



# Congregation Sons of Israel

THE MYERS FAMILY CAMPUS

CONTINUING THE VISION — BUILDING OUR FUTURE

MAY 2022

30 Nisan — 1 Sivan 5782

## Sisterhood Shabbat

Saturday, May 7th. Join us for a wonderful *shabbat* morning service, followed by a zero waste *kiddish* sponsored by Sisterhood and arranged through the CSI Green Team. See pages 18 & 19



## CSI'S ANNUAL EVENT

The biggest fundraiser of the year

Sunday, June 12th. See Page 2



**Congregation Sons of Israel**

1666 Pleasantville Road  
 Briarcliff Manor, NY 10510  
 Phone: (914) 762-2700  
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[www.csibriarcliff.org](http://www.csibriarcliff.org)  
[info@csibriarcliff.org](mailto:info@csibriarcliff.org)

**OUR MISSION STATEMENT**

*(adopted 1999, revised 2007):*

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

**Rabbi Steven C. Kane**

[Rabbi@csibriarcliff.org](mailto:Rabbi@csibriarcliff.org)

**Cantor Jeffrey Shiovitz**

[jshiovitz@gmail.com](mailto:jshiovitz@gmail.com)

**Nursery School Director:**

**Naomi Elyachar**

[naomi.elyachar@csibriarcliff.org](mailto:naomi.elyachar@csibriarcliff.org)

**Religious School Director:**

**Wendy Segal**

[RSDirector@csibriarcliff.org](mailto:RSDirector@csibriarcliff.org)

**Synagogue Director:**

**Ellen Green Johnson**

[ellen@csibriarcliff.org](mailto:ellen@csibriarcliff.org)

**OFFICERS:**

**Clare Rosen, President**

[President@csibriarcliff.org](mailto:President@csibriarcliff.org)

**Robin Ginsberg, VP**

**Jill Greenstein, VP**

**Mark Rosenberg, VP**

**Fred Schulman, VP**

**Bob Margolies, Treasurer**

[Treasurer@csibriarcliff.org](mailto:Treasurer@csibriarcliff.org)

**Marc Auslander, Secretary**

**Steve Bender, IPP**



THE  
UNITED  
SYNAGOGUE OF  
CONSERVATIVE  
JUDAISM  
בית המדרש החדש



**You are invited to CSI's Annual Event  
 in honor of longtime member and master vintner  
 Aaron Stern ,  
 creator of our award winning CSI wine.**

**Sunday, June 12th, 4pm - 7pm.  
 Under a beautiful tent on the CSI Farm.**

**Fully catered menu, including passed hors d'oeuvres  
 a variety of entrees, sides and desserts,  
 wine, spirits, and non-alcoholic beverages.**

**Live music for adults and for kids, too!  
 Special children's activities...  
 this is an event for people of all ages.**

**Raffles will be sold online AND at the event.  
 Info on the way!**

**We are creating a lovely, full color digital  
 Journal with ads of all sizes.**

**INVITATIONS ARE GOING OUT VIA EMAIL  
OR YOU CAN RSVP HERE**



**SECURITY...IN CASE OF EMERGENCY  
 WHAT WOULD YOU DO? WHAT WOULD WE DO?**

**Join our security manager, Andy Polay, at CSI on  
 Sunday, May 15th at 11:30 am for a hands-on class  
 at our first SECURITY KIDDUSH.**

**Have some food, learn the plan and  
 practice with Andy. Open to all.**

**REGISTER HERE**

## FROM THE RABBI

### Steven C. Kane



On Wednesday night and Thursday, May 4th and 5th, we will celebrate the 74th anniversary of the founding of the modern State of Israel. It is quite meaningful to be in Israel when *Yom Ha'atzmaut* occurs. It is preceded by a very serious and solemn *Yom Ha'zikaron* (Memorial Day), sending the message to the entire population that it was only through the sacrifice of these men and women that the Jewish state was born. It feels like every person is out celebrating in some way shape or form. Some gather together to listen to or sing the classic Israeli music of the 40's and 50's, during Israel's early years. Others are singing the music of Israeli artists from the generation of the Six Day and *Yom Kippur* wars. Then there are those celebrating to music from the contemporary Israeli music scene, with songs similar in style to what one might hear in America.

In several places, including on many U.S. college campuses, that day will not be celebrated with song and dance. It will be a day of memorial and unrest, called *Nakba*, a commemoration of the "disaster" for the Palestinian people that took place with the founding of the State of Israel. At these commemorations there will be one common theme, that Jews do not have the right to a land of their own anywhere in Palestine, that is on all of the land "from the (Jordan) river to the (Mediterranean) sea."

Jerusalem, we have a problem. While the vast majority of Jews strongly believe in the right of Israel to exist, Jews who are younger, mainly in their teens and twenties, have begun to question this. Often it is because they have been exposed to these arguments on campus, and they don't have enough information or knowledge to respond. Another reason is that the rights of Palestinians are often linked to others who are oppressed (called intersectionality), and they feel that they should side with those supporting the Palestinian cause because we should always oppose oppressors, whomever they may be.

Many of us have children and grandchildren (and even friends) who fall into this category. How do we engender a love of Israel in their souls? How do we help them to understand the complexity of the situation regarding Jewish Israelis and Palestinians? How do we enable them to love Israel, while at the same time

being able to criticize it when it is wrong, without calling into question its very existence?

I want to make some suggestions which perhaps could be of help. The first is to acknowledge there are real problems that exist in Israel, just as there are in the United States. However, we don't call for the destruction of America (or any other country for that matter) when we feel it has acted unjustly. We fight to correct those problems, whether in the U.S. or Israel, working with like-minded people to do just that. A second suggestion is to open them up to the many organizations in Israel that serve like-minded causes, whether it be environmental issues, social problems or LGBTQ rights. They may well see a very different side of Israel than they think they already know.

