

Congregation Sons of Israel

THE MYERS FAMILY CAMPUS

CONTINUING THE VISION — BUILDING OUR FUTURE
APRIL 2022

29 Adar II — 29 Nisan 5782



Passover Services & Seder Schedule - See page 2 Passover Guide page 23

YOM HASHOAH - Never Forget! Join us for our annual service and program on April 27th. See page 2

CSI'S ANNUAL EVENT - The biggest fundraiser of the year - Sunday, June 12th. See page 8



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@csibriarcliff.org

Cantor Jeffrey Shiovitz jshiovitz@gmail.com

Nursery School Director: Naomi Elyachar

naomi.elyachar@csibriarcliff.org

Religious School Director: Wendy Segal

RSDirector@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, 4/15, 8 AM, Service for the Fast of the Firstborn-on site & zoom

Friday, 4/15, 9 AM, Sale of Chametz deadline

Friday, 4/15, 6 PM, Pre-Passover *Mincha & Yahrzeits*-on site & zoom

Friday evening, First Seder

Saturday, 4/16, 9:10 AM, First Day *Pesach* Service, *Shabbat* morning service-on site & livestream

Saturday evening, Second Seder

Sunday, 4/17, 9:10 AM, Second Day *Pesach* Service-on site & livestream

Thursday, 4/21, 6:30 PM, Seventh Day *Pesach* evening Service-on site & zoom

Friday, 4/22, 9:10 AM, Seventh Day *Pesach* Service-on site & livestream (no zoom option due to the holiday)

Friday, 4/22, 6:30 PM, Eighth Day *Pesach* evening Service & *Kabbalat Shabbat*-on site & livestream

Saturday, 4/23, 9:10 AM, Eighth Day *Pesach* Service, *Yizkor* recited & *Shabbat* morning service-on site & livestream

YOM HASHOAH GUEST SPEAKER WEDNESDAY, APRIL 27th at 7pm In Person and Live Stream



Betty Knoop was born in Amsterdam. She was 8 years old when Germany invaded. Her family was arrested and sent to transit camp Westerbork and on to Bergen-Belsen concentration camp. She was liberated by the Russians and returned to Amsterdam. Her mother survived the camp but died three days after she was liberated. Betty was a contemporary of Anne Frank, lived in the same neighborhood and was deported to the same concentration camp.

Please join us as Betty discusses life in Amsterdam, Westerbork, and Bergen-Belsen, as well as life after liberation.

FROM THE RABBI Steven C. Kane



Of all the Jewish holidays, none is observed in greater numbers than *Pesach*. According to surveys, somewhere between 70-80% of people who are Jewish celebrate *Pesach* in some way. There are those who have a *Seder* that lasts hours, not missing a word from the opening *kiddush* to the songs at the conclusion, while others simply have a "holiday meal," with perhaps a bit of the *Haggadah*, such as the Four Questions, included. Why is it that so many Jews find *Pesach* such an important and meaningful holiday?

There are, it seems to me, three reasons for the popularity of *Pesach*. Each of these reasons exerts a strong pull on us. The first is family. *Pesach* lends itself to the family gathering because the most significant part of our observance, the *Seder*, is done in our homes. Most of us have fond memories of our grandparents, cousins and aunts/uncles who joined us as we were growing up. *Pesach* is one of those holidays when we want, more than anything else, to share it with loved ones.

The second reason for its popularity is the various traditions that most families have. First and foremost are the foods. I wonder each year, how is it that the "egg soup" (mushed hard boiled eggs and salt water) is so delicious at the Seder, and so undesirable the rest of the year! Everyone has their favorite Pesach dish from the kneidels to the unusual desserts. However, there are other important traditions such as who hides the afikomen (some have the Seder leader hide it and the children search, while others reverse it) and who sings the Four Questions.

I believe that the other reason that *Pesach* is so popular is because people relate to the importance of what is being celebrated, the freeing of the Israelite slaves from their Egyptian taskmasters. This idea is both personal and universal. The particular aspect is captured in the words of the *Haggadah* when it says "*B'chol dor vador chayav adam lirot et atzmo k'ilu hu yatzah mi-mitzrayim*, In each generation it is the

obligation of every person to regard themselves as personally having left Egypt." This year however it is the universal voice of the holiday that speaks to me.

We are all aware of the war going on in Ukraine. It is a fight for freedom by one people in danger of being subjugated to another. It is in a part of the world where many of our ancestors are from. We ought to be motivated by telling the story of our liberation from Egypt to help the Ukrainians in any ways that we can, whether it is through collections or direct aid. When we regard ourselves as having been slaves to the Egyptians, we strongly empathize with those who are fighting for their own freedom.

Finally, there is another universal part of *Pesach* that has become personal this year. We read many times over in the Torah about how we are to welcome the stranger for we "were strangers in the land of Egypt." We have accomplished that for one family, Afghan refugees who worked at a U.S. Army base before having to flee this past year in fear for their lives. We have done this as a community on our own, without looking to partner with anyone else, and I have felt a particular importance to this because of the meaning of *Pesach*.

