, Chairperson

Are you looking for something to take your mind off COVID? We are looking for people who are interested to knit or crochet stroller size baby blankets for the newest members of our community. We will provide the patterns, instructions, and yarn.



When people are experiencing health issues that make preparing dinner difficult, we are happy to provide dinner. We are always looking to expand our list of cooks. If you are interested in helping when this need arises, contact Susan Hodara (susan.hodara@gmail.com).



The Caring Community is here to help. We provide help with phone calls, dinners, visits (one of these days!!), rides, and other needs that arise. If you, or someone you know, could benefit from our kindness, let us know.

Caring Community Zoom meetings are held on the third Wednesday of each month. Contact Judy Boehr (tanglewoodtoots@juno.com) for further information.





IN THE COMMUNITY:

Judaism & Organ Donation: Issues & Answers With Rabbi Avi Perl, Rabbi Lester Bronstein and Alan Ganek. Tuesday, April 27@7:30pm This event is free, but <u>registration</u> is required.

Co-sponsored by CSI, Bet Am Shalom Synagogue, Hebrew Institute of White Plains, Westchester Jewish Council, LiveOn NY.

SAVE THE DATE FOR CSI'S ANNUAL EVENT... SUNDAY, JUNE 13TH (virtual) 7 - 8:30 pm

We will celebrate the strength of the CSI community and each of you after a *very* tough year!

Our big annual fundraiser will be virtual and <u>very</u> special!

- Interactive & fun entertainment!
- Delicious catered food to go!
- Gratitude Journal there is so much to be grateful for and so much to look forward to!
- Raffles!
- A time to be together and celebrate!
- Don't miss out!



SISTERHOOD NEWS

Sisterhood Book Club Sunday, April 18th - 4:00pm on Zoom

All Sisterhood members are invited to join. We will be discussing "All The Rivers" by Dorit Rabinyan.

This is a controversial, award-winning story about the passionate but untenable affair between an Israeli woman and a Palestinian man.

Banned from classrooms by Israel's Ministry of Education, this remarkable novel is a bold portrayal of the strains - and delights - of a forbidden relationship and explores the complex issues of Israeli life.





Please RSVP to: Roberta rbarlevav@gmail.com.

Matanah, the gift shop of CSI, is always open for virtual shopping via Facetime or on site by appointment.

Please contact Robin

robsamg@optonline.net

YOU CAN ALWAYS JOIN SISTERHOOD!

Please mail a check for \$36.00 (\$54 for non-CSI members) payable to: CSI SISTERHOOD, to Annleah Berger, 10 Charlotte Court, Briarcliff Manor, NY 10510. Please include your name, address, email address and telephone number. Sisterhood is offering complimentary membership to any CSI members or school families who have not previously joined Sisterhood. **Please contact Robin Ginsberg**

robsamg@optonline.net

SISTERHOOD NEWS - continued

Sisterhood *Havdalah*Saturday Evening, April 17th - 8:25-9:25pm



Please join us on Saturday, April 17th at 8:25pm as we say good-bye to *Shabbat* and enjoy a special and meaningful *Havdalah* service together.

Havdalah, which means separation, is the ceremony performed at the end of Shabbat to distinguish the holiness of Shabbat from the rest of the week. The blessings that are recited talk about distinctions between the holy and the everyday, between light and darkness, between the people Israel and the other peoples of the earth, and between the seventh day of rest and the six days of work. The primary symbols of Havdalah are the braided candle, kiddush cup containing wine and spice box containing sweet-smelling spices. The lighted candle symbolizes the light of Shabbat and the strands of the braid have been interpreted as the many types of Jews in the world, all of whom are part of one unified people. The wine is, as always, a symbol of joy. The sweet-smelling spices symbolize the sweetness of Shabbat, whose pleasant aroma we breathe in one last time that it might last us through the week to come until we can welcome Shabbat again. It is interesting to note that if you did not make Havdalah on Saturday night, you can still recite the blessings until sunset on Tuesday. The first three days of every week are considered to be in the shadow of the previous Shabbat, as opposed to the last three days of the week, which are considered preparatory days for the following Shabbat. However, if the Havdalah is recited after Saturday night, the candle and spices are not used.

