# **Congregation Sons of Israel** THE MYERS FAMILY CAMPUS CONTINUING THE VISION — BUILDING OUR FUTURE **FEBRUARY 2020** 6 Shevat - 4 Adar 5780 A Taste of TU B'SHEVAT vorld Wrap Sunday, February 9th at 4pm Join us for our inaugural Sunday, February 2nd at 9am Tu B'Shevat Seder with musicians **Oren Neiman and Ivan Barenboim** More information on page 18 More information on page 4



PURIM IS COMING! Order your Mishloach Manot (Purim bags) by Wednesday, February 26th

More information on page 16

**PESACH** 



Candy orders will be due February 28<sup>th</sup>.

**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 environment. participatory 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: Roni Shapiro Ben-David ronishapiro@csibriarcliff.org Synagogue Director: Ellen Green Johnson ellen@csibriarcliff.org

#### **OFFICERS:**

Steven Bender, President President@csibriarcliff.org Marc Auslander, VP Lois Gimpel Shaukat, VP Jill Greenstein, VP Fred Schulman, VP Eric Wrubel, VP Bob Margolies, Treasurer <u>Treasurer@csibriarcliff.org</u> Marc Auslander, Secretary Mike Kirsch, IPP



# SAVE THE DATE TO CELEBRATE

# SUNDAY, May 31st

CSI's Annual Event This year we honor: Marian & Daniel Levine and Leona & Neil Schluger

# FROM THE RABBI Steven C. Kane

The Talmud tractate *Rosh Ha-Shanah* begins with the following teaching: "There are four *Rashei Shanah* (New Years) during the year. They are the first of *Nisan*, which begins the New Year for a ruler and the pilgrimage festivals (*Pesach, Shavuot* and *Succot*); the first of *Elul* which begins the New Year for figuring the tithes of animals (Rabbi Elazar and Rabbi Shimon say this occurs on the first of *Tishrei*); the first of *Tishrei* which begins the New Year for (the counting of) years, and begins the sabbatical and jubilee for all produce; the first of *Shevat*, which begins the New Year for trees-according to the School of *Shamai*. The School of Hillel says the New Year for the trees begins on the 15th of that month." (*Mishnah Rosh Ha-Shanah* 1:1)

It should not surprise us that the Jewish calendar has four different times that begin a New Year. We have the same for our secular calendar! January 1 begins the New Year for the counting of the years, July 1 begins the fiscal year, and the first Tuesday after Labor Day begins the academic year (and if we want a fourth New Year for a complete parallel, we could say that April 1-or thereabouts-begins the base-ball season/year). Each of the four New Years on the Jew-ish calendar has a purpose, the most well known being the first of *Tishrei* which is when we celebrate *Rosh HaS-hanah* (for the counting of years) with a major holiday. Today we don't celebrate the other New Years days except the last one. It is perhaps indeed the most unique of all of the dates.

The argument over its exact date was won by the School of Hillel, and so it is the only New Year celebrated on the 15th of the month, not the first. It occurs during the month of *Shevat*, and the way we write the number 15 in Hebrew is with the letters *tet* and *vuv*. *Tet* is the 9th letter in the alphabet and *vuv* is the 6th, so when you put them together, (9 plus 6) you get 15. When the letter *vuv* follows another letter, it is pronounced "oo", hence *tet-vuv* is pronounced as *tu* (too) and this New Year is thus called *Tu B'shevat*, which simply means "the 15th of the month of *Shevat*".

What does it mean that *Tu B'shevat* is the New Year for trees? Why do we need to count "tree years"? The answer lies in the Torah. We read in Leviticus 19:23-25 "When you enter the land and plant any tree for food, you shall regard its fruit as forbidden. Three years it shall be forbidden for you, not to be eaten. In the fourth year all its fruit shall be set aside to be sanctified with celebrations before *Adonai*. Only in the fifth year may you eat its fruit-that its yield may be increased..." These years are counted from the 15th of *Shevat*, hence the New Year for trees.

When Israel was founded in 1948, one of the most important projects was to add to the number of trees in the land. Many of you may recall bringing *tzedakah* to your synagogue to buy "leaves", and ultimately a tree, to be planted by the JNF (Jewish National Fund). This was always done around *Tu B'shevat*, which although it was the middle of our winter, was the beginning of a new spring in Israel.

There is one other way that *Tu B'shevat* has been celebrated. In the 16th century Jewish mystics in the town of Safed in Israel instituted a seder for *Tu B'shevat*, incorporating the fruits of the land and four cups of wine. It was modeled on the Pesach seder. While not celebrated universally, it became a way to keep this unique New Year on our liturgical calendar. In modern times this has lead to creative celebrations of the same Jewish values we try to emphasize with our organic farm, recognizing the importance of what the earth produces. This year, for the first time, we will hold our own Tu B'shevat seder. Organized by the CSI Green Team and our Social Committee, this will provide for us a way to further incorporate these values in our own lives. Please join us on Sunday February 9th at 4:00pm, as we celebrate the New Years for trees in the middle of winter. It may well be the most unique New Years you will ever celebrate!

#### AIPAC POLICY CONFERENCE - March 1st-3rd

Join Rabbi Kane, CSI members and thousands of other Pro-Israel activists for three of the most important days of impact for Israel's future.

CSI members signing up for the first time get a \$100 discount from us. (Rabbi@csibriarcliff.org)

The AIPAC Policy Conference is the Pro-Israel community's preeminent annual gathering. Over three jam-packed days, Policy Conference participants choose from hundreds of informative sessions and participate in the Pro-Israel community's largest and most important advocacy day.

http://www.policyconference.org/

# L'hitraot, SC Kan



Monday, February 10th at 7:30pm We will be discussing the Jewish community of Kaifeng, China. How did they get there and where did they go?



The CSI Green Team and The Social Committee invite you to

laste of

SALASSA

Sunday, February 9 at 4:00 pm

Join us at CSI for our inaugural *Tu B'Shevat Seder*.

Together with Rabbi Kane & Cantor Shiovitz, we'll learn about *Tu B'Shevat*, the New Year of Trees!