Whatever your reason for celebrating *Pesach* whether it be the gathering of loved ones, family traditions or the pull of the particular/universal lessons, Judy, Arielle, Tamar, Daniel, Elan, Leora and I wish you a *chag kasher v'sameach*, a beautiful and enriching *Pesach*.

Chag Sameach,

Rabbi@csibriarcliff.org

KS C-Kan

CANTORIAL NOTES Hazzan Jeffrey Shiovitz



If there was ever any doubt about the wide variety of tunes which exist for any given Jewish liturgical text, that doubt must be dispelled by a quick check among friends on how they sing the songs of the *Haggadah*. Such a check will reveal the broad spectrum of cultures and civilizations in which the Jews, at one time or another, found themselves.

Very little serious research has been done on the origins of even the better known *Haggadah* tunes, to say nothing of the infinite number of lesser known ones. But, perhaps, we can make a beginning.

The tune for *Mah Nishtanah*, the motivating device for the Seder, comes from the study-*nigun* (*lern shteiger*) so familiar to those whose Jewish education includes Talmud learned in the East European fashion. Since the *Seder* is intended primarily as a demonstration lesson for children on the Jewish struggle for freedom, it is natural that the Rabbis, in their wisdom, should have borrowed for this lesson the same motif used in other forms of Jewish study. The newest melody (from the 1940's), which is Israeli in origin, has become the predominant melody used by Ashkenazic Jews throughout the world.

Kadeish Ur'chatz, the outline which lists the fourteen steps of the Seder and which is actually not part of the Haggadah, is sung primarily in two ways. One tune traces its origin back to the Jewish community in Babylonia. There is another in the minor mode, which is traditional for the weekday Shacharit. The same mode is utilized, with some minor exceptions, for the long section of explanatory and historic material which constitutes the parent's answer to the Four Questions, beginning with Avadim Hayinu.

Of course, the Hasidim, with their great love for song, have a field day at the *Seder*. The *Haggadah* tunes of the *Makarever* and *Karliner* Hasidim are especially beloved. They add variety and spice to the musical fare by borrowing melodic themes from the High Holidays, *Selichot*, and from other festivals.

The very popular melodies for *Adir Hu* and *Chad Gadya*, which are Middle Ages German in origin, are rejected by the Hasidim in favor of melodies which seem more familiar to them. (think MORE Jewish!) Alas, a little investigation shows that their tunes are as Slavic in origin as the rejected ones are Germanic.

It is interesting to note that almost all musical traditions agree on the manner in which the Ten Plagues are enumerated. These are read in a dull, monotonous, one or two note chant, as if to teach that human suffering, no matter how richly deserved, is hardly a subject for exultation. As might be expected, when it is time to recite the *Hallel* at the *Seder*, all traditions use the mode that is sung in the synagogue. It is also remarkable that *Hallel* is one of the few prayer sections whose musical mode (natural minor) has been accepted almost universally, in Sephardi as well as Ashkenazi congregations.

The Hasidim conclude the *Seder* with a *Chad Gadya* tune which is based on the mode of the *Haftarah*. Most other communities, especially in America, prefer the madrigal type tune on which most of us were raised.

Everything is merely to celebrate again the rich and varied musical heritage which is ours. While we naturally prefer what is familiar, at the *Seder*—where the *Haggadah* itself is such a multi-hued tapestry—a little experimentation with a "different" tune might be in order. In our home, guests are encouraged to sing "their" tunes as well as ours. Whatever the tune, the *Haggadah* must be sung. A *Seder* without singing is like soup without *Matzah* Balls!

A joyous *Pesach* to all.

Ishiovitz@gmail.com

FROM THE PRESIDENT Clare Rosen



When I think about Passover, I usually think about freedom and the beauty spring brings us. Each year we celebrate Passover to commemorate the Jews' exodus from slavery to freedom, from being "strangers in a strange land" to a redeemed people in the land of Israel. At my Passover *Seder* table with family and friends, all are asked to answer the question: what can each of us do to 'help the stranger.'

But this is a year when security and safety are out of reach for many Jews around the world, especially in Ukraine. Across Ukraine, Jews have been engaging in a historically Jewish experience, becoming refugees.

Each of us, Jews in a global world, are obligated to fight against the oppression of the world's strangers, in lands not our own, on behalf of the "stranger." We are told that we can empathize with the stranger's plight because we, too, were strangers in Egypt. To engage the empathic muscle, we too should immerse ourselves in "stories," stories that tell of the oppression and the need to flee, portrayed in movies, literature, newspaper articles, etc.

Rabbi Lord Jonathan Sacks offered: "Why should I not hate the stranger? Because the stranger is me."

Many of you listened to your grandparents' stories of fleeing Ukraine to escape the pogroms, the Russian Revolution and the Russian Civil War. In 1995 the Soviet Union fell, where Jews had been utterly repressed and spiritually enslaved under Communism. Now, yet again, after centuries of emigration driven by antisemitism and the devastation of the Holocaust, Jews are fleeing Ukraine.