Sisterhood members should contact Roberta Bar-Levav rbarlevav@gmail.com or Gail Sider gailsider@gmail.com if they would like to participate.

REGISTER HERE

Thank you to all who participated in Sisterhood's annual *Mishloach Manot* fundraiser. Through the support of our very generous members, we are able to fund improvement projects for CSI that are not included in the budget.



To show our appreciation, all participants are invited to a special musical performance with singer Lisa Yves on April 11th.

You should have received the Zoom link in an email from Margery Kirsch, *Mishloach Manot* chairperson.

Please contact Margery with questions margerykirsch@gmail.com or 914-238-8201.

PRIDE COMMITTEE - Suzanne Haber, Chairperson



Pride Committee meetings are held on the second Tuesday of each month. Our next meeting is Tuesday, April 13th at 7:30pm.

June is **PRIDE** month, and we will celebrate **Pride** *Shabbat* **on June 5**th. Please join us as we welcome Nadav Shachmon as our speaker.

Nadav, the Westchester Israeli Shaliach (emissary), was born and raised in Jerusalem and now lives in White Plains with his husband, Aylee, and their daughter, Aviv. Nadav will share his personal story as a gay man growing up in Israel and serving in the IDF, and he will also speak about what life is like for the LGBTQ community in Israel today.

Surrogacy in New York State.: Thanks in part to CSI member Eric Wrubel, paid gestational surrogacy is now legal in New York State. On **June 16th** we will be hosting a panel discussion with experts in the field explaining the new Child-Parent Security Act. More details coming soon.



WOMEN'S WRITING WORKSHOP

(NO EXPERIENCE NECESSARY)

Have you thought about writing the next great American novel? A memoir? An ode to commemorate a special occasion? Would you like to immortalize the tales from your family? How can you pass on your thoughts and hopes to loved ones? Are you inspired by camaraderie within a group of supportive women?

Come and explore the imagination and creativity that lie within each one of us.

As of March 31st we will have met 12 times since October, all via Zoom. This is our 6th year and we're still going strong with our writing!

Our next meeting is Monday, April 26th at 7pm via Zoom.

Please contact Marion Sader <u>marsader@optonline.net</u> for further information.

SOCIAL COMMITTEE - Barbara Schoenfeld, Chairperson

Thank you to all who made our Mix & Mingle event a success!



It was a nice way to meet-up over Zoom for a casual and social get-together.

We hope to connect again in the future and look forward to other

Social Committee events in the future!