Our short seder will include:

prayer
songs
vegetarian soup
hearty bread
salad
nuts
fruit
& WINE!

Each participant will also be going home with a seedling pot, soil and sunflower seeds to plant. When they are tall enough, we'll all gather to transplant them into our ORGANIC FARM!

\$5/PERSON Please RSVP to Barbara Block: bblockmsw@aol.com Open to all!

# CANTORIAL NOTES Hazzan Jeffrey Shiovitz

This coming week, February 8<sup>th</sup>, we will chant the Song of the Sea from the Torah. I wanted to share some thoughts from Rabbi Larry Hoffman, a past scholar-inresidence here at CSI.

#### What Makes Music Sacred?

Solomon Liebshutz loved this week's *parasha*, with its centerpiece, *"Shirat Hayam"* ( "Song of the Sea"), the Israelites celebration of deliverance from Egypt. Solomon appreciated the power of song, especially this one, called simply "The Song" in Jewish lore, as if there was no other.

He was a *Chazzan*. In 1718, Solomon wrote a vivid portrait of the cantorate of his time, calling it *"T'udat Shlomo."* The questions he raised remain with us to this day.

What exactly is sacred music? Is "*Hatikvah*" sacred or just Israel's national anthem, even if we sing it in synagogues sometimes? How about rock tunes to the *Kaddish* marketed these days among Orthodox teenagers? Are the congregational melodies of Shlomo Carlebach as sacred as the traditional sounds called *nusach*? Nothing so agitated synagogues 150 years ago as whether they might use organ music.

The problem is that sacred music is not like Chinese pottery or Vermeer paintings. In 1961, someone named Van Meegeren so brilliantly forged a Vermeer it looked exactly like one. Sacred music isn't the kind of thing that gets forged. You cannot compare it to an original prototype the way you can an unknown vase that either is or is not an authentic product of the Tang Dynasty.

So what makes music sacred? If it is not an identifiable quality of the music, what is it? Tradition approached this question with a close look at "The Song's" second verse, *Zeh eli v'anvehu* (This is my God, Whom I will glorify"). Glorify God? The Midrash asks, "Glorify" implies adding to God's glory but God's glory is infinite already. We can however, beautify what we do before God in a glorious way. Such sacred artistry presents evidence of human glory, but it reminds us that even the best we do is only a reflection of the ultimate glory that is Gods.

If we leave services with only the glory of the music, or only the glory of the singer, we have not been party to sacred music, no matter how artistically brilliant the music or the musician. But, if the same song and singer evoke the reality of that Divine presence of which we are but pale images, the music—even if otherwise artistically banal—is transformed into the sacred, as we are. For at least pale images are at least images. Made in the image of God, we sometimes know the essence of ourselves by knowing God first. But often it works the other way around. We know God by appreciating first what we at our best can do.

Sacred music drops hints of God through the striking recognition of our own godliness. We may not manage to split the sea, but we can save people by acts of kindness. We create no entire universe, but we do at least create. Rashi and his interpreters say it well: A song as beautiful as *"Shirat Hayam"* emerges only from the *ru'ach hakodesh*, the holy spirit of God that of its own wells up within us. Yet it happens only because we decide to sing it.

Sacred art is human "best" empowered by what only God can give. It glorifies God by analogy. If we can do this, what must God be capable of?

Solomon Liebshutz remembered his early years when cantors shared music so that all might equally sing the glory of God. Later he bemoaned the impact of artistic competition that led every cantor to keep his music to himself and even steal from someone else, and "wrap himself in a *tallit* that is not his own."

In the end, we recognize music as sacred when its singer—cantor, choir or congregation—no longer owns it. It is the gift of God running through, no longer ours the moment it escapes our lips. Great spiritual qualities—love, compassion, selflessness or art—begin deep inside us, but are not altogether "by" us. Our own brilliance evokes the greater glory of God: God's activity becomes believable, even tangible, the moment we observe our own imitation of it.

This is the week we vow to know God through knowing the best that is in ourselves. "This is my God." We are led to say, as we sing and dance and pray with passion, discovering through human creativity that we have played the role of God in our own tiny way.

<u>Jshiovitz@gmail.com</u>



#### JEWISH MUSIC THROUGH THE AGES

The final program in this year's Jewish Music Through The Ages will take place on Saturday evening, February

8th at the home of Abbe and Deane Marcus. The topic for the evening will be Cuban Jewish Music. Space is limited. Please RSVP to Cantor Shiovitz at jshiovitz@gmail.com.



# **CSI Community Organic Farm**

**Regenerative Agriculture Rooted in Jewish Tradition** 

#### February 2020 Update

Although we are in the middle of winter, the gardening catalogs have begun to arrive, and we are dreaming of delicious homegrown tomatoes, peppers, flowers, and more! For those who experienced the fun of community gardening last year, we hope you are ready for more this summer! And for those who have not yet tried it, we suggest you take a chance. More information on signing up for your own bed will be coming soon.

We spent one full day trimming trees throughout the Farm and removed one tree with structural problems in the trunk. Thank you to Bill Davies of Westchester Tree Life for excellent service. He also delivered a large pile of wood chips that are slowly being spread around the perimeter of the community garden and the main field.

The grape vines will be re-trained to grow only on the top cordon. This is a recommendation that our expert wine grower, Aaron Stern, learned from his professional wine growing connections and is in response to the unfortunate disease that attacked our crop last year.

Winter pruning will begin this month and anyone interested in learning or helping should please contact rynalustig@gmail.com.

The base for a small greenhouse was installed. The actual greenhouse is a kit and will be assembled in the spring. This space will allow us to experiment with growing some mid-season crops from seed. It will not be heated but the ability to control the growing environment while the seeds germinate will hopefully increase our success rate and allow us to better time our second planting of certain crops (and double the yield).

Now for some numbers: our first year of farming yielded close to 700 lbs. of food. The second-year tally was 1,874 lbs. This last year (our third growing season) yielded 3,282 lbs. of produce, of which 676 lbs. was donated to Fred's Pantry in Peekskill. We're so proud of this growth!

