Mazel Tov
Mazal tov to Eli Cherney, his parents Brad & Janey Cherney and Rebecca Staiman, and family on his Bar Mitzvah.

Baruch Dayan HaEmet
It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of:

Benjamin "Benji" Harris, husband of Debbie Harris and father of Samantha Chetbul, Rachel Gross, Stone Harris and Truman Harris.
The private funeral took place on Monday. Shiva will be only on zoom at the following times: Friday, 2/12: 11:00am to 12:00pm Saturday night, 2/13: 7:00pm to 8:00pm
Zoom: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87310087816?pwd=QkQ1V1padFJnFdnFydvWlFvdFJnaFDnYudyVVhTWo1dz09 Passcode 613

Mr. Bernard Spiegel, z"l, beloved father of our member, Barry (Denise) Spiegel.

Yahrzeits:
30 Shevat/Feb 12 Sam Miller z"l (Beverly Feldman)
1 Adar/Feb 13 Lori Wells z"l (Mervin Wells)
2 Adar/Feb 14 Saretta Karon z"l (Belle Holman)
2 Adar/Feb 14 Abraham Freund z"l (Lisa Rosenblatt)
2 Adar/Feb 14 Susan Nitzkin z"l (Ivy Sukenik)
3 Adar/Feb 15 Deborah Levin z"l (Miffie Nagorsky)
3 Adar/Feb 15 Ofelia Borchowsky z"l (Josephine Meyer)
3 Adar/Feb 15 Bertram Arons z"l (Rick Arons)
4 Adar/Feb 16 Frances Bisno z"l (Belle Holman)
5 Adar/Feb 17 Sarah Strom z"l (Josephine Meyer)
5 Adar/Feb 17 Evelyn Hailpern z"l (Mark Hailpern)
5 Adar/Feb 17 Louis Schaffnerz"l (Hermine Becker)
5 Adar /Feb 17 Michael Goldstein z"l (Myra Goldstein)
6 Adar/Feb 18 Sara Berkowitz z"l (Gail Rothstein)
6 Adar /Feb 18 Bertha Miller z"l (Beverly Feldman)
Operation Warmth - Helping the Homeless this Winter- Sunday 2/14
People who are homeless in Chicago have experienced tremendous difficulty with COVID-19 outbreaks in shelters and an economy with very few entry level jobs. Now, with the dangerously cold temperatures, their lives are threatened.

This Sunday is predicted to be one of the coldest days of this winter. As a response, we are organizing Operation Warmth, a trip to homeless encampments throughout the city to deliver warm food and clothing this Sunday.

There are three phases to this effort and everyone in the shul can participate in this mitzvah, donating, preparing and delivering. Please click the link below to review the options and for the form to fill out with your commitment to this effort.

[Please click here for details and instructions on how to help]

This Week at Skokie Valley

Motzei Shabbat, February 13
6:15 pm: Virtual Havdalah! [https://zoom.us/j/713951311](https://zoom.us/j/713951311) passcode: 613

7:00 pm: All Skokie Valley Teens and Tweens are invited to a Kick-Off Event! See old friends, Make new friends! Play Games and Have Fun! [Click here for Zoom]

Sunday, February 14
8:30 am: Halacha in our Lives with Rav Ari. [https://zoom.us/j/713951311](https://zoom.us/j/713951311) passcode 613

11:00 am Making the Desert Bloom Again: How Israel Can Survive the Climate Crisis. This is the second class of Yeshivat Chovevei Torah's Winter Learning Series Inyanei D'Yomah: Torah of Today. Skokie Valley is proud to be a sponsor of this informative series. [More details are in the flyer below. All sessions will be held on Zoom. Register for access: tiny.cc/yctorah.]

---

INYANEI D’YOMA:
Torah of Today

Sunday, February 14 12pm EST (11am CST, 10am MST, 9am PST)

MAKING THE DESERT BLOOM AGAIN: HOW ISRAEL CAN SURVIVE THE CLIMATE CRISIS

Naomi Tsur in conversation with Jessica Haller and Rabbi Haggai Resnikoff (’14)

Part of our ongoing climate crisis series

[All sessions will be held on Zoom. PLEASE REGISTER FOR ACCESS TINY.CC/YCTORAH]
Tuesday, February 16
2:00 pm: The Book of Genesis with Rav Ari. https://zoom.us/j/713951311 passcode: 613

Wednesday, February 17
8:00 pm: Purim: Evolution of a Holiday. Class via Zoom led by Rabbi Steven Mandel, in memory of his beloved wife, Marlene z”l. Please come prepared with a copy of Megillat Esther and a pad and pen/pencil.
Zoom: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87997599069?pwd=dEVIS0theHcvaGQxTm9MOVExVT VKZz09 Passcode: 613
Meeting ID: 879 9759 9069 One tap mobile +13126266799,,87997599069#

