VOL. 60, NO. 6 MARCH 2022 ADAR I/ADAR II 5782

CONGREGATIONS OF SHAARE SHAMAYIM

THE SCROLL

BETH JUDAH, BETH TEFILATH ISRAEL, RODEPH ZEDEK, BETH CHAIM, BETH EMETH, B'NAI YITZHOK, NER ZEDEK, ADATH ZION, BETH UZIEL, BOULEVARD PARK, BRITH KODESH, EZRATH ISRAEL, FOX CHASE JCC

BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND

CHARLIE D. & TOP MUSIC OF THE 40'S, 50'S, 60'S AND BEYOND

COST $25

3.31.22 7:30PM ON ZOOM

TAKE A TRIP DOWN MEMORY LANE AS WE LISTEN AND REMINISCE ABOUT THE GOLDEN OLDIES

This is a 90 minute program sponsored by all synagogue arms

50/50 DRAWING 1 FOR $5 3 FOR $10

See Page 7

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Zoom Programming and digital copies of The Scroll accessible on our website at: www.shaareshamayim.org

President's Message

Dear Friends,

Here's something that should get our attention: A Tennessee school board recently voted to remove the graphic novel *Maus* by Art Spiegelman from its middle school classrooms.

What is *Maus*, why did they do this, and why should we care?

Published as two parts in 1973 and 1986, Maus is a Pulitzer Prize winning graphic novel about Art Spiegelman's father's experiences during the Holocaust. The text is lauded by the Wall Street Journal as "the most affecting and successful narrative ever done about the Holocaust;" the New Yorker calls it "The most incredible fantasy in comics' history: something that actually occurred." It looks like a comic book, but it is no easy read. As Andrew Silow-Carroll titles his Op-Ed piece in February 10th's Jewish Exponent, "*Maus* is Not Auschwitz for Beginners - And That's Why It Needs To be Taught."

The McMinn Tennessee County Board of Education cited nudity and bad language as justification for their unanimous decision to ban the book. Author Art Spiegelman was skeptical about profanity as the justification as he spoke to the Jewish Federation of Greater Chattanooga and various Christian groups more than three decades after finishing his book. Spiegelman's impression from reviewing the transcript of the meeting was that Tennessee parents would be looking for a "gentler, less evil Holocaust" book with real American heroes figuring in the story (it was the Russians, not the Americans, who liberated Auschwitz, where Spiegelman's father was a prisoner and thus where *Maus* takes place).

So, would parents accept *Maus* if it presented as a "real" comic book with better, feel-good action heroes?

In her powerful New York Times Guest-Ed, Margaret Renkl argues that in removing *Maus*, parents are trying to shield their children from horror and ugliness, even as most of those children can connect to that ugliness at will right from "their pockets." Renkl delivers the following compelling arguments why *Maus* is "a necessary text" for teaching and discussion in classrooms:

"They don't carry an understanding of what the Nazis did to the Jews so recently that there are still survivors sharing their memories. They don't carry an understanding of the emotional fallout of that history, or the persecution of Jews that continues to this day. Most of all, what the teenagers of McMinn County do not carry in their pockets is a gifted teacher who can help them recognize the atrocities that human beings are capable of without succumbing to existential despair themselves" (Margaret Renkl, NYT.com, Feb 7).

Tennessee's action has energized conversation about the book and also on the imperative of teaching the book and the Holocaust.

It is encouraging that there was significant local opposition to the ban in Tennessee. While the School Board reaffirmed the ban, there was a meeting packed with local librarians and local Jewish community members who opposed the ban. Perhaps this will bring forward new candidates for that School Board.

There is also a larger conversation happening around the idea of book banning. People are appalled and are pushing back with the dollars. At this writing, hardback copies of Maus are out of stock and on back-order. Paperback copies start at $50. (Thanks, Linda Korsin, for lending me your hardback as I wait for my own!). Amazon sales are through the roof. Many people have turned outrage of book banning into book orders and library donations. The book is getting new exposure and interest. Our current Jewish Exponent talks about secular interest in teaching the Holocaust at the university and high school levels.