Our chickens have continued laying, albeit at a slower pace than in warmer weather. This contrasts with feedback from other folks who report that their flocks basically stop laying in the colder weather. So, we'll take that as a sign that our birds are happy.

Finally, we have had eight 7-foot white cedar picnic tables (with separate benches) delivered to accommodate school programs and events, and improve the quality and aesthetics of the Farm experience.

-- Dara Mirsky, with Ryna Lustig, David Levitt, Jill Greenstein, and Fred Schulman

Are you hearing about events and programs from a friend at CSI instead of through your own email? Rest assured, we are sending all messages to all member families and to all non-member school families (including billing statements).



As a <u>sender</u>, we have no control over what is actually delivered to your "in box". That is entirely up to the receiver/account holder.

# Please be sure to:

- Set your internet preferences to accept <u>all</u> email from <u>CSIBRIARCLIFF.ORG</u>
- If you have Gmail, be sure to check your "Promotions" tab/ folder. A LOT of emails gets selected to go there!
- Kindly look in your spam folder regularly. Each person's email provider has different security settings. Since we send group emails, important and timely messages may get caught in a filter.



#### MARION & RAY SADER'S THOUGHTS ON THE RECENT CSI TRIP TO ISRAEL

I have a clear memory of May 1948 when the state of Israel was established and my father was overjoyed; I think I was more puzzled than anything else. None of our family had a connection with Palestine; WWII had only recently ended and, except for my "foreign" Uncle Saul, rescued from Europe early in the '40s, to come live with us, I was not immersed in the Holocaust to any great extent. My concerns centered on me: my books, my friends, my family.

Home to me had always been western Massachusetts, to which I have continuously returned as often as possible. At least, until this past ten days when **that** "home" was nudged a bit from the central core inside me to provide space for another distant, different, distinctive, and divided place.

Yes, the trip to Israel for both Ray and me provoked a feeling of being home unlike any other time in my life. My only regret is that I had never gone to my "homeland" when I was younger. The handsome soldiers (male and female) nonchalantly carrying their rifles aroused jealousy; how I wanted to be one of them! Men and boys walking freely wearing kipahs and some with fringes hanging from their jackets caused me to recall indelible incidents of anti-Semitism from my youth. A world full of Jews, all looking different, from different countries! For one raised where there were barely a minyan number of families at any one time and no public Jewish life, this was a compelling eye opener. I thought to myself how different would I be if I had grown up somewhere in Israel?

Like thirteen-year-olds at their Bar/Bat Mitzvahs, I felt as though I was on the threshold not of the unknown, but rather at the entrance to a world that I was a part of, as though I was returning to a place that was partially mine. The past, the present, and the future were all around us as our group of nine traveled via mini-bus; from the old City of David and the Kotel, to the very new trend of Jewish veiled "modesty women" depicted in an exhibit at the Israel Museum, to the Innovation Center at the Stock Exchange, where R & D for future technical development is funded and promoted.

This was Israel for me—the trip of a lifetime and a dream come true, especially ever since our eldest son backpacked through Europe after college in 1980 and, moved by the Anne Frank Museum in Amsterdam, decided to stop off in Israel. The stopover turned into five months picking grapefruit on a kibbutz near Naharia.

From December 23, 2019 to January 2, 2020 we visited Israel; or, as Robin Kane humorously observed, by bridging the years, we had fulfilled our version of the promise: "Next year in Israel."

**Postscript from Ray:** I saw the vague hope of my youth turned into concrete reality before my eyes. I saw a vibrant and confident people who are ready to face the future with confidence in themselves. It was, for me, the trip of a lifetime.







#### JUST A FEW HIGHLIGHTS

- Herzl's love of theater was used in the depiction of his own life at the Herzl Museum. Herzl's utopian dream came true.
- Herzl is buried high on the top of a hill; the graves of Israeli prime ministers are buried lower down. The symbolism is pointed.
- Women once had the role of mohels—and many still do.
- Roman ruins at the Cardo are a reminder of other historical eras
- besides Egypt, the Ottoman Empire, and British Mandate, etc.
- In 2320 BCE a mass circumcision took place in Egypt; 120 young men were circumcised.
- At the Kotel, there is a "lending library" containing various prayer books. They sit on shelves behind glass doors, freely available for use by visitors. Another example of our reputation as "people of the Book."
- The "Dead Sea" is really the "Sea of Salt" and is the lowest point on the planet; however, it is disappearing one meter per year.
- A machtesh is **not** a crater.
- Giving food to the needy poor has been part of a charity group in Israel since 1788 and we joined by helping fill bags of couscous. An assembly line of fun for all!
- The Culinary Queens of Yeruham provide North African style lunches to visitors in the Negev. Jews worldwide connect via food!
- The remnants of a Roman road (once a wall) surrounding Masada, with ruins of Roman camps, preparing to attack the over 900 Jews inside.
- The Essenes's utopian society and its connection to the Dead Sea Scrolls. A Jewish "cult" doomed to die out.
- Menorahs, menorahs, everywhere. And as we lighted candles each night, often onlookers joined us in song. Hardly a Xmas tree to be seen!
- Yad Vashem Museum, remembering both the individuals who perished and the ones who helped to save many. Statements by survivors along the way are most moving. From a dark, crowded, rather narrow beginning, one winds through exhibits until, at the end, a panoramic view of Jerusalem appears: rather than extermination, a new nation appears.



# NEWS AND EVENTS from Roni Shapiro, Educational Director

Families of Bet & Gimel Students:



RSVP to Janice@csibriarcliff.org by 2/3 \$18 per family payable to CSI





Youth Learning Services for 3rd-7th graders Led by Morah Sheera

February 8 February 29 10:30am-12:00pm

### <u>3rd-5th graders:</u>

Must attend at least 5 of these services during the 2019-2020 school year

### 6th & 7th graders:

Attendance at these services will count toward Bar/Bat Mitzvah requirements

Other 2020 Shabbat Noar dates: March 7 & 28, April 18 & 25, May 2 & 16 Would you like to learn more about the *Shabbat* morning service or study Torah?