APRIL 2021 / 19 Nisan - 18 Iyar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
,	,			1 19 Nisan	2 20 Nisan	3 21 Nisan
				Minyan 8am NO NS- PASSOVER RECESS	NO NS-PASSOVER RECESS Shabbat/ Pesach Evening Service 6:30pm C/L 7:04pm	Shabbat/Pesach Morning Services on site AND STREAMED 9:30am
4 22 Nisan	5 23 Nisan	6 24 Nisan	7 25 Nisan	8 26 Nisan	9 27 Nisan	10 28 Nisan
Pesach Morning Service w/ Yizkor 9:30am	Minyan 8am Yom HaShoah Candle Pick-Up 1-5pm	JITN 11:15am Education Comm.7:30pm	Yom HaShoah Service & Speaker: Marion Lazan 7pm	Minyan 8am Yom HaShoah	Kabbalat Shabbat on site AND ZOOMED 6:30pm	Shabbat Morning Services on site AND STREAMED 9:30am BM: DARAH PERGAMENT
	Sisterhood Board 7:30pm	Second Generation Survivors	Yom HaShoah		C/L 7:11pm	
11 29 Nisan	Talmud 9pm 12 30 Nisan	7:30pm 13 1 Iyar	14 2 Iyar	15 3 Iyar	16 4 Iyar	Shemini 17 5 Iyar
Minyan 9:15am	Minyan 8am Women's Torah	j	17 Ziyai	Minyan 8am	10 +iyai	Shabbat Morning Services on site AND STREAMED 9:30am
	Study 11:30am	JITN 11:15am HaMishpacha 12:30pm	Concert for Yom Ha'atzmaut 8pm	Yom Ha'atzmaut	Kabbalat Shabbat on site AND ZOOMED 6:30pm	Sisterhood Havdalah 8:25pm
	Talmud 9pm	Pride Committee 7:30pm	数		C/L 7:19pm	Tazria- Metzora
18 6 Iyar	19 7 Iyar	20 8 Iyar	21 9 Iyar	22 10 Iyar	23 11 Iyar	24 12 Iyar
Minyan 9:15am	Minyan 8am	JITN 11:15am	NO NS- Parent/Teacher Conferences	Minyan 8am HaMishpacha Discussion Group 10:30am	Kabbalat Shabbat	Shabbat Morning Services on site AND STREAMED at 9:30am BM: EDEN RAPPAPORT
	Talmud 9pm	Executive Committee 7:30pm	AIPAC Event 7:30pm		on site AND ZOOMED 6:30pm	Achrei Mot/Kedoshim
					C/L 7:26pm	
25 13 Iyar Minyan 9:15am	26 14 Iyar Minyan 8am Women's Torah Study 11:30am	27 15 Iyar JITN 11:15am	28 16 Iyar	29 17 Iyar Minyan 8am	30 18 Iyar Kabbalat Shabbat on site AND ZOOMED 6:30pm	NS=Nursery School JITN= Jews In The News C/L=Candle Lighting Time
	Women's Writing Workshop 7pm Talmud 9pm	Board of Trustees 7:30pm			LAG B'OMER C/L 7:33pm	



OUR APRIL B'NOT MITZVAH



APRIL 10th: DARAH PERGAMENT

Hi, my name is Darah Pergament. On April 10th, I am proud to say that I will be called up to the *bimah* to recite my Torah portion. Encouraging and supporting me along the way to becoming a *Bat Mitzvah* will be my parents, brother, and my dog. My family and I live in Pleasantville and I go to the Pleasantville Middle School with my friends. I am currently in 7th grade and I am a member of my middle school orchestra playing the viola. When I am not in school, I like to play soccer, go skiing, bake, and hang out with my family and friends.

For my *Bat Mitzvah* project, I am collecting canned foods to donate to Feeding Westchester, which is an organization that collects food for our neighbors in the fight against hunger. Food drives and collections help Feeding Westchester to keep their shelves stocked. Food drives are also a great way to raise awareness about hunger and food insecurity in Westchester County and to encourage others to help. It makes me happy knowing that I will be helping to feed our Westchester neighbors.

With my *Bat Mitzvah* coming up, I am super excited and a little anxious about my special day. Going to Hebrew school over the past five years has helped me prepare for this day. I would like to give a big thanks to Cantor Shiovitz, Rabbi Kane, all my Hebrew School teachers, and all my friends and family who have helped and supported me toward this special day. Again, I want to express my thanks to everyone who has helped me achieve becoming a *Bat Mitzvah*. Thank you!

APRIL 24th: EDEN RAPPAPORT

My name is Eden Rappaport. On April 24th I will become a *Bat Mitzvah*. I will be reciting *Acharei-Mot* and *Kedoshim*. During this pandemic, I have not only been preparing for my *Bat Mitzvah*, but I have been practicing Taekwondo and working towards earning my black belt. Taekwondo has really helped me power through the pandemic. After school, almost every day, I attend a virtual class. The classes allow me to stay active and strong mentally and physically. In addition to taekwondo, I like to write stories, draw, and hang out with my little sister, Mom, Dad, and our crazy dog.

For my *Bat Mitzvah* project, I will be helping Lifting Up Westchester. Lifting Up Westchester is a great organization that helps people in need by giving housing, food, income, and other support to help improve their lives. I will be providing bathroom caddies filled with toiletries and supplies for those staying in their men's shelter. I hope this will help them a lot. It really pains me to know that there are people who have nothing - no home, no food, no supplies; and this is why I wanted to help out. I am also encouraging my family and friends to donate to this great cause. [https://www.liftingupwestchester.org/donate]

I'm very thankful for my mom, who helps me through tough times; my dad, who keeps me laughing with his bad jokes; my sister, who drives me crazy - but in a good way; my Taekwondo instructors who positively influence me every day; *Morah* Sheera and all of my Hebrew school teachers who not only have taught me how to read Hebrew but have taught me important lessons about the Torah and being Jewish; and finally, Roni Shapiro, Cantor Shiovitz, and Rabbi Kane, who have led the way for me to becoming a *Bat Mitzvah*. Thank you!