As Jews, what should our role be here? How can we help to head-off the growing threat of revisionist history? How do we protect the teaching of the Holocaust, including this serious and bleak graphic novel?

For now, be active and aware of what is happening. Buy the book when you can. And, as it says in the Shema, "V'shinantam l'vanecha," Teach your children.

Meet Our Staff

Many of you would recognize Ralph at first sight – after all, he has been a fixture here for over 10 years! But do you know how amazing he truly is?

Sure, Mr. Ralph -- as the students in our preschool refer to him -- is helpful in assisting many congregants in and out of the building. And sure, as our Maintenance Man, he does an amazing job ensuring our building is clean, functional, and safe. And sure, he is reliable, dependable, and kind. But, there is so much more to his kindness and generosity.

Ralph goes above and beyond the tasks expected of his job title. He volunteers time and energy to assist with any task Jacques, Carrie, or Rebecca may ask for. He is, indeed, the proverbial glue that holds everything together. For example, Ralph ensures both cleanliness and safety for our students; thanks to his diligence in cleaning the classrooms, our school has been able to remain open during Covid.

The preschool kids love Mr. Ralph. Despite being in a mask, they can sense his smile from the kindness and happiness he brings into the building every day. Prior CSS Preschool student, Asher Herskovitz, who is now eight, has fond memories of Mr. Ralph! This is a testament to the positive impression he leaves on everyone.

Ralph is an all-around nice guy who is loved by all, even if he supports an NFL team which shall remain un-named (Hint: They're known for choking!).

Besides being a positive, supportive, and reliable fixture in our building, he is also a major supporter of his home community. He donates his time to assist anyone who needs it, and he donates gift cards and food to his at-risk neighbors. His kindness and generosity know no limits.

We are lucky to have Ralph with us, and the feeling is mutual. When asked to say something for this article, Ralph said: "Thank you! Since I walked in the door, I've felt like family."

So, the next time you see him, be sure to say "hello" so you can see his kindness for yourself.

Adar I 5782 — March 2022 — Adar II 5782

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 Adar I 28	2 Adar I 29	3 Adar I 30 7:30pm Men's Club Board Meeting	4 Adar II 1 5:40pm Traditional Service 7:45pm Virtual Egalitarian Service	5 Adar II 2 9am In-Person Traditional Service 9:30am In-Person & Virtual Egalitarian Service 5:50pm In-Person Traditional Mincha/Ma'ariv 6:50pm Virtual Egalitarian Havdalah **Join us for our return to in-person Kiddush**
6 Adar II 3	7 Adar II 4 7:00pm Zoom Book Club	8 Adar II 5 7:30pm Sisterhood General Meeting	9 Adar II 6 8:00pm Executive Board Meeting	10 Adar II 7	11 Adar II 8 5:45pm Traditional Service 7:45pm Virtual Egalitarian Service	12 Adar II 9 9am In-Person Traditional Service 9:30am In-Person & Virtual Egalitarian Service 5:55pm In-Person Traditional Mincha/Ma'ariv 6:55pm Virtual Egalitarian Havdalah
13 Adar II 10 Daylight Savings	14 Adar II 11	15 Adar II 12 7:30pm Sisterhood Zoom Bingo	16 Adar II 13 Erev Purim Fast of Esther In-person Magillah Reading	17 Adar II 14 Purim 	18 Adar II 15 6:50pm Traditional Service 7:45pm Virtual Egalitarian Service	19 Adar II 16 9am In-Person Traditional Service 9:30am In-Person & Virtual Egalitarian Service 7:00pm In-Person Traditional Mincha/Ma'ariv 8:00pm Virtual Egalitarian Havdalah
20 Adar II 17 1:30-3:00pm Purim Parade	21 Adar II 18	22 Adar II 19 7:30pm Sisterhood Zoom Bingo	23 Adar II 20 8:00pm Congregation Board Meeting	24 Adar II 21	25 Adar II 22 7:00pm Traditional Service 7:45pm Virtual Egalitarian Service	26 Adar II 23 9am In-Person Traditional Service 9:30am In-Person & Virtual Egalitarian Service 7:10pm In-Person Traditional Mincha/Ma'ariv 8:10pm Virtual Egalitarian Havdalah
27 Adar II 24	28 Adar II 25	29 Adar II 26 7:30pm Sisterhood Board Meeting	30 Adar II 27	31 Adar II 28 7:30PM Charlie D Event on Zoom		