February 8th 10:30AM -12:00PM

### NEWS AND EVENTS from Roni Shapiro, Educational Director Sunday, February 9th RELIGIOUS SCHOOL CELEBRATES <u>Heh Field Trip</u> Tuesday, February 4 4:00 PM **Edenwald Cottage School** in Pleasantville 9-11AM Heh class students will tour the Support JNF: facility, learn about the residents, play some games with the kids and Plant a tree in Israel have pizza, ice cream and snacks. This Visit www.jnf.org fulfills the mitzvah of love your Are you ready for it neighbor as yourself. Edenwald is always looking for donations. Please send in items such as: CDs comic books video games (new or used) extra sports equipment a new game or toy Sunday, March 8 11:00AM-12:30PM **Prizes!** Fun! Games! **CSI Teens News** We are proud of our CSI Teens who are continuing Upcoming Hebrew High School

their Jewish Education in our Hebrew High School:

Zachary Anisman Shoshana Daly Harrison Ginsburg Ian Horowitz Laura Horowitz

David Katz Dina Millerman Hannah Mortman Abbie Nass

Daniel Satran Hayley Satran Ryan Wancier Iason Yules Rebecca Zinn

And thank you to their families for supporting our High School programming by registering their teens!

Brunch & Class: **FEBRUARY** 2nd & 9th 11AM-12:15PM

### **NURSERY SCHOOL PTA**

#### OUR UPCOMING FEBRUARY EVENTS:

February 6th: DINOSAURS ROCK An interactive school assembly that's educational, hands-on, & includes a fossil-dig with specimens to keep and take home! February 8th: PARENTS ONLY SATURDAY NIGHT SOCIAL Hosted by one of our gracious CSI

NS PTA parents. A night to spend time with other CSI parents in a casual social setting.

#### COMING IN THE SPRING:

May 20th: MAD SCIENCE From air to animal friends and butterflies, to water, weather and worms, the preschool science programs are designed to captivate the curious nature of young children. Mad Science brings the wonders of science to preschool kids.

SPRING 2020: BOSSY FROG BAND The songs are fun and interactive and the kids will surely love it! The Bossy Frog Band thrills young audiences with their 100% interactive, over-the-top, banjo-driven, costume-character-dancing musical performance.

Check out Mabel's Labels to help put your child's name on everything. Go to <u>mabelslabels.com</u> and click on Support a Fundraiser. Click on CSI NS PTA (Briarcliff Manor) and start shopping. A percentage of the proceeds is given back to support the PTA.

<u>'CSI NS PTĂ Board 2019-2020</u> President: Randi Teplow-Phipps

Treasurer: Angela Kotsubey

Holiday Boutique Chair: Emily Newfield

Moving-Up Day Chair: Erica Bagliebter

Food and Drink Chair: Alissa Lupu

Class Parent Liaison: Naomi Elyachar

Hospitalities Chair: Caitlin Scheir



### **RELIGIOUS SCHOOL PTA**



THE PASSOVER CANDY SALE WILL BE UNDERWAY VERY SOON. ORDERS ARE DUE BY FEBRUARY 28TH.

We hope you are enjoying the Challah Fairy challahs! Remember, there are always a few extra for purchase on alternate Friday mornings. Give the office a call to find out what's for sale.

# USY/KADIMA—Andrea Bromberg, Advisor

Here's what's coming up for teens at CSI:

What?	When?	Where?	Who?
Shul In! (Overnight at the synagogue)	Saturday, February 1-	CSI	Heh, High School,
	Sunday February 2		USY, and Jewish
RSVP here			teens who aren't
https://forms.gle/AAsA6SDMqRPyyG7G9	~8pm-8am		CSI members (Heh
			cannot sleep over)
"A Taste of Tu B'Shevat" Dinner	Sunday, February 9 at 4pm	CSI	Heh, High School,
			and USY

#### CSI's 2019-2020 USY Board:

Rachel Mathisson – Co President /David Katz – Co President/Elan Roth – Religion/Education & Israel Affairs VP/Hayley Satran – Communications & Membership/Kadima VP/Dina Millerman – Social Action/Tikkun Olan VP

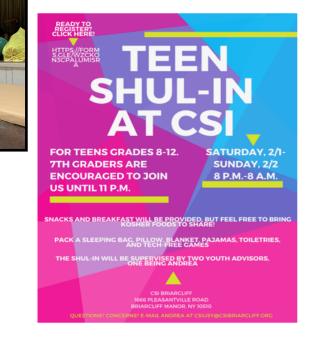
- Have questions? E-mail Andrea at <u>csiusy@csibriarcliff.org</u>. Or speak to a USY board member!
- Want METNY updates on your phone? Text @metnyu to 81010 for reminders.
- Want to register for a regional or divisional event? Follow this link: <u>https://www.regpacks.com/reg/templates/build/?g\_id=100901855</u>

On Sunday, January 19, teens and parents came together to prepare dinner for the homeless staying at CSI. They served fresh-baked garlic bread, vegetable lasagna, brownies, and apple cobbler, as well as salad and fruit. Thank you to everyone who helped---Amanda Bromberg, David Katz, Alyssa Mathisson, Rachel Mathisson, Dina Millerman, Brookie Ramer, Randi Ramer, Hayley Satran, Jonathan Wexler, and Suzanne Wexler. A special shout out to Amanda for crafting the menu, taking the lead, and ensuring that everything ran smoothly. *Kol hakavod!* 











# Judy Boehr, Chairperson



Our Winter Clothing Drive for the IFCA in Ossining continues. Thank you to all who have donated. Collection bins are in the Synagogue lobby. Please come and drop off clean coats and jackets (men, women, children), hats, scarves, gloves, and mittens. We will deliver them as the bins fill so that they can be used immediately.

Thank you to all the volunteers who contributed to the great success of the CSI sponsored Christmas dinner!

We joyously fed over 75 guests at the First Presbyterian Church and delivered meals to 8 homebound individuals.

All of our guests went home with extra meals, lots of cookies, candy goody bags, supermarket gift cards and toys for the children in their lives.