There is one last suggestion I would make. I think, just as we emphasize speaking to survivors of the Holocaust while they are still here to tell their story, listening to people who remember what it's like to live in a world with and without a Jewish State is very important. I think that all of us should take advantage of hearing from such people, especially in private conversations. What was it like at the first *Yom Ha'atzmaut*, May 14, 1948? What did they do to celebrate? How did having a Jewish state change their self-image as a Jew? How might their life have been different had there been a Jewish state before 1948?

These issues about Israel that are raised by young (and some not so young) people today deserve to be taken seriously. When we do so, I have no doubt that we will continue to instill both a love for Israel and a respect for Jewish values in the vast majority of them. That would be a wonderful reason to celebrate.

*Chag Ha'atzmaut Sameach,*

[Rabbi@csibriarcliff.org](mailto:Rabbi@csibriarcliff.org)

## CANTORIAL NOTES

### Hazzan Jeffrey Shiovitz



Between *Pesach* and *Shavuot* we count every day. Known as the period of the *Omer* because of a special offering of the grain harvest which was brought to the ancient Temple, it is one of the ways in which we connect the extraordinary events of *Pesach* and *Shavuot*. As we count down the 49 days, seven complete weeks, we are to feel the intensification of the meaning of the FREEDOM (from Egyptian slavery) to the fulfillment of our LIBERATION in the receiving of the Commandments whose revelation we recognize at *Shavuot*. After all, we did not simply escape from slavery, we became a people marked by the distinctive morality of the Torah. Each day is another step farther from "slavery," another step closer to the beauty of the Torah.

To me, the custom of counting each day of this period is a lovely one. While the words of the *b'racha* conform to the predictable formula of ".....*asher kid'shanu b'mitzvotav*...." and therefore are not complicated, I think that the mood of this *mitzvah* requires a particular attentiveness. The prayer is placed between the personal recitation of the *Amidah* and the communal *Aleinu*. Traditionally, one was required to faithfully keep the count himself/

herself in order to be responsible for reciting the count for the community—such a big deal for such a small *b'racha*. I must say that it has become much easier to recite the *b'racha* and count the *Omer* today, as there are numerous websites that send a daily reminder via email or text with the day to be counted. As I recite the *b'racha* for counting the *Omer*, I like to sing the words in a somewhat elaborate way, suggesting the beauty and the mysticism of this custom of counting. I hope that by adding a special beauty to this small *b'racha* I can strengthen our common awareness of the coming of *Shavuot*, and the power of the Torah in fulfilling the promise of freedom.

[jshiovitz@gmail.com](mailto:jshiovitz@gmail.com)

**The Hazz'n's Tish returns  
Saturday, 5/14 at  
12:30pm**

**Join us after services for  
some good old-fashioned  
community singing!!**

 **KOL RINAH**  
JOYFUL VOICE

*Kol Rinah,*  
the Jewish Chorale of Westchester

***Celebrates***  
***20 Years of Song***

Sunday, June 19, 2022  
3:00 p.m.

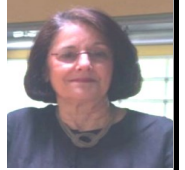
*Congregation Sons of Israel*  
1666 Pleasantville Road  
Briarcliff Manor, NY 10510

For tickets and information:  
[www.kolrinahchorale.org](http://www.kolrinahchorale.org)



## FROM THE PRESIDENT

### Clare Rosen



My Latin teacher, Mrs. Abramson, urged us daily to open our eyes to see, not merely look; listen, not just hear; and take in the scents around you, not just smell. She was truly a passionate teacher who influenced me in so many ways. While she reminded us daily to pay attention to the world around us, she taught us that self-awareness was the first step in looking outward.

As we enter the month of May, a month associated with the goddess Maia, who oversaw the growth of plants, we also enter the Hebrew month of *Iyar*, known as a month of blossoming, but also as the month of healing. This refers to 400 years of suffering in Egypt, followed by our freedom: now is the time to heal. Self-awareness and self-healing are critical to helping others.

*If I am not for myself, who will be for me...  
And if not now, when? -- Hillel*

I'm not suggesting we ignore the injustices in the world—and they are many. I'm saying how very important it is to heal oneself first in order to connect to our greater wholeness, *shleimut*. As Jews we embrace self-care, healing and wholeness. Each *Shabbat* we read the prayer *Yedid Nefesh*:

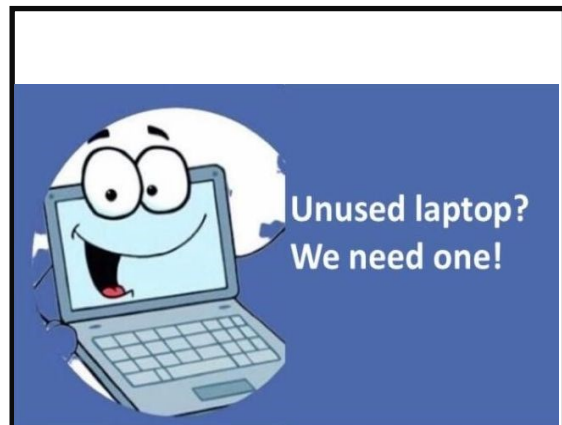
*Please G-d, please heal my soul, please, by  
showing in the pleasantness of Your radiant light  
so that it will be strengthened and healed and will  
have eternal joy.*

Sometimes to be whole means to become something new; sometimes to be whole is to release issues of the past. Healing is about refocusing how you live. To be self-aware is the ability to recognize one's strengths and challenges.