Congregations of Shaare Shamayim
9768 Verree Road Philadelphia, PA 19115 215-677-1600 email: office@shaareshamayim.org www.shaareshamayim.org

PRESCHOOL CORNER

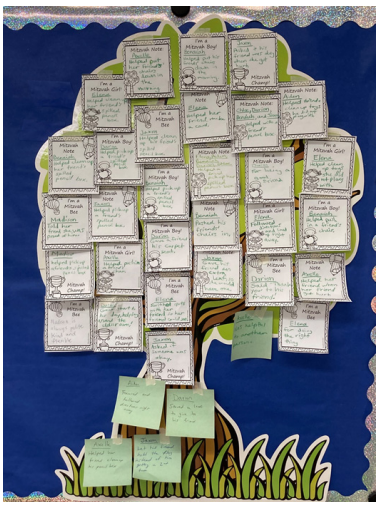
February was filled with fun learning. The children are in full swing and are feeling fully comfortable with their classroom communities. Friendship, love, and peace always accompany our lessons. This past month, students enjoyed shadow making for Groundhog Day, learning about the Olympics, celebrating President's Day, singing Purim songs, and many other lessons!

Although the children are missing their outdoor playground times due to the cold weather - or because our playgrounds were too snowy or wet to play on - we are still getting in our physical activity. On a handful of days when we were able to get outside, the children and teachers were soaking up the sun on our faces. Fresh air really does make a difference. We are all waiting patiently for Spring to arrive.

As Director of this fabulous school, I get choked up some days as I enter classrooms and see how engaged the children are in lessons and experiments. I feel proud having these dedicated CSS teachers; I am proud of how much they extend each lesson and give to their students each and every day.

The children in our preschool classes recently learned about the letter P. They made a class piñata, popped their own popcorn, had a picnic, and wore their comfy pajamas. The children are experiencing lessons they get to see, touch, smell, taste and hear. I often hear our students saying, "thank you" to their teaches for all the fun activities.

Learning AND fun! That is what school is about!



Rebecca Tyer
Preschool Director

SISTERHOOD SCOOPS

Mr. Rogers said, “Anyone who does anything to help a child is a hero to me.” And in Sisterhood, we have many heroes who helped children served by Jewish Family & Children’s Services (JFCS) through generous donations to our emergency winter clothing drive in January. Thanks Sue Anmuth, for giving Sisterhood members an opportunity to be heroes by coordinating this urgent project, and Mindy Poliner, for collecting and storing the many donations -- including 19 winter coats.

Below is the thank-you note sent by Shauna Ekezie, Program Manager of "Our Closet" – Powered by JFCS.

"Dear Sue,
I hope this email finds you well. On behalf of "Our Closet"- Powered by JFCS, we wanted to thank you and the members of the Shaare Shamayim Sisterhood for your incredible efforts in collecting much needed toddler clothing. I cannot tell you how much we appreciate your support and generosity. Your contribution allows us to continue fulfilling this basic need so that individuals may better focus on other stressors in life.
Thank you, so much! We hope that you all will partner with us again in serving our community together.
Warmly,
Shauna"

Sisterhood has lots of other news to share. Sisterhood recently learned how to Make Sushi with Evelyn Goldberg on February 16th. Many thanks to Evelyn for an interesting and fun Zoom program and to Lynn Azoulay who chaired the wonderful event. Pictures of thee event are shared on page 14.

Are you ready for more fun? Sisterhood’s Zoom Spring Bingo is on Tuesdays, March 15th and 22nd. The cost for both nights is $36 with an additional opportunity to win the 50/50 at $5 per chance. To join the fun, please send your check payable to Sisterhood to the CSS office, Attn: Bingo and include the name, address, phone #, and email address for each payment. See event flyer on page 9.