Whether you shopped, cooked, set up, greeted and served, please know how appreciated you are. Special thanks always to our dedicated kitchen crew. (Ronnie Kent, Howard Code, Josh Parker, Richard Zuckerman, Abbe Marcus, Deane Marcus, Barry Yellen and Sue Lerner).

Special thanks to our "toy ladies", Susan Code and Debby Kittay-Parker, who every year go above and beyond for the children.

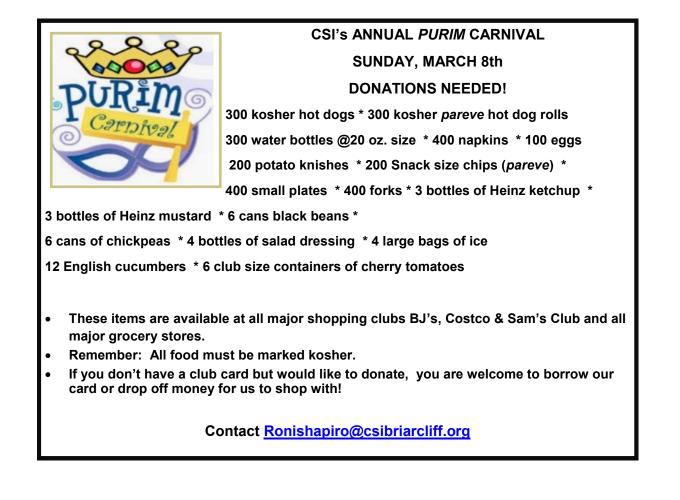
Thanks to our piano players, Brian Gelfand and Matt Green.

Thanks to Duna (our friend from First Presbyterian) for playing the guitar and leading us in song.

Special thanks to our clean-up crew! (the Diamond Family, the Rappaport family and Sonia Kleinman) And a warm welcome and extra-special thanks to Tyler Martin (grandson of Marion and Ray Sader) who stepped up to make our home deliveries.

We couldn't do this without all of our CSI family. Robin and Jamie







#### PURIM IS COMING!

The CSI Sisterhood is once again making it possible for us to send *Mishloach Manot* (*Purim* bags) to our friends at CSI. Letters will be mailed with all the details on how to participate. These letters include YOUR special code for online ordering. It's fun, it's delicious and it's so easy to participate! <u>Deadline for</u> <u>ordering is Wednesday, February 26th</u>. Orders may be picked up at the Purim Carnival on Sunday, March 8th or at the Megillah reading on Monday, March 9th.

> Don't hesitate to contact either the CSI office or Margie Kirsch at 238—8201 if you need assistance of any kind. We're happy to help!

### SISTERHOOD NEWS - www.WLCJ.org

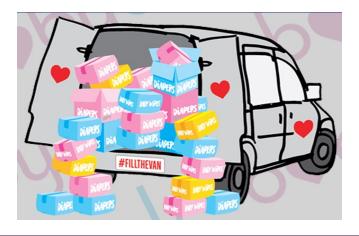


Join CSI Sisterhood and help gather diapers and wipes for babies in need.



**#FilltheVan** is a community-wide baby diaper and wipe drive that helps struggling local families. Please bring donations of new and unopened baby diapers and wipes to CSI. On February 14th, (914)cares will be picking up these donations and will fill the van to deliver to families in need.

Please look for collection boxes in the lobby. Contact Robin Ginsberg for further information.



The Gift Shop will be open : Sunday, February 9th from 9am-11am

MATANAH THE GIFT SHOP OF CSI

### MAH JONGG

Next Game: Monday, February 10th at 7:30pm

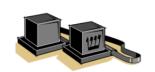


President: Robin Ginsberg \* Treasurer/ Financial Secretary: Sharon Richter \* Recording Secretary: Beth Levine Corresponding Secretary/ Bulletin : Marion Jablansky \* Membership: Annleah Berger \* Mah Jongg Chair: Cheryl Katz

# MEN'S CLUB - Mark Reisman & Richard Langeloh, Co - Presidents

JOIN CSI'S MEN'S CLUB 20th ANNUAL WORLD WIDE WRAP -Sunday, February 2nd

At 9am we will wrap *tefillin*, followed by *minyan*, breakfast and amazing live music with *Sha'ar*.



Open to all: Men, women and teenagers are encouraged to wrap *tefillin* to show solidarity with Jews around the world.



The *Sha'ar* Duo is comprised of Oren Neiman (guitar) and Ivan Berenboim (clarinet). Oren recently completed a lengthy stint as the guitarist in the Off-Broadway and Broadway Yiddish language productions of Fiddler on the Roof. Among other credits, Ivan is the resident clarinetist at a synagogue in Manhattan and teaches at Hebrew Union College in New York City. This is a family-friendly event; all are welcome. **A donation of any amount at the door would be appreciated to support this Men's Club event.** 

Please contact Mark Reisman to RSVP. mireisman@icloud.com





MARCH

March Madness & Texas Hold 'Em -Thursday, 3/26 at 7:30pm.



MEN'S CLUB BOOK CLUB For more information please contact Alan Grotenstein <u>agrotenstein@gmail.com</u> 914 591 8372 Office \* 914 953 7866 Cell <u>"MAN OF THE YEAR"</u> Sunday, May 3rd, 2020 Orangetown Jewish Center - Rick Langeloh will be honored as Man of the Year along with Outstanding Youth, Rebecca Zinn. Please save the date. More info to follow.

FEBRUARY 2020 - 6 Shevat – 4 Aa	lar
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# CARING COMMUNITY - Merrie Daitch, Chairperson

Our CSI Caring Community is a committee whose sole purpose is to help our members who need some TLC. After you let the shul office know what is going on in your life, they can set the wheels in motion. You will hear from Judy Boehr if you are sick or need a *mazel tov*. Merrie Daitch makes our bereavement calls. We offer *Shabbat* dinners or bereavement bags for our mourners. If you need food because of illness or catastrophe, Susan Hodara will give you a call. If you have a baby, Resa Mestel Fox will send you a special gift. Susan Grotenstein delivers holiday gifts to our members who are home/facility bound. (Please let us know about congregants whose situation has changed and now fall into this category.) Many of our over 30 members help with *Shabbat* deliveries, visit our members who are sick and cook when called upon. We thank them all! If you would like to be added to our email list, please contact our chair, Merrie



The Caring Community has been a long-time supporter of the *HaMishpacha* Luncheons at CSI. Your donations to this fund can help us maintain this beloved program for seniors in our area. Your donations to CSI's Caring Community are put to work to provide much-needed socialization and support. Thank you!