LIFE CYCLE EVENTS

Condolences to: Elizabeth Legatt on the loss of her father, Stanley Marlin.

Condolences to: Robert Goldstein on the loss of his father, Meyer Goldstein.

Mazal Tov to: Jennifer & Benjamin Pergament on the Bat Mitzvah of their daughter, Darah.

Mazal Tov to: Janice & Steve Rappaport on the Bat Mitzvah of their daughter, Eden. Eden is the granddaughter of Rosalyn Rappaport and niece of Eric & Susan Leibert.

Mazal Tov to: Janis Golubock & Michael Harlow on the birth of their daughter, Harper Sarah Harlow. Harper is little sister to Adam Harris Rossman and niece of Rhona Golubock & Andrew Rotter.

Mazal Tov to: Patti & Bill Robbins on the birth of their granddaughter, Amara Robbins Beyrouty.

Amara is the daughter of Hannah Robbins & Matt Beyrouty.

Mazal Tov to: Libbe & Howard Pavony on the birth of their granddaughter, Bennett Sophie Pavony. Bennett is the daughter of Brett & Stephanie Pavony.

Mazal Tov to Marilyn & Bob Margolies and Susan Wattenberg on the Bat Mitzvah of their granddaughter, Ellie Wattenberg. Ellie is the daughter of Jaime & Aaron Wattenberg.



CELEBRANTS	Day	Years
Donald & Elaine Sunberg	1	9
Ed & Hedi Sperling	2	47
Jonathan & Laurie Goldheim	3	28
Steven & Audrey Bender	4	39
Michael & Laura Teitelbaum	4	23
Barry & Donna Yellen	5	34
Alex & Beth Fink	5	13
Norman & Marcia Levitt	9	61
Robert Johnsen & Rachel Goldman	9	12
Richard & Marisa Bloom	10	11
Paul & Sonia Kleinman	20	35
Howard Fleischer & Anna Medeiros	22	20
Leonard & Barbara Kobren	25	45
Scott & Amy Yules	27	18



CELEBRANT	Day	Age
Kylie Elyachar	1	6
Emma Klein	2	8
Eden Rappaport	5	13
Samantha Wancier	6	13
Emily Gilbert	7	1
Harper Feiguine	7	10
Evan Weintraub	8	5
Jake Maller	12	11

DONATIONS

CANTOR'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

In memory of Mollie Gutstein Rosalyn Rappaport
In celebration of my conversion and birthday Corazon Loteyro

CARING COMMUNITY FUND

In memory of Justin Strawgate Susan & Howard Code
In memory of Louis Yoken Deborah & Richard Yoken
In memory of Jeanne Kanengiser Deborah & Richard Yoken

In celebration of my conversion and birthday Corazon Loteyro

In memory of Stanley Marlin Debbie & Elliott Barish

JEFFREY DITTELMAN/ROBINOV CAMP RAMAH SCHOLARSHIP FUND (OVERNIGHT)

In memory of Stanley Marlin

In memory of Stanley Marlin

In memory of Stanley Marlin

In memory of Jean Dittelman

In honor of the birth of Amara Robbins Beyrouty

In honor of the birth of Bennett Sophie Pavony

Darlene Fairman & Jack Zinn

Faye Dittelman & David Perelman

Faye Dittelman & David Perelman

Faye Dittelman & David Perelman

ETZ CHAIM - TREE OF LIFE FUND

In memory of Stanley Marlin Ellen Steinberg

In memory of Stanley Marlin Erica & Jonathan Kolbrener
In memory of Stanley Marlin Rochelle & Marc Auslander
In memory of Stanley Marlin Leona & Neil Schluger
In memory of Meyer Goldstein Leona & Neil Schluger