You are probably questioning why I chose to write this column. To bring it back to the teachings of Mrs. Abramson, self-awareness is the first step in looking outward. As we count the *Omer* each day, a time of spiritualism and for practicing the discipline of mindfulness, we can open our hearts to ourselves and to others. The counting of the 49 days between the second day of *Pesach* and *Shavuot* emphasizes the importance of each day, a time to reflect on who we are, how we are experienced by others and how we can become whole.

Warm regards,

Clare E. Rosen, President  
[clayrcsi@gmail.com](mailto:clayrcsi@gmail.com)



**Do you have a laptop you can donate?  
Our newly resettled Afghan family is  
using on that is not quite up to par.**

**If you can help, kindly contact  
[Abbe Marcus](#) or [Julie Peskoe](#). Thanks!**



# CSI Community Organic Farm

## Regenerative Agriculture Rooted in Jewish Tradition

I am writing this article as Spring has finally arrived (not just on the calendar, but in weather as well!!!). The daffodils, snowdrops and other bulbs have emerged from the ground, the forsythias are blooming and my fig tree is showing signs of growth. I love this season!

Let me tell you two stories about why I love gardening –

When I was first married, we lived in a small apartment in Tarrytown. I had purchased some fresh peas for dinner and noticed that roots had emerged from some of them. I decided to plant them in a window box and surprise of surprise, I grew more peas!!!

The gardening bug had bit me!! I followed this up by planting a few tomato plants at my parents' home in Mohegan Lake. One day, my husband, with his sense of humor, carefully placed a cucumber among the tomatoes. Needless to say, I wasn't fooled (at least not for too long).

Gardening is a wonderful hobby/pastime for the entire family to enjoy. It takes time and patience and some effort, but the rewards are so worth it!!

The stores are stocked with spring/summer plantings – tomatoes, kale, herbs, pansies, etc. Now is the time to think about your gardening possibilities. CSI offers a unique opportunity – try your hand at vegetable/flower growing this summer in our Community Garden. We offer conveniently-sized planting beds, tilled and ready for your plants. I can help you with choices, although most families plant some tomatoes, lettuce, some flowers, some herbs, and even cucumbers and zucchini. There is something so special about growing your own vegetable salad!

Interested? Not sure?? Email me – [Jill Greenstein](#). I am happy to answer any question you might have.

Sign up is easy on the [CSI website](#)!

Hope to see you in the garden soon!



*Chives and Horseradish Growing on the Farm*



**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.**

**[VISIT THE OPP SHOP WEBSITE!](#)**



## FROM THE NURSERY SCHOOL DIRECTOR *Naomi Elyachar*



This year, we had the unique opportunity because of the way our spring break fell to celebrate Passover together in school before the holiday actually began and then again during the intermediate days of the holiday. Because we could celebrate together before the holiday, it was a bit easier to have food in school before the Passover cleaning of the kitchen occurred. In this sense, we were able to celebrate the spirit of the holiday without the complications of finding all kosher for Passover products. We sang our Passover songs, told the Passover story, and said the prayers. The children then sat down at tables to enjoy a Passover themed feast. They tasted hard boiled egg, parsley, and matzah—along with many fun dips, spreads and toppings to enjoy with their matzah. They ate for quite a while, together, as a whole school community. Throughout my time here as the school director, this day felt the most festive of all. The spirit of Passover is about celebrating freedom, coming together with family and friends, and welcoming in neighbors and “strangers.” Even though it was not yet Passover, the feeling of the holiday could be felt throughout the room.

The other beautiful thing about this day was that for the first time since the pandemic, we asked parents to come in and help prepare the meal for the children. Helping in the CSI kitchen has been a memorable part of many families' nursery school years here. It has felt emptier and quieter in our hallways without their helping hands. It reminded me, also, that during my first years living in Westchester and as a parent at the nursery school, helping out at school functions was how I found my community here. To see many familiar faces and new parents in the kitchen brought back wonderful memories for those of us who have been here for the past few years. I look forward to many more opportunities for our families to continue to connect and form friendships here.

Naomi Elyachar  
Nursery School Director  
[Naomi.Elyachar@csibriarcliff.org](mailto:Naomi.Elyachar@csibriarcliff.org)





# FROM THE NURSERY SCHOOL

## CSI NURSERY SCHOOL Family Shabbat Program and Dinner

**Friday, May 13th  
5:15-7:00PM**

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 May 6th

Please email [naomi.elvachar@csibrarcliff.org](mailto:naomi.elvachar@csibrarcliff.org) with any questions.



REGISTER HERE!

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

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

Rebecca Schoffer is a singer-songwriter, experiential educator, cantorial soloist and a playwright of family theater. She is the Director of Jewish Family Engagement and the leader of the Shababa community at the 92nd Street Y in New York City. Rebecca brings her background in theater, puppetry and improvisation to the Jewish educational space, traveling around the world to lead musical celebrations for families and teach educator workshops. Rebecca was a recipient of the 2019 Young Pioneers Award, which celebrates innovative Jewish educators. Her music is available on all major streaming sites, so you can sing along at home anytime! Check out her albums "Pack Your Tambourine" and "Shababa of the Heart!" and stay connected at [RebeccaSchoffer.com](http://RebeccaSchoffer.com) or [@RebeccaSchofferMusic](https://www.instagram.com/RebeccaSchofferMusic) on Instagram. She loves celebrating Jewish life with families and communities, near and far! Originally from Margate, NJ, Rebecca now lives in NYC with her husband Jonathan and two sons, Sam and Jonah.