# PRIDE COMMITTEE - Suzanne Haber, Chairperson



THE CSI PRIDE COMMITTEE is closely aligned with an organization named Keshet which works for the full equality of all LGBTQ Jews and our families in Jewish life. Keshet equips Jewish organizations with the skills and knowledge to build LGBTQ-affirming communities, create spaces in which all queer Jewish youth feel seen and valued, and advance LGBTQ rights nationwide. A team from CSI participates in the Keshet Leadership Project thanks to a generous contribution from CSI member Clare Rosen. The Project kicks off with a dynamic,

experiential day-long Leadership Summit that builds the capacity of leaders and their institutions to create LGBTQ inclusive and affirming environments for all community members. Keshet's expert facilitators train participants to use concrete strategies and tools for inclusion. Participants leave with an action plan for their institution outlining how to implement the strategies and tools they learned at the Summit. Each institution receives a year of follow-up coaching and consultation to help implement these concrete steps toward LGBTQ equality

#### SAVE THE DATE:

Pride Shabbat at CSI is Saturday, June 20th



#### **RYAN HOROWITZ - FEBRUARY 8th**

Hi, my name is Ryan Horowitz. On February 8, 2020 I will become a *Bar Mitzvah*. I live with my mom and dad, Jennifer and Marc, my older brother, Ian and my French bulldog, Harley in Briarcliff Manor. I attend Briarcliff Middle School, where I am currently in seventh grade. My favorite sports are baseball and lacrosse. I also enjoy skiing (and most recently, snowboarding), going to Lake Owego Camp and rooting for Ohio State and the Giants!

Our dog, Harley, is a part of our family and like a big brother to her, I help take care of her. I really love animals, so I knew I would enjoy the experience of volunteering at the SPCA of Westchester for my *Bar Mitzvah* project. At the SPCA, I spend time reading to the dogs and preparing treats for them. It is rewarding when I see how happy it makes them to see me. I know that I am adding extra fun to their day and making them feel special. Volunteering at the SPCA also reinforces that it makes you feel good to help others. My Mom and I also initiated a pet supplies drive for the SPCA and we were able to donate tons of materials, such as food, blankets and toys.

I am excited to become a *Bar Mitzvah* and I would like to thank all of my Hebrew School teachers (especially Sheera Zuckerman), Roni Shapiro, Cantor Shiovitz, Rabbi Kane and my family for helping me prepare for this day!

#### **KATELYN FOGEL - FEBRUARY 29th**

Hi, my name is Katy Fogel. I live in Briarcliff Manor with my mom, dad, two brothers, and the best dog. I am very excited that my *Bat Mitzvah* is coming up so soon, on February 29<sup>th</sup>, 2020. I am a 7<sup>th</sup> grader at Briarcliff Middle School. I like school and have a very nice group of friends. Some of the things that I enjoy in my free time are dance, volleyball, and spending time with family and friends. I decided to try a new sport (volleyball) in the fall. I was almost certain that I wasn't going to like it, but I stuck with it and ended up really liking it and making new friends. I also enjoy dancing (especially hip-hop dancing) and have been doing it for about 6 years. Whether it's in the studio or in my house (for fun!), dance never gets boring. My favorite thing to do is hang-out with my friends and go places with them. I also enjoy playing with my dog and going on walks with her in Rockefeller Park on the weekends. This summer I acted in the Lion King, my fourth Random Farms production. I loved acting and singing on stage. I was very proud of myself for doing it.

For my *Bat Mitzvah* project, I interviewed a holocaust survivor named Hyman Mendolowitz. Hyman explained that he grew up in Romania with a lot of siblings, but when he got older the Germans separated his sisters and mother from him. So, Hyman was left with his father and one brother. Hyman was sent to a lot of concentration camps, which was very scary for him, because he didn't know what was going to happen, where he was going to be next, or where his next meal was going to come from. At one of the concentration camps Hyman and his family were starving and he contracted typhoid fever, a disease that almost killed him. Right when Hyman and his father and brother were about to lose hope, three soldiers liberated the camp. Interviewing Hyman made me realize how lucky I am and made me proud to be Jewish. What amazed me most was that despite all Hyman had been through he retained a positive attitude and faith in G-d. It was a true honor to meet Hyman and his wife Miriam.

I am very proud to become a *Bat Mitzvah* because it officially means that I am a young Jewish adult. I am grateful to my Hebrew school teachers, Rabbi Kane, Cantor Shiovitz, and mostly to my parents for planning my bat mitzvah celebration and making sure I am prepared for this day.

### DONATIONS

#### CANTOR'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

In memory of Sidney Brandt In honor of Cantor Shiovitz In honor of Cantor Shiovitz In memory of William Goldstein In honor of the 36th Wedding Anniversary of Robyn and Cantor Jeffrey Shiovitz In honor of Cantor Shiovitz In memory of Jake River Vandercar & Joel Zimmerman In memory of Anna Ackerman In memory of Ruth Papa

#### CARING COMMUNITY

In memory of Leah Slotnick In memory of Leah Slotnick In memory of Leah Slotnick In memory of Perla Semel In memory of Sol Krongelb In memory of Louis Gutstein In memory of Anna Markowitz In support of CSI In memory of Bernard Kaufman In memory of Leah Slotnick In honor of Marion & Ray Sader In memory of Joel Zimmerman In memory of Julius Eisenstein In memory of Joel Zimmerman In memory of Leah Slotnick In honor of the birth of Effy Chana Barzilai

#### ETZ CHAIM - TREE OF LIFE FUND

In memory of Gladys Barish In honor of the birth of Norah Marion Kulkarni In honor of CSI In honor of Sheera Zuckerman In honor of CSI In memory of Maxwell Frank