Everyone loved Charlie D’s last CSS event so much that he is back by popular demand. This time TOP MUSIC OF THE 40’s, 50’s, 60’s, & BEYOND will have you smiling and singing. Please support this CSS, Sisterhood, Men’s Club, and Chaverim jointly sponsored ALL ARMS EVENT on Thursday, March 31st at 7:30. To register, please send your name and payment of $25 to the synagogue office.

Mah Jongg enthusiasts have a great fundraising opportunity for Sisterhood by buying their cards through us. Many thanks to Marion Lober, for chairing another successful Mah Jongg card fundraiser, and to Denise Ellner, for her valuable assistance.

If you want to be in Sisterhood’s TOP TEN, you can support our June 50/50 drawings when ten names will be drawn. Just send your check for $10, payable to Sisterhood, to the CSS office and write "June 50/50" on the memo line for your 10 chances to win.

Sisterhood has a new procedure for its sales of Acme, Giant, or Shop Rite Scrip. To purchase, please call the office at (215) 677-1600 to place your order. Pick up will be at the synagogue. Checks should still be made out to Sisterhood with “Scrip” written on the memo line.

Everyone is always welcome attend our meetings and events. Our February meeting included a wonderful program on how to organize and enjoy our photo memories with Darla DeMorrow. Our March 8th meeting will include music entertainment by Cantor Samuels. If you know someone who is interested in becoming a Sisterhood member, please call our membership VP, Lois Cleghorn at (215) 698-7620. Lois always reminds us that, in Sisterhood, our members are more than friends; we are a family. I am so touched that many in our Sisterhood family stepped up to prepare and deliver home cooked meals for one of our members while she was recuperating from a serious illness. My heart is filled by the caring expressed in their acts of loving kindness. It is a joy and pleasure to belong to CSS Sisterhood-- a family of very special women and heroes.
Shelli Keeny, Sisterhood President

Shabbat Shalom

ONE CONGREGATION, SERVICE OPTIONS FOR EVERYONE!
Socially Distanced & Via Zoom

Congregations of Shaare Shamayim is the oldest Traditional Conservative Synagogue in Northeast Philadelphia. Our families enjoy the options of Traditional, Conservative (women participate on the bima), and Jr. Congregation Services. We invite you to join us every Shabbat, daven in the service of your choice, and celebrate Shabbat as a united congregation with a lovely Shabbat Kiddush.
Aliyah and Torah honors are available in either service. Call the synagogue office to arrange an Aliyah for your upcoming Bar/Bat Mitzvah, Aufruf, Baby naming, Yahrzeit, etc.

TRADITIONAL SERVICES
Cantor Don Samuels

Friday Evenings
see calendar on page 4 for times

Saturday Mornings
9:00 AM, In-Person

CONSERVATIVE SERVICES
Cantor Bernard (Buzzy) Walters

Friday Evenings, 7:45 PM
via Zoom

Saturday Mornings, 9:30 AM
In-Person & via Zoom

Havdalah Services - Saturday evenings In-Person & via Zoom
See the calendar on page 4 for times

BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND

CHARLIE D. & TOP MUSIC OF THE 40'S, 50'S, 60'S AND BEYOND

COST $25

3.31.22 7:30PM ON ZOOM

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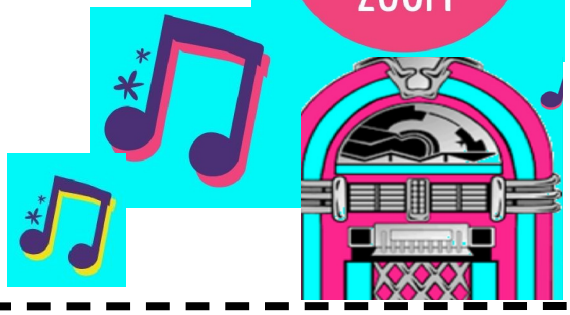
TAKE A TRIP DOWN MEMORY LANE AS WE LISTEN AND REMINISCE ABOUT THE GOLDEN OLDIES