## Grown-up and me Classes

**Please join us with your littlest learners!**

★ Explore, learn and play with other children

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

👤 Meet other local families

### Little Explorers

For toddlers ages 16-24 months  
**Wednesdays, 9:30-10:45am**

May

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

June

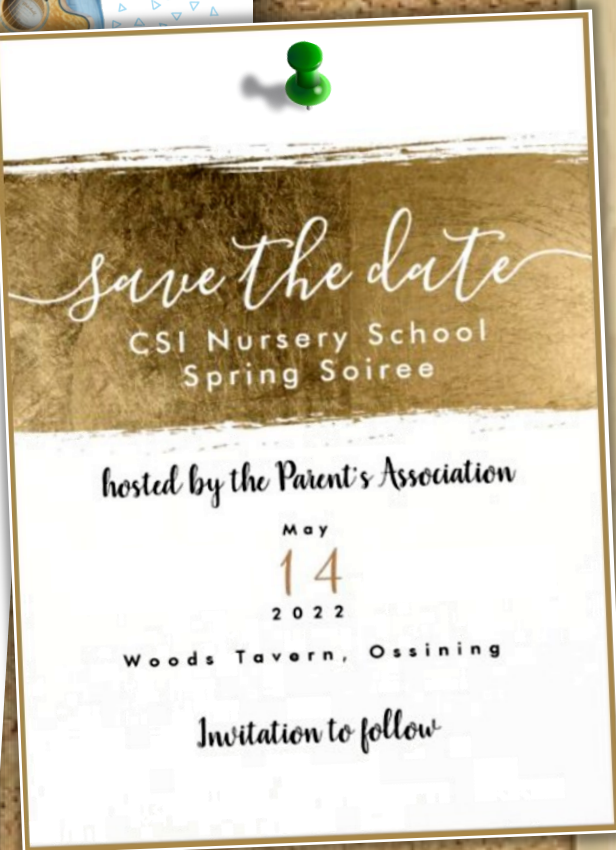
1st

★ Register HERE ★

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](mailto:Naomi.Elyachar@csibrarcliff.org), with any questions.



## FROM THE NURSERY SCHOOL

# MAY

**13**

Nursery School Shabbat 5:15-7PM

**30**

NO SCHOOL—Memorial Day

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 CSI SUMMER CAMP



### *Registration for CSI Summer Camp is now OPEN!*

We are very excited to announce that we are now accepting registrations via our website for the 2022 Summer Camp season!

**REGISTER YOUR CAMPER(S) HERE!**

[Click HERE for more information!](#)

## FROM THE RELIGIOUS SCHOOL DIRECTOR

### Wendy Segal



There is a short prayer that one says when one has completed studying a tractate of Talmud. (Some tractates might take only a few weeks to study, others might take years, depending on how long the tractate is and how long one lingers and debates and contemplates each passage.) When Rabbi Kane's Talmud class finishes studying Berakhot, we will say in Aramaic, "*Hadran alakh Masekhet Berakhot, ve'hadrahk alan da'atan alakh Masekhet Berakhot ve-da'alekh alan lo nitnishi minekh Masekhet Berakhot ve-lo titnashi minan lo be-alma ha-din ve-lo be-alma deati*," which means, "We will return to you, Tractate Berakhot, and you will return to us; our mind is on you, Tractate Berakhot, and your mind is on us. We will not forget you, Tractate Berakhot, and you will not forget us – not in this life and not in the world to come."

And so it is with Jewish education. Even though the school year is ending, the learning and the relationships and the pride in accomplishment will not be over. The lessons will continue to resonate with our students. For those who will be returning next year, we will build on what you've learned this year, but even for those whose Hebrew school days are over, the friendships need not end, the pride in being able to daven in Hebrew, the relationships made between students and teachers and among students, the warmth of Jewish culture will echo in our students' lives always.

We still have so much learning to do, even before we end this school year. Our students have been learning, on an age-appropriate level, about the Holocaust (grades 3 through 7 recited mourners' kaddish together for those who perished) and about the modern State of Israel as we commemorate Yom HaZikaron and then Yom Ha'Atzmaut (Israeli Memorial Day and Israel Independence Day). From the dark days of Achashverosh's decree against the Jews to

Pharaoh's slavery to the Holocaust, we have survived as a people because our children have carried Judaism forward. By providing a Jewish education for your children, you have become an invaluable link in the chain of Jewish continuity.

Our children will end the year with a class service in which the gimel (third grade) students will receive siddurim of their own with covers personalized by their parents, and an end-of-year event on the farm (weather permitting) in which we celebrate our (mostly in-person!) year together and congratulate our 7<sup>th</sup> graders and 12<sup>th</sup> graders. We hope to see our 7<sup>th</sup> graders back next year as Hebrew High school students, and we look forward to our 12<sup>th</sup> graders coming back to visit our congregation next year with stories of college and Hillel experiences or real-world living.

My family's Haggadah says, in discussing the children looking for the hidden afikomen, that our future is assured as long as our children continue to remember and search. I hope there is much that your children will remember from this year, and I hope they continue to ask questions and search for answers in the coming months and years. Thank you for welcoming me so warmly this year and for allowing me to get to know and to teach your children. I hope to see many of you in the coming months at other CSI events and services.



Have a restful and fun spring and summer!