#### JEFFREY DITTELMAN/ROBINOV CAMP RAMAH SCHOLARSHIP FUND (OVERNIGHT)

In memory of Paul Raskin In memory of Leah Slotnick Speedy Recovery to Faye Dittelman In memory of Leah Slotnick Speedy Recovery to Faye Dittelman In honor of Andrea Dittelman Procopis In memory of Steve Dittelman In memory of Rebecca White In memory of Stephen Dittelman Susan Lerner Debbie & Elliott Barish Carolyn & Mathew Linett Marla & Sanford Goldstein Liz & Alan Legatt

The Millerman Family The Zimmerman Family Stephen Ackerman Sam Papa

Marilyn & Bob Margolies Susan & Michael Thrope Clare Rosen Arthur Krakowski & Family **Rosalyn Rappaport Rosalyn Rappaport Annleah Berger** Celiane, Mark & Eric Silverstein **Roslynne Reichgott** Judith & Jeffrey Gelfand **Esther Schwartz** The Hentel Family Sylvia & Susan Eisenstein Roberta & Doron Bar-Levav Sonia & Paul Kleinman Sonia & Paul Kleinman

Liz & Alan Legatt Liz & Alan Legatt The Millerman Family Benjamin Millerman The Millerman Family Eleanor & Michael Frey

Sharon Dittelman Faye Dittelman & David Perelman Leon White Esther Schwartz Sharon Dittelman & Family Faye Dittelman & David Perelman Leon White Sharon Dittelman

## **DONATIONS CONTINUED**

#### EDUCATIONAL DIRECTOR'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

In support of the CSI Nursery School

#### Caren Shapiro

#### RACHEL GREENSTEIN CHILDREN'S RESOURCE LIBRARY FUND

In honor of the birth of Norah Marion Kulkarni In honor of the birth of Norah Marion Kulkarni In memory of Rachel Greenstein In memory of Leah Slotnick

#### **IRA KESTENBAUM BEAUTIFICATION FUND**

In memory of Esther Miller In honor of the birth of Jordan Eliot Kestenbaum In honor of the birth of Jordan Eliot Kestenbaum In honor of the birth of Jordan Eliot Kestenbaum In honor of the birth of Jordan Eliot Kestenbaum In honor of the birth of Jordan Eliot Kestenbaum

#### KIDDUSH FUND

In memory of Herb Rude In memory of Herb Rude In memory of Perla Semel In memory of Maxine Charney In memory of Rachel Greenstein In honor of Alan's birthday In memory of Rhoda Zimmerman In memory of Joel Zimmerman In celebration of Jack's Bar Mitzvah Parasha & Birthday In memory of Sol Charney In memory of Frances Griffithskig In memory of Narkis Tzoar In memory of Madeline Einstein In memory of Mildred Alpert Thank you to Roberta Bar-Levav In memory of Leah Slotnick

#### MINYAN BREAKFAST FUND

In memory of Leah Slotnick

#### MITZNER FAMILY SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS FUND

In memory of Joel Zimmerman In support of the Mitzner Family Special Educational Needs Fund

#### **ORGANIC FARM FUND**

In memory of Samuel Cohen Mazal Tov to Melissa Band & Jared Hahn Kathy & Len Levin Ellen & Jack Freeman Harvey Grosberg Jill & Joel Greenstein

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Helene, Adam, Sam & Eitan Rude Gerrie Rude Arthur Krakowski & Family Stacey & Richard Charney Harvey Grosberg Liz & Alan Legatt The Zimmerman Family The Zimmerman Family Darlene Fairman & Jack Zinn Stacy & Richard Charney **Rochelle Auslander** The Crosswell Family Joan & Fred Weinstein & Family Marilyn & Bob Margolies Bette & Gary Slutsky Jamie Crowley

Mara & Greg Mortman & Family

Leon White The Mitzner Family

Arleen Neustein Toni & Elliot Band

## **DONATIONS CONTINUED**

#### PRAYER BOOK FUND

In memory of Perla Semel

#### RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

In memory of Ronald Becker In memory of Violet Weinberg In honor of Rabbi Kane In support of CSI In honor of Rabbi Kane In memory of Paul Gurevich In memory of Esther Miller In memory of Esther Miller In memory of Philip Levine In memory of Irving Saperstein In memory of Jake River Vandercar & Joel Zimmerman Thank you to Rabbi Kane In memory of Ruth Papa In honor of the Bar Mitzvah of Cooper Sunberg In memory of Lilly Legatt and Edith Marlin

#### STUDY IN ISRAEL SCHOLARSHIP FUND

In honor of the birth of Effy Chana Barzilai

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

In memory of Joel Zimmerman In memory of Leah Slotnick Speedy Recovery to Suzanne Haber *Mazal tov* to Ryan Horowitz *Mazal tov* to Katelyn Fogel In honor of the engagement of Melissa Band & Jared Hahn Arthur Krakowski & Family

Heidi & George Pinsky Linda & Edward Kaye Debbie & Elliott Barish Celiane, Mark & Eric Silverstein Carolyn & Mathew Linett The Shaukat Family The Shaukat Family Karen and Allen Saperstein Karen and Allen Saperstein The Zimmerman Family Stephen W. Kingsley Sam Papa The Sunberg Family Liz & Alan Legatt

Barbara & Norman Block

#### IN SUPPORT OF THE HOMELESS SHELTER PROGRAM

Barbara & Norman Block Eleanor & Michael Frey Ruth Hirschel Margery & Michael Kirsch Leon White



Here is a list of donors from December 17th—January 17th (\*) Denotes donations \$500 and above.

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# LIFE CYCLE EVENTS

**Condolences to:** David Zimmerman on the loss of his father, Joel Zimmerman.

**Condolences to:** Marian Jablansky on the loss of her mother, Leah Slotnick.

Speedy Recovery to: Suzanne Haber.

Mazal Tov to: The Horowitz Family on Ryan's Bar Mitzvah.

Mazal Tov to: The Fogel Family on Katelyn's Bat Mitzvah.