Name_____Email address_____

To make an additional donation, please consider the levels below:

_____First Kiss/Date $25 _____First job/Graduation $50 _____Special Anniversary/Birthday $100

I have enclosed $_____ for the 50/50 Drawing
Total Amount Enclosed $_____

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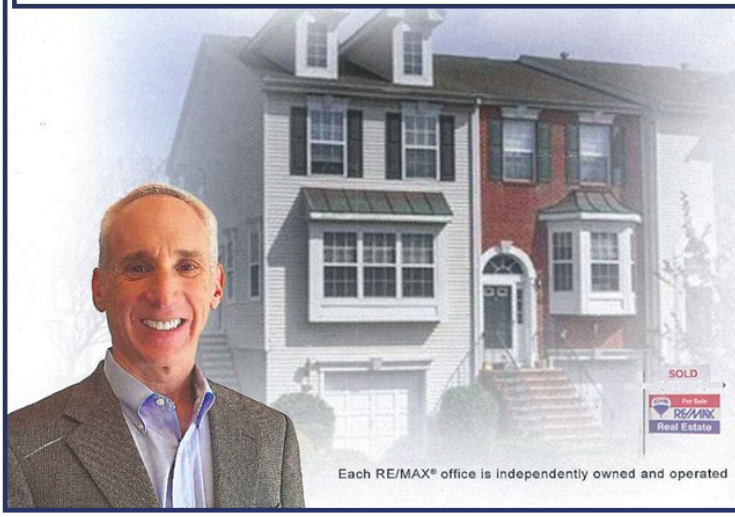
If a move is on your radar screen, call Ed Pocrass to benefit from his many years of success selling Real Estate.

Call ED POCRASS For your FREE Market Evaluation of your home



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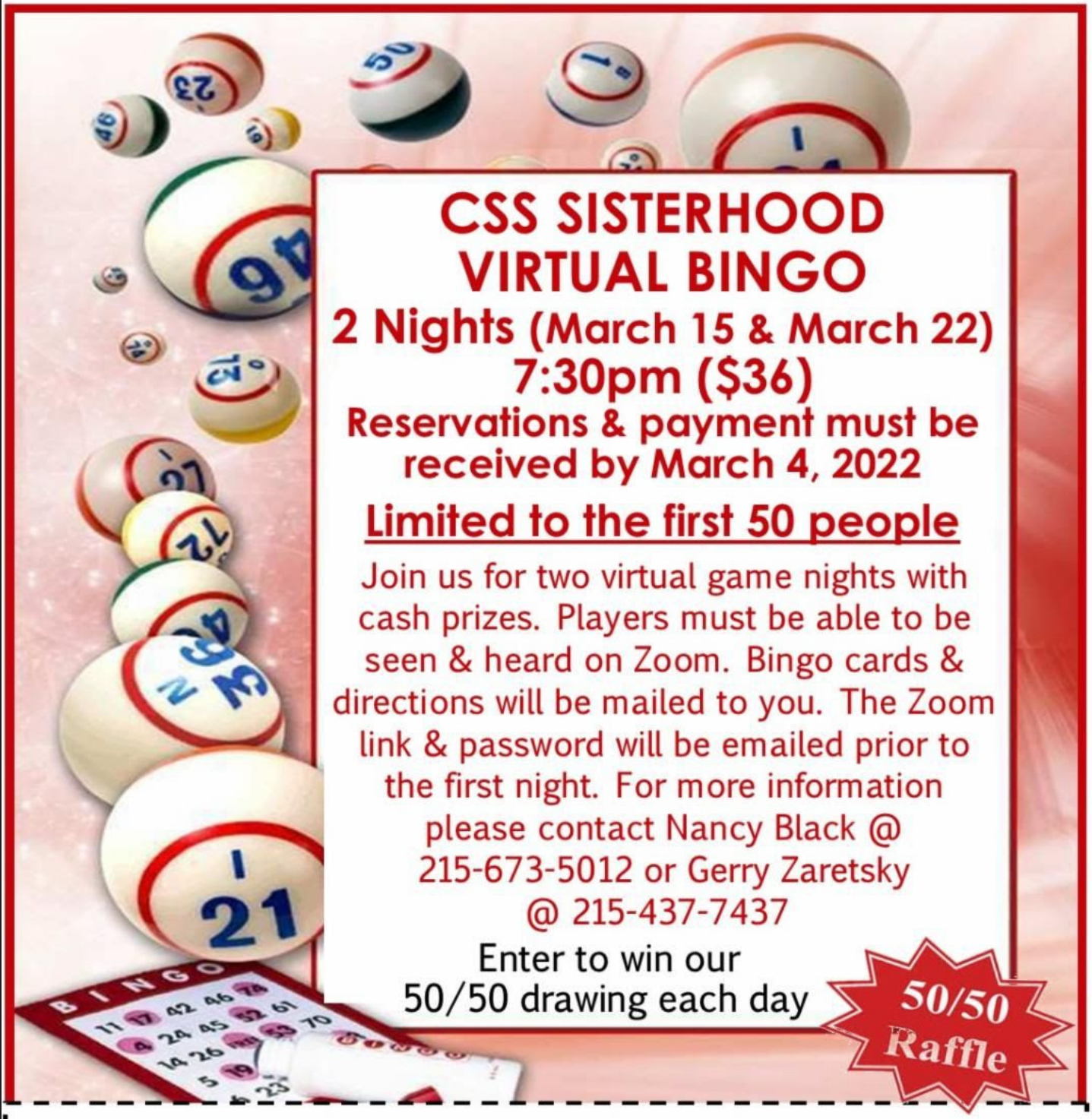