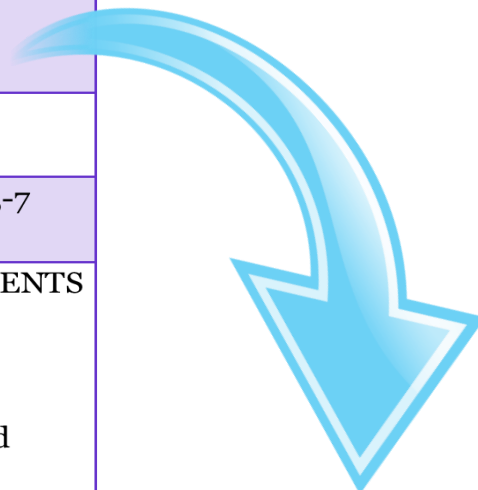
Wendy Segal  
Religious School Director  
[RSDirector@csibriarcliff.org](mailto:RSDirector@csibriarcliff.org)



## FROM THE RELIGIOUS SCHOOL

# CSI RS 2022 End-of-Year Calendar

DATE	EVENT
Tuesday, May 3	Regular religious school for grades 3-7 from 4-6PM
Friday, May 6 	<i>SHABBAT</i> TOGETHER ON THE FARM for grades K-7 and their parents beginning with appetizers at 5PM Grade 3 <i>siddur</i> presentation
Sunday, May 8	NO SCHOOL Happy Mother's Day!
Tuesday, May 10	Regular religious school for grades 3-7 from 4-6PM
Sunday, May 15 	YEAR END EVENT FOR ALL STUDENTS AND PARENTS from 9-11AM Grades 7 & 12 graduation Last day of school for grades K-2 and grade 7
Tuesday, May 17	Last day of religious school for grades 3-6 from 4-6PM
Sunday, May 22	NO SCHOOL Faculty in-service



Please join us on

**FRIDAY, MAY 6<sup>th</sup>**  
**5:00PM**

**SHABBAG  
B'YACHAD**

We will welcome *Shabbat* together on the CSI Farm!

This program is for grades K - 7 and their parents and includes a special event for *GIMEL*/GRADE 3.

5:00PM - Appetizers

5:30PM - *Shabbat* songs and *Siddur* Presentation for *GIMEL*/GRADE 3

Please let us know if you are able to attend [HERE](#).  
If weather is inclement, the program will be in sanctuary.





## FROM THE RELIGIOUS SCHOOL

### MUSIC WITH BRIAN GELFAND



### ISRAELI FOOD WITH MORAH SHEERA & HEBREW HIGH





### TEACHERS & SUBS WANTED FOR RELIGIOUS SCHOOL

Are you interested in teaching or being a sub 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 please call several days in advance 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 [here](#).



## CARING COMMUNITY - continued

Through the Caring Community, three seniors and three Nursery School classes have been “pen pals”.

The children and their teachers sent letters to Judy Duke, Sharon and Arnie Richter and Barbara Weiss. The letters were heartfelt and beautifully crafted messages about Passover. The seniors are crafting their responses, which will be delivered to the children. We are hoping to have them meet each other on a nice spring day at the farm.

Hopefully, this is just the beginning of intergenerational interactions at CSI. It brought great joy. Thanks to Naomi, the teachers, the children, and Caring Committee partners Liz Legatt and Gail Perlow for making this happen.

**Sharon & Arnie Richter**



**Barbara Weiss**



# AFGHAN REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT COMMITTEE UPDATE

On February 28<sup>th</sup> 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 this family from settling them in to being there for the birth of their new son! 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, the new baby thriving, while their parents adjust to a life in which they are safe and supported.

## Learn More About Refugee Resettlement

[HIAS Resettlement Video](#) about a refugee warm welcome for refugees in Tulsa, OK.

## Advocacy

HIAS – [Advocacy Resources](#)

International Rescue Committee – [Advocacy Resources](#)

## 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](mailto: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





We delivered three carloads of goods for Ukraine to AFYA on March 30th.

The goods were packed the next day and left for Poland and the Ukraine on April 3rd.

Unfortunately, this need still exists. Contact [Masorti](#) or [AFYA](#) if you would like to contribute.

Thank you to all of our wonderful volunteers who helped us load and unload!



## SISTERHOOD NEWS

### 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.

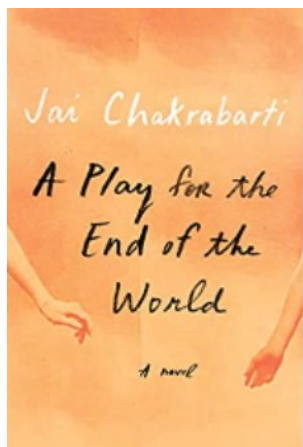
Please email [Gail Sider](#) to let her know how you would like to participate, either with a speaking part (English or Hebrew) or a non-speaking part.  
And we particularly need you, Torah readers!

WOULD YOU LIKE TO HELP SPONSOR THE KIDDUSH FOR SISTERHOOD SHABBAT? WE WILL GRATEFULLY ACKNOWLEDGE ALL DONORS AT THE SERVICE AND IN THE JUNE BULLETIN. [DONATE HERE.](#)

### SISTERHOOD BOOK CLUB

Sunday, May 22nd at 4pm

#### A Play for the End for the World by Jai Chakrabarti



Winner of the National Jewish Book Award's Goldberg Prize for Debut Fiction, named the Jewish Fiction Award Honor Book by the Association of Jewish Libraries, and longlisted for the 2022 PEN/Faulkner Award. Set in early 1970's New York and rural India—the story of a turbulent, unlikely romance, a harrowing account of the lasting horrors of World War II, and a searing examination of one man's search for forgiveness and acceptance.

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!

If you are interested in learning to play Mahjong email [Cheryl Katz](#) or call her at 914-945-0826. We play most Monday Nights at 7:30pm at CSI.



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](http://www.wlcj.org)

## SISTERHOOD TO HOST A ZERO WASTE KIDDUSH

On May 7<sup>th</sup>, we will celebrate Sisterhood Shabbat. After the service, our community will pilot a zero waste Kiddush and we hope you will join us.

The Kiddush will be lovely as usual. We will enjoy our food while being surrounded by community. We will use biodegradable plates, cups, and utensils, and these - together with the food scraps - will be composted. With this action we will participate in the *mitzvah* of reducing our impact on climate change.