Mazal Tov to: Toni & Elliot Band on the engagement of their daughter, Melissa, to Jared Hahn.



CELEBRANTS	DATE	YEARS
Gretta & Barry Seidel	1	34
Susan & Asher Banks	4	52
Linda & Steven Kavee	6	33
Barbara & Henry Schoenfel	d 12	44
Bryna & Michael Sweedler	17	57
Susan & Peter Diamond	18	41
Elyse & Mark Kovler	19	37
Jane & Richard Taffet	19	36
Julie & Andrew Peskoe	21	33



CELEBRANT	DATE	AGE
Meia Rappaport	1	10
Zachary Kirsch	2	12
Leah Falah	6	12
Yael Falah	6	12
Mia Benjamin	6	12
Katelyn Fogel	21	13
Talya Simon	26	6

#### ANNIVERSARY CORRECTIONS FROM OUR JANUARY BULLETIN

CELEBRANTS	DATE	YEARS
Barry & Gail Perlow	2	49
Vladimir & Marina Sukonnik	3	33
Leonard & Kathleen Levin	3	11
Joel & Iris Kazin	9	48
David & Georgia Keidan	12	51
Warren & Susan Altwerger	14	47
Stephen & Marsha Ackerman	29	54
Gary & Rachel Licht	29	8

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

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IN HONOR OF:	(circle one: Cohen Levi Israel)
SPEEDY RECOVERY TO:	I wish to accept another honor.
<i>MAZAL TOV</i> TO:	ON WHAT DATE?
THE YAHRZEIT OF:	We will make every effort possible to honor your request, depending on availability on that Shabbat.

SELECT FUND(S) - Except where marked, minimum donation per fund is \$18.00. Descriptions of each fund can be found on our website: www.csibriarcliff.org - click on "Grow."

KIDDUSHIM FUND - IT IS OUR LONG-STANDING CUSTOM TO SHARE KIDDUSH AFTER OUR SHABBAT MORNING SERVICES. WE VERY MUCH APPRECIATE THE SUPPORT PROVIDED BY YOUR DONATIONS IN ORDER TO BE ABLE TO CONTINUE THIS WONDERFUL TRADITION. The minimum contribution to this fund is \$36. FULL SPONSORSHIP of kiddush begins at \$180. Donations of all amounts are very much appreciated! Your name will be announced on the bimah on the appropriate Shabbat morning. We thank you for your continued support!

KIDDUSH DONATION AMOUNT: \_\_\_\_\_\_ SHABBAT DATE \_\_\_

AMOUNT	FUNDS	AMOUNT	FUNDS
-	Cantor's Discretionary Fund	-	Memorial Garden Fund
	Caring Community Abraham Cohen/ Fred Starler Memorial <i>Tzedakah</i> Fund Jeffrey Dittelman/ Robinov Camp <i>Ramah</i> Scholarship Fund (Overnight) Educational Director's Discretionary Fund <i>Etz Chaim</i> – Tree of Life Fund Rachel Greenstein Children's Resource		Rhoda & Mel Miller Religious School Tuition Assistance Fund <i>Minyan</i> Breakfast Fund Mitzner Family Special Educational Needs Fund (Lev/Shadows) Organic Farm Fund Prayer Book Fund (\$36 Lev Shalem, \$60 Etz Chaim Chumash)
	Library Fund		Rabbi's Discretionary Fund
	Gilbert Kavy Memorial Building Fund		Study In Israel Scholarship Fund
	Ira Kestenbaum Beautification Fund		Zuckerman/Charlotte Hering Memorial Fund for <i>Ramah</i> Day Camp Scholarships

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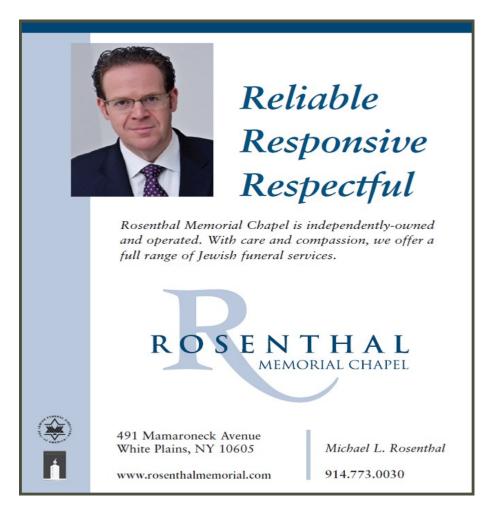


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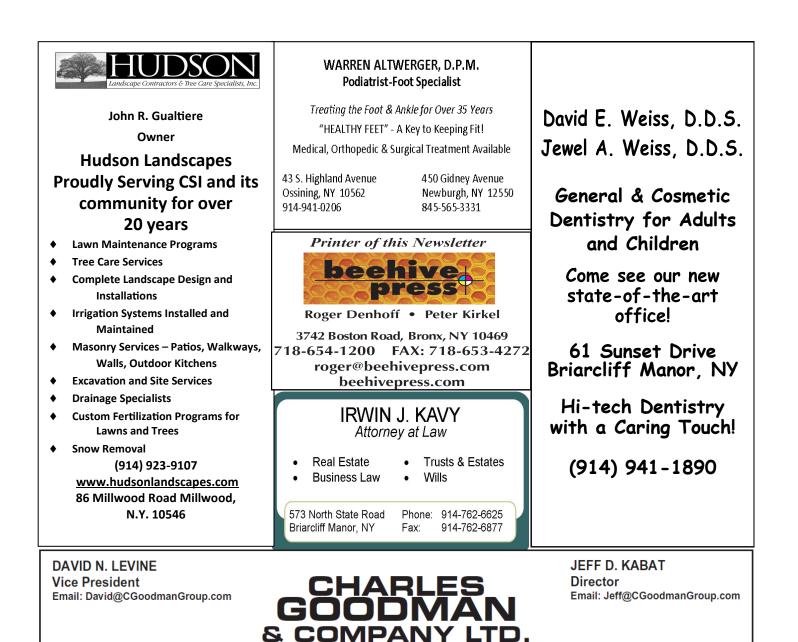


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