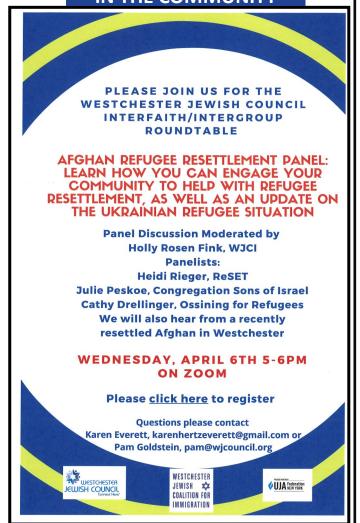
Experiencing the unlimited empathy of our synagogue, I know many have already reached out to help the Ukrainians and other refugees who are running from their homelands. And if you can, invite a "stranger" to sit with you at your Seder, possibly someone from CSI who doesn't have a Seder to attend.

Please reach out to the office if you will have a seat at your *Seder* table or if you want to be invited to a *Seder*.

Warm regards,

Clare E. Rosen, President clayrcsi@gmail.com

IN THE COMMUNITY





Even though I am writing this article in the beginning of March, I sense that Spring will be with us before too long. Yeah!

While the farm was "sleeping," all was not still. David Levitt has been busy preparing the beds for the upcoming season and, as you know, we pruned our grape vines. Inside, our wine-making process has continued. On the last Sunday in February, a really nice group of hard-working men (Aaron, Mike and Jason Stern, Rick Langeloh, David Levitt, John Chambal and Tom Hannon) and I spent much of the day "racking" the wine. Wine racking involves moving the wine from one container to another in order to reduce the amount of sediment that could wind up in the bottled wine. We removed the wine from each container, cleaned the containers (mostly casks) and then put the wine back into the original containers. Prior to Passover, we will bottle the wine and make it available for purchase. We anticipate making more wine available after that, for *Rosh Hashanah*. I feel that



every time I engage in the wine-making process, I learn more about making wine. I enjoy the companionship of my fellow winemakers. Aaron and his family members are really knowledgeable about the process!

Among the first vegetables to be harvested this Spring will be our horseradish—just in time for Passover. For a few years, we have been growing horseradish at the CSI farm. We plan to harvest the fresh horseradish and make it available in two forms—as it comes from the ground (with some leaves on top!) and some that will be processed into ground horseradish. Fred Schulman makes an outstanding ground horseradish and he has offered to provide this service for us. We are planning to offer the horseradish, and possibly chicken eggs, on Tuesday and Wednesday, April 12th and 13th from 3-5pm (either in the parking lot or inside the building)—just in time for your Seder preparations. If we have spices or any other early farm products, we will make them available.

Fruit trees will be flowering around the time that you are reading this and, of course, we will soon be planting hundreds and hundreds of vegetable seedlings. We welcome your support and your time for this unique aspect of our synagogue. Individual family beds are available for you to rent at a modest cost (contact <u>Jill Greenstein</u>) and/or you can volunteer on our farm. You and your children will learn a lot and will enjoy the many aspects of growing wonderful crops (contact <u>Ryna Lustig</u>).

We plan to begin the bottling process on Sunday morning, April 3rd. All are welcome to join us. Just show up at 10am or contact <u>Aaron Stern</u> to ask questions and/or to let him know that you'll participate. No prior experience is necessary!

- Mike Kirsch

Join Us!!

4/3 Wine Bottling

4/12 & 4/13 Horseradish & Eggs Pre-Passover Sale





THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

Jayne & Anthony Adorno Rochelle & Marc Auslander Sharon & Gilbert Balog Susan & Asher Banks Annleah Berger Judy Boehr Nancy & Daniel Cohen Daphne & Alan Crosswell Marjory Alabre & Alex Fijman Margaret & Eric Frankfort

Roberta Freilich Eleanor Frev

Robin & Sam Ginsberg Laura & Daniel Gold

Laurie & Jonathan Goldheim

Tina Goldman

Janis Golubock & Michael Harlow

Joan & Alan Gordon

Lynn & Ronald Hanover

Susan & Henry Hartman

Susan & Paul Hodara

Ellen Johnson

Rabbi Steven & Judy Kane

Lori & Irwin Kavy

Roberta & Rick Kay

Georgia & David Keidan

Margery & Michael Kirsch

Elizabeth & Alan Legatt

Beth & Harold Levine

Karen & Bernard Lipsy

Marilyn & Bob Margolies

Andrew & Allison Markowitz

Karie & Jeffrev Miller

Dara & Jason Mirsky

Susan & Andrew Morris

Mara & Gregory Mortman

Sadia & Ahsan Nabi

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Clare Rosen

Marnie & Mark Rosenberg

Betsy & Richard Rosenblum

Wendy & Richard Segal Gail Sider Celiane & Mark Silverstein Bette & Gary Slutsky

Joanne & Alan Suna

Susan & B. Michael Thrope

Debra Young

Judith Rosof

Darlene Fairman & Jack Zinn

PROJECT EZRA

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March 28, 2022

Board of Directors Justine Fisher Alan J. Gerson Harriet Kohn Geraldine E. Murphy Rina K. Pianko Sheila Rubin Chana Silberstein Sharon Silver Joan Sokotch Jaclyn Steinbach Ron Wegsman

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

To our Dear Friends at Congregation Sons of Israel:

We are writing to thank you for your generous gift of \$5,800.00 on the occasion of Passover.