Thursday, February 18
11:15 am: Mid-Day Break for Breath and Well-Being with Bobbie Winter: Have grey skies and escalating Covid reports got you down? Have you gone through your “to do” list and watched all the videos you care to see? Is it harder to motivate yourself for daily tasks? Then Skokie Valley has what you need: a mid-day break with a nice cup of coffee or tea and a mood-elevating 45 minutes with friendly people, along with guided breathing and relaxation to help you through the rest of the day. The group is looking forward to welcoming you.
https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86100712972?pwd=STIpNWVnZG42S0ZFYTB3dmdyUHZRZz09 Passcode 613 Meeting ID: 861 0071 2972 One tap mobile +13126266799,,86100712972#

12:00 pm: Stop giving yourself back pain! Zoom in with Jen Cohen, a Physical Therapist specializing in orthopedics. Learn how to take care of your body while working from home. We will do useful stretches and mobility exercises right from your desk. This will help you stay healthy and prevent injuries while working from your home office/dining room table/tv tray in the playroom.
https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87537313419?pwd=SHBQQzIwbzYzSjArNkFBUUowSGd6Zz09 Passcode: 613

8:00 pm: Parsha Shiur with Rabbinical Intern Yael Keller: Zoom: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87392335225?pwd=T21mZG9wcVI0cTBRWThiSTBEM0FIZz09 Passcode: 613
One tap mobile +13126266799,,87392335225# Meeting ID: 873 9233 5225

The past few months have challenged our community in unprecedented physical, spiritual, emotional and financial ways. Our community has responded heroically to these needs with open hands and hearts. As an institution, we are always looking for more ways to respond to these needs and better strengthen and serve our members, and thus are excited to enter this new partnership with JCFS Chicago! For more information, go to https://www.jcfs.org/. Our liaison to JCFS is Elizabeth Ury, the Director of Jewish Community Engagement. You may contact Elizabeth directly at ElizabethUry@JCFS.org 847-745-5421.

Please take a minute to complete this short survey so that JCFS can create programming that will meet the needs and interests of Skokie Valley: members.https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1JAQ0stcGn5Y-5X4wRF_nJD6ZbMOT5pIsILmA0 -JuOw/viewform?gxids=7628&edit_requested=true

Community Use of Social Hall
After consultation with our medical committee, we have created a plan to make the social hall space available beyond tefillah. We are pleased to announce that members of the Skokie Valley community will now be able to register for activities that strictly follow safety guidelines in the social hall at appointed times.
We have opened up 3 slots for use on Shabbat. Click here for more information and sign up form.
Please note that up to 10 members may now sign up for a time slot together. Each household must sign the waiver.
Purim is coming!

From The Joint Youth Committee of Skokie Valley & Kol Sasson:
Though we can't celebrate together in person this year, we still want to share the joy of Purim, and we need your help. It's easy: just add a 5 - 20-second video of your family celebrating below. Kids can share their costumes, do a dance, or show off a talent. Performances will be showcased at this year's virtual Purim party (details coming soon!). Thank you for being a part of our community celebration! And here is the link to make the videos!
https://app.vidhug.com/how-do-you-celebrate-purim/Bk_tKSeO/record

Purim Paloozoom!
- 6:15pm: Family Megillah Readings (please see SVAJ and KS websites for further information)
- 7:30ish: Community Costume Compilation video. Video will play on a loop from the conclusion of Megillah reading until 9pm
- 9:00pm: Entertainment by the hilarious and talented Comedian Eli Lebowicz. Show is recommended for bar/bat mitzvah age and older.

- Gourmet Hamen-tizer boxes filled with locally-sourced goodies!
  Sign up here for boxes and to sponsor! https://www.svaj.org/purim-paloozoom-2021

From the Ritual Committee: Sign up for Megillah readings here:
https://www.svaj.org/form/megillah-attendance.html

Register your whole family for Virtual Purim Bingo!
https://www.svaj.org/purim-bingo-2021
Click to visit Skokie Valley’s YouTube Channel for all videos, including Rav Ari’s video drashot and Yael Keller’s Parsha Shiurim.

Know someone who recently moved to Skokie who might be a good fit for our shul? Make sure to let the membership committee know! Please email Ari Berkowicz ariberk@gmail.com with relevant information and the committee will reach out!