Since Sisterhood has always been a pillar at CSI, it is natural that piloting a zero waste Kiddush would be scheduled on Sisterhood Shabbat. It is also a way to help Mother Earth, while taking the kind of action that will nurture our souls.

There is a *midrash* (Rabbinic commentary on the Bible), which states the following: "When God created the first human beings, God led them around the Garden of Eden and said:

**"Look at my works! See how beautiful they are—how excellent! For your sake I created them all. See to it that you do not spoil and destroy My world; for if you do, there will be no one else to repair it."**  
(*Midrash Kohelet Rabbah*, 1 on Ecclesiastes 7:13)

Making our Kiddush more sustainable and encouraging us towards creating zero waste is a *mitzvah* that we can all participate in.

We look forward to seeing you on May 7<sup>th</sup>!

Come and see for yourself how lovely these biodegradable products are. Try them out and tell us what you think!

If you would like to participate with the CSI Green Team, please email [Emily Sack](#).



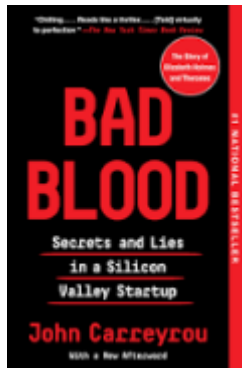
## MEN'S CLUB

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

**CONTACT MARK REISMAN**  
**OR CHARLES ZWEIBACH**  
**FOR INFORMATION.**



**NEXT MEETING:**  
**WEDNESDAY**  
**MAY 4th at 8pm**  
**AT CSI AND ON**  
**ZOOM**



**Men's Club Book Club: Thursday, 5/12 at 7:30pm**  
**We will be discussing Bad Blood: Secrets and Lies In A Silicon Valley Startup by John Carreyrou.**

**Join the Men's Club [here](#) or from the [CSI Homepage](#),  
 click on Men's Club in the Community tab menu.  
 It's easy!**

***Mazal Tov* to Claude Tusk**  
**FJMC Hudson Valley Region**  
**Men's Club Man of the Year**





**PRIDE COMMITTEE - Suzanne Haber, Chairperson**

Our next meeting is:  
Tuesday, May 10th  
at 7:00pm.  
Contact [Suzanne Haber](#)  
for further  
information.

**June is PRIDE Month**

We will celebrate at *Shabbat* services June 10<sup>th</sup> & 11<sup>th</sup>


**Friday evening, June 10<sup>th</sup>**

**Joy Ladin**, a teacher, poet, scholar, and nationally known speaker on transgender issues, will join us on Zoom. Professor Ladin holds the David and Ruth Gottesman Chair in English at Stern College of Yeshiva University, and she is the first openly transgender professor at an Orthodox Jewish institution. Professor Ladin has written eleven books, including *The Book of Anna*, awarded the National Jewish Book Award in Poetry earlier this year; *The Soul of the Stranger: Reading God and Torah from a Transgender Perspective*; and her moving memoir of gender transition, *Through the Door of Life*, a finalist for a National Jewish Book Award. We look forward to having her with us.

**Saturday morning, June 11<sup>th</sup>**

*Shabbat* services will be supplemented with poetry written by Joy Ladin, as well as special readings and prayers for Pride.

# MAY 2022 / 30 Iyar – 1 Sivan 5782

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 30 Nisan BM: RONEN INDIBI 9:15am Minyan on site and Zoom 3pm Teen Mental Health Awareness Program	2 1 Iyar 8am Minyan Zoom 7:30pm Mahjong 7:30pm Sisterhood Board 8:45 Talmud via Zoom	3 2 Iyar 11:15am JITN 7:30pm Educ. Comm.	4 3 Iyar 8pm Men's Club Mtg. YOM HAZIKARON	5 4 Iyar 8am Minyan Zoom 11am Contemporary Issues & The Talmud Zoom YOM HA'ATZMAUT	6 5 Iyar 5pm RS Shabbat on the Farm 6:30pm Kabbalat Shabbat on site and Zoom C/L 7:39pm	7 6 Iyar 9:10am Shabbat Morning Services on site and Livestream SISTERHOOD SHABBAT  Kedoshim
8 7 Iyar NO RS 9:15am Minyan on site and Zoom	9 8 Iyar 8am Minyan Zoom 11:30am Women's Torah Study w/ Rabbi Jan Uhrbach via Zoom 7:30pm 2023 BM Family Meeting 7:30pm Mahjong 8:45pm Talmud via Zoom	10 9 Iyar 11:15am JITN 7pm Pride Committee 7:30pm Second Generation Survivors 8pm Board of Trustees	11 10 Iyar	12 11 Iyar 8am Minyan Zoom 10:30am HaMishpacha Discussion Group Zoom 11am Contemporary Issues & The Talmud Zoom 7:30pm Men's Club Book Club	13 12 Iyar 5:15pm NS Shabbat on the Farm 6:30pm Kabbalat Shabbat on site and Zoom C/L 7:47pm	14 13 Iyar 9:10am Shabbat Morning Services on site and Livestream BM: SASHA LOPEZ-ROSS 12:30pm Hazz'n's Tish Emor
15 14 Iyar 9am Last Day 7 <sup>th</sup> Grade RS and Graduation and Year-End Family Event 9:15am Minyan on site and Zoom 11:30am Security Kiddush Program	16 15 Iyar 8am Minyan Zoom 7:30pm Mahjong 8:45pm Talmud via Zoom	17 16 Iyar 11:15am JITN LAST DAY RS Grades 3-6 7:30pm CSI Exec. Comm.	18 17 Iyar	19 18 Iyar 8am Minyan Zoom 11am Contemporary Issues & The Talmud Zoom LAG B'OMER	20 19 Iyar 6:30pm Kabbalat Shabbat on site and Zoom C/L 7:53pm	21 20 Iyar 9:10am Shabbat Morning Services on site and Livestream Baby Naming-Emily Schiz Behar
22 21 Iyar 9:15am Minyan on site and Zoom 4pm Sisterhood Book Club	23 22 Iyar 8am Minyan Zoom 7:30pm Mahjong 8:45pm Talmud via Zoom	24 23 Iyar 11:15am JITN 7:30pm Board of Trustees	25 24 Iyar 7pm Caring Community	26 25 Iyar 8am Minyan Zoom 10:30am HaMishpacha Discussion Group Zoom 11am Contemporary Issues & The Talmud Zoom	27 26 Iyar 6:30pm Kabbalat Shabbat on site and Zoom C/L 8:00pm	28 27 Iyar 9:10am Shabbat Morning Services on site and Livestream Bechukotai
29 28 Iyar 9:15am Minyan on site and Zoom	30 29 Iyar NO NS MEMORIAL DAY 9:15am Minyan Zoom 8:45pm Talmud via Zoom	31 1 Sivan 11:15am JITN				NS=Nursery School RS=Religious School JITN= Jews In The News C/L=Candle Lighting Time