Emeritus

Misha G. Avramoff

Our goal in helping elderly Jews on the Lower East Side of Manhattan live fruitful lives, would not be possible without your partnership and friendship. We thank you for joining us in this important mission.

May this Passover season be filled with abundant health and happiness for all of you and the entire Congregation.

With gratitude,

Geraldine E. Murphy Vice President



SAVE THE DATE!
CSI'S ANNUAL EVENT IS ON
SUNDAY, JUNE 12TH,
FROM 4PM—7PM.
RAIN OR SHINE!
FOR PEOPLE OF ALL AGES.

THIS YEAR, WE CELEBRATE LONG -TIME CSI MEMBER, MASTER VINTNER, AND CREATOR OF OUR AWARD-WINNING WINE: AARON STERN.

(Psst...you can say you heard it through the grapevine!)

Raffle donations & volunteers needed NOW to ensure the success of our biggest fundraiser of the year.

Contact Larisa Wayne or Fred Schulman



HERE IS A LIST OF WHAT CAN BE DONATED TO THE OPP SHOP AT 61 NORTH GREELEY AVENUE, CHAPPAQUA MONDAY - FRIDAY FROM 10AM - 2PM

PLEASE - NO DROP OFFS AT CSI!

CALL THE OPP SHOP AT: 914-483-4144.

Men's Clothing & Shoes

(NO SUITS)

Women's Clothing & Shoes

Children's Clothing (4T & up)

Coats

Jackets

Sweaters

Scarves

Hats

Gloves

Belts

Ties

Pocketbooks

Wallets

Leather goods

Luggage

Backpacks

Jewelry & Watches

Tools

Sporting Goods

Collectibles

Judaica

Small Appliances (in working

order with ALL parts)

Lamps

Pictures/Art Work

Picture Frames

Coffee Table Books

Hard Cover Best Sellers

Vases

Crystal & China

Dishes

Silverware

Platters

Kitchenware

Pots & Pans

New Toys & Games

Gently Used Toys & Games

(clean & in working order)

When you stop in, you are likely to bump into a CSI member you know as we have a great group of volunteers.

FROM THE NURSERY SCHOOL DIRECTOR Naomi Elyachar



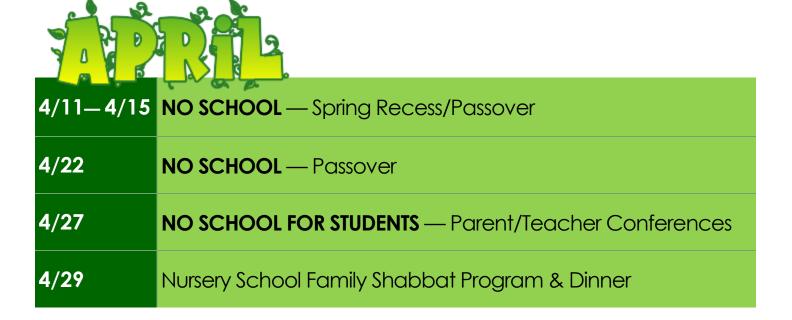
Life is filled with constant changes. Two very notable recent changes are the change from winter to spring and the easing of Covid restrictions. As our environment changes, it is necessary to constantly reevaluate decisions and adapt as needed. Our outdoor classrooms were a wonderful addition to our nursery school program last year. Creating them allowed us to safely and comfortably welcome students and teachers back to school amidst many uncertainties. Our entire community enjoyed spending more time outdoors, but we now also feel very comfortable indoors.

We are unpacking and taking down our outdoor classrooms, but have decided not to give up our time outdoors. We are fortunate to have such beautiful grounds at CSI and we plan to take full advantage of our space. Rather than bringing our indoor materials outside as we did last year, we will instead be enjoying the natural beauty of the outdoors when we spend time outside. Our classes will play on the playground, go on nature walks, visit the farm and chickens,

eat snack at the picnic tables, and read stories outside. I am also working on rearranging some of what we do have outdoors to create an outdoor dramatic play area for all classes to come to and enjoy. Children love being outdoors and can imagine and play so much when given the opportunity to explore and be creative. I look forward to seeing how they enjoy more and more time this spring.

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

Registration is open for the 2022-2023 school year! Please help spread the word to new families! Each new family referral will earn you a \$100 credit toward your tuition.



FROM THE NURSERY SCHOOL



Please join us with your littlest learners!

XExplore, learn and play with other children

Learn the structure of a school routine in a safe, fun setting

Meet other local families

Taste of CSI

Tuesdays, 11:00-11:45 a.m.

Little Explorers

For toddlers ages 16-24 months

Wednesdays, 9:30-10:45 a.m.

4th,11th, 18th, and 25th

\$120/non-member, \$90/member





Classes will take place in a well ventilated indoor environment. Grown-ups and parents of children in attendance must be vaccinated. In accordance with CSI Nursery School policies, participants must be up to date on childhood immunizations. Advance registration is required.