In celebration of my conversion and birthday Corazon Loteyro

In honor of the Bat Mitzvah of Mia Benjamin Caryn Mofenson & Sidney Boorstein

RACHEL GREENSTEIN CHILDREN'S RESOURCE LIBRARY FUND

In memory of Evelyn Greenstein Jill & Joel Greenstein
In memory of Stanley Marlin Jill & Joel Greenstein
In memory of Meyer Goldstein Jill & Joel Greenstein

IRA KESTENBAUM BEAUTIFICATION FUND

In memory of Betty Strawgate Susan & Howard Code
In honor of the birth of Avery Ruth Goodman Debbie & Elliott Barish
In memory of Morris Yohai Roberta & Rick Kay
In honor of the birth of Bennett Sophie Pavony Janice & Barry Kirschner

KIDDISH FUND

In honor of Rafi & Keryn's 9th Wedding Anniversary Leah & Charles Zweibach

DONATIONS

MEMORIAL GARDEN FUND

In memory of Ellen Brown

Dean Brown

ORGANIC FARM FUND

In memory of Sally Cohen Arleen Neustein

In memory of Stanley Marlin Marilyn & Bob Margolies
In memory of Meyer Goldstein Marilyn & Bob Margolies

In memory of Jack Freeman Susan Lawrence
In memory of Stanley Marlin Margie & Mike Kirsch

In memory of Mel Speier Barbara & Henry Schoenfeld

In memory of Stanley Marlin Esther Schwartz
In honor of the first birthday of Samson Stanley Schulman-Carr Lois & Fred Schulman

RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

In honor of Linda Simon's 70th Birthday Gail & Barry Perlow
In memory of Betty Strawgate Susan & Howard Code

In memory of Mrs. Betty Levine & Dr. Leslie Koltai Marian & Daniel Levine

In memory of Selma & Nathan Levitsky Susan Levitsky

In memory of Maxine Gervey and Raymond Weinberg Linda & Edward Kaye

In memory of Stanley Marlin Nina Gershowitz
In memory of Arthur Riba Pam & Jordan Schiffman
In memory of Meyer Goldstein Donna & Tom Hannan
In memory of Meyer Goldstein Julie & Andrew Peskoe

In celebration of my conversion and birthday Corazon Loteyro

In memory of Stanley Marlin Roberta & Doron Bar-Levav
In memory of Gladys Gimpel Roberta & Doron Bar-Levav
In memory of Mel Speier Roberta & Doron Bar-Levav

In memory of Judith & Barry Goldstein Phyllis & Calvin Neider
In memory of Juliette Keidan Georgia & David Keidan

In memory of Meyer Goldstein Lois Gimpel Shaukat
Thank you to Rabbi Kane Tina Goldman
Thank you for the meaningful Shabbat services Ruth Hirschel

Thank you for the meaningful *Shabbat* services Ruth Hirschel

Thank you to Rabbi Kane for officiating at our wedding Lindsay & Adam Matloff

In memory of Stanley Marlin

In memory of Meyer Goldstein

Thank you to the CSI community

In memory of Meyer Goldstein

Iris & Joel Kazin

SECURITY FUND

In memory of Jordan Metzger Elizabeth & David Metzger

DONATIONS

DONATIONS TO THE ORGANIC FARM FUND FROM RABBI STEVEN & JUDY KANE

In memory of Stanley Marlin In memory of Meyer Goldstein

In honor of the birth of Harper Sarah Harlow
In honor of the birth of Amara Robbins Beyrouty
In honor of the birth of Bennett Sophie Pavony

In honor of the *Bat Mitzvah* of Darah Pergament In honor of the *Bat Mitzvah* of Eden Rappaport

FOR THE SALE OF CHAMETZ TO THE RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

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Michael Olin John & Barbara Palefsky Bill & Patti Robbins Adam & Helene Rude Jordan & Pamela Schiffman Robert Schloss & Emily Sack Neil & Leona Schluger Wendy Segal Cantor Jeffrey & Robyn Shiovitz Rachel Summer Roy Summer Michael & Laura Teitelbaum Michael & Susan Thrope Stephen Weiser Lee & Lauren Zaretzky Jack Zinn & Darlene Fairman Charles & Leah Zweibach

A NOTE FROM ELIZABETH LEGATT

My family and I want to thank the CSI community for your love and support during the loss of and *Shiva* for my father, Stanley Marlin (*z"I*). I'm also grateful for the helping hand by the Caring Committee.