## LIFE CYCLE EVENTS



Celebrant	Date	Age
Emily Belle	1	7
Kai Kapahi	8	5
Reese Elyachar	19	9
Adam Rossman	22	9
Noah Eichenholtz	29	12

CELEBRANTS	DATE	YEARS
Mayra & Aaron Stern	1	45
Suzanne & Neal Haber	1	39
Lauren Thaler & Bill Null	10	41
Carol & Tom Neuman	11	47
Karen & Ed Scharf	15	34
Toni & Elliot Band	17	35
Barbara & Stuart Oppenheimer	17	35
Beth & Harold Levine	22	39
Patti & Bill Robbins	23	40
Resa Mestel & Alan Fox	23	40
Melissa & Michael Reiner	23	29
Laura & Daniel Gold	23	29
Roberta & Doron Bar-Levav	23	23
Lynn & Ron Hanover	24	52
Cindy & Richard Katz	24	30
Nance & Jeffrey Lichtman	24	25
Deborah & David Levitt	24	24
Darlene Fairman & Jack Zinn	24	24
Joyce Perlmutter & Claude Tusk	27	43
Stacy & Richard Charney	27	32
Jill & Jonathan Lerner	29	50
Diane & Jason Eidlitz	29	32
Allison & Andrew Markowitz	30	23

**Mazal Tov to:** Joanne and Alan Suna on the naming of their granddaughter, Noa Avery Britchkow. Noa is the daughter of Rachel and Michael Britchkow.

**Mazal Tov to:** Rebecca and Doug Schiz and Margery and Mike Kirsch on the naming of their daughter and granddaughter, Emily Schiz.

**Mazal Tov to:** Rebecca Indibi and Darren Kapahi on the *Bar Mitzvah* of Ronen Indibi.

**Mazal Tov to:** Gabriel Lopez-Ross on the *Bat Mitzvah* of his daughter, Sasha.

**Condolences to:** Sharon Richter on the loss of her brother, Shelly Skidelsky.

**Condolences to:** Dean Brown on the loss of his father, Martin Brown.



# DONATIONS

## **CANTOR'S DISCRETIONARY FUND**

In honor of the birth of Maya Rose Lemonik

Gail Sider

## **CARING COMMUNITY FUND**

In honor of the marriage of Heather Perlow to Jake Adams

In memory of Shelly Skidelsky

In memory of Shelly Skidelsky

In memory of Shelly Skidelsky

In memory of Shelly Skidelsky

In memory of Shelly Skidelsky

In memory of Shelly Skidelsky

In honor of Judy Boehr

In memory of Arlene Ditchek

In memory of William Ditchek

In memory of Richard Cantor

In memory of Stanley Weinreb

In memory of Michael Frey

In memory of Gilbert Zinn

In memory of Shelly Skidelsky

In memory of Juliet Keidan

Debra & Alan Goodman

Roberta Freilich

Bette & Gary Slutsky

Marilyn & Bob Margolies

Debbie & Elliott Barish

Janice & Barry Kirschner

Judith Rosof

Roberta & Doron Bar-Levav

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Georgia & David Keidan

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In memory of Ben Hymowitz

In memory of Mary Hersh

In memory of Yetta Rubenstein

In memory of George Rubenstein

In memory of Philip Basen

Gail Sider

Gail Sider

Gail Sider

Gail Sider

Gail Sider

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

In memory of Jean Dittelman

In honor of the engagement of Elan Kane & Leora Einleger

Get Well to Bernie Jacobson

In memory of Shelly Skidelsky

Faye Dittelman & David Perelman

Faye Dittelman & David Perelman

Faye Dittelman & David Perelman

Faye Dittelman & David Perelman

## **ETZ CHAIM – TREE OF LIFE FUND**

In honor of the engagement of Elan Kane & Leora Einleger

In memory of Shelly Skidelsky

In memory of Shelly Skidelsky

In memory of Charlotte Elman

Passover Yizkor

Clare Rosen

Clare Rosen

Rochelle & Marc Auslander

Esther Schwartz

Lynn & Ronald Hanover

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

In honor of the birth of Lev Coren Rosenberg

Gail Sider

## **IRA KESTENBAUM BEAUTIFICATION FUND**

In memory of Morris Yohai

Roberta & Richard Kay

## DONATIONS - continued

### **KIDDUSH FUND**

In memory of Morris Yohai  
 In memory of Sidney White  
 In memory of Gene Wolf  
 In honor of the 62<sup>nd</sup> Anniversary of Neil's *Bar Mitzvah*  
 In memory of Ellen Weiser  
 In memory of Bernard Margolies  
 In memory of Ellen Brown  
 In memory of Georges Griffithskig  
 In memory of Dane Fairman  
 In honor of the naming of Noa Avery Britchkow  
 In memory of George Heller