Please reach out to CSI Nursery School Director, Naomi Elyachar, with any questions.

osi nursiyy school

Friday, April 29th 5:00-7:00PM

Join us for a brief, musical Kabbalat Shabbat service followed by dinner for the family \$14/adult

\$5/child

Free for children under 2 Please register by April 21st

https://www.csibriarcliff.org/event/ns-shabbat-20220429

Please email **naomi.elyachar@csibrlarcliff.org** with any questions.

After dinner, join Rebecca Schoffer (and her puppets!) for a joyful and interactive Shabbat sing-a-long!

Δ

Get ready to move and groove your way into Friday night with singing, dancing, family and friends!

Rebecca Schoffer is a singer-songwitter, experiential educator, cantorial soloist and a playwight of tamily theater. She is the Director of Jewish Family Engagement and the leader of the Shababa community at the 2nd Street Y in New York City. Rebecca brings her bowder advantagement and the way of the Rebecca brings her bowder educational space, traveling around the world in the early puppetry and improvisation to the edwin educational space, traveling around the world in bead musical celebrations for families and record education world in the edwin educations for families and teach education world in the edwin educations for families and teach education world in the edwin edwin





FROM THE RELIGIOUS SCHOOL DIRECTOR Wendy Segal



Jews made a pilgrimage to that most holy site three times download at haqqadot.com. There are feminist a year: Sukkot, Pesach, and Shavuot. After the Temple was destroyed by the Romans in 70 CE, Jewish worship moved primarily to the synagogue. Yet for at least two of these festivals, the best known and loved rituals center around the home. Yes, synagogues conduct services dedicated to each of these holidays, but children who are lucky enough to grow up with a family sukkah never forget it. And more Jews attend a seder in their own home or in the home of a friend or family member each year than attend high holiday services, according to frequently quoted statistics.

Our teachers at CSI have been working diligently at least since Purim teaching our students the many traditions and lessons of Passover. Brian Gelfand, our music teacher, and Cantor Shiovitz have been teaching our students many of the seder songs, the order of the seder put to music, and, of course, the four questions. The teachers have been teaching about everything from the foods on the seder plate to the lessons we can learn from Moses' leadership. Why four questions when there are really five (count them!) – or one question with four examples? Why wash our hands twice? (In the Talmud, in Pesachim 109, it says we do it specifically so children can ask why we're doing it!) Why might G-d have chosen a man with a speech impediment to deliver a demand to Pharaoh? And why are questions just as important as maybe more important than – answers? To make learning meaningful, our teachers have had deep discussions, practiced Hebrew reading, played review games, incorporated learning materials, and acted out portions of the story.

But as good as our teachers are, the real learning of Passover happens at home. If you have children, ask them to share with you what they learned in religious school. If you know any children, share with them stories of seders you attended in the past. If you still use the old Maxwell House Haggadah or if you've been using the

During the days of the great Temple in Jerusalem, same one for years, check out the haggadot you can haggadot, there are Black Live Matter haggadot, there are HIAS immigrant haggadot, there are silly haggadot with skits and spoof songs, there are video haggadot, there are Spanish *haggadot*, there are *haggadot* for very young children, there are haggadot you can color, there are traditional *haggadot* with transliterations, there are inclusive *haggadot*, and if those don't interest you, you can create a *Haggadah* of your own. You can make hail out of marshmallows. You can buy plastic flies and frogs to decorate your table. You can put a few drops of red food coloring in the bottom of a wine glass and watch the amazement of the children as the water you pour into it turns into "blood" like the Nile did for Aaron. In some Sephardic families, they "beat" each other with scallions to act out the beatings the Hebrews endured at the hands of their taskmasters.

> This year, instead of asking the parents to come in to religious school for a morning of learning as was done recently, our students will be bringing assignments home to complete with their families. They can interview a parent or grandparent, make a plague paper bag puppet, teach their seder guests a new song, help to prepare the seder plate, or ask four additional questions for their parents to answer. Jewish learning is an ongoing partnership between Jewish children, Jewish parents, and good questions, most often asked at home.

> "Judaism is a faith that, more than any other, values the mind, encouraging questions and engaging us at the highest level of intellectual rigor. Every question asked in reverence is the start of a journey toward God, and it begins with the habit that, on Pesach, Jewish parents teach their children: to ask, thereby to join the neverending dialogue between human understanding and heaven." Rabbi Lord Jonathan Sacks z"l.

Wendy Segal **Religious School Director** RSDirector@csibriarcliff.org

FROM THE RELIGIOUS SCHOOL

Please mark your APRIL calendars with the up-to-date information below!

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	Junior Congregation* for 3rd-7th grades 10:45AM-12PM
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
School for K-7th grades		School for 3rd-7th grades				
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
NO SCHOOL		NO SCHOOL				
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
NO SCHOOL		NO SCHOOL				
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
School for K-7th grades		School for 3rd-7th grades				



***Junior Congregation** is a *Shabbat* service led by *Morah* Sheera at which students can learn and practice the parts of CSI's *Shabbat* service, explore Torah stories, and get ready for their *B'nai Mitzvah*.

Please join *Morah* Sheera for the last Junior Congregation service of this school year.