**Beyond Skokie Valley**

This year, Yeshivat Chovevei Torah is featuring our rabbi and our community as part of their annual event From Vision to Mission: Rabbis Transforming Communities.
The event is virtual and tickets start at $18. Please consider joining and supporting Rav Ari on March 7 at 8:00pm. To register and/or donate, go to https://interland3.donorperfect.net/weblink/weblink.aspx?name=yctorah&id=40

Join the Jewish Female BSA Troop at Skokie Valley! Shomer Shabbos and Kashruth camping, cooking, and weekly fun-filled meetings. Builds friendship, leadership, and life skills. Open to all young women ages 11 through 18 or Grades 5th through 12th. For more information about the troop, please complete the following survey: Survey

Jewish Disability Awareness, Acceptance and Inclusion Month: A Call to Action
Jewish Disability Awareness Acceptance and Inclusion Month (JDAIM) is a time to raise awareness and champion the rights, gifts, and strengths of Jews with disabilities to be accepted and included in our community.

"You belong" has been woven through the fabric of JCC Chicago for over one hundred years. It is our commitment to provide inclusive opportunities designed to meet the needs of all our members and beyond. From Early Childhood to our day and overnight camps, to adult programming, inclusion of those with disabilities has always been at the forefront of our mission.

This February, along with the unified effort among many Jewish organizations around the world, we celebrate the multitude of inclusive programming we offer and that many families find belonging here. JCC Chicago is proud to offer several virtual programs throughout the month of February in honor of JDAIM. There are programs for all ages and all events are FREE of charge with the option to make a donation to help support JCC Chicago. We hope you join us! For a schedule of events and more information: https://www.jccchicago.org/a-call-to-action/

Virtual Blood Drive has been extended! January 1 to February 28
In times when we can’t be together in person, we can still be together in support of our community. In partnership with Kol Sasson, we’re hosting a virtual blood drive after having to cancel our in-person drives due to COVID-19. Sign up to donate blood as part of our virtual blood drive; you'll get an email invitation to find a convenient donation site and pick your appointment!
Because of you, life doesn’t stop. Join us today: https://learn.vitalant.org/LP=148?utm_campaign=&utm_medium=email&utm_source=Eloqua&utm_content=&drive_code=SK30&division=NORTHEAST&region=CHI&elqserverId=eddc87ebe9684ffcb084f9f2e5a0ec15&elq=d5659a97275f4322a29401e6e067451c&elqaid=4277&elq=1&elqCampaignId=&fbclid=IwAR2VaGHyn4i_XicJjbX4ecOtQXcx9hPSyiC-z-c9bhJdoXdnIPsSF4cA

COVID-19 Vaccine Pre-Registration Open for Skokie Residents
All Skokie residents age 18 and over, and healthcare workers employed at a Skokie healthcare provider, are invited to pre-register to receive a future notification from the Village's Health and Human Services Department when they qualify to make a COVID-19 vaccination appointment. The Village is following the guidelines of the Illinois Department of Public Health and will be providing free vaccinations in a multi-phased approach. For more information on these phases, click here. The Village will move to new phases as sufficient doses of the COVID-19 vaccine become available. Proof of Skokie residency and/or if applicable employment at a Skokie healthcare provider will be required to receive a vaccine. Each household member age 18 and over must complete this survey. Click here to access the COVID-19 Vaccination Pre-Registration site. Notification Sign Up: Sign up for COVID-19 Alerts when new information is posted on the website and be sure to also subscribe to SkokieNews for email advisories.
Community Counter would like to share a message from your Rabbis, doctors, and neighbors. Please take the time to watch it in full. Please also share this video far and wide—and encourage others to take the time to watch it, as well. Together, we can save lives. [https://youtu.be/LnVgzyQ_PGM](https://youtu.be/LnVgzyQ_PGM)

We're here to help! Community Counter ([communitycounter.org](http://communitycounter.org)) is a comprehensive Covid-19 resource for our Orthodox community. CC has an extensive list of testing resources and can assist if you have tested positive and would like support with meals, counseling, plasma trials or finding solid medical and public health guidance. You can help keep our community safer by completing a short survey (anonymously, if you prefer) for contact tracing. Please consider making a donation at [https://www.communitycounter.org/donate](https://www.communitycounter.org/donate). Endorsed by local Rabbanim, doctors and several public health depts. Questions? Call or text 847-986-0635, or email info@communitycounter.org. Thank you for partnering with us in protecting our community!

---

**It’s easy to support Skokie Valley while shopping on Amazon!** Just use our dedicated link to log into your Amazon account and we will receive a small portion of what you spend. The prices are the same! Share this link with your friends and family! [smile.amazon.com/ch/36-2477806](http://smile.amazon.com/ch/36-2477806)

---

Please note that, in order to keep everyone healthy, the shul office is still closed to walk-in visits. Please mail checks to the office, or put them in the mailbox next to the alley door. If you need to come to the office, please call Rose at 846-674-3473 to make an appointment. Rose and Carin are available by email and phone from 9am to 2pm Monday through Friday. Thank you for your understanding.