PLEASE USE THIS FORM TO MAKE DONATIONS TO CONGREGATION SONS OF ISRAEL

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AZAL TOV	то:		On what date?
HE YAHRZE	TT OF:		We will make every effort possible to honor you request, depending on availability on that Shab-
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UE THIS V at \$180. I	WONDERFUL TRADITION. The minimum contrib	ution to this fun ciated! Your nar inued support!	DONATIONS IN ORDER TO BE ABLE TO CONTIN- d is \$36. FULL SPONSORSHIP of kiddush begins me will be announced on the bimah on the ap-
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	_ Building Fund _ Cantor's Discretionary Fund _ Caring Community	AMOUNT	_ Memorial Garden Fund _ Rhoda & Mel Miller Religious School
	Building Fund Cantor's Discretionary Fund Caring Community Abraham Cohen/ Fred Starler Memorial Tzedakah Fund	AMOUNT	_ Memorial Garden Fund _ Rhoda & Mel Miller Religious School Tuition Assistance Fund
	Building Fund Cantor's Discretionary Fund Caring Community Abraham Cohen/ Fred Starler Memorial	AMOUNT	_ Memorial Garden Fund _ Rhoda & Mel Miller Religious School Tuition Assistance Fund _ Minyan Breakfast Fund _ Mitzner Family Special Educational
	Building Fund Cantor's Discretionary Fund Caring Community Abraham Cohen/ Fred Starler Memorial Tzedakah Fund Jeffrey Dittelman/ Robinov Camp Ramah	AMOUNT	_ Memorial Garden Fund _ Rhoda & Mel Miller Religious School Tuition Assistance Fund _ Minyan Breakfast Fund _ Mitzner Family Special Educational Needs Fund (Lev/Shadows) _ Organic Farm Fund _ Prayer Book Fund (\$36 Lev Shalem,
	Building Fund Cantor's Discretionary Fund Caring Community Abraham Cohen/ Fred Starler Memorial Tzedakah Fund Jeffrey Dittelman/ Robinov Camp Ramah Scholarship Fund (Overnight)	AMOUNT	_ Memorial Garden Fund _ Rhoda & Mel Miller Religious School Tuition Assistance Fund _ Minyan Breakfast Fund _ Mitzner Family Special Educational Needs Fund (Lev/Shadows) _ Organic Farm Fund
	Building Fund Cantor's Discretionary Fund Caring Community Abraham Cohen/ Fred Starler Memorial Tzedakah Fund Jeffrey Dittelman/ Robinov Camp Ramah Scholarship Fund (Overnight) Etz Chaim – Tree of Life Fund Rachel Greenstein Children's Resource	AMOUNT	Memorial Garden Fund Rhoda & Mel Miller Religious School Tuition Assistance Fund Minyan Breakfast Fund Mitzner Family Special Educational Needs Fund (Lev/Shadows) Organic Farm Fund Prayer Book Fund (\$36 Lev Shalem, \$60 Etz Chaim Chumash)
	Building Fund Cantor's Discretionary Fund Caring Community Abraham Cohen/ Fred Starler Memorial Tzedakah Fund Jeffrey Dittelman/ Robinov Camp Ramah Scholarship Fund (Overnight) Etz Chaim – Tree of Life Fund Rachel Greenstein Children's Resource Library Fund	AMOUNT	Memorial Garden Fund Rhoda & Mel Miller Religious School Tuition Assistance Fund Minyan Breakfast Fund Mitzner Family Special Educational Needs Fund (Lev/Shadows) Organic Farm Fund Prayer Book Fund (\$36 Lev Shalem, \$60 Etz Chaim Chumash) Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

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