HEBREW HIGH & USY

	Hebrew High & USY April Events
4/3	USY—Briarcliff Manor Fire Department Presentation: Come learn about the young recruits program, meet members of the Briarcliff Manor FD, and tour the truck. You do not need to live in Briarcliff to attend or get involved-most communities have volunteer opportunities for teens. Questions? Email Andrea at csibriarcliff.org
4/10	NO HHS/USY
4/17	NO HHS/USY
4/24	Hebrew High School— This will be the last day for Hebrew High School. In celebration of Israel Independence Day the following week, we'll be making Israeli food like Israeli salad, fresh hummus, tahina, Moroccan carrot salad, mujaddara (lentils, brown rice and onions), tabbouleh, etc., and we'll enjoy our Israeli feast together.

MAKING HAMANTASCHEN

















FLASHBA(





SUBSTITUTE TEACHERS WANTED FOR RELIGIOUS SCHOOL

Are you interested in substitute teaching in our Religious School?

Hours: Sundays 9-11am and Tuesdays 4-6pm

Please contact Wendy Segal, our Religious School Director, here or call (914) 557-9922.

CARING COMMUNITY

The Caring Community is here to support our CSI family.

One of the services we provide is driving people to doctor's appointments. Call Judy Boehr (914-762-1984) if you need a ride, but <u>please call several days in advance</u> so that we have time to arrange a driver for you.

Other alternatives:

Taxi rides within Ossining are no more than \$5/trip: Ecua Taxi (914) 944-4500

2 outlets that give free rides:

- TRA (Transportation Resources Access): (914) 764-3533
 Register on line here.
- Ride Connect (through Family Services of Westchester): (914) 242-7433
 Link <u>here</u>.



TEEN MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS EVENT

JOIN US TO START CONVERSATIONS ABOUT MENTAL HEALTH, SPECIFICALLY FOR TEENS. ALL ARE INVITED TO ATTEND!



KEYNOTE SPEAKER - NUTRITION AND MENTAL HEALTH
WORKSHOP - MEDITATION WORKSHOP - REFRESHMENTS
FREE EVENT - RSVP REQUIRED!

For details and to RSVP go to the link below

Date: Sun, May 1st Time: 3 - 5 p.m.

Where: Congregation Sons of

Israel in Briarcliff

www.nostigmateen.com

AFGHAN REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT COMMITTEE UPDATE

On February 28th the CSI Resettlement Committee welcomed our first refugee family into our community. We came together as a caring community to rent, furnish, and create a new home for the K family -- Afghan refugees who are starting new lives in the United States. They moved into Briarcliff in February and are starting to acclimate to life here. The CSI community and friends made this possible. The K family is so appreciative of all that we've done. They now feel welcomed and supported already!

The CSI Resettlement Committee members have stepped up in so many ways. Committee members have provided hours of ESL training, arranged medical appointments, taken the family grocery shopping, on outings, and in so many large and small ways welcomed this family.

Committee members have forever changed the lives of these 3 (soon-to-be 4, baby due in April) people. It is very real and concrete when you see the two-year-old starting to feel comfortable playing with her new toys and recognizing friends, while her parents adjust to a life in which they are safe and supported.

In the late spring or early summer, we are planning to host an event on the CSI Farm to welcome the K family to meet our congregation.

Learn More About Refugee Resettlement

HIAS Resettlement Video about a refugee warm welcome for refugees in Tulsa, OK.

Advocacy

HIAS – <u>Advocacy Resources</u> International Rescue Committee – <u>Advocacy Resources</u>

Get Involved

Contribute to the CSI Refugee Resettlement Fund or volunteer with us!

We are **looking for more volunteers to drive** the family to appointments, events, and the grocery store. Please contact us at resettlement@csibriarcliff.org if you can help with driving or would like to learn how to get involved.

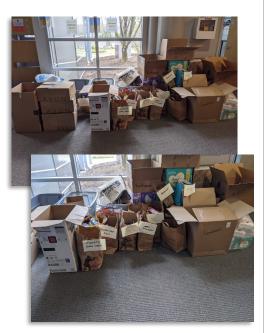
Thank you!

Abbe Marcus and Julie Peskoe Co-Chairs, CSI Resettlement Committee



Ukraine Relief

As we've watched the events in Ukraine unfold, CSI members have responded by sending AFYA medical and humanitarian supplies. Afya, which means "good health" in Swahili, is a foundation that seeks to spread "Good Health Through Giving," and does so by providing medical supplies, consumables, sustainable equipment, and community outreach supplies to international health clinics. The items we collected are being flown to Poland, where they will be used for refugees, and are also being trucked into Ukraine to help people there. Thank you to everyone who donated supplies and delivered our donations to AFYA in Yonkers. Your generosity definitely made a difference!



Project Ezra Food Drive

Once again this year due to COVID, we were not able to collect Passover food for elderly Jews on the Lower East Side. But like last year, our CSI family responded generously with cash donations. Project Ezra used those funds to purchase Passover basics and donate money directly to their clients so that they could shop for Passover goods. As of this writing, we have sent the equivalent of 87 boxes of food to Project Ezra (with more to come!!) I am so proud of our connection and dedication to this wonderful organization. Thank you to everyone who donated! Wishing you a joyous and meaningful Passover.