CSS Sisterhood Virtual Bingo (March 15 & March 22, 2022) $36

Return this tear-off along with your payment made payable to CSS Sisterhood - Attn: Nancy Black 9768 Verree Road, Phila. PA 19115 (please write bingo on the memo line)

Name_____Phone_____

Address_____

Email Address_____

50/50 Drawing @ $5 each day $_____Total Amount Enclosed $_____

Join us for our
Traditional
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Sunday – Thursday evenings
In the Sanctuary

7:00 PM
(socially distanced)

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www.hershpodiatry.com

March Birthdays

March 1	Heather Demar
March 1	Dana Feldsher
March 5	Jerry Rosenzweig
March 5	Mark Bass
March 6	Maxine Knesbach
March 8	Stanton Bubis
March 9	Marilyn Swartz
March 9	Harold Luboff
March 9	Barry Lebowitz
March 10	Valerie Mermelstein
March 11	David Shafter
March 12	Linda Joseph
March 12	Mark Keller
March 12	Reva Mindel
March 13	Charles Freeman
March 14	Stephen Britchkow
March 15	Shayna Cayla Feldsher
March 15	Allie Bailey
March 15	Barry Charles Leiber
March 16	Shellie Jakubiak
March 16	Susan Leiber
March 17	Lisa Berkowitz
March 17	Joanne Wolf
March 17	Leslie Golsten
March 18	Scott Wolf
March 18	Roberta Pogach
March 18	Susan Klein
March 19	Joyce Bray
March 21	Sheldon Plam
March 22	Beth Goldberg
March 22	Bernard Lyons
March 24	Julie Herskovitz
March 25	Jo-Ann Fleishman
March 30	Harry Schmidt
March 31	Susan Schmidt

March Anniversaries

March 12	William & Marla Askin
March 12	Albert & Phyllis Cooper
March 14	Elie & Sheila Rosenblatt
March 21	Sylvan & Beatrice Eisman
March 24	Harry & Susan Schmidt

MEN'S CLUB MINUTE

More Music

Charlie D is back! On Thursday evening, March 31, he'll present a 90-minute program on Top Songs of the 40s, 50s, 60s, and beyond. Join us for this all-arms event, and tell your friends.

Man of the Year

Watch for details on how you can take part in honoring Elie Rosenblatt, our club's Man of the Year.