Roberta & Richard Kay  
 Leon White  
 Leon White  
 Shelley & Neil Harwayne  
 Stephen Weiser  
 Marilyn & Bob Margolies  
 Dean Brown  
 Rochelle & Marc Auslander  
 Darlene Fairman & Jack Zinn  
 Joanne & Alan Suna  
 Suzanne & Neal Haber

### **MEMORIAL GARDEN FUND**

In memory of Minnie Levine

Annleah Berger

### **MITZNER FAMILY SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS FUND (LEV/SHADOWS)**

In memory of Shelly Skidelsky

Barbara Weiss

### **ORGANIC FARM FUND**

In memory of Shelly Skidelsky  
 In honor of the birth of Toni Amara Schulman-Corr

Margie & Mike Kirsch  
 Gail Sider

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

In memory of Martin Brown, father of Dean Brown  
 In memory of Shelly Skidelsky, brother of Sharon Richter

In honor of the marriage of Heather Perlow , daughter of Gail and Barry Perlow, to Jake Adams

In honor of the birth of Mohammed Abnon, son of Ashiqullah and Najima K., our Afghan family  
 In honor of the *Bar Mitzvah* of Ronen Indibi  
 In honor of the *Bat Mitzvah* of Sasha Ross

### **RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND**

In honor of the engagement of Elan Kane & Leora Einleger  
 In honor of the engagement of Elan Kane & Leora Einleger  
 In honor of Michael Teitelbaum  
 In honor of Chris Walsh's first *Aliyah*

Margie & Mike Kirsch  
 Debra & Alan Goodman  
 Helen Chuckrow & Richard Langeloh  
 Karen & Bernard Lippy

### **CSI SECURITY FUND**

In memory of Daniel Berlin  
 In honor of Myra Gordon

Ruth & Harold Ossher  
 Leslie Gordon

### **YOUTH ACTIVITIES FUND**

In honor of the birth of Izzy Perelman

Gail Sider

### **ZUCKERMAN/CHARLOTTE HERING MEMORIAL FUND FOR RAMAH DAY CAMP SCHOLARSHIPS**

In memory of Jerome Horowitz

Gail Sider

## DONATIONS - continued

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

Amy & Sherman Alpert  
 Bennett Ashley & Ruth Weinreb  
 Annleah Berger  
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 Merrie Daitch  
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 Cantor Jeffrey & Robyn Shiovitz  
 Roy Summer  
 Elaine & Donald Sunberg  
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 Leon White  
 Debra Young  
 Lauren & Lee Zaretsky  
 Jack Zinn & Darlene Fairman



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

Robin & Sam Ginsberg  
 Gail Sider [in appreciation of Judy Boehr's generosity and kindness]

Thank you for your support:

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Marnie & Adam Tihany \*

\* denotes donations of \$500 and above



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

**AMOUNT FUNDS**

\_\_\_\_\_ Afghan Resettlement Fund

\_\_\_\_\_ Building Fund

\_\_\_\_\_ Cantor's Discretionary Fund

\_\_\_\_\_ Caring Community

\_\_\_\_\_ Cemetery Fund

\_\_\_\_\_ Abraham Cohen/ Fred Starler Memorial *Tzedakah* Fund

\_\_\_\_\_ Jeffrey Dittelman/ Robinov Camp *Ramah* Scholarship Fund (Overnight)

\_\_\_\_\_ CSI Environmental Fund

\_\_\_\_\_ *Etz Chaim* – Tree of Life Fund

\_\_\_\_\_ Rachel Greenstein Children's Resource Library Fund

\_\_\_\_\_ Gilbert Kavy Memorial Building Fund

\_\_\_\_\_ Ira Kestenbaum Beautification Fund

**AMOUNT FUNDS**

\_\_\_\_\_ Rhoda & Mel Miller Religious School Tuition Assistance Fund

\_\_\_\_\_ Memorial Garden Fund

\_\_\_\_\_ *Minyan* Breakfast Fund

\_\_\_\_\_ Mitzner Family Special Educational Needs Fund (Lev/Shadows)

\_\_\_\_\_ Organic Farm Fund

\_\_\_\_\_ Prayer Book Fund (\$36 *Lev Shalem*, \$60 *Etz Chaim Chumash*)

\_\_\_\_\_ Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

\_\_\_\_\_ CSI Security Fund

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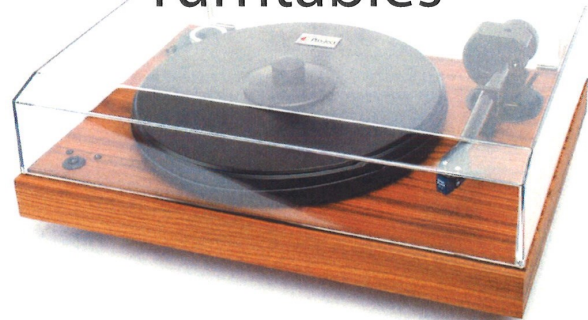


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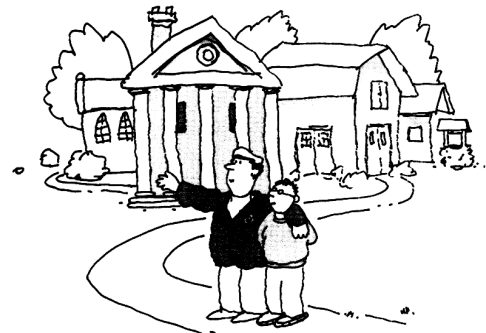


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