SISTERHOOD NEWS



Photo: Robin Ginsberg, Jill Greenstein

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. JOIN US! Thank you to all who participated in Sisterhood's annual Mishloach Manot fundraiser. Three hundred bags were prepared for distribution thanks to Merrie Daitch, Roberta Freilich, Ellen Freeman, Leah Zweibach, Faye Dittelman, Janine Gherson, Jill Greenstein and Annleah Berger. Thanks as always to Rosa, Ellen and the office staff for their support. Thanks to Irwin Kavy for his help. And special thanks to Andrew Leibert for helping with the distribution the night of the Megillah reading. It is only through the support of the Congregation that Sisterhood can continue to fund vital improvement projects for CSI. Todah Robah!

SISTERHOOD SHABBAT

SATURDAY, MAY 7th

We hope that everyone will join us, in person or via live-stream, for what we know will be a beautiful and meaningful service.

Please email <u>Gail Sider</u> to let her know how you would like to participate, either with a speaking part (English or Hebrew) or a non-speaking part.

<u>And we particularly need you, Torah readers!</u>

We look forward to the return of this wonderful Sisterhood experience.





If you are interested in learning to play Mahjong contact <u>Cheryl Katz</u> 914-945-0826.

President: Robin Ginsberg * Treasurer/ Financial Secretary: Sharon Richter
Recording Secretary: Beth Levine * Corresponding Secretary/ Bulletin: Marion Jablansky
Membership: Annleah Berger * Mahjong Chair: Cheryl Katz
Gift Shop: Merrie Daitch/Robin Ginsberg/ Jill Greenstein/ Marion Jablansky/ Sharon Orenstein
www.wlcj.org

MEN'S CLUB

MEN'S CLUB SHABBAT SAVE THE DATE: SATURDAY, JUNE 18TH





Next up for discussion: *Bad Blood: Secrets and Lies In A Silicon Valley Startup* by John Carreyrou. Discussion will be in May, date and time, TBA.

Join the Men's Club <u>here</u> or from the <u>CSI Homepage</u>, click on Men's Club in the Community tab menu. It's easy!

PRIDE COMMITTEE - Suzanne Haber, Chairperson



Our next meeting is:
Tuesday, April 5th
at 7:30pm.
Contact Suzanne Haber
for further
information.

PRIDE COMMITTEE - continued

SAVE THE DATE SATURDAY, JUNE 11th PRIDE SHABBAT AT CSI MORE INFORMATION COMING SOON

Keshet, an organization working for the full equality of all LGBTQ Jews and our families in Jewish life, recently led a workshop for CSI teens on LGBTQ+ Allyship and Belonging through a Jewish Lens. On this theme, here are four questions Keshet has created for use at our Seders:

The role of allies is critical to the work of creating a Jewish community that is inclusive, safe, and supports all Jewish children, teens, and adults to be fully themselves.

WHO ARE THE FOUR ALLIES? WHICH ONE ARE YOU?

The ally who asks what "LGBTQ" means: The first step to taking bold action and advocating on behalf of others is to approach with curiosity, humility, and openness. An ally is open to learning new things and challenging their own assumptions.

The ally who stands up for a friend: The lives of people we care about, our friends, family, and colleagues can be powerful catalysts for action.

The ally who speaks up about equality: When we speak out against injustice because it's the right thing to do, regardless if someone we know and care about is affected, we act on behalf of our core values.

The ally who comes out as an advocate to move equality forward: As allies, we are often insulated from the vulnerabilities that LGBTQ people face in the world. However coming out publicly as an ally can also mean taking a risk on behalf of the values and people we care about.

You can find the full one-page Haggadah insert including these questions on Keshet's website here. To explore other Passover resources from Keshet, see here.

Wishing an inclusive and zissen Pesach to all!