Yom HaShoah Yellow Candle Program

Anti-Semitism is like a virus; it doesn't go away. In fact, today it's on the rise and is being practiced openly everywhere we look. Between COVID and the march of time, we see fewer survivors in our shul and elsewhere. We must fight the danger of simply forgetting the reality of what the Holocaust was.

Use your Yellow Candle as a vaccine against hate. Candles are powerful symbols, and while they burn, you can explain their meaning to those who need to hear. As you remember evil, you go out and do good. Evil --- Good. What a perfect set of bookends you create.

Get your Yellow Candles from us and together light the world on Wednesday evening, April 27.

Contact Paul at 215-715-1872 or editright365@gmail.com with your ideas for events or activities for the new season.

See you soon! Barry Leiber & Paul Kaplan

CSS College Packages

We send our college students care boxes three times a year to help them remain connected to their Jewish community while away from home. Let us know if you have a child or grandchild starting college soon.

This project is supported by the William and Lois Gross Memorial Fund and the Sisterhood's Barbara Dratch Fund.
Sign up a student by sending the office their collegiate email address and mailing address

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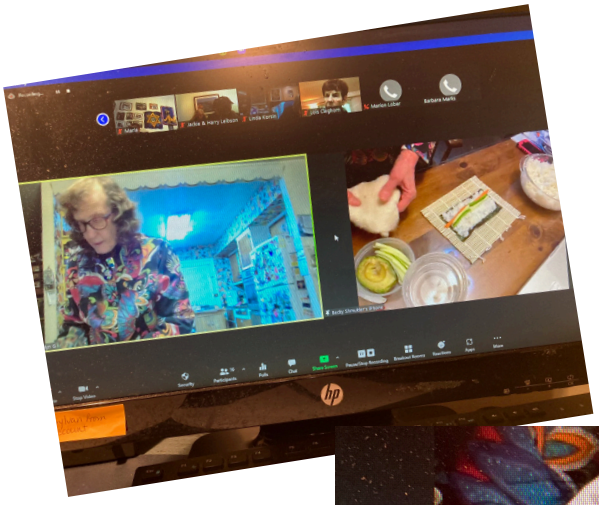
Call the office to order today!



Sisterhood Event

February 16th

Making Sushi with Evelyn Goldberg

The Library Shelf

Dear Friends and Readers,

I must apologize for some of the things I wrote about Naomi Ragen's, *An Observant Wife*. I believe I made every page exciting. Alas, this is not true. The beginning was wonderful, warm, and exciting. Then we hit a slow section – and I do mean slow. I almost gave up, but I didn't. The story picked-up and the book was off and running. The last 60 pages were, indeed, a page turner. The book will be available in two weeks to anyone who cares to read it.

Many of you are downsizing to smaller homes. Some of you are just getting rid of clutter. Well, there is a book, *Making Space Clutter Free*. If you come to our own home, it may seem to be clutter free, but believe me, that just means you have not opened the closet doors. So, our decluttering has begun. Actually, the clothes closet was first. I still have the clothes I wore 30-40 years ago when I was teaching. They have not been worn for over 20 years. They do not "Spark Joy" (another book on decluttering). M*aking Space Clutter Free* and *Spark Joy* will be available in the library next month!

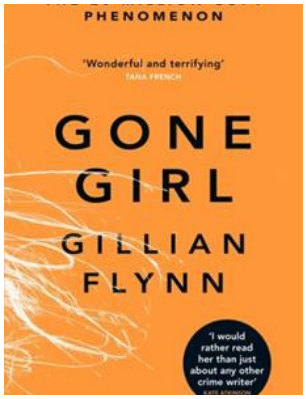
Finally, I did purchase another book, *The Rabbi who Prayed with Fire* by Rachel Sharona Lewis. The write up claims the book is terrific. We shall see! The protagonist is similar to Harry Kemelman's Rabbi Small in the 1960s. I was hooked on that series. If you don't remember Rabbi Small, how about *Saturday the Rabbi Went Hungry*? The entire series is in our library, which I hope can open soon. If you wish to reserve any of these books, please call me at home:
215-676-7044.