APRIL 2022 / 29 Adar II – 29 Nisan 5782

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
-	-	-	-	-	1 29 Adar II	2 1 Nisan
NS=Nursery School RS=Religious School JITN= Jews In The News C/L=Candle Lighting Time					6:30pm Kabbalat Shabbat on site and Zoom C/L 7:02pm	9:10am Shabbat Morning Services on site and Livestream 10:45am Junior Congregation
3 2 Nisan	4 3 Nisan	5 4 Nisan	6 5 Nisan	7 6 Nisan	8 7 Nisan	Tazria 9 8 Nisan
9:15am Minyan on site and Zoom	8am Minyan Zoom 11:30am Women's Torah Study w/ Rabbi Jan Uhrbach via Zoom 7pm Resettle. Cmtee. on site and Zoom	11:15am JITN 7:30pm Educ. Committee		8am Minyan Zoom 11am Contemporary Issues & The Talmud Zoom	6:30pm Kabbalat Shabbat on site and Zoom	9:10am Shabbat Morning Services on site and Livestream
	7:30pm Sisterhood Board 7:30pm Mahjong 8:45pm Talmud				C/L 7:10pm	
10 9 Nisan	via Zoom 11 10 Nisan	12 11 Nisan	13 12 Nisan	14 13 Nisan	15 14 Nisan	Metzora 16 15 Nisan
NO RS- Spring Break 9:15am Minyan	NO NS-Spring Break 8am Minyan	NO NS-Spring Break NO RS-Spring Break	NO NS-Spring Break	NO NS-Spring Break 8am Minyan	8am Service for the Fast of the Firstborn on site and Zoom	9:10am 1 st Day Pesach Shabbat Morning Services on site and Livestream
on site and Zoom	Zoom			Zoom	NO NS-Spring Break	
	7:30pm Mahjong 8:45pm Talmud on site and Zoom	11:15am JITN 7:30pm Second Generation Survivors		10:30am HaMishpacha Discussion Group Zoom 11am Contemporary Issues & The Talmud Zoom	Chametz sale deadline 6pm Pre-Passover Mincha Service w/ Yahrzeits on site and Zoom C/L 7:17pm	
17 16 Nia	10 17 Ni	10 10 Ni	20 10 Ni	21 20 Ni	FIRST SEDER	SECOND SEDER
NO RS-Passover Break	18 17 Nisan 8am Minyan Zoom	19 18 Nisan NO RS-Passover Break	20 19 Nisan	21 20 Nisan 8am Minyan Zoom	22 21 Nisan NO NS 9:10am 7 th Day Pesach Service on site and Livestream	23 22 Nisan 9:10am 8 th Day Pesach, Yizkor & Shabbat Morning Services on site and Livestream
9:10am 2 nd Day Pesach Service on site and Livestream		11:15am JITN 7:30pm CSI Exec. Committee		6:30pm 7 th Day Pesach Evening Service on site and Zoom	6:30pm 8 th Day Pesach Evening Service & Kabbalat Shabbat on site and Livestream	
					C/L 7:25pm	
PASSOVER 24 23 Nisan	CHOL HAMOED 25 24 Nisan	CHOL HAMOED 26 25 Nisan	CHOL HAMOED 27 26 Nisan	CHOL HAMOED 28 27 Nisan	PASSOVER 29 28 Nisan	PASSOVER 30 29 Nisan
9:15am Minyan on site and Zoom	8am Minyan Zoom 7:30pm Mahjong 8:45pm Talmud	11:15am JITN 7:30pm Board of Trustees	NS Parent/Teacher Conferences	8am Minyan Zoom 11am Contemporary Issues & The Talmud Zoom	6:30pm Kabbalat Shabbat on site and Zoom	9:10am Shabbat Morning Services on site and Livestream
	on site and Zoom		7:30pm Yom Hashoah Speaker	- 2000 - 2000	C/L 7:32pm	Achrei Mot

PESACH GUIDE: 2022 From The Committee On Jewish Law and Standards (CJLS) of the Rabbinical Assembly

For the past two years we have experienced a truly different Passover, from the preparations and purchases, to the Seders, and beyond. As Passover approaches, the CJLS has provided updated guidelines for the moment in which we find ourselves--so many uncertainties about food supplies, financial difficulties, and the loss of family and community gatherings as we once knew them. You may refer to their guidance here. We also remain aware and sensitive to--as we have been the last two years--how emotionally significant Seder can be with family members, special friends, guests, and with as many people as possible at the physical table.

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 here) * 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 *hameitz*, and a few grains of *hameitz* 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 *hameitz*. Even if one did not inspect the vegetables before Passover, if one can remove pieces of *hameitz* 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 Pesach 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 Pesach. If none of these are available, consult your rabbi.

CHAMETZ SALE: Deadline is Friday, 4/15 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.

LIFE CYCLE EVENTS



Celebrant	Date	Age
Kylie Elyachar	1	7
Emma Klein	2	9
Ronen Indibi	2	13
Emily Gilbert	7	2
Jake Maller	12	12



CELEBRANTS	DATE	YEARS
Donald & Elaine Sunberg	1	10
Ed & Hedi Sperling	2	48
Jonathan & Laurie Goldheim	3	29
Steven & Audrey Bender	4	40
Michael & Laura Teitelbaum	4	24
Barry & Donna Yellen	5	35
Alex & Beth Fink	5	14
Robert Johnsen & Rachel Goldmar	n 9	13
Paul & Sonia Kleinman	20	36
Howard Fleischer & Anna Medeiro	os 22	21
Leonard & Barbara Kobren	25	46
Scott & Amy Yules	27	19

Condolences to: Linda Kaye on the loss of her father, Norman Kaplan.

Mazal Tov to: Gail & Barry Perlow on the marriage of their daughter, Heather, to Jake Adams.

Mazal Tov to: Rabbi Steven & Judy Kane on the engagement of their son Elan, to Leora Einleger.

Speedy recovery to Faye Dittelman. Speedy recovery to Murray Rottenberg.

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Elizabeth & David Metzger

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In memory of Norman Kaplan, father of Linda Kaye

In honor of the birth of Melanie Jade D'Aquila, granddaughter of Karie & Jeff Miller

Get well to Faye Dittelman

Get well to Murray Rottenberg

THANK YOU TO THOSE WHO HAVE SUPPORTED THE AFGHAN REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT FUND

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