Happy Reading...and Happy Decluttering,
Rosalie

Book Club

Monday, March 7
7:00 PM

Genre: Mystery/Thriller



Gone Girl
Novel by Gillian Flynn

Condolences

May G-d comfort the bereaved among all who mourn in Zion and Jerusalem.

The congregation extends our condolences to the family of former long-time member, Hal Borck

Congregation Announcements

Heather and Roy Allen announce the birth of their great grandson, Benjamin Reid Finer.
Proud parents are Joshua and Bridget.

Susan Steinberg along with Ettie & Jerry Steinberg announce the marriage of their son and grandson Joshua David Steinberg to Alison Elaine Shannon.

We're Back!

We are gratful for those of you who have joined us in the building for our recent return to in-person services. We now invite you to join us for Kiddush!

This March, we return to in-person, sit-down Kiddish. Join us for our first: March 5, after services

If you are interested in hosting a future Kiddish, please contact the office.

Donations "In Memory" Gratefully Acknowledged

Note: All donations not listed at the time of publication will be listed in the next edition.

YAHRZEITS

Memory of:	By:
Bernard Steinberg	Gerald & Elaine Steinberg
Mary Cohen	Joan & Richard Raisman
Minnie Cooper	Albert Cooper
Anna Goldman	Neil Goloff
Albert J. Stern	Neil Goloff
Anne Zeitz	Lois & Bob Cleghorn
Moses Kanner	Cantor Don Samuels
Jack Wolk	Robert & Lynn Wolk
Joseph Binder	Rita Abrams
Ike Yoskin	Ellen S. Barish
Sophie Kovler	Arlene & Jerry Birk
Bessie Chodnoff	Sharon Cohen
Michael Hersh	Judith & Martin Hersh
Max Goldstein	Judith & Martin Hersh
Samuel Leonard Gibbs	Irwin Gibbs
Barry Pogach	Roberta Pogach & Family
Miriam Leas	AnnShirley Eposito
Edward Kligerman	Sheila C. Rosen
Rudolph Joseph	Shirley Jenet
Benjamin Jenet	Shirley Jenet
William Snyder	Michelle Yellin
Frank Levine	Linda Fox & Family
Renee Berger	Kenneth Berger
Dr. Robert Kashoff	Lois Levy
Mary Kenner	Lois Levy
Lillian Denenberg	Dr. Barbara Denenberg
Rose Rosenblum	Rhonda Faden
Chaim Fischer	Perla Fischer
Elizabeth Frost	Linda & Steve Korsin
Ruth Frost	Linda & Steve Korsin
Ruth Liederman	Linda & Steve Korsin
Meyer "Mike" Krugman	Judy Krugman & Family
Miriam Caine	Judy Krugman & Family
Riva Krugman	Judy Krugman & Family
Otto Bera (Otto Super)	Suzanne Super
Rose Moss	Ivy Ross
Lois Cohen	Beth Cohen
Max Goldstein	Linda Weinstein
Clara Feinstein	Leona Polekoff
Abe Salita	Elsa Salita
Ellis Starke	Elsa Salita
Harry Miller	Florence Gendler
Rosa Weiss	Alex Mermelstein
Lilia Mermelstein	Alex Mermelstein
Samuel Cohen	Goloff Family
Lena Wolf	Robert Wolf

Memory of:	By:
Gary Sondberg	Florence Bellman
Adele Sondberg	Florence Bellman
Albert Polekoff	Leona Polekoff
Esther Burden	Lynne Kramer
Martin Burden	Lynne Kramer
Ada Davidoff	Sue & Harold Rosenthal
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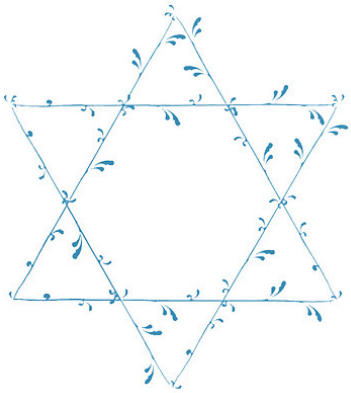

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